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HISTORY
OF
Douglas and Grant Counties
Minnesota

THEIR PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

CONSTANT LARSON
Editor-in-Chief

With Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens and
Genealogical Records of Many of the Old Families

VOLUME II

ILLUSTRATED

1916
B. F. BOWEN & COMPANY, Inc.
Indianapolis, Indiana

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BIOGRAPHICAL

HON. OLE A. PIKOP.

Hon. Ole A. Pikop, representative in the Minnesota state Legislature from the fifty-seventh district and one of Grant county's best-known and most progressive farmers, a director of the First National Bank at Elbow Lake, former chairman of the board of supervisors of Elbow Lake township and for years actively interested in the general civic and industrial affairs of this section of the state, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was three years of age and of Grant county since the year 1872, having consequently been a witness to and a participant in the wonderful development of this region since pioneer days hereabout. He was born at Sigdal, in Norway, July 16, 1866, son of Anders O. and Gunhild (Ramstad) Pikop, natives of that same district, who came to Minnesota in 1869 and after a brief residence in Houston county came over to this part of the state, among the pioneers of Grant county, and settled on a homestead farm in Elbow Lake township, where Anders O. Pikop died in the summer of 1901 and where his widow is still living.

Anders O. Pikop was born in Sigdal on July 1, 1835, son of Ole and Gunhild Pikop, the former a native of Numdal and the latter of Sigdal, who made their home in Sigdal, where Ole Pikop died, his widow later coming to Minnesota with her son, Anders, spending her last days in Houston county, where she is buried. Anders O. Pikop grew to manhood on a farm in Sigdal and there married Gunhild Ramstad, who was born on September 12, 1844, daughter of Haakon and Ingeborg Ramstad, natives of Sigdal, who moved to Numdal and there lived until 1873, in which year they came to America with their son, Helge, coming directly to Minnesota and settling in Grant county, making their home with their son, Helge, until the latter's death in 1886, after which they became members of the household of their daughter, Mrs. Pikop, where their last days were spent and both are buried in the cemetery in Sanford township. After their marriage Anders O.

Pikop and his wife continued to make their home on a farm in their native land until 1869, in which year they came to the United States, proceeding on out to Minnesota and settling on a farm in Houston county, where they remained until 1872, when they moved over into Grant county by ox-team and settled in Elbow Lake township, Mr. Pikop homesteading a quarter of a section in section 22 of that township, where they established their home. Upon locating in Elbow Lake township, Mr. Pikop erected a log cabin on his homestead tract, the same occupying the site of the present comfortable Pikop home, and proceeded to break and develop his land. From the very beginning he was successful in his operations and presently became the owner of eighteen hundred acres of choice land, practically all of which was in one body, a good portion of which was fine pasture and hay land, on which he raised large herds of cattle. He made a specialty of small grain and often cultivated as much as one thousand acres of such crops, early becoming recognized as one of the most substantial farmers in this part of the state. Mr. Pikop was a Republican and gave his earnest attention to local civic affairs, but was not a seeker after public office. He was prominently identified with all movements having to do with the advancement of the material interests of his home community and was one of the leading stockholders in the Farmers Elevator Company at Elbow Lake. In the good works of the community he also took a warm interest and was one of the organizers of the United Lutheran church at Elbow Lake, of which he and his wife were active members, and in the affairs of which he took an active part until his death on June 4, 1901. His widow is still living, being now past seventy-two years of age. To them ten children were born, of whom the Hon. Ole A. Pikop is the eldest, the others being as follow: Ingeborg, who married P. T. Peterson and lives on a farm one-half mile north of the Pikop homestead; Haakon A., who lives about two miles southwest of the old home; Knute A., who lives two miles southwest; Gunhild, who died at the age of eighteen years; Andrew, who is still living on the old home place; Olaus, who lives about one and one-half miles southeast; Gena, who died at the age of eighteen months; Gena, who married Arthur Berglund and lives at Fergus Falls, this state, and Hattie, who married Iver Olson and lives in Elbow Lake township.

Ole A. Pikop, as noted above, was only about six years old when his parents settled in Grant county and he grew to manhood on the homestead farm, receiving his schooling in the local schools. From the days of his youth he was a valued assistant in the work of developing the home place

and has ever remained there, since their father's death he and his brother, Andrew, managing the place, operating now about six hundred acres, engaging quite profitably in general farming and stock raising. In addition to his activities as a farmer, Mr. Pikop has long given close attention to local business affairs and is a director of the First National Bank at Elbow Lake and of the Farmers Elevator Company at the same place. He is a member of the United Lutheran church and gives proper attention to the general good works of his home community.

Representative Pikop is a Republican and for years has taken an active interest in local civic affairs. For some time he served as chairman of the board of supervisors for Elbow Lake township and in 1914 was elected representative from the fifty-seventh legislative district to the Minnesota General Assembly and in the campaign of 1916 was the nominee of his party for re-election. During his service in the Legislature, Representative Pikop served on the following important committees: Public accounts and expenditures, state hospitals, villages, agriculture and horticulture, public domain and the state school at Owatona, giving his most thoughtful and intelligent attention to the public service in that connection. He is recognized as one of the most forceful and influential factors in the common life of this section of the state and is held in high regard throughout the entire district.

WILLIAM THOMAS COWING.

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William Thomas Cowing, secretary and treasurer of the old established hardware firm of the Cowing-Hobards Company at Alexandria, former president of the Minnesota State Hardware Dealers Association and for years recognized as one of the leading merchants of his home town, is a native son of that city and has lived there all his life, having witnessed its growth and development from the days when it was but little more than a frontier stockade center. He was born in the old stockade at Alexandria, March 5, 1868, son of John B. and Mary Ann (Beeston) Cowing, the former a native of England and the latter of the state of Illinois, pioneers of this section of Minnesota and for many years leaders in the community life of Alexandria and Douglas county, where their last days were spent.

John B. Cowing was born in 1842 and was but six years old when he came to this country from England in 1848 with his parents, Thomas and Jane (Heads) Cowing, and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they

remained until 1860, when they came over into Minnesota and came out to this part of the state, settling in Moe township, Douglas county, homesteading a place there, on which they remained until the Indian outbreak drove them to Sauk Center for safety. Upon their return to Douglas county they lived for a time in the stockade which the government meanwhile had erected at Alexandria and where Thomas Cowing presently started a tavern, later opening a general store which he conducted until his retirement from business; his store, the "Old Regulator," having been far-famed throughout this entire region in the early days. He continued making his home at Alexandria after his retirement and both he and his wife spent their last days there, honored and respected pioneer residents. They were the parents of nine children, namely: George F., who served as a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, a member of the Twenty-eighth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, later locating in Douglas county, this state, where he for years conducted a store at old Chippewa, and later went to Otter Tail county, where he served as county superintendent; Thomas F., who also served as a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, a member of the Second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry (the famous old "Iron Brigade"), and upon the completion of his military service also located in Douglas county, where he made his home until his removal to Portland, Oregon, where he died on August 3, 1916; John B., father of the subject of this sketch, further reference to whom will follow; William H., who came to this section with his parents in pioneer days, married Katie Platt, who taught school in the old stockade at Alexandria, the first school teacher in Douglas county, later became a merchant at St. Olaf, whence he moved to Fergus Falls, where he engaged in business and where he spent the remainder of his life; Elizabeth, who married Wilbur D. Hurlburt and spent her last days in the West; A. A., who for some time was engaged in the implement business at Fergus Falls, later moving to Oregon, where he spent his last days; Joseph, who left his home at Alexandria in 1866, when sixteen years of age, and never was heard from by his family again; Mary, who married George H. Reynolds and later moved to St. Cloud, where her last days were spent, and A. C., who for some time was engaged in business at Alexandria, later moving to Crookston and thence West, where his last days were spent.

John B. Cowing was but a child when he came to America with his parents in 1848 and he grew to manhood on the homestead farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, receiving a limited education in the pioneer schools of that time and district. On September 15, 1861, he then being nineteen years

of age, John B. Cowing enlisted for service during the Civil War as a member of Company H. Eleventh Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served with that command until he received his honorable discharge in November, 1864, shortly after which he joined his parents, who some years before had come out here and established themselves on the outpost of civilization hereabout at Alexandria. In 1867, in the neighboring county of Stearns, he married Mary Ann Beeston, who was born in Cook county, Illinois, in the near vicinity of the city of Chicago, daughter of William and Anna Beeston, natives of England, who had come to this country and settled near Chicago, where William Beeston died, after which his widow and her family came to Minnesota, her last days being spent at Alexandria. Not long after locating at Alexandria, John B. Cowing opened a meat market near the old stockade and was thus engaged in business for about two years, at the end of which time he formed a partnership, under the firm name of Cowing & Swenson, and opened a general store. He presently sold his interest in that store and on April 1, 1872, in partnership with O. J. Robards, engaged in the hardware business, buying the stock of Jacob Hollabaugh established in 1867, and continuing the store at the old stand, the site of the present extensive establishment of the Cowing-Robards Company, where the business ever since has been conducted, one of the oldest mercantile establishments in continuous existence in this part of the state. The new firm started in business under the firm name of Cowing & Robards and in 1874 bought the building and lot and later, in 1880, erected the substantial business block in which the business is still carried on. Later the firm was incorporated as the Cowing-Robards Company, which firm name has ever since been maintained, and John B. Cowing continued actively connected with the business until his death in January, 1912. Not only was he active in the mercantile business, but he took a leading part in the general commercial and civic life of his community from the very beginning of his residence here. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Alexandria and was a director of that institution from the date of its organization to the time of his death. He had held practically all the civic offices in the town at one time and another and served for two terms as representative from this district in the lower House of the Minnesota General Assembly. He was an active member of the local Masonic lodge and he and his wife were among the leaders in the Episcopal church, in the faith of which their children were reared. There were five of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: Charles F., a railway mail clerk, with headquarters at Minneapolis;

John R., who is connected with the Cowing-Robards Company at Alexandria; Kate C., wife of Dr. J. F. Beck, of Minneapolis, and Joseph B., who is with the Williams Hardware Company at Minneapolis.

William T. Cowing was reared at Alexandria, the city of his birth, receiving his schooling in the schools of that city, and early took his place in the hardware store of his father and has ever since been connected with that establishment, having risen from the position of a clerk to his present position as secretary-treasurer of the Cowing-Robards Company, long having been recognized as one of the leading merchants of this part of the state. Mr. Cowing has a fine reputation in the hardware trade throughout the state and has served as president of the Minnesota State Retail Hardware Merchants Association, of which organization he is now a member of the executive board, for years having taken an active interest in the affairs of that organization.

In 1898 William T. Cowing was united in marriage to Charlotte M. Campbell, of Alexandria, and to this union has been born one child, a son, William G. Cowing, who is at home. The Cowings are members of the Congregational church, in the various beneficences of which they take a proper interest, as well as in all local good works, being helpful factors in the work of promoting all measures designed to advance the general welfare hereabout. Mr. Cowing is a Knight Templar Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias and takes a warm interest in the affairs of these organizations.

OLE SELLETH.

Ole Sellseth, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial business men, member of the firm of Lund & Sellseth, general merchants at Norcross, vice-president of the State Bank of Norcross, one of the organizers of the mercantile firm of Sellseth & Company at Glenwood, former president of the village of Norcross and for years actively and prominently identified with the general business and civic affairs of that part of the county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this section of Minnesota since he was twenty years of age. He was born on a farm in Horningdal, Norfjord, October 23, 1865, son of Iver and Elizabeth (Larson) Sellseth, both natives of that same district in Norway, the former a farmer and landowner, both of whom spent all their lives in their native land, Iver Sellseth dying in 1867 and his widow surviving

until 1911. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were eight of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth, the others being as follow: Lars, who continues to reside at the old home in Norway; Annie, who married Rasmus Kirkon and died at Rutland, North Dakota; Lena, unmarried, who lives at Glenwood, this state; Bertha, who married Ole Iverson and remains in her native land; Maline, who married Andrew Lund and lives at Glenwood; I. S., who is manager and stockholder in a store at Glenwood, and Iver, who also came to this country and is a homesteader in northern Minnesota, where he also is clerking in a store.

Ole Sellseth was but two years of age when his father died. His mother and his eldest brother continued to maintain the old home farm and there he grew to manhood, receiving his schooling in the neighborhood schools, and remained at home until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1885, he came to the United States and proceeded directly out to this part of Minnesota, locating at Norcross. For the first year after his arrival in Grant county Mr. Sellseth worked on the railroad at Wendell and the next year was engaged working on a farm in that vicinity. He then was given employment as a clerk in the store of Andrew Lund at Norcross and remained thus engaged until 1891, the year of his marriage, when he was admitted by Mr. Lund into partnership in the business, which ever since has been conducted under the firm name of Lund & Sellseth, one of the best-established business firms in the village. When Mr. Sellseth became connected with the firm it was carrying a general stock of the value of about two thousand dollars. This has been gradually increased, with the passing years, until now the firm carries a stock of the value of ten thousand or twelve thousand dollars and is doing an excellent business. The firm also has made some investments in farm lands and owns a tract of two hundred and forty acres in Gorton township and another piece of eighty acres. Mr. Sellseth, in addition to his general mercantile interests, also has given considerable attention to the general business affairs of the community in which he lives and since 1910 has been vice-president of the State Bank of Norcross. He also was one of the organizers of the mercantile firm of Sellseth & Company at Glenwood, a partnership concern. In his political affiliations Mr. Sellseth is a Republican and for more than ten years served as treasurer of the school district and for two years served as president of the village of Norcross.

It was in 1891 that Ole Sellseth was united in marriage to Thea Larson, who also was born in Norway, a native of the Sigdal district, daughter of

Lars Knutson and wife, early settlers of Grant county, the former of whom died at his home in Gorton township in 1914, and to this union nine children have been born, Iner, who died at the age of three years; Ida, Inga, Elvina, Stella, Albin, Theodore, Olga and Nina. Mr. and Mrs. Sellseth are members of the Lutheran church, Mr. Sellseth being a member of the board of trustees of the same, and both take a warm interest in the general good works of the community in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

COLBJORN W. COLBJORNSEN.

Colbjorn W. Colbjornsen, head of the firm of Colbjornsen & Wegener, clothiers and merchant tailors at Alexandria, and for years recognized as one of the leading merchants of Douglas county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was seventeen years of age. He was born on October 3, 1863, son of Wilhelm and Johanna (Jacobsen) Colbjornsen, both natives of Norway, who are still living there, where the former for many years has been engaged in the hardware business.

Colbjorn W. Colbjornsen was one of eight children born to his parents and when he was seventeen years old, in 1885, he came to the United States, proceeding directly to Minnesota and locating at Battle Lake, where he remained about a year. He then went to Henning and there was employed in the general store of A. S. Paulsen for three years and six months, at the end of which time he went to Parkers Prairie, where he was employed in the general store of John Murray for a year, at the end of which time he went to Alexandria, where he ever since has made his home. Upon going to Alexandria, Mr. Colbjornsen became employed in the general store of Kortsch, Hardy & Hoehle, where he remained eighteen months, going thence into the clothing store of C. F. Canfield & Son, where he remained for more than seven years, at the end of which time he engaged in business for himself, at Alexandria, opening a merchant-tailoring establishment, which he conducted for a time alone, later forming a partnership with Jacobsen, Follet & Andrew, clothiers, which arrangement continued for three years, at the end of which time Mr. Colbjornsen resumed his former business as a merchant tailor and after two years of that form of business formed his present partnership with J. E. Wegener, under the firm name of Colbjornsen & Wegener,

clothiers and merchant tailors, and has been doing very well, devoting his whole time to the business.

On July 15, 1899, Colbjorn W. Colbjornsen was united in marriage to Etta L. Thompson, of Alexandria, and to this union three children have been born, Harold, Helen and Carl. Mr. and Mrs. Colbjornsen are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works, being helpful factors in the promotion of all agencies designed to advance the general welfare hereabout.

REV. OLAUS NORMAN.

Rev. Olaus Norman, one of the well-known and successful ministers of Grant county, was born near Jefferson Prairie, Wisconsin, on January 25, 1845, the son of Alexander and Anna (Olson) Norman, the latter of whom was a daughter of Ole Olson, a native of Norway, who came to the United States in 1848. Upon his arrival in this country, Ole Olson proceeded at once to Wisconsin, and there located on a farm in Dane county, where he engaged in general farming and in the carpenter trade. During the war in 1814, between Sweden and Norway, Ole Olson was a soldier in the army of his country, and performed good service. His father, Ole Berkhus, lived his life in Norway, where he was a farmer.

Alexander Norman was born in Norway on September 5, 1819. He received his education in the public schools of his native country and at the normal school. After completing his schooling he engaged in the teaching profession. He was engaged to be married while living in Norway, but the wedding took place in Jefferson Prairie, Wisconsin. He and his bride-to-be both came to America in 1843 and both located near Jefferson Prairie, where, after a year, they were married by the first Norwegian minister in America, the Reverend Diethrickson. After their marriage they located on a rented farm and for some years Alexander Norman worked for others as a farm hand. They then moved to Dane county, Wisconsin, where they purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and there Mr. Norman engaged in farming for himself for twenty-three years, at the end of which time he went to Otter Tail county, and located in St. Olaf township, where he bought a homestead right, and there lived, engaged in general farming, until his retirement from the activities of life on the farm, and removed to Elbow

Lake, where he died on March 19, 1897. His widow, who was born on June 1, 1822, died on December 29, 1906. They were the parents of ten children, Olaus, Joseph, Anna, Ole, Margaret, Ingeborg, Josephine, Tosten, Sarah and Halvar, the latter of whom died in infancy.

Alexander Norman was always very active in church work and for a time after coming to the United States taught in one of the church schools. He mastered the English language after coming to this country and became fluent in its use. He mingled much in politics in Dane county and especially after the beginning of the Civil War. He was a strong advocate of the principles of the great Lincoln, and espoused the same with an eloquent tongue and with much ability.

Olaus Norman received his early educational training in the public schools of Dane county and was later sent to the Norwegian Lutheran school for further study. He attended high school at Madison and later was graduated from the Norwegian Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa. After his graduation from Concordia Seminary at St. Louis, Missouri, in 1869, he was stationed at a little church at St. Paul and had thirty stations throughout the state of Minnesota. During his work at that time he assisted in the organization of many new churches, among these being the one where he is now stationed at Ashby. He was unmarried at the time and in addition to looking after his thirty charges he studied medicine, under Doctor Wiegmann of St. Paul and under Doctor Baily of Sioux City. He began the practice of medicine in 1870, and continued the same in connection with his ministerial duties, his labors as a physician all being performed in the name of charity and without compensation.

In 1870, the Rev. Olaus Norman was united in marriage to Britha Holm, and to that union five children were born, Augustus, Theodore, Halvor, Anna and Caia. The Rev. Theodore Norman is a minister of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as is the Rev. Halvor Norman. After the death of his first wife, the Rev. Olaus Norman married Elisa Wilson, and to that union three children were born, Susie, Marie and Bertinus. Upon the death of the mother of these children, Mr. Norman married Mrs. Koefod, widow of Magnus Koefod. Mr. Norman was for eight years, pastor of one of the churches at St. Paul and moved to Ashby for a rest. At the request of the people there he presently assumed charge of the pastoral work and now has three charges. Mr. Norman has always taken active exercise and was the first man to ride a bicycle in this section of the state and was the first minister to drive an automobile, a vast contrast to his traveling on

snow shoes during his pastorate in the northwestern part of Minnesota, where he was termed "the path-breaker," when the winter time came on and the travel was difficult.

HON. OLE AMUNDSON.

The Hon. Ole Amundson, well-known and well-to-do retired real-estate man and dealer in farm machinery, of Evansville, former member of the Minnesota state Legislature, former commissioner of Douglas county, former sheriff of that same county and since pioneer days actively identified with the work of developing the resources of this section of the state, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was eighteen years of age. He was born on August 31, 1844, son of Amund and Anna Olsen, also natives of Norway and farming people in their native land, who came to the United States in 1862 with the six younger members of their family of twelve children and after four or five years of residence in Wisconsin came to Minnesota, settling in Douglas county, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Upon coming to this country in 1862 Amund Olsen settled in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1867, in which year he came out to this section of Minnesota with his family, settling on a homestead tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Urness township, Douglas county, one of the very earliest settlers in that section. He built a log house on his homestead tract and there established his home, presently becoming well settled, an influential and substantial pioneer farmer. In 1871 he built a new house and there spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1892, he then being eighty-two years of age. His wife had preceded him to the grave many years, her death having occurred in 1869, at the age of fifty-five years. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom six came to this country, namely: Bertha, who married Kittle Koltveit and both she and her husband are now deceased; Agnes, who married Swen Winger and now lives in Wisconsin; Ole, the subject of this biographical sketch; Pauline, who married L. Ingarbretson and died at Janesville, Wisconsin; Simon, who is farming the old homestead place in Urness township, and Anna, who married Ole Bakke, of Otter Tail county, and is now deceased.

Ole Amundson was about eighteen years old when he came with his parents to this country and had attained his majority before they moved over

into Minnesota. Upon settling in Douglas county he became a valuable aid to his father in the work of developing the homestead farm in Urness township and also took an active part in the civic affairs of the pioneer community, being one of the early clerks of that township. He then was appointed as a member of the board of appraisers of school lands in Douglas county and after serving one term in that office was elected, in the fall of 1872, sheriff of his home county, taking office on January 1, 1873, serving one term of two years, at the end of which period of service he decided to advance his studies and with that end in view entered the La Crosse Commercial College at La Crosse, Wisconsin, one of his teachers there having been Professor Cashale, now senator from North Dakota. On his return from college Mr. Amundson stopped at St. Paul and made a contract with the Waltry-Wood Machine Company to handle that company's harvesting machines in Douglas, Stevens, Grant and Big Stone counties and established his headquarters at Morris, with branch houses at Herman and Evansville. The first harvesting machines ever seen at Herman were delivered there by him and the first self-binder ever seen in Douglas county and the first traction engine in Evansville also were shipped in by him. In 1876 Mr. Amundson was made the nominee of the Republican convention in this legislative district for representative and was elected in the ensuing election, serving one term as a member of the lower House of the General Assembly. Meanwhile he continued right along with his farm-machine agency and held his original territory for seven years, at the end of which time, the country rapidly becoming more settled, he was relieved of Big Stone and Stevens counties, but continued covering the other two counties for many years. At the same time Mr. Amundson was doing quite a business in the real-estate way and at one time was the owner of more than twelve hundred acres of land, six hundred and seventy-two acres of which he still owns and which is being profitably farmed for him. In December, 1914, after many years of continuous service in the farm-machinery line, Mr. Amundson retired from active business and has since then been taking things somewhat easier. In addition to his public service above mentioned, Mr. Amundson served Douglas county as a member of the board of county commissioners during the period of 1883-86 and was also president of the Evansville village council for two terms. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and for years has taken a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

On November 15, 1875, Ole Amundson was united in marriage to Carrie Hoveren, of near Battle Lake, Otter Tail county, who died in 1884, and to

that union five children were born, Anna Viola, Joseph Sylvester, Clara Adelia and two who died in infancy. Anna Viola Amundson, now general secretary for the Young Women's Christian Association in the state of Washington, with headquarters at North Yakima, was formerly financial secretary for the local branch of the Young Women's Christian Association at Seattle and just before the great war broke out in Europe in 1914 had visited the countries of Germany, France, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Scotland in behalf of the general association and upon her return to New York in September, 1913, took a further course in Young Women's Christian Association work which qualified her for the advanced position which she now occupies in that association. At the age of nineteen years Joseph S. Amundson went to Arizona with a view to bettering his state of health by a change of climate and for a year studied law with an attorney at Flagstaff. He then took the civil-service examination and was appointed to the forestry service, with headquarters at Flagstaff, where he remained thus connected for a year, at the end of which time he was engaged as private secretary to David Bobbitt, a millionaire at that place, later becoming credit man in a large department store operated at Flagstaff by the Bobbitt interests. A few years later that concern started a large store at Williams, fifty miles west of Flagstaff and J. S. Amundson was made manager of the same, a position he occupied until the spring of 1916, when the Bobbitts made large investments at Kingman, Arozina, and transferred him to the latter place, as manager of their interests there. He married Lillias Marshall and to that union two children have been born, Elliot Marshall and Joseph Sylvester. Clara Amundson married Walford Forsgreen, of Douglas county, now a grocer at Dillon, Montana, and has three children, Frances, Wallace Osborn and Eleanor.

FRED C. RAITER.

Fred C. Raiter, well-known and substantial dealer in meats at Alexandria, successor to the business which his father, Christopher H. Raiter, now retired, built up in this section during pioneer days, and who also has large farming interests, besides interests in banking and other forms of business hereabout, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived here all his life, a continuous resident of Alexandria since the days of his infancy. He was born in Rochester, this state, July 15, 1869, son of Christopher H. and

Anna (Reier) Raiter, both natives of Germany, who had come to America with their respective parents, married in Minnesota and later located at Alexandria, becoming influential factors in the development of that place during the early days and who are still living there, very comfortably situated.

Christopher H. Raiter was born in Prussia on July 9, 1842, son of Gottlieb and Gusina (Shefler) Raiter, who came to the United States with their family in 1864 and settled in Olmsted county, this state, Gottlieb Raiter taking a homestead there on which he established his home and where he spent the rest of his life. His widow, who survived him some years, went to the state of Washington after his death and there she spent her last days. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were five of these children, of whom Christopher H., the only present survivor, was the third in order of birth, the others being August, Peter, Gertrude and Gustine. Christopher H. Raiter preceded his parents to this country, he having come here in 1862, when twenty years of age, landing at the port of New York penniless, or, as he himself puts it, with twenty-five cents less than nothing at all. He presently secured a place working in a market garden near the city for his board and seven dollars a month and saved money on the job. After awhile his wages were raised to ten dollars a month and that, he says, spoiled him, for he was emboldened presently to ask for more, was refused and quit his job, having a difficult time finding another; which circumstance, he says, was a good lesson in letting well enough alone. In the fall of 1863 Mr. Raiter made his way out to Minnesota and located at Rochester, where he began working with a threshing crew and when the threshing season was ended went to work in a butcher shop at Rochester, he having had some experience in the butcher trade in his native land. In 1868 he married and in May, 1869, started in the butcher business on his own account at Oata, where in a few months he built up a flourishing business. He then was advised by a friend, Mr. Phelps, to transfer his business to the then new town of Alexandria and, following that advice, started out with his wife and their first-born child, the subject of this sketch, for the latter place. At that time there was a meat market in the town, located on the present site of Raiter Brothers' (sons of Christopher H. Raiter) shoe store. Christopher H. Raiter bought that meat market, paying for the same the sum of one thousand dollars, put an addition to the building the market occupied and in that addition housed his family. That was the beginning of Christopher H. Raiter's suc-

cessful business career in Alexandria. He remained in the meat business until a few years ago, when he sold his place to his son, Fred C., who is now conducting the same along the same successful lines, the business still being carried on in the brick building erected by the elder Raiter, the first brick business building erected in Alexandria. Christopher H. Raiter also erected the first brick residence in Alexandria, where he and his wife are still living and where they are very pleasantly situated. In addition to the extensive business interests retained by Mr. Raiter in Alexandria, he is the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres near town, is the vice-president of the First National Bank and continues to deal in real estate, a business in which he has been largely interested. He organized the first bank in Alexandria, now the First National Bank, and has helped organize and is an officer in seven other banks in towns throughout this section of Minnesota and in North Dakota. One of his latest enterprises is the erection, in connection with Claus J. Gunderson, of a fine new brick business block in Alexandria. Christopher H. Raiter and his wife are active members of the Congregational church and were among the leaders in the work of erecting that congregation's beautiful edifice in 1892. Mr. Raiter has ever been an active leader in the cause of temperance hereabout and his strong personal influence has ever been directed in behalf of good citizenship.

It was in 1868, at Rochester, that Christopher H. Raiter was united in marriage to Anna Reier, who also was born in Germany, and who had come to this country with her parents, Christopher Reier and wife, the family first settling in Illinois and later coming to Minnesota. To that union seven children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Emma, Tina, Lytta, Christie, George and Frank.

Fred C. Raiter was but an infant when his parents moved from Rochester to Alexandria and he grew to manhood in the latter city, receiving his schooling in the public schools there and early taking a part in the management of his father's extensive meat business. When twenty-eight years of age he bought the meat market from his father and has since been very successfully conducting the same. He also operates his father's farm of a half section near town, devoting the same chiefly to the feeding of cattle for his own market. In addition to this he has other business interests and is a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank of Alexandria and a stockholder in the Alexandria Manufacturing Company. Mr. Raiter is a thirty-second degree Mason, a Knight Templar and a noble of

the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, past master of the blue lodge at Alexandria; a member of the chapter, Royal Arch Masons, at Sauk Center; a member of the commandery, Knights Templar, at Morris, and a member of the consistory, Scottish Rite Masons, and of the Shrine at Minneapolis. He also is past noble grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Alexandria and in the affairs of all these fraternal organizations takes a warm interest.

Fred C. Raiter was married to Lily Watters, who was born in Hudson township, Douglas county, daughter of James Watters, a veteran of the Civil War and a pioneer of Hudson township, now living retired at Alexandria, and to this union two children have been born, Gertrude and Frederick. Mr. and Mrs. Raiter are members of the Congregational church and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all community good works, helpful in promoting all proper causes hereabout.

REV. TORBJORN A. SATTRE.

The Rev. Torbjorn A. Sattre, of Evansville, is a native son of Minnesota. He was born on a pioneer farm in Salem township, Olmsted county, April 13, 1857, son of Ole S. and Ingeborg (Gjesme) Sattre, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to the United States with their respective parents in 1844, were married near Cambridge, Wisconsin, in 1854 and in 1856 came to Minnesota, settling in Olmsted county, where they spent the remainder of their lives, honored and useful residents of that community.

Upon moving to Olmsted county Ole S. Sattre bought three hundred and twenty acres of "Congress land," paying for the same one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. During the first summer of their residence there he and his wife lived in their covered wagon and in the fall Mr. Sattre built a log house, in which he established his home and in which he lived until he was able to replace the same by a fine two-story frame house in 1865, hauling the lumber that entered into the construction of the same from Winona. He developed his farm in fine shape and became recognized as one of the most substantial farmers thereabout. Besides farming he also took part in politics and served one term in the state Legislature as representative from his district. On that pioneer farm he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, his death occurring on January 27, 1912, and



REV. T. A. SATTRE.

KARL O. SATTRE.

MRS. GURINE SATTRE.

INGEMAN S. SATTRE.

MARGARET C. SATTRE.

hers, February 7, 1912. They were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth and all of whom are still living save Sjur, the first-born, the others being as follow: Ole, a retired farmer, living at Rochester, this state; Andrew, of Minneapolis, a collector for the Minneapolis Threshing-Machine Company; Lewis, who is farming the old home farm in Olmsted county; Adolph, a farmer in Dodge county, this state; Mattie, who lives with her brother, Lewis, on the old home farm, and Inger, wife of David Rivenes, a hardware and clothing merchant at Glendive, Montana.

Torbjorn A. Sattre was reared on the paternal farm in Olmsted county, receiving his elementary education in the district school in the neighborhood of the same, and in 1874, when seventeen years of age, entered the classical department of Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1880, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In the fall of that same year he entered the Minnesota State University and after one term there, in the spring of 1881, began teaching in a Minneapolis parochial school and was thus engaged for a year, at the end of which time, in the fall of 1882, he entered Luther Theological Seminary at Madison, where he pursued his theological studies for two years. In the fall of 1884 he entered the theological department of Capitol University at Columbus, Ohio, and was graduated from that institution in 1885. On October 25 of that same year he was ordained to the ministry and was straightway assigned to the Norwegian Lutheran parish centering at Evansville in his native state and has ever since been in charge there, a period of more than thirty years.

The Rev. T. A. Sattre arrived at Evansville to begin his pastoral duties on November 3, 1885, and on the following Sunday, November 8, at Alexandria, preached his first sermon as pastor of the parish over which he was destined to exert so great an influence in the years to come. That parish at that time comprised the charges at Evansville, Alexandria, Nelson and Salem, in Douglas county, and Parkers Prairie, Folden and Leaf Lake, in Otter Tail county, and these seven charges were served by Mr. Sattre for seven years, at the end of which time he was relieved of the charges in Otter Tail county and for eight years thereafter he served the other congregations, the charges at St. Peter and Erdahl being added to the same. At the end of that period the congregations at Alexandria and Nelson called another pastor and since that time Mr. Sattre has continued to serve the congregations at Evansville, St. Peter and Solem, in Douglas county, and

Bethel church at Erdahl, in Grant county. Reverend Sattre has been a member of the United Norwegian Lutheran church since its formation in 1890. He has served on some of its most important committees, has served as president of the Fergus Falls district of the same, and is now its financial secretary. For more than twenty years he has been a member of the board of directors of Concordia College at Moorhead, and has helped that institution rise from its one-time humble state to its present excellent standing as a school with more than four hundred students.

On April 15, 1891, the Rev. T. A. Sattre was united in marriage to Gurine Hellekson, who was born in Olmsted county, this state, May 17, 1865, daughter of Christen and Saave (Skogsmark) Hellekson, natives of Norway, who were married in Olmsted county and who spent the remainder of their lives there, honored and useful farming people. Christen Hellekson was the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres and farmed the same until his retirement in his old age. His wife died in 1901 and he thereafter made his home with his children until his death in April, 1905. They were the parents of ten children of whom seven are living, Mrs. Sattre the third. Those living are as follow: Henrik, a farmer in Brookings county, South Dakota; Eline, parochial school teacher at Ruso, North Dakota; Elias, a farmer in Hettinger county, North Dakota; Albert, a farmer in McLean county, North Dakota; Oscar, pastor at North Yakima, Washington., and Anna, wife of O. P. Frogner, a merchant at Hayfield, Minnesota.

Reverend and Mrs. Sattre have three children: Karl Orlane, born on July 24, 1892, who was graduated from St. Olaf College at Northfield in June, 1915, and is now assistant cashier in the Kenmare National Bank at Kenmare, North Dakota; Ingeman Sanford, a student in the junior class at Concordia College at Moorhead, and Margaret Constance, born on April 17, 1905, a child at home.

April 15, 1916, was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of Rev. and Mrs. Sattre, and on that day the four congregations consisting of Evansville, St. Peter, Solem and Bethel gathered in the Evansville church to celebrate the day with the pastor and family, whom they all hold in the highest esteem. Reverend Skyberg, of Aastad, addressed the audience, consisting of more than three hundred people, using as his text Psalm 119, 65: "Thou hast done well with Thy servant, Lord, according to Thy word." He spoke at some length about the well-doing of the Lord through the entire life; in our sorrows as well as our pleasures. He emphasized the thought that the Lord cares especially for his servants, and concluded his address

by presenting Reverend and Mrs. Sattre with some beautiful and costly gifts and a bag containing two hundred and thirty silver dollars from the congregations he has so faithfully served.

For more than thirty years Reverend Sattre has served these congregations, always using his best efforts and striving to uplift the spiritual and moral life as well of the members as non-members of his congregations. He has had only that one aim in his work, the salvation of the poor and heavy laden, so that they may enjoy God's richest blessings in this earthly life and when death calls them they may live an eternal life in the glorious kingdom of God. And the best of good-will towards their pastor and his cheerful and pleasant wife has always been thoroughly manifest.

NELS M. EVENSON.

Nels M. Evenson, president of the First National Bank of Osakis, was born in Pope county, Minnesota, February 22, 1873, son of Johannes and Ane (Langvandet) Evenson, the former of whom was born in Trondhjem, Norway, and the latter at Snaasen, Norway.

Johannes Evenson came to America in 1867 and located first in Fillmore county, this state, where he remained for one year. In 1868 he went to Pope county, where he entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of government land. He made all the improvements on that land, building a house for a residence and putting up the necessary farm buildings. He added other acres to his original homestead until he was the owner of a farm of two hundred acres. He was the father of four children: Evinda, who married Ole M. Ramstad; Nels M., Amar J. and Albert J. Mr. Evenson was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Nels M. Evenson received his elementary education in the public schools of Pope county and afterward attended a business college at Minneapolis, where he completed a commercial course. He then taught school for two years in the public schools of Pope county and then was for about two years with A. G. Englund, of Starbuck. He was afterward employed as traveling salesman for Deering and McCormick harvesting machinery, following that business for about two years. In 1898 he entered the employ of Tolliff Jacobson & Co., of Alexandria, and in 1899 took a position in Jacobson's bank, at Lowry, and after a short time there he was transferred to Jacobson's bank at Lindstrum, where he remained until April, 1902. In October.

1902, he went to Osakis and took a position as cashier of the Security Bank, of that place. A year later that bank was re-organized and became the First National Bank of Osakis, Mr. Evenson being continued as cashier of the reorganized institution. In 1906 Mr. Evenson bought Mr. Jacobson's interest in the bank, became president of the same, and is still serving in that capacity.

In 1908 Nels M. Evenson was united in marriage to Elvira R. Ruby, daughter of James A. Ruby, of Seward, Nebraska, and to this union two children have been born, Katherine Ann and Charlotte Louise. The Evensons are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Evenson is a Republican, and was formerly a member of the village council. He also served as president of the Commercial Club of that city. He is a member of the Masonic order and has attained to the Shrine. He also is a member of the Knights of Pythias and takes a warm interest in the affairs of both of these organizations.

STINER S. SKINNEMOEN, JR.

Stiner S. Skinnemoen, Jr., a well-known merchant at Wendell, was born in Clayton county, Iowa, June 21, 1870, a son of Stiner S. and Criste (Olson) Skinnemoen, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1869 and located in Clayton, Iowa, where they remained for two years, at the end of which time they came to Minnesota and Mr. Skinnemoen took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Grant county, on which he built a house and other buildings, improved the land and made a good farm. He still lives in the old homestead on that farm. To him and his wife were born five children, Stiner, Ole, Nels, John and Henry. The Skinnemoens are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and the elder Stiner Skinnemoen has served as trustee of the congregation.

The junior Stiner S. Skinnemoen received his elementary education in the public schools of Grant county and afterward attended the Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls for two years. After leaving college he worked with his father on the farm until 1902. He is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in Grant county and is also interested in the farmers' elevator in Wendell, and is a stockholder in the local bank. In 1902 he removed to Wendell and engaged in the general merchandising business, in partnership with E. A. Dybdal and L. H. Pikop. In the spring of 1915 he bought Mr. Dybdal's interest in the store and, with Mr. Pikop, has

since continued the business. They carry a large stock of general merchandise and do a thriving business, with a substantial trade in the town and surrounding country.

In July, 1904, Stiner S. Skimmemoen, Jr., was married to Emma Soleah, daughter of Andrew E. and Bertha (Haugen) Soleah, of Otter Tail county. Mr. and Mrs. Skimmemoen are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and he is a Republican in politics.

WILLIAM EVERETT HICKS.

William Everett Hicks, deceased, was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Douglas county. He was born at Sand Point, Long Island, son of Nathan Woodhull Hicks, a prominent resident of that community, and there spent the early years of his life. When but a lad he removed with his parents to Brooklyn, New York, and there received his education in the public schools of that city. After completing his schooling at the age of eighteen years, he engaged in newspaper work, as a reporter on the *New York Tribune*. For four years he followed his chosen work on the *Tribune* and then, in 1857, became financial editor of the *New York Evening Post*, which position he held for five years, at the end of which time his health began to fail, and he resigned his position. He and his family then spent the year 1863 traveling in Europe. Having regained his health, Mr. Hicks returned to the United States, locating again in New York City, where he engaged in business in Wall street. Although successful in his business ventures, he decided, in 1866, to locate in the West. In the summer of that year he and his family came to Minnesota and located in St. Paul. In the fall of 1866, he came out to this part of the state on a hunting expedition and was so charmed with the country and its scenery and beautiful lakes, that he decided to locate here. He purchased from the townsite company the land on which the city of Alexandria now stands and also became largely interested in timber lands. In 1867 he built in the village of Alexandria a log building, which he stocked with merchandise and thus engaged there in the mercantile business.

Mr. Hicks had much faith in the future of the new townsite, and in 1868 he built the Woodhull House and the building which served as the first court house for Douglas county. The court house building was also the home of the *Alexandria Post*, which Mr. Hicks established in 1868. In

that same year he donated the ground for the court house square as well as for the site of the Congregational church. He erected a saw-mill and soon did an extensive business. In 1868 he was elected by his district as representative in the Legislature, and in that capacity he performed a most valuable service for his home people as well as the state in general. As a member of the Legislature he was recognized as one of the leaders in all progressive and substantial movements. He was an untiring worker and a man of broad views and much ability.

In 1855 William E. Hicks was united in marriage to Theresa T. Miller, of Brooklyn, and to that union five children were born, Marie, Ida E., William E., Norman W. and Cleveland H. Marie Hicks married W. F. Canfield; Ida and Norman Hicks are deceased and Cleveland H. Hicks is the private secretary of United States Senator Knute Nelson. Mr. Hicks was a devout member of the Congregational church and he and his wife took much interest in church work, being active in the social and religious life of the community. They took much interest in all local affairs and were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them. Mr. Hicks died in Alexandria on July 17, 1874, mourned throughout this entire region, for which he had done so much.

HERBERT O. WAGNER.

Herbert O. Wagner, a well-known and successful banker of Erdahl, was born at Becker, Sherburne county, Minnesota, on April 2, 1875, the son of John A. and Kate (Foster) Wagner.

John A. Wagner was an early settler in Sherburne county, where, in 1852, he took a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, which cost him one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre, and also bought one hundred and sixty acres at two dollars and fifty cents an acre. After having secured his claim, he left his mother to look after his interests and then went to Colorado, where he worked in the mines for some years. While there he enlisted in the Second Regiment, Colorado Volunteer Cavalry, and was engaged helping put down the guerilla warfare in Missouri, Tennessee, Kansas and Colorado. At the close of the war, he returned to Becker and there he developed and improved his farm and engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, in 1914, at the age of seventy-eight years. His widow died in 1915, at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of seven children, John C., Katie, Ruby, I. S., Herbert O., Ernest J.

and Frank, all of whom are living save Ruby. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner were prominent in the social and religious life of the community, and Mr. Wagner was active in local affairs, having much to do with the early development of his township and county.

Herbert O. Wagner received his education in the common schools of Sherburne county and in the high school of Monticello, after which he attended business college at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he was graduated with the class of 1893. During the time he was in school he assisted his father with the work on the farm and after having completed his schooling, he worked on a farm near Devil's Lake, North Dakota, during the summers and taught school in southern Minnesota in the winter, and continued thus engaged until his marriage, in 1897, to Minnie Jones, of Monticello, after which he engaged in farming in Sherburne county, for the next ten years. There he was engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful. He then entered the State Bank at Maple Plain, as assistant cashier, and remained with that institution for six months, at the end of which time he moved to Hawkins, Wisconsin, where he organized the Hawkins State Bank, and became cashier of the same, which position he held until August, 1914, when he sold his interests and returned to Monticello and there engaged in farming for a year. In the fall of 1915 he moved to Erdahl and there, organized the First State Bank and was later elected cashier of the same, with his wife as assistant cashier, which positions they now hold. The officers of the bank are as follow: President, Charles Bradford; vice-president, Ole A. Thompson; cashier, Herbert O. Wagner, and assistant cashier, Minnie Wagner. The directors of the institution are Charles Bradford, Ole A. Thompson, Herbert O. Wagner, A. G. Westboe and C. E. White. The capital of the bank is twelve thousand dollars, with a surplus of two thousand four hundred dollars.

The First State Bank of Erdahl started business in small quarters, but through the efforts of the stockholders and the officers the institution has grown to large proportions and is today recognized as one of the strong and growing banks of this part of the state. The officers of the institution have the confidence and the respect of the business men of the community and are held in the highest regard and esteem. Owing to the growth of the institution, the bank left its old quarters in the fall of 1916 and moved into its new brick building, modern in every respect. The bank is equipped with a Diebold safe, one of the latest and most modern patterns, and is burglar proof. The residents of the community, as well as the owners of the bank, take much pride in the institution and are liberal supporters of the same.

Herbert O. and Minnie Wagner are the parents of two children, Stewart A. and Cor H., the former of whom is now a student of the medical school at Hamlin University, after having completed the high-school course at Monticello, and the latter is now a student in the high school. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them.

In addition to his many other duties, Mr. Wagner, with his brother, I. S. Wagner, has established the Wagner Lumber Company at Erdahl, the firm carrying a full line of building material. Having the confidence and the respect of the entire community, they hope to conduct the business in such a manner as to merit the support of those who contemplate building or are in need of anything in their line of business. Herbert O. Wagner has always taken an active interest in the civic life of the community and has ever exerted his influence in behalf of the best interests of the township and the county, a strong supporter of all public improvements that tend to the betterment and the growth of his home district. He is a firm believer in good roads and good schools, believing that in these rests to a great extent the future success of the district, as well as the state. Being a man of broad views and much experience, he is often consulted on matters relating to proposed public improvements and to him is due much of the progressive spirit manifested in the town as well as in the surrounding territory. He is broad-minded and looks to the interests of the community in general. His life has been an active one and he has accomplished much that is worthy of emulation. Few men in the community are held in higher regard and respect. Ever ready to assist a friend and neighbor, he has won for himself a host of friends in the business and social world.

ANTON H. GREGERSEN.

Anton H. Gregersen, head of the well-known firm of A. H. Gregersen & Company at Alexandria, dry goods and general furnishings; first president of the Commercial Club of that city, first president of the local board of works, vice-president of the First National Bank, secretary-treasurer of the Alexandria Heating Company and actively identified with other commercial and industrial enterprises in that city, is a native of the kingdom of Denmark, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was seventeen years of

age. He was born in the city of Copenhagen on September 13, 1865, son of Hans and Christina Gregersen, who spent all their lives in their native land, and received a commercial training in connection with his general schooling in the days of his youth.

In 1882, he then being eighteen years of age, Anton H. Gregersen came to the United States and proceeded directly to Minnesota, locating for a time at Alden, in Freeborn county; presently going thence to Minneapolis, where he began working for the wholesale house of Regan Brothers. From there he went to Litchfield and was there engaged as a clerk and bookkeeper in a general store until 1887, in which year he went to St. Paul and was there connected with the wholesale house of C. Gotzian & Company and later with the clothing store of H. C. Burbank & Company, bookkeeper and credit man for the latter concern until 1899, when he engaged in business for himself at Alexandria, buying the interest of W. T. Hendren in the dry-goods store with which he ever since has been connected, entering business there as a member of the firm of Gilbert & Gregersen. Three years later Mr. Gregersen bought Mr. Gilbert's interest in the establishment and has since continued as general manager and active head of the concern, which is conducted under the firm name of A. H. Gregersen & Company and which has built up a large trade in and about Alexandria. When Mr. Gregersen engaged in business in Alexandria his store employed but three clerks. He now employs sixteen clerks and the business has more than trebled in volume. In addition to managing his own extensive establishment Mr. Gregersen has taken an active interest in the general business affairs of Alexandria ever since locating there and has been one of the prime factors in the development of the commercial and industrial interests of the town. Upon the organization of the Alexandria Commercial Club he was elected president of that organization and has ever since given his most thoughtful attention to the affairs of the same. He also was the first president of the board of works after Alexandria began to do business as a corporation and was for four years the head of that important public body. He is secretary-treasurer of the Alexandria Heating Company, which operates the new heating plant in that city and he also has an interest in a garage there.

In 1884, a little more than two years after coming to Minnesota, Anton H. Gregersen was united in marriage to E. J. Gottschamer, of St. Paul. Mr. and Mrs. Gergersen have a very pleasant home in Alexandria and take an earnest interest in the general social activities of their home town and in all proper movements having to do with the general welfare of the community in which they live.

JOSEPH H. WETTLESON.

Joseph H. Wettleson, secretary and treasurer of the Herberger-Wettleson Company, incorporated, dealers in dry goods at Alexandria, and who for years before becoming connected with that firm was a well-known commercial traveler, traveling out of Alexandria, is a native of Wisconsin, born in Stoughton, that state, June 19, 1867, son of Jacob and Mary (Johnson) Wettleson, natives of the kingdom of Norway, the former of whom is now living retired in the city of Los Angeles, California, where the latter spent her last days, her death occurring in 1910.

Jacob Wettleson was about ten years old when his parents, Wettie and Susan Wettleson, came to the United States from Norway in 1841 and settled on a homestead farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they spent the remainder of their lives. He grew up on that homestead farm, receiving his education in the public schools, and later became a grain buyer in Stoughton, afterward becoming engaged in the mercantile business and was for years one of the leading business men of that town. He also took an active part in the civic affairs of his home town and was the first mayor of the city of Stoughton, where he remained until his retirement from business and removal to Los Angeles, where he is now living and where he is very comfortably situated. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Susan, Josephine, William, Joseph, Emma and Theresa. The mother of these children, who, as noted above, died at Los Angeles in 1910, was a young woman when she came to this country from Norway with her parents, John Johnson and wife, in 1851. John Johnson was a goldsmith and both he and his wife spent their last days in Wisconsin, where they had settled upon coming to this country. Both the Wettlesons and the Johnsons were active workers in the Lutheran church.

Joseph H. Wettleson was reared at Stoughton, receiving his schooling in the public schools of that town and early entered upon his mercantile career, beginning as a clerk in a store in his home town. He later became engaged as a commercial traveler and made his headquarters at Alexandria, where he ever since has made his home. Mr. Wettleson continued his service as a traveling salesman for fifteen years and then, on July 22, 1914, formed his present connection, as a partnership, with the Herberger-Wettleson Company, incorporated, dealers in dry goods at Alexandria. Mr. Wettleson is the secretary and treasurer of the company, which has a large and well-equipped store and which has built up a fine business in and about

Alexandria, being one of the best-known dry-goods firms in this part of the state. Mr. Wettleson is the present president of the Alexandria Commercial Club.

In 1887 Joseph H. Wettleson was united in marriage to Anna Eells, of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and to this union four children have been born, Paul, Joseph, Philip and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Wettleson are members of the Congregational church and take a proper interest in all measures having to do with the advancement of the common welfare of their home community. Mr. Wettleson is a Mason and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that order.

WILLIAM JOHN BARR MOSES.

William John Barr Moses, editor and publisher of *The Forum* at Brandon and one of the best-known and most popular of Minnesota's considerable circle of literary men, author of "Dreaming River" and numerous short stories, sketches and magazine and newspaper articles without number, proprietor of "Oakdene Park," a delightful lakeside place and an equally delightful home at Lake Latoka, near Alexandria, besides a pleasant home at Brandon, where he lately has made his residence, is a native of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, with the exception of the period spent in extensive travels through Europe and in this country. He was born at the village of Terrace, in Pope county, this state, June 27, 1874, son of William and Mary (Morrison) Moses, whose last days were spent in Alexandria.

William Moses was born at Knowlton, in the province of Quebec, Canada, April 16, 1842, and completed his schooling in the Waterloo Academy, after which he taught school for some years, farming during the summers. He married Martha Ralston and in 1868 came with his wife to Minnesota, settling at Owatonna, where for a few years he operated a wind grist-mill. He then moved to Pope county and started a store and water-power mill, the only mill within a radius of seventy-five miles. Around that mill and country store a village presently sprang up which became known as Terrace, and there Mr. Moses continued to make his home for ten years. While living there his wife died without issue, and in 1873 he married Mary Morrison, who was born on March 23, 1842. In 1882 William Moses left Terrace and moved up into Douglas county, locating at Alexandria, where, in partnership with J. M. Wiley, he became engaged

in the general mercantile business and where he made his headquarters the rest of his life. Mr. Moses was a very active business man and his commercial and banking connections gradually extended to distant towns. He was president of the Douglas County Bank at Alexandria and was connected with the First National Bank of Elbow Lake, with the Bank of Carrington at Carrington, North Dakota, and with the Citizens' Bank at Drayton, same state. He also held commercial connections in other towns in North Dakota and was long accounted one of the most influential and progressive business men hereabout. William Moses died on June 25, 1914, and his widow survived less than a year, her death occurring in March, 1915. They were the parents of two sons, the subject of this sketch having a younger brother, C. M. Moses, born on December 5, 1876, now general agent for the Great Western Assurance Company of Winnipeg at Minot, North Dakota, who married Robina Halcrow and has four children, Charles William, Dorothy Elizabeth, John Halcrow and George Harold.

William J. B. Moses was about eight years old when his parents moved from Terrace to Alexandria and he grew to manhood in the latter city. He was graduated from the Alexandria high school in 1893 and then entered Hamline University at St. Paul and was graduated from that institution in 1900, with the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy. Mr. Moses also took a part of his undergraduate work in the University of Minnesota, after which he took a post-graduate course in the English department of the University of Chicago. During 1896 Mr. Moses traveled extensively in Europe and upon his return home entered upon his life work as an author, since then having devoted practically his whole time to the writing of novels, short stories, poems, magazine articles and humorous sketches. Mr. Moses has had one novel published, "Dreaming River" (Stokes, New York, 1909), and has written for a great many popular publications, including the *Peoples Magazine*, *All-Story*, *Red Book*, *St. Nicholas*, *Puck*, *Judge*, *Life*, *Smart Set*, *Woman's Home Companion*, *The Housekeeper* and the like and has also written for many of the leading newspapers of the country, including the *Springfield* (Massachusetts) *Republican*, the *New York Times*, the *New York Sun*, the *New York Herald*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Chicago News*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Record-Herald* and others too numerous to mention. Mr. Moses was librarian at Alexandria for two years. On October 15, 1915, he purchased *The Forum*, published at Brandon, and has since been the editor and publisher of the same, a six-column quarto paper of wide circulation and large influence throughout this section. Since then Mr.

Moses has been making his home in Brandon, where he owns a very pleasant residence property. For some years previously he had been living in his delightful country home, "Oakdene Park," near Alexandria, a tract of twenty-six acres at Lake Latoka, and his father's old home place in Alexandria. The elder Moses was a prominent member of the Methodist church at Alexandria and was one of the leading factors in the substantial establishment of that congregation there, but his son is a member of the Episcopal church, a vestryman, and for some years served as lay reader in the church.

On June 1, 1910, W. J. B. Moses was united in marriage to Annette M. Peacock, of Alexandria, daughter of Robert and Ruth (Wilson) Peacock, old residents of Pope county, who moved to Alexandria about 1904, and to this union one child has been born, a son, William Robert, born on December 24, 1911.

HARLAN S. CAMPBELL.

Harlan S. Campbell, manager of the St. Anthony & Dakota elevator at Alexandria, member of the common council of that city, and one of the best-known grain men in this part of the state, is a native of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born in the city of Minneapolis, June 5, 1874, son of Arthur R. and Sarah H. (Smith) Campbell, natives of the state of Maine, whose last days spent at Little Falls, this state.

Arthur R. Campbell was reared in Maine and early learned the trade of shipwright, working in shipyards in the East until his marriage in 1865 to Sarah H. Smith, immediately after which he came West and settled at St. Anthony (now Minneapolis), where he worked on the erection of several of the large mills then being erected at that place. He later engaged in the grain business and presently was made manager of the Old Pillsbury elevator in southeastern Minneapolis, remaining thus engaged until in August, 1884, when he was transferred to Alexandria as the manager of the Pillsbury & Hulburt elevator at that place. There Mr. Campbell remained until 1904, in which year he was made inspector for the Northwestern Milling Company, with headquarters at Little Falls, and moved to the latter place, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in June, 1913, he then being sixty-nine years and six months of age. His widow survived him but a few months, her death occurring in September of that same year, she being sixty-five years of age at the time of her death. They were the par-

ents of four children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Georgia, who died in September, 1914; Dennison, instructor in manual training in the schools at Jordan, this state, who married Bessie Burrell and has one child, a daughter, Janet, and Ralph, who died on March 7, 1916.

Harlan S. Campbell was ten years old when his parents moved from Minneapolis to Alexandria and his schooling, begun in the schools at Minneapolis, was continued in the schools of Alexandria. He was graduated from the high school in the latter city in 1893 and then attended the academic department of the State University for a year, at the end of which time, in the fall of 1895, following his marriage, he was made manager of an elevator at Garfield. From the days of his boyhood Mr. Campbell had been acquiring a thorough acquaintance with the grain business under his father's careful direction, and after two years as manager of the Garfield elevator he was transferred to Erhard, in the neighboring county of Otter Tail, where he served as manager of the elevator at that place for four years. In the fall of 1901 Mr. Campbell was called back to Alexandria to take the position of manager of the St. Anthony & Dakota elevator at that place and has ever since continued in that responsible position, long having been recognized as one of the leading grain men in this part of the state. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Alexandria Commercial Club and has for years taken an active part in the general business affairs of his home town. He also takes a proper interest in the community's civic affairs, has been a member of the fire department since 1902, was the first president of the Fireman's Relief Association and for the past seven or eight years has been a member of the Alexandria common council, being elected on the non-partisan ticket.

It was on October 13, 1895, that Harlan S. Campbell was united in marriage at Alexandria to Florence E. De Frate, of that city, daughter of Sheriff A. W. De Frate and who was graduated with the same class and had taught school for a couple of years before her marriage to Mr. Campbell. To that union two children have been born, Arthur Ross, born on July 18, 1897, and Francis Colin, January 25, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are members of the Congregational church and take a proper interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works. Mr. Campbell is a past master of Constellation Lodge No. 81, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which lodge he served as master for three terms, and is past worthy patron of the local chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Campbell is past worthy matron of the same and is also a deaconess in the Congregational church and superintendent of the primary department of the Sunday school of the same.

NILS ELLINGSON.

Nils Ellingson, a well-known pioneer farmer of Stony Brook township, Grant county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1868 and of Grant county since 1878. He was born on a farm in the Sigdal district of Norway on June 11, 1852, son of Elling Nilson and Annie Ellenson, both natives of that same district, the former born in May, 1825, and the latter, March 23, 1823, who grew up in the same neighborhood and were married there, remaining in their native land until 1868 when they came with their family to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Houston county. Elling Nilson had been reared to the life of the farm in the old country and had there been a farmer, hence upon coming to Minnesota he rented a farm in Houston county and there established his home, remaining there until 1877, in which year, by wagon and ox-team, he made his way to Grant county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 32 of Stony Brook township. He erected a small frame house, twelve by fourteen feet and eight feet high, and settled down to the difficult task of breaking the farm and bringing it under cultivation. He prospered in his farming operations and later bought an "eighty" adjoining his homestead and still later an additional quarter section, but before his death had disposed of most of his land holdings. On that homestead farm Elling Nilson and his wife spent their last days, his death occurring in 1903, he then being past seventy-eight years of age, and hers in the the following year, 1904, she then being eighty-two years of age. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Annie, who married Peter Erickson, a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; Gunhild, who married Kittel Olson and died at her home in Stony Brook township in 1895; Nils, the immediate subject of this biographical sketch; Hans, who is now living retired at Wendell; Martha, who married A. E. Dybdal and also lives at Wendell; Christine, who married C. C. Grinder and lives on a farm one and one-half miles east of Wendell; and Ellen, a farmer, who lives about one-half mile south of Wendell.

Nils Ellingson was about sixteen years of age when he came to America with his parents in 1868 and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Houston county, this state, remaining there until he was twenty-one years of age, when he began working on his own account and was thus engaged until 1878, when, with his wife (he having been married in the spring of 1877) and their infant child, he came over to this part of the state and settled in

Grant county, buying a tract of eighty acres in section 29 of Stony Brook township. For his immediate occupancy at that time he erected a small log house on the adjoining farm of his brother, but later built on his own farm a small frame house, which is now used as the kitchen of his present dwelling. He gradually broke his farm and brought the same under cultivation and as he prospered in his operations added to his holdings until he is now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres.

It was on March 26, 1877, that Nils Ellingson was united in marriage to Sigrí Dybdal, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Ellen Dybdal and wife, who became early settlers in Iowa, where they spent their last days. To this union nine children have been born, namely: Elling, a grain buyer at Barrett; Ellen, who died in infancy; Annie, who married Ole Christenson and lives at Wendell; Ellend N., a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume; Bernard, who is engaged in the retail meat business at Wendell; Sam, at home, and Bertha, Edward and Albert, also at home.

CASSIUS CLINTON STRANG, D. D. S.

Dr. Cassius Clinton Strang, a well-known dentist and the mayor of Alexandria, was born in Hudson township, Douglas county, Minnesota, on May 24, 1879, son of George Jesse and Sarah Jane (Burgan) Strang.

George Jesse Strang was born in Prince Edward Island on February 22, 1845, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Murray) Strang. Joseph Strang was born in Rhode Island and Elizabeth Murray Strang was born on Prince Edward Island. Joseph Strang received his education in the public schools of Rhode Island, and there grew to manhood. As a young man he engaged as a coast sailor, and during his cruises along the coast he met and married Elizabeth Murray, at her home in Prince Edward Island. Soon after their marriage, the young couple moved to Kane county, Illinois, and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, six miles from Elgin. Joseph Strang developed and improved that farm and there engaged in general farming until 1850, when he moved to Iowa and located in Fayette county, and there engaged in farming for five years, at the end of which time, in 1855, he came to Minnesota and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land in Rice county, all of which was wild prairie. He built a log house and developed the farm, and there he resided until 1867, when he moved to Douglas county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in



DR. CASSIUS C. STRANG.

Hudson township. There he built a substantial frame house and with a team of oxen developed the farm. In time he became one of the substantial farmers of the township and there he resided for thirty-eight years, at the end of which time he retired from the activities of the farm life and moved to Alexandria, where he lived for twenty years before his death in December, 1905, he then being eighty-nine years of age. His wife had died nearly twenty years previous to that time. They were the parents of nine children, Mary, David M., Sarah Ann, George Jesse, Eliza, Penelope, Charles D., Lucinda and Louis D., the latter of whom died at the age of five years.

George Jesse Strang received his education in Iowa and in Rice county, this state, and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted with the farm work. He remained at home until, at the age of eighteen years, in 1863, he enlisted in Company A, Fifth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was at once sent to Memphis, Tennessee. He was later in the two-days battle of Nashville, after which he was with the command that followed Hood to the east part of Tennessee, where they engaged in the decisive battles of Pulaski and Franklin, the latter battle being one of the most decisive battles of the war, and perhaps the only one in which an entire Confederate army was annihilated. He was then sent to Mobile, Alabama, after one month in Eastport, Tennessee. There he assisted in the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. After that he was sent to New Orleans, and then on a month's campaign along the Gulf of Mexico; thence to Montgomery, Alabama, and then to Salem, that state, where he was discharged, after two years of most active service. After being mustered out of the service, Mr. Strang returned to Minnesota and the first winter thereafter he spent with the home folks in Rice county. Then in 1866, he, with his brother, David M. Strang, came to Douglas county, where each took a squatter's claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land, David Strang taking his claim in section 21 and George J. Strang, in section 16 of Hudson township. George Jesse Strang later learned that his land in section 16 had been set aside for school purposes, so he pre-empted the tract and paid one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre for the place. The brothers had driven through with oxen, and after having selected their land, returned and brought their parents to this county, and with them they brought horses, with which to assist them in their work. George Jesse Strang at once built a log house on his farm and began the task of clearing the place and planting his crops. The first year he had

fifty bushels of oats and twenty-five bushels of wheat, which he had to market at St. Cloud, eighty miles distant. Those were trying times for the pioneers, yet they were determined, and in time became prosperous farmers. A substantial frame house presently was erected, which now stands on the farm, and other substantial and valuable improvements were made. More land was bought, and in time George J. Strang became the owner of some six hundred acres of valuable land, all of which was under high cultivation and well improved. Mr. Strang engaged in general farming and stock raising and became one of the prominent men of the county. In 1904 he was appointed by Governor Van Sant, as a member of the board of grain appeals. For two years a son operated the farm, after which he rented the place until 1910, when he sold the farm. He continued to serve on the board of appeals until 1908, when he entered the employ of the Atwood Larson Company, grain commission merchants at Duluth, in which capacity he served as a grain buyer in carload lots, his territory covering the northwest part of Minnesota, he continuing, however, to reside in Alexandria, where he has a beautiful home.

In 1868 George Jesse Strang was united in marriage to Sarah Jane Burgan, who was born on February 3, 1849, at Jamestown, Indiana, and who came with her parents to Minnesota in an early day. To this union seven children have been born, Charles B., George J., Lulu Elizabeth, D. M., Elva, Cassius Clinton, and Clive Joseph. George J. Strang, Jr., died at the age of five years. Dr. Charles B. Strang is a well-known physician at Lemmon, South Dakota; Lulu Elizabeth Strang married A. P. Nelson, a banker of Grantsburg, Wisconsin; Dr. D. M. Strang is a physician at Sprague, Washington, and is the father of two children, Pauline and Robert. Elva Strang married V. E. Hawley, a successful hardware merchant of Grantsburg, Wisconsin, and has one child, Grace. Clive Joseph Strang is a lawyer and at present county attorney of Burnett county, Wisconsin.

George Jesse Strang and wife have long been prominent in the social life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. Politically, Mr. Strang has always taken an active interest in local affairs, and was one of the organizers of the township of Hudson. He served as chairman of the township board of supervisors for a number of years and as justice of the peace, as well as constable. He was a patriotic citizen and was ever willing to assist in the civic growth of the township and the county. In 1895 he was elected to the state Legislature, and there rendered valuable service to his district as well as to the

state. He won much prominence in the House and was recognized as one of the strong and influential men of the assembly. Fraturnally, Mr. Strang is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has always taken much interest in the work of these orders. Mrs. Strang is a prominent member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Both Mr. and Mrs. Strang have devoted much time to the interest of the community in which they have lived for so many years, and have had much to do with the substantial progress of this district. They are kind and indulgent parents and have ever devoted their lives to their family and to their friends. They have taken much interest in the development of the educational system of the county, and are strong advocates of the maintenance of the best of schools, and have given their children every possible advantage in the way of acquiring a good education.

Cassius Clinton Strang received his education in the rural schools of Hudson township and at the high school at Alexandria and grew to manhood on the home farm, where he assisted his father during the time he was not attending school. Even while later attending the University he spent his summers on the farm, assisting in the work of the same. During the time he was in the high school he taught two terms in the rural districts, and thus gained an experience that has been of much value to him during his active life. In the fall of 1902 he entered the dental department of the Minnesota State University, and was graduated with the class of 1905. Upon completing his work in the university, Doctor Strang secured his state license to practice the dental profession and located at Alexandria, where he has since continued in practice with marked success.

Doctor Strang's first office was a small one over the People's Store, where he remained for three years, at the end of which time he moved to the rooms over the Hanson furniture store, where he remained for seven years. In November, 1915, he moved to his present magnificent offices where he has an excellent practice. The Doctor is free to admit that for more than a year after he began his practice at Alexandria he was not self-supporting, but now his practice demands his entire attention. His office is supplied with every modern appliance, and his instruments are of the most up-to-date character. His workshop is so arranged as to handle all work quickly, accurately and in a sanitary manner, everything in his line having been installed for the comfort and benefit of his patrons. By expert workmanship and courteous treatment, Doctor Strang has won the confidence and the esteem of the people of the community, among whom he is held in the highest regard.

On June 3, 1897, Dr. C. C. Strang was united in marriage to Marian Lillian Costello, of Stillwater, Minnesota, and to this union two children have been born, Virgie Adair, born on July 7, 1908, and Mary Elizabeth, February 28, 1912. Doctor and Mrs. Strang are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take much interest in church work, and are also earnest participants in the social activities of the community. Fraternally, Doctor Strang is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and in the latter order has attained to the Temple degree of the York Rite, and is a thirty-second degree member of the consistory of the Scottish Rite, and a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is senior deacon in the Masonic lodge at Alexandria and takes much interest in the affairs of that order. Mrs. Strang is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and is associate matron of the local chapter at Alexandria. Doctor Strang is also a member of the latter order and is now serving as sentinel of the local chapter.

Doctor Strang has always taken an active interest in the civic life of the community and has long been prominent in the governmental affairs of Alexandria. He is progressive in his views and has long advocated improvements and policies that would tend to the advancement of the best interests of the residents of the city. In March, 1916, he was elected mayor of the city and is now devoting his best efforts to the duties of that office.

TIDEMAN H. BURTNES.

Tideman H. Burtness, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial pioneer farmers and an honored veteran of the Civil War, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was thirteen years of age and of Grant county since the year 1871, thus being classed among the very earliest settlers of the county. He was born on the farm "Burtness," in the beautiful valley of Hallingdal, about eighty miles northwest of the city of Christiania, July 7, 1847, son of Helge and Leva (Maiermon) Burtness, natives of that same district, well-to-do farming people and owners of the farm "Burtness." Mrs. Burtness died in 1856 and in 1860 Helge Burtness disposed of his interests in Norway and, following the example of some of his older children who had come to this country and had settled in Wisconsin, came with his other

children to the United States and joined the older children in Rock county, Wisconsin, settling there on a farm. After spending some years in that county he moved over into Minnesota and his last years were spent with those of his sons who previously had located in Houston county, his death occurring there in 1867. Helge Burtness had been twice married, six children having been born to his first wife, namely: Peter, who remained on the old homestead in Norway and who died there at the great age of ninety-five years; John, who died in Rock county, Wisconsin; Ole, who died in Waseca county, this state; Tideman, who also spent his last days in Rock county, Wisconsin; Osten, who died in Houston county, this state, and Peder, who joined an expedition seeking gold in California and after spending some time there never was heard from again. To Helge Burtness's second marriage seven children were born, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Thora, who married Ole Olsgaard and is now living at Spring Grove, in Houston county, this state, past eighty-three years of age; Elling, who died in Houston county; Sven, who died in Emmet county, Iowa; Christien, who lives in Fillmore county, this state; Halvor, who lives in Clay county, this state, and Bergit, who lives in Fillmore county, widow of Knut Wold.

Reared on the ancestral farm in the valley of Hallingdal, Tiedeman H. Burtness received his schooling in the local schools there and was about thirteen years of age when he came with his father to this country. He spent his youth on a farm in Rock county, Wisconsin, and in 1864, when seventeen years of age, enlisted for service in Company D, Forty-third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served until the close of the Civil War, participating in the battle of Nashville and after that being stationed along the line of the Nashville & Chattanooga railway, doing guard duty. During his term of service Mr. Burtness was confined to the hospital for six weeks. Upon the completion of his military service he returned to Wisconsin, but shortly afterward joined his father in Houston county, this state, and there worked with his brother on a farm until his marriage in the fall of 1870, following which, in 1871, he and his wife drove over to this part of the state and located in Grant county, homesteading a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14 of Elbow Lake township, which ever since has been their home. Upon entering upon his homestead Mr. Burtness hauled logs from the banks of Pomme de Terre Lake and built a log house, which provided a home until he later was able to erect a more commodious and comfortable

dwelling. He passed through all the trials and privations of the pioneer period, but after awhile began to prosper in his farming operations and years ago became recognized as one of the most substantial farmers of that community, adding to his holdings until he now is the owner of four hundred and eighty acres in one body, surrounding his old homestead, besides a farm of one hundred acres in Sanford township. Mr. Burtness is a Republican and has served the public in the capacity of school director and assessor in his home township.

It was in September, 1870, in Rock county, Wisconsin that Tiedeman H. Burtness was united in marriage to Barbara Solem, who was born in that county, a daughter of Knut Solem and wife, who were among the earliest settlers of that county, and to this union eleven children have been born, namely: Leva, who died in infancy; Helge, who lives on a farm east of Elbow Lake; Leva, who married Sivert Nort and lives on a farm nearby the Burtness homestead; Hans, who lives in Canada; Theodore, who also lives in Canada; Tilla, who married Henry Hanson and lives near the old homestead; Peander, who, with his brother Pidoiph, is now operating the home place for his father; Christine, who married Andrew Vum and died in Elbow Lake township; John, who lives in Enderlin, North Dakota, where he is the owner of a garage; Torgen, at home, and Adolph, also at home, who is assisting his brother Peander in the management of the home farm. The Burtnesses are members of the United Lutheran church at Elbow Lake, for many years among the most active supporters of the same, and Mr. Burtness was formerly a member of the board of trustees of the congregation, ever taking a proper interest in community good works.

C. A. PRESTRUD.

C. A. Prestrud, cashier of the First National Bank of Wendell, was born in Norway, June 17, 1878, a son of H. C. and Charlotte L. (Mason) Prestrud, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1886, locating at St. Paul, where the father worked at his trade as cabinet-maker, and made this home for the rest of his life. He died on May 3, 1902, and his widow survived until 1916. The subject of this sketch is the youngest of two children born to these parents and the only one now living, his sister, Lydia, now being deceased. The Norwegian Lutheran is the family church.

C. A. Prestrud was but eight years of age when he came to this country

and he was educated in the public schools of St. Paul. As a young man, at the age of eighteen, he was employed as messenger for the Scandinavian and American bank, of St. Paul, and that was the beginning of his career in connection with banking, a business that he has since continued. In 1902 he came to Wendell to take a position as cashier of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank, of Wendell, a position he now holds, the bank now being known as the First National Bank of Wendell.

In 1901 C. A. Prestrud was married to Nanna J. Hoff, daughter of Hans Hoff, of Christiania, Norway, and to this union seven children have been born, Norman A., Mildred C., Raymond A., Ethel K., Earl W., Evelyn L. and Doratha H.

Mr. Prestrud is a member of the Synod Lutheran church, and general trustee for the congregation. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party and was formerly a member of the village council.

ROBERT K. BROUGH.

Robert K. Brough, postmaster at Alexandria, enjoys the usual distinction of nearly thirty years continuous service in the postoffice in that city, having been engaged there ever since the fall of 1888, when he entered the postoffice as a clerk. Two years later he was promoted to the position of deputy postmaster and served in that capacity under successive postmasters until his appointment as postmaster in 1908, a position he ever since has held, being one of five postmasters out of fifteen hundred applicants for reappointment that were retained in office under the Wilson administration.

Mr. Brough is a native of England, born in the city of Hull in 1866, son of Robert Brough, a sea captain, who was lost at sea. In 1872, he then being but six years of age, he accompanied his widowed mother to the United States, the family locating at Alexandria, where Mrs. Brough spent her last days. There Robert K. Brough grew to manhood. He received his education in the Alexandria high school and worked at various occupations until the fall of 1888, when he became employed as a clerk in the local postoffice. He at once demonstrated his fitness for the work in hand and two years later, in 1890, was appointed to the position of deputy postmaster. In that capacity he was retained by successive postmasters, serving under Godfrey Vivian one term; under J. H. VanDyke, one term;

under Fanny VanDyke, widow of J. H. VanDyke, three terms; under Charles S. Mitchell, one term, and under H. K. White one term, or until the death of the latter in December, 1908, when, on recommendation of Senator Nelson, he was appointed to succeed Mr. White and has ever since held his commission as postmaster at Alexandria, being one of the very few "presidential" postmasters holding office under the Taft administration to be reappointed under the Wilson administration, an evidence of fitness for the place to which Postmaster Brough's friends point with pride.

In 1894 Robert K. Brough was married to Elizabeth Aldrich, a daughter of J. D. Aldrich and wife, pioneer residents of Douglas county, and has a son, Eugene Brough, thirteen years of age. Mr. Brough is a member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias and of the Order of Yeomen and in the affairs of both of these organizations takes a warm interest.

HON. HERMAN HILLMOND.

Hon. Herman Hillmond, one of the largest landowners in Grant county, former representative from this district to the Minnesota state Legislature, independent candidate for the Legislature in 1916, proprietor of a fine farm of seven hundred and sixty acres in Pomme de Terre township, for the past fifteen years a director of the First National Bank of Elbow Lake and for many years one of the most active factors in the civic and industrial life of his home community, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was thirteen years of age and has consequently been a witness to and a participant in the development of this part of the state for many years. He was born in Saxony on January 18, 1860, son and only child of Edward and Dorothy (Marx) Hillmond, both natives of Saxony, the latter born on May 29, 1836, and the former some years earlier. Edward Hillmond was a farmer and landowner, who died in his native land in October, 1860, when his son, the subject of this sketch, was but an infant. His widow later married Jacob Treise and in 1868 or 1869 came with her husband to the United States, leaving her young son in charge of her father, Jacob Marx. Jacob Treise and his wife came to Minnesota upon their arrival in this country and settled in Birchdale township, Todd county, where Mr. Treise homesteaded a quarter of a section of land and established his home, remaining there until the fall of 1875, when he moved over into Raymond township, in Stearns

county, and settled on a farm about nine miles south of Sauk Center, in the meantime, in 1873, having been joined by his stepson, the subject of this sketch, and the latter's grandfather, Jacob Marx. The year following the removal of the family to Stearns county the whole country hereabout was devastated by the ravages of the grasshoppers and the farming operations of the Treises, as well as those of all other settlers, were seriously interrupted, young Hillmond thus being compelled, even as a boy, to take such employment as he could find in the neighborhood, to help out during the time of distress, and was thus employed, working for others, until 1879, when he resumed his place in the home and there remained until 1882, in which year, he then being twenty-two years of age, he came over into Grant county and bought a quarter of a section of wild land in Pomme de Terre township and began farming on his own account. Two years later the Treises also moved over into Grant county and bought a farm adjoining that of Mr. Hillmond, where they lived until 1899, in which year they retired from the farm and moved to Elbow Lake, where both Mr. and Mrs. Treise are still living. To them three children were born, Emil, who died when a child; Lottie, who married Jacob Woessner and lives in Pomme de Terre township, and Winnie, who married Frank Schaeffer and lives in that same township.

As noted above, Herman Hillmond remained in his native land until he was thirteen years of age, receiving his elementary schooling in the schools of his home town, and in 1873 came to this county with his grandfather and joined his mother and his stepfather in Todd county, later moving to Stearns county, where he remained until taking up his residence in Grant county in 1882. There he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land and proceeded to develop the same. He drove over with two teams of oxen and the first year he occupied his homestead he broke sixty-four acres, making his domicile in his wagon-box. In the fall of that year he returned to Sauk Center and there worked during the winter, using the money thus earned to apply on the payment of his land and for the purchase of seed for the spring farming, returning to his farm in the spring and planting to wheat and oats the sixty-four acres he had previously broken. That year he broke seven acres additional and then sold the place to Robert Staley, applying the money thus secured to the purchase of the northeast quarter of section 29 in the same township, on which he erected a seat of buildings which still stand and are in use. In 1891 Mr. Hillmond married and established his home on his quarter

section, continuing to reside there until 1903, when he and his wife moved to Elbow Lake in order to secure better school advantages for their children, renting the farm in the meantime, and remained at the county seat until 1912, when, the children then being through the high school, they moved to Miriam Park, St. Paul, in order that the children might enter the University of Minnesota, and two years later returned to the old home farm and shortly afterward erected there the present fine farm residence, in which the family is very comfortably and very pleasantly situated. Mr. Hillmond's farming operations have prospered from the very beginning and he is now the owner of seven hundred and sixty acres, all in one body, one of the best-improved farms in that part of the county. Not only has Mr. Hillmond done well in his farming operations, but he has for years given much attention to various other enterprises and for fifteen years has been a member of the board of directors of the First National Bank of Elbow Lake. From the beginning of his residence in Grant county Mr. Hillmond has given close and thoughtful attention to local political affairs and in 1900 was elected, as the nominee of the Populist party, in a Scandinavian Republican district, representative to the Legislature, defeating Senator Knute Nelson's son by a majority of sixty-eight. In the campaign of 1916 Mr. Hillmond again became a candidate for the Legislature, standing on a strictly non-partisan platform, long having maintained a strictly independent attitude in his political views. In local civic affairs he also has been an active and influential factor and has held all township offices in his home township at one time and another, having ever been an earnest promoter of all movements having to do with the advancement of the best interests of his home community. Mr. Hillmond was reared as a Lutheran and in his fraternal relations is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and with the order of Yeomen, in the affairs of both of which organizations he takes a warm interest.

In 1891 Herman Hillmond was united in marriage to Pauline Schwantz, at that time a resident of the village of Evansville, but who was born in Sibley county, this state, daughter of William Schwantz and wife, who later became substantial residents of Effington township, Otter Tail county, and to this union three children have been born, Arthur, who is at home; Eleanor, who married William B. Schneider, of Minneapolis, and has one child, a daughter, Ruth, and Albert, at home.

PETER HOPLIN.

Peter Hoplin, a well-known and progressive merchant of Brandon, owner of the hardware store that formerly belonged to the Larsen estate in that village, a member of the board of county commissioners of Douglas county, former assessor of his home township and for six or seven years justice of the peace there, a director of the Farmers State Bank of Brandon and the owner of a considerable tract of land in Montana, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was four years of age. He was born on September 23, 1876, son of Nels and Hannah Hoplin, who came to the United States in the spring of 1880, settling for a time in Wisconsin, whence, in the summer of that same year, they came out to this part of Minnesota and settled on a farm of forty acres in the Brandon neighborhood in Douglas county, where they are still living.

Nels Hoplin was a laborer in his native land, but upon acquiring a bit of land out here in Minnesota proved himself a good farmer and as he prospered in his farming operations added to his holdings until he is now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, on which he engages in general farming and dairying and on which he has done very well. He and his wife have five children living, those besides the subject of this sketch being Lena, wife of Hans Nelson, a farmer of Hennepin county, this state; Bessie, who is at home with her parents, and Nettie and Ole (twins), the former of whom also is at home and the latter of whom is a well-known hardware dealer at Lowry.

Peter Hoplin was but a child when he came to this country with his parents in 1880 and he grew to manhood on the home farm in the vicinity of Brandon, receiving his schooling in the schools of that village and in the high school at Alexandria. Upon completing his schooling he remained on the home farm for a few years and then engaged in the grain-buying business at Brandon, continuing thus engaged for a year, at the end of which time he began clerking in the store of B. F. Tiegen, in that same village, and was thus engaged for six years. He then was appointed to take charge of the L. P. Larsen estate and had since then been managing the Larsen hardware store at Brandon, which he recently bought, long having been recognized as one of the leading business men of Brandon. In addition to his general hardware business Mr. Hoplin is the local agent for one of the best-known automobiles in the country and is doing very well. He is a stockholder and a director in the Farmers State Bank of Brandon

and is the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Montana. Mr. Hoplin is a Republican and since 1911 has been serving as a member of the board of county commissioners for Douglas county, now serving on his second term, and for two years was chairman of the board. For six years he was clerk of the Brandon school district No. 76; then for four years served as township assessor and for six or seven years then was justice of the peace in and for his home township. He is an active member of the Norwegian Free church and since 1910 has been superintendent of the Union Sunday school at Brandon.

WILLIAM H. HENGSTLER, M. D.

Dr. William H. Hengstler, well-known physician at Osakis, is a native Minnesotan, born at Winona on May 8, 1887, a son of William and Anna (McBride) Hengstler, the former of whom was born in Freedom, Wisconsin, May 26, 1856, and the latter, at Austin, Minnesota, March 11, 1859. William Hengstler is a railroad train dispatcher and lives at Wilmar. He is the father of two children, the subject of this sketch having a brother, Herbert. The elder William Hengstler is a Republican and a member of the Woodmen's lodge.

Doctor Hengstler was well equipped by preliminary study for the practice of his profession, his early schooling having been obtained in the public schools and in the Model Normal School at Winona. He took the first year course in the high school at Tracy and the last three years in the high school at Mankato, from which he was graduated in 1904. In the fall of that year he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota and after two years of study in that institution went to the Pacific coast, where he remained from June, 1906, to the fall of 1907. He then returned to Minnesota and resumed his studies in the university, completing his medical studies and receiving his degree in 1911. For about two months after graduation Doctor Hengstler served as interne in a hospital at Minneapolis and then took up the general practice, locating at Rockford, Minnesota, where he remained until the summer of 1913. In July of that year he removed to Osakis and has been engaged in the practice of his profession there since that time. In August, 1915, Doctor Hengstler formed a partnership with Doctor Gilkinson, and the two are at present thus associated in practice.

On October 5, 1912, Dr. W. H. Hengstler was united in marriage to Edna E. Baird, who was born at Graceville, Minnesota, April 7, 1889, a daughter of Edward C. Baird, and to this union has been born one child, a daughter, Marmion Gertrude, born on March 21, 1915. Doctor and Mrs. Hengstler are members of the Presbyterian church. In politics the Doctor affiliates with the Republican party. He is a member of the Masonic order and also of the Order of the Eastern Star and of the Workmen's lodge. He holds a membership in the Minnesota State Medical Association, in the American Medical Association, and in the Park Region Medical Society. Doctor Hengstler is at present the surgeon for the Great Northern Railway.

H. E. HELLECKSON.

H. E. Helleckson, chairman of the board of supervisors of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, and a well-known and substantial farmer of that township, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a farm in Brown county, January 9, 1869, son of Ellev and Sigri (Engrebretson) Helleckson, both natives of Eggedal, Norway, who came to the United States in the same year, about 1865 or 1866, and settled with their respective parents in Brown county, this state, where they were later married. Ellev Helleckson homesteaded a farm in Brown county and there made his home until 1876, in which year he sold his place and moved up to Ottertail county, pre-empting there a quarter section in Tumuli township on which he established his home and there spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1898, he then being about sixty-four years of age. His widow survived him about fifteen years, her death occurring in November, 1913, she then being about sixty-eight years of age. They were members of the Synod Lutheran church, now the United Lutheran church, and their children were reared in the faith of the same. There were seven of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest and two of whom died in infancy, the others being as follow: Edward, now deceased, who was for years a well-known Grant county farmer; Teoline, who married Louis Larson and lives in Ottertail county; Martin, who lives on the old home farm in Ottertail county, and Marie, who married Andrew Holte and died in Ottertail county.

H. E. Helleckson was about seven years old when his parents moved from Brown county to Ottertail county and in the latter county he grew to

manhood, receiving his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood, such as they were at that time, for there was no organized school district in that community until he was seventeen or eighteen years of age. As a young man he began farming on his own account, managing the home farm for his father, during which time, for ten or eleven seasons, he was also engaged as an engineer with a threshing crew. In the meantime, in 1892, he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Grant county, the north-east quarter of section 18 in Pomme de Terre township, but not until his marriage in 1904 did he make his home on the same. He had, however, erected some small buildings on the place and had done considerable toward improving the same, and upon taking up his residence there in 1904 erected a modern barn and the next year erected his present comfortable farm residence. He also has on the farm an attractive grove and a well-cared-for orchard. Mr. Helleckson is a firm believer in the modern methods of farming and has brought his farm up to a high state of cultivation. He is a Republican in his political persuasion and has for years given his close attention to local civic affairs, long having served as a member of the board of township supervisors and for the past four years as chairman of the same.

On July 6, 1904, H. E. Helleckson was united in marriage to Seriana Nelson, who was born in Ottertail county, daughter of Joseph Nelson and wife, early settlers of that county. No children have been born to this union, but Mr. and Mrs. Helleckson have adopted a daughter, Amanda Holte, a niece of Mr. Helleckson. Both Mr. and Mrs. Helleckson are members of the Hjardel United Lutheran church and Mr. Helleckson is secretary of the congregation, to the affairs of which he for years has given his earnest attention, both he and his wife being warmly interested in all local good works.

ALFRED O. LUND.

Alfred O. Lund, one of the younger and successful business men of Norcross, was born in the building in which is now located the State Bank of Norcross, on June 23, 1884, the son of Andrew and Maline (Selleseth) Lund, natives of Norway.

As a young man Andrew Lund came to America, in 1880, proceeding on out to Minnesota and homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land in Grant county, one mile south of Norcross. He then returned to his native land and was there married, in his native town, Norfjord, to Maline Selle-

seth. Accompanied by his bride he then returned to the homestead in Grant county and there erected a frame house, in which he and his family lived for some years. He developed his land and engaged in general farming until the building of the Great Northern railroad, when he engaged in the general mercantile business at Norcross, in partnership with Mons Weum, under the firm name of Lund & Weum. This partnership lasted some six years, after which Mr. Lund conducted the business alone for a time, and then Ole Selleseth associated himself with the business and the firm was known as Lund & Selleseth. This firm continued until 1900, in which year Mr. Lund retired and removed to Superior, Wisconsin, where he associated himself with the Eimon Mercantile Company as a stockholder. After two or three years he retired from the business and moved to Glenwood, his present home.

During his many years of active life Andrew Lund has bought and sold many farms in this community, and is today the owner of five hundred and sixty acres, as well as the owner of a one-half interest in three hundred and twenty acres. In the fall of 1905 he engaged in the private banking business and established the Norcross Bank. In 1908 the bank was made a state bank, with Andrew Lund as president, which position he still holds; the other officers being Ole Selleseth, vice-president, and Alfred O. Lund, cashier. The bank has been a successful one and the people of the community have the utmost confidence and respect for the officers of the institution. The deposits today are nearing the one-hundred-thousand-dollar mark, with a steady and substantial growth.

Andrew and Maline Lund are the parents of the following children: Anna, who is the wife of Clarence Wollan, of North Dakota; Alfred O., the subject of this sketch; Iver, who lives in Superior, Wisconsin, where he is a salesman for the Twohy-Eimon Mercantile Company; Ellen, the wife of Olaf Gandrud, of Fergus Falls; Ina, the wife of Hugh Stenson, of Glenwood and Mabel and Nora, at home. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Andrew Lund's life has been an active and successful one. He is a man of rare judgment and exceptional ability and is held in the highest esteem and regard by all who know him.

Alfred O. Lund received his education in the public schools of Norcross and at Superior, after which he took a course in a business college at Minneapolis, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1905. Soon after completing his schooling he was elected cashier of the Norcross State

Bank, which position he now holds. In his chosen work Mr. Lund has been quite successful and has the confidence and respect of the business and social world in which he lives. In addition to his duties in the bank, Mr. Lund has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of the town and has served as a member of the town board, his efforts ever having been exerted in behalf of all movements designed to advance the growth and prosperity of the home community.

In the fall of 1913 Alfred O. Lund was united in marriage to Mabel Westberg, who was born in Illinois, daughter of Swan Westberg, who located in Grant county in 1904, and to this union one child has been born, Marquis, whose birth occurred on February 13, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Lund are prominent in the social and religious life of their home town and take much interest in all that tends to promote the beauty and the betterment of the place.

REV. SVEN WILLIAM SWENSON.

The Rev. Sven William Swenson, pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church at Evansville and president of the Red River valley conference of the Augustana synod, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-one years of age. He was born at Undensos, Westergotland, Sweden, April 6, 1870, son of A. G. and Charlotte Swenson, natives of that same country, who spent all their lives in their native land.

Reared on a farm, Mr. Swenson received his elementary schooling in the schools of his native land and in 1891, he then being twenty-one years of age, came to the United States and located at Manchester, New Hampshire, where for a time he worked in a textile factory. He then, in August, 1892, in pursuance of a long-cherished desire to acquire a more liberal education with a view to entering the ministry, entered Augustana College at Rock Island, Illinois, and upon completing the academic course there entered the classical department and was graduated from the same in 1900. In the fall of that same year he entered the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Rock Island, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1903, with the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. On June 14, 1903, at the meeting of Augustana synod at Paxton, Illinois, he was ordained to the ministry of the Lutheran church and was straightway assigned to the pastorate of the Swedish Lutheran church at Elbow Lake, Grant county, this state, where

he remained until 1907, in which year he accepted a call to the Eagle church, Axel postoffice, in the neighboring county of Otter Tail, where he continued as pastor for about six years.

It was on November 1, 1912, that the Rev. S. W. Swenson accepted the call to his present pastorate of the Swedish Lutheran church at Evansville and during his incumbency of that pulpit he has done an excellent work, admirable progress being reported along all lines in the work of the congregation, the church having advanced both numerically and financially during that period. For years Mr. Swenson has been recognized as one of the leading ministers of his communion in the Northwest. In 1908, as associate editor, he helped to prepare the "History of the Minnesota Conference of the Swedish Lutheran Church," and in that same year was elected president of the Alexandria district of the Minnesota conference. In the spring of 1912 a new conference of that church was created, known as the Red River Valley conference, embracing the northwestern section of Minnesota and a part of North Dakota, and at the first meeting of that new conference in May of that year Mr. Swenson was elected president of the conference and has since occupied that honorable and responsible position, a position of great influence throughout the church in this section.

On June 15, 1904, at Cadillac, Michigan, the Rev. S. W. Swenson was united in marriage to Ida Ovedia Pedersen, daughter of Hans and Martha (Moe) Pedersen, at that time residents of Elbow Lake, but now residents of Cadillac, Michigan, and to this union two children have been born, Justin Willmore, born on March 17, 1909, and Dorice Caroline Charlotte, October 6, 1912.

GEORGE S. MAXFIELD.

George S. Maxfield, postmaster of the village of Kensington, in Douglas county, an honored veteran of the Civil War and for years active in the business life of his home town, is a native of the state of New Hampshire, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twelve years of age. He was born on August 3, 1843, and when a boy came with his parents to Minnesota, the family locating at Shakopee, in Scott county, where he grew to manhood and where, on September 9, 1861, he then being but little more than a month past eighteen years of age, he enlisted for service during the Civil War in Company A, Third Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served until the close of the war.

Upon the completion of his military service, Mr. Maxfield returned to Scott county and was there engaged in farming for two years, at the end of which time, in 1867, he married and moved to Mille Lacs county, where he entered a homestead, later moving to a farm in the near vicinity of Wilmar, in Kandiyohi county, where he remained for two years, after which he moved to Benson, where he remained until moving to Kensington in 1891. Upon locating at Kensington Mr. Maxfield engaged in the business of buying grain and was thus engaged for two years, or until his appointment in 1893 to the position of postmaster of the village, which position he ever since has held. Mr. Maxfield is a Mason and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and takes a warm interest in the affairs of those organizations.

As noted above, it was in 1867 that George S. Maxfield was united in marriage to Sarah E. Cole and to this union three children have been born, daughters all, Elizabeth, Anna and Georgia. Mr. and Mrs. Maxfield are members of the Episcopal church and have ever taken a warm interest in church affairs, as well as in all neighborhood good works, and are helpful in promoting all good causes in the community in which they live.

ROBERT GRUETZMACHER.

Robert Gruetzmacher, local manager of the plant of the Standard Lumber Company, is a native-born Minnesotian, born in Stearns county on January 11, 1873, son of William and Wilhelmina (Larson) Gruetzmacher, natives of Germany, who came to America in the early part of 1861 and located at Green Bay, Wisconsin, where they remained for about four years. In 1865 they removed to Stearns county, Minnesota, and made that their permanent home. There were eleven children in this family, Anna, Bertha, Herman, Robert, Ida, Emma, Emil, William, Martha, Albert and Gustav. The father and mother were members of the German Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Robert Gruetzmacher received his elementary education in the public schools of Stearns county and later attended the Sauk Center academy and business college, from which he was graduated. As a young man he began working on the farm and worked for ten years for Clark and McClure, large farmers, and by economy and the saving of wages received for his work was enabled to pay the expense of his college education. After completing his business course he was employed for nearly two years as clerk

in a store at St. Cloud and then went to Breckinridge, where for five years he was employed as a clerk in the store of Miksche & Vertin. He then taught school for one winter in Wilkin county and during the following winter he was engaged in teaching school in Lac qui Parle county and in the spring he again took up his work in the lumber yard, taking the position of manager of a lumber company at Louisburg, in that county, and remained with that concern for two years. On August 1, 1907, he took the position of manager for the local plant of the Standard Lumber Company at Herman and has ever since been thus engaged. In addition to a general line of lumber and building material, this firm handles coal.

On May 18, 1910, Robert Gruetzmacher was married to Emma Rhode, daughter of John Rhode, and has one child, a son, Robert John. In politics Mr. Gruetzmacher is independent. He has served four years as a member of the village council, and has been president of the council for three years. He is a member of Prescott Lodge No. 162, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; of the Order of the Eastern Star and of the Woodmen of America.

HUGH ELLIS LEACH.

Hugh Ellis Leach, a prominent and successful attorney of Alexandria, was born on a farm in Bloomfield township, Fillmore county, Minnesota, on May 30, 1880, the son of Dunbar M. and Sarah Ann (Roberts) Leach, the former of whom was born in Vermont on February 11, 1837, and the latter of whom was a native of Wisconsin, born in 1845. Dunbar M. Leach received his education in the public schools of his native state and there grew to manhood. In 1865, at the age of twenty-eight years, he decided to locate in the West and in that year he landed in Wisconsin, where he remained for a short time, after which he came to Minnesota, locating in Mower county. He then, after three years, removed to Fillmore county, where he purchased a farm and where he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1896, in which year he retired from the activities of farm life and moved to Spring Valley, where he died on December 22, 1910. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Harlan E., Helen, who married Herbert Hale; Harris E., Hugh Ellis, Helon E. and Grace. The family were prominent in the social life of their home community in Fillmore county, where the father was a well-known and successful man.

Hugh Ellis Leach received his elementary education in the public

schools of Fillmore county and was graduated from the high school at Spring Valley with the class of 1900. He then attended the State University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1904. In 1906 he received his degree from the law school of that institution and after having been admitted to the bar located in Owatonna, where he remained but four months, at the end of which time he located in Alexandria, entering the law office of Mr. Gunderson, where for six months he was engaged as a clerk, and then, on July 1, 1907, a partnership was formed with Mr. Gunderson, which mutually agreeable arrangement still exists.

On June 18, 1907, Hugh Ellis Leach was united in marriage to Clara E. Molstad, who was born at Spring Valley, daughter of M. E. Molstad, and to this union three children have been born, Robert Franklin, Margaret Ann and Catherine. Mr. and Mrs. Leach are active members of the Congregational church, of which Mr. Leach is a deacon and at present chairman of the board of trustees.

Politically, Hugh Ellis Leach is identified with the Republican party, in the affairs of which he has taken an active interest. In 1913 he was elected county attorney and was re-elected in 1915. During the year 1912 he served as city attorney for Alexandria. He is chairman of the Alexandria school board and has served on that body for four years. Mr. Leach is progressive and takes a warm interest in all movements that tend to advance the moral, social and financial development of the county. He and his wife are prominent in the social and religious activities of the community and are held in high esteem by all.

LOREN L. BREWSTER.

Loren L. Brewster, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial pioneer farmers, now living practically retired on his fine farm in Elbow Lake township, is a native of the state of Maine, but has lived in the West since he was thirteen years of age and in Minnesota since he was sixteen. He was born on a farm in Franklin county, Maine, September 25, 1844, son of Stephen John and Mary T. (Blanchard) Brewster, both natives of that same county, who came to Minnesota many years ago and whose last days were spent in this state.

Stephen J. Brewster was born on May 27, 1818, one of the three children born to his parents, members of old New England families, who had settled in Franklin county, Maine, about the year 1795, going there from

Vermont or Massachusetts. He grew up on a farm there and married Mary T. Blanchard, who was born in that same county, October 4, 1822, a daughter of Noah and Polly (Knapp) Blanchard, both of English parentage, who in 1861 came to Minnesota and settled in Winona county, where Noah Blanchard bought a farm and where his wife died, after which he returned to Maine and spent his last days with his eldest son in the city of Portland. After his marriage Stephen T. Brewster bought a farm and remained in his home county in Maine until 1856, in which year he moved with his family to Wisconsin, settling on a farm in the township of Alto, in Fond du Lac county, where he lived for three years, or until the fall of 1860, when he came with his family by "prairie schooner" over into Minnesota and bought a raw prairie farm in Winona county, where he established his home. In 1897 he sold his farm there and came over into this part of the state, locating in the village of Brown Valley, in the neighboring county of Traverse, where he lived retired the rest of his life, his death occurring on April 13, 1913, he then being nearly ninety-four years of age. His wife's last days were spent, as an invalid, in the home of a daughter at Winona, where her death occurred in May, 1905. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their children were reared in that faith. There were eleven of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: Nancy, who died at the age of seventy years; Maria, who lives at Brown Valley, this state, widow of John Elliott; James, who also lives in Brown Valley, a farmer; Morris, whose present whereabouts are unknown; Stephen, who died in infancy; Melissa, who died in Maine, in infancy; Mary, who also died in infancy; Myrtle, who is living, unmarried, at Winona; Eugenia, also unmarried, living at Brown Valley, and Lila, who died at the age of nineteen years.

Loren L. Brewster was about thirteen years of age when his parents moved from Maine to Wisconsin and was about sixteen when they came over into Minnesota, consequently his schooling was obtained in three states. He grew to manhood on the home farm in Winona county and after his marriage in 1865 established his home in that county and remained there, farming, until 1878, in which year he disposed of his interests there and with his family drove through to Grant county, a distance of three hundred miles, and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 8 of Elbow Lake township, where he ever since has made his home. When the Brewsters settled on their homestead the neighbors thereabout were very few and far between, there being at that time but one house between there

and the village of Herman, which at that time consisted of but fifteen houses. Upon taking possession of his homestead Mr. Brewster built a small frame house, planted a grove and began to break the virgin soil. He completed the task of breaking the farm during the second year and it was not long until he was able to make other improvements, bringing the place up to a high standard of development. In 1887 James J. Hill gave him a purebred Shorthorn bull and he began to give proper attention to the raising of high-grade cattle, sticking to Shorthorns ever since, generally having a herd of from sixty to one hundred head, and has done much to raise the standard of the live stock in that community. As he prospered in his undertakings, Mr. Brewster added to his land holdings until he now is the owner of seven hundred and twenty acres of fine land in one body, the whole being well improved. About 1912 he practically retired from the active labors of the farm and since then the farm management has been carried on by his sons. Mr. Brewster has for years given close attention to local affairs, has served as supervisor of his home township and with the exception of two years has been treasurer of his local school district since the year 1883.

It was on July 4, 1865, in Winona county, this state, that Loren L. Brewster was united in marriage to Mary Ellen Cram, who was born in New Hampshire, July 4, 1850, daughter of Joseph Cram and wife, and to this union thirteen children have been born, namely: Byron, a well-known Grant county farmer; Horace, who died in infancy; LaForest, superintendent of the Old Peoples Home, of St. Paul Park; Rollin, who died in infancy; Ellion, who is assisting in the management of the old home place; Horace, a farmer, of Sawyer, North Dakota; Herbert, who died in infancy; Mabel, who married Thomas H. Heath and lives at Lemmon, South Dakota; Herbert, who is assisting in the management of the home farm; Effie, who died in infancy; Effie, second, who married Richard Amundson, a well-known Grant county farmer; Eugenia, who married Isaac Law and lives at Bordulac, North Dakota, and Eva, who married Arthur Jasmer and lives at Nimrod, in Wadena county, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Brewster celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on July 4, 1915, and the occasion was made one of much congratulation on the part of their many friends hereabout. Mrs. Brewster died on October 6, 1916, after a married life of fifty-one years, three months and two days. Mr. Brewster is a member of the Church of God at Hereford and has ever taken a warm interest in all movements designed to advance the common welfare of the community of which he has been a part since pioneer days.

WILLIE NICHOLSON BRONSON.

Willie Nicholson Bronson, one of the well-known and prominent men of Douglas county, and the editor and the publisher of the *Evansville Enterprise*, was born in Jones county, Iowa, in the town of Wyoming, the son of the Rev. Samuel Merwin and Anna Amelia (Nicholson) Bronson, natives of Danbury, Connecticut, and Salem, Pennsylvania, respectively, the former born on November 6, 1818, and the latter, October 4, 1836, whose last days were spent at Evansville, the death of the former occurring on January 27, 1888, and that of the latter on March 13, 1907.

As a young man, Samuel Merwin Bronson decided to enter the gospel ministry and soon engaged in that labor. During his early married life the Rev. Samuel M. Bronson preached in Iowa, where he had some large charges, including Charles City, Fayette and Floyd. As a minister he was successful and accomplished much good in his various charges in Iowa. Wishing to extend his influence for good, in 1879 he came to Minnesota and for some years preached for the Methodist Episcopal and Congregational churches at Alexandria. He then located at Evansville, where he preached for the Union church until the time of his death. He and his wife were prominent in the social and the religious life of the communities in which they lived and were held in the highest regard and esteem by all. Their influence for good was most marked, and they had much to do with the moral development of this district. They devoted their lives to their family and to the people of the community, and their lives were exemplifications of the highest ideals. They saw the real beauty in life and used their best efforts to have others to live the true Christian life. They were the parents of six children, Willie Nicholson, Nellie (who died in 1911), Stella, Gertrude, Clement H. and Rollin. Clement H. Bronson is the editor of the *Osakis Review* and Rollin Bronson is a resident of New England, North Dakota.

Willie Nicholson Bronson completed his schooling in the academy at Fayette, Iowa, and afterward engaged in teaching, being thus engaged for a number of years in northern Iowa and in Minnesota, completing his work as a teacher at Osakis, where he was principal of the high school. In 1905 he bought the *Evansville Enterprise*, a six-column quarto newspaper and one of the clean, live papers of this part of the state. The circulation at the start was small and the office poorly equipped, but today the circulation has increased to a substantial list and the office is nicely equipped with modern machinery. In addition to publishing the *Enterprise*, Mr. Bronson operates

an extensive job-printing plant and turns out a considerable quantity of high-class job work, which compares favorably with the work done in the larger city offices. Mr. Bronson is unmarried and his sisters, Stella and Gertrude live with him.

CHARLES CATER.

Charles Cater, a successful real-estate dealer of Herman, was born in Methuen, Massachusetts, on October 29, 1858, the son of Andrew J. and Clara (Grant) Cater, the former of whom was born at Bangor, New Hampshire, and the latter at Lowell, Massachusetts. Soon after their marriage they located at Methuen. In 1866 Andrew Carter came to Minnesota and in the next year located at Princeton, where his family joined him. There he followed his trade, that of a carpenter, and engaged in the lumber business, remaining there until 1877, when he moved to Grant county, where he entered a homestead and a tree claim in Delaware township. The two claims gave him a tract of three hundred and twenty acres, the greater part of which he developed and improved. There he made his home for about fifteen years, at the end of which time he went to the state of Washington, where he became interested in mining. Some years later he returned to Minnesota, but died shortly after he reached Minneapolis. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, J. P., Abbie S., Charles, Mary F., Lottie (deceased), Eveline and Maude.

Charles Cater was reared at Princeton, this state, where he received his early education in the public schools. His school days ended at the age of fourteen years, at which time he began to work for himself. For six or seven years he worked at various places and at different kinds of work and on May 17, 1878, located at Herman and in the following year filed a claim for one hundred and sixty acres in Clifton township, Traverse county. He took up his residence there and lived by himself for five years, after which time he returned to Herman, where he has since resided. For the next ten or twelve years he was in the implement business and after owning an interest in an elevator business for two years engaged in the drug business until the sale of real-estate became active in Minnesota, when he engaged in the real-estate business, at which he has continued.

In 1885 Charles Cater was united in marriage to Grace E. Holman of Lake Traverse and to this union six children have been born, Lottie (deceased), Dessie, Capitola, Charles E., Grace V. and Blanche. The family are active

members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Herman. Fraternally, Mr. Cater is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Court of Honor. Mr. Cater has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has done much for the growth and prosperity of Herman and the surrounding territory.

CHARLES F. CANFIELD.

Charles F. Canfield, one of the real pioneers of Douglas county, now living retired at Alexandria, was born in Ridgefield, Connecticut, December 25, 1826, a son of Rufus and Polly (Northrut) Canfield, both natives of Connecticut, who lived all their lives in that state and who were the parents of eight children, Mary, Charles, John, Gould, Sylvester, Henry, Emily and Frank.

Charles F. Canfield was educated in the schools of Connecticut and in 1855, two years after his marriage in the East, he and his wife moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where for four years he was engaged in the clothing business. Then, attracted by the glowing reports sent out by settlers in this part of Minnesota, they came to this state and for a short time were located at Dalton, in Ottertail county, proceeding hence down into Douglas county, where Mr. Canfield entered a claim to a tract of land on the shores of Lake Ida and there established his home, among the very first settlers of the region now comprised within the bounds of Douglas county. At that time Alexandria was but a stopping place for the stage line and there were no buildings there save a small log tavern on the bank of the lake.

Mr. Canfield had just fairly settled on his claim and had his first crops under cultivation when the Indian uprising of 1862 occurred. Abandoning everything, he sought safety for himself and family by flight to St. Cloud, where he remained about two years, at the end of which time he returned to his homestead in Holmes City township and there remained, farming, until his removal, in 1875, to Alexandria, where he engaged in the clothing business and was thus engaged until his retirement from active business in 1904. He also was connected with a clothing store at Cando, North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Canfield are among the oldest survivors of the original pioneers of Douglas county and both are hale and hearty. They have a pleasant home in Alexandria and are very comfortably situated. Before the Indian

outbreak many Indians visited the Canfields at their home on the shores of Lake Ida and Mr. Canfield relates how the old Indian chief, "Hole-in-the-Day," had visited their home many nights, rolling up in his blanket and sleeping on the floor of their cabin.

In 1853 Charles F. Canfield was united in marriage to Sarah A. Shotwell, of Newark, New Jersey, a daughter of Daniel and Margaret (Force) Shotwell, who also were among the early settlers of Douglas county, coming here in 1858, and taking among the first claims of government land. Daniel Shotwell and wife were the parents of six children, Anna, Sarah, Mary, James, Walter and Marcus. To Mr. and Mrs. Canfield were born six children, Wilbur F., Horace B., Theodore L., Arthur A., Charles F. and Orville E.

THEODORE BORDSEN.

Theodore Bordsen, treasurer of Douglas county, was born in Port Washington, Wisconsin, February 11, 1850, of Norwegian ancestry. His father was Beruld Bordsen, born in Norway, on April 14, 1808, and his mother was Ranghild (Grinevold) Bordsen, also born in Norway, June 17, 1819.

Beruld Bordsen came to America in 1844, and located on a twenty-acre farm near Port Washington, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming, together with work at his trade as a blacksmith. In 1868 he removed with his family to Douglas county, Minnesota, and located on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Evansville, entering this land under the homestead laws. He built a home and other necessary farm buildings there and made that place his home for the rest of his life. He and his wife were the parents of six children, namely: B. W., Anna, who married P. O. Froland; Theodore, the subject of this sketch; Sina (deceased), who was the wife of William Thompson; Christen and Reinert. His church membership was with the Norwegian Lutheran denomination.

Theodore Bordsen was practically self-educated. What little schooling he received was in the public schools of Port Washington, Wisconsin. As a young man he came with the family to Douglas county and found employment in working on the farm in the summer time. That his education was not neglected, and that he had made the best of his opportunity for self-education, is evidenced by the fact that he was qualified to teach school, and engaged in that occupation during the winter months. In 1873 he taught

his last school and then took a position as clerk in the United States land office, holding that position for two years. After that he was for a short time engaged as clerk in a store. Since 1877 he has been continuously connected with some office in the court house in Alexandria. From 1877 to 1879 he was register of deeds. He was county auditor for nine years, and has been county treasurer since 1890.

In 1881 Theodore Bordsen was united in marriage to Marie Aaker, a daughter of L. K. Aaker, of Alexandria, and to this union three children have been born, Dr. Theo Laurence Bordsen, who is a physician and surgical specialist, of Portland, Oregon; Camilla, who married Albert O. Hayes, who is connected with the geological survey in Canada, and Carl W. Bordsen, who is stenographer for United States Senator Knute Nelson in Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Bordsen are members of the United church, of which he has served as trustee and also as clerk.

CHRIS JOHNSON.

Chris Johnson, a prominent and successful retired farmer and business man and president of the Grant County State Bank at Herman, was born in Sweden on October 26, 1851, being the son of John Johnson and wife. The parents were natives of Sweden and there lived their lives, they having died some years ago.

Chris Johnson received his education in Sweden and there grew to manhood. He made his native country his home until he was twenty-five years of age. Being anxious to advance in financial affairs, he decided to come to America. Having the push and the determination he knew that he would succeed. In 1876 he left his home and came to Minnesota, locating at Herman, where he engaged in railroading for a number of years, after which, in 1880, he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Maxwell township, Grant county. He at once began the task of developing and improving his tract of land and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1892, in which year he entered the general mercantile business at Herman, in partnership with Frank Falstrom, under the firm name of Falstrom & Johnson, which partnership continued until the store was sold in 1910.

Upon disposing of the mercantile business, Mr. Johnson assisted in the reorganization of the Wells bank, the new banking institution being known

as the Grant County State Bank. At the inception of the new bank, Mr. Johnson was elected a director and on July 3, 1914, was made president of the institution. Other than his connection with the bank he has been retired from business since 1911.

In 1885 Chris Johnson was united in marriage to Tilda Anderson, also a native of Sweden, who came to this country alone the same year that she was married. To this union have been born five children, Hilda, Hugo, Roy, Herbert and Enoch. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take an active interest in church work.

Chris Johnson's life has been a valuable and useful one in the community in which he has lived so long. He has always taken an active part in local affairs and his efforts have ever been for progress and advancement. He is recognized as a man of sterling worth, with high ideals and noble purposes.

MAGNUS B. RUUD, M. D.

Dr. Magnus B. Ruud, of Alexandria, coroner of Douglas county and one of the best-known young physicians in this part of the state, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born at Fosston, in Polk county, March 4, 1887, son of Edward Ruud, a well-known druggist of that place. Upon completing the course in the public schools he became an aid to his father in the drug store and later entered the University of North Dakota, from which he was graduated, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, in 1907, after which he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota and was graduated from that institution, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, in 1911. For about a year thereafter Doctor Ruud was engaged as an interne in the University hospital and then took the practice of a physician at Lowry for three months. In April, 1912, the month in which he was married, Doctor Ruud moved to Alexandria, where he began the practice of his profession and where he has ever since been located, having built up a fine practice in and about Alexandria. Doctor Ruud has taken an active interest in local civic affairs since locating at Alexandria and is now serving as coroner of Douglas county. He also is the local surgeon for the Soo Line Railway Company. Doctor Ruud is an active member of the Alexandria Commercial Club, an earnest factor in the work of promoting the best interests of his home town, and is also a member of the Douglas County Medical Society, of the Minnesota State

Medical Association and of the American Medical Association, in the affairs of all of which organizations he takes a warm interest.

It was on April 4, 1912, that Dr. M. B. Ruud was united in marriage to Ella May Oie, of Cooperstown, North Dakota, and to this union two sons have been born, John Edward and Robert Henry. Doctor and Mrs. Ruud attend the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works, ever helpful in the work of promoting such agencies as are designed to advance the common welfare hereabout.

OLE B. IVERSON.

Ole B. Iverson, one of the well-known business men of Norcross, was born in Vernon county, Wisconsin, on October 3, 1861, the son of Baard and Susan Iverson, natives of Norway, who were married in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they lived for some years, at the end of which time they moved to Vernon county, same state, where the father engaged in general farming, and became the owner of two farms. They remained residents of Vernon county until 1879, when they came to Minnesota, and located in Gorton township, Grant county, where Mr. Iverson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. He developed and improved that farm and there he and his wife made their home until 1891, when they returned to the land of their nativity, where they died some years ago. They were the parents of four children, Christina, Agrim, Ole B. and Hannah, of whom the subject of this sketch is now the only survivor.

Ole B. Iverson received his education in the public schools of Vernon county, Wisconsin, and there grew to manhood. As a lad he assisted his father with the work on the home farm and when the family moved to Grant county he continued farming and is now the owner of the old homestead in Gorton township. There he did much in the way of development and improvement, and engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1901, in which year he retired from the farm and moved to Elbow Lake, where he engaged in the wood business for some two years. He then moved to Norcross, where he conducted a saloon and bowling alley for six years, and since that time has operated a pool room. He continues, however, to look after the interests of his farm and has been quite successful.

In 1891 Ole B. Iverson was united in marriage to Mary Hanson, of

Grant county, and to this union one child was born, who died in infancy. Mary Iverson died in 1892 and in 1893 Mr. Iverson was married to Bertha Hawkinson, who was born in 1875 in Wisconsin, the daughter of Knute and Carrie Hawkinson, who moved from their home in Wisconsin to Grant county in 1878 and bought a homestead right in Gorton township, where the father died and where the widow, with her son, Louis Hawkinson, still lives. To Ole B. and Bertha Iverson have been born six children, Mary, Sophia, Olivia, Benne, Arthur and Albert, all of whom are living save Olivia. Mr. and Mrs. Iverson are active members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work. They have long been prominent in the social life of the community in which they live.

Politically, Ole B. Iverson is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He does not aspire to office, yet he has ever used his influence to further the interests of his home community.

WILLIAM F. BEHREND'S.

William F. Behrends, one of the well-known and successful business men of Alexandria, was born at Appleton, Minnesota, on March 31, 1893, the son of Frederick and Augusta (Henkle) Behrends, natives of Germany and Minnesota, respectively.

Frederick Behrends resided in the Fatherland until he was sixteen years of age and there learned the butcher's trade, at which he worked for some years in the land of his nativity. At the age of sixteen he came to America and on his arrival in the United States came directly to Minnesota and located at Lamberton, where he worked at his trade for some time. While a resident there he was married to Augusta Henkle and later he and his wife moved to Appleton, where Mr. Behrends operated a meat market and invested in land. He continued in the meat business for many years, but for the past few years he has devoted his time to the buying and fattening of cattle. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of good land, the most of which he uses for pasture. In addition to his large farm, he is the owner of much other land which he rents.

Frederick and Augusta Behrends are the parents of five children, Harriet, Mabel, William F., Elizabeth (deceased), and one who died in infancy. Harriet is the wife of C. L. Stuart, a tailor of Havre, Montana, and Mabel married J. M. Keene, a train dispatcher, of Havre, Montana. Mr. and

Mrs. Behrends are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and Mr. Behrends has always taken an active interest in the local affairs of the township, where he is recognized as one of the substantial and prominent citizens.

William F. Behrends completed his schooling in the high schools at Appleton, and was graduated from the same with the class of 1912. During the last three years of his high-school work he was employed in a drug store and for fourteen months thereafter worked in a drug store at Havre, Montana, and then returned to Minnesota, where he entered the State University and completed the course in pharmacy there in 1915. He took the state examination and received his certificate three months before his graduation. After he had completed his work at the university Mr. Behrends was employed by a drug firm at Crookston for six months, at the end of which time, on November 8, 1915, he went to Alexandria, where he purchased the drug stock of C. A. Waldren. Since assuming possession of the store he has added to the stock and made many changes in the store. In addition to his complete line of drugs he handles wall paper, magazines, books, candies and photographic supplies and has an up-to-date soda fountain, which is of the latest sanitary type. He caters to the best trade of the community and his motto, "Courteous Treatment," is strictly adhered to by all connected with the store. During his short business career in Alexandria Mr. Behrends has won the confidence and the respect of the people of the community by his courteous and business-like principles. He believes in keeping the best of all articles and especially does he look after his supply of pure drugs, believing, as he does, that the public is entitled to the best that can be obtained. His stock is ever fresh, and he buys in quantities that make it possible for him to give the people the latest supplies on the market.

On June 25, 1915, William F. Behrends was united in marriage to Avis B. Sloss, and to this union one child, Jean, has been born. Mr. and Mrs. Behrends are active members of the Congregational church, take much interest in church work and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They take much interest in the betterment of the social and the moral conditions of their home town and have devoted much time and attention to this line of work.

While in school, William F. Behrends was active in the student life of the university and was a member of the Phi Delta Chi fraternity, in the affairs of which he took a prominent part. Since becoming a resident

of Alexandria he has taken an active interest in local affairs and is a supporter of all enterprises that have a tendency to promote the growth and development of the community.

HON. GEORGE P. CRAIG.

The Hon. George P. Craig, judge of probate for the county of Douglas and one of the best-known and most influential residents of the city of Alexandria, is a native of the Old Bay state, but has been a resident of this section of Minnesota since he was twelve years of age and has consequently been a witness to and a participant in the wonderful development that has marked this region during the past half century. Judge Craig was born in the old city of Salem, Massachusetts, July 14, 1855, son of George B. and Sophia W. (Wilson) Craig, the former a native of the state of Massachusetts and the latter of New Hampshire, who later became pioneers of this section of Minnesota and spent their last days in Douglas county, for many years honored and influential residents of the Osakis neighborhood.

George B. Craig had quite an adventurous career before coming to Minnesota to take up his final residence on a homestead farm in Douglas county. He was born in the city of Salem, Massachusetts, March 1, 1831, son of Samuel and Clarissa (Perkins) Craig, the former of whom, a native of Maine and of Scottish descent, was for many years a provision merchant in that city. Upon completing his schooling in the schools of his native city, George B. Craig became a sailor and for ten years followed the sea, visiting nearly all the important ports of the world. In the days before the discovery of gold in California he spent several years in that territory and then returned to his boyhood home, where he married and for ten years thereafter was in partnership in business with his father. In 1864 he again responded to the call of the sea, and became a sailor on a vessel that after a tempestuous voyage around Cape Horn presently put into port at San Francisco. Until the spring of 1866 Mr. Craig remained on the Pacific coast and then started out into the wilds of British Columbia with a small party on what proved to be a fruitless quest for gold, afterward returning down the Columbia river to Colville, proceeding thence over into Montana, where during the summer of 1866 he delved in the mines. In the fall of that year he and thirteen others equipped a small boat and floated down the Missouri river to Sioux City, Iowa, from which place he returned home



HON. GEORGE P. CRAIG.

to Salem. During his arduous trip across the country through the West Mr. Craig determined to become a settler out here in the new country and in the spring of 1867 he came to Minnesota with his family, arriving at Osakis on April 21 of that year. After a bit of prospecting he selected a homestead site at a point nine miles north of that village, in Douglas county, and there established his home, being thus among the very earliest settlers of that part of the county. The country thereabout at that time was all still in its wilderness state and he was compelled to cut a road for the last two miles on his way to his homestead site. Mr. Craig became one of the most substantial farmers in that section and for some time served as clerk of the township, in other ways also contributing of his time and his energies to the public service of the pioneer community. There he remained the rest of his life, his death occurring in February, 1900. His widow remained on the homestead place until the fall of 1914, after which she made her home with her son, Frank W. Craig, at Osakis, where she died in August, 1915, being then ninety years of age. She was born on a farm in New Hampshire, August 17, 1825, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah (George) Wilson, natives of that same state, but whose last days were spent in Massachusetts. To George B. and Sophia W. (Wilson) Craig five children had been born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Frank W., Clara W. (deceased), Walter J. (deceased), and Clara S.

George P. Craig was not quite twelve years old when he came to Minnesota and he grew to manhood on the homestead farm north of Osakis, completing his schooling in the district school that early had been organized in that neighborhood. From the days of his boyhood he was an able assistant to his father in the labors of developing and improving the homestead farm and continued farming until he entered upon his official duties in the court house at Alexandria in 1897. He had early begun to take an interested part in the civic affairs of his home community and of the county at large and became widely known in political circles throughout the county. Previous to 1897 he had held minor public offices and on January 1 of that year became deputy register of deeds. So satisfactorily did he perform the important duties of that position that he was retained in the register's office for sixteen years, or until entering upon the duties of judge of probate for Douglas county, to which important office he was elected in 1912. In the succeeding election of 1914 Judge Craig was re-elected and is now serving his second term as judge of probate. He is a member of the United

Modern Brotherhood of America and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, in the affairs of which organizations he takes an active interest, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the various beneficences of which they take a warm interest, as well as in all community good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all agencies for the betterment of conditions hereabout.

It was on March 14, 1891, that Judge Craig was united in marriage to Ada M. Richards, who was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of Henry Richards and wife, the former a native of New York state and the latter of Vermont, who had located in Wisconsin and who had later come to this section of Minnesota, settling in Douglas county among the pioneers of 1868. To this union two children have been born, Mary R., who is a clerk in the office of the treasurer of Douglas county, and Guy G. B., now a student in the Alexandria high school.

ALFRED J. DAHL.

Alfred J. Dahl, merchant and postmaster at Ashby, was born at Eagle Lake, Ottertail county, this state, August 1, 1882, of Norwegian ancestry, his parents, John A. and Alva B. (Johnson) Dahl, both being natives of the kingdom of Norway.

John A. Dahl came to America when a young man. He first located in Wisconsin and later came to Minnesota and located at Ashby; later going to Eagle Lake, Ottertail county, where he remained for some years. He then returned to Ashby where he has since continued to live. He is a carpenter by trade. Mr. Dahl has been twice married. His children by his first marriage are Alfred J., Isabella and Edgar. His second wife was Josephine Bothum and the children by this marriage are Mabel, Pearl and Walter. Politically, Mr. Dahl is independent.

Alfred J. Dahl received his early schooling in the public schools of Ashby. He afterwards attended the business college at Hutchinson, Minnesota, and completed his business course in the business college at Minneapolis. After leaving college he was employed for a time as a clerk in a general store at Ashby. In 1908 he engaged in the meat business with Frank Bemis as a partner, this partnership continuing for about a year, when Mr. Bemis bought his partner's interest and conducted the business alone. In 1908 Mr. Dahl was appointed postmaster of Ashby, and at

that time he bought the office of the *Ashby Post* and became proprietor of that paper, continuing to own it for about three years. In 1913 he sold the paper and a year after bought one of the two meat markets in the town and formed a partnership with the owner of the other meat market. A year later that partnership was dissolved and Mr. Dahl still continues in business in connection with his duties as postmaster. He recently formed a partnership with Theodore Peterson in the mercantile business and has a very complete store called the "Quality Store."

In 1906 Alfred J. Dahl and Alessa V. Johnson were united in marriage. To this union two children have been born, Harold and Ethel. Mr. Dahl is independent in politics. He has served for some time as village clerk. His lodge membership is with the Woodmen.

REV. EMIL JOSEPH STEINACH.

The Rev. Emil Joseph Steinach, pastor of St. Nicholas Catholic church at Belle River, to which also belong the Catholics of Carlos, was born at Uzumach, Switzerland, February 14, 1868, son of Emil Joseph and Genevieve (Fritschi) Steinach, both of whom spent their lives in their native land. The father was a tanner and saddler by trade.

The subject of this review spent his boyhood in his native land where he attended the common schools and an academy. When sixteen years old he came to America, a member of a large party of immigrants, and entered a convent in Mercer county, Ohio. After finishing his studies there he entered the Indian school at Rensselaer, Indiana, as a teacher, and remained there until in December, 1890. He was then ordained to the holy priesthood by Archbishop Elder at Cincinnati, Ohio, December 22, 1890, after which he entered the seminary at Carthage, Ohio, as teacher of Latin and Greek, and also did hospital work at Dayton and Cincinnati. From there he went to the Bunning Indian School in California, where he taught among the Pueblo Indians for three years, at the end of which time he returned to Burkettsville, Ohio, where he built a parochial school and had charge of the parish at Burkettsville for over one year. While there his parents died in Switzerland. At his own request, Father Steinach became secularized and entered the diocese of St. Cloud, Minnesota, as a secular priest. About that period he sent for his two sisters in Switzerland and they made their home with him. His first charge was at Holdingford, Minnesota, where

he spent eighteen months; then spent three years at Sauk Center, building a new parochial school while there. He then went to Fergus Falls and had charge of the parish there, also of the parishes of Elizabeth, Pelican Rapids and Maine, all in Ottertail county. After spending about one year there he took charge of the parish at Breckenridge, and there built a comfortable priest's house. Father Steinach then went to Wheaton, Traverse county, and had charge of the work there, also at Dumont and Cillis at the same time. Six months later he was transferred to Rice, Benton county, where he spent about eight years, during which time he built a new parochial school and also taught school. He then was transferred to the parish of St. Nicholas, in Belle River township, Douglas county, where he has since remained. During his work there covering eight years, Father Steinach has greatly increased the congregation and in 1916 completed a new church edifice.

Father Steinach is a member of the Knights of Columbus at Long Prairie. He founded lodges of Foresters at Sauk Center and at Breckenridge (one each for men and women), and one at Rice. He is not now a member of the Foresters.

ROBERT F. RARER.

Robert F. Rarer, a well-known and substantial farmer of Grant county, owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Gorton township, besides other lands in the county and a quarter of a section in California, is a native of the old "Buckeye" state, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1876 and of Grant county since 1880, in which year he took up a tree claim in Delaware township. He was born on a farm in the near vicinity of Enosville, Ohio, September 30, 1859, son of George and Rosa (Vance) Rarer, natives of Pennsylvania, who grew up in that state and were married there, after which they made their home on a farm about a mile from Enosville, Ohio, where they lived until 1865, when the family moved to the vicinity of Tower Hill, in Shelby county, Illinois, where George Rarer bought a farm and made his home for many years, later leaving the farm and moving into Tower Hill, where he engaged at the wagon-making trade; later moving to Irving, in Montgomery county, that same state, where he was engaged at the same trade until his retirement from business, when he returned to Tower Hill, where he spent his last days, his death occurring at the age of seventy-seven years. His widow, who was his fourth wife, survived him

several years, her death occurring at the age of eighty-one. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their children were reared in that faith. To the last marriage of George Rarer four children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Betty, who married Charles Newberry and died in Oklahoma; Jennie, who married Isa J. Moses and lives in the village of Herman, and Vance, who lives at Minneapolis.

Robert F. Rarer was not yet six years old when his parents moved from Ohio to Illinois and he grew up on the home farm in the vicinity of Tower Hill, receiving his schooling in the schools of that village. When seventeen years of age, in 1876, he came up into the Northwest and located at Minneapolis, where he became employed as the driver of Elias Moses's carriage team and also drove trotting horses for D. C. Nichols on the race track. During the visit of President Hayes to Minneapolis Mr. Rarer drove the six-horse team which drew the President's carriage through the streets of the city on the way to the state fair. Afterward Mr. Rarer found employment in the lumber woods of Wisconsin and for seventeen years thereafter spent his winters there. In the meantime, in 1880, he had come over to this part of the state and had bought a tree-claim to one hundred and forty-two acres of land in Delaware township, Grant county, on which he planted ten acres of trees and began to develop the farm, putting on the place the buildings that are there today. After his marriage in 1886 Mr. Rarer established his home on that place, in 1895, and lived there until the death of his wife in 1899, when he sold the place and moved to Herman, where for four or five years he was engaged in the restaurant and pool-room business. In the meantime, Mr. Rarer had bought a quarter of a section of land in Gorton township, the place on which he now lives, and about that same time went to California, where he took a stone and timber claim to a quarter of a section of land, which he proved up and which he still owns. In 1901 he returned to Grant county and married a second time, establishing his home on a rented farm in Delaware township, where he lived for about ten years, at the end of which time he erected a good set of buildings on his Gorton township quarter section and has ever since made his home there, moving into the new home in 1911. In addition to his general farming Mr. Rarer has given considerable attention to dairying and has done very well. He is a member of the board of directors of the Herman Market Company and has for years taken an active interest in the general business affairs of the community in which he lives. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat and while living in Delaware town-

ship served as chairman of the board of supervisors and in Gorton township as director of his local school district. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

As noted above, Robert F. Rarer has been twice married. It was in 1886, at Tower Hill, Illinois, that he was united in marriage to Laura Middlesworth, who was born in that village, daughter of Ner Middlesworth and wife, old settlers there, and to this union was born one child, a daughter, Tarsa, who married Brinton Houston and now lives at Staples, this state. Mrs. Laura Rarer died in 1899 and in 1901 Mr. Rarer married Clara Rhode, who was born at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, daughter of John Rhode and wife, who later became residents of Stevens county, this state, and to this union eight children have been born, four of whom died in infancy, the survivors being Donald, Noma, George and May.

SYLVAN SCHOONOVER.

The late Sylvan Schoonover, who was a substantial farmer in Grant county, was born in Wisconsin on June .7, 1854, the son of Richard and Amelia Schoonover, who lived in that state for many years. It was there that the mother died in 1871, after which the father came to Minnesota and located in Byron, where he died in 1887.

Sylvan Schoonover received his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and there grew to manhood on the home farm. After his marriage he moved to South Dakota, where he engaged in farming for nine and one-half years, after which he came to Minnesota and located in Dodge county, where he remained until 1900, when he moved to Grant county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Gorton township, where he lived until his death the following year.

In 1882 Sylvan Schoonover was united in marriage to Gertie DeYoung, who was born in Illinois on November 30, 1860, daughter of Gilbert and Minnie DeYoung, natives of Holland, who were married in Illinois in 1854. They located on a farm in Cook county, that state, but later came to Minnesota and here they located on a farm in Dodge county, where the mother died on April 5, 1885, at the age of forty-eight years. The father also died in Dodge county on February 1, 1913, at the age of eighty years. To Mr. and Mrs. DeYoung were born twelve children, Clara, Henry,

Gertie, Jennie, James, John, Ary, Nellie, Mary, Minnie, Gilbert and Jacob, of whom Henry, John, Gilbert and Jacob are now deceased.

To Sylvan and Gertie Schoonover were born ten children, Jessie, Minnie, Ada, Eugene, Guy, Chester, Elsie, Blanche, John and Grace. Elsie died in 1915 at the age of twenty-four years. Since the death of Sylvan Schoonover, the widow and her sons have looked after the interests of the farm. Mrs. Schoonover has demonstrated her ability as a manager and has looked after the management of the farm with the same careful care and exact attention that her husband gave it. In all she has been quite successful, and has added much to the beauty as well as to the value of the place, having erected a fine new barn and made many other valuable improvements. To Mrs. Schoonover is due much praise for her good management and excellent success. At the time of the death of Mr. Schoonover the place was not paid for and they were in debt for some of the stock. Today she is recognized as one of the substantial property owners of the township. Her farm is one of the best in the township, her buildings are of the best and her home is well furnished. At the time of the death of her husband, her eldest son was but fourteen years of age and her youngest daughter but fourteen months. The family have been kept together and all are industrious and work to a common interest. The sons are now doing the work on the farm. The family is held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them.

FRANK JULIUS EDWARD GOTTFRIED NEHLS.

Frank Julius Edward Gottfried Nehls, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial farmers and the proprietor of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Gorton township, did not settle down to the quiet and secure life of a farmer until he had spent many years in the adventurous calling of the seas and had traveled the wide world over. During his years of seafaring he served for three years in the German navy and as a sailor saw pretty much every important port in the world, later becoming a fresh-water sailor and seeing extensive service on the Great Lakes of America, until an incident of travel led to his acquaintance with farming life in Iowa and caused him to cease his wanderings and "settle down." Mr. Nehls is a native of Germany, born in Brandenburg on December 17, 1860, son of Gottfried and Wilhelmina Nehls, both natives of that same country, the former of whom was a stone mason. The mother died

about 1867, leaving two sons, of whom the subject of this sketch was the younger, the other being Carl, who, at the age of fourteen, left home to go to sea and was last heard from in New York City in 1879. The father married again and to this second union two daughters were born, Amelia and Anna, both of whom remained in Germany. Gottfried Nehls, the father, spent all his life in his native land.

Following the example of his elder brother, Frank Nehls also began life of a seafarer at the age of fourteen years and he followed the sea until the age of twenty-nine, seeing service in all parts of the world, during three years of which time he served in the German navy, and sailed in both German and American vessels, seeing considerable service also as a sailor on the Great Lakes. While serving in the latter capacity, one day in 1885 he and John Wortman, another sailor, also a German, started out from Chicago with the ambitious design to walk around the world, but when they arrived at Denison, Iowa, they abandoned their trip. There they met some Germans who were acquainted with Mr. Nehl's father in the old country and they were persuaded to stop there, for some time making their home with these friends and working on farms in the vicinity of Denison. Wortman presently returned to Philadelphia and thence to the sea, but afterward gave up the life of a sailor and is now farming in South Dakota. Within the year Mr. Nehls also left Denison and returned to Chicago, later going East and taking service on a coast-wise vessel, but after awhile returned to Chicago and was there engaged for some time working on the docks, after which he again made his way out to Iowa, locating in Hardin county, where, in 1888, he married and settled down to the life of the farm, some years later moving to Winnebago county, where he bought a farm and there made his home until 1902, in which year he disposed of his interests there and came up into Minnesota, locating in Grant county, where he ever since has made his home and where he and his family are now very pleasantly and very comfortably situated. Previous to his definite location here, Mr. Nehls had bought a half section of land in section 26 of Gorton township and it was on that place that he established his home. Though the farm had been broken when he came into possession of it, no buildings had been erected and the improvements on the place, as well as the planting of a fine grove, are the works of the present owner, who, in addition to his general farming has engaged somewhat extensively in stock raising and has done very well, long having been recognized as one of the most progressive farmers in that neighborhood.

In his political affiliations Mr. Nehls is a Republican, but has not been a seeker after public office.

It was in 1888 that Frank Nehls was united in marriage, in Hardin county, Iowa, to Doretta Smith, who was born in that county, daughter of Henry and Meta (Glade) Smith, early settlers there, and to this union three children have been born, Minnie, who married John Gebhardt and lives in North Dakota; Emma, who married John Harder and lives in that same state, and Harry, who is at home.

PETER G. PETERSON.

Peter G. Peterson, manager of the elevator of the Atlantic Elevator Company at Kensington, dealer in wood, oils and machinery at that place, secretary and treasurer of the Kensington Telephone Company, former recorder of the village and in other ways active in the civic and business life of his home town, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was three years old. He was born on April 28, 1867, son of Gustav and Gunillia (Anderson) Peterson, both natives of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1870 and proceeded to Minnesota, settling in Todd county. There Gustav Peterson homesteaded a quarter of a section of land about eight miles north of Sauk Center, on which he established his home and where he lived seven years, at the end of which time he disposed of his homestead and moved to Pope county, where he bought two hundred acres of railroad land about two miles south of Kensington, which he proceeded to improve and develop and where he still lives, long having been regarded as one of the most substantial residents of that community. His wife died in 1892. They were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Marie, Lena and John.

Peter G. Peterson was but a child when he came to this country with his parents in 1870 and he received his schooling in the district schools of Todd and Pope counties, growing to manhood on the home farm in the latter county, remaining there until the fall of 1893, when he was made manager of the farmers' elevator at Kensington, a position he held for six years, at the end of which time he rented the elevator and for a year conducted the same on his own account. His services then were secured by the Kensington Milling Company and for two years he acted as manager

of that company's mill at Kensington, after which he transferred his services to the Atlantic Elevator Company and has since been in active charge of that concern's elevator at Kensington, long having been recognized as one of the most competent grain men in that section. On his own account, in addition to his service in behalf of the elevator company, Mr. Peterson does quite a business in the way of selling wood, oil and farm machinery and has done very well. For three years or more he has been secretary and treasurer of the Kensington Telephone Company and as such the practical manager of that concern's interests. He also has for years given his thoughtful attention to local civic affairs and for two years served as village recorder and has also served on the village council, his efforts ever having been directed toward the betterment of conditions in his home town.

In 1904 Peter G. Peterson was united in marriage to Emma Anderson, who was born in Pope county, this state, daughter of Swen R. Anderson and wife, natives of Sweden and early settlers in Pope county. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are members of the Mission Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the affairs of the congregation, as well as in all neighborhood good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all proper causes thereabout.

CHRISTEN A. CHRISTENSON.

Christen A. Christenson, a well-known and progressive farmer and stockman of Stony Brook township, Grant county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state nearly all his life. He was born on a farm in Freeborn county on December 9, 1874, son of Andrew and Gunhild (Kaasa) Christenson, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, the former born in Egdahl and the latter in Telemarken. Both Andrew Christenson and Gunhild Kaasa came to America in the days of their youth and settled with their respective parents in Freeborn county, Minnesota, where they were married and where they began to make a home for themselves on a rented farm. There they resided until the year 1876, in which year Mr. Christenson homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Elbow Lake township, Grant county, on which he and his wife established their home and where they are still living, for many years having been regarded as among the most substantial residents of that community. Upon taking his homestead Andrew Christenson erected a small log house and bravely set about the task of breaking the virgin prairie soil, which presently began

to bring him a proper reward for his labors and it was not long until he had a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm, on which he later erected comfortable farm house and put up a substantial set of farm buildings. As he prospered in his farming operations he added to his holdings until now he is the possessor of a fine farm of four hundred acres, on which he and his wife and those of their children who still remain on the old homestead are very pleasantly and comfortably situated. Andrew Christenson and wife are members of the United Lutheran church at Elbow Lake and their children were reared in the faith of that communion. There are eleven of the children, all of whom are still living and of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the first born, the others being as follow: Ole, a farmer, living at Wendell; Betsy, who married Carl Helgeson and lives in Walsh county, North Dakota; Lars, a farmer of Berthold, North Dakota; Caroline, who married H. Bergan and lives at Wendell; Knute, a farmer, of Benedict, North Dakota; Sela, who married Ben Ellingson and lives at Wendell; Henry, who lives at Hereford; Annie, who married Ole Anderson, a farmer of the Wendell neighborhood; Alma, who is at home with her parents, and Theodore, who also is at home.

Christen A. Christenson was not two years old when his parents moved to Grant county from Freeborn county and he grew to manhood on the homestead farm in Elbow Lake township, receiving his schooling in the local schools of that neighborhood. Upon attaining his majority he went to Walsh county, North Dakota, where he homesteaded a quarter of a section of land and there remained for two years, at the end of which time he sold his claims to advantage and returned to Grant county, almost immediately thereafter starting a hotel at Wendell, which he conducted for a year. He then traded the hotel for a tract of eighty acres of land in Stony Brook township and began active farm operations on the same. There Mr. Christenson has made his home ever since, with the exception of two years, 1907-09, during which period he was engaged in conducting a butcher shop at Elbow Lake. Upon taking over his farm in Stony Brook, Mr. Christenson rented an adjoining quarter section and began to operate the same in conjunction with his own farm. In 1913 he bought the quarter section and is now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, on which he has erected excellent buildings and has one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to his old land, Mr. Christenson rents an adjoining quarter section, and is thus profitably cultivating in all four hundred acres. Besides his general farming he has engaged somewhat extensively in the raising of live stock and has done very

well. In his political affiliations, Mr. Christenson is a Democrat and takes a good citizen's interest in the general civic life of the community, though not an office-seeker.

On January 28, 1903, Christen A. Christenson was united in marriage to Emma Oson, who was born in Wisconsin, daughter of Hans Oson and wife, substantial residents of that state, and to this union three children have been born, Gladys, Evelyn and Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. Christenson are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper part in all community good work.

BOTTOL T. TEIGEN.

Bottol T. Teigen, a well-known and progressive merchant of Brandon, dealer in general merchandise, director in the Farmers State Bank of that village and head of the real-estate firm known as the Teigen, Berg Land Company of Brandon, dealers in farm lands throughout the famous park region of Minnesota, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a farm in Goodhue county, June 12, 1866, son of Thomas and Johanna Teigen, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to the United States in 1850, settling at Madison, Wisconsin, whence, in 1855, they came to Minnesota and settled in Goodhue county, where Mrs. Teigen died many years ago and where Thomas Teigen, a well-to-do retired farmer and the owner of two hundred and eight acres of land, died recently. His youngest son now operates the home place. Thomas Teigen and wife were the parents of six children, all of whom are still living and of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: Mary, wife of T. Hummedal, a farmer of Goodhue county; Martha, wife of Albert Anderson, manager of a lumber yard at Mayville, North Dakota; Nels, a real-estate dealer and farmer at Minnawaka, North Dakota; Ole, who is operating the old home farm in Goodhue county, and Lena, wife of the Reverend Adesvick, of Bryant, South Dakota.

Bottol T. Teigen was reared on the paternal farm in Goodhue county, receiving his schooling in the schools of that county, and remained at home until he was past twenty years of age, when he came over to this part of the state, about 1889, and located at Brandon, where, in partnership with John Barsness, he built a creamery at Brandon, the first creamery established in Douglas county, and for seven years was engaged as manager of the same. He then moved to Audubon, this state, where he was

engaged as buttermaker in the creamery of the Audubon Creamery Company for five years, at the end of which time he returned to Brandon, about 1898, and there engaged in the general merchandise business, which ever since has occupied the chief part of his time. Mr. Teigen started in business in a small way, but has gradually enlarged his stock as the demands of the trade warranted, until now he has a large and complete stock of merchandise. He owns the building in which his store is situated and his business is conducted along strictly up-to-date lines. In addition to his mercantile interests, Mr. Teigen is vice-president and one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank at Brandon, owns two hundred acres of land in North Dakota; one hundred and sixty acres, in partnership with Peter Hoplin, in Montana and is head of the Teigen, Berg Land Company of Brandon, doing a large business in farm lands throughout the Minnesota park region, justly known as the corn and clover belt.

On June 4, 1896, Bottol T. Teigen was united in marriage to Bertina Holing, daughter of Haakon Holing, an early settler in Douglas county, and to this union two children have been born, Agnes, who is now a student in the high school at Alexandria, and Hazel. Mr. and Mrs. Teigen have a very pleasant home at Brandon and take a proper interest in the general social activities of their home town. Mr. Brandon is a Republican. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Woodmen and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

OLE K. RUSTAND.

Ole K. Rustand, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial farmers, clerk of North Ottawa township and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres in that township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Grant county since he was nine years of age. He was born in Sigdal on August 17, 1871, son of Christian O. and Anna O. (Tofsrud) Rustand, both natives of that same district in Norway, the former born on February 22, 1839, and the latter, March 5, 1844, who later came to Minnesota and became pioneers in Grant county, where Christian O. Rustand died in the summer of 1908 and where his widow is still living.

Christian O. Rustand was a farmer and small landowner in his native land and in 1880, attracted by the stories of the fine success which had

attended the efforts of some of his old neighbors who had come to Minnesota and had located in Grant county, emigrated to this country with his family and settled in North Ottawa township, Grant county, homesteading a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14, where he established his home and where he spent the rest of his life. Upon taking possession of his homestead Mr. Rustand put up a small frame house, on the site where the present comfortable farm house now stands, and began to break and improve his land. He prospered in his operations and gradually added to his land holdings until, with the aid of his sons, he became the owner of eight hundred acres, all in one piece with the exception of one quarter section. Christian O. Rustand was a Republican and gave his earnest attention to local civic affairs, serving his community in several public capacities, having been a member of the board of township supervisors, township assessor and a member of the local school board. He and his wife were earnest members of the Lutheran church and were among the organizers of the local church of that communion in the neighborhood in which they lived. Christian O. Rustand died on July 1, 1908, and his widow is still living on the old homestead place. To them nine children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: Ole C., a farmer, living near Wendell; Bertha, who married H. H. Ramstad and upon his death married, secondly, A. I. Haugen and is now living on a farm in Elbow Lake township; Gunhild, who married Charles Larson and lives in North Ottawa township; Martha, who married Carl Torgerson and lives in North Dakota; Andrew, who lives in North Ottawa township; Mads, who lives in the same township; Christian, who died in infancy, and Albert, who also died in infancy.

As noted above, Ole K. Rustand was about nine years old when his parents settled in Grant county and he grew to manhood on the home farm in North Ottawa township, receiving his schooling in the local schools. From the days of his early youth he was a valued assistant to his father in the work of developing the home place and remained at home until his marriage in 1896, when he established his own home on a quarter of a section of his father's farm that had been given over to him. From the very beginning of his operations there he has been successful and has added to his holdings until now he is the owner of a splendid farm of four hundred and eighty acres, on which he has erected a fine house and a good set of farm buildings, supplanting the buildings he put up there when he first entered upon possession of the place. In addition to his general farming, he has

given much attention to the raising of a good grade of live stock and has fine herds of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. Rustand was one of the organizers of the farmers' co-operative creamery and is treasurer of the company operating the same. He also is a stockholder in the new Wendell State Bank and in other ways has displayed his interest in the general business activities of his home community. In his political views, Mr. Rustand is an ardent Prohibitionist. He has served as treasurer of his home township, for many years has been clerk of his school district and is now serving as township clerk.

In 1896 Ole K. Rustand was united in marriage to Hulda Lardon, who was born in the kingdom of Sweden, a daughter of Otto and Anna (Carlson) Larson, old settlers of North Ottawa township, where the former died on July 18, 1916, and where his widow is still living, and to this union three children have been born, Arthur, Ethel and Florence. Mr. and Mrs. Rustand are members of the Church of God and Mr. Rustand is a member of the board of trustees of the same, both taking a warm interest in the affairs of the church, as well as in all local good works, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the welfare of the community in which they live.

THOMAS M. THAYER, M. D.

Dr. Thomas M. Thayer, a successful physician of Herman, was born at Gouverneur, St. Lawrence county, New York, in 1876, the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Thayer. He grew to manhood at Gouverneur and received his early education in the schools of that place. After completing the high-school course he entered St. Lawrence University, where he remained one year, at the end of which time he entered the Homeopathic College at New York City, from which he was graduated in 1900. For a year thereafter he was engaged in general practice at Montreal and he then spent a year as a member of the staff of the state hospital at Middletown, New York. Doctor Thayer then came to Minnesota and for six years was attached to the staff of the state hospital at Fergus Falls, his extensive hospital work thus having been of inestimable value in his general practice. Upon leaving the hospital at Fergus Falls, Doctor Thayer located at Herman, where he has since been engaged in general practice.

In 1908 Dr. Thomas M. Thayer was united in marriage to Mae Pardee, of Minneapolis, and to this union has been born one child, a daughter. In his political persuasion, Doctor Thayer is affiliated with the Democratic party.

PETER O. UNUMB.

Peter O. Unumb, cashier of the First National Bank of Alexandria, member of the common council of that city, president of the Farmers State Bank of Brandon, president of the Farmers State Bank of Hoffman and also actively identified with the real-estate interests of this section of the state, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was three years of age and of Minnesota since he was nine. He was born in the year 1863, son of Peter and Olivia (Haugaard) Unumb, both natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1866 and located in Madison, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1869, in which year they came to Minnesota with their family and settled on a homestead farm in Moe township, Douglas county. Peter Unumb was a good farmer and made an excellent farm out of his raw timber land, becoming one of the most substantial farmers in that part of the country. There he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1913. His widow survived him about two years, her death occurring in 1915. They were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being E. O., C. B., Oscar, Bertha and Ingeborg.

Peter O. Unumb received his schooling in the public schools of Alexandria, finishing the course offered at that time, before the days of the commissioned high school, and in 1880, when seventeen years old, became a bookkeeper in the Bank of Alexandria, now the First National Bank, and has ever since been connected with that sound old financial institution. His work with the bank received the approval of the directing heads of the same from the very start and he was presently advanced to the position of assistant cashier and in 1900 promoted to the position of cashier, which position he ever since has held, long having been one of the best-known figures in the financial circles of this part of the state. Mr. Unumb has extended his banking interests in other directions, having been the organizer of the Farmers State Bank of Brandon and of the Farmers State Bank of Hoffman, of both of which institutions he is president. He also



PETER O. UNUMB.

has for some years been an extensive dealer in real estate throughout this section, both in Dakota and Minnesota, and in town properties in Alexandria and has done very well in that line. Mr. Unumb also has given close attention to the civic interests of his home town and of the county at large and is now serving as a member of the common council of the city of Alexandria. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

In 1889 Peter O. Unumb was united in marriage to Margaret Hovde, who was born in Douglas county. Her parents came to this country from Norway and settled in Douglas county in 1865. To Peter O. and Margaret (Hovde) Unumb the following children have been born, Vera, Archie and Percy, who are now attending Carlton College, and Merlin and Paul, who are still in school at Alexandria. Mr. Unumb is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and takes an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works, while Mrs. Unumb is affiliated with the Christian Scientists, both useful and influential factors in the promotion of movements designed to increase the general welfare hereabout.

GILBERT GILBERTSON.

Gilbert Gilbertson, one of the well-known and prominent retired farmers of Erdahl, was born in Norway on December 5, 1843, the son of Gilbert and Anna (Olson) Olson, also natives of Norway, who there received their education in the public schools and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married, and there their children were born. Gilbert Olson was a farmer in his native land, and he and his wife were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community in which they lived. They continued to reside in the land of their birth until 1861, when they came to the United States and spent the remaining days of their lives with their son Ole, in Wisconsin. They were the parents of eight children, Ole (deceased), Thoren, Ole (deceased), Thora (deceased), Olia, Mary, Gilbert and Anna.

Gilbert Gilbertson received his education in the public schools of his native land and there grew to manhood. He remained a resident of the land of his birth until 1861, when he decided that he would come to America. On his arrival in the United States he located in Wisconsin, where he worked

as a farm hand for one year. On August 15, 1862, he enlisted in Company H, Twenty-seventh Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, at Madison. He was first sent to Columbus, Kentucky, and then to Vicksburg, where he served under General Grant in the memorable siege of that city. After the siege of Vicksburg he was with the command of General Steele, in the capture of Little Rock, Arkansas, where he remained for nearly two years. After the fierce battle at Jenkins Ferry, where they captured the commands of Generals Price and Marmaduke, under General Canby, Mr. Gilbertson was sent to Mobile, Alabama, where they captured the old Spanish fort and Fort Blakely, after which they started in the campaign up the Alabama river, and were on this latter expedition when the war came to a close. Although the war was over, Mr. Gilbertson was transferred to Mobile, and later to Texas to recover some guns that had been sold to the Mexicans in an unlawful manner. He received his discharge at Brownsville, Texas, on September 25, 1865, and returned to Wisconsin, where he remained for some five years, engaged as a farm hand. In 1870 he came to Minnesota and took a soldier's claim to one hundred and sixty acres in Swift county. There he built a log shanty, obtained a good team of oxen and engaged in farming until 1875, when he sold the place and moved up to Grant county, where he purchased eighty acres of land in section 5 of Erdahl township, having driven up from Swift county. This was all wild land, covered with scrub timber and brush. He built a good log house and started to clear the place and plant his grain. The most of the first crop was taken by the grasshoppers. With much perseverance and hard work he succeeded in clearing and improving the farm and erected good and substantial buildings. There he continued his general farming and stock raising until 1903, when he sold the place and moved to Erdahl village, and there purchased fifteen acres of land, on which he is now living, having retired from the greater responsibilities of farm life. He built a fine new residence and made many other valuable improvements, adding much to the value and the beauty of the place.

In 1871 Gilbertson was united in marriage to Mary Lee and to this union twelve children have been born, Ellen, Gustav, Mina, Oscar, Sena, Otto, George, Clara, Arthur, Martin, Martin Arnold and Mabel, the last three of whom are now deceased. Ellen is the wife of John Comstock and resides at Fergus Falls; Gustav is a resident of Canada; Mina married Austin Thompson and lives at Hankinson, North Dakota; Oscar is in the grain business at Rugby, North Dakota; Sena is the wife of William Mooe, a wheat buyer at Judd, North Dakota; Otto, Clara and Arthur are at home

with their parents, and George resides in Erdahl. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem. Mr. Gilbertson, has always taken a keen interest in local affairs and has had much to do with the civic life of the township and the county. He assisted in the organization of the township and was the first clerk of the same. He also served as clerk of the school district, which he helped organize. For four years he was county commissioner, in which capacity he rendered excellent service, retiring with the confidence and the respect of the entire county.

ARTHUR L. OSTERBERG.

Arthur L. Osterberg, manager of the Kensington Mercantile Company at Kensington, Douglas county, and for some years one of the most active factors in the business life of that village, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a homestead farm in Nora township, in the neighboring county of Pope, December 17, 1882, son of August and Christina (Johnson) Osterberg, natives of Sweden, born in Westergotland, who came to America in 1869, immediately following their marriage, and proceeded directly to Minnesota, settling in Pope county.

Upon settling in this state August Osterberg homesteaded a tract of land in the immediate vicinity of Glenwood, in Nora township, Pope county, where he and his wife established their home and where they reared their children, remaining there until about the year 1900, when they retired from the farm and moved to Kensington, where their last days were spent, Mr. Osterberg dying in 1905 and his widow surviving a little more than a year, her death occurring in December, 1906. August Osterberg for years took an active part in community affairs in Pope county and became one of the most substantial farmers in his neighborhood. He and his wife were members of the Swedish Mission church and their children were reared in the faith of the same. There were ten of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth and all of whom were born on the old homestead farm in Nora township, the others being Mamie, Cecelia, Frank, Robert, Esther, Huldah, Harry, Edith and Ebba.

Arthur L. Osterberg was reared on the homestead farm near Kensington and finished his common-school schooling in the high school in

that city, supplementing the same by a course in the Glenwood Academy, after which he began clerking in a store at Kensington and with the exception of one year spent at Elbow Lake has ever since lived in that village. After clerking for some time he began to buy grain at Kensington and when not thus engaged resumed his work as a clerk and was thus engaged until 1912, when, upon the organization of the Kensington Mercantile Company, he became a partner in the same and was made general manager, a position he ever since has held, and in the performance of the duties of which he has come to be recognized as one of the most enterprising and energetic business men thereabout. Mr. Osterberg also has been called on at one time and another to act as administrator of various estates in probate in that section of the county.

In 1905 Arthur L. Osterberg was united in marriage to Christine Headstrom, who was born in Salem township, Douglas county, and to this union five children have been born, the first-born of whom, Weldon, died in infancy, the others being Walter, Irene, Ethel and Ruby. Mr. and Mrs. Osterberg are members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Kensington and take a warm interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works, being earnestly concerned in all movements having to do with the betterment of conditions in the community in which they live.

ELLEND N. ELLINGSON.

Ellend N. Ellingson, a well-known and progressive young farmer of Grant county, one of the most active and influential residents of Stony Brook township, is a native son of that county and has lived there all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Stony Brook township, January 19, 1883, son of Nils and Sigri (Dybdal) Ellingson, natives of Norway and early settlers in Grant county, who came out to this part of the state from Houston county, Minnesota, in 1878 and settled in Stony Brook township, where they are still living. A biographical sketch of Nils Ellingson, presented elsewhere in this volume, gives details of the history of the Ellingson family back through the days of Grandfather Ellingson, who came with his family from Norway in 1868, settling in Houston county, this state, later locating in Grant county, where he and his wife spent the rest of their lives.

Upon completing his schooling in the common schools of his home township, Ellend N. Ellingson entered the Park Region Lutheran College at Fer-

gus Falls and after a comprehensive course there returned to the home farm and has ever since, with the exception of a year spent as a clerk in a hardware store at Wendell, been engaged in farm work on his father's place and on adjoining land which he rents on his own account, and has been quite successful in his farming operations. In his political affiliations Mr. Ellingson is a Republican and by religious persuasion is a member of the synod branch of the Norwegian Lutheran church, taking an earnest interest in the civic affairs of his home community and in all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare hereabout.

ANTON J. LORSUNG.

The pleasant village of Millerville has been a good enough place for Anton J. Lorsung to spend his life in, and there he is now well established as a merchant. He was born there on August 6, 1877, a son of Peter and Katherine (Miller) Lorsung. John A. Miller, his uncle, was probably the earliest settler in Millerville township, the village now being built on land that was formerly his farm. He and Peter Lorsung each gave twenty acres to the Catholic church of Millerville and helped organize the church there. Mrs. Katherine Miller, mother of John A. Miller, also took up a homestead in that vicinity and the village was named after the Miller family, the township later being given the same name. Peter Lorsung, the paternal grandfather, was a native of France. He married Johannah Raymark. They came to America, settling on a farm near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, although he was a wagon-maker by trade, and there his death occurred, after which his widow came to Minnesota and spent the rest of her life with her son, John Lorsung, who had previously taken up a homestead near Millerville. Peter Lorsung, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Germany on December 10, 1830. He was twelve years of age when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents and he lived at Pittsburgh until the spring of 1859, when he came to Minnesota, arriving in Douglas county on May 1. He took up a homestead in what is now Millerville township, and there he underwent the privations and hardships incident to pioneer life, developed a good farm and there spent the rest of his days, dying on January 9, 1908, at an advanced age. He survived his wife twenty-eight years, her death having occurred on June 2, 1880, at the age of forty-two years. To these parents six children were born, Johannah, Joseph, Peter P., Mary F., John

P., and Anton J. The father of these children was active in local affairs and helped organize the Catholic church at Millerville. In early life he learned the carpenter's trade and continued to work at it at intervals. He built the first church of his denomination at Millerville and also a number of other buildings still standing in that locality. He also made several wagons for his neighbors.

Anton J. Lorsung grew up on the home farm, and was educated in the common schools of his district, later taking a short business course at Sauk Center. He remained on the farm until he was sixteen years old. In 1898 he started a general store at Millerville, in partnership with his brother, J. P. Lorsung, and five years later he bought his brother's interest and has been operating the store alone ever since. He carries a well-selected stock of general merchandise and has always enjoyed a good trade with the people of the town and surrounding country. He carries about a seven-thousand-dollar stock. His brother, John P. Lorsung, is also a merchant at Millerville. He was born on June 25, 1872, and in 1900 he married Katherine Kojlin.

On November 11, 1906, Anton J. Lorsung was married to Anna Kotschaver, and to their union six children have been born: Alyojies, Mathias, Hilta and Mircilla (twins), Attlebert, and Jerome.

Mr. Lorsung is a member of the Catholic church, and of the Catholic Order of Foresters. Politically, he is independent. He has served as village recorder since the place was incorporated. On September 14, 1903, he called a meeting of the leading citizens of the village, who met in his store for the purpose of incorporating the village, which was accordingly done, he being elected recorder, which position he has held ever since.

HENRY G. LILLEMoen.

The long years of strenuous effort as a general farmer put forth by Henry G. Lillemoen, of Wendell, has been rewarded by a large measure of material success and he is now able to spend his declining years in retirement. He was born in Norway, November 23, 1848, and was five years of age when, in 1853, his parents came to the United States and settled at Decorah, Iowa, where he grew up and attended school. In the fall of 1864, he then being but sixteen years of age, Henry G. Lillemoen enlisted in Company I, Sixteenth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served with that

command until the close of the Civil War. After his honorable discharge he returned to Iowa and for some time followed boating on the Mississippi river, also worked one year in the lumber woods and in rafting logs and on steamboats plying between Iowa cities and St. Louis, Missouri. He came to Minnesota in 1871, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6 of Stony Brook township, Grant county, and also secured a tree claim of one hundred and twenty acres. He worked hard, cleared and developed his land into an excellent farm; set out a grove and erected good buildings, and engaged successfully in general farming and stock raising until the fall of 1915, when he retired from active life, removing to the village of Wendell, where he bought property and now resides, renting out his farm.

In 1869, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, Henry G. Lillemoen was married to Ingeborg Sneserud, who was born in Norway, February 2, 1849, a daughter of Stiner Sneserud, a pioneer of Wisconsin, who settled there about 1853 and in 1860 removed with his family to Iowa, locating in Winneshiek county, where he spent the rest of his life. To Mr. and Mrs. Lillemoen the following children have been born: Stiner, Ole, Henry, Ida, who is now the wife of Nils Skinnemoen; Emma, who married Charles Setra and lives at Minot, North Dakota; Christopher, a harness maker in Wendell, and Helma, who married Lawrence Anderson.

Politically, Mr. Lillemoen is an independent voter, and he has long been active in local public affairs. He served very ably as county superintendent of schools about the year 1874 or 1875. He has also served on the local school board, and as supervisor of Stony Brook township, of which he was the first township clerk. He belongs to the Synod Lutheran church, which he helped build and since moving to Wendell attends the church there, which he also helped to build.

OSCAR J. WALLEN.

Among the younger business men of Douglas county who is rapidly ascending the ladder of success through his own endeavors is Oscar J. Wallen, banker of Evansville. He was born in Lyon county, Minnesota, June 14, 1879, and is a son of Jacob and Anna Wallen. The father who devoted his active life to contracting and building was a resident of Lyon county until 1884, when he moved to Glenwood, this state, later locating in Tacoma, Washington, where his death occurred some time ago. His widow still

resides in that city. To these parents five children were born, the subject of this review being the second in order of birth.

Oscar J. Wallen completed his schooling in the high school at Glenwood and on April 1, 1900, entered the employ of the Benton County State Bank at Sauk Rapids, where he remained until July 1, 1902, when he went to Evansville and helped organize the Evansville State Bank, of which he became assistant cashier. That position he held until 1905, when he was made cashier, the duties of which position he continues to discharge in an able manner, highly satisfactory to the stockholders and patrons of the bank.

On July 14, 1910, Oscar J. Wallen was married to Amanda Anderson, a daughter of John Anderson and wife of Evansville, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Dorothy. Politically, Mr. Wallen is a Republican. He has been active in the affairs of the village of Evansville and has filled the offices of treasurer and clerk of the same with general satisfaction.

ANDREW JACKSON GILKINSON, M. D.

Dr. Andrew Jackson Gilkinson, of Osakis, is a native of West Virginia, born in Wayne county, that state, March 23, 1863, a son of A. W. and Matilda Jane (Caylor) Gilkinson, both of whom were born in that same county.

A. W. Gilkinson is still living in the county in which he was born, and has been all his life engaged in farming. He is the owner of a farm of two hundred and fifty acres of land in that county. His wife died in 1876. They were the parents of five children, Andrew J., Armilda, Nevada, Laura and Martha. The father is a member of the Methodist church, and is a member of the Masonic order. In 1861 he enlisted in the Confederate army and served under Col. John B. McCoslin, in "Stonewall" Jackson's brigade, in the eastern Virginia division. He served until the close of the war and was with his regiment in all the battles and campaigns in which it participated, except during the year 1863, when he was absent from his command for about one year on account of sickness.

Doctor Gilkinson received his early education in the common schools of Wayne county, West Virginia. On October 8, 1882, he came to Minnesota and found employment on a farm near Kingston, Meeker county, working on the farm in the summer time and attending school in winter. In 1884 he entered the Normal School at St. Cloud and was graduated from

that institution in 1888. During the years 1888 and 1889 he served as superintendent of schools at Long Prairie and in the fall of 1889 he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota. He completed the course and was graduated from that institution in 1893 and in that same year located at Osakis for the practice of his profession and has been continuously engaged in practice there since that time. In the fall of 1915 Doctor Gilkinson and Doctor Hengstler established the Park Region Hospital at Osakis.

On January 30, 1894, Dr. A. J. Gilkinson was married to Grace I. Bliler, daughter of John H. Bliler, of Franklin, Minnesota, and to this union five children have been born, Ross E., Bryan A., Howard N., Cecil and Lucile. Doctor Gilkinson is a Democrat. He has served as mayor of the city of Osakis and also has served as president of the school board. His lodge membership is with the Masonic order. He is a member of the Park Region Medical Society and also a member of the Minnesota State Medical Association and of the American Medical Association.

FERDINAND SWENSON.

Ferdinand Swenson, of Brandon, one of the best-known and most progressive bankers in this part of the state, director and cashier of the First National Bank at Brandon, cashier of the Garfield State Bank at Garfield and vice-president and director of the German-American State Bank at Millerville, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born at South Stillwater, April 30, 1876, son of Charles and Eva Swenson, the former of whom spent his last days on his farm in Chisago county, where his widow is still living.

Ferdinand Swenson was reared on a farm in Chisago county and received his schooling in the schools in the neighborhood. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age and then, having been one of the organizers of the Nessel Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Chisago county, was made president and manager of the same and continued thus engaged for three years, at the end of which time he was appointed assistant cashier of the First National Bank at Braham, in Isanti county, and remained there six months, or until December 1, 1905, when he came over into this part of the state and opened a bank at Garfield, under the name of the Garfield State Bank, of which he has ever since been the cashier. He presently helped to organize the German-American State Bank

at Millerville and has ever since been a director and the vice-president of that institution. On September 1, 1915, Mr. Swenson located at Brandon, as director and cashier of the First National Bank, and has since then made his home in that pleasant village, dividing his time between the three banks in which he has a directing interest.

On June 3, 1908, Ferdinand Swenson was united in marriage to Selma Hokenson, of Urness township, Douglas county. Mr. and Mrs. Swenson have a very pleasant home at Brandon and take a proper interest in the various social activities of their home town, as well as in all neighborhood good works. Mr. Swenson is "independent" in his political views and gives a good citizen's attention to local political affairs, while living at Garfield having served for several years as president of the village council.

TOSTEN T. CORDAL.

Tosten T. Cordal, one of the most substantial and progressive farmers of Stony Brook township, Grant county, director of the Farmers Creamery Association at Wendell, former president and organizer of the Stony Brook Telephone Company, for many years school director in his district and in other ways an active and influential factor in the development of the community in which he lives, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twenty-one years of age and of Grant county since the middle eighties, when he settled on a farm of his own in Stony Brook township and has ever since made his home there. It was on a farm in the stift of Bergen, in his native Norway, that Tosten T. Cordal was born, February 21, 1859, son of Tosten Ellefson and Ingeborg Tostensdatter, both natives of that same section of the country, the former born in 1824 and the latter in 1826, who grew up in the same neighborhood and were married there, establishing themselves on a farm, where Tosten Ellefson died in 1872. His widow survived him about twelve years, her death occurring in 1884, she then being nearly sixty years of age. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were six of these children, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: Ellef, who came to this country and lives in Roberts countv, South Dakota; Peter, who died at the age of fifteen years; Ole, who died at the age of one year; Ole, who came to this country and is now a well-to-do farmer in the neigh-

boring county of Ottertail, and Soneva, who also came to this country and spent her last days, unmarried, at the home of her brother, Tosten.

Tosten T. Cordal grew to manhood on the home farm in Norway, receiving his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood and was but thirteen years of age when his father died. As the eldest son, the larger part of the responsibility of maintaining the home farm fell upon his young shoulders and he assumed that responsibility, managing the place until he attained his majority, when, in 1881, he came to America and proceeded directly to Minnesota, settling in Goodhue county, where he remained for two years and six months, working on farms and acquiring an acquaintance with the speech of his adopted country and with the methods of the land which he had selected as his permanent place of abode. At the end of that time he came over to this part of the state and for three years thereafter made his home with his uncle, Ole Thunselle, in Ottertail county, a well-established farmer of that county. During the first year of his residence there he bought a tract of eighty acres in Grant county, his present place of residence, as an investment and later began to develop the same. After working for his uncle about three years he began working for others and was thus engaged for an additional period of two years, at the end of which time, in 1887, about three years after his marriage, he moved onto his own farm in Stony Brook township and there established his home. He erected a comfortable farm house, good farm buildings, planted a grove and otherwise improved the place, later buying additional land adjoining the same until he now is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and fifteen and three-fourths acres and has long been recognized as one of the most substantial farmers in that neighborhood. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Cordal has given considerable attention to the raising of a high grade of live stock, Percheron horses, Durham cattle and Poland China hogs, and has done very well. From the very beginning of his residence in Stony Brook Mr. Cordal has given his thoughtful attention to local affairs and has been one of the most active factors in the development of the best interests of that community. He was the organizing spirit in the Stony Brook Telephone Company and for some time served as president of the same. For fourteen or fifteen years he served as director of the school in his district and is a director of the Farmers Creamery Company at Wendell.

In 1884 Tosten T. Cordal was united in marriage to Martha Onstad, who also was born in Norway and who came to this country with her parents, Mons Onstad and wife, in 1873, the family settling in Goodhue county, this state. Mons Onstad later moved to Cass county, North Dakota, where

his last days were spent. To Mr. and Mrs. Cordal four children have been born, namely, Tosten, who died at the age of six months; Ida, who married Andrew Rustand and lives in Grant; Thea, a teacher in the parochial schools, who lives at home with her parents, and Adolph, also at home. The Cordals are members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Cordal has been a trustee of the local congregation for the past eighteen years or more, he and his family taking an active and influential interest in all neighborhood good works.

JOHN S. SKINNEMOEN.

John S. Skinnemoen, cashier of the Wendell State Bank at Wendell, proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Stony Brook township and formerly and for years one of the best-known school teachers in Grant county, is a native son of that county and is regarded as one of the most active and influential citizens of the northern part of the county, where he has lived all his life, with the exception of a few years spent in homesteading and in teaching school in North Dakota. He was born on the old Skinnemoen homestead farm in Stony Brook township, April 11, 1877, son of Stener S. Skinnemoen and wife, pioneer residents of that township, who settled there in 1871 and who are still living on the old home place. Stener S. Skinnemoen and his wife are natives of the kingdom of Norway and in a biographical sketch of the former, presented elsewhere in this volume, there are set out details of their pioneer experiences upon coming out here from Iowa in the early days of the settlement of Grant county.

Upon completing the course in the public schools of his home township, John S. Skinnemoen entered Park Region College at Fergus Falls and was graduated from that institution in 1896, after which he entered Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, receiving from that institution the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1901. He then, in 1901-02, took a special course in English, Latin and History in the University of Minnesota and thus admirably equipped for the teaching profession taught school for five or six years, one year of which he taught in Grant county and five years in North Dakota. During this service in the latter state Mr. Skinnemoen was selected as superintendent of the high school at Starkweather, in Ramsey county. In 1908 he homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Dunn county, North Dakota, fifty miles from a railroad, and there maintained his residence for two years, at the end of which time he resumed his calling as a teacher,

teaching school until 1914 in different parts of North Dakota. He then returned to Grant county and bought his present fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 4 of Stony Brook township. In December of that same year he married and in the spring of 1915 moved onto the farm, where he and his wife are now very pleasantly situated. Mr. Skinnemoen is a Republican and has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, but the only public office he has held was that of township assessor in the years 1906-07. He was one of the organizers of the Wendell State Bank and is cashier of the same, being recognized as one of the most active business men in that part of the county. Mr. Skinnemoen takes much interest in the history of his home county and of this section generally and has made an extensive collection of Indian relics, arrow-heads, stone hammers and the like and has in his collection one stone ax of rare design. On his farm stands the first house erected in Stony Brook township, a log house, which has been covered over, years ago, with siding, giving it now the appearance of a frame house. In pursuance of his design in the way of historic collections, Mr. Skinnemoen is making a collection of photographs of every house in Stony Brook township, a collection which undoubtedly will have great historic value in the generations yet to come.

It was on December 7, 1915, that John S. Skinnemoen was united in marriage to Emma Asleson, who also was born in Grant county, a daughter of Asle Asleson and wife, who located in that county in the late seventies. Mr. and Mrs. Skinnemoen are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in all neighborhood good works, being helpful factors in the promotion of all measures and movements having to do with the advancement of the common cause hereabout.

E. R. RUGGLES.

E. R. Ruggles, one of the well-known and prominent men of Douglas county and proprietor of the "Idle Wild" lake resort at Osakis, was born in Ogle county, Illinois, on February 16, 1856, the son of Liberty and Catharine (Ripley) Ruggles, natives of Mansfield, Ohio, and of the state of Connecticut, respectively, Mrs. Ruggles being a descendant of Governor Bradley of Connecticut. Spooner Ruggles, the grandfather, was a native of Massachusetts and a descendant of General Timothy Ruggles, the Ruggles family having settled in Hardwick, Massachusetts, in 1630. Spooner Rug-

gles located in Ogle county, Illinois, in 1837 and there became a man of much prominence. He was elected to the state Legislature and later to the office of probate judge of the county. He, with Ebenezer-Peck and Abraham Lincoln, formed the committee that drafted the first Illinois state Republican platform in 1856, the first draft having been made by Mr. Ruggles. While a member of the Legislature he was the father of the drainage laws of Illinois. He and his wife reared a family of thirteen children, one of whom was Gen. James Ruggles, of Civil War fame.

Liberty Ruggles received his education in the public schools of Ohio and Illinois and in the latter state grew to manhood. In 1858 he came to Minnesota, locating in Chanhassen township, Carver county, and was living there during the time of the Indian outbreak, when, in 1862, he removed to Faribault, where he lived until 1892, in which year he went to live with a son in Virginia. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Walter P., Edwin R., Willis R. and Arthur H., all of whom are living.

Edwin R. Ruggles received his education in the public schools of Faribault, Minnesota, and after completing his schooling he removed to Gary, Deuel county, South Dakota, where he opened a law office and was at the same time a partner with his brother in a drug store. After a year and a half the drug store was removed to what later was known as Webster, in Day county. While there Mr. Ruggles helped organize the county and was the postmaster at Webster from 1881 to 1887. He was the first agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad at that point and was the first grain buyer in the town. In 1889 he was appointed custodian of the Ft. Sisseton Military Reserve, comprising the buildings and eighty-two thousand acres of land, and was in charge of the same for four and one-half years. In 1894 he returned to Minnesota and located on a farm at the head of Lake Osakis, in Todd county. In 1898 he opened a law office in the town of Osakis and continued in the practice there until 1902, in which year he purchased the "Idle Wild" lake resort, and has since then given that popular resort the greater part of his attention. In 1889 Mr. Ruggles was assistant chief clerk in the House of Representatives of the Legislature of South Dakota. In 1906 he was appointed secretary to Congressman Buckman at Washington and was with him for two winters. In 1911 and 1912 he spent the winter with Senator Clapp. In 1883 he was a delegate to the highway convention at Huron and in 1884 was a delegate to the constitutional convention of South Dakota, at Sioux Falls. Mr. Ruggles is at present conducting one of the delightful lake resorts of Minnesota. He has a beautiful

place on the lake, where the beauties of nature are at their best. "Idle Wild" resort is one of the well-established recreation places in the state and is becoming more widely known each year. There may be found every convenience, with excellent facilities for bathing, fishing and boating. Mr. Ruggles knows well how to care for his guests and sees to it that they get every comfort.

On March 6, 1879, E. R. Ruggles was united in marriage to Amy Passon and to this union five children have been born, John Archibald, Sidney, Arthur Mellette, Jessie Mae and Frank L. Mr. and Mrs. Ruggles are held in the highest esteem by all who know them and they and their family have long been active in the social life of the community. Fraternally, Mr. Ruggles is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

OLAUS A. PIKOP.

Olaus A. Pikop, a well-known and successful farmer of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, was born in that township, on the old home farm, on January 26, 1882, the son of Anders Pikop, a more extended biographical sketch of whom may be seen elsewhere in this volume.

Olaus A. Pikop received his education in the public schools of Elbow Lake township, at Norman College, Minneapolis, and at Park Region College at Fergus Falls. Upon completing his schooling he returned to the farm and has since devoted his time to general farming and stock raising, being now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land in section 26 of Elbow Lake township. He has planted a large grove, one of the finest in that community; has erected good and substantial buildings and has one of the ideal country homes of the township. Mr. Pikop is a believer in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil, and his stock is of the best.

Politically, Mr. Pikop is identified with the Republican party and has always taken much interest in local affairs. He has served as a member of the school board and is now a member of the board of supervisors, giving the same careful and thoughtful attention to the public business that he does to his own. He is progressive in his views and is a strong advocate of such public improvements as tend to the betterment and growth of both the township and the county.

On March 28, 1903, Olaus A. Pikop was united in marriage to Nickolene Brevig, who was born in Stony Brook township, Grant county, in March, 1881, the daughter of Nils N. Brevig, a biographical sketch of whom is presented on another page of this work. To this union have been born seven children, Gladys, Norlin, Idella, Orville, Walter, Mildred and Laurna, all of whom are living save Walter. Mr. and Mrs. Pikop are active members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in church work. They are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

GEORGE L. TREAT.

One of the prominent and progressive attorneys of Alexandria is George L. Treat, who was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, November 14, 1859. He is a son of Hiram F. Treat, who was a native of Cayuga county, New York, born in November, 1816.

Hiram F. Treat learned the trade of a tailor when a young man, and later engaged in the clothing business in Boonville, New York. He was twice married, his first wife being Emeline O. Tuell, who died in 1855. To that union five children were born: Clarissa, who died in infancy; Clarissa Lucy, born in 1845, who died on October 26, 1878; Amasa H., Charles A., and Flora Adda, all deceased. Mr. Treat's second wife was Pamela Sims, a daughter of George and Hannah (Cross) Sims, of Jefferson county, New York, where Mrs. Treat was born. To that union were born two children, George Lyman, the subject of this sketch, and Hannah Stella.

In 1857 Hiram F. Treat left his home in New York state and moved to Janesville, Wisconsin, and was the first tailor in that place who cut clothes to measure. About 1860 he removed to what was then St. Anthony, Minnesota, now the city of Minneapolis. In 1863 the family moved to Afton, Wisconsin, where they lived for many years. Mr. Treat died at Madison, Wisconsin, November 2, 1876, and his widow passed away at Afton, Wisconsin, April 23, 1912.

The paternal grandfather of George L. Treat was Lyman Treat, who was born in Port Byron, New York, December 18, 1786. He was twice married and Hiram F. Treat was a son by his first marriage. His children by his second marriage were, Henry, Egbert and Clarissa. The paternal great-grandfather of George L. Treat was Ashbel Treat, who was born



GEORGE L. TREAT.

in Lenox, Massachusetts, May 13, 1764. He married Sarah Bell, and they reared a family of eleven children, of whom Lyman Treat was the eldest. Ashbel Treat died on April 14, 1842, his wife having passed away a few weeks prior to that date, on March 29, 1842. The founders of the Treat family in America were three brothers of that name who came from England in 1643, and settled in the vicinity of the Plymouth colony, in Massachusetts. Richard Treat was one of these brothers, and George L. Treat belongs to the ninth generation that has descended from that early pioneer.

The maternal grandfather of George L. Treat was George Sims, who was born in Connecticut, November 23, 1804, and who died on March 13, 1901. Mr. Sims spent his early manhood in Jefferson county, New York. He was a farmer, carpenter and a local preacher. In 1861 he came to Minnesota and settled at St. Anthony Falls, which is now the east side of the city of Minneapolis. In 1863 he moved to Afton, Wisconsin, where he spent the remainder of his life. He married Hannah Cross, a daughter of Theodore and Susannah (Jackman) Cross, who was born on January 15, 1806, and was the youngest in a family of ten children. Her death occurred in Afton, Wisconsin, in 1891. George and Hannah Sims were the parents of the following children: Pamela, born on April 8, 1828, who died on April 23, 1912; William, January 6, 1830, who died on October 4, 1866; Charles F., October 10, 1831, who died on May 8, 1910; George C., May 12, 1834, who died on October 22, 1898 (a twin sister of George C. died in infancy); Erwin W., September 30, 1836, now living in Oklahoma, and Lorenzo G., November 11, 1838, who also is still living. The maternal great-grandfather of George L. Treat was Robert Sims, born in September, 1770, who died in September, 1822. The maternal great-grandmother was Lydia (Hanks) Sims, who was born on April 6, 1768, and who died in March, 1860.

George L. Treat received his elementary education in the public schools of Afton, Wisconsin, after which he attended the Janesville classical academy, and later was a student in Beloit College, at Beloit, Wisconsin. After leaving college he came to Minnesota, in 1880, locating at Alexandria, but only remained there a few months at that time, going thence to Fargo, North Dakota, where he remained for one year, at the end of which time he returned to Alexandria and has ever since been a resident of that city. With a view to preparing himself for the practice of law, Mr. Treat entered the law offices of George H. Reynolds as a student in 1881. Later he was a student in the law office of United States Senator Knute Nelson, who at

that time was associated in practice with Mr. Reynolds. Mr. Treat then entered the law school of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and after completing part of the course in that institution, returned to Alexandria; was admitted to the bar in Douglas county in 1883, and became associated as a partner in the law firm of Nelson & Reynolds, the style of the new firm being Nelson, Reynolds & Treat. In 1886 the firm was changed to Nelson, Treat & Gunderson, that partnership continuing until January, 1887, from which time, until 1890, Mr. Treat practiced alone. In 1890 the firm again became Nelson & Treat, which partnership continued until Mr. Nelson was elected governor of Minnesota in 1892, when the firm became Jenkins & Treat, and thus continued until 1897, since which time Mr. Treat has continued alone in the practice. For the last fifteen years he has also been largely interested in the real-estate and loan business.

On January 1, 1884, George L. Treat was married to Carrie E. Nellis, a daughter of Alexander and Cecelia Nellis, of Janesville, Wisconsin, and to that union three children were born: Alice Esther, born on January 1, 1888; Francis Alexander, February 5, 1890, who died in infancy, and Katharine Beaucre, October 5, 1892, who died on April 19, 1895. The mother of these children died on November 11, 1909.

Mr. Treat is a member of the Congregational church at Alexandria and is at present serving the same as deacon and as clerk. He is also a director of the Congregational conference of Minnesota. Politically, Mr. Treat is a Republican, and has always taken a more or less active part in local political affairs. He served as probate judge, by appointment, in 1912. He is secretary of the Commercial Club, of Alexandria; secretary of the Douglas County Humane Society and for years was secretary of the Douglas County Agricultural Association.

NICHOLAS ANDREW STEIDL.

Nicholas Andrew Steidl, manager of the Atlantic elevator at Carlos, manager of the local branch of the Central Telephone Company at that place, village clerk, former president of the village council, former recorder of the village and for years actively identified with the growing interests of that thriving community, is a native son of Douglas county and has lived there all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Belle River township, Douglas county, September 18, 1871, son of Simon and Veronica

(Deirr) Steidl, natives of Germany and pioneers of this section of Minnesota, the latter of whom is still living on the old homestead place in Belle River township.

Simon Steidl was born in Bavaria on October 28, 1825, and grew to manhood in his native land, early entering the mines and becoming an experienced miner. After serving the customary period in the army he came to the United States, about 1855, and for four years was employed on government works at Galveston, Texas. He then returned to Bavaria and there married Veronica Deirr, returning straightway with his bride to the United States and was employed at St. Louis, Missouri, until about the time the Civil War broke out, when he went to upper Michigan and was there employed in the copper mines until 1870, in which year he and his wife and their six children came to Minnesota, following the tide of emigration that then was setting in strongly toward this part of the State. Simon Steidl bought the right to a homestead tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Belle River township, Douglas county, and there established his home in a small claim shanty that had been set up on the place. He began his farming with a yoke of oxen, his first crop being a few potatoes and a small garden. He presently built a log house which served as a domicile until he later was able to erect a more commodious and comfortable frame dwelling. As he prospered in his farming operations he bought an adjoining "eighty" and became accounted one of the substantial farmers of that neighborhood, remaining actively engaged in farming until late in life, the last few years of his life having been spent in practical retirement, the farm being managed by his sons. Simon Steidl died on his old home place on October 25, 1915, at the great age of ninety years, and his widow is still living there, she now being eighty-one years of age. They were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eighth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Simon, who married Elizabeth Walters and is now a farmer in Spruce Hill township, Douglas county; Joseph, who married Clara J. Wright and is now a farmer and lumber man at Bemidji, this state; Anna, who is at home with her mother; John, who married Julia Tweet and is a lumber man at Bend, Oregon; Sophia, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Michael, who married Mary Jerome and is now farming the old homestead place; Katherine, who died in the days of her youth; Josephine, wife of Peter Lithgow, who is engaged in the laundry business at Fargo, and Suzanne, wife of George H. Pennison, who is engaged in the railroad service.

Nicholas A. Steidl was reared on the homestead farm in Belle River

township, receiving his schooling in the district school in that neighborhood and proving a valuable aid to his father in the work of developing the home place. About 1896 he and his brother, Michael, took charge of the farm and he continued actively engaged in farming, also interested in a threshing outfit and a saw-mill, for about nine years thereafter, at the end of which time, on July 1, 1905, he was made the manager of the Atlantic elevator at Carlos and has since then occupied that position, making his home at Carlos. In 1909 Mr. Steidl was made the local manager for the plant of the Central Telephone Company at Carlos and has since occupied that position. He also is the owner of one hundred and fifty-five acres of fine land, which he rents to his brother, Michael; is a stockholder in the Belle River creamery and owns a fine residence property at Carlos. Mr. Steidl is a Republican and for a year served as president of the village council at Carlos, then served for seven years as village recorder and as a member of the school board and is now treasurer of the school board.

On January 15, 1901, Nicholas A. Steidl was united in marriage to Eliza Malinda Jerome, of Miliona township, Douglas county, and to this union five children have been born, Agnes, Miles, Susan, Florence and Marie. The Steidls have a pleasant home at Carlos and take a proper interest in the various social activities of their home town and of the community at large.

LARS J. HAUGE.

One of the successful and enterprising citizens of Ashby is Lars J. Hauge, cashier of the First State Bank of Ashby and former clerk of court of Grant county. He is a native of Norway, where he was born on July 20, 1859, the son of Jens Hauge and wife, the former of whom died in Norway and the latter of whom is still living there. The parents resided on a farm that belonged to the family for centuries.

Lars J. Hauge grew to manhood in his native country and there received his education. Having attended the public schools and later a school that is similar to our normal schools, he prepared himself for the teaching profession and followed that profession for some years in Norway. While his work there was pleasing to him, he realized that the opportunities were greater in America, and in 1881 he left his home and came to the United States, locating in Minnesota, where he taught school and worked as a farm hand for some years. He was a man of education and good address

and made many friends. His ability was soon recognized among the people of Grant county and he had been a resident of the county but a short time until he was recognized as a leader and a man of progressive ideas. His influence was noticeable in all local functions and enterprises. He was always interested in social, church and civic affairs, his ambition being for the betterment of all local conditions.

In 1887 Lars J. Hauge was elected clerk of courts for Grant county and assumed the duties of the office in 1889. He served the people of the county for nine years in that position, and completed his work with the respect and esteem of all. After his retirement as clerk, Mr. Hauge served as postmaster at Elbow Lake for some time and in 1910 he was elected cashier of the First State Bank at Ashby, which position he still holds.

In 1893 Lars J. Hauge was united in marriage to Annie Rygh, of Grant county, and to this union five children have been born, Vernon, Lawrence, Clifford, Margaret and Benjamin. The family are active members of the Lutheran church.

NILS S. SKINNEMOEN.

Nils S. Skinnemoen, one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of Grant county, proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in Stony Brook township, vice-president of the Farmers Elevator and Supply Company of Wendell, a stockholder in the Wendell State Bank and otherwise interested in the general business affairs of his home community, is a native son of Grant county and has lived there all his life. He was born on the old Skinnemoen homestead farm in Stony Brook township, April 30, 1875, son of Stener S. Skinnemoen and wife, early settlers of that part of the county, who are still living on the place on which they settled back in pioneer days and a biographical sketch of whom, presented elsewhere in this volume, gives further details of their experiences upon coming here in the early days of the settlement of this part of the state.

Reared on the old home farm, Nils S. Skinnemoen received his elementary schooling in the schools of his home township and supplemented the same by a course in the Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls, after which he returned to the home farm and remained there, a valued assistant to his father in the labors of developing the old homestead place,

until 1902, when he started out farming on his own account, in the meantime having become the owner of a farm of two hundred and forty acres one-half mile north of the home place. In the summer of the next year, 1903, he married and established his home on his place, putting on modern buildings and gradually developing a fine farm plant that is recognized as one of the most complete in that part of the county. Mr. Skinnemoen is developing a herd of Shorthorn cattle and is making a specialty of the cultivation of alfalfa and also of red-clover seed, the latter of which he sends to experiment stations and seed houses. In addition to his general farming and stock raising, Mr. Skinnemoen gives considerable attention to local business affairs of one sort and another and is a director and vice-president of the Farmers Elevator and Supply Company of Wendell and a stockholder in the Wendell State Bank. In his political affiliation he is a Republican and for five years served as township supervisor and for thirteen years as treasurer of his school district. In 1910 Mr. Skinnemoen erected a fine new, modern dwelling on his farm and he and his family are very comfortably and very pleasantly situated.

On July 1, 1903, Nils S. Skinnemoen was united in marriage to Ida C. Lillemoen, daughter of H. G. Lillemoen and wife, early settlers of Grant county, and to this union three children have been born, Selmer, born on May 3, 1904; Kenneth, July 22, 1908, and Irene, October 24, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Skinnemoen are members of the United Lutheran church in the various beneficences of which they take a warm interest, and Mr. Skinnemoen served as a member of the board of trustees of the same for six years.

W. W. SHELDON.

W. W. Sheldon, one of the best-known and most substantial landowners in Douglas county, for years one of the leading merchants of Alexandria, former proprietor of the Sheldon Clothing House, now conducted by his sons; a member of the Alexandria city council and otherwise actively identified with the civic and commercial interests of his home town, is a native of the old Buckeye state, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twenty-one years of age. He was born in Warren county, Ohio, August 22, 1848, son of W. J. and Martha Sheldon, who moved to Guilford, New York, when he was but a lad and he received his schooling there.

In 1869, he then being twenty-one years of age, W. W. Sheldon left

New York and came to Minnesota, joining his elder brother, Benjamin Sheldon, on a homestead farm in Hudson township, Douglas county, Benjamin Sheldon having homesteaded a quarter section in that township two years before. For years thereafter the brothers were engaged in developing the extensive farming interests they gradually acquired in Hudson township, and in 1886 W. W. Sheldon retired from the farm and moved to Alexandria, where, in the spring of 1887, he bought an interest with John Sunblad as a partner in a clothing store and engaged in business there, starting where the store of Gregerson & Company is now located. After several moves the firm erected the substantial two-story structure now occupied by the Sheldon Clothing House and the store has ever since been located there. Having acquired Mr. Sunblad's interest in the store some time before, Mr. Sheldon, in 1910, turned the clothing business over to his sons, William J. and Clare, who have since been very successfully conducting the establishment, a modern, up-to-date and well-appointed clothing store, operating under the name of the Sheldon Clothing House, one of the best-known mercantile establishments in this part of the state.

During all the years he was connected with the clothing business Mr. Sheldon continued his connection with his brother, Benjamin Sheldon, in the general agricultural business and was also heavily interested in the cattle trade, being one of the heaviest buyers of live stock hereabout, and continues to operate about five hundred acres of land in Douglas county, a part of which is rented. Mr. Sheldon is a Republican and has for years given his close attention to local political affairs, being now a member of the city council at Alexandria. His brother, Benjamin Sheldon, who was born on July 5, 1846, also is a Republican and has been one of the active members of that party since he came out here in pioneer days and took up his residence as one of the earliest settlers in Hudson township. He homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in that township, erected a small claim cabin on the same and started in to develop his land. That was in 1867 and two years later he was joined by his younger brother, W. W. Sheldon, since which time the two brothers have been very closely connected in their farming and land operations. Benjamin Sheldon is unmarried.

It was in 1876 that W. W. Sheldon was united in marriage to Caddie Hawley, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Harry O., who is engaged in the jewelry business at Bottineau, North Dakota; Elsie, wife of Henry Schafer, who is connected with the Farmers National Bank of Alexandria; William J. and Clare, who are now operating the

Sheldon Clothing House at Alexandria, and Marion, who is in school at Minneapolis. The Sheldons have a very pleasant home at Alexandria and take a proper interest in the general social activities of the city and of the community at large, helpful in advancing all agencies having to do with the promotion of the common welfare thereabout. Mr. Sheldon is a member of the local lodge of Masons and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

NELS PETERSON.

Among the early settlers of Douglas county, that stalwart breed of pioneers who came out here on the outposts of civilization in the latter sixties and laid the foundations for the wonderful development that has marked this region within the past generation, few names are held in better memory hereabout than that of the late Nels Peterson, who was one of the first settlers in LaGrand township and who built up a fine piece of farming property in that neighborhood, becoming one of the most substantial and useful residents of that community and spending the rest of his life on the farm he had reclaimed from the wilderness, his death occurring in 1904. His widow, ever a competent and valuable helpmate to him in the arduous task of developing the home farm, is still living, making her home in comfortable retirement in the city of Alexandria, where her sons, the Peterson Brothers, are actively and successfully engaged in the automobile garage business, being among the best-known and most energetic business men of that city.

Nels Peterson was a native of the kingdom of Sweden, born in 1843, and lived there until he was about twenty-three years old, when, in 1866, he came to the United States, proceeding directly to Minnesota and settling in Meeker county, where he remained a year or two, at the end of which time he came to this part of the state and homesteaded a quarter section of wild land in LaGrand township, Douglas county, thus being among the very earliest settlers of that part of the county. In addition to his homestead he bought a nearby "forty" and proceeded to improve and develop the same. In 1870 he married and later sold the homestead tract, buying an "eighty" adjoining the "forty" above mentioned and on this latter tract established his home, gradually developing a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of one hundred and twenty acres, on which he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring, as noted above, in 1904. His

widow is now living at Alexandria. She was born, Anna Johnson, in the kingdom of Sweden and came to this country with her parents, the family settling in the early days in Douglas county on a homestead farm, where she was living at the time of her marriage to Mr. Peterson in 1870. To that union nine children were born, namely: Emma, who died in her youth; Andrew, a member of the firm of Peterson Brothers at Alexandria; Ole, a member of that same firm; Alfred, who died in his youth; Emma, who married Olaf Olson and now lives at Valley, Nebraska; Della, who is at home with her mother in Alexandria; Amanda, who is now living in St. Paul; Ellen, who married Reuben Dunnere and lives in Alexandria, and Alfred, who is now the managing member of the firm of Peterson Brothers at Alexandria.

It was in 1911 that Andrew, Ole and Alfred Peterson started an automobile garage at Alexandria, operating the same under the firm name of Peterson Brothers, and have done very well. They have a well-equipped place of business and in addition to their general garage business deal extensively in automobile accessories, the firm having a wide reputation for service among automobile owners in and about Alexandria.

JOHN THEO LINDEM.

John Theo Lindem, former sheriff of Grant county, now engaged in the real-estate and insurance business at Herman, was born in Norway, August 17, 1853, son of A. H. and Maren (Wham) Lindem, both natives of Norway.

A. H. Lindem came to America in 1867 and located in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming. He lived there about six years and then removed to Polk county, Minnesota, where he lived for the rest of his life. He and his wife were the parents of five children, Hans (deceased), John Theo, Anton, Martin (deceased) and Jennie. The father and mother were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

John Theo Lindem received what little schooling he obtained in his early years while living in Norway, where he attended the public schools. He had little opportunity to attend school after coming to this country and as a young man he found opportunity for employment in the northern pines, on the river and on the farm. In 1876 he removed to Grant county, and entered a homestead of eighty acres of government land in Roseville

township. He added to his original acreage, from time to time, until he became the owner of four hundred and twenty acres. He has done very little active farming since 1907. From 1880 to 1890 Mr. Lindem served as sheriff of Grant county. Since 1907 he has lived in Herman and has given most of his attention to the real-estate and insurance business. He has been secretary and treasurer of Delaware Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company since 1907.

Mr. Lindem married Julia Hanson, daughter of Ole Hanson, and to this union five children have been born, Anton, Martin, Zelma, Clara and Alpheus. Mr. Linden is a member of the Lutheran church. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party. He has served as a member of the village council. He was one of the first settlers in the township of Roseville, was one of the organizers of the township, and was the first township clerk. He has always manifested an interest in the affairs of the township and in the town of which he is a citizen and is a thoroughly representative citizen. He is a Freemason, a member of Prescott Lodge No. 162.

LOUIS GINTHER.

Hon. Louis Ginther, former mayor of the city of Alexandria and for years the well-known and popular proprietor of the Letson House in that city, is a native of Iowa, born on a farm in Dallas county, that state, August 9, 1866, son of John A. Ginther and wife, substantial and useful residents of that community.

Receiving his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood, Louis Ginther remained on the home farm in Dallas county until he was twenty years of age, when he became employed in the engineering department of the Soo Line Railway and was thus employed for something more than sixteen years, at the end of which time he engaged in the general mercantile business at Drake, North Dakota, where he remained for six years. In the meantime, in 1896, he had married Gertrude Harrell and in 1908 he disposed of his business interests at Drake and moved to Alexandria, where he bought the Letson House and has ever since remained there, proprietor of that popular hostelry, one of the best-known hotels in this part of the state.

For years Mr. Ginther has taken a warm interest in political affairs and upon locating at Alexandria manifested his active concern in civic

affairs thereabout. In 1913 he was elected mayor of the city and gave such excellent service in that capacity that the public showed its appreciation by re-electing him twice as the chief executive of Douglas county's flourishing county seat, his third term in that important office terminating in the spring of 1916. During his incumbency in the mayor's office Mr. Ginther was a consistent and steadfast advocate of public improvements and much substantial advancement was made along that line during the time he held the reins of local government in his home town. He is now a member of the board of public works. Mr. Ginther has taken an active interest in local fraternal affairs and is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in the local doings of which organizations he takes a warm interest, being one of the best-known and most influential figures in fraternal circles hereabout, even as he is in the civic and business circles of the community.

JAMES BERNARD HOVE.

James Bernard Hove, president of the First State Bank of Carlos and one of the best-known and most progressive bankers in Douglas county, is a native of the adjoining state of South Dakota, but has been a resident of Minnesota the most of his life and has been connected with banking interests since the days of his young manhood. He was born at Elk Point, South Dakota, January 20, 1873, son of John S. and Marie (Monson) Hove, natives of Norway, the former born at Thronhjelm and the latter at Bergen, who became early settlers at Elk Point. John S. Hove died in 1877 and his widow survived him but three years, her death occurring in 1880. The only one of their children now living is the subject of this sketch.

Bereft of his father when he was four years of age and of his mother when he was seven, James B. Hove was reared by kinsfolk at Minneapolis, receiving his elementary education in the city schools there, and later spent some time in the native land of his parents, completing his schooling in the schools of Bergen, his mother's native city. Upon his return to Minneapolis he became engaged in commercial pursuits and in 1899 left there for Hampton, this state, where he remained until 1904, when he located at Carlos, since which time he has been engaged in the banking business in

that thriving village, president of the First State Bank of Carlos and widely known in banking and commercial circles hereabout. In addition to his banking interests, Mr. Hove is the owner of two hundred and fifteen acres of land and is regarded as one of the substantial citizens of Douglas county. He is a Republican in his political affiliations and has given close attention to local civic affairs, having served as village treasurer and as school treasurer at Carlos for years, up to the year 1912. Mr. Hove is a Mason, a member of Social Lodge No. 48, at Northfield, and takes a warm interest in Masonic affairs.

James B. Hove was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Ida T. Thompson, who was born at Miltona, in Douglas county, February 10, 1876, daughter of Tollef and Inger Thompson, pioneers of that neighborhood and the parents of six children, of whom Mrs. Hove was the last-born, the others being Gilbert T., Herman, Lillian O., Helen E. and Mrs. Torina Lanager. To Mr. and Mrs. Hove two children have been born, sons both, Bertram and James. The Hoves have a very pleasant home in Carlos and take a proper part in the general social activities of their home town. They are members of the Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all agencies designed to advance the general welfare hereabout.

AARON J. OSTROM.

Aaron J. Ostrom, well-known and progressive merchant of Evansville, dealer in hardware and lumber; vice-president of the Evansville State Bank, former city councilman and for years actively identified with the general business interests of that village and of Douglas county, is a native son of Minnesota and has been a resident of this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in the immediate vicinity of Afton, in Washington county, this state, May 20, 1868, son of Nels and Mary A. Ostrom, who later moved to Nicollet county, where they are now living.

Nels Ostrom was born in the city of Christianstad, Sweden, in 1834, and in 1857, he then being twenty-three years of age, came to the United States and proceeded directly to Minnesota, settling in Washington county, where he bought a tract of eighty acres of land and remained there, farming the same, until 1868, when he moved to Nicollet county, bought a farm

in New Sweden township and is still living there, hale and hearty, at a ripe old age. Though deprived of the advantages of a liberal education in his youth, Nels Ostrom has been a great reader and a close student and has a remarkably well-stored mind, being regarded as a local authority in his neighborhood on Biblical literature, ancient and modern history and general current events, his mind remaining very active, despite his advanced years. To him and his wife twelve children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: Mrs. Tilda Peterson; Theodore, a farmer in Nicollet county; Charles G., of Seattle, Washington; the Rev. O. W. Ostrom, of Fresno, California; Walter, of Braham, this state; Mrs. Pauline Jones, of Evansville; Mrs. V. T. Carlson, of New England, North Dakota; Mrs. A. J. Quist, of Nicollet county; Mrs. Peter Johnson, who died in 1907 at White Rock, South Dakota; Helen, who died in her youth, and Clara, who died in infancy.

Aaron J. Ostrom was but an infant when his parents moved from Washington county to Nicollet county and he grew to manhood on the paternal farm in New Sweden township, that county, receiving his elementary schooling in the old pioneer school in that neighborhood, supplementing the same by a course in the schools at St. Peter. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, when he came to this part of the state and became engaged in the grain business at Evansville, buying grain for O. N. Ostrom, afterward the Inter-state Grain Company, and was thus engaged until 1895, when he formed a partnership with C. A. Smith and C. J. Johnson in the lumber business at Evansville. In 1901 Mr. Ostrom bought the hardware store of Olaf Dahlheim and incorporated as the Evansville Lumber and Hardware Company, which firm style continues. His first hardware store was conducted in a room twenty-five by sixty feet in dimensions, besides warehouses, and in the spring of 1915 he erected his present commodious business building, thirty-six by one hundred, with a basement thirty-six by sixty, heated by furnace, equipped with a modern light plant and otherwise well appointed in up-to-date fashion, and carries a complete stock of general hardware. In the spring of 1915 Mr. Ostrom bought the stock of Luistrom & Peterson and merged the same with his stock, now having practically all the hardware business in Evansville. In addition to his mercantile interests at Evansville Mr. Ostrom has given considerable attention to the general business enterprises of his home town and upon the organization of the Evansville State Bank was elected vice-president of that concern, a position he ever since has held. He is a Republican and has served the public in the capacity of councilman and as a member of the school board.

On June 29, 1889, just before moving to Evansville, Aaron J. Ostrom was united in marriage to Mary A. Anderson, daughter of Peter and Martha Anderson, early settlers in Nicollet county, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Archibald L., who was graduated from the Minnesota State University and is now assistant cashier of the Security State Bank of Golva, North Dakota; Waldemar, who was graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College and is now employed as assistant cashier of the Valley County Bank of Hinsdale, Montana; Alice May, who is attending Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, and Carl Vernon, who is in high school at Evansville. The Ostroms have a very pleasant home in Evansville and take a proper part in the general social activities of the town. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, of which Mr. Ostrom is a trustee and of which he has been treasurer for more than twenty years, and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works, helpful in the promotion of all causes having to do with the betterment of conditions in the community in which they live.

GEORGE H. HAYWOOD.

George H. Haywood, well-known druggist at Osakis, was born in Wayland, Michigan, January 2, 1869, son of Henry and Hannah Haywood, both of whom were born in England.

Henry Haywood was born on July 14, 1845, and was a mere lad of twelve years when he came to America with his parents. His home was in New York until he was about eighteen years old. He then went to Michigan and was engaged there as a farmer and a contractor until 1887, when he removed to South Dakota and bought a farm near Aberdeen, where he made his home for the remainder of his active life, his later years being spent at Ortonville, Minnesota, where he died in February, 1911. His wife died in 1909.

George Haywood received his early schooling in the public schools of Wayland, Michigan. He afterwards attended the university at Mitchell, South Dakota, and was graduated from that institution. Upon leaving college he went to farming and was engaged for about six years in farming and stock raising. In 1897 he bought a drug store at Clinton, Minnesota, and was engaged in the drug business at that place for a year and a half; then removed to Campbell, Minnesota, where he was engaged in the same

line of business. In addition to this he bought a newspaper outfit and established the *Wilkins County News* and was editor and publisher of that paper for some time. In 1903 he moved to Osakis and has since been engaged in the drug business there. Mr. Haywood also deals some in real estate, and is himself a large landowner. He has a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Orange township, Douglas county, and several other farms in Minnesota; also has several hundred acres in North and South Dakota, and has also been the proprietor of several branch stores, which he has sold.

On November 8, 1890, George H. Haywood was united in marriage to Effie Parker, a daughter of E. Parker, of Brookings, South Dakota, and to this union four children have been born, Hazel, Harold, Leo, and Hildreth. Mr. and Mrs. Haywood are members of the Christian church. Mr. Haywood's lodge membership is with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Woodmen. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party.

REV. PETER T. PETERSON.

Rev. Peter T. Peterson, one of the well-known and prominent ministers of the gospel and farmers, of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, was born in Norway on October 23, 1853, the son of Peter and Gertrude Sorondson, also natives of Norway. It was in the land of his nativity, that Peter Sorondson died in 1876. In 1878 his widow and two sons, Peter T. and Soren T. Peterson, came to the United States. On their arrival in this country, they proceeded to Cass county, Iowa, where they joined another son and brother, Halvor Peterson, who had previously come to this country and was a young farmer of that county.

Peter and Gertrude Sorondson were the parents of seven children, Halvor, Rachel, Johanna, Soren, Peter T., and two who died—Soren the eldest and Bertha, the youngest. The father and mother were active members of the Lutheran church and always took much interest in church work. In their home community, in their native land, they were prominent in the social and religious life of the same and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them, for their many deeds of kindness.

Peter T. Peterson received his education in the schools of Norway and there grew to manhood. In 1878 he, with his mother and brother, came to the United States and settled in Cass county, Iowa, where Mr. Peter-

son remained until 1880, when he entered the Augsburg Seminary at Minneapolis, from which institution he was graduated in 1886. Upon completing his schooling and being ordained to the ministry he served in the pastoral relation at Elbow Lake and vicinity until 1899, in which year he went to the states of Washington and Oregon, where he served as a missionary for one year, at the end of which time, in 1900, he returned to Elbow Lake and located on a farm in section 22 of Elbow Lake township, where he began the development and improvement of his two-hundred-acre farm. He later became pastor of the church at North Ottawa, and now rents his farm, but continues to take much interest in the management of the same. Politically, Mr. Peterson has been a Prohibitionist for many years and has taken an active part in the affairs of that party.

In 1886 the Rev. Peter T. Peterson was united in marriage to Ingeborg Pikop, the daughter of Anders Pikop, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson adopted the two orphan children of Daniel and Anna Ramstad. These children were Ida, who died at the age of eighteen, and Alfred, who was graduated from the school at Fergus Falls and is now a nurse in the state hospital at that place. Mr. Peterson's life has been an active one and he has accomplished much good during his long years in the ministry. He has always had the confidence and respect of the community and the love of the people to whom he has acted as spiritual advisor.

LEWIS S. KENT.

Lewis S. Kent, sheriff of Douglas county and owner of the transfer line at Alexandria, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born in Melrose, Stearns county, July 16, 1872, a son of Frank Kent, born in Maine, and Elvira (Fadden) Kent, a native of New York state.

In 1851 Frank Kent came to Minnesota and located for a short time at Stillwater. He then went to St. Anthony Falls, now a part of Minneapolis, and after a short time there went to St. Cloud, where he resided for several years. While there he was employed as a freighter from St. Cloud to Ft. Abercrombie, Georgetown and Ft. Gary. Afterward he removed to Melrose and engaged in the freighting business from that place to Alexandria, before the latter place had a railroad. In 1878, after the railroad reached Alexandria, he moved to the latter village and started a transfer line which he operated until about 1905, and continued to reside there until his death,

which occurred on October 13, 1908. He was the father of six children: Charles F., Le Rona, George H., Eugene F., Lewis S. and Harry B. He was a member of the Congregational church and his lodge affiliation was with the Masonic order.

Lewis S. Kent was educated in the public schools of Alexandria, graduating from the high school of that city. During his early years he worked with his father in the transfer business, and, in 1895, bought a half interest in the business. In 1905 he bought his father's interest and became the sole owner of the transfer line. In 1910 he was elected sheriff of Douglas county and has continued to serve in that official position since. His present term will expire in 1919.

On February 27, 1895, Lewis S. Kent was united in marriage to Mattie Aldrich, a daughter of John W. Aldrich, of Brandon township, Douglas county, and to this union have been born three children, Frank, Ronald and Kathryn. The Kents are members of the Congregational church. Sheriff Kent is a Republican and an active worker in that party. He served for twelve years as deputy sheriff before he was elected to the office of sheriff.

A. WATERS WELLS.

A. Waters Wells, cashier of the Grant County State Bank at Herman, was born in Jordan, Scott county, Minnesota, July 4, 1873, son of Major Rufus P. Wells, who was born in Canada, April 7, 1834, and Mary E. (Casswell) Wells, who was born near Troy, New York, January 5, 1847.

As a young man Rufus P. Wells came to Minnesota, about 1855, and found employment working in the pineries for some time. Later he removed to Bellplain, Minnesota, and after remaining there for a short time went to Jordan, Minnesota, where he was engaged in operating a merchant grist-mill. That was about 1858, and he remained there, with the exception of the time spent as a soldier during the Civil War, until 1883, when he sold out and moved to Herman, Grant county, where he organized the Grant County Bank and was elected president of that organization. He was also a member of the firm of Wells Brothers, general merchants, at that place, and was identified with extensive farming interests in Grant county. On January 9, 1911, he was elected chairman of the board of directors of the bank with which he was connected, and held that position until his death, in September, 1914. Major Wells was married on March

4, 1869, and was the father of seven children, namely: A. W., the subject of this sketch; J. Raymond, born on July 12, 1877; Azelia V.; James P., born on December 12, 1880; Betsy L.; Geo. L., now deceased, and Marian E., who married T. E. Archer, of St. Paul, Minn. The widowed mother is still living, making her home in Herman.

Major Rufus P. Wells, was an adherent of the Methodist Episcopal church and was affiliated with the Republican party. He had served as president of the village council, and also as president of the school board. He was affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and was a Royal Arch Mason, Knight Templar and a member of the Knights of Pythias.

When the Civil War came on Rufus P. Wells was among those from Minnesota who early responded to the call of President Lincoln for volunteers to aid in the suppression of the rebellion. On October 21, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Fourth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the United States service with that regiment at Ft. Snelling. On June 11, 1863, he was promoted to first lieutenant of his company and on February 17, 1864, was commissioned captain of the company. Later he was commissioned brevet-major of the regiment. Major Wells was with his regiments in all the campaigns and battles in which it engaged. The Fourth Minnesota was a part of Sherman's Army in the Atlanta campaign, was with Sherman in his march to the sea, then up through the Carolinas, and was in the final engagements of the war in North Carolina. The regiment then moved on through Richmond to Washington, and Major Wells was with his regiment in the Grand Review of the armies of Grant and Sherman in Washington at the close of the war. The Fourth Minnesota then moved with the other troops in that command to Louisville, where it was mustered out on July 19, 1865.

The maternal grandfather of A. W. Wells was George W. Caswell, who was born in New Lebanon, New York, and who died on November 14, 1891. He followed the occupation of a farmer in New York. His wife's maiden name was Charlotte Clark. She was born at Hoag's Corner, New York, July 15, 1820, and died on July 8, 1906. Their children were Charles M., born in 1843, and Mary E., mother of the subject of this sketch. The paternal grandfather was Abel Waters Wells, who was born in New England in 1808, and who died in March, 1877. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Cass. She was born in 1808 and died on February 24, 1901. Grandfather Wells was a farmer in Canada and has in later years made his home with his son, Major Rufus P. Wells, in Jordan, Minnesota. He was the father of eight children, Polly, Ann, Rufus P., Abel Waters, Joseph,

who was a soldier in the Civil War and was killed in the battle of Gettysburg, Azelia, Alpheus and Harry.

A. Waters Wells received his elementary schooling in the public schools of Herman and later attended Carlton College at Northfield for two years. In 1893 he attended the Minnesota Business College at Minneapolis, completing the course in that institution and graduating therefrom in that year. Upon leaving college he engaged in the mercantile business at Litchfield for about a year. In 1894 he was in the employ of Griggs, Cooper & Company, wholesale grocers at St. Paul, as profit clerk. After about a year at that place he took a position as city bookkeeper with the wholesale grocery firm of J. H. Allen & Company, of St. Paul. In 1895 he went to Herman and took a position as bookkeeper in the Grant County Bank. In 1896 he went to Morris as bookkeeper in the Stevens County Bank, remaining there until the fall of 1897, when he returned to the Grant County Bank at Herman, to take the position of cashier of that institution. The following year he was elected vice-president of the bank, and held that position until the re-organization of the same, in February, 1906, as the Grant County State Bank. On the re-organization of the bank Mr. Wells was elected cashier and has since held that position. Mr. Wells is also president of the Wells, Helgeson Company, dealers in general merchandise, at Herman; is a stockholder in the Stevens County State Bank; a director in the Twin City Fire Insurance Company, of Minneapolis, and is also largely interested in the farming business.

On October 2, 1901, A. W. Wells was married to Nena S. Olson, who was born on February 5, 1878, the daughter of Paul Olson Eriksrud, and to this union has been born one child, Mary Elaine, born on April 6, 1905. Mr. Wells is an adherent of the Methodist Episcopal church, and affiliates with the Republican party in politics. He has served as president of the village council and as secretary of the school board. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and a Knight Templar, affiliated with the Minnesota Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, at St. Paul; with Bethel Commandery, Knights Templar, at Morris; with the Mt. Lebanon Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; with Prescott Lodge No. 162, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in which lodge he has filled all the chairs, and is a noble of Osman Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at St. Paul. He also holds membership in Lodge No. 1093, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, at Fergus Falls, and is likewise a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen and a non-resident member of the Minneapolis Athletic Club, in the affairs of all of which organizations he takes a warm interest.

OLE W. HARRISON.

Ole W. Harrison, cashier of the State Bank of Kensington and one of the best-known young bankers in this part of the state, having located at Kensington in 1911 after a varied and valuable experience in banks throughout this section of the state and in North Dakota, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his childhood and is therefore as much a Minnesotan as one "native and to the manner born." He was born on February 29, 1888, and was but a child when his parents, Hans and Otelia Harrison, came to Minnesota and settled on a farm in the immediate vicinity of the city of Breckenridge, in Wilkin county, where they are still living.

Reared on the home farm near Breckenridge, Ole W. Harrison received his elementary schooling in the public schools of that city and supplemented the same by a course in the Park Region College at Fergus Falls, from which he was graduated in 1909. Before completing his college course Mr. Harrison had had some experience in banking, as a clerk in the bank at Doran, and upon leaving college entered the bank at Drake, North Dakota, as stenographer and secretary to Harold Thorson, who is now vice-president of the bank with which he is connected at Kensington. From the bank at Drake Mr. Harrison was sent to the bank at Enderlin, North Dakota, where he served as assistant cashier for some time, afterward being sent, as assistant cashier, to the State Bank of Kensington, but after three weeks of service there was transferred back to the bank at Enderlin, where he resumed his former position as assistant cashier, but was presently sent back to Drake and after a brief service as assistant cashier of the bank at that place, resumed his former position as assistant cashier of the bank at Enderlin, but after six weeks of that service was again sent back to Kensington, where he acted as assistant cashier of the State Bank there for six weeks, at the end of which time he was made the assistant cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Morris, later being transferred to the First State Bank at Buttzville, North Dakota, where he served as cashier until he was transferred to the First National Bank at Roseau, this state, where he served as assistant cashier until the spring of 1911, when he was sent back to Kensington and has since then been serving as cashier of the State Bank of that place, being widely recognized as one of the most experienced and energetic young bankers in this part of the state. In 1912 Mr. Harrison helped to organize the First State Bank of Silva, North Dakota, and has since been a member of the board of directors of the same.

The present officary of the State Bank of Kensington is as follow: President, C. H. Raiter, of Alexandria; vice-president, Harold Thorson, of St. Paul, and cashier, Ole W. Harrison, of Kensington, the latter being the practical manager of the bank. Mr. Harrison is a member of the United Lutheran church and takes a warm interest in all local good works, as well as in the general social activities of his home town, helpful in promoting all measures designed to advance the general welfare hereabout, and is looked upon as one of the "live wires" in the commercial life of this section of the state.

KNUTE HAUGEN.

Knute Haugen, on of the successful and well known farmers of Gorton township, Grant county, was born in Norway on March 24, 1874, the son of Thore and Ingeborg Haugen, natives of Norway, who are still living in the land of their nativity, he at the age of seventy-nine years and she, at the age of seventy-eight years. They are the parents of seven children, Inger, Rasmus, Eli, Louisa, Knute, Ole and Severena, all of whom are living.

Knute Haugen received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. He continued to reside in the land of his birth until 1893, when he decided that he would come to America. After his arrival in the United States he came directly to Minnesota and engaged as a farm hand in Grant county, presently renting land there and was thus engaged as a tenant farmer for twenty-two years, at the end of which time he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 24 of Gorton township, on which farm he has since made his home. He set out most of the beautiful grove that now adds so much to the attractiveness of the farm and has developed the land and made most of the present improvements on the place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful, and is today recognized as one of the successful and substantial farmers and stockmen of the township. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and in the thorough cultivation of the soil, as well as in the keeping of the best of stock.

Politically, Mr. Haugen is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He believes in substantial public improvements and is an advocate of all developments that

tend to add to the betterment and to the growth of the township and the county. He has for six years been a member of the school board and is now, and has been for the past thirteen years, a member of the board of township supervisors. His ability as a public official is recognized in the community and his services and his work have been greatly appreciated by the residents of his township.

On July 5, 1897, Knute Haugen was united in marriage to Jennie Larson, who was born on October 21, 1877, in Goodhue county, this state, daughter of Lars Knutson, whose family history is given on another page of this work. To this union eight children have been born, Theodore, Iver, Ina, Emil, Carl, Josephus, Edwin and Abner, all of whom are living save Ina. Mr. and Mrs. Haugen are active members of the United Lutheran church and have always been interested in church work. They are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They are a hospitable people and take much pleasure in the entertainment of their neighbors and friends.

W. T. ZIEBARTH.

W. T. Ziebarth, former member of the board of commissioners of Grant county and who now is engaged in the real-estate and insurance business at Herman, was born at Delano, Wright county, Minnesota, April 30, 1866, a son of William and Sophia (Boerner) Ziebarth, both natives of Germany. His father came to America in 1854 and located on the homestead where he now lives. He is one of the oldest settlers in Wright county, and has continued to live on the homestead, which he first settled in 1856, and has been engaged in general farming all these years. He is the father of six children; of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest, the others being A. W., Sarah, who married Joe Rummuell; Elwine, who married William Riep; Emil and Fred.

W. T. Ziebarth received his early schooling in the public schools of Wright county and afterwards attended the School of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota from which he was graduated in 1892. In 1893, the year of his marriage, he moved to Grant county and located on a farm near Herman. He became the owner of a farm of four hundred acres and was there engaged in farming until 1902, when he removed to Herman and engaged in the real-estate and insurance business, in partnership with J. T.

Lindem, and is still thus engaged, though continuing his interest in farming, in connection with his real-estate business.

In 1893 W. T. Ziebarth was married to Sadie A. Lutz, daughter of Conrad Lutz, and to this union eleven children have been born, Fritz, Adeline, Dessie R., Jane, Sadie, Richard, Gertrude, Alexander, Robert, Thomas Woodrow and Elizabeth, all of whom are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Ziebarth are members of the German Evangelical church. He is independent in politics and has served as village treasurer since he removed to town. He served nine years as a member of the board of county commissioners, and was president of the board when the Grant county court house was built. As a citizen and a public official, Mr. Ziebarth enjoys the confidence of the people of the town and county, is a man of wide influence and is regarded as being eminently trustworthy in any duty to which he has been called.

Mr. Ziebarth holds membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in the Knights of Pythias, in the Modern Woodmen of America and in the Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

GEORGE T. STEVENS.

George T. Stevens, well-known real-estate dealer at Osakis, was born near Osakis, in Orange township, Douglas county, April 3, 1869, a son of W. H. and Mary L. (Marsh) Stevens, the former of whom was born in Wayne county, New York, May 28, 1840, and the latter, also in New York state, October 14, 1842, and who were married on October 27, 1865.

W. H. Stevens is a son of Daniel L. and Miranda Stevens, the former of whom was born in Vermont and died in 1850. Daniel L. Stevens moved to Wisconsin in 1849 and died at his home in Dodge county the following year. His children were Sarah Ann, Lysander, Louisa, Mary C., John A., W. H., and Harriet, of whom W. H. Stevens is the only survivor. W. H. Stevens was partly educated in York state and was nine years of age when his parents settled in Dodge county, Wisconsin, in the public schools of which county he completed his schooling. As a young man he worked on the farm and when the Civil War broke out he responded to the call of President Lincoln for volunteers to aid in the suppression of the rebellion and enlisted in Company C, Sixteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served three years, nine months and four-

teen days, receiving his discharge at Mobile, Alabama, September 2, 1865. The regiment to which W. H. Stevens belonged was a part of the army under General Grant at the battle of Shiloh. It was attached to Peabody's Brigade, in General Prentiss's Division, and was in the front at the beginning of the battle and in the hottest of the first day's fighting. Mr. Stevens was severely wounded in the battle of the first day, and was sent home to recover from his wounds. Returning to his regiment he participated in the battles of Ft. Gibson, Jackson, Mississippi; Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, Vicksburg, second battle of Jackson, Spanish Fort, Blakely, Alabama, and numerous other battles and skirmishes in which his regiment was engaged.

After the war Mr. Stevens returned to his home in Wisconsin and in May, 1866, came to Minnesota and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Orange township, Douglas county. He put up the necessary buildings and improved the land, and continued to live there until 1875, when he removed to Osakis, where he since has made his home. He had one hundred and twenty acres of land inside the corporate limits of this town and he retired from active farming about 1907. The children in his family are W. E., G. T. and Mabel J. W. H. Stevens is a Republican. He was the first treasurer of Orange township, served on the board of supervisors in Osakis for several years and has been a member of the village council for several years. He is an active, loyal member of the Grand Army of the Republic. On October 27, 1915, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Stevens celebrated their golden-wedding anniversary.

George T. Stevens was educated in the public schools of Osakis, and was employed during early years in work on the farm. When he grew to manhood he began farming for himself on a farm in Osakis township. In the spring of 1889 he opened up a meat market in Osakis and carried on that business in addition to his farm work, having his residence in Osakis. About 1896 he changed his home back to the farm and lived there for three years. In 1903 he rented his farm and again took up his residence in town and gave his entire attention to his meat market. In 1907 he sold out his business and went on the road as a traveling representative for Van Duzen & Herrington, in the stock business, and was thus engaged for two years, at the end of which time he engaged in buying and selling live stock for himself and was thus engaged until 1913, since which time he has been engaged in the real-estate business in Osakis. He and his brother, W. E. Stevens, are the owners of four hundred and eighty acres of land in Todd county.

On August 14, 1893, George T. Stevens and M. Gertrude Satterlee, daughter of Rev. R. B. Satterlee, were united in marriage and to this union five children have been born, Lois G., Eunice, Zephyr Z., Richard H., and Edward B. Mr. Stevens is a Republican and is a member of the Workmen fraternity.

MADS C. RUSTAND.

Mads C. Rustand, a well-known and substantial farmer of Grant county, a former merchant at Wendell and now the proprietor of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres in North Ottawa township, where, in addition to his general farming, he is extensively engaged in stock raising, is a native son of Grant county and has lived in the county all his life save for the time spent in going to college at Fergus Falls. He was born on the old Rustand homestead farm in North Ottawa township on February 22, 1883, son of Christian O. and Anna O. (Tofsrud) Rustand, natives of the kingdom of Norway and pioneers of Grant county, the former of whom died on July 1, 1908, and the latter of whom is still living on the old homestead. In a biographical sketch relating to Ole K. Rustand, clerk of North Ottawa township, and an elder brother of the subject of this biographical sketch, there is set out in detail the history of the Rustand family in Grant county and to that sketch the reader is respectfully referred for additional information in this connection.

Reared on the parental farm in North Ottawa township, Mads C. Rustand received his elementary education in the district schools of that neighborhood and supplemented the same by a course in the Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls, upon the completion of which course he returned to the home farm and there resumed his place as a valued assistant in the labors of developing and cultivating the same, being thus engaged until 1908, in which year he engaged in the farm implement business at Wendell. For about three years Mr. Rustand continued in business at Wendell and he then sold his store and resumed farming, being at that time the owner of a well-improved farm of three hundred and sixty acres in North Ottawa township, the place he still owns and which he has brought up to a high state of cultivation and improvement, his place being looked upon as one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. Two years later, in 1912, Mr. Rustand married and has ever since made his home on the farm, he and his family being very comfortably and very pleasantly situ-

ated. In addition to his general farming Mr. Rustand has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock, keeping purebred sires, and has about thirty head of Shorthorn cattle and about fifty head of Poland China hogs. Mr. Rustand is a Republican and has served his township as supervisor and as assessor, and in other ways has demonstrated his interest in the public service.

It was on April 11, 1912, that Mads C. Rustand was united in marriage to Ottina Dybdal, a daughter of Asle E. Dybdal and wife, early settlers in the Wendell neighborhood, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Glenice, born on September 26, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Rustand are members of the Synod Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all good works in the community in which they live.

AUVIGNE MASON RANDALL, M. D.

Dr. Auvigne Mason Randall, a prominent and successful physician of Ashby, was born in Sechlerville, Wisconsin, on December 8, 1880, the son of David Henry and Emma Elnora (Kennedy) Randall, the former born in Vermont and the latter in Wisconsin and who were residents of the latter state for many years. Emma Randall's parents were early farmers in the section of the state in which she was born. David H. Randall, as a young man, was a school teacher, but later learned to be a butter-maker, which vocation he followed for many years. In 1886 he and his family came to Minnesota where they have since resided. In 1915 he removed to Ashby, where he lives a retired life. To him and his wife two children were born, Cora and Auvigne Mason.

Auvigne Mason Randall received his early education in the public schools of Minneapolis and in the academy in that city. He later attended Hamlin College, from which institution he was graduated in 1903, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Upon receiving his degree Doctor Randall located at Eagle Bend, but remained there but seven weeks, at the end of which time he located at Underwood, where he practiced until 1909, in which year he located at Ashby, where he ever since has been engaged in practice.

On July 22, 1905, Doctor Randall was united in marriage to Anna Mortinson, of Underwood, daughter of H. P. Mortinson, a prominent

farmer of that locality, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Carter Gordon.

Fraternally, Doctor Randall is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is also a member of the local, state and national medical societies. He takes an active interest in the Park Region Medical Society, the local organization, and is secretary of the same. He is the present deputy coroner of Grant county. Doctor Randall has always taken an active interest in all local affairs and his efforts have ever been directed toward the advancement of the best interests of the community. His judgment and ability are recognized by the residents of his home town and he is at present the village president, as well as president of the local school board. He is also secretary and manager of the Ashby Telephone Company.

WILLIAM F. MEISSNER.

William F. Meissner, one of the prominent and well-known business men of Brandon, was born in Millerville township, Douglas county, on July 10, 1871, the son of Gotlieb Meissner.

Gotlieb Meissner was born in Germany and there received his education in the public schools. He remained a resident of the Fatherland until 1869, when he came to the United States. On landing in this country he came directly to Minnesota and located on a farm in Douglas county. He died in 1890 and his widow in 1916. They were the parents of eight children, Ernest, Frederick, Fredericka, Herman, Amelia, William, Henry and Mary, all of whom are living save Frederick. Mr. Meissner was a successful farmer and stock raiser on his two-hundred-acre farm in Millerville township. He and his wife were active members of the German Lutheran church.

William F. Meissner received his education in the public schools of Millerville township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the farm work. In May, 1893, he was united in marriage to Julia Woida and to this union nine children have been born, Fred, Mary, Robert, Lilly, Clara, Raymond, Clarence, Virginia and Dorothy. Fred Meissner married Hattie Willis.

On leaving the farm some years ago, Mr. Meissner located in Brandon and was there employed in the flour mills for six years. For the past four years he has been engaged in the buying of grain for the Brandon

Grain Company. In addition to his other duties he has for the past twelve years been the owner and the proprietor of the Brandon House, a well-known hotel of that village. Until four years ago he conducted a livery business in connection with the hotel.

THOMAS A. SYVRUD.

Thomas A. Syvrud, head of the firm of Syvrud & Meyers, proprietors of an extensive garage at Alexandria and dealers in automobile accessories, is a native of the Badger state and has been a resident of Alexandria for the past thirteen or fourteen years. He was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, December 18, 1864, son of Thor and Carrie (Lein) Syvrud, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to the United States about 1858 and located on a farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, where Thor Syvrud spent the rest of his life and where his widow is still living. They were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their three sons, Knute, Thomas and Theodore, were reared in that faith.

Thomas A. Syvrud was reared on the family homestead in Dane county, Wisconsin, receiving his schooling in the district school in the neighborhood of his home and supplementing the same by a course in the Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa. About 1890 he engaged in the hardware business in Wisconsin and in 1891 was married. He continued in business in Wisconsin until 1902 and about a year later came to Minnesota, locating at Alexandria, where he engaged in the real estate business, in which he continued for about five years. In 1912 he engaged in the automobile garage business at Alexandria, under the firm name of Setter & Syvrud, which firm, in 1913, became Syvrud & Meyers, which continues actively in business at Alexandria and to which flourishing concern Mr. Syvrud devotes his whole attention, the firm having built up a fine business among automobile owners in and about Alexandria.

It was in 1891, in Dane county, Wisconsin, that Thomas A. Syvrud was united in marriage to Carrie Berge, of that county, and to this union three children have been born, Clifford, Mary and Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Syvrud are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the affairs of the same, helpful factors in the work of promoting the various beneficences of their church, as well as all community good works.

THOMAS OLSON.

Thomas Olson, a well-known and substantial Grant county farmer, proprietor of a well-improved farm of eighty acres on the very edge of the village of Norcross, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since he was eight years of age and of Grant county since he was twenty-one. He was born in Christiansand on April 14, 1858, son of Ole O. and Severina (Torgerson) Berkland, both natives of that same city, whose last days were spent in Minnesota.

Ole O. Berkland was born on April 14, 1816, and grew to manhood in his native land, marrying Severina Torgerson, who was born on July 19, 1835, and in 1866 came to the United States with his family, the sailing vessel on which they crossed being seven weeks in making the passage. Upon landing in this country, the Berklands came West and settled in the neighborhood of Bangor, Wisconsin, not far from LaCrosse, where Mr. Berkland homesteaded a tract of forty acres of land and there established his home, remaining there for thirteen years, at the end of which time he came over to this part of Minnesota, locating in Grant county. He homesteaded forty acres in section 2 of Gorton township, raw prairie land, erected there a set of buildings, broke the land and established a home, later moving to Verndale, in Wadena county, where he spent his last days, his death occurring on August 19, 1904, he then being eighty-eight years of age. Following Mr. Berkland's death his widow made her home with the subject of this sketch, where she died on June 5, 1913. They were members of the Synod Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were nine of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Tobias, who became a homesteader in Grant county, but later returned to Norway, where he died; Julia, who married John Ireland and died at Glidden, Wisconsin; Tilda, who married Peter Lystad and lives at Sauk Center, this state; Mary, who married Hector McGinnis, and is now deceased; Otto, a farmer, who died in Grant county; Andrew, who lives at Duluth; Oscar, a farmer, living in Gorton township, and Selma, who married Knute Larson and died at her home near Norcross.

As noted above, Thomas Olson was but about eight years of age when his parents came to this country and he grew to manhood on the farm his father had homesteaded near Bangor, Wisconsin, receiving his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood, remaining there until 1879, when he

came over to this part of Minnesota, settling in Grant county, where he ever since has made his home. Upon coming out here Mr. Olson homesteaded a quarter of a section of prairie land in section 2 of Gorton township and proceeded to develop the same, one of the notable improvements he made upon the place being the planting of a grove which grew to be a very attractive feature of the landscape. He later put up a good set of buildings and there made his home until 1900, in which year he sold the farm and bought another place, right in the village of Norcross, put up a good set of buildings there and has ever since made his home there. On this farm of eighty acres, Mr. Olson carries on general farming and has done very well in his operations. He is a Republican and has served his community in an official way as a member of the board of township supervisors and as a school director.

In 1888 Thomas Olson was united in marriage to Caroline Peterson, who was born in Wisconsin on April 29, 1862, daughter of Arne and Annie (Olson) Peterson, natives of Norway, and old settlers in Wisconsin, the former of whom was a veteran of the Civil War, and to this union the following children have been born: Oswald, who is at home; Alice and Adolph, twins, the latter of whom died in infancy and the former of whom died at the age of twenty-five years; Mabel, at home; Agnes, also at home; David, who died at the age of three years, and Arthur and Clara, at home. The Olsons are members of the Synod Lutheran church and have ever taken a warm interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works.

JESSE M. CURTIS.

Success has come to Jesse M. Curtis, hardware merchant at Osakis, because he has been willing to pay the price necessary to obtain it—the price of unremitting and honest effort. He was born in Osakis, December 2, 1874, and is a son of Alanthus and Martha (Tannehill) Curtis, the father a native of Shelbyville, Indiana, and the mother of Lewistown, Ohio. The father came to Minnesota when a young man and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in Osakis township, Douglas county, but a few years later moved to St. Cloud, where he spent the rest of his life, dying a number of years ago. He served three years as a soldier in the Civil War, a member of an Indiana regiment.

Jesse M. Curtis, the only child of his parents, received his education in the public schools of Osakis and at St. Cloud. He began life for himself by teaching, which vocation he followed for about three years; then conducted a restaurant three years in Osakis, after which he was employed in the First National Bank of Osakis for three years; then spent three years in the Bank of Villard, after which he transferred his services to the State Bank at Osakis, remaining there five years. In all these positions Mr. Curtis gave eminent satisfaction, being alert, progressive in his ideas and courteous and reliable. In 1913 he became interested in the Osakis Hardware Company, of which he is at present secretary and treasurer. He has contributed to the general success of the firm in no uncertain manner, and a large and growing business has been built up, the company carrying a complete stock of general hardware.

In 1893 Jesse M. Curtis was married to Anna Patrick and to their union five children have been born, namely: Dorothy N., Marvin A., Alice M., Howard J., and Robert. Politically, Mr. Curtis is a Republican and he has served on the village council for three or four years. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic Order and of the Modern Woodmen.

CHARLES S. GOODELL.

Charles S. Goodell, a well-known merchant at Herman, was born in Brandon, Vermont, May 16, 1863. His father, Charles F. Goodell, was born in Brandon, Vermont, in 1840; his mother, Jennie M. (Spooner) Goodell, was born in Sudberry, Vermont, in 1839.

Charles F. Goodell was engaged in the marble business for over forty years. He first started in the business at Brandon, Vermont. In 1876 he removed to Northfield, Minnesota, where he continued the same business, and also had some farming interests while living at that place. He died on March 25, 1911, and his widow is now living at Seattle, Washington. Their children are: Elizabeth M., who married John F. Hunter and lives in Seattle, Washington; Charles S., the subject of this sketch; Mable L., who married B. H. Phinney and lives at Fergus Falls; Flora M., who married E. S. Hixson and lives in Zurich, Montana, and Paul S., who lives at Herman. Charles F. Goodell, affiliated with the Democratic party and his fraternal affiliation was with the Masonic order.

Charles S. Goodell was educated in the public schools of Northfield,

Minnesota. As a young man he worked for eight years with his father in the marble business. In 1888 he moved to Stevens county, and for thirteen years was there engaged in farming. In 1902 he moved to Herman and opened a store, handling a line of groceries, confectioneries and fruits. During the summer seasons he handles the marble and granite business.

In 1885 Charles S. Goodell and Meribah E. Spencer, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, a daughter of Joseph Spencer, were united in marriage. Jean L. is their only child. She married Leslie G. Boerner and is the mother of two children, Ruth E. and Mae E.

Mr. Goodell affiliates with the Democratic party and is at present a member of the village council. His lodge affiliations are with the Masonic order, with the Order of the Eastern Star and with the Woodmen.

CONSTANT LARSON.

Constant Larson, attorney-at-law, of Alexandria, city attorney and chairman of the charter committee of that city and for years actively identified with all movements having to do with the advancement of the best interests of Douglas county and this part of the state in general, is a native son of Douglas county and has lived there all his life. He was born on a homestead farm in Alexandria township on February 7, 1870, son of Gustav P. and Carolina (Larson) Larson, natives of the kingdom of Sweden, who came to Minnesota at an early day in the settlement of this region and here spent the remainder of their lives, honored and influential pioneer citizens of Douglas county.

Gustav P. Larson was reared on a farm in his native land and there became a skilled cabinet-maker. He married Carolina Larson, a daughter of Johan and Christina Larson, and in 1868, with his wife and the latter's father and mother, came to the United States, the family proceeding directly to Minnesota and settling in Douglas county, both Gustav P. Larson and Johan Larson entering claims to homestead tracts in Alexandria township and there establishing their homes. Gustav P. Larson's homestead entry was in section 14 and he was just beginning to see his way clear to the successful development of the same when his earnest pioneer labors were stopped by death in 1874, his widow thus being left with four small children to continue the maintenance of the home. Of these children the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: Charles



Levitt Larson

H., who is now living on the old homestead farm in Alexandria township; Amanda, who married George Lee and is now living on a farm in the immediate vicinity of Hampshire, Wyoming, and Augustus T., a lawyer, who is practicing his profession at Minneapolis. Mrs. Carolina Larson later married Charles Anderson and to that union two sons were born, A. Emil Anderson, a farmer, of Douglas county, and Adolph J. Anderson, a farmer, living in the vicinity of Wadena, this state.

Constant Larson was reared on the home farm in Alexandria township, a valuable assistant, in the days of his youth, in the development and improvement of the same, and received his elementary schooling in the primitive district school of that neighborhood, the first school he attended having been in a little log school house in district No. 22. He later entered the high school at Alexandria and was graduated from that school with the class of 1889, later entering the University of Minnesota, from which institution he was graduated in 1893, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Thus equipped by preliminary study, Mr. Larson entered the law department of the University and was graduated from the same in 1894, in which year he was admitted to the bar and opened an office for the practice of his profession at Alexandria, where he ever since has been thus engaged. For ten years Mr. Larson served as county attorney for Douglas county and he is now city attorney for the city of Alexandria. At the time of the creation of the city of Alexandria he was secretary of the charter committee and is now chairman of that committee. Mr. Larson is a Republican and for years has given his earnest attention to the civic affairs of his home city and county and of the state in general, his efforts in that connection ever having been directed in behalf of the cause of good local government. He is a member of the Minnesota State Bar Association and of the Commercial Law League of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of both of these organizations.

On July 15, 1895, at Minneapolis, Constant Larson was united in marriage to Maud E. Merrifield, who was born in that city, daughter of James S. and Maria (Merrifield) Merrifield, natives of the state of Maine, who moved to Minneapolis many years ago, Mr. Merrifield there engaging in the lumber business, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Lorayne, who is now a student at the Emerson College of Oratory and Dramatic Art at Boston, Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are members of the Congregational church at Alexandria and take an active interest

in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community. For years Mr. Larson has been deeply interested in all matters relating to the early settlement of this section of Minnesota and for that reason he was made editor of the historical section of this work.

GUSTAV ABEL STARK.

Gustav Abel Stark, secretary-treasurer and general manager of the Kensington Hardware and Lumber Company, incorporated, at Kensington and actively identified with other business interests there and at Elbow Lake, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a farm in McLeod county, June 30, 1873, son of Franz Ludwig and Anna Charlotte (Moberg) Stark, natives of the kingdom of Sweden, who came to America in 1867, proceeding directly to Minnesota and settling on a homestead farm in McLeod county, where they remained until 1886, when they moved to Stevens county, where Mr. Stark's last days were spent and where his widow still lives. They were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Andrew, Amos, Amanda, John, Axel, Anna, Otto, Joseph and Mary.

Gustav A. Stark was reared on the homestead farm in McLeod county and received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood, remaining on the farm, a valued assistant to his father in the work of developing and improving the same. He was married in 1896, the year in which his parents moved to Stevens county, and in that county he established his home, farming there until 1909, when he bought a third interest in the Kensington Hardware and Lumber Company at Kensington, of which company he was made the vice-president, and moved to that village, where he since has made his home. In 1911 he became the secretary and treasurer of the company and has since been the general manager of the extensive establishment maintained by that company at Kensington. Mr. Stark also is interested in the Elbow Lake Hardware and Lumber Company and in the Lowry Hardware and Furnishing Company, of which latter concern he is the president, and also is actively identified with the Kensington Mercantile Company, being recognized as one of the most energetic and enterprising business men in his community. He is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

On February 2, 1896, Gustav A. Stark was united in marriage to Sophia Stetten, who was born in the neighboring county of Pope, daughter of Erik Stetten and wife, natives of Norway and pioneers in Pope county, and a sister of K. E. Stetten, manager of the Elbow Lake Hardware and Lumber Company, and to this union nine children have been born, Frances, Alvin, Edna, Stanley, Edith, Pearl, Edith, Roy and Ralph. Mr. and Mrs. Stark are members of the Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the general beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works, being among the leaders in the work of promoting the best interests of their home town and of the community at large.

CHARLES W. MECKSTROTH, M. D.

Dr. Charles W. Meckstroth, well-known physician and surgeon at Brandon, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born in the city of LeSueur on September 7, 1872, son of August and Caroline Meckstroth, the former of whom, a druggist, died in that city twenty-five years ago and the latter of whom is still living, now a resident of Blue Earth, this state. August Meckstroth and wife were the parents of four children, all of whom are living, those besides the subject of this sketch, who is the eldest, being Adaline, Arthur and Minnie.

Following his graduation from the high school at LeSueur in 1890 Charles W. Meckstroth spent a year as a student in the academic department of Hamline University and then entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1895. In that same spring he passed the state board's examination and for a year thereafter was engaged as an interne at St. Joseph's hospital at St. Paul. Thus admirably equipped for the practice of his profession, Doctor Meckstroth opened an office at Evansville, in 1896, remaining there about five years, at the end of which time he moved to Brandon, where he ever since has been located and where he has built up an extensive practice, long having been recognized as one of the leading physicians in that part of the county. Doctor Meckstroth is secretary of the Brandon Grain Company, a director in the same, and takes an active interest in the general business activities of his home community, ever a willing promoter of movements designed to advance the common welfare thereabout. He is a Republican and at different times has been an active worker in local campaigns.

He is a Mason, past master of Evansville Lodge No. 214, and is a member of the local lodge of the Woodmen, in the affairs of both of which organizations he takes a warm interest.

In 1899 Doctor Meckstroth was united in marriage to Lottie Johnson and to this union two children have been born, Eunice and Orrin. Doctor and Mrs. Meckstroth have a very pleasant home at Brandon and take a proper part in the social activities of their home town and of the community at large.

CALMER E. THORSTENSON.

Calmer E. Thorstenson, manager of the Northwestern elevator at Ashby, was born in Clitheral township, Ottertail county, Minnesota, June 18, 1887, son of Carl O. and Mina (Loken) Thorstenson, both natives of Norway.

Carl O. Thorstenson was a young man when he came to America and was among the early settlers of Ottertail county, Minnesota. He took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Clitheral township of that county. That was wild, unimproved land at that time, but with the energy and industry characteristic of the people who came from Norway to this country, Mr. Thorstenson soon had the land in a good state of cultivation. He put up buildings for a residence and for farm purposes and established a comfortable home in which he has lived ever since, and in which he has reared a family of ten children, Thorsten, Eliza, Josephine, Hans, Clara, Sarah, Calmer E., Lawrence, Ole and May. The Norwegian Lutheran is the family church.

Calmer E. Thorstenson received his early education in the public schools of Clitheral township and later attended Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls. In 1907 he went to Valley City, North Dakota, where he was engaged in buying grain for the Powers elevator people. Afterward he removed to Bowsmont, Pembina county, North Dakota. In August of 1910, he moved to Ashby and took the position of manager of the Northwestern Elevator Company, at that place, and has ever since been thus engaged.

In 1914 Calmer E. Thorstenson and Agnes Krogh were united in marriage. They have one child, Frederick Woodard. They are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

KNUTE SWORE.

The subject of this sketch is of Norwegian birth and ancestry. He was born in Nordfjord, Norway, August 1, 1868. His parents were Rasmus K. and Kari (Flore) Swore, both natives of Norway. They were a part of the great colony of hardy, enterprising and industrious Norwegians who came into Minnesota in the early history of the state, and who have contributed so largely to the development of the lands and the industrial interests of the state.

The father of our subject came with his family to Minnesota in the spring of 1881, and located at Benson, Swift county. His first employment after locating there was working on the Great Northern railroad, in which work he continued for about two years. Afterward he settled on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Chippewa county, which he bought some time later. After a few years he laid a claim on an adjoining tract of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which there was a disputed title. He moved on to that claim and had his home there for about twenty years, most of which time he was in litigation for the right of homestead on the land, living in uncertainty as to whether his claim would be established in court. He finally won his case by a decision of the superior court, and the place has since continued to be the family homestead. The wife and mother died on the old homestead in Benson. The family consists of nine children: Knute, John A., Olaf, Emma, Einar, Sigurd, Ragna, Marie and Eivind. The Norwegian Lutheran is the family church.

The subject of this sketch had very little public school training in his early years. His father, who was a well educated man, taught his own children, and to him our subject is indebted for what he received in the way of educational attainment in his youthful years. At the age of twelve he began work. About a year later he returned to Osakis and took a store position for an occupation in which he was engaged for about two years. In 1884 he went to Osakis and was employed there in his uncle's store as a clerk, in which he continued for about three years. At that time his uncle sold his store and our subject returned to Chippewa county and again took up farm work. About a year later he returned to Osakis and took a store position for another of his uncles, working with him for about two years. In the meantime the uncle with whom he was first employed had gone into business again and our subject returned to his employ. In 1893, Mr. Swore, with W. P. Long, bought out that store and took over the business in partnership. This

partnership continued for about five years, at the end of which time Mr. Swore bought his partner's interest and took into the firm as partners his brother and E. H. Erickson, the business being continued under the firm name of Swore Brothers & Erickson. After two years the brother withdrew from the firm, and two years later Mr. Swore bought Erickson's interest and conducted the business alone for about three years. As the business was not proving to be sufficiently remunerative to justify its continuance Mr. Swore closed out the stock and discontinued business at that time. During the following three years he clerked for George Herberger, and in the spring of 1911 he again engaged in business for himself, associated with Bernard Olson and Peter Stenoien as partners. Nine months later Stenoien retired from the firm and William R. Baker was taken into the firm. In 1913 the firm was again changed by Mr. Swore buying the interest of his two partners and taking the entire management of the business himself, which he has since continued. He does a general merchandise business, his line including clothing, furnishing goods and groceries.

Mr. Swore married Mary Lysing, daughter of Jens K. and Emma Lysing, and to this union four children have been born, Ida Clara (deceased), Rudolph L., Edna M., and Kermit. Rudolph Swore was graduated from the local high school and attended St. Olaf College for two years, and is still a student. Edna M. and Kermit are attending the local schools. Mr. and Mrs. Swore are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He is independent in politics. He served as village recorder in 1914; is at present a member of the school board, and has been clerk of that board for nine years. His lodge affiliations are with the Masons and the Woodmen.

OSCAR AMUNDSON.

Oscar Amundson, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial young farmers, proprietor of a fine place of one hundred and sixty acres in North Ottawa township and former constable of that township, is a native son of Grant county and has lived in the county all his life. He was born on the old Amundson homestead in North Ottawa township, near his present place of residence, March 8, 1884, son of Ole A. and Sarah (Reiersen) Amundson, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to this country following their marriage in 1881 and in the spring of 1882 homesteaded a quarter of a section in North Ottawa township, Grant county,

establishing there a home in which they are still living, honored and respected pioneer residents of that part of the county. In a biographical sketch relating to Ole A. Amundson, presented elsewhere in this volume, there is set out in detail a history of the family in Grant county, to which the attention of the reader is respectfully invited in this connection.

Reared on the homestead farm on which he was born, Oscar Amundson received his schooling in the local schools of that neighborhood and remained at home, a valued assistant in the work of developing the home place, until his marriage in 1910, when he established his home on the quarter section on which he is now living, a part of the extensive land holdings acquired thereabout by his father, and has ever since been managing the place and has done very well. Mr. Amundson is a Republican and has taken an active part in local civic affairs, having served as constable of his township and as clerk of his local school district.

It was on June 15, 1910, that Oscar Amundson was united in marriage to Maud Wilcox, who was born in the state of Nebraska, daughter of Robert and Ida (Lee) Wilcox, who later moved to Eagle Grove, Iowa, and thence to Minnesota, locating in Grant county, where they have since made their home, and to this union four children have been born, a baby boy, who died unnamed; Robert, Thelma and Amber. Mr. and Mrs. Amundson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the general beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the welfare of the community in which they live.

A. M. ANDERSON.

A. M. Anderson, one of the prominent and successful farmers, of LaGrand township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden, on February 3, 1869, being the son of Andrew and Lisa (Johnson) Mattson, who were born in Sweden, and there received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were there married. As a young man Andrew Mattson engaged in farming and he and his wife remained residents of their native country until 1882, in which year they and their family came to Minnesota and located near Brophy Lake. They then moved to the farm, where the son, A. M. Anderson, now lives and there they remained for two years, after which time they bought a piece of land by Lobster Lake, where they

stayed for twenty years. Now they live near Holmes City. To Andrew and Lisa Mattson have been born the following children: Andrew M., Inga Marie, John, Peter, Martha, Alma, Carolina, Anna and Fred, all of whom are living save Inga Marie, Peter and Anna.

A. M. Anderson received the greater part of his education in the schools of his native land, having attended school but two or three months in Minnesota. He was but thirteen years of age when he came to the United States with his mother, one year after the father had come here. As a lad he assisted on the farm in his native land and has always followed that work. He has been on his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in LaGrand township for the past thirteen years. He erected the barn and repaired and remodeled the house, as well as making many other valuable improvements on the place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful.

In 1902 A. M. Anderson was united in marriage to Ellen Holmberg, who also was born in Sweden, daughter of Carl Holmberg, who died at his home in Douglas county some years ago, and to this union have been born the following children: Elmer, Edna Conrancy, Myrtle Olivia, Hazel Mildred, Harold William and Clifford Marvin.

TORGJELS KNUTSON.

An enterprising merchant and farmer of the village of Garfield, is Torgjels Knutson, who was born in Norway, December 5, 1864. He is a son of Knut Torgjelson and Gertrude Jenson, natives of Norway where they grew up and were married. The father engaged in commercial fishing, owning a number of small boats, at the town of Akrehaven.

The subject of this sketch grew up in Norway and attended school there. He came to America in 1883, single, landing in Boston, Massachusetts, but he came on west to Minnesota and has since made his home at Garfield, where he has been engaged in mercantile pursuits for a period of thirty-two years, handling all kinds of hardware and farming implements and of recent years the Ford and Overland automobiles. He is the only merchant in that locality who has survived the vicissitudes or hard times, panics and crop failures for three decades. This fact indicates that he has managed well, been courageous and has dealt honestly with his customers. He has purchased his stock of hardware for thirty years from the same wholesale firm

in St. Paul. He came near giving up his business just after the grasshopper plague here, having lost his capital; but the St. Paul firm induced him to stock up again for the coming year and they would take the risk, and in a few years he became one of the most substantial men financially in that part of Douglas county. He is a stockholder in the Bank of Garfield and is one of its directors; also owns stock in the Garfield elevator and in the creamery there, and served on the board of directors of the latter for twelve years. He also owns a butcher shop in Garfield, which he rents. He is owner of about six hundred acres of valuable land in Ida, Moe and LaGrand townships.

Mr. Knutson was married on October 28, 1888, to Johannah Marie Oleson, who was born on April 25, 1870. Her father, Johannes Oleson, was the first man married in Douglas county, whose license was recorded. He took up a homestead in section 11, Moe township. To Mr. and Mrs. Knutson seven children have been born, Alfred, Knut, Rosie, Helge, Lawrence, Henry and May. Knut Knutson married Ida Bergsten and lives near Garfield. The rest of the children are at home.

Mr. Knutson is now taking life easier than formerly, having turned the management of his business over, very largely, to his sons. He built a modern, commodious and well-appointed residence in 1916, just at the edge of the village. It has electric lights, hot and cold water and bath and is elegantly furnished. Politically, Mr. Knutson is a Republican. He and his wife belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He was president of the township board for several years.

OLE ANDREW AMUNDSEN.

Ole Andrew Amundsen, a well-known and substantial pioneer farmer of Grant county and proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in North Ottawa township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1882, in which year he became a homesteader in Grant county and has ever since been a resident of the county. He was born in Christiansand on November 2, 1852, son of Amund and Inga Mary (Torgersdatter) Sorenson, both of whom spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Silas, a farmer and fisherman, who still lives in Norway;

Edward Tobias, a well-to-do farmer living in New Zealand, and Ole, who died in his native land in the days of his youth.

Reared on a farm, Ole A. Amundson received his schooling in local schools and continued farming in his native land until his marriage at the age of twenty-nine, when, in 1881, he and his bride set sail for the United States, proceeding directly upon their arrival at port to Wisconsin, where they had friends living and where for three months, or until he had got his bearings, Mr. Amundson worked at farm labor. He then came with his wife over into this part of Minnesota, settling in Grant county, and in the spring of 1882 homesteaded a quarter of a section in section 26 of North Ottawa township and there established his home. The country thereabout at that time was all wild prairie land and the neighbors were few and far between. Upon taking up his residence on his homestead Mr. Amundson erected a small frame shanty that served as a shelter for him and his wife for a couple of years, at the end of which time he built a new and much more commodious dwelling, a part of which is still in use, a part of his present comfortable farm house, which was erected years later. The barn and other improvements on the farm are in keeping and Mr. Amundson has a very well-equipped farm plant. As he prospered in his farming operations he bought an additional quarter section for his eldest son, Oscar, who is now living on and operating the same. In addition to his general farming Mr. Amundson has given considerable attention to stock raising and has done very well. He is a Republican and for many years served as school director in his local district.

It was in the spring of 1881 that Ole A. Amundson was married, in Christiansand, to Sarah Reierson, who also was born in Norway, a daughter of Reier Larson and wife, the former of whom is still living in Norway and the latter of whom died some years ago, and to this union nine children have been born, namely: Mary, who married Simon Larson and lives at Norcross; Oscar, a substantial young farmer, who lives on the quarter section adjoining that of his father's old homestead and a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; Richard, who is married and lives on a nearby farm; Inga, who is at home, and Tilla, Ole, Annie, Mattie and Nina, also at home. Besides these, Mr. and Mrs. Amundson have adopted two children, Selmer (Larson) Amundson and Lester Carlson. Richard J. Amundson, the second son, was born on the homestead farm on March 25, 1886, and grew to manhood there, becoming a carpenter and later a salesman. In 1914 he bought, in partnership with E. L. Brewster, a quarter of

a section of land in North Ottawa township and has since made his home there. He was married in December, 1911, to Effie Ellen Brewster, a daughter of L. L. Brewster, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume, and to this union two children have been born, Lloyd Lewis and Forest Brewster. Ole A. Amundson and wife are members of the United Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith, the family ever taking an active interest in church affairs and all local good works. In 1914 Mr. Amundson made a trip back to his native land and spent six weeks pleasantly reviewing the scenes of his childhood and early manhood, but was well content to return to the adopted land which has treated him so well in the way of rewarding his industry and enterprise by affording him a competence against the time of his declining years.

C. J. STENE.

C. J. Stene, one of the well known and successful merchants, of Ashby, was born in Norway on February 24, 1865, being the son of John and Mary Stene.

John and Mary Stene were born in Norway and received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married in 1862. John Stene came to America in 1867 and after his arrival in this country, came direct to Minnesota, where he worked as a farm hand for some time and then homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 9 of Pelican Lake township, Grant county. His wife and family joined him in 1870, they having remained in their native land for three years after the husband and father came to this country. That farm he developed and improved and there he engaged in general farming until the time of his death, which occurred in 1884, at the age of fifty-four years. His widow died in 1887, at the age of fifty-four years. To Mr. and Mrs. Stene were born three sons, John M., C. J. and Edward. John M. Stene is a farmer of Grant county and Edward Stene is professor of agriculture in the college at Kingston.

John Stene was a man of much business ability, an excellent farmer, and was successful during his residence in this state. At the time of his death he was the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he had made many substantial improvements. He took much interest in local affairs, and did much for the growth and development of the district.

He served as a member of the board of supervisors for many years, and assisted in the organization of the Norwegian Lutheran church in his home township. He and his wife took much interest in the social and religious life of the community and were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them.

C. J. Stene was educated in the common schools of Pelican Lake township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work. In June, 1894, he was united in marriage to Olianna Rohn, and located on his father's homestead farm, where he now resides, in the house that his father built. Though living in the country, he conducts his extensive business in the town of Ashby, where he is engaged in the hardware business, in which he has been engaged since 1913. He carries a stock of goods to the amount of five thousand dollars, is doing a fine business, and has the confidence and the respect of the community. In addition to his farm interests, he is the owner of stock in the bank at Ashby, as well as in the Farmers Elevator Company and in the Ashby creamery.

To C. J. and Olianna Stene have been born the following children: Manfred, Oscar, Alma, Clara, Edwin, Bernice, Dagmar, Helen and Ella. Mr. and Mrs. Stene are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in church work. Mr. Stene has long been identified with township affairs, and has served on the board of supervisors for the past twenty years and has served on the school board for twenty-five years.

JOHN O. WESTERN.

John O. Western, a well-known and successful business man of Ashby, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, on December 25, 1870, the son of Ole and Carrie Western, natives of Norway, who with their family, in 1862, came to the United States and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota. After locating in this state, Ole Western followed his trade as a carpenter for a number of years. In 1878 he removed to four miles south of Ashby, where he engaged in farming. In 1881 he moved to Ashby, where he worked as a carpenter until his death in 1914. Mrs. Western died when John O. was but a child. They were the parents of four children, Anna, Ida, Caroline and John O.

John O. Western grew to manhood in Grant county and received his education in the public schools. After completing his education, he began

life as a clerk in the stores of Ashby, where he was at various times employed by a number of the merchants. George T. Hoff, a brother-in-law, and Mr. Western were associated in the general mercantile business for three years. On his retirement from the firm, Mr. Western was employed by A. O. Stoo in the lumber business. He remained here three years, at the end of which time the business was sold to the Ashby Lumber Company and Mr. Western was made manager, which position he still holds.

In 1894 John O. Western was united in marriage to Clara Johnson, of Ottertail county and the daughter of Andres Johnson and wife. To this union have been born the following children: Alvin, Clarence, Ina, Chester, Eva, Leonard, Howard and Kenneth. The family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Mr. Western has always taken an active interest in local affairs, and his activity in all lines of social, church and civic work has done much for the development of the community. As an evidence of the regard in which he is held, he has been elected to many of the official positions of the village.

OLE S. SKINNEMOEN.

Ole S. Skinnemoen, one of the most substantial and progressive farmers in Grant county, owner of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Stony Brook township, a director of the Wendell State Bank at Wendell, one of the leading stockholders of the Farmers Elevator Company at that place and for years an active factor in the development of his home community, is a native son of Grant county and has lived there all his life. He was born on the old Skinnemoen homestead farm in Stony Brook township, July 15, 1873, son of Stiner S. Skinnemoen and wife, who were among the earliest settlers of that part of Grant county and who are still living on the place they homesteaded in 1871, honored and respected pioneer residents of that community.

Reared on the old homestead place, Ole S. Skinnemoen received his schooling in the Stony Brook schools and from boyhood was an able assistant to his father in the labors of developing the home place, remaining at home until 1914, when he entered upon the occupancy of the fine farm of four hundred acres, of which he had in the meantime become the owner, about one-half mile south of the old home place. He erected a fine house on the place, put up a roomy and modern barn and otherwise added to the improve-

ments until he has one of the best improved farms in the neighborhood. He is one of the pioneer alfalfa raisers of Grant county and now has about seventy acres planted to that grass. Mr. Skinnemoen, in addition to his general farming, has given considerable attention to the raising of pure-bred live stock and has a fine lot of Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses. He also has given his close attention to the general business affairs of the community and is regarded as among the most active and influential citizens of that part of the county. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, but he has never been included in the office-seeking class. He has a fine place, overlooking Lightning Lake from the north, and is very pleasantly and comfortably situated. Mr. Skinnemoen is a member of the United Lutheran church at Aastad and takes a good citizen's interest in all movements having to do with the advancement of the common cause hereabout.

LOUIS ANDERSON.

Louis Anderson, a successful farmer of Alexandria township, Douglas county, Minnesota, was born in Sweden, on December 15, 1855, being the son of Andrew and Breta (Olson) Anderson. Andrews and Breta Anderson were born in Sweden and there received their education in the public schools. They grew to manhood and womanhood on near-by farms and were later married. They lived their lives in the land of their birth and there Mr. Anderson was engaged in farming. They were the parents of the following children: Olaf, Maria, Christina, Andrew, John and Louis.

Louis Anderson received his education in the common schools of his native land and remained a resident of that country until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1880 he decided that he would come to America and, after landing in the United States, came direct to Illinois, locating in Vermilion county, where he lived for two years. He then removed to Wapello county, Iowa, where he lived for four years, after which time he came to Minnesota and located in Nobles county. He remained a resident of that county until 1896, when he came to Douglas county. Here he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Alexandria township, and has since made the farm his home. The tract at that time was a wild prairie, without improvements of any kind. With much energy and patience, the prairie sod was broken, crops planted, buildings erected and many other valuable improvements were made on the place. In later years the buildings have been

improved and today Mr. Anderson has a most pleasing and attractive country home. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been most successful. He is a public-spirited citizen and takes much interest in all local affairs. He is independent in politics and has served as a member of the township board for a number of years. His services have been of much value to the township as well as the community in which he lives.

Louis Anderson was united in marriage on March 29, 1884, to Tilda Maria Larson, and to this union the following children have been born: Oscar E., Albert C. and Edwin Morris. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take much interest in all social and religious activities of the township. Mr. Anderson has served as a trustee of the local society of the church for many years. He and his wife are held in high regard by all, for their many noble qualities of manhood and womanhood.

JOHN M. FISHER.

A well known and highly esteemed citizen and farmer of Hudson township, Douglas county, is John M. Fisher, who is a Hoosier by birth, having been born in Shelby county, Indiana, on March 9, 1869. He is a son of James H. and Hannah (Derickson) Fisher, both of whom were also natives of Shelby county, Indiana. James H. Fisher and his family came to Minnesota in March, 1883, settling in Douglas county, and here he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. He was a farmer all his life and was the owner of one hundred and fifty-four acres of land in Orange township, this county. He was actively interested in the affairs of his township and community and served as clerk and treasurer of the school board. He and his wife had been members of the Baptist church in Indiana, but upon removing to Minnesota, they became attendants of the Methodist Episcopal church. They were the parents of six children, Norman E., John M., William R., Emma N., Anna E. and Alva E., the last named being deceased. James H. Fisher served for four years in the Union army during the Civil War, being a member of the Fifty-second Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He participated in many of the hard-fought battles of that great struggle, being severely wounded at one time.

John M. Fisher received his elementary education in the schools of Shelby county, Indiana, finishing his schooling in the township schools of

Minnesota after coming here with his father and family in 1883. He grew up on his father's farm and early in life decided to become a farmer. He first purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 13, Hudson township, where he lived for eight years, after which he moved to the farm where he is now living. This farm consists of two hundred and forty acres of fine land and in the summer of 1915 he erected a nice new modern home, where he and his family live, surrounded by all the comforts and conveniences of the modern farm home.

In December, 1899, John M. Fisher was married to Minnie George, daughter of Henry and Eliza (Hostettler) George, of Monroe county, Indiana. Henry George and wife lived in Illinois for three years after leaving Indiana and then settled in Douglas county, Minnesota, in 1880. They are now both deceased. Their children were Frank, Margaret, John, William, Minnie, Eva, and two others who died young. To the subject and wife have been born three children, Harold, Melvin and Florence.

Mr. Fisher is independent in politics, and has served his township as road overseer; he has also served on the school board for twelve consecutive years, and was recently elected for another term of three years.

GEORGE GILBERTSON.

George Gilbertson, a well known and successful merchant of Erdahl, was born in Erdahl township, Grant county, on July 5, 1887, the son of Gilbert and Mary (Lee) Gilbertson.

Gilbert and Anna Olson, the grandparents of George Gilbertson, were natives of Norway and there received their education in the public schools and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. It was there that their children were born, and there Mr. Olson engaged in general farming. They were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community in which they lived. They spent their lives in the land of their birth and young manhood and womanhood, until 1861, when they came to America, their remaining days being spent with their son, Ole, in Wisconsin. They were the parents of seven children, Ole, Thoren, Thora, Olia, Mary, Gilbert and Anna, of whom Ole, Thoren and Olia are now deceased.

Gilbert Gilbertson, the father of George Gilbertson, received his education in the public schools of Norway, where he was born, and there grew



GEORGE A. GILBERTSON.

to manhood and remained a resident of that country until 1861, when he came to America. Upon his arrival in the United States he proceeded directly to Wisconsin, where he worked as a farm hand for one year. On August 15, 1862, he enlisted in the Twenty-seventh Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, at Madison. During his service as a soldier of the United States army, Mr. Gilbertson saw much active service, at Columbus, Kentucky; at the siege of Vicksburg, under General Grant; at Little Rock, Arkansas and in Texas, under General Steele, and was in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, Arkansas, where the commands of Generals Price and Marmaduke were captured. While serving under General Canby he was at Mobile, Alabama, and there participated in the capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. He was then in the campaign up the Alabama river, during the progress of which the war came to a close. He was then transferred to Mobile, Alabama, and later to Texas, where the command was sent to recover some guns that had unlawfully been sold to the Mexicans. After having received his discharge at Brownville, Texas, on September 25, 1865, Mr. Gilbertson returned to Wisconsin, where he remained for five years, engaged there as a farm hand. In 1870 he came to Minnesota and took a soldier's claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Swift county. There he built a log shanty, obtained a good team of oxen and engaged in general farming until 1875, when he sold the place and moved to Grant county, where he purchased eighty acres of land, in section 5 of Erdahl township, at that time all wild land, covered with timber and brush. There he built a good log house and in time cleared and improved his farm. His first crop was, for the most part, taken by the grasshoppers, but he continued in the work of development and in time had one of the desirable farms of that township. He continued to live on the place until 1903, when he sold and moved to the village of Erdahl, where he purchased fifteen acres of land, which he is now farming and on which he has erected excellent buildings and made many other valuable improvements.

In 1871 Gilbertson was united in marriage to Mary Lee, and to this union twelve children were born, Ellen, Gustav, Mina, Oscar, Sena, Otto, George, Clara, Arthur, Martin, Martin Arnold and Mabel, the last three being deceased. Ellen Gilbertson married John Comstock, of Fergus Falls. Gustav Gilbertson is a resident of Canada. Mina Gilbertson married Austin Thompson and lives at Hankinson, North Dakota. Oscar Gilbertson is a grain buyer at Rugby, North Dakota. Sena Gilbertson married

William Moe, a wheat buyer of Judd, North Dakota. Otto, Clara and Arthur Gilbertson are at home and George Gilbertson is a resident of Erdahl. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community. Mr. Gilbertson has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He assisted in the organization of the township, was the first township clerk and served as clerk of the school district that he helped organize. He was also prominent in the affairs of the county, and served for four years as county commissioner, in which capacity he rendered excellent service.

George Gilbertson received his education in the public schools of Erdahl township and at the Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls, and was reared on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the farm work. At the age of fourteen he went into the woods of northern Minnesota, where he was employed as a cook in the lumber camp for eight years. He then went to western Canada, where he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres at Swift Current, Saskatchewan, all of which was wild prairie. There he built a small claim shanty and during the summer months worked on his claim and in the winter worked for others in the neighborhood. He made many improvements, broke about one hundred and twenty-five acres of his claim, of which twenty was under fence. He remained there five years, at the end of which time, in 1914, he rented his place and returned to Grant county. In the spring of 1915 he engaged in business at Erdahl, where he has since handled groceries, meats, confectionery and fruits, and has been quite successful. He is deputy postmaster, under his brother, Arthur Gilbertson, who has the office in the store. In the spring of 1916, Mr. Gilbertson moved into his present quarters, and now conducts a hotel and restaurant in connection with his soda, confectionery and meat business.

On November 18, 1913, George Gilbertson was united in marriage to Ella Alberts of Erdahl township. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and take much interest in church work. They are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and have had much to do with the social development of the village. Mr. Gilbertson is a progressive young man and puts much energy into his business, which is one of the substantial institutions of the town. He takes a keen interest in the civic life of the place and devotes his best efforts to the growth and development of his home town.

JOHN L. GUNDERSON.

A well known and well-to-do farmer of Solem township, Douglas county, who is proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred acres in the vicinity of Kensington, and who is actively identified with the rapidly developing interests of that part of the county is John L. Gunderson, who was born in Norway, October 3, 1846. He is a son of Lars and Johanna (Seiverson) Gunderson, both of whom were also natives of the same country.

After the death of his wife in Norway, Lars Gunderson came to America in 1870, locating first in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where he remained for three years, being employed by farmers in that vicinity. He then went to Barron county, Wisconsin, where he homesteaded eighty acres of land, and there he made his home during the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1909. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Gunder, Carrie, John L., Seivert, Lars and Mary, all of whom are living except Gunder, who died in Wisconsin, February 1, 1912, and Lars, who died in Alaska in 1904.

John L. Gunderson received a limited education in the schools of his native land, and in 1871 joined his father in the United States, going directly to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and from there went to Barron county, Wisconsin, where he homesteaded land in Cumberland township, and there he made his home for twenty-four years. In 1898 he moved to his present farm in Douglas county, consisting of two hundred acres. He has made many and various improvements on his farm since acquiring the same, having erected all of the buildings on the place except the house. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and is well equipped for making a success of his farming operations.

In 1877 John L. Gunderson was married to Eliza Iverson, who is a native of Norway, the daughter of Christopher Iverson, and to this union eleven children have been born, Eddie, Josephine, Oliver, Julius, George, Melvin, Ella, Rudolph and Walter (twins), Julia and Clarence, all of whom are living except Josephine. Mrs. Gunderson's parents were Christopher and Ella (Harsdatter) Iverson, the former of whom died in Norway, while the mother came to America in later years and made her home with Mr. Gunderson the last four years of her life. Mrs. Gunderson came to the United States with her brother, when she was fourteen years of age, and lived in Iowa for some time.

Mr. Gunderson has always taken a prominent and active part in the

civic life of his community, and while living in Wisconsin, served five years as supervisor of his township, and as postmaster for eight years. He took a warm interest in the welfare of the schools, both here and in Wisconsin, serving six years as director on the school board while in Barron county, Wisconsin, and seven years on the school board here. The family are all members of the Lutheran church.

ALBERT L. RITZSCHKE.

Albert L. Ritzschke, a well-known and successful farmer of Macsville township, Grant county, was born in that township on October 14, 1877, the son of Carl and Louisa (Hensel) Ritzschke, natives of the kingdom of Saxony, Germany, where they received their education in the public schools and were married. Henry Ritzschke and wife, the parents of Carl Ritzschke, were also natives of that country. They came to America and located in Wisconsin, where the wife and mother later died. After the death of his wife, Henry Ritzschke came to Minnesota and located in Grant county, where he died some years ago. The maternal grandparents of Albert L. Ritzschke spent all their lives in the Fatherland.

As a young man Carl Ritzschke learned the mason's and plasterer's trade, at which he worked for a number of years. After his marriage he and his wife continued to live in Germany until 1868, when they came to the United States. The sailing vessel on which they crossed was six weeks in making the passage, and during that time they lost the son that had been born to them in their native land. On their arrival in this country they located at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where the father worked at his trade for some eight years. In 1877 they came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 24 of Macsville township, Grant county. A sod house was constructed in which the family lived for some time. The farm was later developed, substantial buildings erected and more land purchased, until Mr. Ritzschke became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres, and there he successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years. He still lives on the farm, but has retired from the activities of farm life. He always took much interest in local affairs and was for many years treasurer of the school board. He became a member of the Knights of Pythias and was prominent in the order. His wife died on February 22, 1911.

Carl and Louisa Ritzschke were the parents of nine children, of whom

the subject of this sketch is the fourth in order of birth, the others being Charles F., a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume; Theodore, who is a well-known and successful farmer and stockman of Grant county; Martha, who is the wife of Harry Enwiller, of Russell, South Dakota; Clara, the wife of Henry Ristow; Arthur, who is living on the home place; Walter, who lives with his brother Charles; Albert, who lives in Iowa, and Edward, who died at the age of twelve years.

Albert L. Ritzschke received his education in the public schools of Macsville township and was reared on the home farm. He later rented land and engaged in farming for himself. In 1909 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 26 of Macsville township, on which was a house and a granary. In 1914 he erected a fine barn, thirty by forty-eight feet, with concrete foundation and hip roof. In addition to this he has made many other improvements and has done much in the way of developing his farm. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has been quite successful, being recognized as one of the successful and progressive farmers of the township.

Albert L. Ritzschke is independent in politics, has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the community, is a firm believer in substantial public improvements, and an advocate of good roads and good schools. He is a member of the order of Knights of Pythias and of the Modern Woodmen of America, in the affairs of both of which organizations he is much interested.

W. A. YATES.

W. A. Yates was born in Juneau, Wisconsin, April 14, 1855, and is a son of William and Bettie (Taylor) Yates, of whom both were born in New York state. The father was a farmer in his native state and in early life he came to Wisconsin. For a few years he was employed as a farmer in Waukesha county, that state, but about 1849 he removed to Dodge county, Wisconsin, being one of the early settlers in that county. He made that county his home during the remainder of his life, which ended in 1865. The children in this family were, Mary, W. A., Albert, Ira T. and James B.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Juneau, Wisconsin, and found employment during his school years in working on the farm. In the meantime he studied telegraphy and became so familiar

with the business that he was, in 1879, able to hold the position of telegraph operator at Waupun, Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. He held this position for about one year and in the spring of 1880 he came to Minnesota and for a few years was in the employ of the Great Northern Railway as station agent at various places on their line. In 1885 he was checked in as agent at Osakis and remained here for about twelve years. In 1897 he resigned his railroad position and, in association with F. B. Canada, bought the St. Cloud Lumber Company and engaged in that line of business. In 1906 Mr. Yates bought his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone. The business of this establishment has doubled since Yates and Canada first took hold of it. Mr. Yates now handles wood and coal in addition to a general line of lumber and building material and building supplies. He also has a stock farm in Osakis township, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, and is interested in the breeding of Holstein cattle. He also has another one-hundred-and-sixty-acre farm north of Osakis.

W. A. Yates and Catherine Gallagher, daughter of Edward Gallagher, were united in marriage on February 24, 1884. They have two children: Eva May, who is the wife of Walter A. Flint, and Chester P., who is still at home. Mr. Yates is a Mason, holding membership with Lodge No. 30, at Osakis; the chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Sauk Center; the commandery of Knights Templar at Morris; the sovereign consistory of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite at Minneapolis, and is a noble of Zuhrah Temple, Mystic Shrine, at Minneapolis. He is also a member of the Woodmen and the Maccabees. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party. He served as mayor of Osakis for fourteen years and as a member of the school board for twenty-five years continually.

GUSTAV A. JOHNSON.

Gustav A. Johnson, a well-known and substantial farmer of Grant county, proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres lying partly in North Ottawa township and partly in Elbow Lake township, on which he maintains an excellent herd of dairy cattle, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was sixteen years of age and of Grant county since the year 1892, when he settled in

North Ottawa township, where he ever since has made his home. He was born in West Jutland, Sweden, April 7, 1850, a son of Johannes and Maiastina Swenson, natives of that same province. landowners there, who spent all their lives in their native land. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the last-born, the others being as follow: Inga Stina, who married Johannes Swanson and died at Minneapolis, this state; Anna Kaisa, who married Swante Brox and died in Sweden; Charlotte, who married and also died in her native land; Carl, who lives at Grasston, this state; Annie Maria, who married a Mr. Sorenson and died in Minnesota, and John, a farmer in his native land.

Gustav A. Johnson was reared on the home farm in West Jutland, receiving his schooling in the public schools and was confirmed there. At the age of sixteen, in company with his brother, Carl, he came to the United States and the next year, in 1867, located at Minneapolis, where he secured employment in the coal yards. Later he became a teamster and was thus engaged until 1892, when he decided to become a farmer and, in pursuit of this decision, moved to, Grant county and bought a quarter of a section of partly improved land in North Ottawa township and began to develop the same. When he took possession of the place it had a few poor buildings on it and he remodeled the house, built a new barn and otherwise brought the place up to proper standard. As he prospered in his farming operations, Mr. Johnson gradually added to his holdings until he now owns two hundred and eighty acres, a part of which lies in Elbow Lake township. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Johnson gives considerable attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle for dairy purposes and now has a herd of forty-five or fifty head of fine cattle. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, but has not been a seeker after public office.

In 1877, at Minneapolis, Gustav A. Johnson was united in marriage to Annie Abrahamson, who also was born in Sweden, a daughter of Gustav and Katrina Abrahamson, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Anna Caroline, who married Charles Swenson and lives at Lindstrom, this state; Charles, unmarried, who is at home; Frank, who is engaged in a bank at Artesian, South Dakota; Alexis, who married Alfred Dahl and lives at Ashby, and Abbie Eleanora, who died at the age of eighteen years. The Johnsons have a pleasant home and take a proper part in all movements designed to advance the common welfare of the community in which they live.

J. E. HALGRIMSON.

J. E. Halgrimson, a native of Goodhue county and one of the well-known and successful farmers of Brandon township, Douglas county, Minnesota, was born on November 30, 1865, being the son of Elling and Mallie (Solem) Halgrimson.

Elling Halgrimson was born in Norway, where he received his education in the public schools and grew to manhood. At the age of twenty years, he decided to come to America and after his arrival in this country and a short stay in Wisconsin he came direct to Minnesota. He located in Goodhue county, where he later purchased eighty acres of land and engaged in farming. Here he was married to Mallie Solem and to this union the following children were born: Henry, John E., Gurina, Ellen M. and Emily. Ellen M. is now deceased. After a residence of a few years in Goodhue county, the family came to Douglas county, where the father purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 20 and 29, Brandon township. This land was developed and improved and here Elling Halgrimson engaged in general farming and stock raising and was successful. He and his wife made this farm their home until the time of their deaths, he dying in 1900 and she in 1904. The family were prominent in the social circles of the township and Mr. Halgrimson took much interest in local affairs, being one of the active and prominent men of the community. They were held in the highest regard by all who knew them.

J. E. Halgrimson received his education in the public schools of Brandon township and here grew to manhood. As a lad and young man, he assisted his father with the work on the farm and in early life decided that he would be a farmer. On July 9, 1904, he was united in marriage to Magdalena Olson, the daughter of J. A. Olson, a well-known farmer and early settler of the county. To this union one child, Josie Hellen, was born on May 30, 1912.

At the time he became of age, J. E. Halgrimson purchased the home farm of his father, where he has since lived and is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He is interested in the raising of Shorthorn cattle and a mixed grade of hogs. He believes in intensive farming and the keeping of good stock. He is now the owner of three hundred and ten acres of land in sections 20 and 29 and is regarded as one of the substantial and successful farmers of the township. He has always taken much interest in local affairs and is ever ready to assist in any worthy cause

that has a tendency to advance the social and financial condition of the county. He owns stock in the Brandon Creamery and has served on its board of directors. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Brandon. He has served on the school board of his district and has always been interested in the success of the schools. He and his family have long been identified with the social and religious life of the community, and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Politically, he is a Prohibitionist, while the Lutheran Free church claims his religious affiliation.

HERMAN GRONWOLD.

Herman Gronwold, a well-known and substantial farmer of Grant county, the proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in North Ottawa township, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of the United States since 1890 and of Grant county since 1904. He was born on a farm in East Germany on August 14, 1868, son of Herman and Annie (Klausen) Gronwold, natives of that same district, the former a well-to-do nurseryman, who spent all their lives in their native land, the father dying in 1876 and the mother in 1894. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Ranski, who died in infancy; John, who came to the United States in 1889 and has been for years a well-known resident of Gorton township, Grant county; Dick, who died in infancy, and Joran, who also died in infancy.

Reared on the home farm in his native land, Herman Gronwold received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and remained at home, assisting in the work of the nursery, which was maintained for some time after his father's death, until he was twenty-two years of age. In 1890 he came to the United States, following his elder brother, John, who had come over the year before, and settled in Butler county, Iowa, where he began as a farm laborer. Later he rented farms and operated them on his own account until 1904, when he came to Minnesota and settled in Grant county, where he ever since has made his home. Upon coming out here Mr. Gronwold bought a quarter of a section of improved land in North Ottawa township and there established his home. When he took possession of the place the original homestead buildings were still standing on the farm. These he tore down and erected modern buildings in their place, planted a

grove, now an attractive feature of the farm, and he and his family are very pleasantly and comfortably situated. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Gronwold has ever given proper attention to the development of the general interests of the community in which he lives and is a stockholder in the elevator companies at Norcross and at Herman. He is a Republican and gives a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, but has never been a seeker after office.

On October 4, 1895, while living in Iowa, Herman Gronwold was united in marriage to Elsie Sanders, who also was born in Germany and who came to this country with her parents, William Sanders and wife, the family settling in Butler county, Iowa, and to this union four children have been born, Herman, Sadie, William and Harm, all of whom are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Gronwold are members of the Evangelical church and take a warm interest in the general welfare of the community in which they live.

EVERT BRUSE.

One of the well-known and successful farmers and stock men of Gorton township, Grant county, Minnesota, is Evert Bruse, who was born in Germany on November 17, 1852, being the son of John and Lena Bruse. John and Lena Bruse were also natives of Germany and there received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. There the father died and sometime afterward the widow left the home of her birth and young womanhood and came to the United States. She located in Butler county, Iowa, in 1883, where she remained many years, and died in North Dakota in 1912, at the age of ninety-three years. To John and Lena Bruse were born the following children: Adolph, Tina, Ferdinand, Evert, Ella and John. Adolph and Ella are now deceased.

Evert Bruse received his education in the public schools of Germany and there grew to manhood. He remained a resident of the land of his birth until he was twenty-five years of age, when, in 1877, he decided to come to America. On his arrival in the United States he came direct to Iowa and located in Butler county, where he engaged in farming. Later he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Kossuth county, Iowa, which he sold in 1903 and came to Minnesota. He purchased four hundred and eighty acres of land in North Ottawa township, Grant county,

and is now the owner of six hundred and forty acres of land in North Ottawa and Gorton township, and one hundred and sixty acres in North Dakota. He has made many valuable improvements on his farm, which, for the most part are under a high state of cultivation. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been most successful. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and the most thorough cultivation, keeps the best of stock and his farm and buildings are in a high state of repair.

Evert Bruse is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in local affairs, although he does not aspire to office. He believes in high-class public improvements and the maintenance of good roads and the best of schools. Having been educated in the German schools, he fully realizes their need and importance.

Evert Bruse was united in marriage, in 1874, to Flora Viland, who was born in Germany in 1859 and there became the wife of the subject. To Mr. and Mrs. Bruse have been born the following children: Ubbe B., John, Lena, Alice, Ferdinand, Ida, Henry, Evert, Adolph and Flora. Adolph is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bruse are active members of the Reformed church and take much interest in all church work. They and their family have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They devote much time to their home life, yet they have the time for their friends, whom they entertain in the most kindly way.

OLE J. PLETAN.

One of the young farmers of Stony Brook township who is contented with his native locality is Ole J. Pletan, who was born on the old homestead in this township, June 14, 1879. He is a son of Jens Pletan and wife, who are mentioned in a separate sketch in this volume.

Ole J. Pletan grew up on the home farm, where he worked during the crop season when he became of proper age, attending the local district schools in the winter time. After leaving his father's roof-tree, he started farming for himself and now owns a well-kept place of one hundred acres in section 28, Stony Brook township, on which he is making a good start as a general farmer.

Politically, he is a Republican and served his township as constable at

one time, performing his duties faithfully. He belongs to the United Lutheran church.

Mr. Pletan was married, in 1907, to Sophia Asleson, who was born on the farm where she still lives, the place being now owned by her husband. Here she grew up and was educated in the local public schools. She is a daughter of Narve and Ambjor Asleson, both natives of Norway and early settlers of Stony Brook township, the father taking up a homestead here of one hundred and sixty acres, to which he later added eighty acres. He improved a good farm and here spent the rest of his life, dying about 1899. His widow, who survived until 1902, was married a second time, her last husband being Knute K. Folken, of Stony Brook township. She was the mother of two children, Laura and Sophia, by her first marriage and one child, Alvin, by her second marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Pletan three children have been born, James Norlin, Hershel Antone (died when two years old), and Stanley Merton.

ERICK N. BERGAN.

Erick N. Bergan, a well-known and substantial farmer of Stony Brook township, Grant county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born on a farm near Newmadahl on August 20, 1868. He is a son of Nils O. and Leve Bergan, both natives of that same country, the former born in 1821 and the latter in 1823. Nils O. Bergan was a farmer and landowner, who died in his native land in November, 1899. His wife had preceded him to the grave about two years. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last born, the others being as follow: Sigrid, who married Ole Skoglund and lives in Roseau county, this state; Barbara, who married Hans Fagri and lives near Wadena, this state; Ole, a farmer of Grant county; Knute, a miller, living at Elbow Lake; Nels, who lives on the old home place in Norway, the only one of the children who did not come to America, and Ambear, who married Narve Asleson and lives in Stony Brook township.

E. N. Bergan was reared on the home farm in Norway and received his schooling in the neighborhood schools, continuing to live at home, assisting in the labors of the farm and working at the carpenter's trade until he was twenty-two years of age. In 1891, he came to the United States, proceeding to Wisconsin, where, in Rock county, he remained about four

months, in the fall of that same year coming to Minnesota and locating in Grant county. For eight years after coming here Mr. Bergan found employment on the Soo railroad and then spent a year in a flour-mill in Clay county. He then returned to his native land and there married Kari Brevig, daughter of Ole Brevig, who died there a few years ago. While working on the railroad in Grant county Mr. Bergan had bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 21 of Stony Brook township and, upon returning to this country with his wife, established his home on the same. The place was partly improved, but since he entered upon possession he has added largely to the improvement and now has a very well-equipped farm plant and is recognized as one of the progressive farmers of the neighborhood. He gives considerable attention to the general business affairs of the community and is a member of the board of directors of the Stony Brook Telephone Company. In his political affiliation Mr. Bergan is a Republican, but has never been a seeker after public office. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the general good works of the community. They have four children, Leonard, Paulina, Orville and Arnold.

PETER ERICKSON.

Peter Erickson, a well known and prosperous citizen of Stony Brook township, Grant county, Minnesota, was born in Dahlan, Sweden, on January 1, 1843, being the son of Lars and Annie Christine (Olson) Erickson.

Lars and Annie Christine Erickson were born in Sweden and there received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They lived their lives in the native country and there died some years ago. The father was a tailor by trade, at which he worked, in connection with the management of the farm that he owned. He was considered a successful tiller of the soil as well as a prosperous tailor. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Erick, Annie, Peter, Brita and one that died in infancy. Erick and Annie remained residents of Sweden and Brita died when but a small girl. The family were prominent in their native land and took much interest in the social and religious life of the community in which they lived. They were highly respected by all and honored for their many good deeds of kindness and charity.

Peter Erickson received his education in the schools of his native country and there grew to manhood, being reared on the home farm. As a lad he assisted his father with the work on the home place and early in life decided that he would some time come to America, where he could obtain a home for himself. Much he had heard of the new land and the opportunities that awaited the ambitious and worthy young man. In 1865, at the age of twenty-two years, he left the home of his birth and the scenes of his childhood and came to America. On arriving in the United States he located at Lockport, near Chicago, where he worked in a stone quarry for three months. He then went to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he engaged with a railroad and worked for some months near Duluth, Superior and Fond du Lac. He later engaged as a farm hand, near Shakopee, Minnesota, where he remained until the winter, when he went into the pineries. In the spring he located in Minneapolis, where he worked in a saw-mill for a time and then removed to Spring Grove, Minnesota, where he worked at grubbing and clearing land for the pioneers of that section. It was while a resident of this section that he was married. In 1879 he came to Grant county, Minnesota, and here homesteaded eighty acres in section 30, Stony Brook township. The tract at that time was a wild prairie, without improvements of any kind. There was no town of Wendell and the neighbors were far apart. After locating on the land, Mr. Erickson constructed a cellar, on top of which he built a low log hut, with sod roof. It was in this that he and his family lived for some time. He at once began the task of breaking and improving the land. He later purchased forty acres more land, which he developed and improved, and here he has engaged in general farming and stock raising and has become one of the successful farmers of the community.

As a young man Peter Erickson was united in marriage to Annie Ellingson, a native of Norway and the daughter of Erick Ellingson, a well-known pioneer of the county. To this union the following children were born: Ed, Annie, Alice, Peter and Albert. Ed is the manager of the elevator at Berit, Minnesota; Annie is the wife of Ole Lilleby and resides in Red Lake, Minnesota; Alice, became the wife of Ole Hagen and lives near Bismark, North Dakota; Peter is a wheat buyer at Wild Rose, South Dakota, and Albert is on the home farm.

Peter Erickson and wife are active members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in all social and religious work of the community. They are prominent in all local affairs and are held in the highest regard

by all who know them. Politically, Mr. Erickson is a Republican and has always taken much interest in the civic life of the township, casting influence in the township and the county for all things that were for the best interests of the people. Being a man of broad experiences and most excellent judgment, his advice has often been sought in matters of public moment.

OLE C. RUSTAND.

One would be compelled to search a good while to find a more painstaking general farmer than Ole C. Rustand, of Stony Brook township, Grant county. He was born in Norway, August 3, 1868, and is a son of Christian O. and Annie Rustand, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1879, locating at Herman, Grant county, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in North Ottawa township. Christian O. Rustand was a man of energy and good judgment and he prospered, adding to his original homestead until he owned six hundred and forty acres of valuable land, on which he spent the rest of his life, engaged in general farming on an extensive scale. He died on the homestead here in 1909 at the age of sixty-nine years; his widow survives at the age of seventy-three years. To these parents the following children were born: Bertha is the wife of I. A. Haugen, a farmer of Elbow Lake township; Ole C., of this sketch; Ole K. was next in order of birth; Julia is the wife of Charley Larson, a farmer of North Ottawa township; Martha is the widow of Charles Torgeson and lives in North Dakota; Andrew and Mads live at home.

Ole C. Rustand was reared on the home farm in Grant county, being but eleven years old when his parents brought him to Minnesota. He received a common school education and also attended Oxberg Seminary at Minneapolis. He has devoted his life to farming and in 1889, purchased the homestead, which he later sold and bought two hundred and forty acres, and now owns more than four hundred acres of excellent farming land, on which he has put all the improvements, including an excellent group of buildings. He carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale and is one of the leading farmers of his township.

Politically, Mr. Rustand is a Republican and has served as assessor four years in North Ottawa township and as clerk six years. He has also been a member of the school board in Stony Brook township and has been

chairman of the township board for about seven years, which position he still holds. He is active and influential in local public affairs.

Mr. Rustand was married, in 1894, to Inga Anderson, who was born in Norway in 1872. She is a daughter of Iver and Karn Anderson, who came to Grant county, Minnesota, in 1893, the father buying eighty acres of railroad land, which he later sold and took up a homestead in North Dakota. That he also sold, then bought a farm in Stony Brook township, Grant county, but later sold it to his son Ole, and is now living retired in the village of Wendell. His wife also survives.

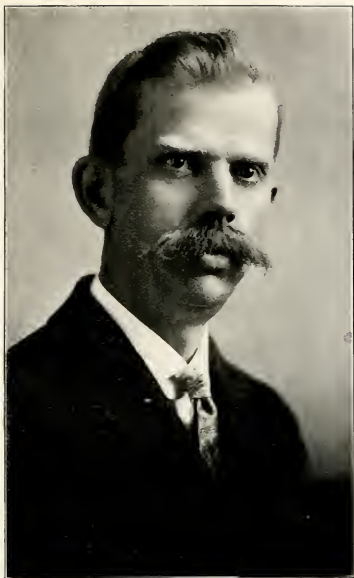
To Mr. and Mrs. Rustand the following children have been born: Annie, Mabel, Hildora, Josephine, Clarence, Walter, David, Leonard, Stanford, Tenny and Ervin, all of whom are living. Hildora and Josephine attended high school at Wendell and the rest of the children were educated in the county schools.

GEORGE STROMLUND.

George Stromlund, a successful business man and banker of Nelson, was born in Sweden on March 29, 1876, the son of Sven and Maria (Jarenson) Stromlund, both of whom were natives of Sweden.

Sven and Maria Stromlund were educated in their native land and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They made that country their home until 1891 when they came to the United States, proceeding directly to Minnesota and locating at Garfield village, in Douglas county. They remained there but a few years, at the end of which time they returned to Sweden, where Sven Stromlund died. They were the parents of seven children, only one of whom, the subject of this sketch, is living in Douglas county.

George Stromlund completed the work in the common schools in his native country and was fifteen years of age when he came to Douglas county with his parents. For a time he worked as a farm hand and then entered a store at Garfield where he was employed for one year as a clerk. He then clerked in a store at Alexandria for a time and then entered the employment of C. H. Larson, general merchant, at Nelson, and was thus engaged for eight years, during which time he became a director in the Nelson State Bank, at its organization in 1907, and in 1909 was elected to his present position as cashier of the bank. In connection with his duties in the bank, Mr. Stromlund is interested in farming, owning sixty acres that adjoins the



GEORGE STROLUND.



NELSON STATE BANK.

grounds of the bank. He is interested in general farming and stock raising, has an ideal farm and believes in intensive farming.

In 1905 George Stromlund was united in marriage to Hannah M. Erickson, who was born at Nelson, the daughter of Olaf Erickson and wife, early pioneers of Douglas county.

Mr. Stromlund has always taken an active part in the affairs of the community. His judgment and ability being recognized, he is held in high regard by all. For a number of years he was a councilman in Nelson and for a time was president of the village. He is treasurer of the Nelson Creamery Association, as well as treasurer of the school board of consolidated school district No. 103. He and his wife are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

CHRISTIAN C. GRINDER.

Christian C. Grinder, a progressive farmer of Stony Brook township, who was born under an alien flag, but who has been loyal to the Stars and Stripes since coming here, was born in Norway on January 10, 1858. He is a son of Christian and Ulricka Grinder, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years and were married. They immigrated to America in 1868, locating in Rice county, Minnesota, but moved to Grant county in 1871, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township. This they improved, erecting buildings and setting out a grove, and here they spent the rest of their lives, the father dying on November 6, 1896, and the mother in October, 1894, the former at the age of seventy-two and the latter at the age of sixty-three. Their children were named as follow: Tosten, Ole, Herman, Christian C., Olaf, Olive, Axel (who died while the family was en route to America and was buried in the Atlantic ocean), Ulrich and Mary, twins.

Christian C. Grinder grew up in Norway, where he was educated in the public schools, and also attended school three years after coming to Rice county, Minnesota. He has devoted his life to farming. When twenty-one years old, in 1879, he took up a homestead in section 34, Stony Brook township. He went to work with a will, developed it into a farm, and he has added to it until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres, on which may be seen a substantial group of buildings and a large grove. He is carrying on general farming and stock raising successfully.

Politically, Mr. Grinder is a Republican. He has been clerk of the local school board during the past thirty years, also a member of the board of supervisors for many years, acting as chairman of the same most of the time. He belongs to the Synod Lutheran church of Wendell.

Mr. Grinder was married on March 14, 1880, to Christina Nelson, who was born in Norway in 1862. She is a daughter of Elling and Annie Nelson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota in 1868, settling at Spring Grove, moving on to Grant county in 1877. Here the father took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Stony Brook township, to which he added land from time to time until he owned four hundred acres, and here he and his wife died. To Mr. and Mrs. Grinder nine children were born, namely: Charles, Ulda (deceased), Adolph, Olive (deceased), Elma, Oscar, Clara, Elmer and Arthur.

HALVOR LARSON KAASA.

One of the older agriculturists of Stony Brook township, Grant county, is Halvor Larson Kaasa, who was born in Norway, August 18, 1842. He is a son of Lars and Karn (Olsen) Kaasa, who spent their earlier lives in Norway, coming to Winneshiek county, Iowa, in 1867. They moved from there to Albert Lea, Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1870, and to Grant county in 1874, buying eighty acres in Elbow Lake township, and on this farm the father died in 1881, at the age of sixty-six years; his widow survived until 1891, dying at the age of seventy-eight years. Five children were born to them, namely: Annie, deceased; Halvor Larson, of this sketch; Rena, Gunel and Ole.

Halvor L. Kaasa spent his boyhood in Norway, where he attended school and where he served for some time in the regular army. There he was married, in 1865, to Gunel Haustad. They immigrated to America in 1868, locating in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they remained until 1875, when they came to Freeborn county, Minnesota. In 1878 they came to Grant county and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township, which Mr. Kaasa later sold, after which he removed to Stony Brook township, in 1899, buying one hundred and sixty acres, to which he later added one hundred and twenty acres. He now owns one of the best farms in the township, consisting of two hundred and seventy acres. He has made many important improvements, including the erection

of good buildings and the setting out of a large grove. He is a general farmer.

Politically, Mr. Kaasa is a Republican and has served on the school board in Elbow Lake township and as road overseer in Stony Brook township. He is a member of the Synod Lutheran church. He has belonged to four different churches since leaving Norway.

Mr. Kaasa has been twice married. His first wife, who died in 1884, bore him the following children: Halvor and Hans, twins, the latter of whom died while the family were crossing the Atlantic ocean to America; Karn; Hans, second; Ole, Lars, Andus, John and Gena; there were also three others, Lars, Genna and Theodore, who are deceased. In 1885 the father of the above-named children married for his second wife, Sarah Strand, who was born in Norway, August 10, 1862, and to this union the following children have been born: Kena (deceased), Carl, Nettie, Ole, Henry, Theodore, Selmer, Laura, Selma (deceased), Gilbert, Alfred and Palmer.

OLE ASLESON.

Ole Asleson, a farmer of Stony Brook township, Grant county, was born in Swift county, Minnesota, June 10, 1876. He is the son of Asle and Mary (Bjornrud) Asleson, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, immigrating to Minnesota in 1871 and locating in Kandiyohi county. They moved on to Swift county in 1875 and in 1878 came to Grant county, Mr. Asleson buying one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land in Stony Brook township, also forty acres of school land in an adjoining section, thus making a farm of two hundred acres, which he improved and operated along general lines until his death, which occurred on March 11, 1913, at the age of seventy-six years. He became one of the leading farmers of his township and was well and favorably known. His wife preceded him to the grave in 1906, at the age of sixty-two years. To them the following children were born: Even, Asle, Jr., and Kjerstie are all deceased; Rena, Mary, Belle, Ole are living; Edward is deceased; Emma is living and Laura is deceased.

Ole Asleson was reared on the homestead here and received a common school education. He has always engaged in general farming and stock raising on the home place, which he now owns and to which he has added another forty, making in all a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres,

which is under excellent improvements. His father erected good buildings and set out a large grove on the same, but the son also erected a modern home. He is a breeder of thoroughbred Holstein cattle, his fine herd being admired by all who are interested in good stock.

Politically, Mr. Asleson is a Republican. He has been a member of the local school board for a period of fifteen years and is now one of the supervisors of his township, which position he has held for four years. He belongs to the Synod Lutheran church to which his parents also belonged.

Mr. Asleson was married in 1903 to Clara Stave, who was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, August 17, 1878. She is a daughter of Christian P. Stave, mention of whom is made in a separate sketch in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Asleson the following children have been born, all living: Ernest Arthur, Muriel Constance, Lulu Idella, Clifford Orion, Borghild Gurina, and Waldemar Lester.

MELVIN LEROY ADAMS.

One of the best known and most progressive and public-spirited citizens of Grant county is Melvin L. Adams, of Wendell. He was born at Angola, Indiana, August 22, 1854, and is a son of George H. and Julia (Furry) Adams. His maternal grandparents, Jacob and Lucy Furry, were pioneers of Steuben county, Indiana, but later in life removed to Hillsdale county, Michigan, where her death occurred. The parents of the subject of this sketch were natives of the state of New York, the father's birth having occurred on September 24, 1817, and the mother's on December 28, 1831. They were brought to Indiana when young by their parents and were married there on December 18, 1852. The father was a wagon-maker, carpenter and general mechanic. He remained in Angola, Indiana, until 1858, when he moved to Alger county, Michigan, where he remained until about 1881, when he came to Grant county, Minnesota, to join his son, M. L. Here he entered one hundred and sixty acres of whole prairie land, which he developed into a farm, on which he spent the rest of his life, dying on August 24, 1907; his wife preceded him to the grave on December 12, 1888. They were members of the Presbyterian church. They were parents of four children, namely: Almira married L. H. Fowler and they live in Alger county, Michigan; Melvin L. of this sketch; Clarence died in Butte, Montana; Sylvester died in Illinois.

Melvin L. Adams received his education in the public schools of Michigan and was reared on the farm. He came to Minnesota in 1878 and settled in Grant county, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land in Lawrence township. He built a shanty and by hard work developed a good farm, later purchasing one hundred and sixty acres additional in the same township. He remained on his farm until retiring from active life, in November, 1913, when he moved to the village of Wendell, buying his present home. He was very successful as a general farmer.

Mr. Adams was married on January 19, 1887, to Lula Stickney, who was born on October 1, 1868, and died on August 2, 1890. To their union two children were born, Roy, born November 16, 1887, and Frances, born November 18, 1888; both died on the same day in 1895, of diphtheria. Mr. Adams was again married December 3, 1892, to Kari Asleson, a native of Norway, whose father, Asle Asleson, was an early settler of Grant county. He was born in Sigdal, Norway, where he grew up and married Sigrí Gundersen. In 1871 they came to America and settled in Winnishiek county, Iowa, where they lived on a farm five years. In 1876 they came to Grant county, Minnesota, and entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in what is now Stony Brook township, where the town of Wendell now stands. He erected a small shanty and began improving his land. His wife died during the first winter (1877). After proving up, he sold out and returned to Norway, where he spent three years, then returned to Minnesota, where he spent the rest of his life, dying when past sixty years of age. His family consisted of seven children, namely: Jens lives in Crookston; Norway, who was a homesteader in Grant county, died here; Julia married Nels N. Brevig and they live in Stony Brook township; Ole lives in Winnishiek county, Iowa; Christ is farming in North Dakota; Gilbert died in infancy in Norway; Kari, wife of Mr. Adams.

To Mr. Adams and his second wife five children have been born, namely: Stella is a graduate of Elbow Lake high school and has taught two years; Albert, who was educated in Elbow Lake high school, is a carpenter; Julia is now attending the Elbow Lake high school; Clara and Alice are at home.

Politically, Mr. Adams is a Republican. He has served as supervisor, being chairman of the board; as township clerk and school clerk for twenty-four years in succession, and as county commissioner for two and one-half terms. He is a member of the Masonic order and the Modern Woodmen of America. His wife belongs to the Lutheran church.

Lucy Furry, maternal grandmother of Mr. Adams, was born in Ver-

mont, July 27, 1798, and was married near Catskill. Her husband died when living near Toledo, Ohio, and, with her children, she moved to Indiana, locating near Pleasant Lake, Steuben county, buying a farm, which she paid for with money she earned by weaving. She was a woman of much courage and ability and reared her family in comfort. Her death occurred in 1877, at the age of eighty years. She had eleven children, named as follows: Freeman, Pernina, Maria, Lydia, George, Eliza, Richard, Lucinda, Julia, Francis and Elmer.

JENS PLETAN.

One of the best-known citizens of Stony Brook township, Grant county, is Jens Pletan, who was born in Norway, March 6, 1842. His parents lived and died in that country, and there he grew to manhood and attended school, and married. In 1869 he came to America, locating in Winnishiek county, Iowa, but the following year came on to Grant county, Minnesota, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Stony Brook township, to which he added until he had three hundred and twenty acres. He has added all improvements on the same, including an excellent group of buildings, and has been very successful as a general farmer. Politically, he is a Republican, and he belongs to the United Lutheran church. He was married in Norway, in April, 1869, to Sigred Nelson, who was born in Norway, December 8, 1839, and who died in her native land. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Pletan, namely: (1) Julia, born in 1869, is the wife of Gunder Ashland, of Iowa, and they have these children, Christ, Isabel, John, Tilda, Edward, Ole, Christina, Carl and one that died in infancy. (2) Nils, who was born March 14, 1871, in Ottertail county, grew up on the home farm in Grant county and attended the district schools. He is now the owner of a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Grant county and two hundred and forty acres in Ottertail county, but rents his land out. Politically, he is a Republican and served as supervisor in Stony Brook township. He was married, in 1909, to Nettie Thoreson and to them one child was born, Andrew, who was drowned in 1913, when nearly four years old; the wife and mother died on August 16, 1915. (3) Edward was born in Grant county in 1873, grew up on the home farm, attended the public schools and is now farming in North Dakota. He married Julia Stave and they have the following children: Rudolph, Constance, Hulda, Joseph, Paul, Clifford, Elvina, Christopher,

Clara, Norman. (4) Gilbert was born in 1874, was reared on the home farm and attended the public schools, and is now engaged in farming in Stony Brook township, Grant county. He married Ida Stave and they have four children, Signe, Cora, Kenneth and Margaret. (5) Bertha was born on December 2, 1876, grew up on the homestead and attended the local rural schools. She married Ole Lillemoen, of Stony Brook township, and they have four children, Stella, Edna, Howard and Juliet. (6) Ole was born on June 14, 1879, grew up on the homestead and attended the public schools. He is farming in Stony Brook township. He married Sophia Asleson and they have the following children: Norlin, Antonie (who was drowned) and Stanley. (7) Ingeborg was born on March 2, 1881, grew up on the home farm and attended the district schools. He married Nicole Lilebo, of Saskatchewan, Canada, and they have five children, George, Serena, Leonard, Enoch and Otto. (8) Grunder was born on March 29, 1883, grew up on the home farm, attended the rural schools and is now farming on his place of one hundred and twenty acres in Stony Brook township, but lives at home. He was married, in 1910, to Selma Anderson, who was born in Stony Brook township in 1893, a daughter of Sven and Julia Anderson, of Stony Brook township. Gunder Pletan and wife have the following children: Burnett, Gladys, Verna and Judith.

OTTO KUCHENBECKER.

Otto Kuchenbecker, a well-known farmer and stock man of Erdahl township, Grant county, Minnesota, was born in Germany on October 18, 1874, being the son of John and Matilda Kuchenbecker. John and Matilda Kuchenbecker were born in Germany, where they received their education in the public schools and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. As a young man, Mr. Kuchenbecker learned the shoemaker's trade, at which he worked for many years. During the war with France in 1870 and 1871, he served in the German army and saw much active service. He and his family continued to reside in the fatherland until 1881, when they came to America. On their arrival in the United States, they located in Plymouth county, Iowa, and there the father worked as a farm hand for some time. He later homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, all of which was wild prairie. Here he built a small frame shanty, in which they lived for some years. In time, he became a successful farmer and stock

raiser and built a splendid frame house and other buildings. Here he lived until 1888, when he sold the farm and moved to South Dakota, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres of land near Madison. He at once started to develop and improve the place, but died the next year. The widow is still living on the farm in South Dakota. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom Otto is the eldest.

Otto Kuchenbecker received his education in the public schools of Iowa and South Dakota and grew to manhood on the home farm. He was but fifteen years of age at the time of the death of his father, yet, being the eldest of the family, he took charge of the place for his mother and operated it for four years. At that time he gave over the operation of the place to the other members of the family and began farming for himself. He rented a farm near Madison, South Dakota, where he remained until he was twenty-five years of age, when he removed to Davidson county, South Dakota, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land. The tract at that time was all wild land and without improvements of any kind. He later bought the adjoining farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which had been improved with buildings. Here he engaged in farming for twelve years and then, in 1912, sold the farm and came to Minnesota. Here he purchased three hundred and sixty acres in Erdahl township, Grant county, and has developed and improved the farm with splendid buildings. He built a new barn, fifty-two by eighty feet, which is especially arranged for the handling and the feeding of much stock. His granary is one of the best in the community, and he has a fine garage, in which to store his seven-passenger Studebaker automobile. He has planted over eighteen thousand trees and has a splendid young grove.

Otto Kuchenbecker devotes the greater part of his time to the breeding and raising of fine stock, owning a herd of high grade stock and always keeping a pure-blooded sire. He now has in his herd over eighty fine cattle and many hogs, the latter being pure-blood Duroc-Jerseys and a registered sire. His stock is recognized as among the best in the county, his special effort being to breed to the highest standard of perfection.

In November, 1899, Otto Kuchenbecker was united in marriage to Minnie Franklin, a native of South Dakota, and to this union the following children have been born: Altha, Emma, May, Tillie, Earle, Lora, Hildred, Clarence and Ethel. Mr. and Mrs. Kuchenbecker are prominent in the social life of the community and are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They are most hospitable and enjoy entertaining their

neighbors and friends. Their home is often the scene of happy gatherings and the young people of the family receive every care and attention. Mr. and Mrs. Kuchenbecker are most kind and indulgent parents and wish to give their children every possible advantage.

Politically, Otto Kuchenbecker is identified with the Republican party and has taken much interest in the civic life of the township and the county. He has served as a member of the township board of supervisors and as a member of the school board in district No. 22. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Erdahl and has for some years served as a member of the board of directors. He takes much interest in the success of company and has had much to do with its success.

OTTO C. THRONSON.

Otto C. Thronson, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Erdahl township, Grant county, Minnesota, was born in that township on May 28, 1874, being the son of Carl F. and Anna Thronson. Carl F. Thronson was born in Ringerike, Norway, on June 17, 1842. There he and his wife grew to manhood and womanhood, were educated in the public schools, and were there married on May 8, 1867. One year after their marriage the young couple decided to come to America and on their arrival in the United States they came to Minnesota, locating in Grant county. Mr. Thronson homesteaded in Erdahl township, where he and his family endured the early life in true pioneer style. Many were their hardships at that time, yet they were brave, and in time Mr. Thronson became one of the prominent and successful farmers and stock men of the county. He was most firm in his advocacy of civic progress, religion and temperance reform, yet he granted the same liberty of thought to all who differed from him on the important questions. His life was a most upright one and he had the confidence and the respect of all who knew him. His life was an active one; the greater part of it being devoted to agriculture. A few years before his death, in 1916, he retired from the activities of the farm life and resided in Evansville. He and his wife, who still survives him, were the parents of twelve children, eleven of whom are living, namely: T. C., who is a well-known farmer of Douglas county; Ingvald, of Evansville; Christian, who is a commercial traveler; Otto C., who lives on the home farm in Erdahl township; Emil, in the implement business at Kramer, North Dakota; Mrs. David Davidson, of

Battle View, North Dakota; Mrs. S. A. Satterlee, of Evansville; Hans, of White Earth, North Dakota, where he is engaged in the grain business; Anna and Carrie, of Evansville; Hjalmer, cashier of the bank at Kanmer, North Dakota; Olive, who died at the age of one year.

Otto C. Thronson received his education in the public schools of Erdahl township, but was unable to attend school to any great extent, owing to ill health. He grew to manhood on the home farm and engaged in farming with his father until 1900, when he purchased the farm, of two hundred and forty acres, and here he has engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been most successful.

On July 3, 1901, Otto C. Thronson was united in marriage to Alice Sorknes, the daughter of Peter and Bertha (Wold) Sorknes. Her parents were born in Norway and there received their education, and there they grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They later decided to come to America and after their arrival in the United States they came direct to Minnesota, locating in Pelican Lake township, Grant county, where they lived for many years. They were among the early pioneers of the township and had much to do with the social and religious development of the community. They later retired from the activities of farm life and now live at San Jacinto, California. Mr. Sorknes was a man of much prominence in the county, and took much interest in the growth and the development of the district, where he and his wife were held in the highest regard and esteem.

The years 1901 and 1902 were most unfortunate for Otto C. Thronson, owing to the failure of the crops, and he became discouraged and insisted that his father take the farm back. With the encouragement that he received from his father, he kept the place, but went to North Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land near White Earth, all of which was wild prairie. Here he built a small house and then left his wife to care for the place, while he returned to his farm in Grant county. He planted his crops and in due time reaped his harvest, which was a record breaker. In the fall of 1903 he rented his home farm and rejoined his family on his homestead in North Dakota, where he remained for one year and proved up on the place, when he returned to Grant county. He rented the farm in North Dakota for two years and then sold the place at ten dollars per acre. This, with the profits on his crops, enabled him to complete the payments on the home farm and make some valuable improvements. He remodeled the house and purchased one hundred and twenty acres more land. He now has three hundred and sixty acres of the best of land, all of which is under

high cultivation and well improved. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been very successful. He has a fine herd of sixty Shorthorn cattle, which are among the best in the township. For many years Mr. Thronson devoted his energies to grain farming, but for the past few years he has been devoting more time to the development of his herd of stock. He has completed a magnificent dairy barn, thirty-four by sixty feet in size, with full basement and a hay loft with capacity for one hundred tons of hay. The basement is of concrete walls, floors and feed troughs. He has stanchion room for twenty-four head of cows and two calf pens are also furnished with stanchions. The barn is built with a view to the best sanitary conditions and shows that much care and attention has been given to its construction.

To Otto C. and Alice (Sorknes) Thronson have been born five children, Carmen, Bernice, Willard, Lillian and Marjorie. Mr. and Mrs. Thronson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in all church work. They have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community and Mr. Thronson has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of the township and the county. He served for a number of years as a member of the school board and as township supervisor, having resigned these positions when he was elected county commissioner, which position he held for two terms. As a public official, Mr. Thronson has given the best of satisfaction and is held in the highest regard by all. In addition to his other interests, he is a stockholder in the Erdahl Farmers Elevator.

ANDREW O. BAH.

Andrew O. Bah, a native of Norway and a well-known and successful farmer of Erdahl township, Grant county, Minnesota, was born on June 27, 1861, being the son of Ole A. and Bertha Bah. Ole A. and Bertha Bah were also born in Norway and there received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1870, when they decided to come to America, where they might make a home for themselves and their family. On their arrival in the United States they came direct to Minnesota, remaining for a few weeks at Preston, Fillmore county, visiting old friends and making preparations for their location. Here Mr. Bah purchased a team of oxen and wagon and, with this outfit, made the journey to Grant county.

Here he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 2, Erdahl township, the tract at that time being all wild prairie, with no improvements. A dugout, with sod roof, was soon constructed and in this the family lived the first year and a half. A log house, fourteen by sixteen feet, was then constructed and roofed with sod from the plains. In this they lived for a number of years, until better and more substantial buildings could be erected. The first year Mr. Bah raised no crop, but devoted his time to the breaking of the soil, preparatory to planting a crop the next year, when he succeeded in harvesting some three acres of good wheat. He continued to develop and improve the place and engaged in general farming until the time of his death in 1891, at the age of sixty-four years. The widow died the next year at the age of sixty-one years. They were the parents of the following children: H. P., M. G., Sophia, Olaous, Minnie and Andrew, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of Olaous, who is a well known farmer of Erdahl township, and Andrew. Mr. and Mrs. Bah were well known in the social and the religious life of the community, and Mr. Bah took much interest in all local affairs, and had much to do with the growth and development of the township. He belonged to the Lutheran church.

Andrew O. Bah received his education in the public schools of Erdahl township and grew to manhood on the home farm. He remained with his father until the latter's death, when he purchased the farm of the heirs and here he has continued to reside. He has done much in the way of development and improvement, having erected all of the splendid buildings now on the farm. His house is a fine modern building and the barn is thirty-six by sixty-two feet, with a full basement. He has a beautiful grove and a fine apple orchard, the most of which he has planted and cared for. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been most successful. During the past few years he has been devoting much of his time to his stock and has a fine herd of cattle and many good hogs.

In 1885 Andrew O. Bah was united in marriage to Isabelle Johnson, who was born in Iowa, where her parents had located on their arrival from Norway. To this union the following children have been born: George, Anna, Ida and Nellie. George, a successful farmer of the township, married Ella Peterson and they are the parents of two children, Murrel and Vivian; Ida is the wife of Olaf Peterson, a well known farmer of North Dakota, and they are the parents of two children, Verna and Orvil; Nellie is the wife of Elmer Peterson, a well-to-do farmer of Douglas county and

they are the parents of two children, Roy and Inez. Mr. and Mrs. Bah are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in all church work, being prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them.

Politically, Andrew O. Bah is identified with the Republican party and has long been interested in the civic life of the township. For nine years he was a member of the township board of supervisors and for fifteen years a member of the school board. He has always given the same careful attention to his official duties that he did to his private affairs. He took much interest in the development of the schools of the township and has ever been a strong advocate of substantial public improvements. He has used his influence in the promotion of all worthy causes that would advance the best interests of the township and the county. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Erdahl and has had much to do with its success.

HENRY M. MARTINSON.

One of the promising young farmers of Sanford township, Grant county, is Henry M. Martinson, who was born in Pomme de Terre township, this county, July 30, 1886. He is a son of Peter and Nellie Martinson, both natives of Sweden, the father born on March 31, 1858, and the mother in 1860. They came to America while still single, locating in Litchfield, Minnesota, in 1881, and were married in 1882, after which they went to Douglas Falls, this state, where Mr. Martinson worked one year on the Great Northern railroad. In 1883 he moved to Grant county and established the home of the family, buying one hundred and sixty acres. Prospering by close application and good management, he added to his original holdings until he accumulated six hundred acres of valuable land in Elbow Lake township, where he carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale many years, but is now living retired. He has a modern home, with up-to-date improvements and a large grove. Politically, he is a Republican. He has long been a member of the local school board and of the township board. He and his wife belong to the Swedish Lutheran church at Elbow Lake. Their family consists of nine children, all living, namely: Anne, Amanda, Henry, Olivia, Ida, Arthur, Oscar, Esther and Lillie.

Henry M. Martinson grew up on the home farm and received his edu-

cation in the local public schools. He has always farmed and now owns one hundred and sixty acres of good land in Sanford township, where he engages in general farming and stock raising. He moved on this place in 1910.

Politically, he is a Republican and has been a member of the local school board for six years. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Mr. Martinson was married, in 1910, to Melve Flatness, a native of Grant county, where she grew up and attended school. The date of her birth was November 15, 1887, and she is a daughter of John and Atlanta Flatness. The father was born in Norway and the mother on the Atlantic ocean, while her parents were en route to America. They came on to Minnesota and are still living on a farm in Elbow Lake. To Mr. and Mrs. Martinson three children have been born, Warren, Webster and Norman.

A. A. ROONEY.

A. A. Rooney, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Osakis township, Douglas county, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on September 17, 1870, the son of John and Elizabeth (Kelly) Rooney, who were born in Ireland and there received their education in the common schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. In 1848 they decided that they would leave the land of their birth and seek a home in America, where so many of their countrymen had come. After landing in New York they decided to locate there, and for the next seven years that was their home. In the fall of 1854 they removed to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they lived until 1887, when they became residents of Minneapolis, where they resided for the next two years. In 1889 they located in Austin, Minnesota, and lived there three years, after which they removed to Farmington, where they remained until 1901. They then removed to Osakis township, Douglas county, and there Mr. Rooney died in 1907. They were the parents of the following children; Patrick, Thomas, Isabelle, Lizzie, Anna, Frank, Stephen, Margaret, Isabelle, Jennie, and A. A. The first-born Isabelle is now deceased. The family are devout members of the Catholic church.

A. A. Rooney received his education in the public schools of Dodge county, Wisconsin. As a young man he started farming for himself, at

Austin, Minnesota. In 1901 he moved to Osakis township, Douglas county, where he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which is well developed and improved with good and substantial buildings, Mr. Rooney having built the barn and granary and made many other valuable and substantial improvements.

A. A. Rooney was united in marriage to Laura Nelson, a native of Norway, and to this union the following children have been born; Lucile, Bernard, Irene, Vincent, Stella, Sylvester, Stephen, Ambrose, Lawrence, Irene and Lestie, Irene is now deceased. The family are devout members of the Catholic church. Mr. Rooney has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has been clerk of Osakis township since 1911.

KNUT A. PIKOP.

Knut A. Pikop, one of Grant county's farmers, proprietor of a farm in Elbow Lake township, is a native son of Grant county and has lived there all his life. He was born on the old Pikop homestead farm in Elbow Lake township, in the immediate neighborhood of his present home, June 30, 1874, son of Anders and Gunhild (Ramstad) Pikop, natives of the kingdom of Norway and pioneers of Grant county, the former of whom died in the summer of 1902 and the latter of whom is still living on the old homestead place, now well past seventy-two years of age. In a biographical sketch relating to the Hon. Ole A. Pikop, representative in the Legislature and elder brother of the subject of this sketch, presented elsewhere in this volume, there is set out in detail particulars of the genealogy and the history of the Pikop family in this state, to which the attention of the reader is respectfully invited in this connection.

Reared on the homestead farm on which he was born, Knut A. Pikop received his schooling in the local district school and from the days of his youth was an able assistant to his father in the labors of developing the home farm, Anders Pikop becoming the owner of eighteen hundred acres of land and long recognized as one of the most substantial and influential farmers in Grant county. Knut A. Pikop, in 1915, erected a fine, new, modern house on his place and he and his family are now very comfortably and very pleasantly situated. It was in 1899 that Knut A. Pikop was united in marriage to Andrea Torgerson, who was born in Norway, daughter of one of the early settlers in Grant county, and to this union

five children have been born, Lily, Arthur, Lester, Gilma and Iner. Mr. and Mrs. Pikop are members of the United Lutheran church at Elbow Lake and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of that organization as well as in all community good works, helpful in advancing the cause of better citizenship along all lines hereabout.

AXEL BURKEE.

Axel Burkee, cashier of the Farmers State Bank at Brandon and one of the best-known young bankers in Douglas county, is a native son of that county and has always lived there. He was born on a farm in Urness township, July 9, 1888, son of Andrew and Carrie (Moe) Burkee, natives of the kingdom of Norway and early settlers in Douglas county, the latter of whom is still living on the old home place in Urness township.

Andrew Burkee was born on February 11, 1837, and in 1861, when twenty-four years of age, came to the United States, which just then was in the throes of the great Civil War. Proceeding almost directly from his port of entry to Madison, Wisconsin, Andrew Burkee there enlisted for service during the Civil War as a member of the Fifteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served until the close of the war. Upon the completion of his military service Mr. Burkee came out to this section of Minnesota, which then was beginning to attract settlers in considerable numbers, and in 1866 homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Urness township, Douglas county, and proceeded to develop the same. He built a log house on his claim and following his marriage in the fall of 1868 established his home there. He later built a more commodious log house and still later a very comfortable frame house, which still serves as the family home. Mr. Burkee was an excellent farmer and made many substantial improvements on his place, at the same time enlarging his land holdings until he became the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres. He died on the home farm on December 8, 1915, and his widow survives him. She also was born in Norway, Carrie Moe, daughter of Ole Moe, one of the pioneers of this section of the state, and was living on the old Moe homestead in Douglas county at the time of her marriage to Mr. Burkee on November 7, 1868. To that union twelve children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eleventh in order of birth, the others being as follow: Sophia, widow of Skak Quam, now living on a farm



AXEL BURKEE.



FARMERS STATE BANK. BRANDON.

near the old Burkee homestead; George, who is living on the old homestead; John, a prominent resident of Roseau and register of deeds of Roseau county; Alfred, cashier of the Peoples State Bank at Greenbush, this state; Clara, a teacher in the public schools at Little Falls, this state; Olena, a private nurse; Gena, who died at the age of twenty-eight; Ole, who is on the old homestead farm; William, a resident of Ritzville, Washington; Martha, a teacher in the public schools at Little Falls, and Nels, who died in infancy.

Axel Burkee was reared on the old home farm in Urness township, receiving his elementary education in the district school in that neighborhood, supplementing the same by a course in the Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls, from which he was graduated in 1908. Following his return from college he remained on the farm for some time and then, in February, 1911, was made assistant cashier of the Farmers State Bank at Brandon. He presently was promoted to the position of cashier of that bank and has ever since occupied that position. Mr. Burkee is an "independent" Republican and has given close attention to local political affairs, now serving as justice of the peace in and for his home township and as treasurer of the village of Brandon.

On June 6, 1914, Axel Burkee was united in marriage to Alice Werner, of Brandon. Mr. and Mrs. Burkee have a very pleasant home in Brandon and take a proper interest in the various social activities of their home town. They are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the beneficences of the same, Mr. Burkee being one of the trustees of the church and active in all good works in the community in which he lives.

CARL A. SHOGREN.

Carl A. Shogren, one of the well-known and successful young farmers of Belle River township, Douglas county, was born in that township on March 30, 1885, the son of Charles E. and Matilda (Johnson) Shogren, who were born in Sweden and there received their education in the public schools. They came to the United States in their youth and were married in this country. Charles E. Shogren came to Minnesota with his parents and located in Douglas county, where he homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of land. The parents, Andrew and Christina (Nystrom) Shogren, also settled in that county. The tract of land taken by Charles

E. Shogren was a wild tract of timber land, and required much work to put under cultivation. There he built a small log and frame house and proceeded to clear his farm. After having quite a tract of it developed, he sold the place and purchased eighty acres in Belle River township, to which he later added forty acres. There he made his home until 1899, when he moved to a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 23, which he had purchased some time before. This farm had some few improvements, but Mr. Shogren at once entered into the task of making his farm one of the ideal ones of the township. He built a fine new house, a good barn and other buildings, and there he made his home until 1912, when he retired from the active duties of the farm and moved to California.

Charles E. and Matilda Shogren were the parents of the following children: Selma, Carl A., Ellen, Amil, Emma, Herman, Victor, Olga, Albert and Joseph. Selma is the wife of Carl Hanson, a farmer of Belle River township; Ellen is the wife of Gust Matson, a farmer living south of Carlos village; Amil was united in marriage to Otava Davis, a teamster of Alexandria; Emma is the wife of Ole Fransen, of Spokane, Washington; Herman married Bertha Swanson and lives on the old home place; Olga is the wife of Arthur Palmer and lives in California; Victor, Albert and Joseph are with their parents in California.

Carl A. Shogren received his education in the public schools of Belle River township, and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the work on the farm until he was married on April 24, 1911, to Anna Westlund, a native of Superior, Wisconsin, who had come to Douglas county with her parents at the age of ten years. August and Hannah (Christenson) Westlund were natives of Sweden and Denmark, respectively. Mr. Westlund is a carpenter and now lives at Dows, Iowa.

After his marriage, Carl A. Shogren and wife lived with his parents on the home place for one and one-half years. They then rented two hundred acres in Spruce Hill township, where they lived for three years. During that time they purchased eighty acres, which they later sold and are now the owners of one hundred and twenty acres of the old home farm and there Mr. Shogren is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been successful. He has no buildings on his farm, but is preparing to build a modern house as well as other substantial farm structures. He and his wife now make their home with his brother Herman. Mr. and Mrs. Shogren are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

OLOF OLSON.

Olof Olson, deceased, was born in Sweden on February 4, 1846. He received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood and was married. He continued to reside in the land of his birth until he was thirty-seven years of age, when, in 1883, he decided to come to America. On his arrival in this country, he came direct to Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 25, Sanford township, Grant county, to which he later added one hundred and twenty acres. This farm he developed and improved and engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was successful. He erected excellent buildings, set out a beautiful grove and made many other valuable and substantial improvements, which added much to the value and beauty of the place. This he made his home until the time of his death, on May 24, 1899.

Olof Olson was united in marriage, on August 5, 1883, to Ingrid M. Olson, who was born in Sweden on May 30, 1859; her parents died there some years ago. To this union the following children have been born: Olof L., Amanda, Oscar, Nels and Ethel. Olof L. Olson was born on the old homestead in Sanford township, on September 17, 1884. He received his education in the public schools and grew to manhood on the home farm, where, as a lad, he assisted his father with the work. As a young man he decided to be a farmer and for some time before his father's death he farmed the place. Since the death of the father, he and his mother have improved the farm with more modern buildings and have in many ways added to the value of the place. He is now operating the farm and is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been most successful. Politically, Olof L. Olson is independent, but has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He was married in 1915 to Effie Johnson, of Montana. Amanda Olson was born on March 31, 1886, and is now the wife of Peter Jenson, a well-to-do farmer of Lien township. Oscar Olson was born in 1888 and died in 1889. Nels E. Olson was born on May 28, 1891, and is a student in the Gustavus Adolphus College, and Ethel is also a student in that college.

Olof Olson always took much interest in the civic life of the township and was recognized as one of the substantial and prominent men of the community. He took much interest in the growth and success of the schools and served for a number of years as a member of the school board. He and

his family were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and were prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Olof L., the oldest member of the family, has become one of the successful and well-known residents of the county. He is progressive and is a firm advocate of modern methods and ways of farming. The old home place, under his careful management has become one of the best in the township and the family have one of the finest farm homes in the community.

NELS N. BREVIG.

Another Norwegian who has made good at general farming in Grant county is Nels N. Brevig, of Stony Brook township. He was born in Norway, December 29, 1850, a son of Nels N. and Margaret P. (Eadail) Brevig, both natives of Norway, the former born in 1825 and the latter in 1816. There they grew up and were married, maintaining their home there until 1865, when they came to America, locating at Decorah, Iowa. After five years there, they came, in 1870, to Grant county, Minnesota, the father taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Stony Brook township, which he developed and there spent the rest of his life, dying in 1905. His wife died on November 9, 1902. They were members of the United Lutheran church and, politically, he was a Republican. To these parents the following children were born: Carrie, Nels N., Julia, Peter, and Andrew, deceased.

Nels N. Brevig spent his boyhood in Norway, where he attended school, being fifteen years old when he came to America with the rest of the family. He worked on his father's farm during their five years' residence in Iowa and came with the family to Grant county, where he has since made his home, being thus one of the pioneers here. During his residence of a period of some forty-six years in these parts he has noted many great changes "come over the face of the land." In 1871 he took up a homestead—one hundred and sixty acres—in section 18, Stony Brook township, which he improved and, managing well, he later added to his original holdings until he accumulated three hundred and twenty acres of valuable land, on which he has carried on general farming and stock raising successfully. His place is well improved, including an attractive set of buildings.

Mr. Brevig has been twice married, first, to Cheslina Kittelson, by whom one child was born, Anne Maria. His second wife was before her marriage,

Julia Asleson, a native of Grant county, where she grew up and attended school. She is a daughter of Jens Asleson, now deceased, for many years a farmer of this county. To Mr. Brevig and his second wife the following children were born: Soffe, Amalia, Kjersti, Nicolena, Nora, Albert, Nels and two infants who are deceased. Politically, Mr. Brevig is a Republican and has served on the local school board.

ENGBRET E. SUND.

Engbret E. Sund, a well-known Grant county farmer, residing in Stony Brook township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twenty-three years of age and of Grant county since the year 1881. He was born on a farm in the Sigdal district of Norway, April 5, 1857, son of Engbret H. and Mary (Hanson) Sund, both natives of that same district, substantial farming people, now deceased, who spent all their lives there. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth, the others being Helge, Hans, Berit (deceased), Ole, Nels (deceased), Gertrude, Christen and Hans, all of whom, save three, remained in their native land, Helge, the first-born, having for some years been a resident of Grant county, but later returned to his native land, where he is now living, and Hans, the last-born, who also for some time lived in Grant county, now living at Leeds, North Dakota.

Reared on the home farm in Norway, Engbret E. Sund received his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood and remained at home until he was twenty-three years of age, when, in 1880, he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Olmsted county, where he remained a year, at the end of which time he came over to this part of the state and located in Grant county, where his brothers, Helge and Hans, had preceded him and where they had bought a quarter of a section of railroad land in Stony Brook township. Not long afterward E. E. Sund bought that tract of land from his brothers, who had built a small house on the same and had broken the most of it. That farm was in section 7 and upon taking possession of the same Mr. Sund proceeded further to improve it and it was not long until he had a profitably cultivated farm. In 1887 he married and established his home there and has ever since been very comfortably situated. As his affairs prospered he bought an adjoining "forty"

and later bought another quarter section lower down in the township and is now the owner of three hundred and forty-five acres of land and is regarded as one of the substantial farmers of that section of the county. Mr. Sund is a Republican, but has never been a seeker after public office.

It was in 1887 that Engebret E. Sund was united in marriage to Gunhild Bye, who also was born in the kingdom of Norway, a daughter of Peter Bye and wife, both now deceased, whose lives were spent in their native land, and to this union six children have been born, namely, Mary, who married Nels Bergan and lives on section 20, Stony Brook township; Edward, now at home, who spent four years in Saskatchewan, where he is the owner of a quarter of a section of land which he homesteaded there; Helmer, who lives at Spring Brook, North Dakota, where he is the owner of a farm, and Clara, Henry and Ragna, who are at home. The Sunds are members of the Synod Lutheran church and take a proper interest in all neighborhood good works.

ALGOT F. LARSON.

Among the sturdy Swedes who have made a success of farming in Douglas county is Algot F. Larson, of Carlos township, who was born in Sweden on March 26, 1876, the son of Gustaf and Gustava Larson, both natives also of Sweden. Gustaf Larson came with his family to Minnesota in 1883, settling first in Alexandria, where they lived for four years, after which he purchased eighty acres of wild timber land in Carlos township, built a frame house and proceeded to cultivate and improve his land, gradually adding to his holdings until he is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of good farming land. He is now retired from active farm life and one of his sons manages the farm. He and his wife were the parents of three children, Victor, Algot F. and Hjalmar, who is living on the home farm.

Algot F. Larson received his education in the public schools of Alexandria, and was also a student in the schools of Belle River township. He assisted his father with the work of the farm until his marriage, when he rented forty acres of land in section 36 of Carlos township, where he lived for five years, after which he bought eighty acres of wild land in section 25, of the same township, and has since been engaged in cultivating and improving his land. Besides his eighty acres, Mr. Larson rents forty acres in Belle River township, and is engaged in general farming and stock rais-

ing, his crops consisting of barley, oats and potatoes. He also has considerable live stock of the Holstein variety of cattle. He also owns a threshing outfit, engine and separator, which he operates during the season.

In 1903 Mr. Larson was married to Hulda Johnson, who is also a native of Sweden, and to this union have been born three children, Harry, Gordon and Helen. Mr. Larson is a Republican and takes an active interest in all public matters of local importance.

CHRIST C. NESS.

Christ C. Ness, a pioneer of Grant county and for years recognized as one of the most substantial farmers of the Norcross neighborhood, the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Gorton township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has lived in this country since he was seventeen years old, when he came to America with his father and settled in Wisconsin, where he resided until he became a Grant county homesteader in 1879. He was born on a farm in the stift of Hamar, fifty miles or more north of Christiania, November 19, 1855, son of Christ Olson and Barbara (Olson) Ness, the latter of whom died about 1865. She was the mother of four children who grew to maturity, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eldest, the others being Ole C., who lives on the farm his father developed in Wisconsin; Knut C., who became a resident of Grant county and was engaged as a clerk in a store at Herman, where he died, and Rande, who died in Wisconsin at the age of eighteen years.

After the death of his wife, Christ Olson Ness did not remarry, but in 1872 came to the United States with his children and settled at LaCrosse, Wisconsin. In the vicinity of that city he worked on farms for a couple of years and then moved to Baldwin, in St. Croix county, that same state, buying a farm of one hundred and twenty acres near Woodville, in that same county, and there he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1902.

As noted above, Christ C. Ness was about seventeen years of age when he came with his father to this country and he remained with his father, assisting the latter in the development of his farm, until the spring of 1879, when he came over to this part of Minnesota, arriving in Grant county on March 19th of that year. He homesteaded the northwest quarter of section

24 in Gorton township, but was so poor in this world's goods at that time that he was compelled to work on other farms for money with which to make his payments and thus the breaking of his own land was deferred until such time as he could eventually get to it. He presently succeeded in getting a start, however, and in due time set out a grove, erected a set of buildings on his place and brought the farm up to a high standard of cultivation, long having been recognized as one of the most substantial farmers in that neighborhood. Mr. Ness has ever given close attention to local civic affairs and has served the public as township treasurer and for some years as a member of the board of supervisors. He formerly was a member of the Knights of Pythias.

HERMAN ALBIN SHOGREN.

Herman Albin Shogren, a well-known young farmer of Belle River township, Douglas county, was born in that township on March 3, 1893, the son of Charles E. and Matilda (Johnson) Shogren, who came to the United States single and were married in this country.

Charles E. Shogren came to the United States with his parents, Andrew and Christine (Nystrom) Shogren. They came direct to Minnesota, and here Charles R. homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of land in Douglas county. The tract at that time was covered with timber and required much labor to bring it under cultivation. There he built a small log and frame house, and proceeded to make a clearing. After having done considerable work he sold the place and purchased eighty acres in Belle River township, to which he later added forty acres. There he made his home and engaged in general farming until 1899, when he moved to section 23, where he had purchased another farm of one hundred and twenty acres. That farm had some improvements, but Mr. Shogren at once erected a fine house, a good barn and made other valuable improvements that added much to the beauty and value of the place. On that farm he made his home until 1912, when he retired from the active duties of farm life and moved to California.

Charles E. and Matilda Shogren are the parents of the following children: Selma, Carl A., Ellen, Amil, Emma, Herman, Victor, Olga, Albert and Joseph. Selma is the wife of Carl Hanson. Ellen is the wife of Gust Matson. Amil is the wife of Otava Davis. Emma is the wife of Ole Fran-

sen. Olga is the wife of Arthur Palmer. Carl A. married Anna Westlund and Herman married Bertha Swanson. Victor, Albert and Joseph are with their parents in California.

Herman Albin Shogren received his education in the public schools of Belle River township and grew to manhood on the home farm. When a lad of seventeen he worked on a farm away from home and for a time in Canada, where he worked on a farm. He then went to North Dakota, where he was engaged in farm work, after which he spent one year in California with his parents; while there working with a house-wrecking crew and as a laborer.

On June 17, 1915, Herman Albin Shogren was united in marriage to Bertha E. Swanson, who was born in Illinois, and who came to Douglas county with her parents nine years ago. She is the daughter of Andrew F. and Emma Swanson, well-known residents of Douglas county. In November, 1915, Mr. Shogren purchased one hundred and twenty acres of his father and is now engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. and Mrs. Shogren have one child, Emmet. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

CHARLES J. LINDSTROM.

Douglas county has among her noble and progressive residents many who are natives of Sweden and who came to the United States with the determination of making a home for themselves and their families. They have brought with them to their new homes the characteristics of their country—honesty, industry and economy. With these as their principles, to guide their lives, they have had much to do with the reclaiming of the timbered lands and the wild prairies of the great state of Minnesota.

Charles J. Lindstrom, a well-known and successful farmer of Carlos township, was born in Sweden, on March 24, 1870, the son of Andrew and Anna Lindstrom, both of whom were born in far-away Sweden.

Andrew and Anna Lindstrom received their education in the land of their nativity and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to live in their native land until 1870, when they decided to locate in America. On landing in the United States they came direct to Minnesota, and here the father took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 3, Alexandria township, Douglas county. He at

once built a log house and obtained a team of oxen and began the task of clearing his farm and the planting of his crops. He later engaged in general farming and stock raising and was successful. He bought more land and at the time of his retirement, in 1914, was the owner of two hundred and eighteen acres of good land, one hundred and twenty-five of which was cleared and under cultivation. He had erected substantial buildings and in other ways added much to the beauty and value of the tract. Upon his retirement from the active duties of the farm life he removed to Alexandria, where he now lives. The wife and mother died in 1913 at the age of seventy-one years. Andrew and Anna Lindstrom were the parents of the following children: Hannah, Ida, Charles J., Ellen, Augusta, Gustave, Anna and one who died in infancy. Hannah is the wife of William Hegedorn, of the state of Washington; Ida married August Grandlund and lives in Belle River township; Ellen is the wife of Alfred Hedsen, of St. Paul; Augusta married Leonard Hedeem, a successful farmer of Carlos township; Gustave married Clara Hanson and resides in St. Paul, and Anna is the wife of Anton Rundberg, also of St. Paul.

Charles J. Lindstrom received his education in the public schools of Alexandria township and attended school in the old log school house. He grew to manhood on the home farm, where he lived until his marriage in 1892 to Caroline Sward, a native of Osakis township. Her parents were early settlers there, where they had located on their arrival from Sweden. Charles J. Lindstrom had purchased eighty acres of land in Carlos township before his marriage. There he erected a frame house and to this he brought his bride. The tract was for the most part heavy timber, which he later cleared and developed. He added to his original farm until he is now the owner of two hundred and thirty-three acres, of which one hundred and fifty are now under cultivation, and the rest is in valuable meadow land. His first crop was wheat, but he now raises wheat, corn, oats, barley and potatoes. He raises many cattle and keeps high-grade Shorthorns. His hogs are among the best in the township. In addition to his hogs and cattle he devotes much time and attention to his Rhode Island Red chickens and his large flock of turkeys. Since coming to the farm he has added to his house, and today has one of the best improved and most attractive farms in the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindstrom are the parents of three children, Minnie, Richard and Evenell, all of whom are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Lindstrom are popular in their home community and take an active interest in the social life of the township. Mr. Lindstrom has always been interested in the

civic life of the township and has had much to do with local affairs. For twelve years he was chairman of the township board of supervisors, assessor for two years, county commissioner for four years and is now a member of the school board of district No. 77, which position he has held for eighteen years.

JOHN P. NELSON.

John P. Nelson, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Pelican township, Grant county, was born in Sweden on April 22, 1850, the son of Nels and Marie (Bearson) Johnson.

Nels and Marie Johnson were natives of Sweden and there received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1874, when they decided to come to the United States. They had become aged, and their children were in this country, hence their decision to come to a new land at that time. Here they made their home with their son Johnas, in Pelican Lake township, where Nels died in 1880, at the age of sixty-eight years. His widow died in January, 1896, at the age of eighty-five years.

John P. Nelson was educated in the public schools of Sweden and there grew to manhood. He continued to live in his native land, until 1869, when he decided to come to the United States, he being the first of the family to locate in this country. He landed at Quebec, after which he proceeded to Chicago, and, a short time later, he located in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he worked as a laborer. In 1870 he came to Grant county, thus being one of the earliest settlers in the country. Here he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 17, of Pelican Lake township. To his original farm he later added forty acres in section 16. That farm he made his home and there he was engaged in general farming until 1909, when he removed to section 32 of Pelican Lake township, where he purchased one hundred acres of Halvor Larson, his father-in-law.

On May 12, 1879, John P. Nelson was united in marriage to Gurel Larson, who was born in Norway, on November 25, 1859, and who came with her parents to Grant county in 1869, her father then homesteading in section 32 of Pelican Lake township. To this union have been born three children, Helmer, Alfred and Amelia. The two sons are now married. John P. Nelson and his wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran

church at Ashby and take much interest in church work. They have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community in which they live. Mr. Nelson takes much interest in local affairs and has ever been ready to give his support to any worthy cause that has a tendency to advance the better interests of the township. He is a stockholder in the Creamery Company at Ashby and is a worthy representative of the successful farmers of his township.

Since purchasing his present farm Mr. Nelson has made many valuable improvements, having erected all the buildings, as well as adding much to the development of the place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and is recognized as being quite successful. His farm home is nicely located, a small lake being just back of the barn; and Lake Pomme de Terre just west of his farm, all of which makes the location an ideal one for a home.

EDWARD JOHN DRUSSELL.

Among the well-known younger farmers of Ida township, Douglas county, is Edward John Drussell, who was born in Winona, Minnesota, August 5, 1881. He is a son of John and Ellen (Pfifer) Drussell, both natives of the United States, but of German parentage. John Drussell and Ellen Pfifer were married at Winona, Minnesota, and lived on a farm there for some years. In the spring of 1885 they came to Douglas county, where they purchased ninety-three acres of land in section 24 of Ida township. This place was almost entirely unimproved when they bought it, having only a small log cabin and a barn on it. A few acres had been chopped over in the way of clearing, but the place was full of stumps and almost a wilderness. However, the family went to work with a will, living in the old log cabin house in pioneer style for a time, and now have a nice modern frame residence on the farm, as well as many other modern improvements. John Drussell's first year's crop was a little wheat planted between the stumps, but he kept on clearing the land, as well as adding to his acreage, until he now has one hundred and seventy-three acres of fine farming land all in one body, and about thirty acres of which is in timber. The family lived on this farm until the spring of 1914, when they moved to Alexandria. John Drussell and wife are the parents of seven children, Edward J., Will, Albert, Anna, Meta, Harry and Frank, all of whom are still at home, with the exception of Edward J. and Albert, the latter of whom married Marie Forton, and is engaged in the implement business in Hamel, Minnesota.

Edward J. Drussell received his education in the old log school house which stood on his father's farm, and assisted with the work on the home farm as a lad. After reaching manhood he learned the carpenter's trade under Herman Suckow and Will Paulers, and followed that occupation for some years, after which he moved to Grundy county, Iowa, where he was engaged in the building and contracting business, remaining in that state for some seven or eight years, making a total of sixteen years spent in carpenter work. In the spring of 1914 he moved back to Douglas county and rented his father's farm, where he has since lived. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and is making a very commendable success in his agricultural operations. His farm is well improved and operated under the most modern system, while his home is beautifully located on the east side of Lake Ida, from which the township takes its name.

In October, 1904, Edward J. Drussell was married to Josephine Froeming and to this union have been born two children, Earle and Miles. The family attend the German Lutheran church and are actively interested in all movements which have for their object the general welfare of their community.

MARTIN N. ULSAGER.

Farming has always been a pleasure to Martin N. Ulsager, and indeed it should be to everyone. It is all in the way one "looks" at it. There is no life so independent or healthful. Mr. Ulsager was born in Brandon township, Douglas county, August 8, 1888, and there he still resides. He is a son of Nels and Julia (Knutson) Nelson, natives of Norway. The father came to the United States in 1860, locating in Wisconsin; but not long thereafter moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he bought forty acres. While there he married Julia Knutson and they continued to live there until 1867, when they drove over to Douglas county, where he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 31 of Brandon township—wild prairie land. There he built a small shanty, later a log house, and began preparing his land for crops. He prospered in due course of time and bought more land, at one time owning three hundred and fifty-six acres, a part of which he later sold. He spent the last twenty years of his life in retirement, renting out his land. Nels Nelson was born on January 27, 1836, and died on December 3, 1915. Julia (Knutson) Nelson died in the fall of 1915, at the age of seventy-four years. Nineteen children were born to them, ten

of whom grew to maturity, namely: Nels, Jr., Julia, Anna, Mary, Betsy, Nettie, Knut, Halvor, Andrea and Martin N.

Martin N. Ulsager was reared on the home farm and there he worked when a boy, and he received his education in the district schools. He helped his father on the farm until his marriage on February 4, 1914, to Elna Anderson. They have one child, Elsie Irene.

Mr. Ulsager has been farming for himself twelve years. His father gave him eighty acres in section 30 of Brandon township, which was but little improved. He also has eighty acres adjoining, owning now one hundred and fifty-six acres in all, and has a good group of buildings. In 1905 he built a new barn. One of the county ditches runs through his place. He has laid fourteen hundred and fifty feet of six-inch tile. He carries on general farming. Politically, he is a Republican, and he belongs to St. Peter's Lutheran church.

T. L. TOBIASON.

T. L. Tobiason, a prominent and well-known farmer of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in that township on November 12, 1869, the son of L. L. and Gure (Hove) Tobiason, who were born in Norway.

L. L. Tobiason was born on October 10, 1836, and lived in the land of his nativity until he was nineteen years of age, when he came to the United States. After landing at the port of New York he came West and located at Decorah, Iowa, where he worked until 1868, when he moved to Pelican Rapids, Ottertail county, this state, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, all of which was heavy timber. He sold that place the next year and moved down to Grant county, where he bought homestead rights to eighty acres in section 29 and eighty acres in section 32, Pelican Lake township. There he built a house and developed the farm and engaged in general farming. His wife was the daughter of Ole Hove, a farmer of Norway, where he lived and died. To L. L. and Gure Tobiason were born the following children: T. L., Ole, Jennie, Lewis, Ghea and Gust. Mr. and Mrs. Tobiason were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Ashby and took much interest in religious work. They were prominent in the early social life of the community and Mr. Tobiason took much interest in the civic affairs of the township. His parents, Lars and Jennie Brakken, were natives of Norway, who came to the United

States in 1865, locating in Iowa, where they lived, for the most part, a retired life. They were always active in the work of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which they were members.

T. L. Tobiason received his education in the public schools of Pelican Lake township, where he grew to manhood and where, as a lad and a young man, he assisted with the work on the farm. On October 29, 1894, he was united in marriage to Minnie Erickson, who was born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1870, the daughter of Jens C. Erickson, a blacksmith, who later moved to Erdahl. Mr. Erickson answered his country's call in 1861 and served throughout the Civil War. He saw much active service and was in many of the important engagements. To Mr. and Mrs. Tobiason have been born four children, Leonard, who died at the age of three years; Melvin, who died as an infant, and Mabel and Matilda.

T. L. Tobiason is engaged in general farming and stock raising and is the owner of one hundred and ninety-two acres of land in sections 30, 31 and 32, Pelican Lake township. He lives in section 29, caring for his aged mother and operating her farm of eighty acres. T. L. Tobiason and wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Ashby and are prominent in church work, Mr. Tobiason having been secretary of the local society for the past eleven years. He has always been active in local affairs and has served as a member of the township board and on the school board. He owns stock in the elevator company and, fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

AUGUST W. ERICKSON.

August W. Erickson, a farmer of Carlos township, Douglas county, was born in that township and has lived there all his life. His parents, Erick and Gustava (Berg) Erickson, came to Minnesota from Sweden in 1882 and settled in Douglas county, where they established their home and where Erick Erickson died in 1902, at the age of forty-nine years. He and his wife were the parents of three children, August W., Anna and Emil, the first-named of whom is now operating the home farm in Carlos township. August W. Erickson served for three years as a member of the township board and also has served as clerk of his local school board. The family are connected with the Swedish Lutheran church.

CARL G. MILLER.

In a great grain country like Douglas and Grant counties a number of People are engaged in the elevator and milling business. One of this number is Carl G. Miller, who operates an elevator at Miltona, Douglas county. Mr. Miller was born in Leaf Valley township, that county, August 17, 1888, and is a son of Charles and Augusta (Lenke) Miller. Here he grew to manhood and received a common-school education. On January 28, 1914, he married Elsie Wilke and they have two children, Mabel and Melvin. Mr. Miller started out in life for himself as a farmer in Leaf Valley township, later moving to Miltona township where he owns a small place in section 25, but he gives his principal attention to his elevator at the town of Miltona, which he purchased in 1914. He has since handled all kinds of grain products, and is building up a good trade.

Charles Miller, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Germany, September 13, 1849, a son of Frederick and E. (Bransteter) Miller, natives of Germany, where they farmed on a small scale, owning a little land there, until immigrating with their family to America in 1856, coming directly to Minnesota, arriving at Winona, August 13th, where the father worked out awhile, then bought one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, heavily timbered, which he cleared and improved, built the necessary farm buildings and there he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. To them the following children were born: Lewis, a retired farmer at Arcadia, Wisconsin; Charles, father of the subject of this sketch; Julius, deceased; Herman, a retired farmer living at Alexandria; John, who is farming in Carlos township, Douglas county; Albertina, wife of Henry Bittner, of Cinga, Wisconsin, and Fred, who is engaged in farming in Hudson township, Douglas county.

Charles Miller was about seven years old when his parents brought him from Germany. He attended school in Winona county, Minnesota, and remained on the farm with his parents until 1872, when, on May 2 of that year, he took up a homestead of eighty acres, and later another of the same acreage, all in Leaf Valley township, Douglas county. It was timbered land, which he cleared, erected a small log house, began farming with an ox-team and after many hardships and discouragements finally succeeded. He was once compelled to go back to Winona to work out to earn a living. He remained in his log house about five years, at the end of which time he built a better log house. He remained on that farm until about 1881, when



MR. AND MRS. CARL G. MILLER.

he sold out and bought one hundred and sixty acres in another section of Leaf Valley township. It was partly improved, seventy acres being under cultivation, but there was no dwelling, so he erected a log house. His present home was built a number of years afterwards. He has continued to reside there, making improvements from time to time, and adding to his land until he owned an additional one hundred and sixty acres, which his son is now operating.

In 1872 Charles Miller was married to Augusta W. Lemke, who was born in Germany, and to that union the following children were born: Matilda, who married Carl Patzwald, who is engaged in farming on land adjoining the farm of Mr. Miller; Will, who died when seven years of age; Alvina, who married George Witte, who has a photograph gallery at Centerville, South Dakota, and has two children, Mary and Carl; Edward, who married Augusta Blank, is farming in Miliona township, Douglas county, and has three children, Edna, Ella and Edward, Jr.; Sophia, who married Tollef Dahl, of Carlos township, Douglas county, and had two children, Alfred (deceased) and Helen; Mary, who married Segard Dahl, of Carlos township; Carl G., the immediate subject of this sketch; Albert, who married Emma Smith, and is farming near the homestead and Gustav and Ernest, both at home.

Charles Miller is an independent voter. He served as supervisor of Carlos township for some time, and was also chairman of the board of supervisors in Leaf Valley township for some time. He is now clerk of school district No. 59, which position he has held for twenty years. Carl G. Miller is independent in politics. His elevator at Milton is gradually securing the business of that vicinity and he is recognized as one of Douglas county's most progressive grain men.

PETER AUGUST PETERSON.

One of the well-known citizens of Lawrence township, Grant county, is Peter August Peterson, who was born in northern Sweden on February 9, 1840. He is a son of Peter Larson and wife. His mother died when he was a child, and his father never remarried. He was one of three children, a brother and a sister both remaining in Sweden.

Peter A. Peterson was reared on the farm and was educated in the

public schools. He came to America in 1866 with his wife and daughter. They located in Hastings, Minnesota, where he found work in a lumber yard and in the neighborhood of which place he also worked out as a farm hand, remaining there about six years, at the end of which time he started to farm at Prairie Island, three neighbors buying one-fourth of a section together. After living there several years, he sold out to his partners and rented land until 1900, when he moved to Grant county and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Lawrence township, and there he has since resided and has since added another forty acres. The land was wild prairie, but he broke it and put it in cultivation and erected a good group of buildings thereon, set out a grove and made general improvements and now has a valuable and productive farm, which is operated by his sons, he having been retired for some time.

Mr. Peterson was married about 1865, to Louisa Hendrickson, a native of Sweden and a daughter of John Hendrickson and wife. The death of Mrs. Peterson occurred about 1891. Seven children were born to that union, namely: Augusta, who died in girlhood; Carl, who operates the homestead; Emily, who married Carl Oscar Bergerson, of Fergus Falls, and has four children, Dora, Edward, Elmer and Ethel; Charles, who is at home; Augusta, at home; Elias, also at home, assisting with the work on the farm, and Annie, who was drowned when fourteen years of age.

Mr. Peterson is a Republican, but he has never been active in public affairs.

CARL A. HARSTAD.

A promising young tiller of the soil in Grant county is Carl A. Harstad, of Stony Brook township. He was born on the old homestead in Stony Brook township on August 19, 1896, a son of Lauritz K. and Eliza Harstad, both natives of Norway. The father came to Minnesota in the spring of 1880 and worked for his uncle, Martinis Larson, in Grant county, later buying eighty acres in Stony Brook township, to which he added more land until he owned three hundred and sixty acres; also owned about forty acres elsewhere. He became a well-to-do farmer. He set out a large grove and made various improvements, including the erection of good buildings. Politically, he was an independent voter. He belonged to the United Lutheran church. On December 12, 1880, he was married in Grant county to Eliza Johansson, who came to this country from Norway in 1878, locating in

Grant county. To these parents four children were born, of whom Christian is the eldest. Joseph, the second born, was born on the old homestead on March 23, 1892, and there grew up and was educated in the public schools, and in partnership with the subject of this sketch owns eighty acres in Stony Brook township. He was married on December 8, 1915, to Clara Elvira Foss, a daughter of Louis O. Foss, who is mentioned on another page of this work. Eddy, third child of Lauritz K. Harstad, died in infancy. Carl A., the subject of this sketch, is the last born. The father of these children died in 1911 at the age of fifty-two years, and the mother died in 1912 at the age of fifty-six years.

Carl A. Harstad was reared on the home farm, where he worked when a boy, and he received his education in the district schools. He owns, with his brother, eighty acres of the home place, that portion on which the buildings stand, and he also owns another eighty acres in Stony Brook township. He is carrying on general farming and stock raising. He was married on December 20, 1915, to Stella Johnson, who was born in Pomme de Terre township, where she grew up and was educated. She is a step-daughter of Martin Johnson, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. One child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Harstad, a son, Louis T., whose birth occurred on March 2, 1916.

HAAKEN SKRAMSTAD.

One of the prosperous and progressive farmers of Solem township, Douglas county, is Haaken Skramstad, who was born in Norway, January 27, 1858. He is a son of Dorthness Halvorson and Gertrude (Goodmanson) Skramstad, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Dorthness Halvorson Skramstad was a farmer in his native land, and came to Minnesota in 1886, five years after his son, Haaken, had come here. He located with his son in Elk Lake township, Grant county, where he spent the remainder of his life. The children of Dorthness H. Skramstad and wife were as follow: Gunder, Dorothy, Haaken, Peter, Enoch and Tolaf.

Haaken Skramstad received his education in the schools of his native land, and there he grew to manhood on his father's farm. In 1881 he came to Minnesota, locating first in Elk Lake township, Grant county. There he owned a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved and cultivated. In 1896 he disposed of his holdings in Grant county and moved to Douglas county, where he purchased one hundred and seventy

acres of land in section 24 of Solem township, and has made that his home since. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has met with a very commendable degree of success.

Haaken Skramstad married Annie Olson, daughter of Erick Olson, and to this union six children have been born, Amanda, Edward, Helga, Gustava, Arthur and Mabel. The family are earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are actively interested in church work. Mr. Skramstad is a Republican and has served his township as a member of the school board.

OSTEN HALVORSON.

The late Osten Halvorson, for years a well-known farmer of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, was born in Norway on September 29, 1865, the son of Halvor and Ella Estenson, also natives of Norway, who continued to reside in the land of their birth until 1878, when they came to the United States. On their arrival in this country they came direct to Minnesota and located in Fillmore county, where they remained for eight years. In 1878 they moved to Grant county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 20, Elbow Lake township. That farm Mr. Estenson developed and improved and there he lived until the time of his death, in 1905. His first wife had died in 1881. They were the parents of two children, Osten and Ole H.

Ole H. Estenson was born in Norway on February 19, 1868, and came with his parents to Minnesota when ten years of age. He received his education in the public schools of Fillmore and Grant counties. After completing his schooling he engaged in general farming and stock raising and today owns a good farm in the county. He is unmarried.

After the death of his wife, in 1888, Halvor Estenson married Aasa Waugh, who died soon after. He then married Ranhild Olson and to that union two children were born, Gilbert and Elma. After the death of Ranhild Estenson, Mr. Estenson was united in marriage to Ella Hove, and to that union three children were born, Ambrose, Rudolph and Helmer.

Osten Halverson received his education in Fillmore and Grant counties and grew to manhood on the farm. As a young man he engaged in farming for himself and later purchased two hundred acres of his father, in sections 35 and 36, of Elbow Lake township. There he set out a fine grove and erected good buildings, and there he made his home until the time of his

death in 1908. His widow is now living on the farm, at the age of fifty-one years. In 1885 Osten Halverson was united in marriage to Tilda Thompson, who was born in Fillmore county, this state, on October 25, 1865, daughter of John and Karen Thompson, natives of Norway. The father came to the United States in 1851 and the mother in 1856. They were married in Fillmore county, where they now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of the following children: Thomas, Henry, Tilda, Augusta, Anna, Ole, Theodore, Henry, Anna, Hilda and Teoline.

To Osten and Tilda Halverson were born the following children: Henry, John, Albert, Clarence, Clara, Oscar, Gena, Thomas, Mabel and Tena. John is a farmer in North Dakota. Clara is the wife of Morris Wallace. Mabel and Tena are now deceased. Mr. Halverson was a devout member of the Synod Lutheran church, of which his widow is a member, and was an active worker in all branches of church work. The family have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

MATHEW STARIHA.

Mathew Stariha, one of the well-known and prominent business men of Millerville, Douglas county, where he is the proprietor of the hotel, was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, on April 4, 1872, the son of Joe and Mary Stariha, who were born in Austria. As a young man Joe Stariha decided to come to America. After his arrival in this country he came direct to Minnesota and for a time lived in Stearns county, later removing to Ottertail county, where he operated a saloon for some years. He then moved to Douglas county and located at Millerville, where he lived a retired life for some twenty years before his death, which occurred about 1896. A few years before his death he owned a farm, in which he took much interest.

Mary Stariha, the mother of Mathew Stariha, died when the boy was but six years of age, he being one of three children, the other two being Kate and Anna. Kate is now deceased and Anna is the wife of Fred Abel, a carpenter of Millerville. After the death of his first wife, Joe Stariha was united in marriage to Barbara Meverin, who is now living in Douglas county. To that union one son was born, August, who is now engaged in farming one mile east of Millerville.

Mathew Stariha received his education in the public schools of Millerville, where he grew to manhood. He remained at home until he was twenty-

four years of age, when he went to North Dakota, where he worked on a farm for a year, after which he returned to Douglas county and presently rented a farm in Polk county. There he was engaged in the operation of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and was quite successful. After six years of farm life he returned to Millerville, where he purchased his father's old saloon, which he conducted, in connection with the hotel, until the country went "dry," in December, 1915. He now conducts an establishment for the sale of soft drinks in connection with the hotel, and is doing a nice business.

In 1899 Mathew Stariha was united in marriage to Lena Dobmeyer and to this union four children have been born, Julietta, Clara, Elmer and Adelhide. The family are devout members of the Catholic church and have always taken much interest in church work. In addition to his interests in the hotel and soft-drinks business, Mr. Stariha is the owner of some fifteen acres of land near the village of Millerville, to which he devotes a portion of his time. Mr. Stariha is a man of industrious habits, a good neighbor, and a kind and affectionate husband and father. Fraternally, he is a member of the Foresters, and is cashier of St. Otto Court No. 671 of that order. Mr. Stariha has always taken an active interest in local affairs and is a patriotic citizen and a hustler for his home community.

GUNERINUS L. ISLAND.

Gunerinus L. Island, another enterprising farmer and stock raiser of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, was born in Norway, April 15, 1860. He is a son of Lars G. and Elizabeth Island, both born in Norway, the father in 1827 and the mother in 1836, both of whom are still living there. The father has devoted his active life to farming. These parents have had the following children: Gurina, Guerinus L., Mads, Patrina (deceased), Anna (deceased), Burgetta (deceased), Ole, who lives in Canada; Sigrid and Lars, both of whom live in Norway, and Elizabeth, who makes her home in Canada.

The subject of this sketch grew up in his native land and there attended the public schools. He came to Minnesota from his native land in 1881, locating at Redwing, working on a farm near there, later renting land. He came to Grant county in 1886 and bought eighty acres in Pomme de Terre township, but did not move here until 1887. He has been very successful

as a general farmer and stock raiser on an extensive scale, having been industrious and a good manager, and he has added to his original purchase until he became owner of six hundred and forty acres of land; but having given his son one hundred and twenty acres, he now has five hundred and twenty acres, on which may be seen numerous modern buildings and a fine grove of fifteen acres which he set out when he first came here. He is regarded as one of the leading farmers of his township. He is a Republican and has served as township treasurer and as a member of the local school board.

Mr. Island was married on October 31, 1884, to Getta Bordson, who was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, October 9, 1867. She is a daughter of Rollof Bordson, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Island six children have been born, all living, namely: Louis, who married Alma Christopherson and has two children, Clifford and Lloyd; Bergitta, who married George Jørgeus and has two children, Arnold and Gladys; Laura; Rose, who married Orin Ginder, of Pomme de Terre township, and Albert and Leonard.

CARL HERMANSON.

Among the well-known and substantial farmers of Brandon township, Douglas county, is Carl Hermanson, who was born in Sweden, in 1865. He is the son of Herman and Mary (Olson) Larson, both natives of Sweden, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work.

Carl Hermanson received his education in the schools of his native land and came to the United States in 1887. He settled first in Pennsylvania, where he worked for about six months in the coal mines. In the spring of 1888 he came west to Minneapolis, where he worked for a time in a saw-mill, afterward becoming engaged in teaming, and, saving his earnings, finally had a team of his own. He remained in Minneapolis about fifteen years, after which he went to North Dakota, locating near Minot, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land. There he built a good frame house and lived for about a year and a half. Disposing of that tract at a good profit, he returned to Minnesota and purchased eighty acres of land in section 27 of Brandon township, Douglas county. The place had almost no improvements on it but a small house, and Mr. Hermanson had to clear off part of the land before he had any crops. He has made

many and various improvements on the farm since acquiring it, remodeling and adding to the house; and his was the first round barn built in the county, being erected in 1913. This barn is large and commodious with a silo in the center, twelve by thirty-four feet. Mr. Hermanson is engaged in general farming and stock raising, devoting most of his attention to the breeding of thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle, of which he has a fine herd. In 1916 he built a large granary and machine shed, with garage, having concrete foundation and floor, and keeps his automobile and machinery in the basement of this building. He has one of the best-improved and most up-to-date farms in the county, and has met with very commendable success in his farming operations. He is also a stockholder in the Brandon creamery.

In 1892 Carl Hermanson was married to Eda Dalin and to that union four children were born, Reuben, Edith, Ruth and Harvey, all of whom are still living at home with the exception of Edith, who married Ira Williams, a farmer of Benton county, Minnesota, and they have one daughter, Naomi. Ruth is a teacher in the public schools of her home township. The mother of these children died about nine years ago and Mr. Hermanson married Sophia Anderson, who was born in Sweden and who came to this country in 1892. The Hermansons are members of the Swedish Mission church.

NELS M. ANDERSON.

One of the public-spirited citizens and substantial farmers of Solem township, Douglas county, is Nels M. Anderson, who was born in Sweden, July 9, 1860. He is a son of Anders Monson and Hannah (Nelson) Anderson, both of whom were natives also of Sweden. Anders Monson was a farmer in his native land of Sweden, and came to America some years after his son, Nels M., had arrived here. Together they purchased a farm in Washington county, Minnesota, which they later sold at a very handsome profit, since which time Anders Monson has retired from active farm life. He and his wife are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are the parents of four children, Nels M., Anna, Swan M. and Mary, the latter of whom is the wife of Charles Soderholm.

Nels M. Anderson received his education in the public schools of his native land and grew to maturity there. In 1878, at the age of eighteen, he came to Minnesota, locating first in Washington county, where he started working at seven dollars a month. However, even with this small begin-

ning, he was able to save some money and in 1884, after his father had come from Sweden, he and his father purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Washington county, and after cultivating and developing that tract for about seven years, they disposed of it profitably, and Nels M. moved to Douglas county, where he moved on one hundred and sixty acres in section 6 of Solem township, which was a present from his father-in-law. He also owns eighty acres in section 7 of the same township. He has placed all of the improvements and buildings on his place, planting a fine grove, as well as putting out fruit trees, and in many ways adding to the general attractiveness and value of his farm. He raises all the crops common to this locality and also devotes considerable attention to the breeding and selling of live stock.

On March 14, 1888, Mr. Anderson was married to Carrie Oslund, the daughter of Erick Oslund and wife, natives of Sweden, and to this union five children have been born, Amanda (wife of John Strom), Edwin M., Edna J., Adolph V. and Wilhelm F. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, of which Mr. Anderson has been a deacon for twenty years.

Mr. Anderson is independent in politics and takes an active interest in everything that has for its object the betterment and upbuilding of his township and community. He has served as clerk of the school board for some years and is ranked among the progressive citizens of his community.

EDWARD NELSON.

Edward Nelson, a farmer of La Grand township, Douglas county, is a native of La Crosse county, Wisconsin, where he was born on September 11, 1867, the son of Embert and Inger (Ingerbrightson) Nelson, who were born in Norway, he on October 21, 1833, and she about the same time. They received their education in the land of their birth and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to reside in Norway until 1867, in which year they came to America. On their arrival in the United States they proceeded directly to Wisconsin, where they resided for a year, in La Crosse county, where Mr. Nelson engaged in farming. In 1868 the family came to Minnesota and Mr. Nelson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in La Grand township, Douglas county, where he now lives. The tract at that time was all timber and brush, which required much time and hard labor to clear, ready for the planting of the crops

that were to supply himself and family with food. In time the farm was developed and improved and became one of the ideal farms of the township. Mr. Nelson was a good farmer, a firm believer in intensive farming and thorough cultivation, and was quite successful with his general farming and stock raising. His quarter section was reduced by ten acres at the time the railroad was constructed through this section.

To Embert and Inger Nelson were born the following children: Christian, John, Christ, Anna, Edward, Tilda, Alfred, Carrie and Ida. Christian, John, Christ and Anna were born in Norway and the first two died in that country, while Christ died at Osakis, Minnesota. Edward was born, as stated, in Wisconsin, and the other children were born on the homestead in Douglas county. The family are active members of the East Moe Lutheran church and are active in church work. Mr. Nelson always took a keen interest in the affairs of the township and has had much to do with the civic life of the community, having served his township as a member of the school board, as supervisor and as road boss. While filling the latter position he did much for the improvement of the roads of his district and has ever been recognized as an exceptional road builder. As a member of the school board he accomplished much for the schools of the township, as he was a strong advocate for the best of schools.

Edward Nelson, received his education in the schools of Douglas county, having attended school in the old log school house of early days. He grew to manhood on the old homestead and there he has continued to live. His mother died in 1901 and his father lives with him. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

In 1906 Edward Nelson was united in marriage to Mary Lee, who was born in Urness township, Douglas county, the daughter of Thore and Ambjor (Arneson) Lee. Mr. and Mrs. Lee were natives of Norway and located in Urness township in an early day and there bought four hundred and eighty acres of land and became prominent and successful residents of the township. They took much interest in the social and religious activities of the community in which they lived and were held in high esteem by all. To Mr. and Mrs. Lee were born the following children: Halvor, Andrew, Arne, Mary, Sophia, Arne, Halvor, Nettie and Mary.

To Edward and Mary Nelson has been born, one child, a daughter, Elsie. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the Moe Lutheran church and are among the prominent and active workers of the society. They take much interest in the social and religious activities of the community and are helpful in promoting all good works in that neighborhood.

JENS TOLLEFSON.

Jens Tollefson, a succesful farmer and a well-known resident of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in Norway, on May 2, 1841, being the son of Tolef and Bertha (Gruthong) Egstad.

Lars Egstad, the paternal grandfather of Jens Tollefson, was a farmer in Norway. He lived his life in the land of his birth and was a soldier in the war with Sweden, giving his country some years of good service. Thomas Egstad, the great-grandfather, was a farmer, and was perhaps one of the first to hold the farm estate that has been in the family for many years. Lars Egstad was born and lived on that estate and there his family of children were born. He died there in 1873 and several years after his death his widow came to the United States to join her children, who had already settled in this country. She was the mother of the following children: Lars, Ole, Jens, Anna, Tonetta, Lauritz, Andrew and Bernt. The family were prominent in their home community in Norway and have here established themselves in the social, religious and business life of their respective townships.

Jens Tollefson received his education in the public schools of Norway. There he engaged in farming and learned well the principles of the successful agriculturist. In 1873 he decided to come to America and after his arrival in this country he came direct to Minnesota and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 8, Pelican Lake township, Grant county. That land he developed and improved and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was successful. He is a firm believer in the principles of intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil. The farm at the time Mr. Tollefson settled here was, for the most part, undeveloped and unimproved, and it has been by the closest application and the severest kind of work that the place has been made one of the ideal farms of the community. In his early days here he endured many of the hardships of the early pioneer life, yet he was determined to succeed, and today he is recognized as one of the prominent and successful farmers of the township.

On September 20, 1886, Jens Tollefson was united in marriage to Anna Moe, who was born on May 30, 1849, and to this union the following children have been born: M. M., Oscar, Lewis, Theolena, Carrie, Josie and Julia. Mr. and Mrs. Tollefson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and have always taken much interest in church work. They have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

where they are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. Mr. Tollefson has always been interested in the local affairs of the township and has served as a member of the school board, giving careful attention to the progress and development of the schools of his district, as he has always advocated the best possible educational advantages for the children.

JOHN C. BATES.

John C. Bates, a well-known and successful farmer of North Ottawa township, Grant county, was born in Germany on February 2, 1864, and lived there until he was seven years of age. His parents died in the Fatherland, when the young son was but a child. He attended school for one year in his native land, then he came to the United States with an aunt, Sophia Deetz, in 1871. The aunt located in Lee county, Illinois, and there John C. Bates received his education in the public schools. He remembers being in Chicago at the time of the great fire, although he was but a child at that time. As a young man he engaged in farming in LaSalle county, Illinois, as a renter. He later removed to Sac City, Iowa, and later rented land in the county, and remained there for five years.

In 1902 John C. Bates left his home in Iowa and came to Minnesota and here he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in North Ottawa township, Grant county, where he is in partnership with his brother-in-law, Fred W. Kutter, in general farming and stock raising, Mr. Bates owning much the greater part of the farm and stock. Much has been done in the way of development and improvement and the place is one of the valuable ones in the township.

John C. Bates is a Republican and has always taken much interest in local affairs and the growth and the development of the township, although he does not aspire to office. The family attend the Evangelical church of the township, but Mr. Bates was reared a German Lutheran. He is liberal in his views and he and his family are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community and are held in high esteem by all who know them.

John C. Bates was united in marriage in 1893 to Rosa M. Kutter, who was born in Illinois on February 17, 1874, the daughter of Gottlieb and Rosa Kutter, who came from Germany in an early day and settled in La Salle county, Illinois, where the father died in 1906, at the age of seventy-eight years. The mother died in 1903, at the age of fifty-six years. To John C.

and Rosa Bates have been born the following children: Mary, Sophia, Edith, Frank, Lillie, Jennie, George and Beulah, all of whom are living.

John C. Bates has lived an active life and has accomplished much that is of value, not to himself and family alone, but to the township and the county in which he lives. Coming to a strange land and among strange people, an orphan at the age of seven years, he had his own way to make in the world, and as soon as he was old enough he began the task of looking after himself. Beginning life as a farmer, on rented land, he has today one of the best farms in North Ottawa township, all of which is under high cultivation, well improved and well stocked. His farm home is one of the best-kept places in the township and there he and his family live a contented and happy life, as well as a most independent one.

MARTIN JOHNSON.

Martin Johnson, one of the leading farmers of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, was born in Norway, November 8, 1863. He is a son of John and Ingeborg Johnson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to the United States, settling in Rock county, Wisconsin, in 1868, and there the death of John Johnson occurred in 1870. His widow is now living at Waterford, Wisconsin at an advanced age. They were parents of four children: Gunder, who lives in South Dakota; Amund, who lives in Ottertail county, Minnesota; Martin, the subject of this sketch, and Gunder, second, who lives in Milwaukee. After the death of John Johnson, the father of the above named children, his widow married Ole Larson, who is now deceased. To that second union one child was born, Louisa, who lives with her mother in Waterford, Wisconsin.

Martin Johnson was reared on the farm in Wisconsin, and he received his education in the public schools, his text-book training, however, being very limited, for he had to start to work when only ten years of age. After the death of his father he was compelled to assist his mother make a living. He came to Minnesota in 1881 and worked out on a farm in Douglas county and, saving his earnings, in the fall of 1887 he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, adding eighty acres later, and now owns a valuable and well-kept farm of two hundred and forty acres, on which may be seen a splendid grove and convenient buildings. Mr. Johnson carries on general farming and stock raising success-

fully. He formerly had another farm of one hundred and sixty acres in another part of Pomme de Terre township. He lived awhile in the village of Elbow Lake, but is now back on his farm. After living a short period on his quarter section he sold it. Mr. Johnson is a Republican. He and his family belong to the United Lutheran church at Rock Prairie, in Stony Brook township.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1896 to Helga Foslen, who was born in 1863 in Norway, where her parents lived and died. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson two children have been born, Ida Josephine and Helmer Melvin. Mrs. Johnson had been previously married, her first husband having been Teander Torgeson, by whom two children were born, Stella, who is living, and Oscar, who died on December 29, 1915 at the age of twenty-two years. Mr. Johnson is deserving of a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished, for he started without capital; began farming raw land with oxen and lived in a log house until 1899.

ERICK O. OSLUND.

One of the pioneer farmers of Douglas county is Erick O. Oslund, who came to the county when it was almost an unbroken tract of wilderness and he literally hewed out of the wilderness a beautiful home for himself and family by perseverance and indefatigable effort. He was born in Sweden on January 1, 1842, and is a son of Olaf Swenson and Karen Oslund, both of whom were natives of Sweden. Olaf Swenson came to America in 1873, some years after the arrival of his son, Erick O., and here he lived the remainder of his life. He was the father of three children, Swen, Mary and Erick O., the immediate subject of this review.

Erick O. Oslund received a limited education in the schools of his native land and in 1870 came to America. He located in Douglas county, Minnesota, in Solem township where he bought three hundred and forty acres of land on Red Rock lake. There were no roads in those days and his nearest market was at Morris, two and three days being required to make the trip with a team. His first home was a small log cabin, twelve by twelve in dimensions, in which he lived for about two years, when he built a better one. He has made many and various improvements on his farm and has gradually added to his land holdings until at one time he was the owner of much land in Douglas and Grant counties. His home is beautifully located on the shores of Red Rock lake, and his is one of the most

attractive farms in the township. He has always kept abreast of the times on all agricultural matters and has his farm well equipped with all the modern machinery for farming. He once walked to Benson to buy a binder for his wheat crop.

In 1870 Erick O. Oslund was married to Annie Simonson and to this union have been born four children, Carrie, Annie, Ole E. and Selma. The family are earnest and devoted members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take an active interest in the affairs of that denomination. Mr. Oslund was one of the organizers of the Swedish Lutheran church in his community and has served as trustee of the local church.

Mr. Oslund is indeed one of the sturdy pioneers of this north country, and to such as he are we indebted for the beautiful homes and well-tilled acres which go to make Douglas county one of the beauty spots of the state.

OLE O. SAND.

Ole O. Sand, one of the best-known farmers of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, was born in Norway, September 18, 1863. He is a son of Ole H. and Annie Sand, natives of Norway where they grew up and married, immigrating with their family to Clinton, Illinois, in June, 1871, and in 1872 they came on to Freeborn county, Minnesota, and the following year to Grant county where the father took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township, to which he later added until he had four hundred and eighty acres, which he improved and on which he carried on general farming extensively until his death, June 27, 1913, at the age of seventy-six years. His widow survives, being now seventy-six. The father was independent in politics, he belonged to the United Lutheran church, to which the mother also belongs. They assisted in organizing the church at Elbow Lake. To these parents the following children were born: Ole O. of this sketch; Henry O. was next in order; Annie is a teacher in the Minneapolis schools, she attended Columbia University, New York, during the summer of 1916; Kittle O., was next in order; Sarah is the wife of K. Christopherson of Elbow Lake; Lars O. lives in the village of Wendell; Mary is the wife of E. A. Dybdal of Elbow Lake. These children are all living at this writing (1916).

Ole O. Sand was reared on the homestead, and he received a public school education. He has always engaged in farming and is now owner of

one of the choice farms of Lawrence township, consisting of four hundred and twenty acres, including the old homestead, which he has kept well improved and under a fine state of cultivation, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising on a large scale. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Wendell, in which institution he is a director, his father having also been a stockholder and director. Politically, he is an independent voter. He has served both as assessor and as a member of the school board. He belongs to the United Lutheran church. He has remained unmarried.

HANS O. HANSON.

Hans O. Hanson, member of the firm of Hanson Brothers, merchants, of Holmes City, is one of the enterprising men of Douglas county and is entitled to mention in a work of this nature. He was born in Sweden, a son of P. and Mary (Waginus) Hanson, both natives of Jemtland, Sweden, where they grew up and were married. They continued to reside there until 1891, when they emigrated with their family to America, coming direct to Minnesota and settling in the Holmes City neighborhood. The father learned the tailor's trade in his native land, which he followed there, but after settling in Douglas county devoted his attention to farming, becoming owner of a small farm. His family consisted of the following children: Hans O., the subject of this sketch; Albert, who is a member of the mercantile firm of Hanson Brothers, of Holmes City, and Paul W., who makes his home at Superior, Wisconsin, where he follows his profession of optometrist.

Hans O. Hanson spent his boyhood in Sweden and there received a common-school education. After coming to Minnesota he engaged in various occupations until 1911 when, on November 10 of that year he and his brother, Albert, purchased the stock of goods of S. O. Waginus at Holmes City, and have since conducted the store under the firm name of Hanson Brothers. They carry a general line of merchandise and enjoy a large and growing trade with the town and surrounding country. In the fall of 1912 they erected a substantial and attractive new building.

The subject of this sketch devotes his attention to the management of the store, while his brother operates the well-improved and valuable farm which the firm owns near Holmes City. They have been very successful



HANS O. AND ALBERT HANSON.

in a business way owing to their industry and fair dealings. They were reared in the faith of the Baptist church, to which their parents belonged from early life. Politically they are independent.

Albert Hanson married Hilda Oberg and lives near Holmes City on the farm. Hans O. Hanson has had a somewhat varied career. At one time he homesteaded a tract in Roseau county. He proved up the same and still owns it. While there he organized the town of Huss and served for some time as postmaster there.

CARL NELSON.

Among the many successful farmers of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, is Carl Nelson, who was born in Sweden on October 4, 1854, the son of Nels and Marie (Pearson) Johnson, also natives of that country, who were there educated in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married, and lived the greater part of their lives in the land of their birth. When well advanced in years, they came to the United States in 1874, to join their children, who had located in this country some years before. Here they made their home with the son, Johnas, who lived in Pelican Lake township, where Nels Johnson died in 1880, at the age of sixty-eight years. His widow died in 1896 at the age of eighty-five years. They were devout members of the Lutheran church, and during younger days took much interest in church work. They were excellent people and held in the highest regard by all who knew them. They were the parents of six children, those besides the subject of this sketch being John, Johnas, Gustaf, Lizzie and Mina, all of whom are living save the latter.

Carl Nelson received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. He decided that he would come to America and after landing in this country, proceeded to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he lived for some years. He was married on October 18, 1884, to Christina Newhouse, who was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, the daughter of Christopher and Ture (Halvorson) Newhouse, natives of Norway. Soon after their marriage, Carl Nelson and wife came to Minnesota, and here Mr. Nelson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 8 of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, to which he later added another quarter section. Mr. Nelson purchased his first land in the township

in 1879, some five years before he was married. The farm he has developed and improved and today has one of the ideal farms of the township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

Carl and Christina Nelson are the parents of four children, Clarence, Charles, William and Henry. Clarence Nelson married Agnes Elberling, and to this union five children have been born. He lives on one of his father's farms, where he engages in general farming and stock raising. Carl Nelson and wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and are prominent residents of the community, where they are held in the highest esteem. In addition to his farm interests, Mr. Nelson is a stockholder in the creamery company at Ashby.

Christopher Newhouse was born on July 13, 1812, and came to the United States in 1839, landing at New York on September 27 of that year with but ten dollars. He located in Wisconsin, and later owned one hundred and sixty acres of land. He married Ture Halvorson, the daughter of Halvor Halvorson, and to that union five children were born, Oliver and Christopher (both deceased), Christopher, Torgan, and Christina. Mrs. Ture Newhouse is now deceased. She and Mr. Newhouse were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and highly respected people.

PETER STREED.

Peter Streed, a native of Sweden and one of the successful and well-known farmers of Carlos township, Douglas county, was born on August 2, 1870, the son of August and Anna Streed, both of whom were natives of Sweden. The parents have spent their lives in their native country, where the father is engaged in farming. They are the parents of five children, Herman, Ida, Alfred, Anna and Peter. Herman came to the United States and engaged in mining in Colorado, where he died some years ago. The rest of the family, besides the subject of this sketch, are still residents of the land of their births.

Peter Streed received his early schooling in his native land and attended night school after coming to the United States. He was eighteen years of age when he decided to locate in America. On landing in this country, he came directly to Minnesota, locating in Chisago county, where he was engaged as a farm hand for a year. He then went to Idaho, with an uncle,

and worked there as a miner for some years. During his experience as a miner he worked in, Idaho, Colorado and Utah and mined copper, gold and silver. In 1908 he returned to Minnesota and this time located in Douglas county, where he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14 of Carlos township. He has made many improvements on the place, having remodeled and repaired the house, built a fine barn, thirty by fifty-two feet, and a silo, fourteen by thirty-three feet, the silo being one of the first to be built in the county. It is of tile blocks and was constructed in 1912. Mr. Streed now has some fifty-five acres under cultivation, the balance being in meadow and pasture, with some little timber. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful, being progressive and believing in intensive farming and thorough cultivation.

On August 22, 1908, Peter Streed was united in marriage to Mrs. Anna Dahlstrom, widow of Fred Dahlstrom. Before her marriage to Mr. Dahlstrom she was Anna Johnson, a native of Sweden, who came to the United States early in life. To Mr. and Mrs. Streed one child has been born, Edith Henrietta, whose birth occurred on July 10, 1909. By her first marriage Mrs. Streed was the mother of five children, Agnes, Freda, Minnie, Lillian and Edna, all of whom are at home. Agnes and Freda Dahlstrom are teachers, the former teaching at district No. 62 and the later in the consolidated school at Miliona.

The farm now owned by Peter Streed was formerly the farm home of Fred Dahlstrom, and was purchased from the heirs by Mr. Streed. Long Prairie River runs through the farm and the house and barn are nicely situated on the banks of the stream, giving a most pleasing effect. With the beautiful buildings, which are well kept, overlooking the beautiful stream of water, Mr. and Mrs. Streed have one of the pleasantest homes in the county. They take much pleasure in the upkeep of the place, and one has but to visit the home to know the pleasures of that family circle. Mr. and Mrs. Streed are active members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in church work.

Mr. Streed is alive not only to his own interests, but those of the township and the county as well. Because of his wide experiences, and excellent judgment, together with his progressive spirit and honest dealings, Mr. Streed is a man of large influence in the community. In many respects he has demonstrated the fact that to be a successful farmer and stockman as well as a home builder, a man must be alive to the conditions with which he has to contend. Spending many years of his life in the mines and away

from the finer influences of civilization, he has engaged in one of the most important occupations of man, and at a time when farming processes have been undergoing such wonderful changes; yet he has kept abreast of the most successful agriculturists and is meeting with success. He is an extensive breeder of fine Holstein cattle and is a member of the executive committee of the Douglas County Breeders' Association. He is a stockholder in the Carlos Co-operative Creamery Company and has served as secretary and manager of the organization since 1911. He also has served and is now serving as clerk of the school board.

GUSTAF ANDERSON.

One of the pioneers of Douglas county who has had a varied and interesting career is Gustaf Anderson, a farmer of Belle River township. He was born in Sweden, May 23, 1846, and is a son of Andres Jonasson and Britta Larson, natives of Sweden in which country they farmed on a small scale and there reared their family. There the father died, after which the mother came to the United States, in 1878, to join her children, who were named as follow: John, who emigrated to America in 1854; Christine, Anna, Gustaf, August, Charlotta, Sarah and Clara.

Gustaf Anderson grew up in Sweden and attended school there. He came to Minnesota in 1863 to join his brother, John, who served in the Civil War, in the Third Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, as a corporal. During the war Gustaf Anderson was employed by the government to unload steamships of war supplies, and while thus employed took sick and was confined for a protracted period. Upon his recovery he came to Douglas county and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Belle River township where he has since engaged in general farming. He now owns one hundred and twenty acres there, most of which he cleared and on which he put all the improvements. He has been one of our most industrious farmers for a period of forty-six years, having come here in 1870, and is thus among the early settlers. He also owns stock in the Belle River creamery.

Mr. Anderson was married on October 23, 1875, to Ida Nordquist, and to their union the following children were born: Charles, who served for some time in the Forty-fifth Regiment, United States Infantry, fought in the Philippines and is now farming in Canada; Samuel, who lives at In-

ternational Falls, Minnesota; George, who lives in North Dakota; Julius, next in order of birth, and Jennie and Harry, both at home. Mr. Anderson is a Republican and served three years on the township board and was clerk of his township for fifteen years.

WILLIAM B. SCHMIDT.

William B. Schmidt, a successful business man of Herman, was born on January 24, 1868, at New Ulm, Minnesota, the son of Carl and Dorothy (Fenn) Schmidt, natives of Germany, who in 1855 came to the United States and for a time located in Chicago, where they were married. They later came to Minnesota where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Brown county, four miles from New Ulm. That was in 1859 and they were soon to take part in the Indian trouble in that section. They were required to leave their home during the Indian uprising in 1862, and go to New Ulm and were nearly overtaken by the Indians on the way. After the massacre and the Indians had been subdued they returned to their home. They remained on the farm until the year of the last devastation by the grasshoppers when they left the farm and removed to St. Paul, where Mr. Schmidt engaged in blacksmithing for three years. The family then became residents of Menominee, Wisconsin, where Mr. Schmidt continued his work as a blacksmith until 1909. In that year his wife died and he returned to St. Paul, where he lives a retired life.

Carl and Dorothy Schmidt were the parents of the following children: Anna, Charles, Henry, Bertha, Minnie, William B., Lizzie, Clara and two who died in infancy. The older children of the family experienced many of the hardships of pioneer life. At the time of the massacre, Carl Schmidt took an active part in the battle at New Ulm and later enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War.

William B. Schmidt was educated in the schools of Wisconsin and at St. Paul. After completing his education he learned the blacksmith trade under the direction of his father and for a time worked with the latter. He later went to Chicago and then back to his father's shop at Menominee, Wisconsin, where he remained for a time. After some years he removed to St. Paul where he worked at his trade until 1890 when he came over to this part of the state and located at Herman, where he opened the shop which he

has since conducted. In 1913 he enlarged his business opportunities by the erection of a building fifty by one hundred feet, which he uses as a garage. In connection with his work in the shop he is selling the Mitchell and Ford automobiles; has been quite successful and has an extensive business.

In 1889 W. B. Schmidt was united in marriage to Julia Kochendorfer, who was born at Menominee, Wisconsin, and to this union the following children have been born, Wilbur R., Helen, Walter, Myrtle, Ruth, Marjorie, Stanley, Carl and Anna. The sons, Wilbur and Walter Schmidt, are engaged in business with their father, under the firm name of W. B. Schmidt & Sons. Fraternally, Mr. Schmidt is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has always taken an interest in local affairs and has done much to advance the growth and business interests of his home town.

OLAUS O. BAH.

Olaus O. Bah, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Erdahl township, Grant county, was born in Norway on February 12, 1855, the son of Ola A. and Bertha Bah, natives of Norway, who continued to live in their native land until 1870, when they came to America. On their arrival in the United States they came directly to Minnesota and for a short time remained at Preston, Fillmore county, where they purchased an ox team and a wagon, with which to make the journey to Grant county, where Mr. Bah homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 2 of Erdahl township. A small dug-out with a sod roof was constructed, and that was their residence for the first year, after which a log house with a sod roof was erected. In time the farm was developed and better buildings erected. The first year there was no crop raised on the farm, but the second year some three acres of wheat was harvested. In time the place became one of the desirable farms of the township, and there Ola A. Bah engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death in 1891, he then being sixty-nine years of age. His widow died the next year, at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of six children, H. P., M. G., Sophia, Olaus, Minnie and Andrew, all of whom are now deceased, with the exceptions of Olaus and Andrew. Mr. and Mrs. Bah were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, took much interest in church work and were prominent in the social and religious life of the community, where they were held in the

highest regard and esteem by all who knew them. Mr. Bah always took a keen interest in local affairs and had much to do with the development and the growth of the township. He was a man of much ability and because of his wide experience and excellent judgment was often consulted in matters relating to the civic affairs of the township and the county.

Olaus O. Bah was fifteen years of age when the family came to this country. He received his education in the public schools of Norway and attended school for four months in Erdahl township. He grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting his father with the farm work, and remained at home until 1881, in which year he was united in marriage to Mary Thompson, the daughter of Tosten Olson and Magdalena Aaskjer (Aaskjer being the Norwegian family name), who came to the United States in 1876 and made their home with their son, Ole A. Thompson, for some eight or nine years, at the end of which time they removed to Evansville township, where they homesteaded forty acres, which they developed and improved, and there made their home for some years. They later returned to Erdahl township, where they lived until the time of their deaths. They were the parents of the following children, Andrew, Ole A., Anna, Mary and Tosten. Anna is the widow of G. M. Bah, who was a successful farmer of the township; Ole A. Thompson is a prominent resident of Grant county; Andrew is deceased and Tosten is engaged in farming in North Dakota.

Soon after his marriage Olaus O. Bah homesteaded forty acres in section 12 of Erdahl township, and there he erected a frame house, fourteen by fourteen feet, which was the family residence for some years. The farm was soon developed and with much hard work Mr. Bah became one of the successful farmers of the township. He enlarged his farm to one hundred and seven acres and built a good and substantial house and barn. He planted a splendid grove of three acres and made other valuable and substantial improvements. For many years he devoted his time to grain farming, but is now devoting much of his time to stock raising and has a fine herd of Short-horn cattle and many fine hogs. He is progressive in his methods and is a strong advocate of intensive farming and the thorough cultivation of the soil and the keeping of the best of stock.

To Olaus O. and Mary Bah have been born the following children: Ole, Martin, Anna, Clara, Leonard, Laura, Bessie and Laura, the last two of whom are now deceased. Ole is married to Tillie Johnson and is engaged in general farming and stock raising in Pelican Lake township; Anna is the wife of John Olson, a well-known farmer of Evansville township, Douglas

county. They are the parents of three children, Myrtle, Orlan and Joseph. The other children are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Bah are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, take much interest in church work and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community. They are devoted to the interests of their family and are held in the highest regard by all. They are hospitable and take much pleasure in the entertainment of the friends and neighbors, their home often being the scene of happy gatherings. Mr. Bah has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the township and has had much to do with its civic life. He has been particularly interested in the development of the schools and has had much to do with the splendid system of education now established in the district. For the past twenty-one years he has been clerk of his home district, to which he has given care and attention. He is a supporter of all worthy causes that have a tendency to promote the best interests of the township and the county. He is a stockholder in the farmers elevator at Erdahl, in the affairs of which he has taken much interest.

HARVEY E. LINDSEY.

Harvey E. Lindsey, one of the well-known and successful farmers of North Ottawa township, Grant county, was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, on April 24, 1857, the son of Edwin and Lois (Hewett) Lindsey, who were born in Maine and in the state of New York, respectively, he having been born in 1816. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey were pioneer settlers in Illinois, where they lived until 1866, when they removed to Tama county, Iowa, where the mother died in 1867. The father died in Clinton county, Iowa, in 1884, while on a visit. Some years after the death of his wife, Edward Lindsey homesteaded in Osceola county, Iowa, and there made his home until the time of his death. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey were the parents of the following children: Rose, Harvey E., Ophelia, Henry and Manville. Rose died in California in 1915; Ophelia is now a resident of California; Henry and Manville are deceased, the former dying in 1895 and the latter in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and took much interest in church work.

Harvey E. Lindsey received his education in the public schools of Illinois and Iowa, and grew to manhood on the farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the farm work. As a young man he engaged in

farming and operated his father's farm of one hundred and sixty acres, until the father's death. He later rented land and in 1908 came to Minnesota, and here he and his sister Ophelia bought four hundred acres of land in North Ottawa township, Grant county, which they yet own. Mr. Lindsey has placed many valuable improvements on the place, and is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. Mr. Lindsey is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. While residing in Iowa he was for a number of years a township trustee, and is now a member of the board of supervisors of North Ottawa township. He and wife are active members of the Evangelical church of North Ottawa township, Mr. Lindsey being one of the trustees of the same.

In 1884 Harvey E. Lindsey was united in marriage to Jessie R. Long, who was born in England on July 25, 1864, the daughter of George and Rebecca Long, the former of whom is now dead and the latter of whom still lives in that country. To this union the following children have been born: William, Lela, Florence, George, Ethel, Isabelle and Percy (twins), Charles and Gladys, all of whom are living. Florence married James Phillips of Wendell, and has one child, a son, Ronald.

In addition to his extensive interests on his own farm, Harvey E. Lindsey is the manager of twenty-five hundred acres of land in Grant and Traverse counties, the owners of which are for the most part Iowa people. As a general farmer and business man, Mr. Lindsey is recognized as a man of much ability and of the highest integrity.

ARTHUR C. CHRISTENSON.

Evansville township, Douglas county, has been a good enough place for Arthur C. Christenson, who is spending his life in his native locality, farming for a livelihood. He was born on the old homestead there, March 27, 1874, and is a son of Nels C. and Henricka (Kosen) Christenson, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Arthur C. Christenson was reared on the home farm, and he received a public school education. When young he hired out three years to E. A. Morgan, a farmer in Erdahl township. Then, after spending some time at home, went to Colorado, where he worked about two years in a smelter. But before going West he purchased eighty acres in Evansville township,

and while in Colorado bought another forty joining it. Upon his return to Douglas county he began farming on his own land, which he has since operated and improved. In 1903 he built a comfortable dwelling, which he remodeled in 1915 into a modern two-story frame house, equipped with bath, hot and cold water, furnace heat and acetylene lights. In 1903 he also built a good barn. He has planted a grove of about three thousand trees.

Mr. Christenson was married on November 11, 1903, to Lena Thompson of Grant county, and to their union five children have been born, namely: Walter, the eldest; Franklin, deceased; Earle, who died in infancy, and Gladys Mildred and Arley William, who are with their parents. The Christensons belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

NELS C. CHRISTENSON.

Nels C. Christenson, a retired farmer of Evansville township, Douglas county, was born in Denmark, December 1, 1845, a son of Nels and Anna Katherina (Nelson) Christenson, also natives of Denmark, where they grew up and were married and lived on a farm until emigrating to America in 1885. They lived with their son Martin, in Douglas county, where they died.

Nels C. Christenson grew to manhood in Denmark where he attended school. He came to America in 1868, settling at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and in the following year came on to Minnesota, and in May of that year took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Evansville township, Douglas county, which he improved to some extent, using an ox-team for some time. His first house was a dug-out. After two years he sold his right, and hired to Hendrick Kosen, later marrying one of the latter's daughters, and Mr. Kosen made his home with them in his old age until his death, at which time his farm became the property of Mr. Christenson. It consisted of one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Christenson made all the the improvements and ran the place himself after taking up his residence there, owing to the ill health of the owner, who added to the place until at the time of his death it consisted of three hundred and eighty acres.

Mr. Christenson has been very successful as a general farmer. He also owns valuable property in the village of Evansville. He has been living in retirement since 1910. He was married in 1871 to Henricka P. Kosen, and to their union nine children have been born, namely: Henry,

who is a merchant at Brandon; Arthur C., who is farming in Evansville township; Emil, deceased; Dagmar, the wife of D. J. Davidson; Louisa, the wife of Albert Halmgren, who is in partnership with Henry Christenson in Brandon; Stella, the wife of M. A. Cole, of Sauk Center; Ida, the wife of J. C. Swift, who operates his father-in-law's farm; Herbert, who is in partnership with Mr. Swift in farming the homestead, and Elma, who married J. B. Johnson, a restaurant keeper at Wendell. Mr. Christenson served as township supervisor for twelve years and also served as director and school treasurer in District No. 52. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he was at one time trustee.

CHARLES ANDERSON.

One of the best-remembered farmers of Lawrence township, Grant county, was the late Charles Anderson, an industrious and public-spirited citizen, who in every way merited the high esteem in which he was held by his neighbors and friends. He was born in Sweden, April 17, 1853. He was a son of Andrew and Johanna (Ormsen) Anderson, both natives of Sweden, where they spent their lives. Of their eleven children, four came to America, namely: Andrew, who lives in Pelican Rapids, Minnesota; August, deceased; Victor, also deceased, and Charles, the subject of this memorial sketch.

Charles Anderson grew up in his native land and there attended school. He emigrated to the United States in 1871, locating in Michigan, where he worked in the iron mines for many years. About 1880 he came to Minnesota, settling in Grant county, working out on a farm by the month during the summer time and in the lumber woods during the winters. In 1888 he bought eighty acres and later another eighty in Lawrence township. He improved his land and became a successful farmer and stock raiser. He set out a large grove. He spent the rest of his life on the farm, dying in 1908. He was a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. After his death his widow and children put up a modern dwelling on the place.

Mr. Anderson was married in 1886 to Jennie Peterson, who was born in Norway, November 7, 1867, a daughter of Peter and Helen (Anderson) Johnson, the former of whom died in 1878 and the latter in 1877, who were the parents of four children, Sophia, Jennie, John and Annie, all of whom are living. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson the following children were born:

William, the eldest; Herman, who is operating the home farm; Nellie, next in order of birth; Alma, who died on January 26, 1910, at the age of fifteen years and six months; Allen, next in order of birth; Vernon, who died in 1915, at the age of fifteen years and six months, and Carl, the youngest.

CHARLES LOUIS JULIG.

One of the prominent German farmers of Leaf Valley township, Douglas county, is Charles L. Julig, who was born in Carver county, Minnesota, on November 26, 1863. He is a son of John and Gertrude Julig, both of whom were natives of Germany.

John Julig was a brewer by trade in his native country, also followed the occupation of an engineer. He was married in Germany and in 1848 came to the United States, settling first in Chicago, Illinois, where he worked as an engineer in a roundhouse until 1856, when he removed to Carver county, Minnesota. There he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, eleven miles west of Chaska, and lived on that place until 1880, when he moved to Douglas county to live with his son, remaining there for several years, at the end of which time he came to live with his son, Charles L., with whom he remained until his death in 1895. His widow survived him about seven years, her death occurring in 1902. While living in this county, John Julig homesteaded forty acres of land in section 10 of Leaf Valley township. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, Joseph, Andrew, Mary, Henry, John, Charles L., Sophia, Gertrude, and one who died while young. Joseph was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War and was wounded at the battle of Nashville. He spent most of his life in Carver county, Minnesota, where he died a few years ago. It is believed that Andrew is also deceased, as the family have not heard from him for many years. Mary is the widow of John Kitter and lives in Minneapolis. Henry is a farmer living in Leaf Valley township, near where the subject of this sketch is living. John is a resident of St. Cloud, where he is employed in the car shops. Sophia lives in California. Gertrude is the wife of Andrew Schmidt, a resident of Ottertail county, Minnesota.

Charles L. Julig was educated in the public schools of Carver county, Minnesota, and as a young man worked out among the farmers of that county. In the spring of 1881 he came to Douglas county, and in the fall of that same year bought eighty acres of land in section 16 of Leaf Valley

township, which, at the time he purchased it, was wild prairie land. He went to work at once to develop and improve his land and in 1895 bought his father's forty acres, and a little later the forty acres adjoining it. In 1882 he purchased forty acres more in section 16, and in 1897 he purchased eighty additional acres in the same section, so that at present he is the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of fine farming land. He has made all the improvements on his land, and has about one hundred and seventy-five acres of it under plow, while the remainder is meadow and pasture land, with a little timber. In 1908 he built a new barn, which is thirty-two by fifty-two feet in dimensions, and all his farm buildings are modern and up-to-date. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has a fine herd of Red Polled cattle.

In 1892 Charles L. Julig was married to Sophie Schmid, who was born in Ottertail county, Minnesota, the daughter of George Schmid, and to this union ten children have been born: Mary, the wife of Max Wagner, a carpenter living in Alexandria; George, who is a blacksmith and has a shop on his father's farm; Margaret, who is a graduate of the high school at Alexandria, and also a normal student, is a teacher in Belle River township, and Carl, John, Frank, Leona, Eddie, Anna and Helen, who are at home with their parents. The family are earnest and devout Catholics and Mr. Julig is a trustee of the church at Millerville.

Mr. Julig is a Republican and has served his township as supervisor for twenty-one years. He has also served as school director in district No. 53 for about twenty years. Besides his farming interests, Mr. Julig is a stockholder in the Valley Creamery Association.

OLE ENGEMON.

A successful farmer and worthy citizen of Solem township, Douglas county, is Ole Engemon, who was born in Norway, August 6, 1848, the son of Engemon Olson and Margaret (Sibjorson) Engemon, both natives of Norway. Engemon Olson came to America in 1860, locating first in Lafayette county, Wisconsin, and in 1867 came to Douglas county, where he homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 24 of Solem township, and on this farm he lived the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1872. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, Emma, Julia, William, Ole, Christina, Margaret, Betsey and Carrie.

Of these children all are living with the exception of three, Emma, Julia and Margaret.

Ole Engemon had little opportunity for educational training but attended the schools of his native land to some extent. As a young man he worked with his father, who was a farmer in Norway, and came with the family to America. Here he assisted his father to clear and develop his farm in Douglas county, and about 1876 he started farming for himself. He is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres in Solem township, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising, and has been quite successful in his chosen calling.

Ole Engemon married Anna N. Valle, the daughter of John Gura, and there are no children. He and his wife are earnest and devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they are deeply interested. Mr. Engemon is a Republican in politics.

P. M. PETERSON.

P. M. Peterson, a well-known and successful farmer of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in that township on December 15, 1875, the son of Anton and Mary (Larson) Peterson. Michael Larson, the maternal grandfather of P. M. Peterson, was a native of Norway, who came to the United States and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, one of the early pioneers, and there he spent the rest of his life. Peter Thuran, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Norway, who died in his native land. His widow, Mary (Nergeson) Thuran, came to the United States in 1880 to join her children, who had located here. She died in 1897 at the age of seventy-nine years. Peter Thuran died in 1867, at the age of fifty-eight years. To them were born the following children: Alga, Anton, Theodore, John, Ole, Lewis and Martin, all of whom, with the exception of Alga, came to the United States. Alga is now deceased, as is Anton and Ole.

Anton Peterson was born in Norway and there received his education in the public schools and there grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-one he decided to come to America, and after landing in the United States, in 1867, he obtained work in New York, where he remained for two years, working as a farm hand. He then went to Wisconsin, where he worked in the woods for one winter, after which he came to Minnesota, and here he located in Fillmore county, where he worked as a farm hand for his father-

in-law, Mr. Larson, for three years. After his marriage, in January, 1875, he drove a team of horses to Grant county, where he purchased a farm in Pelican Lake township. He obtained one hundred and sixty acres in section 29 and there he lived until the time of his death. The farm he developed and improved and engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful, becoming the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of excellent land, all in Pelican Lake township. He was a man of much ability and always took an active interest in local affairs, being recognized as one of the prominent and influential men of the township. His death occurred on July 16, 1911. During his many years of active life, Anton Peterson was held in the highest regard by all who knew him. He and his wife were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and took much interest in church work.

Anton Peterson had one of the best-improved farms in the township. His barn, sixty by sixty-four feet, was at that time the largest barn in the community. He rebuilt his house and made it one of the substantial ones in the county. In addition to his other interests he was a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company and in the creamery at Ashby. He and Mrs. Peterson were the parents of the following children: Peter, Sander, Caroline, Michael, Josephine and Alma. Mrs. Peterson is still living on the home farm and with her are her children, Caroline, Sander, Josephine and Alma. The family have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the township, where they are highly regarded by their neighbors and friends.

P. M. Peterson received his education in the public schools of Pelican Lake township. He grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the work. On October 27, 1909, he was united in marriage to Caroline Thorp. Four years before that time he had gone to North Dakota, where he had taken a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he proved up, and then returned to Grant county, and later sold his Dakota homestead. He now owns his father's old homestead, having purchased it from the other heirs. In 1914 he erected a large barn, thirty by fifty-six feet, and during the same year he built a new house. In addition to his large interests on the farm, Mr. Peterson is the owner of stock in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Ashby. He has always taken much interest in local affairs and has ever been ready to assist in any worthy cause that would tend to the betterment and the improvement of the township and the county. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and in the best possible cultivation. As a general farmer and stock raiser he has been suc-

cessful and is regarded as among the successful men in that line in the township.

P. M. Peterson and wife are the parents of four children, Arthur M., Clifford P., Adeline M. and Laurence. The family are prominent in the social life of the community and are interested in the betterment of social conditions.

SVEN NICHOLAS SWENSON.

The late Sven Nicholas Swenson, who for years was one of the best known and most substantial farmers of the Holmes City neighborhood, was born in Sweden on July 4, 1835, and died on October 16, 1911. He received his education in his native land, where he lived until he was twenty-nine years of age. In 1864 he decided to come to America, and after landing in this country, he located in Illinois, where he remained for two years, after which he removed to Red Wing, Minnesota, where he lived for eight months. In 1867 he moved to Douglas county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, in section 33, Holmes City township, just across the line from Pope county. That farm he developed and improved and there made his home for many years, after which he purchased the farm where his sons, Theo and Frank Swenson now reside, also in Holmes City township. He did not sell the old homestead, but in time became the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of good land. One year before his death he sold all his land to his sons, Albert L., Frank R. and Theo E. Albert Swenson later entered the engineering department of a large factory at St. Paul and sold his interest in the farms to the other two brothers.

On March 23, 1867, at Red Wing, Minnesota, Sven Nicholas Swenson was united in marriage to Anna Sophia Jacobson, also a native of Sweden, who came to the United States with her brother at the same time Mr. Swenson came. She was born on June 20, 1840, and died on March 25, 1915. During her lifetime she was a devoted wife and mother, contributing largely to her husband's success and in every way performing her wifely and motherly duties in a splendid manner. Her many fine qualities endeared her to all and her death was deplored by her many friends. She and her husband were regarded during their lifetime as among that sturdy type of pioneers who laid the foundations for the magnificent social structure so evident in this community today. To their family they bequeathed the



SVEN NICHOLAS SWENSON AND WIFE.

heritage of a good name and to them imparted the knowledge of the value of honest labor and good lives, and no family in the community stands in higher esteem for general worth. To Sven N. and Anna Sophia (Jacobson) Swenson were born five children, Nannie, Albert L., Frank R., Ellen, and Theo E. Mr. and Mrs. Swenson were active members of the Oscar Lake Lutheran church, in which denomination all the children were confirmed and became influential members. Mr. Swenson also took much interest in local affairs and was held in the highest regard by all who knew him.

Theo E. Swenson received his education in the common schools of Douglas county and remained with his father on the home farms, until he purchased one hundred and sixty acres from his father one year before the latter's death. To this original farm of one hundred and sixty acres, Theo E. Swenson has added eighty acres that he purchased from his brother Albert. It is on this well-developed and nicely-improved farm that Mr. Swenson is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

On July 2, 1912, Theo E. Swenson was united in marriage to Anna Christina Mickelson, who was born in Holmes City township, daughter of M. J. Malm, who came to America in 1892 and is now a resident of Holmes City township, and to this union two children have been born, Raymond Nicolas and Arleigh Michael, the latter of whom was born in September, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Swenson are active members of the Lutheran church and are prominent in the social life of the community. Mr. Swenson has always taken much interest in local civic affairs and is now a member of the board of township supervisors.

Frank R. Swenson, who is living on another part of his late father's farm in Holmes City township, the owner of a well-developed tract of two hundred and thirty acres, where he and his family are very pleasantly situated, gives considerable attention, besides his farming interests, to his work as a monument dresser and marble carver. He is an expert in that line, having thoroughly learned the trade of monument-cutter, and devoted considerable time to the business, having a large patronage in that line. Frank Swenson was married at Wheaton on January 18, 1912, to Anna Nelson, who was born in Sweden. He and his wife take a proper part in the various social activities of their home community. They have one child, a daughter, Edith, born on January 20, 1914.

Nannie Swenson married Frank Dalen and lives on a farm three miles

south of Kensington, where Mr. Dalen devotes his time to his fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres. To Mr. and Mrs. Dalen have been born five children, Harry, Mabel, Elmer, Raymond and Kermit.

Ellen Swenson married Ole J. Holm and lives on a farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres in Holmes City township, where Mr. Holmes devotes his attention to general farming.

SYVERT S. WANGSNES.

There are a comparatively large number of farmers in Grant and Douglas counties who came from Winneshiek county, Iowa. Among these the name of Syvert S. Wangsness, of Stony Brook township, should be mentioned. He was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, September 29, 1860, and is a son of Sjur Hermundson Wangsness and Torbjor (Larson) Wangsness, both natives of Norway, from which country they came in an early day to Wisconsin, later moving to Winneshiek county, Iowa. To Mr. Wangsness and wife were born the following-named children: A son, Hermund, who died at the age of ten years; Ingeborg; Eli (deceased); Gertrude (deceased), and Syvert, the subject of this review, the youngest. Sjur Wangsness died in Winneshiek county and his widow subsequently married Tores Hanson, a widower, who had three children by his first marriage, Anna, Gurina and Hans, and by his second wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, he had one child, Louise, now the wife of Gabriel N. Thyse. In 1870 Tores Hanson with his family came to Grant county, Minnesota, where he took a homestead consisting of one hundred and forty-seven acres in Stony Brook township, adding to the same eighty acres more. On this homestead he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, his death occurring in 1901. She died in 1891. The daughter, Louise, and son-in-law, Gabriel N. Thyse, are now living on the old homestead.

The subject of this sketch was ten years old when his parents settled in Grant county. When a boy he worked hard on the farm, having little chance to obtain an education, but he has studied at home and is fairly well informed in a general way. He worked out as a farm hand for some time. Saving his earnings, he bought one hundred and twenty-three acres of railroad land and later forty acres in Stony Brook township. He has worked hard and now has a well-tilled farm, on which stand good buildings and a fine grove.

Politically, Mr. Wangsness is a Republican and is active in local af-

fairs. He has been a member of the school board for nine years. He was also for some time supervisor, chairman of the board a part of the time. When only twenty-one years old he was road overseer. He has also always been active in church work, being a member of the United Lutheran church.

Mr. Wangsness was married in 1885 to Karen Hole, who was born in Norway in 1867. She is a daughter of Torger and Tonete Hole, natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota in an early day, establishing their home at Aastad, Ottertail county, where they spent the rest of their lives. To Mr. and Mrs. Wangsness the following children have been born: Sander, Thonette, Thoralf, Harry, Thora, Joseph, Gertrude, Alice, Enoch and Walter, all of whom are living.

CARL J. DAHLSTROM.

Of the many Swedes who have come to the United States and located in the great farming districts of our Western states, where they have, by their industry and perseverance, developed the land into well-cultivated fields, dotted here and there with modern and substantial buildings, few deserve greater credit for this magnificent work than does Carl J. Dahlstrom, one of Douglas county's well-known pioneer farmers. He was born on March 8, 1851, the son of John and Bertha Dahlstrom, who later came to the United States.

Carl J. Dahlstrom received his education in the land of his nativity and there grew to manhood. As a lad he assisted his father, who was a farmer and a small landowner. Carl J. Dahlstrom married Charlotta Anderson and some time after their marriage they came to America. They landed at Philadelphia, coming thence directly to Minnesota. From St. Paul they proceeded to Alexandria, where they remained for four years, after which they homesteaded in sections 1 and 2, Carlos township, the land at that time being for the most part wild and unimproved. Mr. Dahlstrom's first farm consisted of forty acres, which he has now increased to one hundred and twenty acres, the most of which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. The early years on the farm were hard ones to the family. Coming, as they did, into a strange land and amid strange conditions, they have, after long and tiresome years of labor, succeeded, today Mr. Dahlstrom being the owner of one of the best farms in the township.

To Carl J. and Charlotta Dahlstrom have been born the following chil-

dren: Carl, Ellen, Mary, Bertha, Selma, Esther, Hattie, Arthur, Albin and Jerda. Carl resides in North Dakota and is a traveling salesman for the Watkins Medical Company; Ellen is the wife of A. E. Sherlin; Selma is the wife of Edward Smith and Esther is the wife of E. W. Walstrom.

Carl J. Dahlstrom is engaged in general farming and stock raising and is particularly interested in the raising of Holstein cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He raises much wheat and potatoes, the latter being one of the principal crops in that section of the county, many thousands of bushels being raised every year. In addition to his many duties on the farm, Mr. Dahlstrom has always taken much interest in the civic affairs of his township. For four years he has been a director of the Belle River Creamery Company. He has served as treasurer of the school board for twelve years and was for four years a member of the township board of supervisors, in all of this service giving excellent satisfaction.

ALBERTUS SCHAFFER.

Albertus Schaffer, a successful farmer of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in Marquette county, Wisconsin, on July 4, 1862, the son of Abraham and Marie (Losack) Schaffer, who were born in Saxony, Germany, and who continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1840, when they decided that they would come to America. On their arrival in this country, they proceeded to Wisconsin, where they spent the rest of their lives, the father having died thirty-nine years ago, he then being past sixty years of age. The wife and mother died when the son Albertus was but a small boy. In his new home Abraham Schaffer was successful as a farmer and stock raiser and at the time of his death was the owner of three hundred acres of good land. He and his wife were members of the German Lutheran church and always took much interest in church work. They were highly respected people and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them. Mr. Schaffer was a man of much ability and possessed of much business acumen, which placed him among the successful men of his community. Mr. and Mrs. Schaffer were the parents of the following children: Henry, Carl, Emma, Amelia, John, Lucy, Hattie, Albertus, Lena, Ida, Tillie and Augusta, all of whom are living save John.

Albertus Schaffer received his education in the local schools of Wisconsin. At the age of eighteen he left that state and came to Minnesota, locat-

ing in Grant county, where he later purchased land, three miles from Elbow Lake. There he obtained one hundred and sixty acres of land and there he made his home until 1902, when he moved to his present home farm in section 5 of Pelican Lake township, where he has two hundred and forty acres of excellent land. He has done much in the way of development and has built a large barn and hog house and remodeled the house. In addition to his farm in Pelican Lake township, Mr. Schaffer is the owner of twenty-five acres of land in St. Olaf township, in the neighboring county of Ottertail. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has some fine Short-horn cattle, Hampshire hogs and some fine sheep, his stock being recognized as among the best in the county. He had a sheep that took first prize at the stock show at St. Paul and others that took first at he show at Fargo. His farm is known as "Garden Farm," the name being indicative of the care and attention that it receives.

At the age of twenty-four years Mr. Schaffer was united in marriage to Louisa Caesar and to this union two children have been born, Edwin and Wilford. Mr. Schaffer is known as "Sam" Schaffer, a little girl having given him the name, and he feels very proud of it.

GEORGE C. BROWN.

The late George C. Brown, for years a substantial farmer of North Ottawa township, Grant county, was born in Trondhjem, Norway, on July 28, 1842, the son of Andrew H. and Serena G. Brown. The mother died in Norway in 1865, after which the father came to America and in 1869 located in Milwaukee, where he lived for some years. He then came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Grant county, the farm on which the son, George C. Brown, later made his home. It was there that Andrew H. Brown died, in 1903, at the age of eighty-three years. To Andrew and Serena Brown three children were born, George C., Adolph and Annie, the latter of whom is the only survivor. Adolph died in 1909.

George C. Brown received his education in the public schools of Norway and there grew to manhood, remaining a resident of the land of his nativity until 1861. At that time he went to Canada, where he remained for a year, and then, in 1862, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He had, up to that time, lived, for the most part, the life of a sailor, but he soon left Milwaukee and settled on a farm in Boone county, Illinois, where he re-

mained until 1890, when he came to Minnesota and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in North Ottawa township, Grant county. There he set out a beautiful grove and erected modern and substantial buildings and engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, on January 16, 1916.

George C. Brown was identified with the Republican party and always took an active interest in local affairs. He was an ardent advocate of the public schools of the state, and was the one who started the petition for the building of the school house in his district. He was for many years a member of the board of supervisors and accomplished much good for the township during his years of service. He and his family were active members of the United Lutheran church, took much interest in church work and were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community.

On December 10, 1870, George C. Brown was united in marriage to Annetta M. Hansen, who was born in Norway on September 3, 1851, the daughter of Andrew and Margaret (Jertsen) Hansen, also natives of Norway, born on the same day, October 8, 1822. He died in 1878 and she survived until October 7, 1912, being then ninety years of age. They were the parents of the following children: Hannah, George, Annetta M., Lawrence A. and Mary. Mary became the wife of Herbert Nelson and died in Milwaukee in 1899. Andrew and Margaret Hansen came to the United States and located in Milwaukee, where they spent the rest of their lives. During his active life Mr. Hansen was a sailor, but on locating at Milwaukee he lived a retired life.

To George C. and Annetta M. (Hansen) Brown were born the following children: Serena Margaret, Alena, George C., Annie, Matilda, Leonora, Frank, Frances A., Nellie Josephine, Adolph F., Roy Leland and Adolph Theodore. Serena Margaret is the wife of Peter Larsen and they are parents of two children, Leonora and Harvey. Alena is deceased. George C. is living on the old homestead. Annie L., now deceased, was the wife of Louis Derby. They were the parents of five children, Ruby, Frank, Mabel L., Raymond C. and George. Ruby is now the wife of William Hedlund and to them one child has been born, Ruth Elaine. Matilda A. is the wife of Charles McCalip and they are the parents of two children, Randolph and Beatrice A. Leonora is living on the old home place. Frank Norman died in 1885, at the age of two years. Frances is the wife of Melvin Evenson and is the mother of two children, Leland Leroy and Adaline Marie. Nellie Josephine is a teacher and lives at home. Adolph F. died in 1894, at the age of four years; Roy Leland and Adolph Theodore are operating the old home-

stead farm. The family have long been prominent in the social and church life of the community, as well as in the civic life of the township and the county. They are a most hospitable people and are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them.

GILBERT J. PLETAN.

The biographer is glad to note that a number of native-born men of Grant county have remained here, for it shows that they have found conditions good enough right at home, it not being necessary for them to seek their fortunes elsewhere. One of this number is Gilbert J. Pletan, of Stony Brook township. He was born in that township on September 15, 1874, and is a son of Jens Pletan, mentioned elsewhere in this work. He grew up on the home farm, where he worked when a boy, and he received his education in the district schools. He has always followed agricultural pursuits and is now the owner of one hundred and twenty-seven acres in section 9 of Stony Brook township, which farm he purchased in 1907. He has made many important improvements on the same and is successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising. Mr. Pletan is a Republican and has served as supervisor of his township.

In 1903 Gilbert J. Pletan married Ida C. Stave, who was born in Otter-tail county, Minnesota, July 31, 1881, a daughter of Christian P. and Carrie Stave, who came to Minnesota from Norway in an early day. Mr. Stave is now engaged in mercantile pursuits in Aastad, this state.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pletan, namely: Signe, Cora Violet, James Kenneth and Margaret Alvhilde.

JENS J. ANGEN.

Well known as a farmer and citizen, Jens J. Angen, of Brandon township, Douglas county, is to be classed with the successful Scandinavians who have cast their lot in this locality. He was born in Norway, May 10, 1848, and is a son of John and Mary Johnson. His father and mother were natives of Norway also, the former coming to the United States in 1869 and the latter in 1872. They located near Garfield, in LaGrand township, Douglas county, where the father homesteaded one hundred and sixty

acres, which he developed and on which he spent the rest of his life. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. His family consisted of five children, Jens J., Carrie, Olaus, Carl and Ole.

Jens J. Angen, who dropped the family name upon coming to America, grew up in Norway, where he was educated in the common schools. He immigrated to America in 1870 when twenty-two years old, joining his father, who had preceded him to Douglas county, Minnesota. The son purchased one hundred and twenty acres of school land in section 36 of Brandon township, which he improved and on which he still lives, successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Angen married Caroline Severson, a daughter of Sever Olson and Martha Johnson, natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, coming to America in 1859, locating in Wisconsin, where they spent four years on a farm; then came to Minnesota, and after farming in Olmsted county four years moved to Douglas county and established their permanent home. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Angen, namely: Joel, who married Emma Peterson; Martin, deceased; Carl, who married Mary Arnston; Minnie, who married Peter Peterson; Nettie, who married Nels Tarson, and Sophia, deceased.

SYLVESTER TRISKO.

One of the younger farmers of Belle River township, Douglas county, who has made an auspicious start in his chosen life work is Sylvester Trisko, who has found his home community a good place in which to spend his life. He was born in the above-named township and county, December 31, 1888, and is a son of Ignatz and Kate (Dattler) Trisko, both natives of Germany. The father was a small boy when he came to America with his parents, John and Anna (Loretz) Trisko, both natives of Austria. They married in the old country and lived on a farm there until coming to America in 1882, coming direct to Minnesota, where Mr. Trisko took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Belle River township, Douglas county, on which he spent the rest of his life. He received military training in the old country. He and his wife belonged to the Catholic church in Belle River township. They had the following children: Joseph, Ignatz and Carl.

Ignatz Trisko, mentioned above, spent his boyhood in Germany and there attended the public schools. He and his wife are living on the old

home place, which they own, and which his father entered upon coming to Douglas county. The place consists of one hundred and sixty acres. Mr. Trisko also is a stockholder in the local creamery. His family consists of the following children: Sylvester, the subject of this sketch; John, who married a Miss Stewart in Croy, North Dakota, and Richard, Anna, Willie, Leo, Frank and Arthur.

Sylvester Trisko grew up on the home farm and he received a common-school education in district No. 92. He continued to assist his father on the farm until his marriage, on January 10, 1911, to Bernice Craig, a daughter of Frank and Clara Craig, who came to Douglas county in an early day and took up a homestead on which they established the future home of the family. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Trisko, namely: Clifford, who was killed by a kick from a horse when two years of age, and Mabel.

Mr. Trisko owns one hundred and sixty acres in Belle River township, which he purchased in the fall of 1916. He is also renting a farm of two hundred and eighty acres on which he now lives. He carries on mixed farming, raising hogs and cattle, and paying considerable attention to dairying. Politically, he is a Democrat. He belongs to the Catholic church.

NELS J. FAHLIN.

Nels J. Fahlin, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers of Solem township, Douglas county, is a native-born son of Minnesota, his birth having occurred in Solem township, January 14, 1870. He is a son of Jens and Anna Fahlin, both of whom were natives of Sweden.

Jens Fahlin and his family came to the United States in 1869, and in the fall of the same year he homesteaded the farm where he is still living in Solem township. He improved and cultivated the place, planted a grove and put up many of the older buildings on the place, most of which, however, have been replaced by newer and more modern ones. For over twenty years he has been retired from the active management of the farm. His wife died when Nels J. was but an infant of sixteen months. They were the parents of four children, John J., referred to later in this sketch; Mary, deceased; Ole, living in North Dakota, and Nels J., the immediate subject of this review.

Nels J. Fahlin received a limited education in the schools of his home community, receiving only two weeks of training in the English school. He

was reared to the life of a farmer, has always lived on the home place, and during the last few years has bought one hundred and forty acres of it. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has met with a very commendable degree of success in his chosen vocation.

In 1900 Nels J. Fahlin was married to Emma Westberg, a native of Sweden, who is a daughter of J. P. Westberg, of Solem township, and to this union have been born eight children, Mabel, Anna, Hattie, Edna, Emilie, Ruth, Lloyd and Florence Esther, all of whom are living at home with their parents. The family are all earnest and devout members of the Swedish Lutheran church, in the general work of which they take an active interest.

John J. Fahlin, the eldest brother of Nels J. Fahlin, was born in Sweden, September 19, 1861, and came to America with his parents in 1869, and was reared on the homestead farm in Solem township, which he helped to improve and develop. He bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land just across the road from the home farm, which was all raw prairie at the time he acquired it, but he set to work with a will to improve and develop it, and he now has good buildings, a nice grove, and in various ways has added to its value and attractiveness. In 1889 he married Mary Peterson, also a native of Sweden, who died about a year after her marriage, leaving one son, Artlur.

HANS L. OLBEKSON.

Milona township, Douglas county has no more painstaking farmer than Hans L. Olbekson, who was born in Norway, August 11, 1864. He is a son of Andrew and Louise (Olson) Olbekson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1869, landing in New York City where they spent a short time and where they buried an infant son. Then they came on to Minnesota and after two years spent in Freeborn county, came to Douglas county, the father taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Milona township, which he developed into a good farm by patient, hard work; and where he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, his death occurring on June 3, 1900, at the age of seventy, his birth having occurred on May 28, 1830. His widow survived until May 20, 1913, dying at the age of eighty-four years. To them the following children were born: Anton, who lives in Alexandria; Michael, who is a mason and lives in Gaston, Oregon; Carrie, deceased; Hans L., the subject of this sketch, and Anna and Louise. The father of these chil-

dren was active in local affairs, in both township and church matters, being a member of the board of the Lutheran church and active in church work.

Hans L. Olbekson was reared on the farm and was educated in the common schools. On December 20, 1889, he married Jennie Peck, whose death occurred on June 13, 1914, at the age of forty-eight years. She was the mother of four children, Josephine, Edith, Edwin and Cleveland. Josephine married James Sterrker and they live on a farm in Miliona township. The rest of the children are at home with their father.

Mr. Olbekson has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He has a productive place of one hundred and twenty acres, a part of the old homestead, in section 10, Miliona township, and has kept it well improved. He built a new barn in 1912 and a modern home in 1916. He is one of the stockholders of the Farmers Society of Equity, of Parkers Prairie, and is also a stockholder in the creamery at that place. Politically, he is a Republican. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church at Parkers Prairie. He was a member of the local school board eight years and a member of the township board four years.

KNUTE GROVEN.

Norway has give many of her sons and daughters to the United States, many of those have engaged in farming and others in business pursuits and in the professions. Among those who engaged in agricultural pursuits with success, was numbered the late Knute Groven, who was a well-known resident of Pelican Lake township, Grant county. He was born on July 6, 1849, and received his education in Norway, where he grew to manhood and was married in 1873 to Signe Jore, who was born on March 10, 1851. They lived in the land of their nativity for a number of years after their marriage, and then decided, in 1883, to come to America. They landed at the port of New York and came directly to Minnesota, locating at Ashby, where they joined E. K. Teisberg, a cousin of Knute Groven, who lived near that place.

Upon arriving at his destination, Knute Groven purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 35 of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, where he lived until the time of his death, which occurred on April 15, 1911. At the time Mr. Groven made the purchase, the place needed much in the way of development and improvements, there being only wild

prairie at the time he built a house. In 1897 he built a large barn and made other valuable and substantial improvements, the farm soon being transformed into one of the finest in the township. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful. His life was an active one and he accomplished much that was worthy of his great efforts. He was a man of much ability and force of character and was possessed of a business acumen that made his life a financial success. Coming to the country, amid new conditions and amid strange people, he soon adapted himself to the new order of things and demonstrated the fact that he could and would meet the difficulties with success. He took much interest in local affairs and was ever ready to assist in any worthy cause that had to do with the betterment of the township, or the county.

Knute and Signe Groven were the parents of three children: Isabel, Mary and Osmond. Isabel became the wife of Jepps Kronberg and Mary married Christ Clauson. Osmond is unmarried, his mother living with him on the old home place. He was born in Norway on August 8, 1881, and was but two years old when he came with his parents to the United States. Soon after the death of his father, he purchased the home farm, which he has since operated. Osmond Groven received his early training in farming under the master hand of his father, and has thus been able successfully to carry on the work that his father began.

JOHN F. TITUS.

Among the prominent farmers and substantial citizens of Hudson township, Douglas county, is John F. Titus, who was born on December 4, 1864, in Johnson county, Iowa. He is the youngest child of Joseph and Mary Jane (Rogers) Titus, both of whom were natives of Ohio.

In the early fifties Joseph Titus and his family came West and settled in Jones county, Iowa, later moving into Johnson county, that state, from which place, in 1867, the family moved to Butler county, Iowa, where they lived until the death of Joseph Titus, which occurred in 1894. His widow is still living. To this worthy couple eight children were born, W. N., Lida A., Susanna, Sarah A., R. H., H. M., C. R., and John F., the immediate subject of this brief review,

John F. Titus received his education in the public schools of Butler county, Iowa. He grew up on the farm, assisting his father with the farm

work, and in the fall of 1902 moved to Douglas county, Minnesota, where he is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has met with a very commendable degree of success in his chosen work. Besides his farming interests, Mr. Titus is a director and stockholder in the warehouse at Forada.

In 1902 John F. Titus was married to Jane McNellis, the daughter of Moses and Hannah (Osborne) McNellis, and to this union four children have been born, Durward H., Fielden G., Leander B. and Clara E. The family are earnest members of the Presbyterian church and take an active interest in the affairs of the local congregation, Mr. Titus being a trustee in the church.

Politically, Mr. Titus is an independent voter, preferring to cast his ballot for men and principles rather than for party. He has served his township as school director since 1914, and for several years served as school clerk of the school district.

ROY G. SMITH.

Roy G. Smith one of the successful young farmers of Gorton township, Grant county, was born in Chicago, Illinois, on July 2, 1889. His father died when he was but a small child and he and his mother were left alone, for he was the only child in the family. Some years after the death of her husband, Mrs. Smith became the wife of Mathias Schnell, who, with the mother, now lives in Chicago.

Roy G. Smith received his education in the public schools of Chicago and at Davenport, Iowa, having spent a part of his early life with his grandfather, William Smith, who still lives in Davenport. As a young man Mr. Smith worked in a machine shop, while living with his grandparents, William and Clara Smith, at Davenport. In 1911 he came to Minnesota and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 16, Gorton township, Grant county, where he has done much in the way of development and improvement. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and is meeting with success. He is particularly interested in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and has many of these fine animals. He is independent in politics, yet he takes an active interest in all local affairs. He and his wife are active members of the Evangelical church of Gorton township and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

On June 15, 1912, Roy G. Smith was united in marriage to Josephine Augusta Reckner, who was born in Howard county, Iowa, November 28, 1890, the daughter of Christian and Caroline (Tienken) Reckner, who located in Traverse county, Minnesota, in 1901, where they now reside. To this union three children have been born, Mathias, Beulah and William Martin.

Mathias Schnell, the stepfather of Roy G. Smith, was born in Germany and came to the United States when twenty-one years of age, arriving at Hoboken, New Jersey, without a dollar. He later went to Rock Island, Illinois, and later to Chicago. He became a contractor and builder and erected many public buildings, his field of operations covering all parts of the United States, among his contracts having been the construction of the foundation for the capital building of Texas. For the past fifteen years he has been living a retired life.

Christian Reckner, Mrs. Smith's father, was born in Howard county, Iowa, on January 6, 1858; and his wife, Caroline Reckner, was born in New York City on March 31, 1869. They were married in Howard county, Iowa, and came to Minnesota in 1901, settling in Grant county, and later removed to Traverse county. They were the parents of the following children: Hulda, Josephine Augusta, Earl, Annie, George, Henry, Clara and Ruth, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Reckner are highly respected people and have long been prominent in the social and civic life of the community in which they live. Mr. Reckner is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been successful.

CHRISTIAN L. HARSTAD.

Among the young farmers of Stony Brook township, Grant county, who are making a good start, is Christian L. Harstad, who has been fortunate enough to remain in his native locality, which he has been contented to do. He was born on the old homestead in Stony Brook township on July 9, 1889, and there he grew to manhood, working in the summer months, when he was a boy. He received his early education in the district schools, later attending Park Region Lutheran College and was graduated from the commercial department of that institution. After leaving school he returned to the farm and has made general farming his life work. When starting out for himself he purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Stony Brook

township, which he has improved considerably, including the erection of a new residence in 1915. In connection with general farming he raises various kinds of live stock. He is a careful worker, having had excellent training under his father, Lowritz K. Harstad, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Harstad was married in 1911, to Gunhild Nelson, who was born in Norway in 1888. She is a daughter of Nels and Sonove Aasberg, natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home. They came to America in 1905, but later went back to their native land where they now reside. To Mr. and Mrs. Harstad three children have been born, Thora Lovine, Signe Evelyn and Gerda Corrine.

Politically, Mr. Harstad is an independent voter. He belongs to the United Lutheran church.

THEODORE JOHNSON.

Among the many worthy farmers of Swedish parentage in Solem township, Douglas county, is Theodore Johnson, who was born in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, on February 27, 1870. He is a son of Lewis and Anna Breta (Nelson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Sweden.

Lewis Johnson and his family came to the United States in 1866, locating first in Wisconsin, but later homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres of land in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, to which eighty acres more were added later, making a total of two hundred acres. After coming to Minnesota, he served as assistant pastor of the Lutheran church preparing for the ministry himself, and in 1879 he was ordained. His first call was to the Oscar Lake church, after which he served the churches in Norongo and Venersborg, in Holmes City township, until 1887. In that year he moved to Solem township and served as pastor of the Venersborg church until 1891, when he accepted a call to the church at Parkers Prairie, where he remained four years. From there he went to Fergus Falls, where he was pastor for twelve years, at the expiration of which time he retired from the active ministry and moved to Kensington, where he lived the remainder of his life, his death occurring on March 12, 1916. While living in Solem township, he accumulated a section of land. To him and his wife were born eleven children, of whom six grew to maturity, Matilda, Lydia, Esther, Theodore, Mary and Mathias, only three of whom are now living, Mary, Mathias and Theodore.

Theodore Johnson received his education in the public schools of his home county, and also attended the Lutheran Seminary at Willmar. Early in life he decided to make farming his life work, and has made a very commendable success of his chosen calling. He has a good farm of two hundred and forty acres in Solem township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1894 Theodore Johnson was married to Caroline J. Holm, who was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, a daughter of Peter and Carrie (Stefferson) Holm, the father a native of Sweden who came to Iowa, where he met and married his wife, also a native of Sweden. Later the family moved from Iowa to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and in 1883 came to Douglas county, and in 1893, went to Roberts county, South Dakota, where Mr. Holm homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, and where he is still living. His wife died in 1902. To Peter Holm and wife were born fourteen children, seven of whom are living, Ole, Caroline, Hans, John, Karlin, Anna and Mabel. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of the following children: Mabel Cordelia, Clarence T., Clifford Emanuel, Anna Caroline, Elmer Lewis, Ernest Edwin, Alvin Richard, Hildig Gotfrey, Reuben Ferdinand and Esther Viola, all of whom are living. The family are all earnest members of the Lutheran church, which the father served so well as pastor for so many years, and all are much interested in church work. The grandfather, Lewis Johnson, built the church at Venersborg.

Politically, Mr. Johnson is a Republican, and ever since the organization of school district No. 25 he has served as clerk of the district, a period of about twenty-five years, which, in itself, speaks well for his able discharge of the duties pertaining to that office.

JAMES A. KINNEY.

James A. Kinney, editor of the *Alexandria Citizen*, was born in West Union, Iowa, June 9, 1869. He is a son of Andrew D. Kinney, who was born in Pennsylvania, February 12, 1843, and died on September 21, 1905. His mother's maiden name was Sarah E. Washburn, born in Waukeegan, Illinois.

Andrew D. Kinney was educated in the public schools of New Jersey. He removed to West Union, Iowa, when a young man, and there learned



JAMES A. KINNEY.

the blacksmith trade. He worked at his trade at that place for several years, at the end of which time he removed to Eldorado, Iowa, and there engaged in the hotel business, at the same time opening a blacksmith shop, which he conducted at that place for about fifteen years. He then moved to Dakota, which was a territory at the time, and took up a homestead of government land in what is now South Dakota, near Highmore. He only remained there for about one year, returning presently to Iowa and locating at Elgin, that state, where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring on the date above stated. Andrew Kinney and wife were the parents of eight children: James A., the subject of this sketch; Ella, who married J. A. Jones; C. K., of Minneapolis; G. W., of Beach, North Dakota; Rev. R. D. Kinney, of Fredericksburg, Iowa; Grace, who married E. E. Walden, of Minneapolis; Earl, of Vanada, Montana, and Arthur, of Minneapolis. Andrew D. Kinney was a member of the Masonic order and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically, he affiliated with the Republican party.

James A. Kinney was educated in the schools of Elgin, Iowa, completing the course and graduating from the high school at that place. Afterward he attended the business college at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and was graduated from that institution in 1889. He then entered a printing office at West Union, Iowa, and worked at the printing business for about three years. In 1892 he went south and spent the winter in Fort Worth, and in Temple, Texas, working on daily papers. Returning to West Union, Iowa, the following year he took the position of manager of the *Fayette County Union*, of which Congressman Walt H. Butler was at that time the owner, and continued in that position for about eighteen months, at the end of which time he went to Aurora, Iowa, and engaged in the newspaper business on his own account. He bought material for a newspaper plant and founded the *Aurora Observer*, which he continued to publish for eleven years. While residing in Aurora he served for two years as postmaster of the town. In 1905 he disposed of his interest in the *Observer*, resigned the postmastership and came to Minnesota, buying a half-interest in the *Alexandria Citizen* from Hennings Brothers and entering into partnership with O. W. Hennings, in the publication of that paper. That partnership continued until 1910, when Mr. Kinney bought his partner's interest and has since been conducting the *Citizen* as the sole proprietor.

On July 20, 1893, at West Union, Iowa, James A. Kinney and Ethel
(18a)

Hennings were united in marriage. To this union four children have been born: James Paul, a senior at Carleton College; Philip R., a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis; Elizabeth and Helen. Mrs. Kinney is a daughter of Thomas Hennings, of West Union, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Kinney are members of the Congregational church and Mr. Kinney is treasurer of the local congregation. His political affiliation is with the Democratic party and he is at present the deputy oil inspector for Douglas and Grant counties. Mr. Kinney's lodge affiliations are with the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Yeomen, and he is secretary of the local lodge of Masons.

WALTER H. BOULTING.

Walter H. Boulting, a well-known retired farmer of Norcross, was born in Dubuque county, Iowa, on January 21, 1859, the son of William and Matilda (Jackson) Boulting, the former of whom was born in England and the latter in the state of New York.

William Boulting emigrated to Canada in 1849 and located near Toronto, where he remained for some time. He later removed to Dubuque county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming, and where he made his home until his death some years ago. His widow died several years ago. They were the parents of five children, Walter H., Viola, Elsie S., Emma and William. Emma and William are deceased and Elsie is a resident of Alexandria. William Boulting was the father of one child, a son, Sidney, by a former marriage, the mother having died in England. Sidney Boulting was a soldier in the Civil War and was present at many of the important battles.

Anthony and Ann (Greene) Boulting, the paternal grandparents of Walter H. Boulting, natives of England, emigrated to Canada and were located for a time near Toronto. The family had decided to remove to Iowa and had proceeded as far as Detroit, when Anthony Boulting died. After the death of his father, William Boulting, with his son Sidney, his mother and his brothers and sisters proceeded on their way to Iowa. They located in Dubuque county where they were among the early settlers of that section. Anthony and Ann Boulting were the parents of four children, William, Joseph, Annie and Ruth, all of whom came to America. The maternal grandparents of Walter H. Boulting were natives of England.

They were married in the state of New York, but later removed to Ohio, where the grandfather died. The mother and children removed to Dubuque county, Iowa, having made the journey with horses and wagon. They later removed to southwestern Iowa.

Walter H. Boulting received his education in Dubuque county, Iowa, and there grew to manhood. After completing his schooling he engaged in farming in that county, where he remained until 1902. On his retirement as a farmer in Dubuque county, Mr. Boulting came to Minnesota county and located at Norcross, where he managed the elevator for the Hennepin Elevator Company for a number of years, since which time he has lived a retired life.

Fraternally, Mr. Boulting is a member of the United Workmen and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has always taken an active interest in local affairs and served his township as chairman of the board before the village was incorporated. After the incorporation he served several times as president of the village. Being progressive, he has always taken much interest in assisting in the advancement of the town and was a strong factor in the successful effort to incorporate.

EMIL E. BERGH.

Emil E. Bergh, a well-known farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in that township on April 8, 1882, the son of Ellef and Petrine (Melhus) Bergh.

Peter Bergh, the paternal grandfather of Emil E. Bergh, was a successful farmer of Norway, where he died many years ago. The family was active in the work of the Norwegian Lutheran church. The maternal grandfather, Jens Melhus, was also a farmer in Norway and was an active member of the Lutheran church. Ellef Bergh, the father of Emil E. Bergh, was born in Norway and there received his education in the public schools and grew to manhood. In 1872 he came to the United States and located in Goodhue county, Minnesota. He remained there but a short time and then became a resident of Pope county, where he engaged in farming for three years. He then came to Douglas county in 1875, and here bought a farm in section 20, Brandon township. It was here that he lived the remainder of his life, his death occurring on August 19, 1906, at the age of fifty-seven years. His widow still lives on the home place with one of

her sons, who purchased the farm. Mr. Bergh was very active in the work of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Brandon, which he helped to organize. He and Mrs. Bergh were the parents of the following children: Peter, Minda, Jennie, Emil E., John and Ole.

Emil E. Bergh received his education in the schools of Brandon township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted with the farm work. After completing his school work in the township, he was in attendance at the Augsburg Seminary at Minneapolis for one year. On January 26, 1905, he was united in marriage to Minnie Strom, who was born in Brandon township, on June 9, 1883, the daughter of Anton H. and Anna (Haaven) Strom.

Anton H. Strom was born in Norway, on October 23, 1855, and when but five years of age sailed with his father and mother for America. On the voyage the mother died and was buried at sea. The father and his two children, Annetta and Anton, landed at Quebec, Canada, and came direct to Minnesota, locating first in Goodhue county, where they remained for eight years, after which they came to Douglas county. Young Anton, after the arrival in Minnesota, was taken by one of their neighbors, and with that family he remained until he was twenty-three years of age, when he came to Douglas county to join his father. He was married on June 28, 1878, to Anna Haaven, and they were the parents of two children, Henry and Minnie. After coming to Douglas county, Mr. Strom engaged in active farming until 1910, when he retired from active farm life and moved to Brandon.

Emil E. and Minnie Bergh are the parents of four children, Henry, Phillip, Miriam and Lloyd. Since their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Bergh have been living on the farm belonging to Mrs. Bergh's father in section 19, Brandon township. There Mr. Bergh is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and is interested in Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. Besides his farming interests, Mr. Bergh owns stock in the Brandon Co-operative Creamery Association, of which he has served as secretary and manager for the last six years. He also owns stock in the Farmers and Merchants Union Elevator Company at Brandon. He has always taken much interest in local civic affairs and has served as clerk of his township for the past five years, and as chairman of the school board for the past two years. He and Mrs. Bergh are active in the social and religious life of the community and are held in high esteem by all who know them. Mr. Bergh is progressive and is a strong believer in the best of schools and

good roads. Being broadminded and a man of ability, he knows the importance of the schools to the children of the community, and that the future of the state depends much upon the educational training of the young.

GUST NEWMAN.

One of the many substantial farmers and enterprising citizens of Alexandria township, Douglas county, who are of Swedish birth, is Gust Newman, who was born in Sweden on December 7, 1860, the son of Carl Newman and wife, both natives of that same country. Carl Newman came with his family to Minnesota in 1881, locating at once in Alexandria township, Douglas county, where he purchased forty acres of land in section 12, and on this farm he continued to live until his retirement from active farm life, at which time he moved to the city of Alexandria, where his death occurred on February 18, 1894. Carl Newman and wife were the parents of five children, Gust, Ludwig, Henry, Matilda and Walfred, the latter of whom died while young. The family were adherents of the Swedish Lutheran church. The widow Newman, who was born on December 24, 1836, makes her home with her son, Gust.

Gust Newman received his education in the public schools of his native land. In 1880 he came to Minnesota, locating in Alexandria township, Douglas county. His first employment after coming here was on the railroad, afterwards on farms in this neighborhood. In 1888 he purchased the farm of eighty acres on which he now lives, and started farming for himself. This tract was all wild land at the time he acquired it, and Mr. Newman has placed all the improvements on the farm himself, his place now being one of the best in the township. He carries on a general system of farming and also engages in dairying to some extent, which branch of farming he has carried on since 1910. He is also a breeder of blooded live stock, specializing in Guernsey cattle, in which business he has met with a very commendable success.

In 1890 Gust Newman was married to Mary Grandlund and to this union five children have been born, Minnie, Sadie, Ruth, Roy and Mildred, all of whom are living with the exception of Minnie, who died at the age of thirteen years. The family are all loyal members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Newman is a Republican, and is interested in all public

matters pertaining to the general welfare of his community. He has served as a member of the township school board. His wife is a daughter of Daniel and Christena Elizabeth (Pearson) Grandlund, both natives of Sweden and early settlers in Douglas county, who settled in Belle River township, where Daniel Grandlund took a homestead, on which he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1910, and where his widow still lives.

PETER CASSELL.

Among the substantial farmers of Hudson township, Douglas county is Peter Cassell, who was born of sturdy Scotch parentage in Richland county, Wisconsin, January 5, 1863. He is a son of George and Jeanette (Pennie) Cassell, both of whom were natives of Scotland, the former born in Fifeshire in 1831, and the latter born in Lockleaven. George Cassell came to America in 1850 and located in Whiteside county, Illinois, where he remained for ten years. In 1860 he moved to Richland county, Wisconsin, being among the pioneers of that county, operating a farm there until 1865. In the latter year he came to Minnesota, locating in section 36, of Hudson township, Douglas county, the first white man to settle in that township; and during all the first winter he was there, there were no other white men in the township, his only neighbors being the Indians. The family followed him in September and lived in the wagon in which they had come overland from Wisconsin until their house was finished. Their nearest market was at St. Cloud, with flour selling as high as twenty-two dollars a barrel. In true pioneer style they lived in their home in the wilderness, improving and cultivating the land, and in 1877 Mr. Cassell sold the farm in section 36 and bought the farm where Peter Cassell now lives, in section 34. George Cassell was a successful farmer and at the time of his death was a substantial landowner. To him and his wife were born ten children, James, Thomas, Peter, John, William, George, Edward, Mary, Daniel and Jessie. The family were earnest and devout members of the Presbyterian church. The father died in 1903, while the mother survived until 1914.

Peter Cassell received his education in the public schools of Hudson township and as a young man assisted his father with the work on the home farm. In 1891 he and his brother, John, bought two hundred and forty acres of the home place. Four years later he purchased his brother's interest in that farm and has since added to his holdings until he now owns

four hundred acres of fine farming land in Hudson township. He has one of the most thoroughly cultivated and best-improved farms in the township, and is engaged in general farming and stock raising. Besides his farming operations, for the past thirty-three years Mr. Cassell has operated a threshing-machine outfit in his home neighborhood.

In 1898 Peter Cassell was married to Maggie Taylor, the daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Maxwell) Taylor, both natives of Scotland. Joseph Taylor and wife came to America in 1907 and are now living in their own little home near Mr. Cassell's home. Peter Cassell and wife are the parents of three children: Allyn T., Mina Lovone and Una Janet. The family are adherents of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Cassell is a member of the board of trustees of the local congregations. Joseph Taylor and wife, the parents of Mrs. Cassell, had eight children: Barbara and David, who live in Scotland, and Mrs. Minna Pennie, Mrs. Josephine McClelland, Mrs. Jessie Waters, Miss Lizzie Taylor and John, in Douglas county.

Mr. Cassell is a Republican, and takes a warm interest in local political matters. He has held several township offices, having filled the positions of assessor and clerk, besides being a member of the school board for a period of ten years.

TORGER MOBRAATEN.

Farming is both pleasant and profitable when carried on in a manner like that employed by Torger Mobraaten, of Elbow Lake township, Grant county. He was born in Norway, June 14, 1862, and is a son of Christopher and Annie Mobraaten, natives of Norway, who came to this country in 1867, settling in Houston county, Minnesota, and on to Grant county in 1871. Here the father took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township, to which he later added eighty acres. He planted a grove, erected buildings and developed his land into a good farm, on which he spent the rest of his life, dying in 1883, at the age of forty-six years. His widow survived him twenty-three years, dying in 1906, at the advanced age of eighty. They had but two children, Torger, the subject of this review, and Edward, who is engaged in business in Wendell.

Torger Mobraaten was five years old when his parents came to America. He grew up on the home farm and attended the public schools. He has always followed general farming and stock raising, and has been quite successful, now owning four hundred and forty acres, including the old home-

stead, all his land being under excellent improvements. He has a fine grove which he set out himself, and all his buildings are modern.

Mr. Mobraaten was married on November 23, 1890, to Annie Furgeson, who was born in Iowa, a daughter of Halvor and Tone Furgeson, who came from Iowa to Albert Lea, Minnesota, and then to Grant county, many years ago, and who now live in Elbow Lake township. Two children have been born to Mr. Mobraaten and wife, namely: Clarence, who married Esther Hultonder and lives on the home farm, which he helps operate, and Blanche, who is also at home.

Like his father, the subject of this sketch is a Republican, but he has never been active in public affairs or sought office. He and his family belong to the Lutheran church.

CARL O. PETERSON.

The late Carl O. Peterson, a well-known and well-to-do farmer of Solem township, Douglas county, was a native of Sweden, his birth having occurred in Lavekulla, Jerda Socken, Kalmarlaen, on March 3, 1845.

Mr. Peterson received his education in the schools of his native country, and as a young man came to America, locating first in Minneapolis, where he worked for a time. In 1866 he bought out the rights of a homesteader for fifty dollars. The homestead consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Solem township, Douglas county, where the family is still living, and which is now called "Plainview Farm." Mr. Peterson erected the first set of buildings on that farm, planted a grove, and in many ways improved and cultivated the place. In the early days he used to work during the summer seasons in the cities, and go out to the farm to trap and hunt during the winter, but later devoted his entire attention to farming, in time adding forty more acres to the tract. Since his death, which occurred on February 17, 1895, his sons have put up new and modern buildings on the farm and it is now one of the best in the township. His widow still lives on the farm.

In 1875, Carl O. Peterson was married to Augusta Dahlin, a native of Sweden, who came to the United States at the age of nine with her parents Lars Johan and Christina (Anderstotter) Dahlen. The family located first at DeKalb, Illinois, but later came to Minnesota, where they homesteaded land near Farwell.

Carl O. Peterson and wife were the parents of six children, five sons and one daughter, the last-named being the wife of Frank E. Osterberg, who is a brother of A. L. Osterberg, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. The five sons are F. Robert, Theodore L., Carl A., H. Fred, Joseph M. These five brothers are operating the farm together, and, with their mother, have five hundred and twenty-five acres under cultivation. They are engaged in general farming and stock raising, and have been very successful in their chosen lines. They also operate a threshing outfit during the season, which business they have conducted for fifteen years.

The family is a well-established and prominent one in their community, and all are earnest members of the Lutheran church.

JENS FRIGAARD.

One of the well-known and substantial farmers of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, is Jens Frigaard, who was born at Stordal, in Trondhjem, Norway, February 16, 1849. He is a son of Jens and Gertje (Boraas) Frigaard, both of whom were also natives of Norway, the former born in 1824, and the latter in 1825. The father died in Norway in 1866, and the mother remained in Norway until 1877, when she came to America to join her son, Jens, who had come to the United States some time before. Here she was married to John Froirum, and she spent her last days in Goodhue county, Minnesota, her death occurring in the early eighties. Jens Frigaard and wife were the parents of seven children: Jens, the immediate subject of this review; Sarah, who died at the age of eighteen; Ole, a farmer living in Goodhue county, this state; Louis, a retired farmer of Goodhue county; Gunder, who died in Goodhue county; John, a farmer of Goodhue, and Jetina, who died in Norway at the age of sixteen weeks.

Jens Frigaard received his education in the public schools of Norway and was reared on a farm there. He assisted with the farm work in his native land until 1871, when he came to America. He settled first in Goodhue county, Minnesota, finding employment on the farms there, and later bought a farm and lived there until 1890. In that year he sold his farm in Goodhue county and moved to Grant county, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Pomme de Terre township. This farm was raw prairie when he acquired it and he at once began the work of developing and cultivating it. He has placed many and various improvements on the place, including

good buildings, as well as an orchard and grove. He has added to his holdings until he now owns two other eighty-acre tracts in Stony Brook township, making a total of two hundred and forty acres, besides a quarter section in Elbow Lake township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has made a decided success of his life work. Besides his farming interests, Mr. Frigaard has other interests, being a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at West Elbow.

In 1875 Jens Frigaard was married to Annie Setran, a sister of H. G. Setran, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, and to this union have been born twelve children: Julia, who became the wife of Charles Nelson, a farmer of South Dakota; Gustav, who died at the age of thirty; Ole, who is operating his father's farm in Elbow Lake township; Regina, who became the wife of Ole Johnson, a farmer of North Dakota; Richard, living at home; Julius, still at home; Annie, at home; Bernhard, at home; Selina, at home; Henry, at home; Alma, at home, and one other who died. The family are all members of the Lutheran church, in which they take an active interest. Mr. Frigaard is still hale and hearty, and takes an active part in the farm work. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, and served his township as school director for three years.

HOGAN G. SETRAN.

Hogan G. Setran, a successful farmer and stock raiser of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, was born in Norway, March 7, 1859. He is a son of Gunder and Berit (Setran), both natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota in 1866, locating in Goodhue county, the death of the father occurring not long after settling there. His widow survived for some years. They were parents of three children, Anne, Hogan G. and Runda (deceased.) The mother of these children married again, her last husband being Ralph Burgsen, and to that union five children were born, Geta, Gurina, Carl (deceased), Bessie, and Ludvig.

Hogan G. Setran had no opportunity to obtain an education, and he never attended school. He was seven years old when his parents brought him to America. He has devoted his life to farming and has succeeded as a result of his close application. He came to Grant county in 1887 and purchased eighty acres in Pomme de Terre township, to which he later added one hundred and twenty acres, thus making his present farm two hundred acres. He set out a large grove upon coming here which is now of

good size, and he has added other valuable improvements from time to time, putting up modern buildings and is well fixed in every way. He is a Republican and a member of the United Lutheran church.

Mr. Setran was married in 1880 to Marrit Borseth, who was born in Norway in 1854. She is a daughter of Gunder and Sigret Borseth, both natives of Norway, in which country the father died and where the mother is still living, being now eighty-six years of age.

To Mr. and Mrs. Setran ten children have been born, Gunder, Gustav, Sebert, Bernard, Martin, Hannah (deceased), Albert (deceased), Richard, Annie and Bertha. Gunder Setran married Pauline Viger and to that union four children have been born, Sebert, Henry (deceased), Bernard and Willie. Hannah Setran, now deceased, married Beril Ostrom and was the mother of two children, Bennie and Milda.

KNUTE DYBDAL.

There was no better farmer or more highly respected citizen of Stony Brook township, Grant county, during the generation that is past than the late Knute Dybdal, who was born in Norway on June 13, 1865. He was a son of Ellend Dybdal and wife, mention of whom is made in another part of this work.

Knute Dybdal was two years old when his parents brought him to the state of Iowa, from his native land, and there he spent his boyhood and attended the public schools, and worked on the farm in the summer time. He was about sixteen years old when he removed with the family to Grant county, Minnesota. When starting out in life for himself he bought eighty acres in Stony Brook township, which he later sold and in 1890 bought one hundred and sixty acres in the same township. To that he added forty acres, on which he set out a grove, put up modern buildings and made various other improvements, and there he spent the rest of his life successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Dybdal was married in Grant county, December 9, 1891, to Rena Mohagen, who was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, March 13, 1870. She is a daughter of Lars and Ingeborg Mohagen, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1867, locating in Goodhue county, and from there to Grant county in 1871, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township, later buying

another one hundred and sixty acres in the same township, on which Mr. Mohagen set out a grove and put on modern improvements, including a good set of buildings. There he spent the rest of his life, dying in 1912, at the age of seventy-two years. His widow is still living on the old homestead, at the age of seventy-six years. To these parents seven children were born, Edward, Rena, Mary (deceased), Ragna (deceased), Ole, Ida and Lizzie. Mr. and Mrs. Mohagen were members of the Synod Lutheran church at Elbow Lake. To Mr. and Mrs. Dybdal six children were born, Elmer, Isaac, Lilly, Melvin, Blanche and Kenneth, all of whom are living. The death of Mr. Dybdal occurred on the home farm in Stony Brook township, January 6, 1908.

TIMOTHY VERNON NASH.

One of the substantial and well-to-do farmers of Hudson township, Douglas county, is Timothy V. Nash, who was born in Essex county, New York, September 12, 1854, and is a son of Timothy S. and Julia Ann (Burdick) Nash, the former of whom was born in Docksbury county, Vermont, and the latter of whom was a native of New York.

Timothy S. Nash was a direct descendant, seventh generation, of Thomas Nash, who came to New England from the old country in 1640. He came west to Wisconsin with his son, the subject of this review, in 1868, and from there to St. Paul in 1871, where he followed his trade as a building contractor. In 1892 he removed to South Dakota, where he farmed for a time, but later returned to Minnesota, where his death occurred at the home of his son, Timothy V. His wife had died many years before, previous to his leaving New York state. They were the parents of four children, Florella Imogene, Newton E., Timothy V. and Sanford Waldo, of whom only two are still living. Newton E. died at the age of twenty years, and Sanford Waldo died in infancy.

Timothy V. Nash received his early education in the schools of his native state, later finishing his schooling in Wisconsin. He accompanied his father to St. Paul, and at the age of twenty-two years, went to Flandreau, South Dakota, and in 1877, homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land in that state, and there he continued to live until 1897, when he came to Douglas county, Minnesota, and purchased land in Osakis township, and about a year later bought land in Hudson township, but continued to live on the farm in Osakis township for five years, after which he removed to Hudson

township. He has added to his holdings here until he now owns two hundred and forty acres of fine farming land. He is engaged in general farming, dairying and stock raising, making a specialty of breeding thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle, of which he has a fine herd.

On December 5, 1894, Timothy V. Nash was married to Mattie E. French, who is also a native of New York state, the daughter of Andrew French, and to this union have been born two children, Newton E. and Beulah L., both of whom are still at home with their parents. The family are members of the Presbyterian church, and are much interested in the affairs of the local church of that denomination.

Mr. Nash is independent in his political views and is active in all public matters of local importance. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity for many years, having joined the organization on July 3, 1876. His present membership is with the lodge at Alexandria, Minnesota, though he is a charter member of Flandreau Lodge No. 11, South Dakota.

AUGUST THOMPSON.

One of the enterprising younger farmers of Orange township, Douglas county, is August Thompson, who was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, August 14, 1880. He is a son of Chris and Berat (Erickson) Thompson, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Chris Thompson came to America when a young man, locating in Olmsted county, Minnesota, where he was a farmer for many years, but is now living retired in Rochester, Minnesota, enjoying the comforts and conveniences of modern life, after a life of arduous labor on the farm. At one time he was the owner of four hundred and forty acres of fine land. His wife, who was also a native of Norway, came to this country when a small child with her parents, and she was reared and educated in Minnesota, and was here married to Chris Thompson. They are the parents of five children, Julia, August, Minnie, Theodore and Clara, all of whom are living.

August Thompson received his education in the schools of Olmsted county, and early in life decided to make farming his chosen occupation. He farmed for one year in Olmsted county and in 1902 went to McLean county, North Dakota, where he homesteaded a quarter section of land and where he lived for eight years. He then returned to Minnesota, locating in Orange township, Douglas county, where he has one hundred and sixty-seven acres

of land and is engaged in general farming and stock raising with a very commendable degree of success.

In 1906 August Thompson was married to Clara Christiansen, who was born in the state of Washington, but who came as a small child with her parents, Ole and Malina (Nelson) Christiansen, to Minnesota, the family settling in Olmsted county. To this union have been born four children, Berdina, Clarissa, Alford and Jarnes. The family are earnest members of the Lutheran church.

GUSTAF NELSON.

Gustaf Nelson, one of the successful farmers and an early settler of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in Sweden on June 24, 1843, the son of Nels and Marie (Pearson) Johnson.

Nels and Marie Johnson were natives of Sweden, where they were educated in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. It was there that their children were born and educated and there they lived the greater part of their lives. After having reached three score years of life they came to the United States to join their children, who had located in this country some years before. It was in 1874 that Nels and Marie Johnson came to Minnesota to make their home with their son Johnas Nelson, who lived in Pelican Lake township, Grant county, and it was there that Nels Johnson died in 1880 at the age of sixty-eight years. His widow died in 1896 at the age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of six children, Johnas, John, Gustaf, Lizzie, Mina (deceased) and Carl. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were devout members of the Lutheran church and were highly regarded by all who knew them.

Gustaf Nelson received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. After coming to the United States he attended some school in this country. On March 21, 1876, he was united in marriage to Forgan Newhouse, the daughter of Christopher and Ture (Halvorson) Newhouse, natives of Norway, where Mr. Newhouse was born on July 13, 1812. He decided as a young man to come to America and landed in New York on September 27, 1839, with but ten dollars in cash. He came direct to Wisconsin, where he located and engaged in farming. He later became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of good land, and was recognized as a successful farmer and stock raiser. He married Ture Halvorson, the daughter of Halvor Halvorson, and to that union five chil-

dren were born, Oliver and Christopher, both of whom are deceased, Christopher, Torgan and Christina. Mrs. Ture Newhouse died some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Newhouse were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were highly respected people.

In 1879, Gustaf Nelson purchased his first farm in section 8, Pelican Lake township. He has since added to the original tract and is now the owner of one hundred and fifty-two acres, of excellent land, all under good cultivation and improved with substantial buildings. The tract was wild prairie at the time of purchase and Mr. Nelson has erected all the buildings, and made the other improvements.

To Gustaf and Torgan (Newhouse) Nelson five children have been born, namely: Albert, who died at the age of fifteen years; George, who died in infancy; Clara, who married Julius Dalgaard, of Ashby; Mina, who married Abraham Sumstad, now deceased, and who also lives at Ashby, and Ella, who married Anton Sumstad and is living on the home place. The Nelsons are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a warm interest in church work. They also take an earnest part in the general social activities of the community in which they live and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

ADOLPH G. KUBE.

There have come from the Badger state a number of the best farmers of Grant and Douglas counties during the past few decades, who have found good homes in our midst. Among these the name of Adolph G. Kube, of Lawrence township should be mentioned. He was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, May 26, 1871, and is a son of Charles L. and Ida (Doerning) Kube, both natives of Germany. The father came to this country in 1853, locating in Wisconsin, and was joined there by the mother in 1854. They established their home on a farm, living in Dodge and Jefferson counties, finally at Watertown, in which place they remained until 1885 when they came to Minnesota, Mr. Kube taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Lawrence township, Grant county, which land he improved into a good farm. There he spent the rest of his life, dying on November 18, 1898, at the advanced age of eighty-two years, his birth having occurred on November 25, 1816. His wife, who was born on September 1, 1826, died on May 3, 1893, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were parents of

six children, Clara (deceased), Ludwig (deceased), Leonora, Alfred, Ida and Adolph G.

The subject of this sketch grew up on the farm and attended school in Wisconsin, in Dodge and Jefferson counties. He was fourteen years of age when his parents settled in Grant county in 1885. In 1893 he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Lawrence township and in 1908 purchased another quarter section there, on which he has since resided. He has made all improvements, including the erection of a good group of buildings, and has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Kube was married, on February 1, 1898, to Estella R. Ash, a daughter of James Ash, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. To this union five children have been born, James, Eunice, Esther, Ruth, and Aldis. Mr. Kube is a Republican and is now a member of the local school board. He is an elder in the Presbyterian church at Lawrence and is a member of the board of trustees of the same.

OLE ANUNDSON HAATVEDT.

One of the pioneer farmers of Douglas county, who became a well-known and highly respected citizen there, was the late Ole Anundson Haatvedt, who was born in Norway in 1822, in which country he grew up and lived until in 1842, when he emigrated to America, locating first in Wisconsin, working there for some time, finally settling on Jefferson Prairie, that state, on which he resided until 1868. The year previous he had come to Minnesota and had bought the rights to a homestead—the place where his widow still resides, in Holmes City township, Douglas county, to which he returned the following year, and from that time on until his death devoted his attention to its development, carrying on general farming and stock raising successfully. The land was partly timbered. He farmed with oxen for some time and hauled the timbers for his buildings from St. Cloud. He became one of the substantial and influential men of his township. His death occurred on his farm there in 1901, when well advanced in years. He owned in all about three hundred and seventy acres on the home place and land in other localities.

Ole A. Haatvedt was married twice, his second wife being Betsey Tangen, a native of Norway, from which country her parents emigrated to this country, settling in Wisconsin, on the Illinois line, when she was seven years old. The family located on Jefferson Prairie and, later moved



OLE A. HAATVEDT.

to Boone county, Illinois. Her mother spent her last years at the home of the subject of this sketch, where she died when about ninety-three years of age. Mr. Haatvedt had six children by his last wife, three who are living and three who died, namely: Anna, who is the wife of Andrew Amundson; Carl A. and Edward B., who have remained with their mother and operate the home farm. Of those now deceased, Ole was the only one who attained his majority, he having been thirty-three years of age at the time of his death.

Mr. Haatvedt belonged to the Moe Lutheran church and was a man of upright character. Politically, he was independent. He served as county commissioner for a number of terms, having been a faithful and useful member of the board. He took a prominent part in the early development of the county and was regarded as one of its most substantial citizens. He had a wide circle of warm friends hereabout and his death on April 27, 1901, was widely mourned.

MIKKEL TORGERSON.

From that rugged and far-away country, Norway, many splendid farmers and citizens have come to Grant and Douglas counties and have established good homes. Among these is Mikkel Torgerson, a farmer of Stony Brook township, Grant county. He was born in Norway, November 6, 1842. His parents lived and died in Norway. He grew to manhood in his native land and attended the common schools. He immigrated to the United States in 1883, locating in Ottertail county, Minnesota; but in 1885 moved to Stony Brook township, Grant county, buying eighty acres of school land. He worked hard, developed a good farm, managed well and prospered, and finally owned two hundred and eighty acres on which he erected good buildings, set out a grove and made other important improvements. Politically, he is a Republican. He belongs to the United Lutheran church at Elbow Lake.

Mr. Torgerson was married in 1870 to Hage Johnson, who was born in Norway in 1848. Her parents lived and died in Norway. To Mr. and Mrs. Torgerson the following children were born: Torger (deceased), Ingeborg, Sara, Jens, John (deceased), Asa, Carl, Annie, Oscar (deceased) Oscar (the second), Henry and Andrew. The mother of these children passed away on December 19, 1899.

VICTOR M. REIF.

Victor M. Reif, one of the best-known and most progressive merchants of Evansville, proprietor of an extensive general store at that place, justice of the peace in and for his home township, former postmaster of Evansville and for years actively identified with the general civic and commercial interests of the community in which he lives, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-three years of age. He was born in the city of Stockholm on January 5, 1860, son of Johann and Maria Reif, natives of that same country, who spent all their lives in their native land.

Following his schooling in the high school of his native city, Victor M. Reif attended an agricultural college there and was for some years thereafter engaged in farming, continuing thus engaged until the spring of 1883, when he came to the United States and settled near Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. He bought a tract of ninety-six acres of unimproved land there and proceeded to develop the same, making his home in a neighboring church meanwhile. In November of that same year he married and in the following month, December, 1883, came to Minnesota with his bride, locating at Evansville, where he entered into partnership with Olaf Dalheim in the hardware business, an arrangement which continued for three years, at the end of which time Mr. Reif embarked in business on his own account. While engaged in the hardware business he had acquired a knowledge of the jewelry and watch-making business from a business associate and this determined him to open a jewelry store in Evansville. Shortly afterward he was appointed postmaster of Evansville and served for four years, during the Cleveland administration, conducting the postoffice in his jewelry store. Later he moved his store to another location, taking a larger room, and his wife started a millinery store in a part of the room, the two establishments being carried along very nicely together. Gradually other lines were added to the stock until the double establishment outgrew its quarters and was compelled to move to a larger room, additional lines being added from time to time until now the Reif store carries a complete line of groceries, dry goods, queensware, notions, jewelry, tinware, graniteware and the like and is doing a large and growing business. Mr. Reif is a Democrat and in addition to his service as postmaster of Evansville has served as village recorder, a position he held for many years; was a member of the school board for eleven years and for some years past has been serving as justice

of the peace. He is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

It was on November 16, 1883, in Kentucky, that Victor M. Reif was united in marriage to Adaline Gustafson, also a native of the kingdom of Sweden. No children have been born to this union, but Mr. and Mrs. Reif have reared three children, two of whom they adopted and one, Charles Gustafson, a younger brother of Mrs. Reif, a printer by trade, who is now located at Trent, South Dakota, the others being Nannie, now deceased, and George, who is still in school. Mr. and Mrs. Reif are members of the Presbyterian church and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, Mr. Reif being an elder in the church. In 1912 he was elected a commissioner from the Red River Valley Presbytery to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church, held that year in the city of Louisville, Kentucky. The Reifs have a very pleasant home in Evansville and take a proper part in the general social activities of their home town, ever helpful factors in the work of promoting the best interests of the community in which they live.

O. H. CURTIS.

O. H. Curtis, one of the well-known and prominent retired farmers of Osakis, was born in Porter county, Indiana, on September 30, 1852, the son of Seth and Emeline (Fullen) Curtis, who were born in the state of New York and in Crawfordsville, Indiana, respectively. Seth Curtis moved from the state of New York to Indiana and was there married. In 1866 he and his wife decided to locate in Minnesota and here he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Gordon township, Todd county. It was there that the family lived for many years. Mr. Curtis developed and improved his homestead and was successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. In 1887 he sold his farm in Todd county and moved over to Douglas county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 27 of Osakis township. This farm he developed and improved and again engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful. It was there that he lived until the time of his death on June 1, 1892.

To Seth and Emeline Curtis were born the following children: William, Alanthus, Mary Ann, Samuel, O. H., and Hezekiah. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and took much

interest in all church work. They were for many years active in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Curtis was a man of much public spirit and took much interest in the growth and the development of the township and the county in which he lived. His life was an active one and he accomplished much that was good, not only to his immediate family, but to the community in general. Being a man of intelligence and experience, his advice and judgment were often sought on matters that pertained to the public welfare.

O. H. Curtis received his education in the public schools of Gordon and Osakis townships, and grew to manhood on his father's farms, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work of the farm. As a young man he decided that he would be a farmer, and soon engaged in the work for himself, in section 22 of Osakis township. There he purchased a farm of one hundred and ten acres, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1902, in which year he bought the old homestead of his father, in Todd county, and was thus engaged in farming and stock raising until the fall of 1915, when he retired from the activities of farm life and moved to Osakis. He has been successful in his work and is now the owner of some four hundred acres in Gordon township, Todd county. He erected a beautiful modern house on Lake street in Osakis, where he now makes his home.

In 1878 O. H. Curtis was united in marriage to Maria Bowman, the daughter of Jacob and Belinda Bowman. The parents of Mrs. Curtis were born in Canada and there received their education in the public schools, and there grew to manhood and womanhood. It was in 1858 that Jacob Bowman came to the United States and located in Rice county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1867, when he came to Douglas county and here homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Osakis township. The family made the journey to their new home with a horse team and a covered wagon. The journey was a hard one and many Indians were passed on the way. Mr. Bowman became a prominent farmer, and stockman in Douglas county, and in connection with his farm interest he did much work in the real estate line and bought and sold many farms.

To O. H. and Maria (Bowman) Curtis have been born eight children, namely: Claude, who married Cara Lane and lives in Montana; John, a farmer of Gordon township, Todd county, who married May Dunn and has one child, a daughter, Dorothy; Laura, who married Jesse Gray and lives in Alberta, Canada; Fred, who married Anna McBride and lives in Montana; Herbert, who married Blanche Gray and lives on the old home place in

Gordon township, Todd county, and James, Fillmore and Mildred. The family are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, and are held in the highest regard by all. Mr. Curtis is a Republican and has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of the township. He is progressive in his views and has always advocated the most complete development of the roads and the schools of the community, believing that these are of paramount value in the development of the township, as well as of the county. Fraternally, he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Few men are held in higher regard than is Mr. Curtis, and his life has demonstrated that he has lived not for himself alone, but for the good and betterment of his fellow men. Much that is good has been accomplished by him and his life has been a worthy one.

GEORGE TRIPP.

George Tripp, one of the successful and well-known farmers of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in Winona county, Minnesota, on July 6, 1860, the son of John and Euphemia (Nisbit) Tripp. David Nisbit, the maternal grandfather of George Tripp, was born at Scotland, New York, where he grew to manhood. He later came to Minnesota and was one of the pioneers of Winona county. Daniel Tripp, the paternal grandfather, was also a native of the state of New York, and was a pioneer of Winona county, Minnesota.

John Tripp was born in the state of New York and there received his education in the public schools. After coming to Minnesota he homesteaded in Winona county, where he remained until 1881, when he sold the tract and moved to Grant county, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising and was quite successful, at the time of his death having been the owner of all of section 35 of Pelican Lake township. His death occurred on February 15, 1895, at the age of sixty-four years. The widow died on August 28, 1914, at the age of eighty-one years. They were the parents of six children, Rebecca, George, Elma, Charles, Ida and Edwin. Rebecca lives at Park Rapids, Minnesota, and Elma died in 1896. John Tripp was a man of much ability and was possessed of much business acumen, his influence and advice having been widely sought in matters of importance in the community.

George Tripp received his education in the public schools of Winona

county and there he grew to manhood. On March 17, 1891, he was united in marriage to Lavina McKinstry, who was born in Winona county, where she was living at the time of her marriage. To this union five children have been born, Bert, Bessie, Roy, Nellie and Vernon. The family have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the township and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. They are most hospitable and have won many friends for their many acts of kindness.

George Tripp is now the owner of eighty acres in section 34 of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, and eighty acres in St. Olaf township, Ottertail county, just across the road from where he lives. He has developed and improved his farm until today he has one of the desirable farms of the township. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and thorough cultivation and is recognized as one of the successful farmers of the county. He keeps good stock, but devotes most of his time to the cultivation of his farm.

George Tripp has always taken much interest in local affairs and was for many years a member of the township board of supervisors and of the school board of Ottawa township, where he lived before he became a resident of Pelican Lake township.

JOSEPH SCHLECHTER.

Joseph Schlechter, a well-known and prominent farmer of Alexandria township, Douglas county, was born in Minneapolis on June 24, 1857, the son of John and Margaret (Kliers) Schlechter, natives of Belgium and Germany, respectively. They received their education in the schools of their native countries. Some years after their marriage they decided to locate in America, where they might have a better chance to obtain a home for themselves and their family. They landed in the United States in 1857 and came direct to Minnesota, locating in Hennepin county, where the wife died in September, 1859. In 1864 Joseph Schlechter, enlisted in Company K, Fifth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the Civil War. He saw much active service and was wounded at the battle of Nashville. At the close of the war he returned to his farm in Carver county, Minnesota, where he died in 1883. His health had become impaired, due to the exposure during his service in the army, and he never regained his

former strength. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Mary, Catherine, Joseph and Theresa. The family were devout members of the Catholic church and took much interest in religious work. Politically, Mr. Schlechter was identified with the Republican party.

Joseph Schlechter received his education in the public schools of Carver county, Minnesota. His educational advantages were very limited and he taught himself to read and write English and German. The schools of the county at that time were poorly taught and far distant from the homes of those early settlers. As a lad and young man he assisted his father with the work on the farm. After the death of the father, he moved to Waconia, where he lived for a number of years. He later moved to Isanta county, Minnesota, where he remained three years. In 1904 he came to Douglas county, and here purchased eight acres of land in Alexandria township, just north of the town of Alexandria. Here he remained and engaged in general farming until 1913, at which time he sold the place and purchased his present farm of sixty acres, in this township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1878 Joseph Schlechter was united in marriage to Annie Cleasgens and to this union one child was born, Mary. She became the wife of Albert Pofahl and they were the parents of two children, Joseph and Albert, the latter of whom is now deceased. Albert Pofahl, the husband and father, died some years ago. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Pofahl was united in marriage to Fred Radde. Joseph Schlechter has adopted his grandchild, Joseph August Pofahl. Mr. and Mrs. Schlechter are active members of the church at St. Joseph and are interested in all religious work. They are among the best people in the township and are held in high regard by all who know them.

CARL D. ANDERSON.

Carl D. Anderson, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, Minnesota, was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 1, 1870, being the son of Daniel and Borret Anderson. Daniel and Borret Anderson were born in Sweden, where they received their education in the public schools, and there they grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1870, when they came to the United States. On their arrival in this country, they came direct to Minnesota and Mr. Anderson entered one

hundred and sixty acres of wild land in section 15, Lund township, Douglas county. Mr. Anderson filed on his claim on June 3, 1870, and on July 5, of the same year, his family, who had remained in St. Paul, joined him. The family came as far as St. Cloud by rail and from there the journey was made with an ox team, Mr. Anderson having rented the team for the trip. There was much timber on the homestead and the first house in which the family lived was made of logs, having no floor but the beaten soil, and the roof was of hay and sod. In this the family lived for some years. The first year the father managed to raise some potatoes and the next year he had four or five acres of wheat. He bought his first oxen in 1871, but had no wagon and hauled his first crops on a rude sled. The roads at that time were but trails over the prairie and through the forests and the nearest market was at Perham, forty-five miles away. Those were hard times for the pioneer family, but they were determined to succeed and in time the land was cleared and under cultivation and nearer markets were established. In 1876 a new log house was erected and other valuable improvements were made from time to time. It was on this farm that Daniel Anderson continued to live until the time of his death, which occurred in the fall of 1896, at the age of sixty-six years. His widow, who was born in 1838, died on July 3, 1900. They were the parents of the following children: Nels D., Stena, Maria, Andrew, Carl, Daniel, Matilda, Alfred, Oscar and Willie. Of these children, Stena, Andrew, Daniel, Matilda and Alfred are living in Canada. Marie is living in California; Oscar on the homestead in Lund township and Willie on rented land in Lund township.

Carl D. Anderson received his education in the public schools of Lund township and there grew to manhood. On September 5, twenty-two years ago, he was married to Matilda Ellefson the daughter of Bengt and Katrina Ellefson, natives of the county of Vermland, Sweden, where they lived and died. They had the following children: Amanda, Matilda, Anna, Oscar, Willie and Signa. Of these, Amanda, Matilda, Oscar and Willie came to this country, all excepting Amanda settling in Minnesota, she settling in North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Bengt Ellefson are still living in Sweden. To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson the following children have been born: Ruth A., born on July 5, 1895; Rubin Franklin, January 26, 1897, and Rudolph Benjamin, February 18, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are prominent in social and church work.

Carl D. Anderson purchased his first farm of eighty acres in section 6, Pelican township, and later increased it to one hundred and sixty acres. This he has developed and improved, until today he has one of the best improved

farms in the community. He built the barn in 1907 and the house in 1916. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he is successful.

ANDREW ROTH.

Andrew Roth, a prominent citizen and successful farmer of Lake Mary township, Douglas county, Minnesota, was born in Germany, on December 27, 1849, being the son of Jacob and Christina (Dieterle) Roth, both of whom were natives of that county, where they lived and died. Andrew Roth is the first-born of a family of seven children. Of the others, Mary, Christine, Jacob and John came to America, where Christine has since died. Dora and Barbara have always remained in the fatherland.

Andrew Roth received his education in the schools of his native land and there grew to manhood, remaining a resident of the land of his birth until he was thirty years of age. Having been educated in the country of good schools and trained amid the best farmers and business men of the world, Mr. Roth came to America with a thorough preparation for the activities of life. Among no class of people do we find better farmers, more astute business men, greater lovers of the home and the beauties of nature than the Germans. By instinct and training they are progressive, scientific, careful, prudent and industrious. The German in America has been a big factor in the development of our natural and wonderful resources, much of the development of our Middle and Western states being due to their energy, push and economy.

In 1879 Andrew Roth decided to make a home for himself in America, the land he had heard so much about and to which so many of his countrymen had come. On his arrival here, he came direct to Minnesota and for two years worked as a farm hand in Douglas county. He then purchased one hundred and twenty acres in Lake Mary township, the farm where he now lives. The tract at the time he made the purchase was undeveloped and unimproved, but has since been transformed into one of the beautiful and valuable farms of the township. He has improved the place with modern and substantial buildings, all of which are kept in an excellent state of repair. He has always been a believer in intensive farming and a high state of cultivation. Being progressive, he believes in modern methods of doing things and has been successful both as a general farmer and stock raiser. He added to his original farm of one hundred and twenty acres, ten times, and

became the owner of twelve hundred acres. He later sold some of the land to his sons.

In 1881 Andrew Roth was united in marriage to Christine Rapp, a native of Germany, and to this union the following children have been born; Reinhold, Eugene, Edward, William, Arthur and Walter. Eugene is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Roth are active members of the Lutheran church, in which they take a prominent part in all church work. Mr. Roth has, in connection with his farm and church work, always taken a keen interest in the civic life of the township. Because of his early training and broad views and experience, he has been a most valuable member of the community. He is now a member of the board of supervisors, a position he has held since 1893. To him is due much of the prosperity of the township, relative to schools, roads and finances.

OLIVER P. HAWKINS.

Oliver P. Hawkins, now deceased, was one of the most prominent and well-known men of Grant county, Minnesota. He was born in New Hampshire on July 21, 1836, and there received his education in the public schools and grew to manhood. In 1856, at the age of twenty years, he came to the state of Minnesota, and for several years lived at Stillwater. In 1865 he went to St. Paul, where he was engaged in the mercantile business, and did much traveling throughout the state, being one of the very first traveling salesmen out of St. Paul. He remained a resident of that city until 1882, when he came to Ashby and engaged in the general mercantile business. He also established the *Ashby Avalanche*, of which he was the editor and proprietor. He took much interest in all local affairs and was recognized as a man of unusual ability, being a fluent speaker and ready writer and possessed of much wit. He had much to do with the location of the court house at Elbow Lake and the success and growth of Ashby was largely due to his untiring efforts, it being due to him that the Hotel Rittson was opened. At his death, on March 29, 1886, a flag was draped and placed at half mast in honor of his public service. His death was mourned by the entire community, for they knew that a great and good man had gone to his reward. Fraternally, Mr. Hawkins was a member of the Knights Templar, belonging to the commandery at St. Paul.

Oliver P. Hawkins, Sr., the father of Oliver P. Hawkins, Jr., was a native of New Hampshire and lived at Troy the greater part of his life.

He was married to Miss Foster, also a native of New Hampshire. He came to Minnesota, late in life, and here lived, retired, until his death.

Oliver P. Hawkins, Jr., was united in marriage on December 22, 1860, to Helen T. Hinman, and to this union two children were born, Fanny C. and Francis Oliver. Fannie C. was born on October 20, 1861, and Francis, on October 19, 1863, and died on October 22, 1888. Judson Hinman, the father of Helen Hawkins, was a native of New York and married Elizabeth Stickney, who was born in Vermont on February 25, 1787. To this union the following children were born: Joanna, Louisa, Hannah, Elijahlet, Elizabeth, Joanna, Renslaer and Helen T.

Alfred Colony, Jr., is a native of Harrisville, New Hampshire, and there received his education. He was born on December 15, 1859, being the son of Alfred and Fannie (Hawkins) Colony, the father being in the woolen manufacturing business. When Alfred Colony was twenty-six years of age, he came to Ashby and here married Fannie C. Hawkins, the daughter of Oliver P. and Helen T. Hawkins. For some five years Alfred Colony was engaged in the real estate and loan business in Ashby, after which he moved to Fergus Falls, where he remained for seven years, and then returned to Ashby some ten years ago, and here he and his wife have since lived.

HOWARD WEAVER.

Iowa is such an excellent farming state that it is not often one of her native-born sons leaves it and comes to Minnesota for the purpose of agricultural pursuits, but Grant and Douglas counties have lured away a goodly number, among whom should be mentioned Howard Weaver, of Lawrence township. He was born in Mills county, Iowa, August 6, 1871, and is a son of William and Nancy J. Weaver, both natives of New Jersey, where they spent their early years. They removed to Mills county, Iowa, in 1857, where the father bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, to which he later added until he owned five hundred acres, on which he spent the rest of his life, successfully engaged in general farming. His death occurred in 1906, at the age of seventy-six years, his widow surviving until 1911, reaching the advanced age of eighty-three years. They were members of the Methodist church and he was a Republican. Their children were named as follows: Joseph, deceased; James E.; John F., deceased; Charles W. and Howard.

Howard Weaver grew up on the homestead in Iowa, where he worked when a boy, and he received a common school education. He has always followed general farming. He went to Nebraska in 1891, where he bought land, which he later sold, coming to Grant county, Minnesota in 1900 and buying a farm. This he subsequently sold, after which he returned to Mills county, Iowa, and in 1905 came back to Grant county, Minnesota, purchasing two hundred acres in Lawrence township, where he has since resided and on which he has put on most of the improvements now to be seen. He makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses.

Politically, Mr. Weaver is a Republican. He is a member and treasurer of the local school board, having held the position several years. He has also served as supervisor and assessor of Lawrence township.

Mr. Weaver was married on December 26, 1891, to Eva M. Hamaker, who was born in Mills county, Iowa, in 1875, where she grew up and attended school. She is a daughter of John and Sarah Hamaker, early settlers in Iowa, both having come from the state of New Jersey. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Weaver, namely: John, Roy, Cora, Eva, Orvetta (deceased) and Walter.

H. O. MELBY.

H. O. Melby, a successful and well-known farmer of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, Minnesota, was born in Wellsworth county, Wisconsin, on October 4, 1866, being the son of K. N. O. and Sarah Melby. K. N. O. Melby was born in Norway and there received his education in the public schools and grew to manhood. He came to the United States as a young man, locating in Wisconsin, where he remained for six months, when he enlisted in the Twenty-second Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry and served for four years in the Civil War in the defense of his adopted country. He saw much active service and was captured by the Confederates and imprisoned at Libby Prison, where he remained for several months, when he was exchanged. He was later with Sherman on the march to the sea and remained with the army until the close of the war, when he returned to Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming. In 1868 he was united in marriage to Sarah Peterson, who was born at Sharon, Wisconsin, on June 24, 1847, being the daughter of Ole and Helga Peterson. Mr. Peterson was a native of Norway, where he was educated in the public schools, and there grew to manhood. He later came to the United

States and located in Wisconsin, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was successful. Mrs. Peterson was a native of Wisconsin, where her marriage to Mr. Peterson occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were active members of the Lutheran church and were held in high regard by the people of the community.

K. N. O. Melby and wife, soon after their marriage, came to Grant county, where Mr. Melby had homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land making the journey with a team of horses and a wagon. A log cabin was erected on the claim, in section 15, Pelican Lake township, in which they lived for several years. The farm was cleared and improved and Mr. Melby engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was successful. He later retired from the farm and made his home in Ashby, where he died on February 7, 1913. He always took much interest in local affairs, and served as a member of the board of township supervisors and of the school board and was president of the village board for two terms. He assisted in the incorporation of the town of Ashby and was the postmaster there for a number of years. He was also interested in the mercantile business there for ten years, under the firm name of Melby, Madland Company. He and his wife were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. They were the parents of the following children: H. O., Hannah, Servina, A. K., John, Lewis, Emma, Bessie, Andrew, Sarah, Lena, Nellie, Minnie and Christian. Mrs. Melby is now living at Ashby, with her two daughters, Emma and Hannah.

H. O. Melby received his education in the local schools and grew to manhood on the home farm, where, as a lad and young man, he assisted his father with the work on the farm. On November 26, 1892, he was united in marriage to Amanda Anderson, daughter of A. J. and Marie Lena (Peterson) Magnuson. These parents are natives of Sweden, where they are still living. The subject's wife came to America at the age of fourteen years, stopping in New York for five years, then came to Chicago. Six years later she came to Minnesota and was married here. To her union with Mr. Melby two children have been born, Walter J., now a student at Minnesota University, and Mabel, who is attending the St. Cloud Normal College. Mr. and Mrs. Melby are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

H. O. Melby has always lived on the home farm, on which the early improvements were erected by his father, after he had homesteaded the

place, many years ago. Mr. Melby now owns the old home farm and, in addition, has added to the place until he is now the owner of some four hundred acres in Pelican Lake township, as well as four hundred and eighty acres in northern Minnesota. In 1914 he erected the barn, thirty-four by seventy-six feet, with a large silo, on the home place, which is situated on the banks of Pelican Lake. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, being interested in the breeding of Shorthorn and Durham cattle, as well as Duroc-Jersey hogs. His stock is recognized as among the best in the township and he takes much pride in their records.

H. O. Melby has always taken a keen interest in the local affairs of the township and county and has served for a number of years as a member of the school board. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Ashby and a member of its board of directors. He is also a stockholder in the First State Bank at Ashby, where he is recognized as one of the prominent and influential men of the community.

OLE LEE.

Among the enterprising farmers and substantial citizens of Ida township, Douglas county, is Ole Lee, who is a native-born son of Minnesota, his birth having occurred in Ida township, November 2, 1879. He is a son of Evan S. and Maria (Larson) Lee, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Evan S. Lee was a carpenter by trade and followed that occupation in his native land until 1870, when he came to the United States, his wife coming two years later. Evan S. Lee came first to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he worked on a farm for a short time, after which he continued to work at his trade of carpenter. He also worked a short time on railroad construction work, but later came to Alexandria, where he helped to build many of the early buildings of that city. While he was working in the latter city, he had his wife join him from the old country and at that time he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Ida township in sections 10 and 11, near Lake Ida, which was all timber land. There he built a log house with a birch-bark roof. He cleared about three acres around the house at first, and while living in that cabin the roof was torn off by a cyclone, but he later rebuilt it. His sons did most of the clearing and cultivating of the land, while he followed his trade as a carpenter.

The first team the family had was oxen, bought as calves, which the sons raised and broke to the plow. In 1880 the family built a larger log house, which they lived in until 1902, when the new frame house was erected which now stands on the place. When he reached the age of fifty, Evan S. Lee retired from the carpentering and building business and devoted his attention wholly to farming. He purchased eighty acres more land adjoining his original farm on the west, and lived on his farm the remainder of his life. For the last few years of his life, he was retired from active farming. In 1913 he sold the farm to Mrs. Colstrom, but stayed on the place until his death on March 30, 1915, at the age of eighty years. His wife died on July 4, 1913, aged seventy-six years. Evan S. Lee and his wife were the parents of eight children: Clara Maria, who was born in Norway, is the wife of Andrew M. Lantz, a brick mason, contractor and builder of Minot, North Dakota; Olaus, who died before the family left Norway; August, who has a fruit ranch near Ephratta, Washington, was also born in Norway; Lars, who married Martha Monson, is a farmer in Ida township and is mentioned elsewhere in this work; Emily, born in Norway, is a trained nurse in San Francisco; Minnie, born in the United States, is a resident of St. Paul, Minnesota; Hilda, also born in this country, is the wife of Leonard P. Thunstad, a grocer of Seattle, Washington, and Ole, the immediate subject of this review.

Ole Lee received his education in the country schools of his home neighborhood, and lived with his parents until two years after his marriage, during which time he assisted his father with the farm work, and managed the farm for the last two years for his father. He then homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of timber land in Black Duck township, Beltrami county, Minnesota, and lived on that place for about a year, at the end of which time he sold his claim to advantage and returned to Douglas county, where he rented his father's place for one year. After that, for two years, he was in Roseau county, Minnesota, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild land. Two years later he sold that land and moved to Glenwood, Minnesota, where he bought a dray line and operated it in partnership with Ernest Johnson for a year and a half, when he disposed of his interest in that business and returned to Douglas county, and is now living on the old Larson homestead of one hundred and fifty-five acres, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

On November 11, 1901, Ole Lee was married to Hulda Larson, the daughter of the late Erick Larson, who is mentioned elsewhere in this

work. To this union have been born six children, Rudolph, Clarence, Melvin, Clifford, Doris and Verna, all of whom are living at home with their parents. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Mr. Lee is a Republican in politics.

OLE A. THOMPSON.

Ole A. Thompson, whose family name in Norway was Aaskjer, was born in that country on March 9, 1854, the son of Tosten Olson and Magdalena Aaskjer, also natives of Norway, where they received their education in the public schools, where they grew to manhood and womanhood and where they were married. They continued to live in the land of their birth until 1876, when they decided that they would come to America. Upon their arrival in the United States they came directly to Minnesota and here made their home, with the son, Ole A. Thompson, in Erdahl, township, Grant county, for eight or nine years, at the end of which time they removed to Evansville township, over the line in Douglas county, where they took a homestead of forty acres. That farm they improved and developed and there they lived for a number of years, at the end of which time they sold the place and returned to Erdahl township, where they lived with a son until the time of their deaths, the mother dying two years before the father. They were the parents of five children, Andrew (deceased), Ole A., Anna, Mary and Tosten. Anna is the widow of G. M. Bah, who was a well-known farmer of Erdahl township; Mary married Olaus Bah, a farmer of Erdahl township, and Tosten is a farmer of North Dakota.

Ole A. Thompson received his education in the public schools of Norway and there grew to manhood, and there he continued to reside until he was twenty years of age, when he decided that he would come to America. Upon his arrival in the United States, in 1874, he came directly to Minnesota and located at Grand Meadow, where he worked for J. H. J. Weeks, during which time he attended a term of school. In the fall of 1875 he settled in Erdahl township, and for six months was engaged on a farm in Douglas county. In the spring of 1877 he purchased forty acres of land in Erdahl township, paying for the same five dollars and fifty cents an acre, to which he later added another forty acres, at the same price, all of which was wild prairie. There he built a log house and began farming with oxen, thus beginning the development of his farm. He lost the greater part of

OLE A. THOMPSON AND FAMILY.



his first crop by grasshoppers, but the wheat that he saved was of fine quality. As he developed his farm and became more prosperous he added to his holdings until he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres, the greater part of which he bought at from five to ten dollars an acre. He devoted his best efforts and ability in the development of the place and in time had one of the model farms of the township, engaging there in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful. In 1903 Mr. Thompson went to Saskatchewan, Canada, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and purchased two hundred and forty acres, all of which was wild prairie and brush land. The first season he built a two-story log house, sixteen by sixteen feet, to which he added the next year an addition, sixteen by fourteen feet. He also erected on the place a barn, granary and other buildings. He engaged, to a large extent, in the stock business and had some seventy-five head of fine cattle. He cleared some forty-five acres of his tract and used the rest for pasture. He remained there for four years, at the end of which time he rented the place, which he still owns, and returned to his farm in Grant county, which had been operated by his son the first two years of his absence in Canada and by his son-in-law the last two years. Upon his return to his farm in Grant county, in 1908, Mr. Thompson engaged in general farming and stock raising until March 4, 1915, when he retired from the active life of a farmer and stockman, sold his farm at eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents an acre and moved to Erdahl, where he now resides, after many years of an active and successful life on the farm.

In 1884 Ole A. Thompson was united in marriage to Mrs. Anna Solem, the widow of Knut Solem, who died in Norway. Mrs. Thompson was educated in the public schools of Norway and there grew to womanhood and was married. After the death of her husband, Knut Solem, she came to Minnesota in 1883, joining her relatives in Elbow Lake township, Grant county, where she worked for one season, at the end of which time she became housekeeper for Mr. Thompson and was thus engaged a few months before their marriage. By her first husband she was the mother of four children, Mary, Austin, Knut and Ole, all of whom she reared to manhood and womanhood. By her union with Mr. Thompson she is the mother of three children, Matilda, Clara and Thorwald. Mary is the wife of Ole N. Lee, a well-known farmer of Erdahl township. Austin is in North Dakota. Knut is section foreman for the Great Northern railway at Erdahl. Ole is

at home. Matilda married Albert Tostad and resides at Wendall. Clara is the wife of W. M. Redlozyk, a prosperous farmer of Canada, and Thorwald is now deceased. In addition to their own children, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson took Andrew Thorp, at the age of one year, and have cared for him until he is now nineteen years of age. He is known as Andrew Thompson and is engaged as a farm hand in the vicinity of the Thompson home. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in church work, Mr. Thompson being a trustee and treasurer of the local society. They have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They are a most hospitable people and take much pleasure in the entertainment of their neighbors and friends.

Ole A. Thompson is an independent voter, has taken an active interest in local affairs for many years and has had much to do with the excellent system of education in the township, where he has been treasurer of the school board for the past sixteen years. He is a progressive citizen and uses his influence to further the best interests of the township and the county. He is a director of the Farmers Elevator Company at Erdahl and vice-president of the First National Bank at that place.

HENRY CHRISTENSON.

Henry Christenson, one of the prominent and successful merchants of Brandon, Douglas county, Minnesota, was born in Evansville township, on July 6, 1872. He is the son of Nels Christenson, a native of Denmark, for complete sketch of whom, see another page of this work.

Henry Christenson received his education in the public schools of Evansville township and at the town of Evansville. He grew to manhood on the home farm, where he assisted his father with the work until he was twenty-five years of age. Although successful in the work on the farm, Mr. Christenson felt that he was better adapted for another line of work. In 1897 he left the home farm and went to Colorado, where he remained for five years. During much of the time he was in that state he was engaged in smelting and during a part of the time he worked in a quartz mine. During his residence in Colorado he saw much of the beauty of that state and also gained experience in his work that has been of much value

to him as a business man. After his return to Douglas county, he purchased one hundred and twenty acres, of land in sections 19 and 20, Evansville township, about thirty acres of the tract being then improved. After assuming possession, he proceeded to do much in the way of development, making many improvements that added to the beauty and value of the place. During the time he was devoting his energies to his farm, he remained at the home of his parents. After putting the place in good condition, he devoted his time and energies to general farming, until he came to Brandon, to engage in business. He now rents the farm, but takes much interest in its management and devotes a part of his time to looking after his interests there.

On March 7, 1912, Henry Christenson and Albert Holmgren purchased a stock of merchandise of F. W. Ruppelius and engaged in business in the town of Brandon. They carry a general line of merchandise, consisting of dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, as well as a large stock of men's work clothes. The firm is doing a nice business and has the confidence and respect of the entire community.

On August 4, 1914, Henry Christenson was united in marriage to Louisa Anderson, a native of Moe township. To this union one child, Elda, has been born. Mr. and Mrs. Christenson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. Mr. Christenson has always been interested in the local affairs of the township and has ever been ready to assist in any worthy cause.

FRANK BUSCHER.

The percentage of native-born citizens of Douglas county, especially farmers, is very small for reasons too obvious to mention here. One of this number is Frank Buscher, banker and influential citizen of the village of Millerville, whose birth occurred in Millerville township, January 26, 1875. He is a son of John and Mary (Schlener) Buscher, the former born on May 9, 1840, and the latter on August 26, 1850. Henry Buscher, the paternal grandfather, was born in Westphalen, Germany, from which country he immigrated to America, locating on a farm near Martinsburg, Missouri, where he spent the rest of his life. He had six children. George Schlener, the maternal grandfather, was a native of Austria. Upon coming to the United States he settled in Wisconsin, where he worked out, but not

long thereafter he went to St. Martin, Minnesota, spending the rest of his life on a farm near there. John Buscher, the father, was nine years old when his parents brought him to America, and he spent his boyhood on the farm in Missouri. When a young man he left home and came to Stearns county, Minnesota, and while there enlisted for service in the Civil War, in Company G, Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in which he served from 1862 to 1865, taking part in a number of important campaigns and engagements. After the war he returned to Stearns county and was proprietor of a hotel at Richmond for about two years, then came to Douglas county, taking up one hundred and sixty acres of land in Millerville township and buying forty acres adjoining. Here, by hard work and perseverance, he developed an excellent farm, succeeding as a general farmer, and he died here on April 27, 1902, at the age of sixty-two years. His widow survived until December 2, 1913, dying at the age of sixty-three. They were parents of the following children: George; Mary, deceased; Frank, of this sketch; John, deceased; Anna; Joseph, deceased; Jacob, Henry, Bernard and Ferdinand. The father of these children became fairly active in local public affairs, serving as school director for sixteen years and was also supervisor of his township for several years. He was one of the organizers of the local Catholic church.

Frank Buscher grew up on the home farm and he received his education in the common schools. While still on the farm, when about twenty-four years old, he took a course in bookkeeping by mail. He then bought a general store at West Union, Minnesota, but later came to Alexandria to work for C. W. Colbertson Company, who conducted a clothing store, now known as the Eagle Clothing Company, remaining with this store six years, four years of which he was manager. In the spring of 1911 he went to Hoffman, Minnesota, as cashier of the Farmers State Bank, where he remained three years, being a stockholder in the same. In June, 1914, he, with others, organized the bank at Millerville, of which he became a stockholder and has since been cashier. This has proved to be a successful venture and the bank is enjoying a steady growth. He also owns stock in the Bankers Trust Company and the Savings Bank of Minneapolis. He writes considerable fire insurance, representing the Aetna Fire Insurance Company, the St. Paul Fire and Marine Company and the Minneapolis Fire Insurance Company.

Mr. Buscher was married, on June 30, 1898, to Justine Dobmeyer, a native of Douglas county, where she grew up and was educated. To this

union four children have been born, George, Ferdinand, Alfred and Mark, who are all at home.

Politically, Mr. Buscher is a Republican, and is village treasurer and clerk of school district No. 34. He is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and the Catholic church.

MICHAEL KRAEMER.

Michael Kraemer, one of the prominent and successful business men of Alexandria, Minnesota, was born in Germany, on January 9, 1855, being the son of Nicholas and Mary (Thielen) Kraemer. Nicholas and Mary Kraemer were also natives of Germany and there lived their lives, he having died in 1902 and she in 1915. They received their education in the public schools. After completing his education, Mr. Kraemer engaged in farming, at which work he devoted his life and was very successful. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Peter, Michael, Catherine and Margaret. The family were highly respected in the community in which they lived.

Michael Kraemer received his education in the public schools of his native land and there grew to manhood. After coming to America, he attended night school at Minneapolis, Minnesota, during the winter of 1881 and 1882. On his arrival in the United States in 1881, he came direct to Minnesota, locating in Minneapolis, where he remained for three years. In the fall of 1884 he removed to Sauk Center, where he engaged in the soda water business in partnership with M. Robishon. He sold his interest to his partner in 1886 and purchased a soda water factory at Alexandria, and here he has since remained. In 1888 he rebuilt the factory and is now operating the Alexandria Soda Water and Bottling Works, in which he has been very successful. Here he manufactures all kinds of carbonated drinks and ciders, furnishing the local trade and shipping to all points within a radius of one hundred miles. His products are the best that can be made and are recognized as of the highest standard.

In October, 1883, Michael Kraemer was united in marriage to Julia Beining, who died on November 6, 1891. To this union three children were born, Mary, Carl and Theresæ. On April 26, 1892, Mr. Kraemer was married to Gertrude Hendericks and to this union three children have been born, Lucy, Otto and Michael. The family are devout members of the

Catholic church and are active in the social and religious work of the township. Mr. Kraemer has always taken much interest in local civic affairs and has served for nine years as councilman of Alexandria and was mayor for fourteen months. He is a man of excellent judgment and his service, both in the council and as mayor, was productive of much good to the community. He is a believer in public improvements and has done much for the growth and prosperity of the town and county in which he lives.

BERNT TOLLEFSON.

Bernt Tollefson, a native of Norway and a well-known farmer of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, Minnesota, was born on May 18, 1857, being the son of Tollef and Bertha (Gruthong) Egstad. Lars Egstad, the paternal grandfather of Bernt Tollefson, was a well-known farmer of Norway, where he lived on the farm that had been in the family for many years. He never came to America, but lived and died in his native country. He was a soldier in the war with Sweden. Thomas Egstad, the great-grandfather, was a farmer in Norway and was, perhaps one of the first to hold the family estate. Tollef Egstad lived on the family estate and there grew to manhood. He died in Norway in 1873 and several years after his death United States. The children of the family were, Lars, Ole, Jens, Anna, Tonetta, Lauritz, Andreas, and Bernt. The family were prominent in their home community in Norway, where, the father, being a landowner, was of much consequence. The members of the family who came to the United States have here established themselves in the social, religious and business life of the community in which they live.

Bernt Tollefson received his education in Norway and there grew to manhood on the family estate. At the age of nineteen, he decided that he would come to the United States. On his arrival here he came direct to Minnesota, locating in Grant county, and was here at the time of the terrible plague of grasshoppers, when practically all the vegetation was destroyed. He and his brother, Lauritz, later purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 4, Pelican Lake township. This they developed and here farmed together until 1888, when Bernt bought the share of his brother and is now the owner of the entire tract. He has erected all the present substantial buildings and has in other ways added much to the beauty and value of the farm. Today he has one of the best farms in the township

and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. The tract at the time the brothers made the purchase was all wild prairie land, but has been transformed into well cultivated fields, dotted here and there with herds of fine cattle and droves of hogs.

Bernt Tollefson has always taken a keen interest in the local affairs of his township, and has served as assessor for two years. In addition to his other interests, he is the owner of stock in the Farmers Elevator Company at Ashby. He is a man of considerable prestige in the community, his advice being often sought on matters of public interest.

CHARLES DANEK.

Charles Danek, a well known and successful farmer of Lake Mary township, Douglas county, was born in Bohemia on October 25, 1852, the son of Thomas and Annie (Hlavacek) Danek, natives of Bohemia and farming people. There the father died, the mother later coming to America to join her children. She took a homestead in Millerville township, Douglas county, where she lived for many years. Thomas and Annie Danek were the parents of two children, Catherine and Charles.

Charles Danek received his education in the public schools of Bohemia and lived there until he was fifteen years of age, when he came to America with his sister. They located in Dakota county, Minnesota, where Mr. Danek worked as a farm hand. After two years the mother came to America and took her homestead of one hundred and sixty-three acres, in Millerville township. Charles then went to live with her, and there he remained until 1877, in which year his mother sold the place. Mr. Danek then purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 32 of Lake Mary township.

At the time Charles Danek purchased the farm it was all wild land, undeveloped and unimproved. With much hard work he has succeeded in making it one of the productive and well-improved farms in the community. He has erected all the substantial buildings and is engaged in general farming, in which he has been most successful. He is a firm believer in intensive farming, thorough cultivation and the keeping of the best of stock. Having come, as a lad, to a strange land, among strange people and amid new conditions, he has accomplished much that is praiseworthy, and today is recognized as one of the substantial and influential men of the township. He has

always taken much interest in local affairs; is possessed of an intense public spirit and has done much toward the development and improvement of the township, as well as of the immediate community in which he lives. He is a firm believer in all public improvements that have a tendency to add to the betterment and the growth of the state. Being broad-minded, he realizes the value to any community of good roads and the best of schools. He has served three years as township supervisor; five years as assessor; as clerk of Lake Mary township for the past fifteen years, and as school district clerk since 1887, a period of twenty-nine years.

In 1881 Charles Danek was united in marriage to Louisa Kuklis and to this union the following children have been born: Antonia, Mary, Joseph V., Charles A., Frank R. and Thomas H. The family have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community, Mr. Danek having served as secretary of the local church organization. Mr. and Mrs. Danek are held in high regard by their neighbors and friends for their many noble qualities of manhood and womanhood. Their lives have been busy ones with their family and their work, yet they have ever found time to assist in sickness and trouble.

AMIL R. KIETZMAN.

Amil R. Kietzman, one of the successful and well-known farmers and stockmen of Macsville township, Grant county, was born at Herman on November 1, 1874, the son of Henry Carl and Wilhelmina (Schimmelpfennig) Kietzman, natives of Berlin, Germany. The father was born on January 26, 1841, and grew to manhood in the Fatherland. The mother was born on August 8, 1850, and came to the United States, with her parents, as a girl in her teens. Henry Carl Kietzman remained in his native land until he was twenty-six years of age, when he came to the United States and located in Wisconsin, where he met and married Wilhelmina Schimmelpfennig, the daughter of August and Augusta Schimmelpfennig, who had located at Weyanwega. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Kietzman moved to Oshkosh, where Mr. Kietzman worked at the carpenter trade for a number of years. In 1872, after the birth of their first daughter, they came to Minnesota and Mr. Kietzman homesteaded eighty acres of land in the northwest part of Herman township, Grant county. At that time the Great Northern railroad had been built through this section and

at Herman there was a depot, a section house and a small shack that answered as a store room and postoffice. The greater part of the territory at that time was wild prairie, and after locating on his claim Mr. Kietzman constructed a sod house in which the family lived for some time. He at once began the task of developing his farm and soon secured one hundred and sixty acres more land, by pre-emption and tree claim, all of which was wild land. The family suffered many of the hardships of the early settler and endured the privations of early life on the plains. After having broken the sod and planted his crops, Mr. Kietzman suffered the loss of the greater part of his harvest by the grasshoppers, and would have left the county if he could have done so. During three years of those hard times, he worked on the Great Northern railroad and thus secured money to stock his farm. He purchased a cow and a yoke of oxen, and again began life as a farmer. He later purchased another yoke of oxen and completed the breaking of his land and erected more substantial buildings, which in later years were replaced by more modern buildings. As he began to prosper he broke the soil comprising the tree claim, and purchased three hundred and twenty acres in section 25, Macsville township. He continued to live on the old homestead until the time of his death, June 21, 1912. The wife had died but a month before, on May 20. Mr. and Mrs. Kietzman were active members of the German Evangelical church, and were among the early members of the local society. They were the parents of eleven children: Bertha, Amil, Viva, Adolph, Laura, Albert, Alice, Ella, Henry, Herman and Minnie.

Henry Carl Kietzman was a man of much ability and possessed of rare business acumen and excellent judgment. By hard work and good management he became the owner of some nine hundred acres of good land, all of which is still owned by the family. He started life as a poor man and became one of the substantial and prominent men of the township. He took much interest in local affairs and had much to do with the early civic life of the township. He believed in the highest standard of public improvements, and advocated the support of the best schools possible.

Amil R. Kietzman received his education in the common schools of his township, and was graduated from the high school at Herman. He was reared on the home farm and after completing his schooling he returned to the home farm and engaged in farming. In 1901 he left the home farm and moved to a three-hundred-and-twenty-acre farm in Macsville township, one hundred and sixty acres of which his father had given him, and he pur-

chased the other part of the tract. The farm at that time was unimproved and the first year he erected a substantial house and the next year a barn. He planted the grove and built the fences, in addition to making many other valuable improvements. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and is successful. He is a stockholder in the elevator and the bank at Herman. He is independent in politics and has taken an active interest in the affairs of the township, having served on the board of supervisors, and has been treasurer of the school board.

CONRAD MEISTER.

Conrad Meister, a well-known and successful farmer of Carlos township, Douglas county, was born in Switzerland, on April 17, 1858, the son of Jacob and Maria Elizabeth (Schweizen) Meister, natives of Switzerland, who were there educated in the public school and who there grew to manhood and womanhood. Jacob Meister learned the mason trade, and as a young man came to the United States, but soon returned to his native country, where he died in 1864. The widow who was born in 1823, died in 1885. Both the parents of Conrad Meister had been previously married. By her former marriage Mrs. Meister was the mother of one child, Fritz Byer, who is still a resident of Switzerland. By his former marriage Mr. Meister had one daughter, Margaret, who has remained in her native land. Jacob and Maria Meister were the parents of two children: Conrad and John, the later of whom died in Switzerland some years ago.

Conrad Meister received his education in his native land and there grew to manhood. As a young man he learned the trade of a locksmith. He later served in the army of his country. At the age of twenty-two he decided to come to America. After landing in this country he came west and began working in a machine shop at Baraboo, Wisconsin. He was there but a short time, and then went to St. Louis, where he was engaged in the rolling mills for two years. He then came to Minnesota and worked in a brick yard at Collegeville for one month, at the end of which time he went to North Dakota, where he worked in the harvest fields the rest of that season. He then came to Douglas county and worked for R. Zimmerman for nearly two years. He was then married to Theresa Pichler, a native of Austria, who had come to the United States with her parents. After his marriage he worked for one year for Braun, in Belle River town-

ship, after which he settled on eighty acres of land in section 1, Carlos township. The tract at that time was undeveloped and was covered with stumps, brush and some timber. There was no road to the place and it was necessary for Mr. Meister to build one so that he might get to his farm. There he built a small shack, ten by twelve feet, and in this the family lived for several years. At the time he came here he had no team with which to assist in his clearing and the planting of his crops. Yet in some way he succeeded and in time became prosperous. He purchased another tract of land, consisting of forty acres. Today about sixty acres of his farm is under cultivation, the balance being in meadow and pasture. He has built a substantial house, which is nicely located and well kept. In 1911 he built a large barn and in 1913 a silo, fourteen by thirty feet. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has met with success. He has a fine herd of Holstein cattle and feeds all his grain, disposing of his stock when ready for the market. For six years Mr. Meister was assessor of his township and has also served as a member of the school board.

Mr. and Mrs. Meister have one child, a daughter, Amelia.

PETER PENNIE.

Peter Pennie, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Hudson township, Douglas county, was born in Kinross, Scotland, March 13, 1839, the son of Thomas and Mary (Drummund) Pennie, both natives of Scotland, who continued to live in the land of their birth until 1853, when they decided to locate in America. On their arrival in this country they came to Illinois and later to Minnesota, and here located in Pope county, where they died some years ago. It was there that Mr. Pennie homesteaded a tract of land in Leven township, which he developed and improved. He became well known in the community, and was recognized as one of the successful men of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Pennie were the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters. They were members of the Presbyterian church and were devout Christians, highly respected by all.

Peter Pennie received his education in the public schools of Scotland, where he lived until he was fourteen years of age, when he came to America with his parents, with whom he remained until 1862, in which year he enlisted in Company B, Twenty-Fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and saw much active service in the Civil War. In October, 1862,

soon after his enlistment, he was sent with his company to the new settlement at Alexandria, Minnesota, where the company erected a stockade as a means of defense for the few settlers who had remained in that region after the Indian uprising. In the summer of 1863 he was sent with his command to Vicksburg and was later in many battles, and was with Sherman in the march to the sea. During his stay in Savannah, Georgia, Mr. Pennie filed a soldier's claim for homestead in Minnesota. His brother Dan located the tract of one hundred and thirty-nine acres for him, in Leven township, Pope county, just across the road from where he now lives in Douglas county. At the close of the war Mr. Pennie located on the claim and made that his home until 1900. The homestead was a wild tract, and without improvements. There he erected buildings, broke the land and engaged in general farming and stock raising. Since that time he has erected a fine brick-veneered house and made other substantial improvements. In 1900 he moved across the road to his present home, and there, despite his advance age, continues active in farm work. Today he owns three hundred and eighty acres of excellent land and is engaged in general farming. Mr. Pennie is a Presbyterian. He is a Republican and served as a member of the board of township supervisors while living in Pope county.

In July, 1865, Peter Pennie was united in marriage to Eliza Bevier and to that union eight children were born, Thomas, Duncan, Mary, Jeanette, Robert, Eliza, Daniel and Hattie. The mother of these children died in 1899 and in the year following Mr. Pennie was united in marriage to Mrs. Melissa (Judkins) Judkins, who was born at Lexington, Maine, and who came to Wisconsin, with her first husband, Alanson J. Judkins, from central Pennsylvania. They made the trip with horse and wagon and were five weeks on the road. To add to the hardships of the trip, they had the care of their four-months-old baby. They had among their other household goods, a stove with an elevated oven, which she used for forty-two years. They remained in Wisconsin until 1865, when they came to Minnesota, making the journey with an ox-team. The next year they homesteaded in Pope county, and there Mr. Judkins died on September 8, 1897. Alanson J. and Melissa Judkins were the parents of four children, Mark E., Mary Annette, Benjamin G. and Wilmer. The latter is now in the Canadian army, expecting soon to go to the front in Europe. He is one of twenty-four men that were selected, out of seventeen hundred, to operate a rapid-firing gun.

In an early day, Peter Pennie hauled wheat to St. Cloud, the nearest market at that time. He assisted in the location of the corners of Hudson

township, Douglas county. He is an active member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic at Willard. The post once had eighty members, but is now reduced to five; yet the members hold together and march to the cemetery each Memorial Day.

REINERT AANENSON.

Reinert Aanenson, a native of Norway and a retired farmer of Evansville township, Douglas county, was born on October 7, 1827, the son of Aanen Jestsen, who died in Norway. He is the second in order of birth of the twelve children born to his parents and was educated in the schools of his native land, and there grew to manhood. He remained a resident of his native country until he was thirty-two years of age, when, in 1855, he decided that he would come to America. After a seven-weeks voyage he landed at Quebec, and from that port proceeded directly to Wisconsin, where he located at Manitowac. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild timber land in that vicinity, erected a log house and at once proceeded to clear some of his land. He remained there but two years, at the end of which time he sold the place and went to Kansas, where he engaged in the real-estate business. After two years he went from there to Pikes Peak and from there on to California. He remained in California and Idaho for eight years, engaged in the gold mining business, and met with fair success. After his experience in the mining world, he returned to his native land, where he purchased a farm and remained some years. The desire to return to the United States caused him, in 1869, to leave Norway for the second time. He sold his farm and returned to the land of his adoption. He remained in Chicago for a short time and then went to Iowa. He later came to Minnesota, where for twelve hundred dollars he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, in section 3 of Evansville township, Douglas county, the tract for the most part being covered with heavy timber. There were two small log houses on the place, the only improvements. Mr. Aanenson purchased a team of oxen, a cow and a few farming implements and started the task of clearing and developing his new farm. He soon had a tract cleared and plowed, and there he planted his first seed, which was winter rye. In time the farm was cleared and under cultivation, the greater part of the task being done by Mr. Aanenson himself. He was a careful and prudent farmer and manager and became successful,

engaging in general farming and stock raising, and developing the farm into one of the best in the township. He improved the farm with splendid buildings, having a beautiful house and a fine barn. Though now retired from the active work on the farm, yet he continues to manage the place, his sons doing the greater part of the work.

Reinert Aanenson was united in marriage in 1869 to Amanda Tolefson, who died that same year. In 1871 he married Synneve Saterlee and to this union four children have been born, Amanda, Otto, Theodore (deceased) and Fridthjof. Amanda Aanenson married Halvor Hanson, manager of the elevator at Clair City, South Dakota; Otto Aanenson is working in a packing house at St. Paul and Fridthjof Aanenson, known as "Fritz," is farming the home place. Mr. and Mrs. Aanenson are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Aanenson is a Democrat and has served as supervisor and as a member of the school board.

FRANS OSCAR HERBERT.

Frans Oscar Herbert, one of the prominent and successful merchants of Alexandria, was born in Sweden on July 26, 1865, the son of John P. and Caroline Herbert, natives of Sweden, who there received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were there married. As a young man, John P. Herbert engaged as a sailor, and in time became the owner of a freight vessel on the Baltic sea, and operated between Sweden and Germany, making England as well as the ports in the Gulf of Bothnia. He continued thus engaged until 1867, when he decided to come to America. He sold his vessel and he and his family sailed for the United States. On their arrival in this country they came direct to Minnesota, where Mr. Herbert took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Douglas county. The tract at that time was all wild country and without improvements. There Mr. Herbert erected a log house and at once began the task of clearing and breaking his land, with a team of oxen, with which he farmed for many years. He continued to farm there in Holmes City township for some eighteen years, during which time he did much in the way of development and made many valuable improvements, developing one of the attractive farms of the township and meeting with considerable success as a general farmer and stockman. He later sold that place and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Evansville township,

near the village of Evansville, and it was there that he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. They were the parents of eight children, Hilda (deceased), Gustav, Augusta, John A., Hjalmar (deceased), Frans Oscar, Ida and Jennie. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert were prominent in the early social life of the community and were held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew them. Mr. Herbert took an active interest in the civic life of the township and was often consulted in matters relating to the policies of the district. He was a patriotic citizen and did much to further the interests of both the township and the county in which he lived.

Frans Oscar Herbert received his education in the public schools of Holmes City township and there grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the work on the place. His educational advantages were very limited, owing to the conditions of the rural schools during his childhood days. He was but two years of age at the time his parents came to the county, which was at that time on the frontier of civilization in this section of the state. The schools were of the most primitive kind and were far from the homes of many of those early settlers. Yet, with all the disadvantages of his early environment, he has kept abreast of the times and is today one of the well-informed men of the county. Having remained at home with his father until he was seventeen years of age, he began life for himself and for some time worked for others. He later owned a soda-water factory at Alexandria, which is now owned by M. Kramer. After disposing of that concern he engaged in other business for some years and then, June 14, 1912, he established himself in the grocery business at Alexandria, where he is still located. By his own efforts and close application to business he has been quite successful in his grocery trade and carries a complete line of staple and fancy groceries, his store being one of the most modern and up-to-date places of business in this section. By his systematic and business-like methods Mr. Herbert has won the confidence of the public, and uses every possible legitimate means to please his customers.

As a young man Mr. Herbert was united in marriage to Beda M. Benson, a native of Sweden, who came to the United States in her youth with her parents, and to this union eight children have been born, Aurora, Cyril, Ruth (deceased), Carl, Oscar, Delia (deceased), Philip and Axel. Aurora Herbert married Prof. Ernest Melby, principal of the city schools of Brewster, Minnesota. The family have long been prominent in the social life of the community. While Mr. Herbert is not a member of the

church, he is a liberal contributor to the religious work of the city and to all worthy agencies designed to advance the common welfare of the community.

ANDREW M. WALSTAD.

Andrew M. Walstad, a well-known and successful farmer of Moe township, Douglas county, was born on the farm in that township on January 5, 1879, the son of Mathias and Bertha Walstad.

Mathias Walstad was born in Norway and there received his education and grew to manhood. In 1856 he decided to come to America and after landing in this country, proceeded to Wisconsin, where he remained for a few years. In 1866 he came to Minnesota and located in Moe township, Douglas county, and moved to the farm where the son Andrew M. now lives, the next year. The tract at that time was all wild land, and without improvements of any kind. The first trip he made to that farm, he walked from St. Cloud. The following year he drove through with an ox-team and a covered wagon. It was there that he lived the rest of his life, his death occurring on the home farm some years ago.

Mathias and Bertha Walstad were the parents of seven children, Adolph, Gunder, Bertina, Helga, Martin, John and Andrew M. Mr. and Mrs. Walstad were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. They were highly respected in the community in which they lived and were held in the highest esteem. Mr. Walstad took an active interest in local civic affairs and served for a number of years as a member of the township board of supervisors.

Andrew M. Walstad received his education in the public schools of Moe township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the farm work. As a young man he soon decided that he would be a farmer and engaged in the work with his father. In 1896 he began farming the home place and has since that time been engaged in that work, he having bought the farm in 1906. He has since added to his holdings and is now the owner of two hundred and twenty-six acres. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has met with much success.

Andrew M. Walstad was united in marriage to Inga Peterson, the daughter of Martin and Anna Peterson, and to this union three children have been born, Mathias, Marvin and Alfred. Mr. and Mrs. Walstad are active in the work of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which they are



MR. AND MRS. ANDREW M. WALSTAD.

members. They are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are held in high regard by all. Mr. Walstad has served for a number of years as a justice of the peace of the township, and is at present a member of the school board and takes a keen interest in the success and growth of the schools of his district. Mrs. Walstad's parents, Martin and Anna Peterson, were born in Norway and were married there. They came to Minnesota about 1883 and settled in Moe township, Douglas county, later moving to Grant county, where Mrs. Peterson is still living, Mr. Peterson having died. To them were born eight children, Inga, Sarah, Randina, Annetta, Clara, Louise, Jennie and Selmer, all of whom are still living.

LARS ROSE.

Lars Rose, a farmer in Solem township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden, August 23, 1849. He is a son of Jens Rose and Karin (Larsdatter) Rose, both natives of Sweden. The father was born on January 3, 1816, and died in 1907, at the age of ninety-one. The mother was born on December 22, 1816, and died on January 3, 1899. They lived in their native land until 1866, when they came to America, arriving in Chicago on June 23 of that year; but they went on to Dekalb county, Illinois, where the father began working out by the day. Three months later they went to McGregor, Iowa, where they remained until the spring of 1867. Not long thereafter the father went alone to Douglas county, Minnesota, and there entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty-four acres in Solem township, and in the fall of 1867 he moved his family here, but his son, Lars Rose, remained at McGregor, Iowa, until 1868, when he joined his parents on the homestead in Solem township. Previously, in the last of June, 1866, he had gone from Chicago to Redwing, and worked on a farm near there until the fall, when he joined the rest of the family in Iowa. His father lived on the homestead in Solem township the rest of his life. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: John L., who died in Nelson county, North Dakota; Christie, who is the wife of Peter Edmand; Emma, who is the wife of John Hedstrom; Lars, the subject of this sketch; Karin, who died when sixteen years old, and Nels, who lives in Solem township.

Lars Rose spent his boyhood in Sweden, where he attended school.

He came to America with his parents. He has lived on his present farm in Solem township since 1868, buying the same of his father at the time of his marriage. He has put on all the buildings, fencing and other improvements, including setting out a grove, and has been engaged in general farming and stock raising there for a period of forty-seven years, during which time he has seen the general development of the county. He is a stockholder in the farmers co-operative store at Hoffman, which he helped organize.

Mr. Rose was married in 1874 to Anna Johnson, who was born in Sweden, and to this union the following children have been born: Edward, Oscar, Julia, and Alfred, all deceased, and Tilda, Selma, Ida, Amanda, Sophia, Helma and Edward. The mother of these children died on April 17, 1895. Mr. Rose is a member of the Lutheran church. Politically, he is a Republican. He served as township chairman for about eleven years; also served as township assessor and as director in the school board.

CHARLES C. HETHERINGTON.

Charles C. Hetherington, one of Grant county's best-known pioneer farmers and an honored veteran of the Civil War, owner of a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Delaware township and former supervisor of that township, is a native of the Dominion of Canada, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his youth. He was born in the township of Finch, in upper Canada, September 26, 1844, son of Henry and Adaline (Lake) Hetherington, the former of whom was a native of Ireland and the latter of Canada, whose last days were spent at Hastings, this state.

Henry Hetherington was born in the Emerald Isle, of Scotch parentage. In youth he was bereaved by death of his father and later crossed the water with his mother, settling in Canada, where he grew to manhood and where he married Adaline Lake, who was born in that Dominion, of Dutch parents. Before 1850 the family came to Minnesota and located for a time at Point Douglas, later settling at Hastings, where Henry Hetherington became an active figure in the public life of that community, serving there as sheriff of Dakota county and as justice of the peace. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted for service in the Fifth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry and served with that command until incapacitated

by illness. Returning North he later re-enlisted for service in the campaign against the Indians. Henry Hetherington made his permanent home at Hastings and both he and his wife spent their last days there and are buried in the cemetery at that place. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and their children were reared in that faith. There were nine of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: George, who was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War, died at Hastings, where he was engaged in the retail meat business; Eliza, who died in the days of her young womanhood; Emma, who married P. D. Hinemarsch and lives at Hastings; Ruby, who lives at Minneapolis, widow of Robert Duff; Anna, who died in childhood; Henry who lives in northern Minnesota; Theresa, who married Ora Walker and died at Duluth, and Gordon, a traveling salesman, living at Minneapolis.

Charles C. Hetherington was but a child when his parents came to this state from Canada and he grew to manhood on the home farm in the immediate vicinity of Hastings, where he was living when, on February 13, 1865, at the age of twenty years, he enlisted for service in Company I, First Minnesota Heavy Artillery, in which command he served until the close of the war, the command being in charge of the forts at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Upon the completion of his military service Mr. Hetherington returned home and followed the butcher's trade at Hastings until 1879, in which year he came over to this part of the state, locating in Grant county, where he homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 8 of Delaware township, established his home there and has ever since made that his place of residence. When Mr. Hetherington settled in Delaware township there was not a house nor a tree within site of his homestead and he thus has ever been classed as one of the pioneers of that part of the county. He built a frame house on his place, planted a grove and entered upon the serious task of bringing the virgin soil under cultivation. That early homestead house, remodeled and enlarged, is still being occupied as the family residence. Mr. Hetherington is a Republican and has served the public in the capacity of supervisor and as school director. He formerly was a member of the Presbyterian church and also formerly was affiliated with the Masonic fraternity.

On September 25, 1875, at Hastings, Charles C. Hetherington was united in marriage to Esther McCarriel, who was born in the state of New York, daughter of George and Laurenza (Whitney) McCarriel, both also natives of that state and members of old New York families. George

McCarriel died in New York, after which his widow returned to the home of her father and with the latter came to Minnesota, settling at Hastings about the year 1861 and there she spent the rest of her life. To Mr. and Mrs. Hetherington six children have been born, namely: Mildred, who married Edward Bergstrom and lives at Minneapolis; Charles Algernon, who was educated at Highland Park College in Iowa and at the Moorhead (Minnesota) Normal and is now an electrical engineer at Des Moines, Iowa; Chester, who died at the age of twelve years; Chetwyn, at home; one who died in infancy and Esther Lora, at home. The Hetheringtons have a very pleasant home and have ever taken a proper part in the various social activities of the community of which they have been a part since pioneer days, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

ERICK LARSON.

The late Erick Larson who was one of the pioneer farmers of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden, in 1840, and died at his home in Ida township on July 28, 1908.

Before leaving his native land Erick Larson was a surveyor around mines, and also owned a small farm in Sweden. He married in the old country and two children were born in Sweden one of whom died there. In 1868 he came with his wife and daughter Sarah, to Minnesota, settling in Douglas county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 21 and 22 of Ida township. This land was all timber land at the time he acquired it, and the first home of the family was a small hut made of branches, with a bark roof. Within a short time, however, they had erected a log house. His first team was one of oxen and the family worked diligently to clear and improve their land. Their first log house is still standing, but has been boarded up nicely, and many improvements added to it until it could hardly be recognized as the old log house of the wilderness. The first barn was made of logs with birch-bark roof. On that pioneer farm Mr. Larson lived the remainder of his life, although during the last few years he had given over the active management of his farm to younger hands. He was also a stonemason by trade, and did much work of that kind in the early days, such as building brick foundations and chimneys for houses, as well as plastering the inside walls and

ceilings of the early houses. For the last fifteen years of his life he was in poor health, and occupied his time in making brushes, wash-boards, and the like.

Mr. Larson was always an active member of the Swedish Lutheran church and held the office of deacon in the church for many years. He helped to build both the old and the new churches, and was always greatly interested in the welfare of his church. He was a good singer and music teacher in his younger days, having given organ lessons, and he was a leader in the church singing for years. He also served on the school board for many years.

Mr. Larson and his wife were the parents of nine children as follows: John, deceased; Sarah, the wife of Carl Thunberg a farmer of Ida township; John Lambert, who is a boilermaker in Superior City, Wisconsin; Peter August, who married Hulda Sporr and is the owner of a garage at Brandon; Matilda, deceased; Erick Albert, a homesteader in North Dakota; Amanda, the wife of William Edks a teamster of Mora, Minnesota; Hulda, the wife of Ole S. Lee, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, and Axel, who died at the age of twenty-one.

SWAN M. ANDERSON.

Another of the prosperous Swedish farmers of Solem township is Swan M. Anderson, who was born in Sweden on December 12, 1865. He is a son of Anders Monson and Hannah (Nelson) Anderson, both of whom were also natives of Sweden. Anders Monson was a farmer of his native land and came with his family to America in 1881, some years after his eldest son, Nels M., had come here, and together they purchased a farm in Washington county, Minnesota, which they later sold, and since that time, he has been retired from active farm life. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Anna, Nels M. (who is mentioned elsewhere in this work), Swan M., and Mary.

Swan M. Anderson was reared on his father's farm in Sweden, and had little chance for schooling in his native land, having started herding geese at the age of seven. In 1881 he came to America with his father's family, locating in Washington county, Minnesota, where his first employment was herding cattle. In 1889 he came to Douglas county and started to farm by renting land, but later he purchased one hundred and twenty-

three acres, and has gradually added to his land holdings until he is now the owner of two hundred acres of fine land in section 7 of Solem township, besides one hundred and sixty acres in section 9 of the same township. He has placed practically all the improvements on his farm, which is a well-kept and attractive place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1890 Swan M. Anderson was married to Anna E. Oslund, the daughter of Erick Oslund, and to this union seven children have been born, Victor E., Henry A., Hattie A., Alma W., Edith M., Herman L. and Alice Viola. The family are adherents of the Swedish Lutheran church, to which they are liberal contributors and on the services of which they are regular attendants. Mr. Anderson is a trustee of the local church at Hoffman and is treasurer of the school board of district No. 71.

PETER A. PETERSON.

Another painstaking Swedish farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, is P. A. Peterson, who was born in Sweden on May 6, 1853, a son of Peter and Clara (Johnson) Peterson, natives of Sweden, who established their home on a farm. Their children were as follow: Peter A., the subject of this sketch; Albertina, who lives in Sweden; John, who came to Minnesota and died in Alexandria, and Hilma.

Peter A. Peterson spent his boyhood in Sweden and attended school there. He came to America in 1879, landing in Quebec, and from there came directly to Minnesota, and has since lived in Douglas county, with the exception of some time spent in North Dakota, he having taken up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Eddy county, that state. Later he located in Ida township, Douglas county, pre-empting land, which he lived on and farmed until seven years ago, when he purchased the farm he now owns in Ida township, which place consists of two hundred acres, on which he is successfully carrying on general farming, making a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He owns stock in the farmers elevator in Garfield, also in the creamery and the potato warehouse there.

In April, 1884, Peter A. Peterson was married to Clara Lusty, a native of Sweden, from which country she came with her parents, John A. Lusty and wife, to Minnesota, the family locating on a farm in Spruce Hill town-

ship, Douglas county. To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson four children have been born, Paul, Elmer, Arthur, and Alice. Mr. Peterson is a Republican and served as a member of the township board for a period of fourteen years continuously, being chairman of the same for four years of that period. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

MAJOR FREDERICK VON BAUMBACH.

Major Frederick von Baumbach, one of the most prominent and successful men of Douglas county, was born in Prussia on August 30, 1838, the son of Louis and Mina (von Schenk) von Baumbach.

Louis von Baumbach was a man of much prominence and influence in Prussia. He was an officer of high rank in the Prussian army and fought with his country against the first Napoleon, his success as an officer and a leader of men giving him a commanding position in the German government. He was elevated to the position of president of the diet of Hesse-Cassel and was elected a member of the German parliament in 1848. Mr. von Baumbach was a member of the progressive element, in that, the most important parliament in the history of the Empire, in fact, it was epochal in the crisis that followed. Mr. von Baumbach, having championed the cause of the people, was compelled to leave the country with the failure of the cause and the upheaval that followed, and he, with other distinguished men, came to the United States in 1849.

Upon coming to the United States, Louis von Baumbach located for a time on a farm in Ohio, near Elyria. He and his large family later removed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Mr. von Baumbach became the German consul, a position he retained until 1883. Mina (von Schenk) von Baumbach, the wife and mother, was of a family of distinguished people of Hesse-Cassel, her family having had many representatives who won high rank as soldiers and statesmen. Mrs. von Baumbach died in 1869.

The old Baumbach estate, Kirchleim, in Hesse-Cassel founded in 1300 is still in possession of the family. It was on this estate that Frederick von Baumbach was born and lived until he was ten years of age. His early education was obtained while living there under the direction of a private tutor, who always resided with the family. At the time the family came to the United States Frederick was one of the younger members of the family. After locating in Ohio he attended school at Elyria and later at

Milwaukee, when the family removed to that city. After completing a course in a business college he worked in a bank at Milwaukee until 1860.

Upon resigning his position in the bank, Frederick von Baumbach removed to San Antonio, Texas, and was there at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War, a time of the most intense excitement. His sympathies being with the North, he had some exciting adventures in getting out of the South. Upon reaching Milwaukee he enlisted, June 1, 1861, as a private in Company C, Fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He later served as corporal, sergeant and sergeant-major, and on June 13, 1862, was commissioned a second lieutenant and later a first lieutenant. On December 11, 1863, he was appointed captain of Company B, Thirty-fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and on October 24, 1865, was promoted to major, which was his rank when he was mustered out of the service at Brownsville, Texas, March 15, 1866, after having served nearly five years. Major von Baumbach saw service in many of the battles of the war, among some of the more important having been Yorktown, Williamsburg, the seven-days fight before Richmond, second battle of Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Mobile and Spanish Fort. In all his long service he received nothing but the highest praise from his superior officers. He had given some of the best years of his life, as well as his best efforts, to the cause of his adopted country, and he returned to private life with a record worthy of any man.

In 1863 Frederick von Baumbach was united in marriage to Sarah J. Decker, of Milwaukee. Shortly after the close of the war he decided to locate further west and with that intention he visited Douglas county, Minnesota. He was much pleased with the country and the prospects, yet he returned to Wisconsin and there engaged in the drug business at Fond du Lac. After a year his store burned and he returned to Douglas county, and established a home on the shore of Lake Agnes, just north of Alexandria, where he now has a beautiful place and it is there that he and his family now reside. Mr. and Mrs. von Baumbach, having no children of their own, adopted a boy and a girl, Jacob and Julia. The family are active members of the Congregational church. Major von Baumbach's first wife died on August 2, 1913, and in August, 1914, he married Mrs. Carrie Hammond, of St. Paul.

Major von Baumbach has always been an active Republican and for years a leader in the party ranks; it being but natural, therefore, that in time he has been elected to office. In 1872 he was elected auditor of Douglas county and served in that position until 1879. He then was elected sec-

retary of state for the state of Minnesota and was twice re-elected, holding the office from 1880 to 1887. He then returned to Douglas county and was again elected county auditor. During the time of the building of the new court house he was placed in charge of the construction of the same and his services were satisfactory to all. In 1898, at the time of the Spanish-American War, and after the passage of the new internal revenue law, which was passed to raise funds for the prosecution of hostilities, Major von Baumbach was appointed by President McKinley, as internal revenue collector, with headquarters at St. Paul. He retained that position until 1914, since which time he has lived a retired life on his estate on Lake Agnes.

Major von Baumbach has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Loyal Legion, the latter an organization composed only of commissioned officers of the Civil War. Fraternally, he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Both in public and private life, Major von Baumbach has always been honored and respected by the community, county and state. His life has been an active and an honorable one and he has accomplished much that is good and noble.

SAMUEL O. WAGENIUS.

Samuel O. Wagenius, one of the well-known and prominent citizens of Holmes City and postmaster of that village, was born in the northern part of Sweden on January 16, 1849, the son of Ole and Carrie Wagenius, both of whom were natives of that country, where they lived and died. Ole Wagenius was a successful farmer and the family were highly respected in the community in which they lived.

Samuel O. Wagenius was one of a family of five children and received his education in the public schools and at the seminary at Delsbo, Sweden. He graduated from the later institution, having taken the normal course, and successfully engaged in teaching for a number of years. He remained in his native land until he was twenty-two years of age, when he decided that he would locate in America. He landed at Quebec and came direct to Iowa, locating at McGregor, that state, where he remained for seven years; during which time he continued his studies and engaged in teaching and other work. In 1878 he came to Minnesota, and here he located in Goodhue county, where he was engaged as a clerk in a mercantile estab-

lishment at White Rock. After three years in that place he came to Holmes City, Douglas county, and here he became a clerk for M. F. Munson, who conducted a flour-mill and a general store. In 1884 Mr. Wagenius and Ole Olson, purchased the store of Mr. Munson and conducted the same until 1897, in which year Mr. Wagenius purchased the interest of Mr. Olson and thereafter operated the business alone for a number of years. He later sold to Hanson Brothers and retired from the business. During the time when Wagenius & Olson conducted the store an incident occurred that cast a pall over the entire community. The building in which they conducted their business was destroyed by fire, and a son of Mr. Olson lost his life in the flames, the body being found in the ruins. The boy had slept in the building and it is surmised that he had been murdered by robbers and the store fired.

In addition to his other business interests, Mr. Wagenius is the owner of thirty-nine acres of valuable land, the most of which is within the corporate limits of the village of Holmes City. Years ago he was appointed postmaster of Holmes City and continues to occupy that position. As a public official he has been true to the trust imposed in him and has the confidence and respect of the entire community.

On June 29, 1881, Samuel O. Wagenius was united in marriage, at Cannon Falls, Goodhue county, this state, to Betsy Hogman, the daughter of Imbrick and Brita Hogman, prominent people of that county, where Mr. Hogman was engaged in general farming and stock raising. To this union five children were born, Carl, Mary Caroline, Hattie Victoria, Ruth A. and Reuben Samuel Eugene. Carl was born on August 27, 1882; Mary, October 3, 1884; Hattie, June 2, 1889; Ruth, March 14, 1897, and Reuben Samuel E., August 1, 1899. The family are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church, of which Mr. Wagenius was for many years a deacon, Sunday school superintendent and secretary. He has always taken much interest in religious work and has devoted much time to the work in his home community.

Mr. Wagenius is a staunch Republican and has always taken a keen interest in local affairs. In 1887 he was elected clerk of Holmes City township, and has ever since held that position. He has for many years been the secretary of the Holmes City Fire Insurance Company and has done effective work in that position. His life has been an active one and the work that he has done has been well done and has received the approval of the community.

JOHN A. LUSTY.

John A. Lusty, a successful and well-known farmer of Spruce Hill township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on November 24, 1866, the son of Andrew and Margaret (Larson) Lusty, who were also born in Sweden, where they received their education in the public schools and grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. There Andrew Lusty engaged in farming and took military training. They remained in their native land until 1870, when they decided to locate in America. On their arrival at New York they remained in that city for some time. Mr. Lusty being there engaged as a laborer. He later worked on the railroad for a time and in 1872 the family came to Minnesota, where Mr. Lusty homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 34, of Spruce Hill township, Douglas county. The tract at that time was all in heavy timber and without improvements of any kind. A small log house was built, in which the family lived for some years. Mr. Lusty had no team with which to assist in the clearing of his land and as he had but very little money with which to hire the work done, it was necessary for him to work for others until his financial condition was improved. The first team that he had some time later was a team of oxen he raised from calves. With that team he did much of his clearing and cultivated his farm for years. In 1873 the mother, brothers and sisters of Andrew Lusty, came to the United States to join their son and brother, and they drove into Douglas county from Melrose, at that time the nearest railroad point.

Andrew Lusty succeeded in developing and improving his farm until he had one of the model farms of the community. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years and was successful. He always took much interest in local affairs and had much to do with the social and civic improvement of the township. In 1895 he retired from the activities of the life on the farm and died on March 22, 1905, at the age of eighty-four years. The widow survived but a short time, she dying on April 4 of that year. They were the parents of nine children, Mary, Anna, Johnas (deceased), Johanna, Peter, Clara, John, Augusta (deceased) and Anton (deceased). John and Augusta were twins.

John A. Lusty received his education in the schools of Spruce Hill township and as a lad and young man assisted with the work of clearing and improving the homestead. He grew to manhood amid the pioneer surroundings and suffered many of the early privations of the pioneers.

From 1886 to 1892 he was in North Dakota and some of the Western states. He homesteaded eighty acres in North Dakota, but later returned to Douglas county, where he purchased eighty acres in section 23, Spruce Hill township. He owned that farm for three years and during that time purchased one hundred and sixty acres of his father, after which the parents lived with John A. Lusty. After he assumed possession of the farm he made many improvements and has done much clearing. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and feeds most of the grain that he raises.

In 1905 John A. Lusty was united in marriage to Anna Davis, and to this union five children have been born, Oliver, Wilhelm, Leslie, Maria and Clara. Mr. and Mrs. Lusty are active members of the Lutheran church and have always taken much interest in church work. They are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are held in high regard by all. Mr. Lusty is a Republican, has been active in local affairs and his influence has ever been used in the promotion of all enterprises that would tend to the advancement and the betterment of the township and the community.

MRS. PETER JOHNSON.

Mrs. Peter Johnson, who lives on her excellent farm in Belle River township, Douglas county, was born on July 28, 1863, in Sweden. Her maiden name was Ulricka Hanson, and she is a daughter of Peter and Maria (Larson) Hanson, natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their home; but emigrated to America with their family in 1869, coming directly to Minnesota, the father securing a good farm in Osakis township, Douglas county, on which he spent the rest of his life, dying in 1908, at the age of seventy-five years. His widow is still living on the homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. Their daughter Ulricka was six years old when they brought her to the United States and she grew to womanhood on the home farm in Osakis township, receiving her schooling in the district schools. There she met and married Peter Johnson, who was born on July 18, 1862, in Sweden, a son of John Johnson and wife, who brought their family from Sweden to America in 1870, coming directly to Minnesota, the father taking up a homestead in Osakis township, Douglas county. Peter Johnson was eight years old when the family came to this country and here he grew to manhood, helping his

father develop the farm and attending the rural schools in his neighborhood. When starting out in life for himself he bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 32 of Belle River township, all wild land; but he worked hard and soon had it under cultivation and in time well improved, having cleared the major portion of it himself. There he spent the rest of his life engaged in general farming, his death occurring on September 11, 1894.

Peter Johnson and Ulricka Hanson were married in 1888, and to their union the following children were born: Anna, who married Henry Sibell; Alfred, born on September 18, 1891, who married Hulda Stahl and lives on eighty acres, a part of the home place, which he has purchased, and he has two children, Vernon and Lucile; Adolph, and Albin who are with their mother on the homestead, a part of which she retains and is operating with the help of her children.

THEODORE ALFRED JENSEN.

Theodore Alfred Jensen, a successful business man of Nelson, was born in Denmark, in 1867, the son of Hans and Nettie C. (Nelson) Jensen, natives of Denmark, where they were educated, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. Mr. Jensen was a ship builder and devoted the greater part of his life to that work. During 1863 and 1864 he served his country as a soldier in the war with Germany. In 1892 Hans and Nettie Jensen came to America and located in Minnesota, where their children were living. Mrs. Jensen died some years later and Mr. Jensen is living in Nelson, where he has lived a retired life since coming to the United States.

Theodore Alfred Jensen was unable to devote much time to his early education, owing to the fact that at the age of seven years he became deaf, the result of a severe attack of scarlet fever. This condition continued until he was nineteen years of age, when, by constant attention and medical treatment, his hearing was entirely restored. Yet he has acquired a broad view of life through reading and association with others. In 1891 he came to the United States, landing at Boston on January 23, of that year. He came at once to Minnesota and remained for one year on his brother's farm in Douglas county. The farm belonged to C. H. Jensen, the present county recorder of Douglas county. At the end of the year Theodore Alfred Jensen returned to his trade, that of a carpenter, and followed that trade

until 1907, when he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land near Pierre, South Dakota, where he and his family resided until 1911, in which year they returned to Minnesota and located for a time at Minneapolis, where Mr. Jensen worked at the carpenter trade. They later returned to Nelson, where he has since operated a restaurant and has been successful. In 1915 Mr. Jensen engaged in the auto livery business in connection with his restaurant.

In 1902 Theodore Alfred Jensen was united in marriage to Nicolena Iversen and to this union have been born two children, Wallace and Florence. The family are members of the Danish Lutheran church and Mr. Jensen is a member of the Danish Brotherhood of America.

C. A. CARLSON.

C. A. Carlson, a well-known and successful farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on October 9, 1861, the son of Carl J. and Anna (Johnson) Peterson, also natives of Sweden, where they received their education in the public schools and grew to manhood and womanhood. As a young man, Mr. Peterson learned the tailor trade, at which he worked for many years. He is now past eighty-four years of age, and still a resident of the land of his nativity. Mrs. Peterson died in 1900, at the age of sixty-eight years. They were the parents of seven children, Allin, C. August, Gust, Hilma, Hulda, Anna and Oscar. The latter son went to Alaska many years ago and has never since been heard from by the home folks.

C. A. Carlson received his education in the public common schools of Sweden and there grew to manhood. He remained a resident of his native country until 1891, when, at the age of thirty, he decided to come to America. After landing at Halifax, he came directly to Minnesota and followed his trade, that of a carpenter, in Grant county, for one year, after which he engaged in farming. He remained in Grant county until 1897, when he came to Douglas county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 6 of Brandon township. This farm he has developed and improved and today has one of the well-cultivated and well-managed farms of the township. In 1915 he erected a large stock barn, fifty by sixty feet. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been successful.

In 1886 C. A. Carlson was united in marriage to Sophia Anderson, also a native of Sweden, who died on July 18, 1911, at the age of forty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson were the parents of eight children, Axel, Oscar, Emily, Fred, Matilda, David (deceased), Ethel and Edwin. Axel and Oscar Carlson are carpenters and built the new barn on the home place. Mr. Carlson is an active member of the Swedish Lutheran church, as was his wife, and takes a proper interest in church work. Mrs. Carlson was a woman who was universally beloved and her death was mourned by all. Mr. Carlson is deeply interested in the educational system of his township and for five years served as a member of the school board. He is a man of wide experience and possessed of excellent judgment, his advice often being sought on matters of importance in the township and county.

JAMES R. McCLELLAN.

James R. McClellan, a well-known farmer of Hudson township, Douglas county, was born on the old homestead farm in that township on January 8, 1867, the son of James McClellan and wife, the former of whom was born in eastern Canada on March 13, 1841.

James R. McClellan received his education in the public schools of Hudson township and there grew to manhood on the home farm. As a young man he started farming on his father's farm and in 1898 he bought his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres and has since made this his home. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful, being particularly interested in the raising of Shorthorn cattle.

On October 21, 1893, James R. McClellan was united in marriage to Addie Stone and to this union four children have been born, Frank, Inez, Clara and Lola. The family are active members of the United Brethren church. Mr. McClellan is independent in his political views.

James McClellan, the father of James R. McClellan, was born in Canada, a son of John and Ellen (Filmen) McClellan, the former born in Scotland and the latter in the north of Ireland. John McClellan emigrated to Canada with his parents when but a boy, and made that country his home. He and wife were the parents of ten children, Ellen, John, Robert, James, Matthew, William, Jean, Margaret, Grace and Agnes. The parents were active members of the Presbyterian church and took much interest in church work.

James McClellan received his education in the public schools of Canada and there grew to manhood. In 1866 he came to Minnesota and located in what later became organized as Hudson township, Douglas county, being thus among the very earliest settlers in that township. There he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 34. He later added forty acres to his original farm. He built a log house, in which he lived for twenty years. He at once entered into the task of breaking his land and preparing it for the planting of his crops. During the year the grasshoppers were so bad, he devoted his time to the cutting of wood at wage of fifty cents a day. In 1868 and 1870 he paid as high as twenty-four per cent interest on borrowed money. It was a hard struggle during those trying days, yet in time he became a prosperous and successful farmer.

James McClellan was united in marriage to Agnes Bailey and to this union ten children were born, James, Janet, Charles, John, George, Henry, Hannah, Frank, Alfred and Ed. Mr. and Mrs. McClellan are members of the Congregational church and have always been active in church work, for years prominent in the social and religious activities of the community. Mr. McClellan has always taken much interest on local civic affairs and had much to do with the early life and government of the township. He has served as a member of the township board of supervisors and has always been held in the highest esteem.

HANS BIRKHOFFER.

Hans Birkhofer, one of the successful business men of Alexandria, was born on November 1, 1860, in Germany, the son of Conrad and Barbara (Miller) Birkhofer. The parents were also natives of Germany and there lived their lives, they having died some years ago. The father was an officer of the postal department of the Fatherland and was a man of much influence and was highly respected by his neighbors.

Hans Birkhofer was of a family of seven children and received his education in the public schools of his native land, where he lived until he was thirty years of age. In 1890 he decided to locate in America, and upon landing in the United States came directly to Minnesota, locating in Minneapolis, where he was for ten years connected with the Birkhofer Brewing Company. In August 1901 he purchased the brewing establishment of R. Wegner at Alexandria, since which time he has been the president and the



HANS BIRKHOFFER.

manager of the business. The brewery has been greatly improved and developed since its purchase by Mr. Birkhofer and is today one of the successful breweries of the state.

In 1880 Hans Birkhofer was united in marriage to Anna Stroebel, who was born and educated in Germany. To this union four children have been born, Freda, Antonia, Margaret and Conrad, the first-named of whom is the wife of Sherman Castello, a well-known resident of the county.

Hans Birkhofer has had a most active life and since young manhood has made his own way in the world. He is a man of pleasing address and has made many friends in the community in which he now lives. He has taken much interest in the development of the town in which he resides, and has done much toward the general development of the county. He and his family are active members of the Catholic church and have always taken much interest in church work.

EDWIN BOWMAN.

Edwin Bowman, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Osakis township, Douglas county, was born in Rice county, this state, on May 1, 1865, the son of Jacob and Belinda (Ferguson) Bowman, who were born in Ontario, Canada. While a resident of his native country, Jacob Bowman was engaged in farming and remained a resident of the land of his birth until 1858, in which year he decided to come to Minnesota. He located in Rice county, where he lived until 1867, when he came to Douglas county, and here he homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 27 of Osakis township. The family made their journey from Rice county to their new home by ox-team in a covered wagon. There were still many Indians in the country at that time and on the way they saw a large band of redmen, marching single file, the line of march being a mile long.

After having prepared a home for the family, Mr. Bowman began the task of clearing and breaking his land, preparatory to the planting of his crops. After his crops were gathered and ready for the market it was necessary to take them to St. Cloud, which was the nearest market at that time. During his active life Mr. Bowman did much work in real estate and bought and sold much land. He was recognized as a successful farmer

and stockman, and a man of much influence in the community. To such men the township and the county owe much, for it is such as these that have converted the wild prairie and forests into fertile fields, improved with the finest of modern and substantial buildings and dotted with herds of fine cattle.

To Jacob and Belinda Bowman were born five children, Maria, Edwin, May, Idella and George, the latter of whom died at the age of ten years. During the latter part of his active life Jacob Bowman lived on a farm in the corporate limits of the town of Osakis. There he served on the village council, did good service and had the confidence and respect of all.

Edwin Bowman received his education in the public schools of Osakis township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work. After completing his education he decided that he would be a farmer and remained with his father until the latter's death in 1907. In 1910 Mr. Bowman built a fine residence in the town of Osakis, and there he has since made his home. He is an extensive land-owner and has some nine hundred and sixty acres in Douglas and Todd counties. He is at present street commissioner of Osakis and was for six years a member of the council. He manages his large farms, does much general farming and raises many cattle and hogs. His farms are highly developed and well improved.

In 1894 Edwin Bowman was united in marriage to Ida Masteller and to this union five children have been born, Lidia, William McKinley, George, Edwin and Russell. The family are prominent in the social life of the community and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. Mr. Bowman has ever taken an active interest in local affairs and has always shown his readiness to assist in any worthy cause that would tend toward the betterment of local conditions.

HENRY A. MALMQUIST.

A venerable and respected citizen of LaGrand township, Douglas county, is Henry A. Malmquist, who has devoted his long life to business and agricultural pursuits, in which he has been successful, for he has not only worked hard but managed well. He was born in Sweden on March 11, 1838, and is a son of Andres Abramson, who lived and died in Sweden, having spent his life at general farming.

Henry A. Malmquist (who adopted his present name upon coming to America) spent his boyhood in his native land, assisting his father with the work about the home place, and in the winter time he attended the common schools. He remained in Sweden until he was thirty years old, emigrating to the United States in the year 1868. After spending a short time in St. Paul, at that time little more than a village, he worked in many different places about the state of Minnesota. In the fall of 1881 he entered business in the village of Alexandria, where he remained until 1892, when he purchased his present farm in LaGrand township, but later moved back to Alexandria and lived retired from active labor. In 1910 he built a fine modern home where he now lives in LaGrand township, and operates his well-improved eighty-acre farm. He has been quite successful in a business way and is very comfortably fixed. Mr. Malmquist has never married. He is a Republican and he attends the Swedish Lutheran church.

EMIL J. BRANDT.

Emil J. Brandt, former auditor of Douglas county and now engaged in the insurance business at Alexandria, was born in Sweden on July 14, 1873, a son of H. M. and Johanna (Ogren) Brandt, both natives of that country. The elder Brandt came to America in 1882 and followed others of his countrymen to Minnesota, where he found a location in Douglas county. He bought forty acres of land in Spruce Hill township and established a home. The following year he brought the rest of his family to this new home, and still lives on the homestead. He is the father of five children: Emil J., the subject of this sketch; Oscar B., Mary O., who married Ed Hanson; Charles M., who died in September, 1908, and Hannah E., who married August Anderson.

Emil J. Brandt received his early education in the public schools of Sweden. He was ten years of age when he came to this country and he attended school for a time in Douglas county. As a young man he worked on the farm most of the time and his attendance at school was only at such times as his service on the farm was not needed. During the winter of 1898 he took a business course in a commercial school at Minneapolis and in the fall of 1908 he was elected auditor of Douglas county and served three terms in that office, retiring in 1915, since which time he has devoted his attention to the insurance business.

Mr. Brandt has been three times married. His first wife was Marie Hanson, to whom he was married in 1895. She died on December 2, 1896, without issue. His second wife was Christine Nelson, by whom three children were born, Lloyd A. L., Alfhild J. and Lillian C. The mother of these children died in February, 1903, and in 1910 Mr. Brandt married Katherine L. Bundy, to which union one child has been born, a daughter, Lucia E.

Mr. Brandt is a member of the Indianapolis Order of Odd Fellows and is an active worker in the order. He has long given his close attention to local political affairs and before his election to the office of county auditor served for two terms as assessor of Spruce Hill township. In 1905 he took an active part in the organization of the Rose Co-operative Creamery Company in Spruce Hill township and in 1900 helped to organize the Farmers' Elevator Company at Eagle Bend, in the neighboring county of Todd.

PETER E. DAHL.

The late Peter E. Dahl, for years a well-known farmer of Solem township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden in 1852, the son of Peter and Margaret Dahl, also natives of that country, where they continued to live until 1868, when they decided that they would locate in America. Upon their arrival in the United States they came directly to Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Solem township, Douglas county, the farm being the one where the widow of Peter E. Dahl now lives. The farm at the time Peter and Margaret Dahl located here was, for the most part, wild land and without improvements. The place was later developed and improved and there Peter Dahl engaged in general farming and stock raising and became successful. He soon entered into the civic and religious life of the township and he and his wife were among the organizers of the local Lutheran church, in which they were among the prominent and active workers. They were the parents of two children, Peter E. and Betsy, the latter of whom married Andrew Anderson.

Peter E. Dahl received his education in the public schools of Sweden, where he lived until he was sixteen years of age. At that time he came to the United States, his parents arriving one year later, and he remained with them for some years, assisting in the clearing and the developing of the old homestead. In 1882 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land

in Land township, Grant county. This he later sold and purchased the old home place, where he lived until the time of his death. He engaged in general farming and stock raising and became successful, adding eighty acres to his farm, having purchased the tract that adjoined his one hundred and sixty acres over the line in Grant county. He erected all the present substantial buildings and made many other valuable improvements, which added much to the beauty and value of the place, and there he was living at the time of his death in 1913.

In 1884 Peter E. Dahl was united in marriage to Karen Anderson, who was born in Sweden and came to the United States with her mother, in 1882, and were joined by the father in 1892. Mr. Anderson owned land in Becker county, but now makes his home with the widow of Peter E. Dahl. To Peter E. Dahl and wife were born seven children, Andrew L., Peter E., Olaf T., Gustav E., Carl A., John E. and Melvina. Peter E. Dahl is in Montana and the others are at home. Mr. Dahl was an active member of the Lutheran church, as is his widow, and always took much interest in church work and was prominent in the social life of the community in which he lived. He took much interest in local affairs and was recognized as a man of sterling worth, who exerted his best efforts to the growth and development of the township and the county. As a farmer and stockman, he was progressive, a believer in intensive farming and the keeping of the best of stock.

LEOPOLD FIDA.

The number of Austrians in Douglas and Grant counties is comparatively small, but those who are here have proven to be enterprising and law-abiding and are among our best farmers. One of this number is Leopold Fida, of Miliona township, Douglas county, who was born in Austria, on October 28, 1857, a son of Mathias and Barbara (Austria) Fida, and a grandson of Ignas Fida, who spent his life on a farm in the old country. Mathias Fida grew up in his native land and married there, emigrating to America with his family in 1882, landing in Baltimore, Maryland. He came on West to Minnesota and bought a farm in Carlos township, Douglas county, on which he spent the rest of his life, dying in May, 1913, at an advanced age. His wife died in early life, back in May, 1887. To these parents six children were born, Mary (deceased), Victoria, Leopold, Ingebert (whereabouts unknown), Matthew and Julia.

Leopold Fida spent his boyhood in Austria, where he attended school. He accompanied the family to Minnesota thirty-four years ago, and was married in Douglas county, about 1888, to Mary Dottler, whose death occurred in January, 1898. To their union the following children were born: Mary, who is the wife of Frank Olson, of Fargo, North Dakota; John, Amelia and Emma. Following the death of the mother of these children, Mr. Fida in May, 1902, married Mrs. Anna Ahrentz, widow of Ignas Ahrentz, to which union one child has been born, a son, Peter. By her first marriage Mrs. Fida was the mother of five children, Rosie, Theresa, William, Joseph and Clara (deceased).

Mr. Fida bought his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 36 of Miltona township thirty-three years ago, since which time he has made a comfortable living as a general farmer. He cleared most of the land and has put on all the improvements. He also owns stock in the Belle River creamery. He and his family are members of the Catholic church at Belle River.

JOHN A. HINTZEN.

The Hollanders have always been known as skillful farmers and enterprising merchants; or, in fact, in most any line of endeavor, and they have been able to make comfortable livings from soil on which other peoples would have failed. They have developed many communities in the New World, and America has always extended them a hearty welcome. One of this number in Douglas county is John A. Hintzen, a merchant of Miltona, in Belle River township. He was born in Holland on January 17, 1877, a son of Leonard Hintzen, pioneer settler of Douglas county, who settled in Belle River township in an early day and bought a good farm, which he developed and on which he established the future home of the family. Fuller mention is made of him in the sketch of Nicholas Hintzen, presented elsewhere in this volume. His wife died on July 14, 1916.

John A. Hintzen was young in years when his parents brought him to Minnesota from Holland, and he grew to manhood on the homestead in Belle River township, where he worked during the summer months, attending the district schools in the winter time. He remained with his father on the farm until his marriage on November 23, 1903, to Mary Holsworth. To this union five children have been born, Lester, Eugene, Harry, George and Leonard, the latter of whom was named for his grandfather. John A. Hintzen bought

a general store at Miltona in 1910 and is still conducting the same, having built up a good trade with the town and surrounding country. He carries a ten-thousand-dollar stock of clothing, hardware, shoes and general merchandise, and is prompt, fair and courteous in dealing with his many customers. He also owns a good farm of twenty acres in Miltona township and a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Clearwater county, Minnesota. Mr. Hintzen served as postmaster at Miltona for five years, and while living at Bejou, Minnesota, was postmaster there for five years. While living in that place he was also engaged in mercantile pursuits. He was also for a period of five years engaged as station agent for the Soo line railroad at Miltona, and is now secretary and treasurer of the Farmers' Shipping Association at that place. Mr. Hintzen is a Republican and is serving as treasurer of the school board in district No. 55.

JOHN T. HALVORSON.

John T. Halvorson, a well-known and successful farmer of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Boone county, Illinois, on July 2, 1858, the son of Tosten and Gunhild (Olson) Halvorson, natives of Norway, who continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1854, when they decided to come to America. On their arrival in the United States, they located in Boone county, Illinois, where they continued to reside until 1867, when they came to Minnesota, locating in Urness township, Douglas county, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. That farm Mr. Halvorson developed and improved and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death. At the time the family settled here the farm was for the most part a wild tract and required much work to bring it under cultivation. The nearest market was at St. Cloud and the neighbors were few and far away. In time the family became prosperous and were prominent in the social and the religious life of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Halvorson were the parents of eight children, Albert, Ole, Esther, Tilda, John T., Annie, Fred and Lena. The father and mother were active members in the Norwegian Lutheran church, took much interest in church work and were held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew them. The father took much interest in the civic life of the community and was recognized as one of the influential men of the township.

John T. Halvorson received his education in the public schools of Urness

township and at Alexandria, and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted with the farm work. Early in life he decided that he would be a farmer and in 1890 he bought his present farm of two hundred acres in sections 12 and 13 of Elk Lake township, Grant county. He has erected all the buildings and made all the developments on the place and is now engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

In 1896 John T. Halvorson was united in marriage to Carolina Elling-
ing, daughter of Syver Ellinging and wife, well-known residents of the county, and to this union two children have been born, Hazel C. and Esther J. Mr. and Mrs. Halvorson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem of all who know them. Mr. Halvorson has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of the township and has had much to do with the growth and the development of the district. He is at present a member of the school board and has served his township as assessor. He is a progressive citizen and is an advocate of substantial public improvements and of the maintenance of the highest grade of schools.

NICHOLAS HINTZEN.

One of the young farmers of Belle River township, Douglas county, is Nicholas Hintzen, who has been contented to remain in his own locality. His birth occurred there on March 15, 1879. He is a son of Leonard and Mary E. (Fox) Hintzen, pioneer citizens of Douglas county, a separate sketch of whom will be found on another page of this volume.

Nicholas Hintzen was reared on the homestead in Belle River township, where he worked during the crop seasons, attending the neighboring schools in the winter time. He was married on September 9, 1902, to Hermina Hainzl, who was born on April 26, 1871, in Germany, from which country she came to Minnesota with her parents when young, the family settling in Douglas county. To Mr. and Mrs. Hintzen two children have been born, Frank M. and Clifford P.

Mr. Hintzen began life for himself as a farmer and he is now owner of eighty acres in section 17 of Belle River township and twenty acres in section 5 of that same township. It is all in one body and is a part of his father's old home place. He has kept this land under good improvement and

cultivation and is making a comfortable living as a general farmer. He is also a stockholder in the Belle River Creamery Company and is president of the same, his able management of its affairs having resulted in the pronounced success of the enterprise. Mr. Hintzen is a Republican and has served as treasurer of his township and as chairman of the school board of district No. 62. The family are members of the Catholic church in Belle River township.

MAGNUS ANDERSON.

Magnus Anderson, a prominent and successful farmer of LaGrand township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on June 24, 1853, the son of Andrew and Mary (Olson) Anderson, also natives of that country, who spent all their lives there. The father was a shoemaker by trade, but also worked at cabinet-making and blacksmithing. He was a man of prominence in his community and was held in high regard by all. He and his family were active members of the Lutheran church and were prominent in the social and religious activities of their community. Andrew Anderson and wife were the parents of seven children, Magnus, Mary, Stena, Andrew, Daniel, August and one who died in infancy.

Magnus Anderson received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. He was married in 1878 to Christina Olson, and to this union two children were born in the old country, Anna O. and Magnus M. The following children were born on the home farm in Douglas county: Tilda, Victor, Ellen, Emil, William, Oscar and Christian, the latter of whom died at the age of one year. The eldest son, Magnus M. Anderson, died in Canada on March 5, 1916.

In 1882 Magnus Anderson decided to seek a home in America, and after bidding his wife and children good-bye, he set out for the much-talked-of American country. Upon his arrival in the United States he came direct to Minnesota, arriving at Alexandria on May 22, 1882. For the next two years he worked as a farm hand in the county, during which time he saved enough from his meager earnings to send for his wife and two children, who joined the happy father on June 24, 1884, at Alexandria. That same year Mr. Anderson purchased eighty acres in LaGrand township, which is a part of his present farm. The tract at that time was heavy timber, with the exception of four acres that had been cleared. He bought the farm of a homesteader, and the little shanty that was supposed to be on the farm was

not there at all, so indefinite were the lines separating the tracts. Since that time Mr. Anderson has cleared and developed the farm and improved the place with modern buildings, until today he has one of the pleasantest country homes in the township. Since locating there he has added ninety-seven acres to his original tract, making him a farm of one hundred and seventy-seven acres, less one acre that he donated for school No. 99. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. He is a believer in intensive farming and thorough cultivation and is recognized as one of the careful and prudent farmers and business men of the county.

Mr. Anderson and family are devout members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in church work. Mr. Anderson has been a valuable man in the community and has done much for the success and growth of the township. He has always been a factor in the development of the schools of his district and the building of good roads in the township. He is now a member of the school board, was for ten years a member of the board of township supervisors, and for seventeen years road overseer, having refused the latter position some three or four years ago. Much credit for the excellent condition of the roads of his district is due to his excellent judgment and constant care.

VICTOR LARSON.

A young Swedish farmer of Carlos township, Douglas county, who is making good at his chosen life vocation is Victor Larson, who was born in Sweden on December 20, 1875, a son of Gustaf and Anna Larson, who were born and reared in Sweden, from which country they came to America in 1883, locating in Alexandria, Minnesota, where they spent four years; then moved to a farm in Carlos township, where they established the family home. While living in Alexandria the father engaged in ditching and grubbing, part of the time on the farm of Senator Knute Nelson, which lies in that vicinity. The elder Larson finally bought eighty acres in section 36 of Carlos township, to which place he removed about 1914, and now he owns, in all, one hundred and sixty acres in Douglas county. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church at Crooked Lake. He has three sons, Victor, Albert and Elmer. The father and sons are Republicans.

Victor Larson was reared on the home farm, where he worked when a boy. He received a common-school education, attending school in Alex-

andria for four years, also at Belle River for some time. When starting out as a farmer for himself he bought forty acres in Carlos township, which he operated until 1913, when he sold it and purchased a forty-eight-acre farm of Erick Young in section 26, where he has since lived.

On July 18, 1902, Victor Larson was married to Albertine Alstedt, a daughter of C. M. Alstedt, a native of Sweden, from which country he came to Minnesota many years ago, and was an early settler of Osakis township, Douglas county. To Mr. and Mrs. Larson the following children have been born: Ellen, Rosie, Lillie, Theodore, Russell, Marshall, Gustaf and Lloyd.

ERICK HANSON.

Erick Hanson, one of the well-to-do farmers of Alexandria township, Douglas county, was born in the laen of Orebro, Sweden, March 10, 1861, a son of Peter E. and Maria E. (Larson) Hanson, who were born in Sweden and who remained residents of the land of their birth until 1869, when they decided to come to America. Upon landing in this country they came directly to Minnesota and Peter E. Hanson purchased a homestead right of one hundred and sixty acres in the northwest part of Osakis township, Douglas county, where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1908. His widow still resides on the old homestead. At the time Mr. Hanson bought his farm there was but one-half acre cleared and there stood the only improvement, a small shanty. In time the farm was developed and improved with substantial buildings and the farm came to be recognized as one of the best in the township.

Peter E. Hanson was an active member of the Swedish Lutheran church, as is his widow, and was one of the organizers of the local church. The facilities for entertaining company in those days were very limited. There was little but the bare necessities in the homes, and the visitors had to be satisfied with conditions as they found them. Yet Mr. and Mrs. Hanson made one exception to this rule, for in 1870, at a time when a student, who was a teacher and preacher, was to be a guest at their humble home, they thought it prudent to buy a chair for the use of their guest during his stay with them. That was the first chair in that community and placed the Hanson family a little in advance of the other members of the little settlement. Erick Hanson still retains the chair and prizes it highly. In addition to his church activities, Peter E. Hanson also took much interest in local civic

affairs and had much to do with the government of the township. He was for a number of years a member of the board of supervisors and also served on the school board. He always took great interest in the development of the schools, knowing their full meaning to the children of the township. Before his death he was the owner of six hundred and forty acres of good land in Douglas county. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, Erick, Ulricka, John, August, Ed, Mary, Joel and Emanuel. The latter is now on the old homestead and August and Mary are deceased. In 1883 Peter and Maria Hanson made a visit to their old home in Sweden.

Erick Hanson was about eight years of age when his parents came to America and he completed his education in the pioneer schools of Douglas county. Since leaving school he has by reading and close association with people kept well abreast of the times and is well informed on all matters of public interest. As a lad and young man he assisted his father on the farm and soon became interested in the life of a farmer. After his marriage in 1883, he took possession of his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Alexandria township and has clearly developed and improved the same, his excellent farm plant including modern buildings. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful.

In 1883 Erick Hanson was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Lund, who also was born in Sweden, a daughter of Olaf and Carrie (Hedin) Lund, who located in Osakis township, Douglas county, in 1879, but in 1881 removed to Alexandria township, where they died some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Lund were the parents of nine children, Bertha, Wilhelmina, Otto, Louis, Carrie, Hannah, John, Martin and Charles. Mrs. Hanson and her sister Bertha did not accompany their parents to America, but came in 1881. Louis and Charles were soldiers in the Spanish-American War. Louis was discharged on account of sickness, after the war, but Charles served for two years longer in the Philippines. Olaf Lund was a soldier in the service of the Swedish government before coming to the United States.

To Erick Hanson and wife have been born eight children, Anna, Ida Marie, Edward Wilhelm, Beda, Mable (deceased), Paul O., Carl Fred and Hilding E. Paul O. Hanson is a graduate of the Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter and Edward Wilhelm Hanson is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis and is now a lieutenant in the United States navy, serving on the battleship "Brooklyn". He was in the fight at Vera Cruz, and had a narrow escape from death at that time.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are active members of the Swedish Lutheran

church at Alexandria, have always taken an active interest in church work and are among the prominent residents of the community. Mr. Hanson has, in addition to his many other duties, taken a keen interest in the civic affairs of the township. He has served as a member of the board of supervisors, was formerly township clerk and was for twelve years the school clerk. He has always been particularly interested in the development of the schools, knowing their full value to the state and the nation. Having been limited in his own schooling, he has the desire to see every child have the best possible training for the activities of life, and much of the success of the schools of his township is due to his untiring effort to place them on the highest possible plane. The family are highly regarded in the community.

NELSON GUSTAV NELSON.

Nelson Gustav Nelson, a well-known farmer of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on February 1, 1863, a son of Pehr and Anna (Hendrickson) Nelson, both natives of Sweden, who came with their family to Minnesota in 1879, locating in Holmes City township, Douglas county, the father buying an eighty-acre farm, two miles west of the village of Holmes City. He cleared most of his present farm of eighty-five acres, about one mile west of the village. He and his wife are the parents of five children, all born in Sweden, namely: Stena, Nelson G., John (deceased), Anna and Philip (deceased). Pehr Nelson, the father, was for a time engaged in the mercantile business at Donnelly, in the neighboring county of Stevens. He and his family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Holmes City, which they helped organize.

Pehr Nelson is now past eighty-seven years old, but notwithstanding his advanced age he is active and fairly well preserved. His wife is eighty-one. They are highly respected by all who know them.

Nelson G. Nelson was sixteen years old when he accompanied the family to America and he has been engaged in farming ever since in Holmes City township. He owns a well-improved and productive farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres, lying immediately northwest of Holmes City, the village having been built on that farm. He bought the farm in 1914 and is engaged in general farming. The place was formerly owned by John Smith, a pioneer.

In 1889 Nelson G. Nelson was married to Bertha Unumb, a sister of

P. O. Unumb, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, namely: Carl, Philip, William, Olga, and Edna. Mr. Nelson is a Republican and has been township chairman since 1913. He also served three years on the school board. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church at Holmes City.

L. G. HERMANSON.

L. G. Hermanson, a well-known and successful farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden in 1862, the son of Hernian and Mary (Olson) Larson, further mention of whom is made in a biographical sketch of William Hermanson on another page of this volume.

L. G. Hermanson received his education in the public schools of Sweden and there grew to manhood. He continued to reside in the land of his nativity until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1882, he decided to come to America. Upon his arrival in this country he came at once to Minnesota, where he worked in various parts of the state for the first few months. He then went to Montana, where he worked on a steamboat on the Yellowstone river. After some time spent in the work on the river he was engaged with the Northern Pacific railroad construction gang for some months. He then returned to Minnesota and located at Minneapolis, where he was engaged as a teamster for the next six or seven years, being engaged in work with his own team. He then decided to engage in farming, and in 1873 came to Douglas county, where he purchased one hundred and seven acres, in section 12 of Brandon township, the tract at that time being wild land. He built a substantial frame house, the expense of which, together with the purchase, left him little if any cash. He had no team with which to assist him in the clearing and to do his farm work. These conditions made it necessary for him to work in the neighborhood for such farmers then there as were in a position to hire additional help, in order that he might accumulate enough money with which to purchase a team and the necessary farming implements. For three or four years he did considerable work away from home, and during that time, when not otherwise engaged, used his best efforts to get his farm in shape for cultivation. During those three or four years he raised no crops, but devoted his time to clearing and in the additional work for the neighbors, in the immediate vicinity. After obtaining the team and the necessary farming outfit he devoted his life to

general farming and stock raising on the original farm. He later sold a part of the place and is now the owner of some fifty acres, all under cultivation and nicely improved. He has a beautiful grove that he planted, and the place is kept in admirable condition.

In 1886 L. G. Hermanson was united in marriage to Tilda Bergstrom, of Minneapolis, who also was born in Sweden. He and his wife are active members of the Swedish Mission church, Mr. Hermanson being a teacher in the Sunday school. He has taken much interest in local affairs and has served as assessor and as justice of the peace. In 1898 Mr. Hermanson went to Dawson, Alaska, in search of gold, but he was not successful in his venture and returned to his farm. He is now treasurer of the Farmers Local Telephone Company.

WILLIAM F. BETTERMAN.

The gentleman whose name initiates this biographical review was born in Westphalia, Germany, November 18, 1880, but he prefers farming in Miliona township, Douglas county, to life in his native empire.

William F. Betterman is a son of William and Bertha (Krinka) Betterman, natives of Germany, where they grew up and married, and who emigrated to America in 1881, locating in Peru, Illinois, where the father engaged in coal mining until 1906, when he came to Minnesota and bought eighty acres in Miliona township, Douglas county, where he has since engaged in farming. His wife died on April 4, 1911. To these parents the following children were born: Gustav, William F., Fred, Bertha, Charles, Anna, Clara, and Mattie, all of whom are still living.

William F. Betterman was a small child when his parents came to this country and grew up and attended the high school at Peru, Illinois. He was married on June 17, 1914, to Helen Thurke, who was born in Minnesota, a daughter of August Thurke, who now lives in Alexandria, Mr. Thurke having come to Douglas county twenty-three years ago and bought land. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Betterman, namely: Henry, Josephine, Walter, Lucy and Clarence.

Mr. Betterman has always followed general farming. He first owned eighty acres in section 9 of Miliona township, which he later sold, about 1913, and moved to one hundred and sixty acres, which his father-in-law owns, and there he has since resided. He raises all kinds of grain crops

adapted to this latitude and good grade stock, specializing in Poland China hogs. He is president of the Farmers Warehouse and Produce Company (the Farmers Society of Equity), having been elected to that position on July 7, 1916, and he is discharging the duties of the same in an able and satisfactory manner to all concerned. He is a Republican and served for some time as a member of the township board, part of the time as chairman. He was township assessor in 1909. He is a member of the German Lutheran church. He takes an active interest in the affairs of his community, and has always been a leading force in the good roads movement in this section.

HANS P. HANSON.

The late Hans P. Hanson, one of the pioneers of this section of Minnesota, was born in Norway and died at his home in Douglas county on May 31, 1890. He received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood and married Gunhild Julseth. Some years after their marriage he and his wife decided to come to America. After landing in the United States, about fifty years ago, they came direct to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county, where they remained for two years, at the end of which time they came over to this part of the state and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 27, Brandon township, Douglas county. The tract at that time was for the most part a wild and unbroken piece of land. There were no improvements and the family suffered the many hardships of early pioneer life. A log cabin was erected, in which the family lived for a number of years. Oxen were used in the farm work, and in the clearing and development of the place. In time the rude log hut was replaced by a more modern and substantial building, and the farm was improved with other good buildings. There Mr. Hanson engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death.

To Hans P. Hanson and wife thirteen children were born, Thorson, Ludwig, Betsy, Martha, Halvor, Hannah, John, Marie, Ida, Peter, George H., Louise and Johannah, of whom Ida, Peter and Thorson are now deceased. The family have ever taken an active interest in the services, of the Norwegian Lutheran church of which they are members. The father had assisted in the organization of the local church in Brandon township and did much work on the building, as he was a carpenter by trade. In addition



HANS P. HANSON AND FAMILY.

to his other work, Hans P. Hanson did much carpenter work in the community and built many houses and other buildings.

Hans P. Hanson always took much interest in local affairs, and was recognized as a man of much force and possessed of a high, patriotic spirit. He was ever ready to assist in any worthy cause that had for its purpose the betterment and the improvement of the township and the county. He served as a member of the township board for many years and was a member at the time of his death. He was recognized as a good business man and a thorough farmer, and owned at the time of his death two hundred and fifty-three acres, all of which was in Brandon township.

After the death of the father the widow and children operated and managed the farm. A new house was erected in 1906, which adds much to the beauty and value of the place. In time the children have all married and gone to homes of their own, with the exception of George H. and Johannah, who live at home with their mother, who is now seventy-three years of age, her birthday being January 15. George H. Hanson, who is now thirty-five years of age, rents the farm, and, being possessed of much of his father's ability, is meeting with success in general farming and stock raising. He believes in thorough and systematic farming and the keeping of the best of stock.

PETER ENGSTROM.

Peter Engstrom, one of the successful and well-known farmers of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on October 29, 1865, the son of Hendrick and Ingabor (Johnson) Johnson, natives of Sweden. Hendrick Johnson was a farmer and contractor and a man of prominence in the community in which he lived. He died in 1871 and his widow twelve years later was united in marriage to Oluf Lind, now deceased. Mrs. Lind is now living in Sweden with her daughter. She and Mr. Johnson were the parents of three children, Anna Sophia, John and Peter, all of whom live in the native land, with the exception of Peter.

As a lad and young man Peter Engstrom did farm work and later worked in a factory. In 1887 he decided that he would come to America and upon arriving in the United States came directly to Minnesota, where he worked as a farm hand for one year in Grant county. During the next three years he rented three hundred and twenty acres of land, and then pur-

chased a homestead right to wild land, without any improvements whatever. He built a shanty, twelve by twelve feet, and devoted his time for the next five years to the task of clearing, improving and cultivating his farm. He then sold the place and purchased for nine dollars an acre two hundred and eighty acres near Wheaton, which farm was also all wild land. He later built a large house and barn and continued to farm the place for the next four years, at the end of which time he sold it for thirty dollars an acre. He then, in 1903, moved to Douglas county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 8 of Ida township. The farm had fair buildings at that time, but Mr. Engstrom has done much in the way of improvement. He now has a splendid two-story frame-house that is surrounded by a beautiful grove. The barn is fifty-eight by sixty-four feet, with a stave silo, fourteen by thirty feet, with a five-foot concrete pit. The house is supplied with acetylene lights and a good furnace, and has about every modern convenience. Some years after coming to Douglas county Mr. Engstrom added another eighty acres to his farm and is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres.

In 1893 Peter Engstrom was united in marriage to Gerda Anderson, also a native of Sweden, who came to the United States as a young woman. To this union nine children have been born, Fredolph, Edgar, Elvin, Gerda, Oliver, Edwin, Clifford, Leslie and Gladys. Fredolph Engstrom took the course in agriculture at the University of Minnesota. Edgar Engstrom is a teacher in the schools of Douglas county. The family are members of the Swedish Mission church, of which Mr. Engstrom is a deacon and the church treasurer.

Peter Engstrom has had an active and useful life and has accomplished much. He has always been progressive in his methods and believes in conducting his farm along advanced lines. He believes in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil, and he is today recognized as one of the well-informed and successful farmers of the township. He is public spirited, has ever taken an active interest in local affairs and is a strong advocate of the best schools possible. In the schools, as well as in public improvements, he sees the success of the farming community of the state. While a resident of Traverse county he was assessor of Clifton township for a number of years. Since locating in Douglas county he has been a member of the school board of his township and it is needless to say that the schools have received the very best service that he could give them. His own early education having been neglected, he feels that the children of

Ida township are entitled to better advantages than he had. He has seen to it that the children of his own family receive the best education possible. He is interested in the Creamery Association at Garfield and has ever given of his time and ability to the growth and development of the township and the county. He and his family are held in the highest regard by all.

GEORGE JEFFREY.

George Jeffrey, a well-known and successful farmer of Osakis township, Douglas county, was born at Rockford, Iowa, in 1875, the son of John and Rose (Colligan) Jeffrey, natives of the Isle of Man and of the state of Wisconsin, respectively. At the age of thirteen John Jeffrey came to the United States with his parents. They located in Wisconsin and there he grew to manhood and assisted with the work on the farm. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in a company of one of the regiments of Wisconsin volunteer infantry, and served until the close of the war. After his discharge he located at Rockford, Iowa, where he later became a farmer, in which vocation he engaged until a few years ago, when he retired to Rockford, where he now lives. When the son George was but a child his mother died and Mr. Jeffrey later married Erilla Lorenze, who is still living.

As a farmer and stockman, John Jeffrey was successful and was recognized as one of the progressive men of the community. He and his family are members of the Congregational church and are active in church work. Mr. Jeffrey takes much interest in the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is an active member.

Coming to the United States as a mere lad and a stranger to the social and business conditions of the country, John Jeffrey had a hard struggle during his early residence here. The territory where his parents had settled was new and they had to endure the many hardships of the pioneer. Yet he grew to be a young man of sterling worth and true to his adopted country, and gave several years of his young life to the preservation of the Union.

George Jeffrey received his education in the public schools of Rockford and after having completed his school work he engaged in farming on his father's farm, where he remained until the spring of 1906, when he purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty-four acres in Osakis township, Douglas county. Under the careful training of his father, George Jeffrey learned the secrets of successful farming, and when he came to his

own farm he was prepared to meet the many difficulties that had to be encountered. Here he is engaged in general farming and dairying and is meeting with success. He believes in intensive farming and in the keeping of the best of cattle.

In 1896 George Jeffrey was united in marriage to Jennie Beaver, of his home township, and to this union was born one child, Verl. After the death of Mrs. Jennie Jeffrey, Mr. Jeffrey was united in marriage in November, 1913, to Carrie Swartz.

H. A. GULSON.

Among the many well-known and successful natives of Norway who are engaged in farming in Moe township, Douglas county, few are better known than is H. A. Gulson, who was born on January 26, 1852, the son of Amund and Georn (Halvorson) Gulson, who were also born in Norway. The father was reared on a farm and as a young man engaged in farming in his native country. He and his family continued to live there until 1864, when they decided to come to America. Upon their arrival in this country they proceeded to Iowa, where they located in Winneshiek county, and where they lived for six years, after which they came to Minnesota and located in Moe township, Douglas county. Here Mr. Gulson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 13 and 24, the place where H. A. Gulson now lives, and which was at that time all heavy timber land. It required the hardest kind of work and the utmost planning on the part of Mr. and Mrs. Gulson to clear their farm and feed and clothe the little family. There were still some Indians in the county at that time, but these were for the most part friendly. In time the place was cleared and substantial improvements erected and there Mr. Gulson engaged in farming and stock raising, until the time of his death. He and his wife were devout members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were active in church work. They were the parents of two children, Rande, who is the wife of Halvor Skean, and H. A. Gulson, the subject of this sketch.

H. A. Gulson received his earliest educational training in the public schools of his native land and completed his education in the schools of Iowa and Douglas county. He grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the farm work. As a lad he devoted much of his spare time to trapping and while on one of these

expeditions he was followed by six canoes full of Indians, who did their best to catch him. With much haste and skill he landed his boat on the bank of the lake and made good his escape.

During his early days of farming, H. A. Gulson was associated with his father, but in 1874 he took a homestead in Trail county, North Dakota, where he remained for two years, after which he sold the tract and returned to the home in Moe township, where he has since resided. He now owns one hundred and sixty-three acres of land. He has placed all the present substantial buildings on the place and has done much in the way of development. In addition to his work as a farmer and stock raiser, Mr. Gulson has for the past forty years done much carpenter work in the neighborhood.

In 1876 H. A. Gulson was united in marriage to Gonder Walstad, and to this union six children have been born, Albert R., Martin G., Gena, Adolph, Helmer and Agnes. The Gulsons are members of the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Gulson has served as trustee.

CHRISTIAN A. LUND.

Christian A. Lund, a successful business man of Nelson, was born in Denmark, on July 1, 1872, the son of M. E. and Eliza (Wetzman) Lund, natives of Denmark, where they have always made their home. Mr. Lund was for many years a farmer, but is now employed as a timekeeper for a factory at Aarhus, Denmark. As a young man he served as a soldier in the Danish infantry. He and his wife are the parents of nine children Christian A., Bergina, Thora, Ida, Andres, Sophie, Carl Wilhelm and Otto W. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

Christian A. Lund received his education in Denmark, other than what he received in one term of school in the United States. In Denmark he learned buttermaking at which he worked for four years in his native country. In 1892 he came to America and located at Osakis, where he worked for two years as a farm hand. He then took a course for experienced buttermakers at the state experiment station. He then returned to farm work and was thus engaged until September, 1894, when he took charge of the Nelson creamery and operated it until December 3, 1904, when he returned to Denmark, where he remained during that winter. On his return to Nelson he devoted three years to the breeding of draft horses, giving his entire attention to that business. In 1909 he purchased the feed

store at Nelson, which he conducted in connection with his horse stable. In 1914 he sold his horses and devoted his undivided attention to the feed store and grinding.

Mr. Lund has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has served on the council of his home town. He is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees and of the Danish Brotherhood of America. He attends the Danish Lutheran church at Nelson.

ERNEST MEISSNER.

Ernest Meissner, a well-known and successful farmer of Millerville township, Douglas county, was born in Germany on November 13, 1857, the son of Gottlieb and Fredericka (Haberland) Meissner, also natives of Germany.

As a young man, Gottlieb Meissner engaged in farming in the Fatherland, where he and his family lived until 1869, when they decided to seek a home in America. Upon landing in this country they came directly to Minnesota, and here located in Millerville township, Douglas county, where Mr. Meissner purchased the homestead right in one hundred and sixty acres of land. This farm he developed and improved and there he successfully engaged in general farming. There he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, he dying in May, 1890, at the age of sixty years, and his widow, January 11, 1916, at the age of eighty-two years, she having been born on May 23, 1833. They were the parents of eight children, Ernest, Fred, Fredricka, Herman, William, Amelia, Henry and Mary. Mr. Meissner was recognized as a systematic and thorough farmer and he and his wife were held in high esteem by all.

Ernest Meissner received his education in the public schools of Germany, and there spent his boyhood life. As a lad he came to the United States with his parents and assisted his father with the work on the farm and remained with his father on the home farm, assisting in the management of the place until his father's death. In 1881 he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of his father in Millerville township, and is now the owner of four hundred acres, all of which is well under cultivation and nicely improved. The old home place was for the most part wild land at the time he made the purchase, and he has improved the farm with new buildings and made many other valuable and attractive improvements. The house

was built in 1889 and the barn about eighteen years ago. Mr. Meissner is engaged in general farming and stock raising. During the summer he keeps many head of cattle and is interested in Shorthorns.

On June 21, 1881, Ernest Meissner was united in marriage to Caroline Buse and to this union eight children have been born: Ernest, William, Amanda, Rudolph, Mary, Minnie, Lesetta and Bertha. The family have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are highly respected. Mr. Meissner takes much interest in local affairs and is a strong advocate of good roads and the best of schools. Having been educated in a country which puts much stress on both, he has a high appreciation of their great value in the development and the substantial life of the community. His son, Rudolph Meissner, is the only son now at home and helps in the management of the place.

EMIL PETERSON.

There is no better farmer in Ida township, Douglas county, than Emil Peterson, who was born in Sweden, July 23, 1849. He is a son of Peter and Brita (Nelson) Anderson. (He dropped the family name upon coming to America.) His parents grew up in their native land and married there. They brought their family to this country in 1869, landing at Quebec, and coming on directly to Minnesota, the father taking up a homestead in Ida township, Douglas county, developing one hundred and sixty acres, which, however, he sold a few years later, and spent the rest of his life among his children. He belonged to the Swedish Lutheran church of Ida township. His death occurred in October, 1893, when well advanced in years, his birth having occurred in 1821. He and his wife had six children, Emil, Anna, Gustave, Nels (deceased), Carl and Mary.

Emil Peterson grew up in Sweden where he attended the public schools. He was married on December 31, 1875, to Ulricka Noren, who came to Minnesota, about 1870, her father, Erick Noren, taking up a homestead in Ida township, Douglas county. Of his large family of twelve children, only two are now living, Ulricka and Hilma. To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson the following children have been born: Ellen, Carl, Selma, Julius, Elmer and Ida, who are married, and Signe, William, Edna and Ebba, single and at home.

Emil Peterson was a young man, single, when he came to America,

and since coming here he has devoted his attention to general farming. In 1870 he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 18 of Ida township, where he is still living. He cleared the place, which was mostly in timber, and put all the improvements on the same. He has worked hard and has succeeded as a general farmer, and also raises a fine grade of Duroc-Jersey hogs. He has a good residence and numerous convenient outbuildings. He is a stockholder in the creamery and in the elevator at Garfield.

Politically, Mr. Peterson is independent and has been a member of the township board for a number of years. He has long taken an active interest in public affairs, and during his residence here of some forty-six years, has been influential in the movements having to do with the general welfare and growth of his township and county. He is one of the worthy pioneers of this section and is highly respected.

CHARLES MELIN.

Charles Melin, one of the well-known and successful residents of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Michigan, the son of Andrew and Albertina (Engstrom) Melin, who were born in Sweden and there received their education in the common public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They later came to the United States and after their arrival in this country located in Michigan, where Andrew Melin was engaged in the copper mines for some years. He then came to Minnesota and homesteaded eighty acres of land in Carlos township, which he sold some years later and then moved to Leaf Valley township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 35, which he developed and improved and there he made his home until his death in 1908, at the age of seventy-four years. His widow died in 1910, at the age of sixty-six years. They were the parents of six children, Charles, Albert, Victor, Hannah, Axel and Sophia. Mr. and Mrs. Melin were active members of the Swedish Lutheran church, took much interest in church work and were prominent in the social life of the community.

Charles Melin received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and grew to manhood on the home farm. As a lad and young man he assisted his father with the development and improvement of the old homestead. He was united in marriage to Hilma Noren, daughter of Eric

and Sarah Noren, of Douglas county, natives of Sweden, and to this union the following children have been born: Arthur, Walter, Axel, Oscar, Reuben, Arvid, Inez, Herbert and Kermit.

Charles Melin is today the owner of eighty acres of excellent land in section 5 of Ida township, which he has developed and improved until he has one of the best farms in the township. In addition to his farm work, Mr. Melin is the carrier on a rural route out of Garfield and has held the position for a number of years, having given splendid service, satisfactory both to the government and to the patrons of the route.

JOHN L. STRANDBERG.

One of the substantial farmers of foreign birth who has developed a fine farm in Alexandria township, Douglas county, is J. L. Strandberg, who was born in Sweden on November 25, 1866. He is a son of Carl and Lena (Johnson) Strandberg, both of whom were natives of Sweden. Carl Strandberg came to Minnesota with his family in 1888 and located in Carlos township, Douglas county, where he has lived ever since. He and his family are earnest members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Carl Strandberg was married twice. By the first marriage he had three children, C. A., Matilda and Edward, and Amanda and John L. by the second marriage.

John L. Strandberg received his education in the public schools of Sweden and as a young man worked at farm labor. In 1888 he came with his father to Minnesota and was located for a short time in Carlos township, Douglas county. In 1891 he moved to Alexandria township, where he and his wife own one hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land. In 1913 he put up new buildings on the place, which he has improved in various ways. There he carries on a general system of farming and stock raising and is also interested in dairying. He devotes a good deal of attention to the breeding of thoroughbred Guernsey cattle, in which line he has met with considerable success.

In 1903 John L. Strandberg was married to Emma Erickson, a daughter of Andrew P. Erickson, and to this union seven children have been born, Rose, Harold, Vera, Earl, Alvin, Winfred and Doris. Andrew P. Erickson was born in Sweden, February 12, 1844, and died at his home in Alexandria township, Douglas county, on December 31, 1900. His wife was Emma F. Larson, who was born in Sweden in 1844.

To that union were born six children, those besides Mrs. Strandberg being Charles A., Theodore A., Hilda A., Ellen J. and Rosella C., all of whom are living except Charles A. and Rosella C. Andrew Erickson came with his family to America in 1868 and coming directly to Minnesota, homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Alexandria township, Douglas county, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Mr. Strandberg and his family are adherents of the Swedish Lutheran church, and take an active interest in the affairs of that congregation. Politically, Mr. Strandberg is a Republican.

JOHN HAMMER.

John Hammer, a well-known farmer and stockman of Moe township, Douglas county, was born on the farm in that township on which he is still living, October 9, 1880, the son of Ole and Baroline (Vie) Hammer, natives of Norway. Ole Hammer came to Minnesota as a young man and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 17 of Moe township, Douglas county. On his arrival here he had but little money and it became necessary for him to walk to St. Cloud to obtain work. He did some work in the way of developing the farm that he had homesteaded, and after seven years of residence in this country he returned to his native land and was there married. Soon after his marriage he returned to the land of his adoption with his bride and here took up his residence on his homestead. He developed and improved the tract and was successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He later added to his original tract until he became the owner of about three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land in the township, where he spent his last days.

Ole Hammer and wife were the parents of three children, Mette, who died at the age of twenty-two years; John and Johannes, the latter of whom died in infancy. Mr. Hammer was an active member of the Lutheran church at West Moe, as is his widow, and took an active part in church work. He was always active in local civic affairs and was for many years a member of the township board of supervisors. His widow is still living at the old home.

John Hammer received his education in the public schools of Moe township and later attended school at Fergus Falls. He grew to manhood on the

home farm, a valued assistant to his father and since the latter's death has continued to farm the home place, engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful, being recognized as one of the progressive young farmers of that neighborhood.

O. J. BURROS.

O. J. Burros, a successful farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on April 18, 1870, son and only child of Christian and Margaret (Mickelstadther) Solberg, natives of Norway, where the father died many years ago. Christian Solberg was engaged in farming and was well known in the community in which he lived. After his death his widow with her son came to the United States in 1872. They located in Goodhue county, this state, where they remained for three years, at the end of which time they came to Douglas county. Here the mother married J. T. Burros, and since that time the subject of this sketch has borne the name of Burros. J. T. Burros was the owner of eighty acres of land in section 18 of Brandon township, and it was on that farm that his wife died in January, 1901.

O. J. Burros received his education in the public schools of Brandon township and there grew to manhood, where as a lad and young man he assisted with the work on the farm. He was married in May, 1898, to Mary Dahl, the daughter of Andrew Dahl, a pioneer of the county, and to this union the following children have been born: Irene, Clara, Ethel, Bert, George, Martin, Lawrence and Ernest. Mr. and Mrs. Burros are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, prominent in church work, and are held in high regard by all who know them.

As a young man Mr. Burros engaged in farming and later purchased a farm in section 18 of Brandon township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has a well-developed farm and the same is well improved, the later improvements having been erected by him. In addition to his many duties on the farm, Mr. Burros has always taken an active interest in the local affairs of the township and has done much for the development of the community. He is a stockholder in Brandon creamery, to which he has given his most earnest support, and also belongs to the Farmers Society of Equity.

CHARLES M. LONG, M. D.

The medical profession in Douglas county has no abler exponent than Dr. C. M. Long, of Osakis, universally liked by all who come in contact with him. He possesses excellent judgment of men and things, well balanced by knowledge and experience; has studied hard, and has worked diligently for the large success which has come to him through the many years of his practice in this section of the state.

C. M. Long was born in Richland county, Wisconsin, near Madison, the capital city of that state. He is a son of Samuel and Frances Herndon (Ballou) Long, the father a native of Washington county, Indiana, and the mother of Louisville, Kentucky. Samuel Long was one of the early pioneers of Richland county, Wisconsin, where he secured a valley farm, which he improved; later moving to the village of Gotham, which he laid out, having purchased the site. He sold many lots in the new town and continued to reside there the remainder of his life, passing away at the advanced age of ninety years. His family consisted of eight children, namely: Mary Catherine, the eldest; John M., who was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil War, and who died at Vicksburg, Mississippi, in 1864, and was buried in the national cemetery; Charles M., the subject of this review; Melissa Caroline, now deceased; Albert H., who is practicing law at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and Alice A., residing at the old home in Wisconsin.

Dr. Charles M. Long received his early education in the common schools of Richland county, Wisconsin, after which he began life for himself by teaching, when only seventeen years of age. In 1870 he entered Platteville College, at Platteville, Wisconsin, from which institution he was graduated in 1873. He then resumed teaching and served as principal of the school at Tempealeau, Wisconsin, for one year; then held a similar position at Prescott, Wisconsin, for two years, after which he took charge of the union schools at LeSueur, Minnesota, which he graded and improved in many ways. Resigning that position in 1876, he decided to enter the medical profession, and with that end in view entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, from which he was graduated in 1878. Immediately after his graduation Doctor Long located for the practice of his profession in Osakis, which locality was but little improved and sparsely settled, the village itself containing but one hundred inhabitants, and here, in this frontier community, he experienced all the vicissitudes of the pioneer doctor. Here he has remained until the present time, his name having become a household

word throughout Douglas county, and he has enjoyed a large practice all the while. About 1880 Doctor Long was appointed on the surgical staff of James J. Hill, on which he served for over twenty years. He is the oldest practitioner within a radius of twenty miles of Osakis, and is the only physician left of those formerly practicing in this locality, which includes the cities of Alexandria, Glenwood, Parkers Prairie, Long Prairie and Sauk Center.

Doctor Long was married in 1894 to Edna Earl Brock, who was born and reared in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, near the town of Stanton. Politically, the Doctor is a Republican, and was chairman of the Republican convention which met at Alexandria in 1888, where he was unanimously nominated as the party's candidate for representative to the Legislature. The practice of the pioneer physicians was fraught with many disadvantages and difficulties. The roads were so poor that often only a part of the distance could be driven, the remainder having to be walked through the woods or through mud and water; and if winter, waded through snow drifts. In those days doctors were taught to do faithful service and render honest practice without money and without price. Many times after an all night's perplexing job, the only pay coming was the remark: "I have no money, Doctor, but there will be a mansion laid up for you."

Doctor Long's long experience as a medical practitioner in this section has given him a wide range of information concerning conditions surrounding the practice hereabout and in an advisory capacity he has rendered valuable assistance in the compilation of the chapter relating to the medical profession in the historical section of this work; a service highly appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by the compilers of the same.

BYRON E. HOWE.

Among the influential and substantial farmers of Osakis township, Douglas county, is B. E. Howe, who is a native of the great Empire state, his birth having occurred on September 4, 1856, at Watertown, New York. He is a son of Norman and Dorothy (Richardson) Howe, both of whom were natives of Jefferson county, New York. The father was a farmer.

Byron E. Howe received his education in the public schools of Lewis county, New York, and as a young man taught in the schools of that county. In 1892 he moved to Nebraska and engaged in farming in Adams county,

that state, for seventeen years. While living in Nebraska he taught school one term. In 1909 he came to Minnesota and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Osakis township, Douglas county, and lived on that farm for three years. In 1912 he bought a farm consisting of one hundred and sixty acres in section 27 of Osakis township, where he is now living. He has made many and substantial improvements on this place, having erected practically all of the buildings which are now on the place. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and that he has met with success is attested by the fact that his is one of the best improved and most highly cultivated farms in the township. He makes a specialty of breeding thoroughbred live stock, such as Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

In 1881 Byron E. Howe was married to Mary Newsham, a daughter of Charles and Sarah (Barton) Newsham. Mr. Howe is a Republican and takes an active interest in all public matters pertaining to the general welfare of his community. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

EDWARD T. RISBRUDT.

Edward T. Risbrudt, one of the best-known and most progressive merchants of Ashby, Grant county, former recorder of that village and also actively interested in agriculture and in real-estate, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in St. Olaf township, in the neighboring county of Otter Tail, July 26, 1875, son of Torkel E. Risbrudt, one of the early settlers of that section of the state, a very interesting narrative of whose long and useful connection with that section is contained in John W. Mason's recently published "History of Otter Tail County," a valuable companion publication to this volume.

Upon the completion of the course in the public schools in the neighborhood of his boyhood home, Edward T. Risbrudt attended Park Region College at Fergus Falls and then continued his labors on the home farm until the fall of 1898, when he went to Ashby, where, in association with J. O. D. Madland, he built a store building and on March 19, 1899, opened a general store there, under the firm name of Madland & Risbrudt, which arrangement continued until September 25, 1903, when he bought his partner's interest in the concern and conducted it alone for a couple of months, at the end of which time he sold a half interest, in December, 1903, to O. T. Foss, the firm continuing under the firm name of Risbrudt & Foss until on October

3, 1908, since which time Mr. Risbrudt has operated the store alone and has been very successful. In 1910 Mr. Risbrudt lost his store and all its contents by fire, but with characteristic energy he lost no time in replacing the loss and was out of business but nineteen days. In addition to his general mercantile business he also is giving considerable attention to agriculture and to the local real-estate business. He for years has given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and served as recorder of the village until the pressure of his personal business compelled him to decline further public service.

On August 28, 1906, Edward T. Risbrudt was united in marriage to Sophia Larson and to this union three children have been born, Ruth Lorine, born on February 20, 1909; Ella Marie, August 20, 1912, and Cora Georgene, November 26, 1915. The Risbrudts have a pleasant home in the village of Ashby and take a proper part in the various social activities of their home town, as well as in all movements designed to advance the welfare of their community. Mr. Risbrudt is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America.

ANTON HAUGLIE.

Anton Hauglie, one of the well-known and prominent farmers of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on October 23, 1870, the son of Johannes and Bertha (Olson) Hauglie, also natives of Norway, who continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1891. Mr. Hauglie was a shoemaker and rendered long years of service in that line. Upon landing in the United States in 1891, he and his wife came directly to Minnesota and located at Evansville, Douglas county, where they both died the following year. They were the parents of the following children: Karen, Sissel, Lars, Ole, Christian, Johan, Anton and Clara. Mr. and Mrs. Hauglie were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and took much interest in church work.

Anton Hauglie received his education in the common schools of Norway and there grew to manhood. As a young man he learned the shoemaker's trade, at which he worked with his father for some years. In 1888 he decided that he would come to America, and after landing in the United States came directly to Minnesota and located in Moe township, Douglas county. After remaining there for a year he went to North Dakota, where he worked as a farm hand and did threshing in Richland county. In 1899 he started farming for himself in Moe township, Douglas county, and is now

the owner of two hundred acres of excellent land. The farm is improved with substantial buildings, a part of them having been placed there by Mr. Hauglie, and there he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and in the thorough cultivation of the soil. He keeps high-grade stock, which receives his careful attention.

Anton Hauglie was united in marriage to Matilda Sophia Olson, daughter of Sven Olson, a well-known and successful resident of the county. To this union the following children have been born: James S., Henry B., Mildred A., Rudolph C., Esther V., Minnie J., Sidney William, Florence E. and Arnold J. Mr. and Mrs. Hauglie are active members of the Lutheran church and have always taken much interest in church work. They have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community in which they live and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. For many years Mr. Hauglie served as a member of the board of trustees of the local church.

Anton Hauglie has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of the community and has ever given his assistance to all projects that had a tendency to make better and more prosperous the home community. He is independent in politics and served for six years as a member of the township board of supervisors, in which office he rendered admirable service.

HENRY DIMENT.

From the Badger state came Henry Diment, for many years, a farmer and well-known citizen of Brandon township, Douglas county, who is now "sleeping the sleep of the just," after a long and upright life, fraught with no little good to his neighbors and friends. He was born in Wisconsin, and his death occurred in Douglas county, Minnesota. He grew up on his farm and when young came to Douglas county, where he married Clara Holte, whose death occurred about 1910. To these parents the following children were born: Louis, who is the eldest; Emma, second in order of birth; Minnie, who married Carl Bye; Edwin, who married Minnie Winkjer, and Carl.

Henry Diment owned a good farm of two hundred and seventy acres in Brandon township, on which he carried on general farming and stock raising successfully, having cleared a large portion of the land. He was one



MR. AND MRS. HENRY DIMENT.

of the early settlers there and one of the most successful farmers of his township. He was of Scandinavian descent and a member of the Swedish Lutheran church of Moe township. He put all the improvements on the farm as it now stands. The place is well located three and one-half miles northeast of Brandon. Since his death his son, Louis Diment, the eldest child, has had charge of the place and is looking after the family's welfare in general. He has kept the land in good tilth and has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He has purchased the interest of part of the heirs, owning that portion of the homestead that includes the buildings. He owns sixty acres. He was born on the old home place on July 18, 1887. He is unmarried and his sister Emma keeps house for him. Louis Diment is regarded as one of the most enterprising of Douglas county's young farmers. Politically, he is independent. He attends the Norwegian Lutheran church.

HENRY O. MYHR.

Henry O. Myhr, a well-known and successful farmer of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born in Douglas county on April 25, 1880, the son of Peter O. and Hannah H. (Stranvold) Myhr.

Peter O. Myhr was born in Norway on June 11, 1854, the son of Ole P. and Julia (Ingebrightson) Myhr, both natives of that country. The family were farmers in their native country and well known in the community in which they lived. In 1866 Ole P. Myhr and family came to America and located in Winnebago county, Illinois, where they remained until 1872, when they came to Minnesota, the father purchasing land near Brandon, which he developed and improved and where he engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years. He later retired to Evansville, where he died some years later. The widow after the death of her husband, made her home with her son, Peter O. Myhr, until her death some years ago. Ole P. Myhr and wife were the parents of three children, Peter O., Caroline and Mary. Caroline Myhr married Ole Kron and Mary Myhr married the Rev. Christian Sogstad.

Peter O. Myhr received his education in the schools of Illinois and Douglas county. Soon after completing his schooling he engaged in farming near Brandon. At first he lived on rented land and later was the owner of several farms. In 1891 he located on his present farm of one hundred

and seventy acres in Holmes City township. He was married in 1870 to Hannah H. Stranvold a native of Norway who came to the United States with her parents and to this union the following children have been born: Ragna, Henry O., Albert, Helga (deceased), Helga Percilla and Martin.

Henry O. Myhr received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and at Farwell. As a lad he lived at home and assisted his father with the work on the farm, and at the age of seventeen, he went to live with his grandfather Stranvold, since which time he has continued to live on the farm. The grandfather died some years ago, while the grandmother makes her home on the old homestead. Henry O. Myhr has purchased one-half the farm, but operates the entire place, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is especially interested in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and has many fine specimens of that breed.

On May 30, 1902, Henry O. Myhr was united in marriage to Tillie Oletta Femrite, who was born in Holmes City township, on April 28, 1882, the daughter of S. O. Femrite, a pioneer of that township. To this union the following children have been born: Sarah Pauline, Hilda Geline, Ruben Bennett, Martha Janette, Harold Thorpin and Mary Selvine. The family and members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in church work, being prominent in the social and religious life of the township. Mr. Myhr has always taken much interest in the civic life of the community and has served six years as a member of the school board. He is interested in the Holmes City creamery as well as the local Mutual Fire Insurance Company,

Carl Albert Myhr was born on his Grandfather Stranvold's farm in Holmes City township on June 9, 1887. He received his schooling in the public schools of the township and remained at home until the time of his marriage. He then purchased eighty acres of land near Oscar Lake church, where he remained for two years, at the end of which time he sold the place and removed to St. Louis county, Minnesota, where he remained for one year, after which he returned to Holmes City township and there rented a farm for two years. He then obtained forty acres of his father and on this latter farm he has made many improvements to the buildings, as well as having done much in the way of general development.

Carl Albert Myhr was united in marriage on November 24, 1909, to Anna S. Simonson, of Holmes City township, who was born in Ben Wade township, Pope county, this state, a daughter of Ingebright Simonson, a

pioneer of Holmes City township. Mr. Myhr and wife are active in the work of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are prominent in the social activities of the community. Mr. Myhr is interested in the Holmes City Fire Insurance Company and takes a keen interest in the civic affairs of the township.

JOHN E. SANSTEAD.

No more progressive and painstaking agriculturalist can be found in Ida township, Douglas county, than John E. Sanstead, who was born in Sweden on April 17, 1864. He is a son of Gustav and Carrie Sanstead, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up and were married. There the father learned the blacksmith's trade under his father, which he followed there until emigrating to America in 1869. He worked for his brother, Andrew, who owned a blacksmith shop at Garfield, Minnesota, remaining with him for some time. In 1870 he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Ida township, nearly all timbered land, on which he built a small log house. In 1871 he sent for his family, who had remained in the old country. They came to Benson, this state, the western terminus of the railroad, and after some difficulty found their way on to Douglas county by stage. After many hardships the father developed a good farm and established a comfortable home here. His wife died in 1873 at the age of fifty-two years. About 1875 he married Hannah Johnson. He remained on his farm until 1889 when he retired from active life, selling the place to his stepson, F. O. Johnson. A while after he lived in Garfield, where his death occurred in 1905, at the age of seventy-five years. He had three children, namely: Mary, who married Joseph Hogman and lives in Canada; John E., the subject of this sketch, and August, who owns an elevator at Garfield and is engaged in buying grain.

John E. Sanstead received part of his education in Sweden and part in the district schools of Ida township, Douglas county. He assisted his father with the work on the farm until 1887, then bought a team and with C. G. Olson went to Elbow Lake and worked on the construction of the Great Northern railroad. He later went to Crookston, this state, then to North Dakota, doing farm work. Selling his team, he returned to Garfield and worked on the farm for his Uncle Andrew for two years. In the fall of 1889 he rented two hundred and eighty acres of his Uncle Andrew, which he operated two years; then, in partnership with F. R. Johnson, he bought

one hundred and twenty acres in Ida township. About forty acres of that land was cleared and there was an old log house on it. They cleared and put the land under cultivation. In 1896 Mr. Sanstead purchased his partner's interest and a little later he bought forty acres more, and has since been operating the place alone, now owning two hundred acres. In 1907 he built a modern two-story frame residence. He also has a good barn and outbuildings. In connection with general farming, he makes a specialty of the dairy business, keeping an average of thirty-three head of excellent dairy cows. Everything about his place denotes good management and taste.

Mr. Sanstead was married in 1889 to Hilda Johnson, a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1883. To this union eight children have been born, namely: Hilma, who was graduated in music from Northwestern College at Fergus Falls and taught music successfully for several years; Gust, who is a student in Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter; Ellen, who was graduated from the Alexandria high school and is now teaching; Olga, Edwin, Teckla and George, all at home, and Arvid, deceased.

Mr. Sanstead is a Republican and was township clerk for several years. He is now a member of the local school board, of which he has been treasurer since 1904. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he is a deacon. He is superintendent of the Sunday school and has been for a number of years a teacher in the Sunday school. He is a stockholder in the Garfield creamery, in the farmers' elevator and in the potato warehouse.

ERICK G. STAFFANSON.

One of the native-born sons of Douglas county who has been contented to devote his energies to tilling the soil in his own locality is Erick G. Staffanson, who lives in Solem township. His birth occurred on the farm on which he still resides, August 29, 1870. He is a son of Mons and Mary (Erickson) Staffanson, both natives of Sweden, in which country they spent their earlier years, immigrating to the United States in 1869. After spending one summer in Goodhue county, Minnesota, then came on to Douglas county, and in 1870 the father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Solem township, where he has since resided. He broke the sod, planted a grove and put up all the buildings. He has prospered by close application to his general farming operations and by good management, and is now owner of an excellent farm of four hundred and forty acres. He is

assisted in the management of the same by his sons, Erick G. and Leonard Staffanson. The former is unmarried, but Leonard Staffanson married Anna Johnson and has one child, Manda. The wife of Mons Staffanson is deceased. To these parents six children were born, namely: Magdalena, Erick G., Steven (deceased), Selma, Leonard, and Ole. The Staffansons are members of the Swedish Lutheran church at Varmsburg, which Mons Staffanson helped organize.

CARL J. CARLSON.

Carl J. Carlson, a native of Sweden and one of the well-known and successful farmers of Millerville township, Douglas county, was born on March 31, 1866, the son of Johannes and Carolina (Anderson) Carlson.

Andrew Carlson, the paternal grandfather, was a farmer in his native land and was highly respected. Johannes and Carolina Carlson were educated in the public schools of their native country and there Johannes Carlson engaged in farming. They were the parents of the following children: Christine, Mathilda, Peter J., August, Eva, Gustaf and Mary, the latter of whom was the only one of the children who did not come to the United States, but remained in the home land with her father and mother.

Carl J. Carlson received his education in the common schools of Sweden and there grew to manhood. In 1888, at the age of twenty-two years, he decided that he would come to America where so many of his countrymen and neighbors had located and where they had made homes for themselves and their families. On his arrival in New York he came directly to Minnesota and located in Evansville, where he clerked in a store for five years, at the end of which time he moved to Millersville township. On January 28, 1893, he was married to Alice Anderson, the daughter of Carl J. and Inga C. (Swenson) Anderson, natives of Sweden, who located in Millerville township, in 1869. There Mr. Anderson had one hundred and forty acres of land, where Mr. and Mrs. Carlson now live Carl and Inga Anderson were natives of Sweden and there received their education in the public schools of that country, and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They later came to Minnesota, locating on a farm in Millerville township, which they developed and improved, and there engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years, spending the rest of their lives

on the home farm. Carl Anderson died on October 2, 1893, at the age of sixty-eight years, and his widow died on January 30, 1902, at the age of sixty-eight years.

To Carl J. and Alice Carlson have been born three children: Carl G. F., Edgar, R. A. and Ebba. The family are highly respected and are prominent in the social life of the community. Mr. Carlson has always taken an active interest in the civic affairs of the township and has served as a member of the school board, treasurer of that body for the past twelve years. He is a strong advocate of good roads and of the best of schools.

Mr. Carlson purchased his farm of one hundred and forty acres in 1891 and since that time he has made many valuable and substantial improvements on the same. The family live in the old homestead house of Carl J. Anderson, which is now some forty-five years old, one of the substantial and well-built houses of the community in an early day. Since assuming possession of the farm, Mr. Carlson has planted more than three hundred dollars worth of trees and built a large barn in 1916. His farm nearly surrounds Lake Anderson, a beautiful little body of water that lends much beauty to the place.

ADAM CARLQUIST.

Adam Carlquist, one of the substantial and well-known farmers of Osakis township, Douglas county, is a native of Sweden, where he was born on December 3, 1871, the son of C. J. and Sophia (Lungren) Carlquist, also natives of Sweden, where they lived until 1882, when they decided to seek a home in America. On their arrival in the United States they came directly to Minnesota and located in Alexandria, later purchasing a farm of one hundred and twenty acres three miles south of that city. As a farmer and stock raiser C. J. Carlquist was quite successful and became one of the well-known and prominent men of the township. After a time he removed to Alexandria, where he was the proprietor of a popular hotel for many years and where he is now living retired.

Adam Carlquist received the greater part of his education in the public schools of Alexandria and later attended the schools of Lake Mary township. As a lad and young man he assisted his father on the home farm and soon engaged in farming for himself on eighty acres that he owned, one and one-half miles from Garfield. After remaining there for two years he removed to Alexandria, where he engaged in the meat trade until he

removed to Northport, Washington, where he remained for two years, at the end of which time he returned to Douglas county, where he remained for one year. He then removed to Canada, where he engaged in farming for five years, at the end of which time he returned to Douglas county and purchased his present farm of two hundred acres in Osakis township. He has erected all the present buildings on that farm, with the exception of the house and granary, and it is there that he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Carlquist is particularly interested in the breeding and the raising of Guernsey cattle, of which he has many fine specimens.

On July 8, 1896, Adam Carlquist was united in marriage to Augusta Lungren, daughter of P. A. Lungren, a well-known citizen of the county, and to this union the following children have been born: Mariam, Christine, Ella, Elmer, Albin, Fred and Eleanor Evelyn. Politically, Mr. Carlquist is independent, yet he has taken much interest in local affairs and has had much to do with the general development of the township and the county. He and his family are among the most prominent residents of the township and are held in the highest regard by all who know them.

P. A. Lungren, father of Mrs. Carlquist, was born in Sweden on October 14, 1833, and there grew to manhood and married Johanne Eaglestrom. Mr. Lungren and wife later came to America in 1852. On their arrival in the United States they located in New York state, where Mr. Lungren was employed as a farm hand for four years. In 1856 the family removed to Kansas and there engaged in general farming. At the outbreak of the Civil War, P. A. Lungren, being true to his adopted country, enlisted in Company A, First Regiment, Kansas Volunteer Infantry, and saw much active service until the close of the war. He received a severe wound while serving under General Lyon, and after recovering from his wound he re-enlisted in the Sixth Minnesota Regiment, Volunteer Infantry, and was discharged as sergeant. He later served in the trouble with the Indians, and was recognized as one of the most faithful and deserving of soldiers. At the close of the war he came to Minnesota, where he located on the farm now owned by Adam Carlquist, in Osakis township, Douglas county. There he owned one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he developed and improved, and where he was successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. This farm he made his home until 1908, when he retired from the activities of farm life and moved to Nelson, where he died two years later, having lived a useful and honorable life, being highly

respected by all who knew him. Mr. Lungren was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic and took much interest in the work of that order. He always took much interest in local affairs, served a term as sheriff of Douglas county, and was for many years clerk of the school board of his township and was ever active and interested in the advancement of the schools. He was a firm believer in public improvements and was a strong advocate of the good roads system, as well as the most perfect school system possible. Being a man of broad views and being well informed, his influence and advice were of much value in the community in which he lived. Mr. and Mrs. Lungren were the parents of three children, Mrs. Carlquist having had a brother, Bennett, and a sister, Matilda, both now deceased.

JAMES F. DICKEN.

One of the venerable retired farmers and honored pioneer citizens of Douglas county who is deserving of special mention in this work is James F. Dicken, of Ida township. He was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, October 12, 1835, and is a son of Jesse and Mary (Donahue) Dicken. The grandparents, Jonathan and Nancy (Bradket) Dicken, were of English ancestry. He was a near relation of Charles Dickens, the great English novelist. (They dropped the "s" from their name when they came to America.) The maternal grandfather, James Donahue, was a native of Ireland, and his wife, Jane Cassidy, was of Irish descent. The parents of the subject of this review were natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their lives on a farm. Ten children were born to them, namely: Jane, Jonathan, James F., Stephen, Anthony, Isaac, Jerome, Sylvester, Catherine and Mary. The last named is the wife of John Sweeney, a farmer of Ida township. Jerome Dicken is living in Alexandra. Sylvester Dicken, who also lived in Douglas county, died some time ago.

James F. Dicken grew up in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, where he attended school, later attending a seminary at Cumberland, Maryland. He worked on his father's farm until the fall of 1856, when he came to Minnesota, partly to see the Indians, still wild here, and partly as a result of the glowing accounts a friend had given him in writing from here. He left the train at Dunleath, Illinois, opposite Dubuque, Iowa, and took a steamboat up the Mississippi river to Hastings, Minnesota, where he worked a week on the levee, then hired to the firm of Foster & Ramsey, the last-

named member of which firm was later governor of Minnesota. Mr. Dicken drove a team between Hastings and St. Paul for that firm, hauling material for a big mill near Hastings. The following spring he went to Meeker county and took up a claim in Acton township, proving up on the same in the fall of 1858, having built a shanty and cleared about ten acres. In the spring of 1859 he left there and hired out to the Hudson Bay Company, driving a yoke of oxen hauling goods between St. Cloud and Georgetown, Minnesota, but made only one trip, then helped put up one thousand tons of hay for use at Ft. Abercrombie. He then came to Alexandria, then a settlement of but two or three houses, and trapped and hunted in the winter, helping the settlers in the summer months until the spring of 1862, when he enlisted in the Minnesota Mounted Rangers, or Company D, First Cavalry, and saw considerable service against the Indians in North and South Dakota, taking part in Sibley's famous expedition, serving thirteen months in all. After he was honorably discharged he decided to seek a warmer climate and went to Missouri, but after a stay of six months he returned to Alexandria, not liking the South. He then took up a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres in Ida township, Douglas county, and forty acres in LaGrand township, but all in one body. It was wild land, part prairie and part timber. He had no capital, but forged ahead and succeeded despite hardships and privations, developed his land and put it in cultivation, using oxen as a team for some time. His first house was of logs, in which he lived until about 1885. Mr. Dicken was the first man to farm with horses in his part of the county. He has remained on his place, which is now one of the choice farms of the township, modern in all its improvements, including a large, comfortable residence and convenient outbuildings. He has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and is deserving of a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished in the face of obstacles and unaided. He farmed actively until two years ago, despite his advanced age, but he has always been a man of unusual strength. His son is now operating the place. He purchased more land from time to time until he now owns three hundred and sixty-seven acres.

On December 1, 1863, James F. Dicken was married to Sarah Antoinette Darling, a daughter of Andreas and Antoinette Darling, who were among the earliest settlers in Douglas county, but who went to Missouri, where Andreas Darling was killed by bushwhackers. His widow then returned to Minnesota and died years afterwards at Long Prairie. The death of Mrs. Dicken occurred on July 6, 1901. To Mr. and Mrs. Dicken eight children were born, namely: Mary, born on December 25, 1864, who mar-

ried William Greenwood, who is farming at Deep Creek, Washington; Ida, February 20, 1867, who married John Busey, a concrete mason at Havana, North Dakota; Edward, December 21, 1868, who married Annie Mace and lives at Elk, Washington; Alice, June 7, 1871, who married the Rev. William Hume, an evangelist, of Alexandria; Ethel, February 22, 1874, who married George McQuilan, of Wadena, this state, May 23, 1876, who married Sarah Glenn and is farming at Deep Creek, Washington; Leroy, June 30, 1879, who married Gerda Beckman and farms the old homestead, living with his father, and Arthur, September 2, 1881.

Mr. Dicken is independent in his political views and has always taken an interest in public affairs. He was one of the three commissioners appointed by Governor Ramsey to organize Douglas county, serving on the board for about three years, and a part of his work was laying out roads in the county. He was chairman of the board of supervisors before Ida and LaGrand townships were divided, and was later chairman of the board of supervisors of LaGrand township for two terms. He was clerk of school district No. 9 for over forty years. He is the oldest resident living on a pioneer homestead in Douglas county. He has seen the country develop from a wilderness and has always taken a deep interest in that development. During the "home-coming week," celebrated at Alexandria in June, 1916, Mr. Dicken delivered an address before a large and appreciative audience, narrating incidents and experiences of pioneer days, which was generally declared to have been one of the most interesting and informative features of the excellent program arranged for that occasion.

OLAUS ANGEN.

An enterprising farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, is Olaus Angen, who was born in Norway, January 30, 1854. He is a son of John Johnson and wife, who are mentioned in the sketch of Jens J. Angen, appearing on another page of this volume.

Olaus Angen grew to manhood in Norway where he was educated in the public schools. He came to America with his father in 1869, landing in Quebec, Canada, but he came on west to St. Cloud, Minnesota, and from there came by team to Douglas county, where he worked out for eighteen months, then bought a tract of school land—his present place—in section 36 of Brandon township. He has worked hard and now has a good farm of

one hundred and twenty acres. He has made all improvements now seen on the place. He carries on general farming and stock raising. He is also a stockholder in the elevator at Garfield and has an interest in the potato warehouse there.

Mr. Angen was married in 1883 to Olene Seiverson and to this union eight children have been born, namely: John (deceased), Mary, Severt, Mariah, Joel, Carrie (deceased), Rudolph and Carrol. The Angens are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

G. T. WINKJER.

G. T. Winkjer, one of the most influential pioneers of Moe township, Douglas county, is a native of Norway, born on February 27, 1840, the son of Thomas and Mariett Winkjer. The father was a farmer in Norway and after retiring from the activities of life, came to the United States to live with his children. He and his wife were the parents of five children, Lars, G. T., Serianna, Gurianne, and Ole.

G. T. Winkjer received his education in the public schools of Norway and there grew to manhood on his father's farm, where as a lad he assisted with the work about the farm. He remained a resident of his native country until he was twenty years of age, when he left for Australia with a company of gold seekers. He remained in that country for three years, after which he went to New Zealand, where he remained for a year. In Australia and New Zealand he was successful as a miner, but later returned to Norway where he remained for a year amid the scenes of his childhood and with relatives and friends. In 1864 he decided that he would come to America, and after landing in Quebec he came directly to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county and was there four years, at the end of which time, in 1886, he came to Douglas county and homesteaded his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Moe township. He later added to the farm, making it two hundred and ten acres, and has been the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in the community of Garfield. He remained on the old homestead for forty-eight years, during which time he has devoted himself to the development and improvement of the tract and engaging in general farming and stock raising. For fourteen years, he was engaged in the lumber business at Garfield, in connection with his work on the farm.

His large farm is one and one-quarter miles from Garfield, and is recognized as one of the best in that community.

G. T. Winkjer was united in marriage to Karen Anna Helle and to this union the following children have been born: Johan Taulo, P eter Joel, Jonetta, Anne Maria, Gideon, Lena, Jonathan, Josias, Theodore G. and Kraft. The two Jonettas, Lena, and Josias are now deceased. The family are active members of the local Norwegian Lutheran church, of which Mr. Winkjer was one of the organizers and for many years a trustee. He also has taken much interest in local civic affairs and was one of the organizers of the township of Moe. He was one of the organizers of the Moe and Urness Fire Insurance Company and was connected with the movements that led to the organization of the Farmers Elevator Company, the Co-operative Creamery Company and the Farmers Telephone Company at Garfield and has held offices at various times in these companies. Mr. Winkjer was one of the delegates from Douglas county to the farmers convention held at St. Paul for the purpose of urging the state Legislature to introduce the manufacture of twine at the state prison, which proposition, after a vigorous fight, was adopted, the Legislature appropriating a fund sufficient to get the matter started. Mr. Winkjer has ever been a man of large influence in the community and is held in the highest regard by all who know him. His life has been a busy one and he has accomplished much that is good. Though now in his seventy-seventh year, he is still active and in good health and retains the liveliest interest in current affairs.

Theodore G. Winkjer received his education in the public schools in the village of Garfield and later attended the School of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota, being graduated from the latter institution with the class of 1915. After completing his schooling, he returned to the home farm, where he and his brother Kraft, are operating the place. In 1914 they built the large barn, thirty-six by seventy feet, and the next year they erected a silo, fourteen by forty feet. In the spring of 1916 a modern building was erected on the site of the old barn, making use of the basement for an ideal hog house, with a machine shed and repair shop above; the building being twenty by forty feet with an excellent location. At the present time Theodore G. Winkjer has the entire responsibility of the place, as his brother Kraft is in California on account of his health, but will soon return to assume his share of operation of the farm. Having completed a course in the automobile school at the Los Angeles Young Men's Christian Association, Kraft Winkjer is at present working as a mechanic

and will be thus engaged until his return home. Theodore G. Winkjer is a young man of pleasing personality, and possessed of excellent judgment. Having decided that he would be a farmer, he prepared himself in a practical manner for his life's work. The course at the Agricultural School has placed him in a position to carry out the highest ideals in modern and scientific farming and stock breeding. He believes in the system of intensive farming and in the keeping of the best of stock. His ability as a careful and prudent farmer has been demonstrated, as his work has been quite successful. In November, 1916, Theodore G. Winkjer was united in marriage to Ellen Peterson, daughter of Frank Peterson and wife, of Brandon township.

ANTON H. STROM.

Anton H. Strom, one of the well-known retired farmers of Brandon, was born in Norway on October 23, 1855, the son of Hans A. and Randie Strom, also natives of Norway, who, for some years after their marriage, continued to reside in their native land, and in 1860 decided to come to America. Mrs. Strom never realized her hopes of having a home in the United States for herself and little family, for she died during the voyage and was buried at sea. The father, after his arrival in Quebec, with his two children, Anton H. and Annetta, came directly to Minnesota and settled in Goodhue county and for eight years was a resident of that county, after which he came to Douglas county. At that time Mr. Strom was united in marriage to Margarete Larson, and to this union four children were born, Lars, and three who died in infancy. On locating in Douglas county Mr. Strom purchased land and was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres, which he developed and improved. He and his family were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Strom died in 1898 at the age of seventy-nine years.

Anton H. Strom was educated in the public schools of Goodhue county and there grew to manhood. Soon after his arrival in the county with his father he was taken by a neighbor, who raised him. At the age of twenty-three years he came to Douglas county to join his father, who had settled here some years before. On June 28, 1878, Mr. Strom was united in marriage to Anna Haaven and to this union two children have been born, Henry, who died at the age of twenty-five years, and Minnie, who is the wife of Emil E. Bergh, a well-known farmer of Brandon township.

On his arrival in Douglas county Anton H. Strom engaged in farming and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 19, Brandon township, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1912, when he retired and became a resident of Brandon. He was a successful farmer and business man. He is the owner of stock in the potato warehouse in Brandon and also in the Farmers and Merchants' Union Elevator Company and was vice-president of the Brandon First National Bank for three years. While on the farm he took much interest in the social and civic life of the township and served as clerk for a period of twenty-five years, and was also a member of the board of supervisors for a number of years. He has served for three years as assessor of the village of Brandon. For some years he has been secretary of the Moe and Urness Farmers' Insurance Company of Douglas county.

Mr. Strom is a man who has lived an active and useful life. Beginning life under such adverse circumstances, early suffering the loss of his mother and reared by strangers, he has succeeded in becoming a successful farmer and business man, who is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

LUCAS FIDA.

Another Austrian who has made good as a farmer in Douglas county is Lucas Fida, of Belle River township. He was born in Austria on October 17, 1867, and is a son of Frank and Elizabeth (Brenner) Fida, natives of Austria, where they resided until 1880, when they brought their family to Douglas county, Minnesota, settling on a farm in Belle River township, where they spent the rest of their lives, both dying some time ago. They had devoted their lives to farming, having owned land in the old country as well as here. The father served as a soldier in the war of 1866, losing a finger on his left hand, a bullet striking him during a battle. He became owner of one hundred and ninety acres in Douglas county and was a successful farmer. He and his wife belonged to the Catholic church at Belle River. Four children were born to them, Charles, Frances (deceased), Lucas and Rosie, the latter of whom married Joe Trisko.

Lucas Fida spent his boyhood in Austria, being thirteen years old when he accompanied the family to Douglas county. He attended the public schools. He assisted his father with the general work on the farm until his marriage to Regetta Schlosser, a native of Austria. She was three years

old when her parents, Andrew Schlosser and wife, brought her to Minnesota, the family being among the pioneers in Douglas county. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fida: Anna, Elizabeth, Peter, Mary, Clara, Bernard and Albert.

Mr. Fida has always farmed. He located on his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 18 of Belle River township in 1910. He also owns twenty acres in another section. He has put on a number of important improvements, including a substantial residence. In connection with general farming he raises considerable live stock, handling a mixed grade of cattle and hogs. He is a Catholic.

JOHN BERGSTROM.

John Bergstrom, a successful farmer of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born in Norway, on June 27, 1863, the son of Halvor and Martha (Anders) Bergstrom, natives of Norway, who were there educated in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. As a young man in his native land, Halvor Bergstrom engaged in farming, and wishing to continue his farm work and feeling that the opportunities in America were better than in his own country, he and his wife decided, in 1866, to come to the United States. On their arrival in this country, they came at once to Minnesota and settled near Red Wing. There they remained one year, after which they moved to Douglas county, locating in Holmes City township. Soon after their arrival in the county, Halvor Bergstrom filed on one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 2 of that township, but owing to sickness the first winter he was unable to erect his buildings, and so sold his right. The following year he homesteaded the farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 2 of Holmes City township, on which his son, John, now resides, and there he made his home until his death in 1884.

At the time Halvor Bergstrom located on his land he was sick and in debt and it was with much difficulty that he was able to live and hold the claim. He built the first blacksmith shop in Holmes City, and there for one year he worked at his trade and was thus enabled to live. His nearest market was at Sauk Center and the first wheat crop that he raised he ground in a coffee mill. During those early and trying times, there were but few days that Indians were not seen passing the home. To Halvor

and Martha Bergstrom were born three children, John and Jennie (twins) and Andrew, the latter of whom died when but a child. Mr. and Mrs. Bergstrom were active members of the Swedish Lutheran church, and were among the most prominent and influential members of the local society, Mr. Bergstrom being one of the organizers of the Oscar Lake church.

John Bergstrom received his education in the public schools of Holmes City township, and there grew to manhood, as a lad assisting his father with the farm work. As a young man he began farming for himself on the home place where he has since resided. He now owns one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he has made all the present substantial improvements. He was married in 1890 to Rachel K. Swenson, the daughter of Ole K. Swenson, and to this union the following children have been born; Halvor, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Ole, Martha, Minnie, the latter of whom died at the age of three years, and one who died in infancy. Mrs. Bergstrom died in July, 1904.

Mr. Bergstrom and family are active members of the Lutheran church, of which he has been a trustee for the past thirty-two years. He has always taken much interest in local affairs, and has been a member of the school board for twenty years and was for a number of years a member of the township board of supervisors.

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN.

John Nicholas Brown, one of the best-known and most prominent farmers of Belle River township, Douglas county, the owner of "Brown's Dale Stock Farm," was born at Belleplaine, Scott county, Minnesota, on June 24, 1867, the son of Nicholas and Susanna (Reuter) Brown, both of whom were born in Luxemburg, Germany, where they were educated. For a number of years Nicholas Brown was employed on a vessel that plied in German waters and in 1857, at the age of twenty-one years, he decided to locate in America. Upon landing in this country he proceeded to Milwaukee, where he remained for a short time, after which he located at Belleplaine, this state, and for the next two years was employed as an engineer on a river boat that plied between Memphis and New Orleans. On November 7, 1865, he was united in marriage to Susanna Reuter, daughter of Nicholas and Josephine (Mozel) Reuter, natives of Germany, who came to this state in an early day.



MR. AND MRS. NICHOLAS BROWN.

In 1869 Nicholas and Susanna Brown moved over to Douglas county, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 18, Belle River township. The tract at that time was covered with heavy timber and brush, without any improvements. The family for the first year lived in a tent, after which a log house was constructed, in which the family resided for a number of years. For years Mr. Brown had only oxen with which to do his farming and assist him in the clearing of his land. In time the farm was cleared and good and substantial buildings took the place of the log structures that had housed the family, as well as the stock, during those pioneer days. There Mr. Brown engaged in general farming and stock raising and was successful. In time he purchased more land until he became the owner of five hundred and twenty acres. In 1908 he retired from the activities of the farm life and moved to Shakopee, where Mrs. Brown died on August 5, 1913. They were the parents of the following children: John Nicholas, the subject of this sketch; Josephine, who was drowned in a well at the age of six years; one who died in infancy, and Susanna, who married Thomas Nickoley, superintendent of the Scott county schools, to which union five children have been born, Cecelia (deceased), Clement, Genevive, Georgina and Virginia.

John Nicholas Brown received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and in St. John's University, at St. John's, Minnesota. As a lad and during his summer vacations, while attending school, he assisted his father with the work on the farm, and remained at home until his marriage on October 5, 1897, to Sophia Hintzen, who was born in Douglas county, daughter of Leonard and Elizabeth (Fuchs) Hintzen. At that time John Nicholas Brown had one hundred and sixty acres in section 18, a part of the old homestead, and there he and his wife lived until 1908, when they took up their residence at the old home of the father of Mr. Brown, in section 7, where he is operating three hundred and twenty acres of land and is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has some excellent registered cattle and hogs and is recognized as one of the most successful breeders in the county, his cattle and hogs finding ready sale. Of his cattle that deserve special mention are two cows, "Alexandria Aaltje Dekol, seventh, No. 135444 H. F. H. B.," and "Lady Gerti Aaltje Dekol, No. 243785 H. F. H. B." He also has a registered sire that has attracted considerable attention. His cattle are all of the Holstein-Fresian breed and are the best that can be produced. His hogs are Duroc-Jerseys, among which is a boar, "Jim No. 161401" and a sow, "Brown Betty No. 498852," that are most

excellent specimens of the breed. Mr. Brown keeps one of the finest dairy herds in the county.

John Nicholas and Sophia (Hitzen) Brown are the parents of four children, Josephine, Marion, Elizabeth and Nicholas. Josephine Brown is taking a course in nursing at the Illinois Post-Graduate Hospital, Chicago. Marion Brown is a graduate of St. Benedict's Academy, at St. Joseph, Minnesota, and Elizabeth and Nicholas Brown are attending public school. The family are devout members of the St. Nicholas Catholic church and are among the highly respected people of the township and county, active in the social and religious affairs of the community in which they live. Mr. Brown has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has done much for the general advancement of the district. He has served as a member of the board of supervisors and as a member of the school board.

ISACK ISACKSON.

Isack Isackson, a native of Wisconsin, and one of the well-known and successful farmers of Holmes City township, Douglas county, Minnesota, was born on August 31, 1857, the son of Lars and Anna (Ballestad) Isackson.

Lars and Anna Isackson were natives of Norway and there grew to manhood and womanhood. Lars Isackson came to the United States in 1843 and Anna Ballestad came in 1849. In 1865 they were married and settled in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, where they resided until 1868. Lars Isackson was a soldier in Company D, Forty-seventh Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, in 1865. In 1868 he and his wife came to Minnesota. Here Lars Isackson purchased one hundred and eighty-five acres of timberland of a homesteader, the farm being the one Isack Isackson now owns in Holmes City township. Here the father erected buildings, cleared some of the land and engaged in general farming. Here he and his wife made their home until the time of their deaths some years ago. They were the parents of three children, Isack, Carrie and Anton. Carrie and Anton are both deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Isackson were prominent and active members of the Trysil Lutheran church and took much interest in church work.

Isack Isackson received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and continued to live on the old farm since first he came there with his parents from Wisconsin. He has devoted his life to general farming

and stock raising and has been quite successful. He has added to the original farm until he is now the owner of three hundred and fifty-one acres, all of which is well under cultivation and nicely improved, with substantial buildings, which have been erected by Mr. Isackson. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and the keeping of good stock.

In 1901 Isack Isackson was united in marriage to Dordie Mauseth, a daughter of John Mauseth, a native of Norway. To this union the following children have been born: Ragna, Lannie, Mary and Gerhard. Mr. and Mrs. Isackson are members of the Trysil Lutheran church and are well known in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Isackson is interested in the Holmes City Fire Insurance Company and in the Holmes City creamery.

CHARLES KLOEHN.

Charles Kloehn, a retired farmer and a well-known resident of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on January 8, 1852, the son of William and Henrietta (Shultz) Kloehn, who were born in Germany, and there received their education in the public schools and grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. In 1847 they decided to locate in the United States and after their arrival in this country they proceeded directly to Wisconsin and located in Dodge county, that state. There they purchased a farm, which they developed and improved and on which they spent the rest of their lives, Mr. Kloehn dying on October 8, 1908, and his widow, September 13, 1912, at the age of eighty-four years. William Kloehn was eighty years of age at the time of his death. He and his wife were the parents of five children, August, Charles, Fred, Amelia and Henry. The family were prominent in the community in which they lived and were highly respected.

Charles Kloehn received his education in the local schools of Dodge county, Wisconsin, in an old log school house. He grew to manhood there and engaged in farming. He was there married on November 13, 1872, to Albertine Bruske, who was born on October 21, 1851. To this union six children were born, William (deceased), Charles, Gustave, Dena, Anna and Amelia. Dena Kloehn married Carl Klug, who owns the old home farm, Mr. and Mrs. Kloehn living with them.

Before his retirement, Charles Kloehn was the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 17 of Ida township, which he purchased

in 1884 and which he developed and improved and there engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful. After having assisted his children to start in life, he sold the farm and retired from the activities of farm life. In addition to his farm interests, Mr. Kloehn was interested in the Garfield creamery, which interests he still holds. He is also the owner of stock in the farmers elevator and in the bank at Garfield.

Charles Kloehn has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has exerted his influence in the promotion of all enterprises that had a tendency toward the growth and the betterment of the township and the county. He served as township treasurer as well as township assessor for a number of years. He and his wife are active members of the German Lutheran church and are prominent in the work of the local society. Mr. Kloehn has had an active and useful life and has accomplished much that is good, not alone for himself and family, but for the community as well. He and his family are held in the highest regard and have long been active in the social and religious life of the township.

P. C. BROWN.

P. C. Brown, who is engaged in the insurance and loan business at Elbow Lake, was born near Colfax, Illinois, August 31, 1879, a son of J. M. Brown, born in Virginia, and Martha (Ray) Brown, born in Woodford, Illinois.

J. M. Brown served for four years as a soldier in the Confederate army, during the Civil War, participating in the battle of Gettysburg and many other engagements. Returning to his home in Virginia after the close of the war, he remained a short time and then removed to Illinois, and afterwards to Iowa. He now lives at Madelia, Minnesota. He is the father of nine children: Lillian, Charles, Viola, Maytie, P. C., Bessie, James (deceased), Edna and Erma.

P. C. Brown was educated in the public schools and the high school, at Blairsburg, Iowa. After his school years he turned his attention to farming and for six years farmed near Blairsburg and then for one year at Buffalo Center, Iowa. In 1910 he associated himself with his brother, C. E. Brown, in the real-estate business at Madelia, Minnesota. In the fall of that year he opened an office at New Richland, Waseca county,

Minnesota, and took the management of that office. In the summer of 1912 he was traveling for the Ulland Land Company, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. In the fall of that year they opened up a real estate office in Elbow Lake, known as the Brown & Ulland Land Company, with Mr. Brown as manager. Mr. Brown is also president of the North Minnesota Land Company at Newfolden and is associated with real estate offices at Kensington, Fergus Falls and Ada, this state, and Cogsville, North Dakota. In addition to the general real estate business these offices also handle loans and insurance.

In 1911 P. C. Brown was married to Charlotte Rice, daughter of Joseph Rice, of Madelia, and to this union three children have been born, Charles George, Clifton James and Harry Bernard. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Brown is at present secretary and treasurer of the Farmers and Merchants Club of Elbow Lake. He is a keen young business man, and a general all-around "booster" for the town.

AXEL MELIN.

Axel Melin, one of the well-known young farmers of Douglas county, was born in Leaf Valley township, that county, on June 24, 1884, the son of Andrew and Albertina (Engstrom) Melin, natives of Sweden, who came to the United States, proceeding directly to Michigan, where Andrew Melin worked in the copper mines for a few years. He then came to Minnesota and purchased eighty acres of land in Douglas county at one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. He remained on that farm for a few years and then removed to Leaf Valley township, where he purchased a farm in section 35, which he developed and improved and there he made his home until the time of his death in 1908, at the age of seventy-four years. His widow died in 1910 at the age of sixty-six years. They were the parents of six children, Charles, Albert, Victor, Hannah, Axel and Sophia. Mr. and Mrs. Melin were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and active in the social life of the community, where they were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them.

Axel Melin received his education in the common schools of Douglas county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work on the farm. He is now the owner of eighty acres of land in Ida township, which he purchased some years ago and

where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has improved the farm with a large barn, thirty-two by fifty feet, that he built in 1914, and a substantial and modern house in 1915. He is a shareholder in the grain elevator and potato warehouse and local telephone company at Garfield. Mr. Melin is a man of excellent judgment and a thorough and systematic farmer. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil. Though still a young man, he is recognized as one of the progressive and successful farmers of the township. He has always taken a keen interest in local affairs and is ever ready to assist in any worthy undertaking that tends to the betterment of the township and the county.

ERICK E. DAHL.

Erick E. Dahl, one of the well-known and prominent farmers of Moe township, Douglas county, Minnesota, was born in Norway on January 13, 1866, son of Erick S. and Ragnhild Dalen, natives of Norway, who spent their lives in that country, their deaths occurring many years ago. Erick S. Dalen was twice married. By his first wife, Kresti, he had six children, Sigurd, John, Lars, Hans, Erick and Kjersti. By his second wife, Ragnhild, he had seven children, Knut, Ole, Hans, Erick E., Christina, Gurinne and Mary.

After the death of his father, Erick E. Dahl took his mother and left the home of his nativity and came to America in 1890. He had received his education in the public schools of Norway and was there engaged as a farmer. On his arrival in the United States he proceeded directly to North Dakota and there located in Cavalier county, where he remained for nine years, at the end of which time, in 1899, he returned to Norway, where he remained until 1900. He then returned to the United States, and again located in North Dakota, where he obtained a homestead in McLean county, which he developed and improved and remained a resident of that county for five years. In 1910 he came to Minnesota, where he located on his present farm, in section 14 of Moe township, Douglas county, where he has done much in the way of substantial improvement, having built his barn, thirty-four by sixty feet in 1916, as well as having placed many other improvements.

Erick E. Dahl was united in marriage to Anna Gustava Baglo, the

daughter of Andrew Baglo, and to this union four children have been born, Gladys, Emma, Edwin and Julia. Mr. and Mrs. Dahl are devout members of the Lutheran church, and take much interest in church work. They are held in high esteem by all who know them.

Andrew Baglo, father of Mrs. Dahl, was born in Norway on November 4, 1848, the son of Andrew and Johanna (Raldatter) Borson, who spent their lives in Norway and reared a family of twelve children. Andrew Baglo received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. As a young man he learned the blacksmith trade, at which he worked for many years. In 1880 he came to Minnesota and located in Alexandria. He later purchased a farm of ninety acres in Brandon township, where he lived for two years. He then bought one hundred and two acres in section 14 of Moe township, where he has lived since 1884.

On January 29, 1874, Andrew Baglo was united in marriage to Gurn Anna Andersdatter Kvam, and to this union two children were born, Mrs. Dahl having had a brother, John Albert, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Baglo are active members of the East Moe Lutheran church and take a keen interest in church work. Mr. Baglo is a trustee of the local society and has served as leader of the church choir for many years. The family have been prominent in the social and religious activities of the township for many years.

PEDER MOXNESS.

Peder Moxness, one of the young farmers of Douglas county, was born in Norway on September 13, 1879, a son of Ole C. and Betsy (Gunder-son) Moxness, natives of Norway, where they grew up and were married. They brought their family to America about 1880, coming on direct from New York City to Alexandria, Minnesota. The father learned the carpenter's trade when a young man and followed that trade in the old country, but upon coming here he bought eighty acres of land in Brandon township where he spent the rest of his life engaged in farming, dying there at the age of sixty years on June 7, 1902. His widow still survives, having celebrated her seventy-seventh birthday on June 20, 1916. They were the parents of seven children, John, Gunder, Laura, Ole, Hannah, Peder and Julia. The father of these children developed a farm here from the

wild prairie, making all the improvements. He was an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Peder Moxness grew upon the farm in Brandon township, having been but a small child when his parents brought him from his native land. He received his education in the district schools here and has remained on the homestead, which he purchased eight years ago. It consists of eighty acres, as before stated, and he has kept the same well improved and well cultivated, but most of the present improvements were made by his father. He has remained unmarried and makes his home with his mother. Politically, he is independent.

HERMAN SUCKOW.

Herman Suckow, a well-known resident of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Germany on August 26, 1866, the son of Fred and Carolina Suckow, who were born in Germany and there were educated in the public schools, and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. Fred Suckow engaged in farming in his native country and was considered one of the successful farmers of the community in which he lived. He served two terms in the German army and became proficient in the manual of arms. In 1884 he and his wife decided to locate in America, and after landing in this country they proceeded directly to Wisconsin, where Mr. Suckow purchased a farm in Wakesha county, and there he engaged in farming for ten years, at the end of which time he and his family came to Minnesota. He purchased a comfortable house in Alexandria and now lives a retired life. Fred Suckow and wife are the parents of seven children, Anna, Theodore, Herman, Rudolph, Frank, Freda and Stena. Mr. Suckow always took an active part in local affairs and he and his family were prominent in the social and religious activities of the community.

Herman Suckow received his education in the public schools of his native land and in Wisconsin, where he attended some school after coming to this country with his parents, at the age of eighteen years. After completing his education, and on reaching manhood, he came to Minnesota and purchased ninety-five acres in section 25 of Ida township, Douglas county. The land at that time was for the most part in a wild state. This he developed and in time added to the original tract, until he is now the owner of two hundred and fifteen acres of land, one hundred and eighty acres of



HERMAN SUCKOW AND FAMILY, AND RESIDENCE.

which is subject to cultivation; seventy-five of which is now cleared, the balance in meadow, timber and pasture. The waters of Lake Carlos lap the border of the farm, adding much to the beauty of the place. During his early life on the farm, Mr. Suckow devoted much of his time to his trade, that of a carpenter, and in this way was enabled to add to his stock of cash while getting his farm in shape for cultivation. In 1915 he retired from his carpenter work and is now devoting his entire attention to his farm interests. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has met with much success. He has some fine Shorthorn and Durham cattle, most of which are dairy cattle. He keeps a few hogs which he feeds for the market. In addition to his hogs and cattle he keeps about seventy-five hives of bees, and sells much honey.

In 1894 Herman Suckow was married to Emma Quast, a native of Wisconsin, and to this union has been born one child, Eddie, who works in a garage at Alexandria. Mr. and Mrs. Suckow attend the Lutheran church and take much interest in church work, liberal subscribers to the support of the local church. Mr. Suckow has always taken much interest in local affairs, particularly in the success and development of the schools of the township, and for a number of years has served as treasurer of the school board.

ALFRED FOSLIEN.

Alfred Foslien, a successful and well-known farmer of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, September 19, 1875, the son of F. K. and Anna Mary (Gilbertson) Foslien.

Knut and Anna (Kittleston) Foslien, the parents of F. K. Foslien, were natives of Norway and were there educated in the public schools and there grew to manhood and womanhood. Knut Foslien came to America in 1848 and located in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming and stock raising, and lived until the time of his death, many years ago. After the death of the husband and father, the widow came to Minnesota with her children and located in Brandon township, Douglas county, where she is still living. To Knut and Anna Foslien were born the following children, F. K., Rachel, Mary, Anna, Julia, Carrie, Charley and Ole.

F. K. Foslien was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, on September 3, 1850, and received his education in the public schools and at Clinton Junc-

tion. As a young man he worked on a farm and later conducted a photograph gallery at Clinton Junction. In 1876 he came to Minnesota and purchased a farm of one hundred and ninety acres in Moe township. The tract at that time was a wild prairie, a part of which was covered with thick brush. The place was later cleared and improved with good and substantial buildings, and there Mr. Foslien has engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has since made that farm his home, although he is now retired from the active duties of farm life.

In 1874 F. K. Foslien was united in marriage to Mary Gilbertson, and to this union three children have been born, Alfred, Julia, and Clarence. Mr. and Mrs. Foslien have long been members of the Lutheran church and have taken much interest in church work, Mr. Foslien having served as deacon for many years. In addition to his many other duties, he has always taken much interest in local affairs and was for years the clerk of the school board.

Alfred Foslien received his education in the public schools of Moe township and later attended school at Brandon. He grew to manhood on the home farm and as a young man farmed with his father. In 1896 he started farming the place for himself, where he is now active and successful in general farming and stock raising. He has been, for the past twelve years interested in the breeding of Shorthorn cattle, and today has a fine herd of thirty head. He also has a fine bunch of Yorkshire hogs. In connection with his other work, Mr. Foslien has for the past two years been the manager of the Farmers Shipping Association at Garfield.

In 1895 Alfred Foslien was united in marriage to Emma Larson, who died on March 24, 1905. To that union, six children were born, Freddie, Arthur, Clarence, Evelyn, Cora and Emma. In April, 1907, Mr. Foslien married Johanna Nessgaard, who died on March 11, 1914. To this union five children were born, Mildred, Florence, Henry, Arnold and Neoma. On October 12, 1915, Mr. Foslien was united in marriage to Lena Thompson, the daughter of J. Thompson, a prominent resident of the county. The children of Mr. Foslien are all living.

Alfred Foslien and family are active members of the Lutheran church, and are active in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Foslien has always taken a keen interest in local affairs, and has served as a member of the township board of supervisors, of which he was chairman. He has been an insurance agent for the past eight years and is now the agent for the Moe and Urness Fire Insurance Company; also vice-president of the

Farmers Elevator Company at Garfield. Mr. Foslien is widely known locally as a musician and has successfully taught music. In 1910 he organized the Scandia Concert Band of Moe and has also acted as instructor for the Brandon band, the Garfield band and the Moe and Urness band, rendering valuable service in that connection.

ERICK JOHNSON.

Erick Johnson, a well-known and successful farmer, of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on March 7, 1858, son of John and Christina (Erickson) Johnson, also natives of Sweden, who remained residents of their native country, engaged in farming, until 1879, when they came to Minnesota, John Johnson homesteading forty acres of land in Ida township, Douglas county. He also bought eighty acres of railroad land in that same township. The tract at that time was all undeveloped and unimproved, being covered with some heavy timber and much brush. He built a small log house in which the family lived for some years. The land was later developed and improved, good and substantial buildings were erected and there John Johnson engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death in 1908, at the age of seventy-five years.

To John and Christina Johnson were born four sons, Erick, John (deceased), Charles and Axel. Charles Johnson is a well-known farmer of Ida township, his farm being located near that of his brother Erick, and Axel Johnson lives in Cass county, Minnesota, where he is successfully engaged in the saw-mill business. After the death of Christian Erickson Johnson, John Johnson was united in marriage to Hannah Louise Anderson. He and his family were prominent in the social and religious life of the township and were highly respected by all who knew them. Mr. Johnson's life was an active one and he was regarded as a man of much ability and force of character. He took an active interest in all local affairs and did much toward the development and improvement of the community in which he and his family lived.

Erick Johnson received his education in the public schools of his native country and remained a resident of the land of his birth until he was twenty-one years of age. On his arrival in the United States he located in South Dakota, where he remained for two years, engaged as a farm hand. He then came to Minnesota, where he lived with his parents, who

had located in Douglas county. He remained at home for some years and was employed in grading on the railroad for about ten years. He then engaged in farming in section 18 of Ida township, where he had bought eighty acres of land, which at that time was covered with timber and brush. There he built a small frame house and proceeded to clear and develop the tract. He remained there some years and then removed to Marshall county, this state where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres and purchased eighty acres more. He remained there eight years, at the end of which time he sold the land and returned to Douglas county, again taking up his residence on his farm in Ida township, where he made valuable improvements, erected excellent buildings and there he has continued to reside, engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been successful. His farm is under a high state of cultivation and his residence is one of the best in the community.

Twenty-five years ago Erick Johnson was united in marriage to Hilma Mod and to this union the following children were born: Emily, Oscar, Edward, Carl and Alma, and Paul and Annie, deceased. Mrs. Hilma Johnson died a number of years ago and Mr. Johnson later was united in marriage to Mrs. Ida Maria Anderson, a widow and the mother of four children, Alex, Fritz, Harold and Olga, by her first marriage.

Mr. Johnson is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in local affairs, ever ready to use his influence in the promotion of any project that would tend to the advancement of the township. He is a stockholder in the Garfield creamery and has done much toward its success. He and his wife are prominent members of the Mission church and take much interest in church work.

CONSTANT A. WESEN.

Constant A. Wesen, farmer of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born in Pope county, Minnesota, December 23, 1872, a son of Claus and Anna (Oberg) Wesen, both natives of Sweden. The father was born in 1843, and when but twenty-one years old, in 1864, he came to America, locating for a short time in Illinois, where he engaged in railroad construction work. He helped survey for the Northern Pacific's main line through Minnesota. He was married after coming to America and he and his wife both cooked for the railroad workers. His first permanent location was

when he homesteaded forty acres in Holmes City township, Douglas county, later buying one hundred and twenty acres adjoining, which he finally sold. He now lives in North Dakota, having been retired for ten or twelve years. He took up a homestead there of one hundred and twenty acres. His family consisted of fourteen children, Minnie, Jennie, Charles, Constant, Theo, Adolph, Oscar, Edgar, Elmer, Emma, Anna, Victor, Louis and Albin, all of whom are living but the last named.

Constant A. Wesen grew up in Douglas county where he attended the common schools. He began farming for himself by renting land one year, then in 1901 he went to North Dakota, locating in what is now Renville county, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, on which he spent six and one-half years. He added to his original holdings until he owned two hundred and forty acres. He returned to Douglas county in 1907, soon thereafter buying his present farm of seventy-five acres in Holmes City township, to which he later added twenty acres, and here he has since resided, carrying on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Wesen was married in 1900 to Adina Mattson, who was born in Holmes City township, Douglas county, a daughter of John and Stena (Hawkinson) Mattson, both natives of Sweden, and to this union six children have been born, Alfred, Mabel, Delphen, Fern, Marvin and Hazel. Mr. Wesen has always taken an active part in public affairs and has been a member of the local township board and of the school board. While in North Dakota he helped organize his township and was a member of the township board until he moved away. He was also a member of the school board there.

John Mattson, father of Mrs. Wesen, grew up and married in Sweden, from which country he removed with his family to America, first locating in Illinois, thence moving to Redwing, Minnesota. He drove an ox team from St. Paul to Douglas county, in 1866, being among the early pioneers here. He took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Holmes City township, where he resided until his death in 1914, his wife having preceded him to the grave in 1894. He did well as a general farmer and became owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and fifty-three acres. He bought and sold considerable land at different times. He served as school treasurer for many years, having been first elected a member of the board about 1870. His family consisted of the following children: Christine, Matilda (deceased), Carl (deceased), Theodore, Adolph, Elida and Adina. Mr. Mattson helped organize the Oscar Lake Lutheran church and his name was the first to go on the church books. He always bore an excellent reputation.

WILLIAM HERMANSON.

Among the substantial farmers of Ida township, Douglas county, is William Hermanson, who was born in Sweden on February 19, 1858, the son of Herman and Mary (Olson) Larson, both of whom were natives of Sweden.

Herman Larson followed the occupation of a farmer in his native land and was also engaged in the fishing industry there. He came to America eight years after his son, William, had arrived here, and lived on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres which his sons had purchased in Minnesota. Later he moved to a farm near Chippewa Lake, where he remained several years, but is now living with his son, Carl, near Brandon, at the advanced age of ninety years. His wife is eighty-one years of age. They were the parents of ten children, Emil, William, Emma, Louis, Carl, Anna, Mary, Mina, Augusta and Herman, all of whom are living in the United States, with the exception of Emma, who is deceased.

William Hermanson received his education in the schools of his native land, and served one year in the Swedish army. At the age of twenty-two he came to the United States. His first employment was in the coal mines of Pennsylvania, where he worked for six months. From there he went to Howard Lake, Wright county, Minnesota, where an uncle lived, and there he spent some months in school. He then went to Minneapolis, where he worked for the Flour City Transfer Company for twelve years. While working in Minneapolis, he together with his brothers, Emil and Carl, purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Douglas county for his father and family to live on, who had come over from Sweden. After leaving Minneapolis, Mr. Hermanson came to his farm in Douglas county, and at once began to improve the place in various ways. The first house built on this farm was a small frame house, which the family lived in until 1908, in which year a new house was erected. The old house still stands on the place, being used as a granary. Later Carl sold to William his part and the latter now has eighty acres of well improved land, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

William Hermanson has been twice married, his first wife, to whom he was married in 1886, having been Sophia Jacobson. After her death Mr. Hermanson was married in 1894 to Mrs. Anna (Anderson) Nelson, a widow with one son, David. Mr. Hermanson has two children by his first marriage, Esther and Oscar, and by his second marriage, one son, Bennie, who is now

living at home with his parents. Esther is the wife of Simon Witham, and is living in Canada, where her husband conducts a general store and the postoffice. Oscar also lives in Canada.

Mr. Hermanson is a Republican and has served his township as school clerk of district No. 17. He is a stockholder in the Garfield creamery, and takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the civic welfare of his community and township. He is a member of the Swedish Mission church.

THEODORE FOSLIEN.

Among the well-known and successful farmers of Moe township, Douglas county, is Theodore Foslien, a native of that township, born on the old Foslien homestead on June 8, 1880, the son of Haaken and Sarah Anna (Winkjer) Foslien, natives of Rock county, Wisconsin, and Norway, respectively, the former having been born on March 4, 1849, and the latter, July 7, 1850. The father received his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and there grew to manhood on the home farm. In 1868 he came to Minnesota and purchased a farm in Moe township, Douglas county. He developed and improved his farm of two hundred acres, and engaged in general farming and stock raising, being among the successful men of the township. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Emma, Minda, Theodore, Lewis, Henry and Lizzie.

The paternal grandparents of Theodore Foslien were Even and Ranga (Paulson) Foslien, natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1843 and located in Rock county, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1868, when they came to Minnesota, locating in Moe township, Douglas county. There the grandfather became a successful farmer and before his death became the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, Fingenr E., Paul, Haaken, Even, Mary, Guri and Ole, the latter of whom died at the age of six years.

Theodore Foslien received his education in the public schools of Moe township, and at the State Agricultural College, from which institution he was graduated in 1907. As a lad and young man he decided that he would be a farmer and was firm in the belief that a course in the agricultural school would better prepare him for his life work. Upon completing his schooling he began farming on the home farm, where he remained until 1911, when he came to his present farm, where he has done much in the way of improve-

ment, having placed all the buildings, with the exception of the house and the granary. In addition to the buildings he has done much in the way of development and today has one of the best farms in the community. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He has always taken a keen interest in local affairs and has served as a member of the board of township supervisors, of which he was chairman.

In 1911 Theodore Foslien was united in marriage to Gunda Arneson, a daughter of Knut Arneson, a well-known farmer of the county, and to this union two children have been born, Lydia and Harold. Mr. and Mrs. Foslien are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in church work. They are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. They are most hospitable and their home is often the scene of happy companies. They take much interest in all movements that have a tendency to raise the standard of living in the community in which they live.

PETER T. OMLAND.

One of the successful farmers of Holmes City township, Douglas county, is Peter T. Omland, a Norwegian by birth, who was born in Norway, April 30, 1869, a son of Thomas and Inger (Peterson) Omland, both of whom were natives of the same country and who are still living in Norway, where the father follows the occupation of a farmer. Thomas Omland and wife were the parents of two children, Peter T. and Sophia.

Peter T. Omland received his educational training in the schools of his native land and in 1888 came to America, proceeding at once to Minnesota and locating in Holmes City township, Douglas county. He is the owner of a good farm of eighty acres, on which he has placed all of the buildings and the various improvements which go to make it one of the best in the township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has met with success in his chosen calling.

Mr. Omland has been twice married, his first wife having been Olea Eleffson, to which union was born one son, Oliver P. In 1901 Mr. Omland was married to Regina Christiansen, who was born on March 8, 1869, the daughter of Simon and Ingebard (Larson) Christiansen. Simon Christiansen and his family came to this country from Norway in 1866, locating



RESIDENCE OF PETER T. OHLAND.

at once in Douglas county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 4 of Holmes City township, and on that farm he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1901. He and his wife were the parents of two children, Christ Simonson, and Regina, the wife of Mr. Omland.

Politically, Mr. Omland is a Republican. He and his wife are earnest members of the Lutheran church and Mr. Omland is now serving as trustee of the local church of that denomination.

CARL O. LINNARD.

Carl O. Linnard, one of the younger farmers and highly respected citizens of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in that township, on November 27, 1891, the son of John A. and Caroline (Nelson) Linnard.

Andrew Severson, his paternal grandfather, was a native of Sweden, who spent all his life there engaged in farming. The father, John A. Linnard, was born and reared in Sweden and there grew to manhood, as a lad and young man working on the farm. A number of his young friends and neighbors had left the land of their nativity and had come to America. Their glowing accounts of the advantages to the young man in the United States, caused John A. Linnard to decide to join them in the new land. On his arrival in this country he came directly to Minnesota, arriving at Alexandria on May 16, 1870. There he worked in a blacksmith shop until 1874, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of school land in section 16 of Brandon township, which he later developed and improved, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1875 John A. Linnard was united in marriage to Caroline Nelson and to that union the following children were born: Mina, Ida, Emil, Amanda, Hilma, Julia, Hannah, Carl O., Jennie and Ella. Caroline Linnard died a number of years ago. After a successful life as a farmer, Mr. Linnard retired four years ago and moved to Brandon, where he now lives. During his active life Mr. Linnard accumulated some five hundred acres of good land, the most of which he developed and improved. He is the owner of stock in the First National Bank at Brandon and is one of the directors of the same, as well as vice-president of the bank at Garfield. He is also the owner of stock in the Farmers Elevator Company and in the creamery at

Brandon. In addition to his many other duties, Mr. Linnard always has taken much interest in the civic life of the community and was for twenty-five years a member of the board of supervisors of Brandon township. On his retirement, he sold his land and assisted his children to establish homes.

Carl O. Linnard received his education in the common and high schools of Douglas county. Upon completing his schooling he engaged in farming and now owns one hundred and twenty acres of the old homestead, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He raises Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs and is to some extent engaged in the dairy business. He built a large silo in 1915. He is the owner of stock in the Brandon creamery, has an automobile, and has a telephone and enjoys the benefits of rural free mail delivery. He is unmarried and lives at his home in Brandon township. He has always taken much interest in local affairs and is recognized as one of the progressive young men of the community.

JOHN SMITH.

John Smith, now living in honorable retirement in his pleasant home in Holmes City, is one of those coming from a foreign strand who have made good in Douglas county, his own efforts having brought to him well-deserved success. Mr. Smith, whose name was Olson by birth, was born in Sweden on March 25, 1842, a son of Olaf and Christine (Larson) Olson, both natives of Sweden. His maternal grandfather, Jacob Larson, was born in Germany. The parents of Mr. Smith lived and died in Sweden, devoting their active lives to farming on a place of their own. Their family consisted of four sons, Olaf, Jacob, John and Peter, of whom the subject of this sketch is now the only survivor.

John Smith grew to manhood in Sweden, where he received a common-school education. He came directly from that country to Minnesota in 1868, remaining ten years in Goodhue county, where he owned a farm of eighty acres; and for a time one hundred acres, twenty miles from Redwing. In the winter of 1877 he came to Douglas county, visiting the present site of the village of Holmes City. In 1878 he purchased one hundred and seventy acres there, a part of which land is now within the village limits. He gave one acre to the village and one-half acre to the Swedish Lutheran church, of which he and his wife are members. When he first came here there were

but three residences and a school house in the vicinity. Only fourteen acres of his tract of land here had been cleared when he took possession. Ninety acres were cleared and under cultivation when he sold it in 1914. He erected good buildings thereon and made other extensive improvements. In 1914 he erected another modern dwelling which he still occupies. Since selling his farm he has lived retired from active pursuits.

Mr. Smith was married in 1863 to Anna Johanson, also a native of Sweden, and to their union two children have been born, Christine and John Olaf. Mr. Smith is a Republican and has been active in local public affairs. He served as a member of the village school board and as road boss in the village and also was a trustee of the Swedish Lutheran church for a period of seventeen years.

HENRY L. SATERLEE.

One of the farmers of Evansville township, Douglas county, who has been contented to remain in his home locality is Henry L. Saterlee. He was born on the old homestead in section 20 of that township on September 29, 1886, a son of John and Carrie (Barlough) Saterlee, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and were married. John Saterlee was for some time a drill officer in the Norwegian army. In private life he farmed on his father's land. He came to America in 1867, first locating in Rice county, Minnesota, but in 1869 came to Douglas county, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Evansville township, having made the trip here driving a team of oxen. He improved his land and erected buildings, living first in a dug-out for four years, then built a log house. He had no crop the first year, and only three acres of wheat the second. The nearest market was Morris, nearly forty miles away. He persevered and became very comfortably situated, built a good home, set out a nice grove and made various improvements, including numerous outbuildings, and there he and his wife are still living, the place now being operated by their son, the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Saterlee are among the best known and most highly respected pioneers of Douglas county. Twelve children were born to them, namely: Sivert M., who lives at Rugby, North Dakota, where he has large farming interests; Nels O., who is farming at Bynum, Montana; John, who is also farming at Bynum, Montana; Andrew, who is a homesteader at Rugby, North Dakota; Tilda, the widow of Ole Howey,

who died in March, 1916, after homesteading land at Norwich, North Dakota; Lena, unmarried, who had a homestead at Bynum, Montana, but is now living at Great Falls, North Dakota; Clara, who married Will Nott, a grain buyer at Hingham, Montana, where he also has a homestead; Henry L., the subject of this sketch; Amanda, the youngest living child, who married Herman Hanson and lives in Dooley, Montana; Julia (deceased), who married Lars Anderson, of Rugby, North Dakota, where her death occurred; Sjur, who died while crossing the Atlantic and was buried at sea, and Ole, who also is deceased.

Henry Saterlee grew to manhood on the home farm and received his early education in the public schools of Evansville township, later attending the National Business College at Minneapolis, also Elster Business College at Alexandria. He remained at home a number of years after reaching manhood, assisting with the work on the farm. In 1912 he went to Dooley, Montana, where he engaged in the hotel business for two years, then sold out and came home to take care of his parents the rest of their lives. They gave him the homestead, which he has kept well cultivated and is carrying on general farming and stock raising. The father was township trustee for over thirty-five years and also held school offices. He is a trustee in the Norwegian Lutheran church, to which the family belongs.

PETER M. HJELM.

Douglas county ranks high as a wheat-producing section, and therefore a number of good flouring mills have been established within her borders, one of which is operated by Peter M. Hjelm, of Holmes City. Mr. Hjelm was born in Sweden in 1873. He is a son of Martin and Christine (Anderson) Hjelm, both natives of Sweden from which country the father removed with the family to America in 1893, locating soon thereafter in LaGrand township, Douglas county, Minnesota, where he purchased eighty acres. He now lives on a ten-acre place in the southwestern corner of that township. His wife died just before he left Sweden, and he remarried in America. He is the father of nine children by his first wife, of whom five are living, Andrew, Peter M., Erick, Caroline and Anna. The father belongs to the Swedish Mission church.

Peter M. Hjelm grew up in Sweden and there received his education in the public schools. There he learned the carpenter's trade, which he fol-

lowed for a time after coming to Minnesota. In 1901 he built the Holmes City flour mill. It was first owned by Hjelm Brothers in partnership with John Bergstrom, the latter selling out to Andrew and Peter M. Hjelm in 1903. The brothers also own a valuable and well-improved farm of one hundred and fifty acres, which is operated by Andrew Hjelm, while the subject of this sketch looks after the mill. Peter M. Hjelm also assisted in organizing the Holmes City Telephone Company in the year 1911 and has since been president of the same.

Mr. Hjelm was married in 1900 to Anna Oberg, a native of Sweden, from which country she came to America when three years of age with her parents, Halver Oberg and wife, who are now living on a farm in Moe township, Douglas county. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hjelm: Hildur, Roy, Harvie, Helen, Anna, Mildred, Pear, Woodrow, Marvin (deceased), and Norman. Mr. Hjelm is a Democrat.

PETER O. MYHR.

Peter O. Myhr, one of the prominent and successful men of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born in Norway, on June 11, 1854, the son of Ole P. and Julia (Ingebrigtsen) Myhr, also natives of Norway, where they were married. Ole P. Myhr was a farmer in his native land. In 1865 he and his wife decided that they would leave the home of their nativity and seek a home in America. Upon landing in the United States, they proceeded to Illinois and there located on a farm in Winnebago county, where they remained until 1872, in which year they came to Minnesota and purchased a farm near Brandon, in Douglas county. The farm was developed and there Mr. and Mrs. Myhr lived until they retired from the activities of farm life and removed to Evansville, where Mr. Myhr died some years later. The widow, after the death of her husband, resided with her son, Peter O. Myhr, in Holmes City township, where she died. Ole O. Myhr devoted his life to farming and was successful. He and his wife were the parents of three children: Peter O., Caroline and Mary. Caroline is the wife of Ole Kron and Mary is the wife of the Rev. Christian Sogstad, a well-known minister of the Lutheran church.

Peter O. Myhr received his education in the public schools of Illinois and Douglas county, Minnesota. He grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the farm work. As a young man,

he began farming for himself on a rented farm near Brandon. He later owned various farms in Holmes City township and in 1891 located on his present home place. There he now has one hundred and seventy acres, he having sold forty acres of a farm of two hundred and ten acres to his son. He has developed about fifty acres of the tract and has erected all the present substantial buildings.

In 1879 Peter O. Myhr was united in marriage to Hannah H. Stranvold, who was born in Norway and who came to the United States in 1868 with her parents, who located on the farm that adjoins her present home. It is there that the parents, Hans and Ragnel (Olson) Stranvold, have since resided. They were the parents of three children, Hannah H., Helga and Mary. Helga died at the age of twenty-eight years.

Peter O. and Hannah H. Myhr are the parents of the following children: Regna, Henry O., Helga (deceased), Helga, Percilla and Martin. The family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Myhr is interested in the Holmes City creamery and in the White Bear Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He takes much interest in local affairs, and being a man of wide experience and excellent judgment, his advice is often sought on matters of public interest and moment. He is a believer in public improvements and in the highest standard of living.

JOHN S. BENSON.

John S. Benson, one of the successful farmers of Solem township, Douglas county, was born on the Atlantic ocean, during the voyage of his parents to the United States, on May 19, 1870, the son of Peter and Segre (Benson) Benson, natives of Norway, who decided to seek for themselves a home in America. Upon their arrival in the United States they came directly to Minnesota and located in Solem township, Douglas county, where the father worked as a farm hand for three years, after which he homesteaded in the township. His one hundred and sixty acres at that time was for the most part a wild tract, which he later developed and improved, the same becoming recognized as one of the best farms in the community. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising for thirty years and was quite successful. He continued to live on the homestead until his retirement some years ago, and now makes his home with his son, John S.

Benson. His wife died in 1901 after a useful life. In 1885 Peter Benson added forty acres to his original farm, all of which was put under a high state of cultivation and was well improved. He took an active interest in local affairs and was one of the organizers of the Solem Lutheran church and had much to do with the success of that society. He and Mrs. Benson were the parents of six children, Bert, Joe, Ole, Emma, John S. and Simon. Bert and Simon are now deceased and Emma is the wife of Oliver Lybeck, a successful resident of the county.

John S. Benson received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and at the academy at Willmar. He grew to manhood on the home farm, where he assisted his father with the farm work. He has always lived in Solem township and at an early age decided to devote his life to farming. He is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land, where he has lived since 1901, and where he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

On March 15, 1893, John S. Benson was united in marriage to Lena Nelson, who was born in Pope county, this state, a daughter of Ole Nelson, a successful farmer of that section, and to this union the following children have been born: Pama, who was born in 1894; Dora, 1895; Sherman, 1898; Myrtle, 1903; Blanche, 1905; Arnold, 1908; Kenneth, 1911, and Eveline, 1913. The family are active members of the Solem Lutheran church and take much interest in all church work.

John S. Benson has always been active in local affairs and has served his township as assessor for eight years and was a member of the school board and of the township board for eight years. He was one of the organizers of the Kensington Live Stock Shipping Association, of which he has been the manager since the organization. He was also one of the organizers of the Kensington Creamery and is treasurer of that organization. He is also a director of the Farmers Elevator Company and in 1916 was the nominee of his party as a candidate for county commissioner. He is held in the highest esteem by all who know him and is recognized as one of the leaders and prominent and successful men of the county. He has devoted his best efforts to the prosperity of the community and has had much to do with the successful administration of the affairs of the township. He is a man of excellent judgment and his wide experience and successful life well fit him for public affairs. He believes that a public office is a public trust and always devotes the same careful attention to his official duties that he does to his own.

ERICK G. JOHNSON.

Erick G. Johnson, a native of Sweden and a well-known and successful farmer of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born on May 18, 1867, the son of John and Christina (Peterson) Johnson, also natives of Sweden, where they grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. There Mrs. Johnson died in 1875. John Johnson continued to live in the land of his nativity until 1904, when he came to America. Upon his arrival in the United States he came direct to Minnesota and for a year lived in Douglas county, after which he removed to North Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he has developed and improved, and there makes his home.

To John and Christina Johnson were born six children, Peter, Mary, Erick G., Lena, Christina and Matilda, all of whom are living save Mary. Some years after the death of his first wife, John Johnson was united in marriage to Margaret Peterson and to this union five children were born, Oscar, Clara, Victor, Hilma and Segma, of whom Clara and Hilma are deceased. John Johnson has had an active and useful life and has long been prominent in the social life of the communities in which he has lived.

Erick G. Johnson received his education in the public schools of his native land, where he lived until he was twenty years of age. He then decided to leave the land of his birth and came to America. On his arrival in the United States he came direct to Minnesota and located in LaGrand township, Douglas county, where, for the next eight years he worked for Nels E. Nelson on the farm. In 1897 he returned to Sweden, where he purchased a small farm and engaged in farming on his own account. In 1900 he was united in marriage to Amelia Erickson and soon thereafter he and his wife came to the United States. This time Mr. Johnson located in North Dakota and there purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Nelson county. After four years he sold the farm and moved to what was then William county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, and purchased three hundred and twenty acres. Some years later he sold one hundred and sixty acres of his land, but is still the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in that state. In 1913 he returned to Douglas county, where he now lives on his farm in Holmes City township, and where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. Mr. Johnson has always taken much interest in local affairs and is one of the substantial and successful farmers of this



RESIDENCE OF BIRCK G. JOHNSON.

section. He has ever been held in the highest regard by his neighbors and friends, and is recognized as a man of much force of character.

Erick G. Johnson has been twice married. By the first wife, who died some years ago, one child was born, Albert. He later married Ella Nelson, the widow of Edward Nelson, who had two children by her first marriage, Carrie and Elsie.

DAVID J. DAVIDSON.

An advocate of twentieth-century methods of tilling the soil is David J. Davidson, a general farmer of Evansville township, Douglas county. He was born on the old Davidson homestead in section 30, in the above named township, April 26, 1873, a son of John and Andrina (Fagre) Davidson, natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years and where the father operated a store, also owned land there. He came to America in 1866, locating first in Quebec, Wisconsin, where he remained until the fall of 1867, when he came to Douglas county, Minnesota, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Evansville township. In the spring of 1868 he brought his family to his farm here. Most of the land was heavily timbered. He farmed for some time with oxen, cleared and improved his land and lived in a log house for some time. He continued to live on this place until the fall of 1898, when he retired from active life, spending the rest of his days in the village of Evansville, where he died in 1908, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. His widow is still living there. John Davidson was twice married, his first wife having died in Norway. By her five children were born, namely: Dan, deceased; Christopher, who has not been heard of for a number of years; Amelia, Mary and one who died when young. To John and Andrina Davidson nine children were born, namely: Lottie, deceased; Oscar, next in order of birth; Minnie, deceased; Julius, deceased; David J., the subject of this sketch; Lora, Adolph, Hilda and one who died young.

David J. Davidson grew up on the farm and received his early schooling in the public schools in Evansville township. He also attended high school at Herman three years, during vacations working on the home farm. In 1890, together with his brothers Oscar and Julius, he purchased the homestead and the three farmed together for some time, Oscar finally selling his interest to the other two; then Julius sold to the subject of this sketch, who

has since operated the place alone, successfully carrying on general farming and stock raising and keeping the land well improved. In 1910 he built an excellent barn. He also purchased one hundred and sixty acres adjoining, in Grant county.

Mr. Davidson was married in 1898 to Dagma Christenson, a member of one of the well-known families of Douglas county, and to this union six children have been born, Edith, Agnes, Charlotte, Rhuben, Waldemar and Norman.

Mr. Davidson is a Republican. He was county chairman of the first district for five and one-half years and was township supervisor about five years, during part of which period he was chairman of the board. He is now township treasurer, also treasurer of school district No. 26, which office he has held for the past fifteen years. He takes an abiding interest in local affairs and is an excellent public official. He attends the Norwegian Lutheran church.

ANTON HANSEN.

Anton Hansen, farmer and stock raiser of Holmes City township, Douglas county, has made a success of his chosen life work because he has been preserving and energetic. He was born at Faaberg, Norway, February 21, 1858, and is a son of Hans Arnesen Rotrud and Seneve Olsdatter Bergsven, both natives of Faaberg, Norway, where they were married and spent their lives, dying there a number of years ago. They were parents of eight children, Agnes, Anton, Olaf, Rudolph, Martinus, Agnes (the second), Randina and Martinus (second), all of whom are deceased save the subject of this sketch and Randina and the second Martinus.

Anton Hansen grew up in Norway where he was educated and there he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed until coming to America in 1883. He located in Douglas county, Minnesota, where he continued his trade, his services being in great demand from the very start, especially as a barn builder. He has built one hundred barns in his locality and still works at his trade at intervals, though he has always lived on a farm, owning different places. His present farm in Holmes City township consists of one hundred acres, on which he has lived for about seven years. He formerly had two hundred acres. He has improved his land, including a splendid group of buildings. His place is known as "Church Hill Farm."

In 1893 Anton Hansen was married to Olina Peterson, a daughter of

Ole Peterson (Bergsven). Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have no children of their own, but have an adopted daughter, Zelma Amanda. Mr. Hansen is a member of the Tryssal Lutheran church, and politically, he is a Republican.

Ole Peterson (Bergsven) and his wife Martha Evenson, parents of Mrs. Hansen, were both born in Norway, the father on July 15, 1829, and they grew up and married in their native land. He came to Minnesota in 1866, locating in Douglas county, living about a year near Oscar Lake; then located on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he had selected the previous autumn, and there he has since made his home, being one of the earliest pioneers in that part of the county. He cleared and improved the place and has prospered as a general farmer and stock raiser. He added to his original holdings until he owned about six hundred acres in Lake Mary and Holmes City township, but he has sold off a large portion of his land. He is one of the most substantial and most highly respected of our venerable early settlers. He is now eighty-seven years old, but is fairly active and well preserved. Only two years ago he walked five miles to visit his daughter. His wife died in 1910. He assisted in organizing the Tryssal Lutheran church, of which he is a member. His family consisted of ten children, two of whom died in infancy, the others being named, Olina, Peter (deceased), Andrew, Martha, Agnes, Edward, Othelda and Maria Augusta.

MARTIN CHRISTENSEN.

One of the enterprising farmers of Evansville township, Douglas county, is Martin Christensen, who was born in the little kingdom of Denmark, on October 4, 1855, the son of Nels and Katherina Christensen, both of whom were natives of Denmark. Nels Christensen and wife came to the United States about five years after their son, Martin, had come to this country, and lived with him the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of five children, two of whom, Katie and Christ, died in Denmark; Peter died in Dakota, and the others are Nels and Martin.

Martin Christensen received his education in the schools of Denmark and in August, 1880, came to the United States. He worked for two years for his brother, Nels, who had previously come to America. He then purchased eighty acres of land in section 18, Evansville township, and began farming for himself. His land was wholly unimproved when he acquired it, and he has since improved and cultivated it until he now owns one of the

best farms in the township. He has added forty acres more to his tract, making one hundred and twenty acres which he owns, all of which he farms himself, besides renting other land. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, having a nice herd of Shorthorn cattle and markets annually a large number of hogs. He has been very successful in his farming operations and ranks among the substantial farmers of the township.

In 1887 Martin Christensen was married to Christina Elverium, a native of Norway, and to this union six children have been born: Annetta, who married E. M. Sederberg, a motion picture manager of Evansville, and has three children, Stanton, Milan and Doris; Elmer, a buttermaker at Stevensville, Minnesota, who married Maude Brooks; Emil, who is working in the hardware trade at Austin, Minnesota, and Nora, Conrad and Onward, who are still living at home with their parents.

Mr. Christensen is a Republican and takes an active interest in all public matters which have for their object the betterment of his township and community. He has served as treasurer of school district No. 2 and is much interested in school matters. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and Mr. Christensen is trustee of the local congregation of that denomination at Evansville.

VICTOR N. JOHNSON.

Ida township, Douglas county, has no more enthusiastic tiller of the soil than Victor N. Johnson, who was born in the locality where he still resides, on December 18, 1889. He is a son of Claus V. and Lucinda (Osborne) Johnson, the father a native of Sweden and the mother of Ida township, Douglas county, born on the old Osborne homestead, which is now owned by the subject of this review. Claus V. Johnson came to America when sixteen years old. After living awhile in St. Paul, Minnesota, when that place consisted of only twelve houses, he moved to Keota, where he made railroad ties for about a year and later worked on the construction of the railroad between there and St. Cloud. He came to Douglas county after that and took up one hundred and sixty acres of wild land, timbered, on which he built a log house and barn and cleared it, farming there for some time with oxen. He lived there about six years, during which period he married. He then bought one hundred and sixty acres, the farm on which his son Victor N. Johnson now lives, which was then

only partly improved. On this he built a good farm in 1904. He sold his original homestead and now owns one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land, all cleared but about thirty acres. He is now living on a homestead in Montana where he owns an entire section, having been there about four years. His son Victor N. has had charge of his home place here since he went to Montana. Claus V. Johnson, has four children, all in Montana but the subject of this sketch, namely: Maynard R., Edwin, Ernest, and Victor N.

Mrs. Lucinda (Osborne) Johnson, mother of the subject of this sketch, is a daughter of O. and Fredrica (Landeem) Osborne. O. Osborne was a native of Kentucky and an early playmate of Abraham Lincoln. He served as a lieutenant in an Illinois regiment during the Civil War and was wounded in battle four different times. After the war he came to Minnesota and settled on a homestead in Ida township, Douglas county, and while improving it was married to Fredrica Landeen, who owned the homestead which is now the farm operated by the subject of this sketch. Mr. Osborne later went to Los Angeles, California, where he spent the rest of his life in the Soldiers' Home.

Victor N. Johnson grew up on the homestead in his native locality and received a public-school education. He also attended the Brandon high school and the Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter. He was graduated from the academy there in 1908, then entered the commercial department, from which he was graduated in 1909, meanwhile working on the home farm during vacations. After leaving college he went to Foreman, North Dakota, where he taught school for two terms. He then worked at the Farmers National Bank at Alexandria later working a short time in the Nelson State Bank at Nelson. In the spring of 1911 he went to Montana, where he remained about two years, and there took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, also one hundred and sixty acres of a desert claim. He proved up on it and returned in 1914. His brother now rents that land. Victor N. Johnson came back to Ida township and has since operated the old home place, operating one hundred and sixty acres, on which he carries on general farming. On March 18, 1916, he married Anna Simon, of Jordan, Minnesota. He is a stockholder in the Garfield Creamery Company and belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mrs. Johnson is the daughter of Charles and Marie (Leifer) Simon, who still lives in Jordan, Minnesota, where Mr. Simon is occupied as a cigar maker. Charles Simons and wife have four children, those besides Mrs. Johnson being Mrs. Hildegard Ellis, Charles and Leara.

CHARLES JOHNSON.

Charles Johnson, one of the prominent and well-known farmers of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden in 1870, the son of John and Christina (Erickson) Johnson, who also were born in Sweden, where they were educated in the public schools and grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. John Johnson was reared on the farm, and as a lad and after his marriage engaged in that work in his native land. In 1879 John Johnson decided to seek a home in America and after landing in the country he came direct to Minnesota and homesteaded forty acres of land in Ida township, Douglas county. He later bought forty acres of railroad land in section 18, all of which was covered with timber and brush. There he built a small log house, in which the family lived for some years. After having completed the house, Mr. Johnson began the task of clearing and developing the farm. In time he had the farm under cultivation and improved with substantial buildings, and he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred in 1908, at the age of seventy-five years.

To John and Christina Johnson were born four sons, Erick, John (deceased), Charles and Axel. Erick Johnson is one of the successful and prominent farmers of Ida township, his farm being near that of his brother Charles, and Axel Johnson is a successful saw-mill man in Itasca county, Minnesota. After the death of Christina (Erickson) Johnson, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage to Louisa Anderson. John Johnson and his family were prominent in the social and religious life of the township, and were highly respected by all who knew them. Mr. Johnson, took a keen interest in the civic life of the community and did much toward the development and improvement of the township in which he lived.

Charles Johnson received his earliest educational training in the schools of Sweden and attended some school after coming to Douglas county. He grew to manhood on the home farm and as a lad assisted his father with the work on the farm, and did some work for the neighbors as a farm hand.

In 1894 Charles Johnson was united in marriage to Maria Larson, after which he rented a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, of Claus Peterson, near Garfield. He remained there three years and then bought forty acres in section 18. There was a small house on the place and about fifteen acres of the place cleared. He later remodeled and enlarged the house, making of it a substantial and modern structure. He succeeded in clearing the land

and today has a model tract. In 1913 he purchased forty-eight acres in section 7, of which thirty acres was cleared, the balance being in pasture and brush. Since 1890, in addition to his farm work, Mr. Johnson has been engaged in threshing and now has a complete threshing outfit.

To Charles and Maria Johnson, have been born the following children: Emma, Gustav, Edith, Theodore, Anna, Mildred, Lucile, Axel and Albin. The last two are deceased, the others are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are active members of the Mission church and take much interest in church work. Politically, Mr. Johnson is a Republican and has always taken much interest in the civic life of the township, and has served for four years as a member of the board of supervisors. He is a stockholder in the Garfield Creamery Company, in the Farmers Elevator Company and in the Farmers Potato Warehouse Association, in the affairs of all of which concerns he takes an active interest.

OLE E. SLETTO.

Ole E. Sletto, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in his home township on July 8, 1876, the son of Erick T. and Martha (Olson) Sletto, who were born in Norway, where they received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to live in their native land for some time and then decided to locate in America. After their arrival in the United States, they came direct to Minnesota, locating in Goodhue county, where Erick T. Sletto was engaged as a farm hand for some years, after which he came to Douglas county and purchased land in Moe township, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising quite successfully, at the time of his retirement from the active duties of farm life, being the owner of three hundred and ten acres of excellent land, under cultivation and well improved. He and his wife are active members of Norwegian Lutheran church and Mr. Sletto was one of the organizers of the local society. They were the parents of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters.

Ole E. Sletto received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where he has always resided. As a lad he decided that he would be a farmer and since completing his education has been successfully engaged in that work. He is now the

owner of two hundred and thirty acres of well-improved land and is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1910, Ole E. Sletto was united in marriage to Sophia Arnesen, who was born in Douglas county, the daughter of Helge Arnesen, a pioneer of Urness township, and to this union two children have been born, Margaret and Olander. Mr. and Mrs. Sletto are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in religious work. They are held in the highest regard by all who know them and are prominent in the social life of the community. Mr. Sletto has always taken much interest in the civic life of the township and for the past two years has been a member of the township board, and is at present the chairman of that body. He is progressive in his views and is a strong advocate of good roads and the best schools possible. He is a man of broad views and excellent judgment and has much influence in his community.

ANDREW ZIMMEL.

Among the large number of Europeans who have settled in Douglas and Grant counties there have been but few Austrians, but those of that nationality who have come here have been good citizens. One of this number is Andrew Zimmel, who is engaged in general farming in Belle River township, Douglas county. He was born in Austria, a son of Wenzel and Mary Zimmel, natives of Austria, where they grew up and married, and from which country they immigrated with their family direct to Minnesota in 1883, the vessel they crossed the Atlantic in landing at Baltimore, Maryland. They came to Minnesota to join relatives who had preceded them here and the father soon purchased forty acres in section 20, Belle River township, Douglas county, later buying one hundred and sixty acres in section 5 and forty acres in section 22 of the same township. He worked hard and soon had a very good farm and a comfortable home here. His family consisted of the following children: Mary, Andrew, Albert, Francis, Katherine, Anna, Sally and Nicholas. The father is still living in Belle River township, but the mother passed away in September, 1910, at the age of sixty years.

Andrew Zimmel was young when he came with the family to America. He grew up on the farm and helped his father with the general work of the same, receiving his education in the public schools. He has devoted his



MR. AND MRS. ANDREW ZIMMEL.

life to farming and owns in all two hundred and forty acres, one hundred and twenty in section 5, eighty in section 8, and forty in section 22 of Belle River township. He lives in section 5, where he has a substantial set of buildings, having built a good barn in 1912, and has made many other important improvements. He also owns stock in the creamery at Belle River.

Mr. Zimmel was married to Susie Crousen, a native of England, and to this union six children have been born, Mary, Clara, Anna, Susie, Josephine and Rosina S. Politically, Mr. Zimmel is a Democrat. He and his family are members of the Catholic church.

Albert Zimmel, brother of the subject of this sketch, owns one hundred and twenty acres in section 5, Belle River township, where he began making his home in 1904. He has good improvements. He built his present barn in 1913. He also is a member of the Catholic church.

HENDRICK ERICKSON.

After a long, useful and successful life the late Hendrick Erickson passed away, leaving behind him a record of which his family and descendants may well be proud. He was born in Norway, April 8, 1838, and was a son of Erick and Martha Erickson, both natives of Grue, Norway, where their son Hendrick was also born, and there the parents grew up and the father became a large landowner in that locality, finally removing to America, his wife having died previously in Norway. Erick Erickson returned to Norway after a short time and passed away in Norway. His family consisted of eight children.

Hendrick Erickson grew up in his native land and there attended the public schools. He served three years in the Norwegian army and came to America about 1865, traveling extensively over the United States, especially in the South, working at various occupations. His sister, Mrs. Christine Gunderson, followed him to this country in a short time, locating first in Renville county, Minnesota, but later moved to Alexandria, where she made her home about thirty years, and died there.

In 1871 Hendrick Erickson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in LaGrand township, Douglas county, having to blaze a trail to and from his land in order to find it, it being in the midst of a veritable wilder-

ness. He came by stage from St. Cloud, that town being the nearest railroad station. He endured the usual privations and hardships incident to pioneer life, cleared and developed his land into a good farm, erected buildings thereon and in due course of time became very comfortably situated. His first dwelling was a rude dug-out, and a few months later he built a log house. He resided on the place until his death. He also owned one hundred and sixty acres near Lake Mary in Lake Mary township, also forty acres elsewhere in that township, which adjoined the homestead. He became one of the substantial farmers and stock raisers of his locality and was well thought of by all who knew him.

Mr. Erickson was married on March 6, 1876, to Borgil Tvete, a native of Norway, and a daughter of Ole and Margaret Tvete, natives of Norway, where they lived and died. Mr. Tvete was a carpenter and cabinet-maker by trade. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Erickson: Marie, who is the wife of Axel Eckeberg, of Moorhead, Minnesota; Alice, the wife of Frank Stish, of Alexandria; John Theodore, who died in 1900, and Martha Olive, the wife of Andrew Haselton, who lives on the home place, which he is operating successfully. He has kept it well improved and has put up a modern dwelling and a large barn. He and his wife have one child, Hubert Haselton.

Mr. Erickson was a Republican. He belonged to the Lutheran church. His wife died on January 9, 1910, and he passed away on November 6, 1906.

HON. NELS E. NELSON.

Hon. Nels E. Nelson, former register of deeds of Douglas county, former representative in the Legislature and one of the well-known and substantial farmers of LaGrand township, Douglas county, was born in the laen of Wermland, Sweden, July 26, 1858, the son of Elof and Kari (Johnson) Nelson, both natives of that country, who received their education in their native land and were there married. After their marriage they continued to live in the land of their birth until 1870, when they decided to seek a home in America. During that year Elof Nelson left for the new land, leaving his wife and children at home. On his arrival here he spent a summer in Wisconsin, after which he came to Minnesota and homesteaded eighty acres in LaGrand township, Douglas county. That was in 1871 and his wife and children joined him that same year. On that farm

Elof Nelson and his wife continued to live until the time of their deaths, he having died twenty years ago and she in 1903. The tract at the time Elof Nelson homesteaded was a wild prairie, yet in time he made it one of the ideal farms of the township. There were no improvements at that time with the exception of a log hut, which was soon replaced by a more substantial building. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising and became one of the substantial citizens of the county. He assisted in the organization of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which he and his wife were active workers.

To Elof and Kari Nelson were born the following children: Nels E., Jens, Emil, Mary, Peter, Magnus, Otto, Edward and William Jens. Mary and Edward are now deceased. Before his marriage to Kari Johnson, Elof Nelson was married to Breta Johnson, who died, leaving one child, Lars Nelson, who came to America ten years after his father, and settled in Polk county, Minnesota, where he is a successful farmer.

Nels E. Nelson received his education in the schools of his native land and in Douglas township, where he came with his parents in 1871. As a lad and young man he assisted his father with the work on the farm and early in life became impressed with the dignity of the farmer's life. He soon engaged in farming for himself and obtained a farm of one hundred and eighty-two acres, in LaGrand township, where he has lived for the past thirty-two years. There he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising and is today recognized as one of the most prominent and substantial citizens of the county. He believes in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil. He has a highly productive farm, which is well improved with modern and substantial buildings.

In addition to his many personal affairs, Mr. Nelson has always taken an active and prominent part in the civic affairs of the community. In 1887 he was elected register of deeds of Douglas county, which position he held for twenty-two years. He organized the Home City Mutual Fire Insurance Company in January, 1884, and was its first secretary and for the past four years has been the president of the organization. In 1912 he was elected a member of the 1913 session of the state Legislature, as a representative from his district, which he represented with distinction and credit.

In 1881 Nels E. Nelson was united in marriage to Christine Johnson, who died after the birth of her one child, Don Nelson. In 1885 Mr. Nelson married Marie Johnson and to that union the following children were born: Alfred, Ida C., John E., and Edna C. After the death of Marie Nelson, Mr. Nelson, in 1904, was united in marriage to Christine Peterson and to

this union one child has been born, Dorris C. Mr. Nelson has long been held in high regard by the people of his county, who have the utmost confidence in his ability and integrity. He has always respected this demonstration of their confidence and respect and during his long career in public office always exerted his best ability in behalf of their welfare.

ANDREW SANGSTEAD.

Andrew Sangstead, deceased, was born in Sweden, where he was educated in the public schools and where he grew to manhood. As a lad he assisted his father in the blacksmith shop and later learned the trade. For a number of years he worked at his trade in his native country and became an expert workman. He was ambitious to succeed and felt that the opportunities were better in America for the young man. After having decided to leave the land of his birth, he set sail for his new home and after having landed in the United States went direct to Michigan, where he worked for a time at his trade in Muskegon. On leaving Muskegon, he came to Minnesota and located in Douglas county. He built a blacksmith shop on the state road, one mile east of where Garfield now stands. This shop was one of the first in the county and Mr. Sanstead, being a good smith, had plenty of work to do. After some years this shop burned and Mr. Sanstead removed his location to Garfield, where he built another shop, where he engaged in his work as a blacksmith for many years and was quite successful. He had much faith in the future success of the county and invested in many acres of land, much of which has been sold. The family now own one hundred and thirty-five acres of the original holdings of the father. This farm is now being managed by the sons, Edwin and Elmer, who are engaged in general farming and stock raising. They are progressive and successful in their work and are recognized as among the prominent and well-known farmers of the township.

Andrew Sanstead was united in marriage to Mata Stegerman, a native of Germany, who came to Minnesota with her parents, they being among the early and well-known settlers of the county of Otter Tail, the father of Mrs. Sanstead being recognized as one of the prominent and successful farmers of his community. He took much interest in the civic life of the township and the county and was active in all worthy undertakings that had a tendency to advance the best interests of the community. He and

his wife were active in the social and religious life of the township and were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them.

Andrew and Mata Sanstead were the parents of four children, Alta, Minnie, Edwin and Elmer, all of whom were educated and grew to manhood and womanhood in Douglas county. Alta became the wife of Oscar Johnson, a prominent farmer of near Ashby, Minnesota. They are the parents of two children, Evelyn and Roy. Minnie lives with her mother and brothers.

MARVIN DANIEL RUSSELL.

Marvin Daniel Russell, one of the successful and well-known young farmers of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in that township on June 10, 1889, the son of Daniel and Martha Jane (Stewart) Russell.

Daniel Russell came to Douglas county as a young man and was married in the county. He first bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 17 of Ida township and later purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 19. The land at that time was all wild and required much work to make it one of the ideal farms of the township. Mr. Russell at once began the task of developing the place, but he worked with much difficulty during the first few years, as he had only oxen to do the work. Yet in a few years he began to prosper and became one of the successful farmers of that territory, engaging in general farming and stock raising there until the time of his death in 1898. After some years on the farm, the widow of Daniel Russell retired from the activities of farm life and moved to Alexandria, where she now resides. Daniel and Martha Jane Russell were the parents of four children, Della Priscilla, Benjamin Sylvester, Cora and Marvin Daniel, all of whom are now deceased with the exception of the latter.

Marvin Daniel Russell received his education in the schools of Ida township and remained on the home farm until he was fourteen years of age, when he began working as a farm hand and was thus engaged for five years. In the fall of the year he was nineteen years of age, he began farming for himself on the home place, since which time he has continued to operate the place. There on the farm of two hundred acres, a part of which is owned by his mother, Mr. Russell is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. He has a fine herd of Short-horn cattle and some fine Poland China hogs. Mr. Russell is progressive

in his methods and believes in intensive farming and in the keeping of the best of stock. He is recognized as one of the successful and prominent farmers of the community.

On November 2, 1914, Marvin Daniel Russell was united in marriage to Elsie Johnson, a resident of Douglas county. Mr. and Mrs. Russell are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take an interest in church work. Mr. Russell has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has ever been ready to assist in any worthy undertaking that would tend to promote the interests of the township and the community. He is a stockholder in the Garfield creamery and has done much to promote its interests.

THOR JORGEN THORSON.

Thor Jorgen Thorson, one of the successful and well-known farmers of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on March 19, 1860, the son of Thor and Mary (Nelsdatter) Erickson, also natives of Norway, where they continued to live until 1861, in which year they decided to locate in America. On their arrival in the United States they came direct to Minneapolis and settled in Olmsted county, where the father engaged in farming and the development of his farm. He did not live to enjoy his new home in a new land. After his death the widow came to Douglas county, bringing with her the five children. She became the wife of John Arneson, who had homesteaded in Moe township in 1867. It was on this homestead, that Mrs. Arneson continued to live until the time of her death on August 8, 1916, at the age of ninety-three years. She had made many friends during her long residence in the county, and her death was mourned by all.

Thor Jorgen Thorson received the greater part of his education in the public schools of Moe township, where he has lived since 1867. After completing his schooling he engaged in farming and is today the owner of one hundred and seventy acres of excellent land, all of which is under cultivation and well improved. He has lived on his present farm for the past twenty-six years and has been successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Most of the buildings on the place have been erected by him and he also has made other valuable and substantial improvements.

Thor Jorgen Thorson was united in marriage in 1890 to Ragneld Alena Helgeson, also a native of Norway, who came to Douglas county in 1883

with her parents. To this union the following children have been born: Thea Matilda, Robert Clarence, Nora Alpheia, Julia Olive, Henry Albert, Minnie Catherine (deceased), Theo Rudolph, Lillie Florence (deceased), Peter Edwin, Alice Mary, Lawrence Francis and Marion Clifford. Mr. and Mrs. Thorson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in church work, Mr. Thorson having served as trustee of the church for several years. The West Moe church, of which they are members, was assisted in its early organization by the family of Mr. Thorson.

Thor Jorgen Thorson is one of a family of five children, the others being Erick, Nels A. (deceased), Martin Gurena and Gunel Torena. The family has always been prominent in the local community and active in the social and civic life of the township, a family believing in the general development and improvement of the county and favoring the best of schools.

LARS E. LEE.

Among the many Norwegian farmers who have made a success of their chosen vocation in Minnesota is Lars E. Lee a well-known and substantial citizen of Ida township, who was born in Norway, January 23, 1868, the son of Even and Maria (Larson) Lee, who are mentioned elsewhere in this work.

Lars E. Lee was brought to Minnesota by his parents at the age of four. He received his educational training in the public schools of Ida township, Douglas county, where his parents were early pioneer farmers. He and his brother, August, assisted their father greatly in the development and improvement of the home farm in the early days. He lived with his father until his marriage in 1895 and for some time afterward, assisting with the work and also working on neighboring farms. He later bought forty acres of land from his brother, August, which had formerly belonged to the old homestead farm. This place had a small house on it and Mr. Lee started at once to improve and develop his place. He gradually added to his land holdings until he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of fine land, all of which at one time belonged to his father. He has made many and various improvements on his land and in 1913 erected a new, two-story frame house. He has about seventy-five acres under plow, the remainder of his land being meadow, pasture and timber land. He

carries on a general system of farming and stock raising and feeds all of the grain raised on his place to live stock, with the exception of his wheat. He has a fine herd of cattle and hogs on the farm.

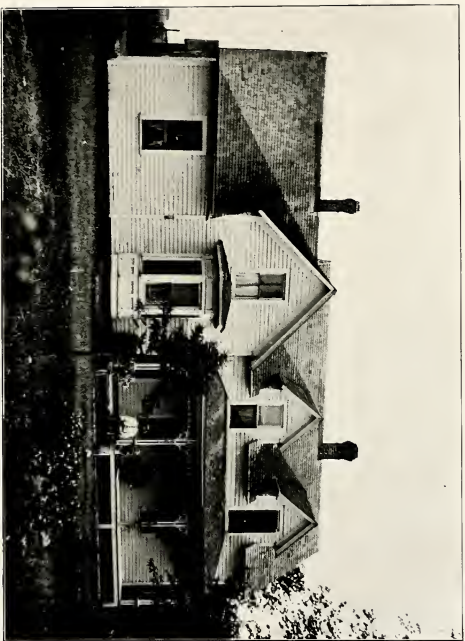
In June, 1895, Lars E. Lee was married to Martha Monson, who is also a native of Norway, and who came to the United States with her mother and brother when she was fifteen years of age. The family lived in Grant county, Minnesota, for some time, and Mrs. Lee's mother now lives in Glenwood, Minnesota, while her brother, John, is a resident of Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are the parents of eight children, Eddie, Marie, Florence, Herbert, Emory, Lawrence, Evelyn and Leonard, the last-named being now deceased.

Mr. Lee is a Republican and has served as treasurer of the school board of district No. 68. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Alexandria.

SCOTT BUNDY.

Scott Bundy, a well-known and successful farmer of Carlos township, Douglas county, was born in the state of New York on February 27, 1853, the son of Granville and Catherine Jane (Simons) Bundy.

Ephraim and Lucy (Shepard) Bundy, the paternal grandparents of Scott Bundy, were natives of the state of New York, where the grandfather was a well-known farmer. A brother of the grandfather was a noted raftsman on the Susquehanna river. The great-grandfather, Peter Bundy, emigrated from Old Salem, Massachusetts, to Otsego county, New York, making the journey with a team of oxen in an early day. That part of the state of New York at that time was considered far west and it required a journey of nearly three weeks from Massachusetts. Otsego county at that time was known as the "Promised Land," and there Peter Bundy settled about 1790. He was of that sturdy stock, who, with ox teams and on foot, braved the hardships and the dangers of the forests, to make for themselves and their posterity homes in the new land. Leaving his home, in the state of his nativity, in the dead of winter, with his wife and five small children, he made the journey with a team of oxen and a wood-shod sled. They brought their all, which consisted of part of a barrel of pork, some flour and some little bedding. The brine on the pork was later boiled down in order to save the salt. The little party moved slowly, much of the way having to



RESIDENCE OF SCOTT BUNDY.

cut through the timber and the brush, the oxen feeding on the brown leaves of the trees. On their arrival a log house was erected, twenty by thirty feet, with slab roof and greased paper for the windows. The widow of Peter Bundy stated many years later that the only thing the family had to eat at times was maple sugar.

Amid the primitive surroundings in Otsego county, New York, Granville Bundy was born in 1817, and there he grew to manhood and engaged in farming. He married Catherine Jane Simons and to that union five children were born, Francelia, Scott, Estella, Dalton and Howard. Francelia died in 1916 at the age of sixty-six years. Estella lives in Binghamton, New York; Dalton and Howard live at Delphi, New York.

Scott Bundy received his education in the public schools of the state of New York, at the Hartwick Seminary and at the Gilbertville Seminary. He was married on June 29, 1879, to Julia Kelehan, and to this union six children were born, Catherine Luella, Howard G., Clarence W., Francis M., LeRoy and Floy Viola. Julia Kelehan Bundy died on May 25, 1901, at the age of forty-one years, and on February 14, 1906, Scott Bundy was married to Marie Foss of Granite Falls, Minnesota.

Scott Bundy remained a resident of his native state and county until 1876, when he came to Minnesota, and located in Yellow Medicine county, where he purchased a farm in Minnesota Falls township. There he had eighty acres of land and engaged in general farming for twenty-six years. He was married in Yellow Medicine county in 1900. He moved to Douglas county and purchased one hundred and forty-eight acres of land in Carlos township, which he has developed and improved, and there he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He and his wife are active members of the Baptist church and take much interest in religious work. Fraternally, Mr. Bundy is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Politically, Mr. Bundy is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He has served as village assessor, as a member of the board of supervisors and as clerk of the town, and has been justice of the peace for fourteen years. He has always taken much interest in his farming and is especially interested in his Holstein cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. He is recognized as a successful farmer and a high class stock man. Mr. Bundy was the original owner of the site on which the town of Carlos now stands.

CHRISTOPHER B. HANSON.

Christopher B. Hanson, a successful and well-known farmer, of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on August 3, 1870, the son of Hans and Pernelia (Christopherson) Olson, also natives of Norway, who spent their lives there, dying when the son, Christopher B., was but nine years of age. The father was a farmer and fisherman. Christopher B. Hanson was the youngest of seven children, the others being Christian C., Thea, Ole, Peter, Karen and Larcena.

Christopher B. Hanson received his education in the public schools of his native land and lived in that country until he was eighteen years of age, as a lad and young man engaging in farming and fishing, as had his father before him. In 1888 he decided to seek a home in America, where so many of his countrymen had settled. The accounts of the opportunities for the young and industrious man gave him the desire to make for himself a home in the United States. On his arrival in this country he came directly to Minnesota, and located in Urness township, Douglas county, where he joined his brother, Peter, who had settled in township some years before, and for a number of years after locating in the county, Christopher Hanson worked at the carpenter trade with his brother, continuing in that work until 1896. All members of the family have an interest in the farm, where they are successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. The place has been thoroughly developed and excellent buildings have been erected, the farm being known as one of the best in the community.

In 1896 Christopher Hanson was united in marriage to Hilda Olson, who was born on the farm that adjoins their present home, the daughter of Sven Olson, and to this union nine children have been born, Harold S., Hjalmer, Walter, Victor, Ruben, Hannah, Alfred, Elsie and Muriel. The family are active in the work of the Lutheran church, where Mr. Hanson was for twenty-two years organist. Mr. Hanson has taken much interest in the civic life of the township and was for a number of years a member of the board of township supervisors. As a public official he took much interest in the general development of the township, and was a strong advocate of good roads and good schools. He and his family are prominent in the social life of the community and are held in high regard by all.

Sven Olsen, father of Mrs. Hanson, was born in Sweden in 1833, the son of Ole and Stena Shegeby, both of whom were born and died in Sweden. The father was a farmer, the owner of a considerable farm, and was recog-

nized as successful in his chosen work. Ole Shegeby was the father of three children by his first wife, of whom Sven was one. He was also the father of several children by a second marriage.

Sven Olson received his education in the schools of Sweden and there grew to manhood. He came to the United States before the Civil War and at the outbreak of that conflict enlisted in Company I, Twenty-second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. After having seen much active service, he was wounded in battle and taken to a hospital, where he remained until the close of the war. Upon receiving his honorable discharge he returned to Wisconsin, where he married Hannah Williams, a native of Drobach, Norway, who came to Wisconsin in 1867, to join a brother. Mr. and Mrs. Olson were married in 1868 and the next spring they came to Minnesota and later purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Douglas county. He later added one hundred and sixty acres to his farm, this being the present home of his daughter, Mrs. Christopher B. Hanson.

Mr. and Mrs. Olson were the parents of two children, Mrs. Hanson having a sister, Matilda S., now the wife of Anton Hauglie. The family were active members of the Lutheran church, Mr. Olson being one of the founders of the local society in Moe township and for many years one of the prominent workers in that organization. He was a man of much influence and did much for the growth and the development of the township and the county, he being recognized as a man of sound judgment and ability. He was always a strong advocate of general progress, the building of good roads and the establishment of good schools.

KNUT OBERG.

There is no more painstaking tiller of the soil in Brandon township, Douglas county, than Knut Oberg, who was born in Sweden, December 10, 1858. He is a son of Leonard and Mary (Oberg) Ossrink, both natives of Sweden, where they spent their entire lives, the father engaging in mercantile pursuits in the town of Gefle. They had three children, Leonard, Jerda and Knut, the last-named of whom was the only one of the family to come to America, which was in the year 1883, when he was twenty-five years old. He had married in Sweden and came to join the family of Andrew Erickson, his wife's sister's people, who were among the early settlers of Brandon township, Douglas county. The wife of Mr. Oberg, who was known in her

maidenhood as Anna Peterson, was born on October 10, 1855, in Sweden, a daughter of Peter and Sarah (Anderson) Erickson, who lived and died in Sweden. They had two children older than Mrs. Oberg, Sarah and Johannah. Peter Erickson was twice married, his second wife being Marie Gerfbert, and to them one son was born, Frederick. Mr. and Mrs. Oberg were married in Sweden on April 7, 1890. To them six children have been born, namely: Knut, who married Nettie Kossen and lives in Canada; Matilda; Mary; Helmer, who married Sarah Shaw and lives in Canada; Jerold, who is attending school in Minneapolis, and Elsie, the youngest.

Mr. Oberg worked out after coming to Douglas county, at first receiving only fifty cents a day. He finally bought sixty acres in section 14 of Brandon township, where he still lives. He owns an interest in the Brandon creamery. Politically, he is a Republican. He and his wife are Lutherans in their religious belief.

MATH MATHISON.

From Pierce county, Wisconsin, hails Math Mathison, a well-known farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county. He was born in the former county, March 2, 1873, and is a son of Jacob and Johannah (Mathison) Mathison. Both his grandfathers were named Math. The maternal grandfather was married in Norway and came to America in 1863, coming direct to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he and his family lived two years, after which they moved to Pierce county, that state, where he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. Their children finally all moved away, some of them remaining fourteen years after they first came. The paternal grandfather lived and died on a farm in Norway. Jacob Mathison and wife first met in Norway, but were not married until after they located in Pierce county, Wisconsin. After their marriage they located on eighty acres of railroad land, which was heavily timbered, sixty acres of which he cleared. He built a log house and barn and engaged in general farming. To these parents eight children were born, namely: Sophia, Emma, Math, Samuel, Anton, Petrena, Alma and Ida, all of whom are living. After leaving Pierce county, Wisconsin, they came to Minnesota, buying one hundred and fifty-seven acres in Brandon township, Douglas county. The parents are both still living, but have been retired for some years.

Math Mathison grew up on the farm and attended the public schools

in Brandon township, but he had to work hard when a boy helping his father develop the homestead. He drove an ox team for a period of seven years, and thus broke the major portion of the farm. On June 24, 1903, he married Hulda Chack, a daughter of James E. Chack, and to their union one son has been born, Alfred, whose birth occurred on February 13, 1906.

Mr. Mathison has been quite successful as a general farmer and now owns a valuable and well-improved place of two hundred and thirty-one acres. He rebuilt his barn in 1912 and put up a silo the year previous, which was the first silo in the county. He has turned his attention very largely to dairying, keeping from twenty to thirty good Jersey cows, also raises Duroc-Jersey hogs in large numbers. He now rents his land out and is taking life easier than formerly. He is a stockholder in the Brandon creamery. Politically, he is independent. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

JOHN A. NORGREN.

As a farmer, John A. Norgren, of Ida township, Douglas county, is wideawake and progressive in his ideas. He was born in Sweden, October 23, 1866, and is a son of John E. and Louisa (Ryberg) Norgren, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up and married. They came to Minnesota in 1868 and took up a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres in Ida township, Douglas county. The father built a small log house and at once began clearing his land and putting it under cultivation, farming with oxen for some time. He engaged in general farming there until 1896, when he retired and turned the place over to his son, John A. Norgren, although he still lives on the place. The mother makes her home with another son, Andrew, in the state of Washington. There were nine children in all, namely: John A., Anna Eugenia, Carl E. (deceased), Hannah L. (deceased), Lena L. (deceased), Andrew G., Esther F. (deceased), Ida A. and Alma (deceased). The family all live in Seattle, Washington, except the subject of this sketch and his father.

John A. Norgren was two years old when his parents brought him to America and he was reared in Minnesota and was educated in the common schools. After attending the old log school house in district 17, he took a business course in the Minnehaha Academy at Minneapolis, spending two winters there, working on the farm in the summer months, until 1896, when

he took charge of the homestead, which he has since operated with success. It consists of two hundred acres. He has kept the land well cultivated and well improved and has built a modern house and barn, silo and other buildings. He raises considerable live stock, especially Shorthorn cattle. He feeds most of the grain produced on the place.

Mr. Norgren was married in 1900 to Jennie Benson, whose death occurred on January 20, 1914, leaving one son, Carl B. On May 5, 1916, Mr. Norgren married Nannie H. Lindstrom. Mr. Norgren is a Republican and has served as township clerk, and has been assessor for two years. He was also a member of the school board and clerk of the same. He is a stockholder in the Garfield Creamery Company and a member of the Farmers Potato Warehouse Association, of which he is secretary. He belongs to the Lutheran church.

J. ALFRED BERGLUND.

J. Alfred Berglund, one of the prominent and successful farmers and stock raisers of LaGrand township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on February 9, 1864, the son of Samuel and Anna Berglund, also natives of Sweden, where they spent all their lives. Samuel Berglund was a hard working man and was a kind father and husband. His life was a busy one and he had little time for the pleasures of the community. As a boy he began to work in an iron factory and in that business he continued during his life. He and Mrs. Berglund were the parents of thirteen children, eight of whom grew to maturity, Johanah, Sophia, J. Alfred, Mina, Carl, Eda, Alex and Marie, of whom all are living save Johanah.

J. Alfred Berglund received his education in the common schools of his native land and there he lived until he was twenty-four years of age. In 1888 he decided to leave the land of his nativity and young manhood and seek a home in America. On his arrival in this country he came directly to Minnesota and for four or five years thereafter worked as a farm hand in Douglas county. He then decided to engage in farming for himself, and with that end in view purchased forty acres of land where Magnus Magnuson now lives, in LaGrand township. There was but little of the farm cleared at that time, yet he was soon in a position to plant some of his crops. It required much hard work, yet he was determined to succeed and after a time he sold his farm of forty acres and purchased one of one hundred and forty acres, in the same township, where he now lives. This

tract was also undeveloped and unimproved, and again Mr. Berglund set to work to put the farm into shape for cultivation. In this he has been successful and today one hundred acres are under thorough cultivation and producing fine yields of grain. Mr. Berglund is a strong believer in intensive farming, as well as in the systematic cultivation of his fields. He has erected excellent buildings on the farm and today has one of the substantial farm homes of the township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful, being one of the highly respected and substantial citizens of the county.

In 1908 J. Alfred Berglund was united in marriage to Anna Swedberg, also a native of Sweden, who came to Minnesota at the age of six months with her parents, Erick and Anna (Westlund) Swedberg, who located in Grant county, where Mr. Swedberg homesteaded and took a tree claim and where he and his wife still reside. To J. Alfred and Anna Berglund have been born four children, Lilian, Julia, Axel and Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Berglund are prominent members of the community and take an active interest in the social and religious activities of the neighborhood.

CHARLES G. OLSON.

Charles G. Olson, a prominent and successful farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on May 30, 1865, the son of Olaf and Clara (Nelson) Johnson, also born in Sweden, where they received their education and were married. The father was there engaged in farming, one of the prominent men of the community in which he lived, and there he died in 1877, at the age of forty-two years. The family continued to live in Sweden, after the death of the father, until 1882, when they decided to come to America. After landing in the United States they came direct to Minnesota, arriving at Alexandria on June 2, 1882. Olaf Johnson and wife were the parents of the following children: Charles G., Elizabeth, Louis, Richard, Kasper and Jones. Richard Jones and Kasper are now deceased. Elizabeth became the wife of C. G. Palmer, of Sauk Center, and Louis is in the state of Washington, where he is operating a saw-mill.

Upon her arrival in Douglas county, Mrs. Johnson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in section 17 of Ida township, which was later developed into one of the fine farms of the township. After some years of residence in the county, Mrs. Johnson became the wife of John

Wendberg, who owned the eighty acres that adjoined her farm in section 16. After the marriage they lived on the farm of Mr. Wendberg for a number of years, at the end of which time they retired to Alexandria, where they lived for some time and then took up their residence at Sauk Center, where they now reside.

Charles G. Olson received his education in the public schools of Sweden and as a lad worked on the farm. After coming to the United States he engaged as a farm hand for a number of years. In 1893 he purchased eighty acres in section 16 of Ida township, where he engaged in general farming until 1897, when he sold the place and bought eighty acres in sections 29 and 32, a partly-improved farm. Upon assuming possession of the place he made many improvements, including a circular barn, fifty-six feet in diameter, in the center of which was built a silo, twelve by thirty-five feet, one of the best and most substantial barns in the community at that time. There he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1904 Charles G. Olson was united in marriage to Augusta Swenson and to this union five children have been born, Fred, Myrtle, Cleve, Clarence and Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take much interest in church work. They are active in the social and religious life of the township and are held in high esteem by all who know them. Mr. Olson is affiliated with the Republican party, has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has served as a member of the board of supervisors and as a member of the school board.

JOHN BACKELIN.

Sweden has sent no more enterprising tiller of the soil to Douglas county than John Backelin, of Holmes' City township, who was born in that far-away country on April 17, 1851. He is a son of John and Gertrude (Johnson) Olson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, were married and established their home and died there, having devoted their active lives to farming. They had six children, Olaf Johnson, Joe Backelin, Mary, Peter Backelin, John and Mrs. Carrie Wallner.

John Backelin, who dropped the family name of Olson upon coming to America, was reared and educated in Sweden, from which country he immigrated to the United States in 1883, when thirty-two years old. He came to Minnesota and located at once on the place where he still lives in Holmes



JOHN MACKRELIN AND FAMILY.

City township, Douglas county, owning a good farm of one hundred and fifty-eight acres. He has worked hard in developing it, but now has a good farm and numerous substantial and convenient buildings. He assisted in organizing the Farmers' Creamery Association of Holmes City, of which he is now treasurer, and has done much to make the enterprise a success.

In 1880 John Backelin was married to Sarah Johnson, who was born in Sweden, and is a daughter of John and Breta Johnson, who came to America with the subject of this sketch, with whom they made their home during the rest of their lives, the mother dying on July 13, 1916, at the age of eighty-three years and six months. The father died in 1909. To Mr. and Mrs. Backelin five children have been born, Betsie, Gertrude, Joseph, Amelia and Segfried, all of whom are living.

Mr. Backelin has been treasurer of the Holmes City Mutual Fire Insurance Company for the past thirty years and has been active in the management of that very successful concern. Politically, he is a Republican, with Prohibition leanings, and is township treasurer, which office he has held for a number of years. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church at Holmes City.

OLUF T. HOVE.

Oluf T. Hove, a prominent business man and farmer of LaGrand township, Douglas county, was born in Norway, on October 7, 1854, the son of Tosten and Dororthea (Anderson) Olson, also natives of Norway, where they spent the greater part of their lives, and there their children were born and reared. In his native land the father engaged in agricultural pursuits and was considered a thorough and systematic farmer. Yet the opportunities were not large and in 1880 Mr. Olson and wife decided to come to America. Upon landing in the United States, they came directly to Minnesota and located in Minneapolis, where Mr. Olson was engaged as a railway switchman. It was there that the father and mother lived until their deaths, some years ago. They were highly respected people and took much interest in church work.

Oluf T. Hove received his education in the land of his birth and there grew to manhood, remaining a resident of that country until he was twenty years of age. He was aware of the fact that many of his former neighbors and friends had come to the United States, where they were meeting with

some degree of success, so he decided to follow them to the new land. In 1874, after landing in this country, Mr. Hove came to Minnesota and for a time was located in Minneapolis. The first winter he was here he spent in the pineries, assisting in the cutting of timber. He then returned to Minneapolis where he was a clerk in a store for ten years, after which he located at Fergus Falls, where he engaged in the mercantile business for one year. After disposing of his store he engaged in farming in the neighborhood of Fergus Falls and was thus engaged for one year, at the end of which time he again entered the mercantile business, this time at Appleton, Minnesota. After nine years in the store there he again disposed of his interests and removed to Lake Mary township, Douglas county, where he rented a farm for two years. He then moved to La Grand township and purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which farm he has developed and improved until he has one of the model farms of the township. He has erected substantial modern buildings and has one of the best farm houses in that neighborhood. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has met with much success. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and in thorough cultivation, as well as in the keeping of good stock. His farm is well looked after and his buildings are in excellent repair.

In 1881 Oluf T. Hove was united in marriage to Caroline Stone, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Michael and Rongneld (Hansdatter) Stone, both natives of Norway, who came to Minnesota and settled in Bell River township, Douglas county, in 1868. To this union have been born the following children, Marvin Theo, Arthur, Fred M., Oliver Bernard, Clifford Robert, Henry M., Carl O., and Ruth A., all of whom are living. The family are held in high regard in the community in which they live and where they take an active interest in the social and religious life of the township. Mr. Hove has always taken a keen interest in the civic affairs and has ever exerted his influence for the betterment of local conditions.

Michael Stone, the father of Mrs. Hove, was born in August, 1824, the son of Rasmus Ecker and wife, and received his education in the schools of Norway. As a lad he learned the tailor trade, but later engaged in farming. In 1868 he came to Minnesota and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Douglas county, where he lived for twenty years, at the end of which time he sold the place and purchased one hundred and sixty acres near Alexandria, where he lived until his retirement from active

farm work, when he and his wife took up their residence in Alexandria, where they lived until the death of the wife and mother on May 21, 1912, since which time Mr. Stone has made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Hove. Mr. Stone was always a man of activity and accomplished much during life as a farmer. He and his wife were greatly respected by all and they had much to do with the social and religious life of the communities in which they lived.

SOREN J. MILLER.

Soren J. Miller, a prominent and well-known retired farmer of Nelson, was born in Denmark in 1844, the son of Jens Peter and Caroline (Sorensdatter) Fransen, who spent all their lives in Denmark, where the father was a working man and had taken part in the war with Germany in 1850. He and his wife were the parents of five children, Anna, Hannah, Mary, Soren J. and Franz, all of whom save Soren J., remained in Denmark.

Soren J. Miller took his material grandfather's name in honor of that grandsire. Mr. Miller received his education in his native country and there resided until he was thirty-six years of age. He was engaged in farm work the greater part of his life in that country, but during the last few winters he was engaged in the making of wooden shoes. In 1881 he came to Minnesota and located at Osakis village, where he remained until the next spring, when he moved to the farm on which the village of Nelson is now situated. He rented the land for six years and at the end of that time he and L. P. Peterson purchased the tract of two hundred and forty acres. Mr. Miller took the part lying north of the railroad and it was on this tract that the village of Nelson was later located. At that time there was only a railway station, a postoffice and a part of the house in which Mr. Miller is now living. The land was covered with timber, which was cleared by Mr. Miller, who later laid out the town.

After clearing and developing the land which he had bought and on which he hoped to make his home, Mr. Miller later laid out the town and sold the tract, with the exception of one acre, which he still owns and where he lives. He rebuilt and improved the house and erected the other buildings on the place. For a number of years he operated a feed store and mill, which he sold at the time of his retirement from business.

In 1867 Soren J. Miller was united in marriage to Carrie Simonsen,

also a native of Denmark, and to that union three children were born, Elesia, Mary and Katie. Mrs. Miller died in her native county before Mr. Miller came to this county. In 1881, before leaving for the United States, Mr. Miller married Mrs. Gethta (Smith) Stolk. By her former marriage, Mrs. Miller was the mother of four children, Jens, Laura Christenia, L. P. and Lena. On coming to America, Mr. Miller brought his wife with her children and his own. It was her son, L. P., who later purchased the farm with Mr. Miller. Gethta Miller died in 1902.

Mr. Miller always took an interest in the growth and advancement of his home town and the community and served on the village council and was school treasurer for thirteen years. He and his family are active members of the Danish Lutheran church and take much interest in church work.

ANDREW L. McCORD.

Andrew L. McCord, a well-known and successful farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in the state of New York on August 20, 1854, the son of Andrew J. and Mary (Tanner) McCord, who were also born in that state, there received their education and were there married. They later removed to Pennsylvania, where they purchased a farm in Crawford county, and there farmed their one-hundred-acre tract for twenty-two years, at the end of which time, in 1878, they came to Minnesota and located in Douglas county. Here they purchased one hundred and seventy-one acres in section 34 of Ida township and in section 3 of LaGrand township. The farm at that time had very crude improvements, consisting of a log house and a log barn. These the family used for several years, after which they erected good and substantial buildings. There Andrew J. McCord engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years, his first farming being done with oxen. Mrs. McCord died many years ago and during the last few years of his life Andrew J. McCord lived with his son, Andrew L. McCord. Mr. McCord died in 1912 at the age of ninety-one years. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Phoebe, Charles F., Robert, Joseph, Andrew L. and Mary, of whom Charles F. and Andrew L. are the only ones now living. Charles F. McCord is living at Erie, Pennsylvania, and is a retired railroad man.

Andrew L. McCord received his education in the common schools of Pennsylvania and grew to manhood on the home farm. As a young man he

became a fireman on the railroad, at which he worked for some years. He with his two brothers, Robert and Joseph, then came to Minnesota and purchased two hundred and fifteen acres of land in Douglas county. The grasshoppers put in their appearance about that time and Andrew L. McCord left the farm to his brothers and returned to Pennsylvania, where he again engaged as a fireman. After two years thus engaged with the railroad he returned to Douglas county, accompanied by his father and mother, and bought an improved farm near Garfield. He was married in 1881 to Laura Smith, of Orange township, Douglas county, and they lived on the farm for sixteen years. He then traded with his father. He has made many improvements on his new farm, among the improvements being a fine barn, thirty-six by eighty feet, that he built in 1910. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. He keeps many good cattle and hogs and feeds nearly all the grain that he raises.

Andrew L. and Laura McCord are the parents of five children, Warren, Nina, George, Blanche and Hazel. Nina McCord married Jacob Olsen, a successful farmer of Montana, and has two children, Urban and Harold. Warren McCord married Rose Lempe and has one child, Sylvia. Mr. and Mrs. McCord are prominent in the social activities of the community in which they live and are held in the highest regard by their neighbors and friends.

LEONARD HINTZEN.

Although there are few Hollanders in Douglas and Grant counties, those that are here recognized as among our best citizens, industrious and law-abiding. Such was the late Leonard Hintzen, for many years a successful farmer of Belle River township, Douglas county. He was born at Acht, Holland, May 6, 1852, a son of Paul and Cornelia Hintzen, who lived and died in Holland, in which country their son Leonard grew to manhood and attended school, and there he married Mary E. Fox, who was born on February 28, 1857, in Prussia, Germany. Leonard Hintzen and wife immigrated to America about the year 1877, landing at Boston, Massachusetts, but they came on to Minnesota at once to join her bachelor uncle, Charles Beumers, who had homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Belle River township, Douglas county. Soon after their arrival here Mr. and Mrs. Hintzen bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 17 of Belle River township, where they established a comfortable home through their industry

and perseverance. Prospering with advancing years, Mr. Hintzen added to his original purchase until he owned one of the best farms in the county, containing four hundred and twenty acres, where he carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale until his death on August 17, 1915, after which his widow and children operated the farm, her death occurring on July 14, 1916. She was a daughter of John and Mary (Beumers) Fox, who spent their lives in the old country. To Mr. and Mrs. Hintzen twelve children were born, the first two in Germany, and all of whom are living at this writing, John, Anna, Nicholas, Sophia, Elizabeth, Mary, Josephine, Katherine, Peter, Cornelia, Lambert and William. Politically, Mr. Hintzen was a Republican and the family have always been members of the Catholic church.

ALGORT T. NELSON.

Algort T. Nelson, a successful farmer and stockman of LaGrand township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden in 1866, the son of John August and Helena Nelson, also natives of Sweden, where they received their education and were married. In 1870 they came direct to Minnesota, locating in Goodhue county, where they resided for two years. In 1872 they came to Douglas county and John A. Nelson homesteaded eighty acres in LaGrand township, where he now resides. The tract on which Mr. Nelson located was undeveloped and unimproved, he having erected the first buildings and cleared the farm. He became successful and his original farm of eighty acres was increased until he became the owner of two hundred and two acres. In time he erected a fine brick house on the farm, as well as other substantial and modern buildings. He always took an active interest in the growth and the development of the township and was much interested in the success of the schools and in the general prosperity of the community. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were born five children, Christine Borrows, Hulda Erickson, Algort T., Clara Bylund and Alma Berglund.

Algort T. Nelson received his education in the public schools of Douglas county, where he grew to manhood on the home farm and assisted with the farm work and in the clearing and development of the home place. In 1904 he was united in marriage to Martha Johnson, daughter of John M. and Breta (Anderson) Johnson, natives of Sweden, who came to Minnesota in 1891, locating in that portion of LaGrand township, Douglas county, that is now Lake Mary township, where they still live. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have no children of their own, but have one adopted child, Archie, and an-

other, Elmer Matson, whom they are rearing. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are active members of the Lutheran church at Alexandria and take much interest in church work.

Mrs. Johnson, before her marriage to Mr. Johnson, was the widow of Carl Anderson, who died some years after their marriage. They were the parents of three children, Daniel Anderson, Eda Berglin and Charles Anderson. By John M. Johnson she is the mother of nine children, Andrew P., Christina, Inga, Hannah, John, Mary, Martha, Otto and Oscar.

Algort T. Nelson has always taken a keen interest in the local affairs and has been active in the general development and growth of the community in which he lives. He has long been recognized as a careful and systematic farmer and stock raiser and has been successful. He and his wife are held in high esteem in the community in which they live and where they take much interest in social and religious activities.

FREDERICK BRUESKE.

Another farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, who hails from the old Badger state is Frederick Brueske, who was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on October 10, 1864. He is a son of Frederick and Celestena (Cossen) Brueske, mention of whom is made in the sketch of Emil Brueske, appearing on another page of this work.

Frederick Brueske was reared on the farm where he worked when a boy and he received a common-school education. He was married on November 16, 1885, to Bertha Schulz, a sister of the wife of Emil Brueske. To Frederick Brueske and wife the following children have been born: George, Clara, Emma, Elsie, Ulrika, Freda, Hertha, Ellis and Edwin.

Frederick Brueske has always followed farming. He owns one hundred and sixty acres, a part of the old homestead, on which the buildings stand. He erected a new dwelling in 1905 and a new barn in 1915. He has kept the place well improved and under fine cultivation and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He also owns an interest in the Leaf Valley creamery, also in the elevator and potato warehouse at Garfield. He served as a member of the school board in his district for a period of twelve years. He belongs to the German Lutheran church at Leaf Valley and is interested in church and public affairs, and is one of the enterprising and public-spirited citizens of Ida township, where the name Brueske has long been well and favorably known.

H. B. HOBART.

Of the younger and well-known successful farmers of Carlos township, Douglas county, few are better known than is H. B. Hobart, who was born in Murray county, Minnesota, on July 18, 1884, the son of Hiley F. and Etta (Taylor) Hobart.

Neri Taylor, the maternal grandfather, lived his early life in the state of New York, where he was engaged in farming and as a blacksmith. He later came to Minnesota, where he homesteaded in Murray county and engaged in general farming for many years. Hiley F. Hobart was born in the state of New York, where he spent his early manhood. He later located in Nebraska, after which he came to Minnesota, where he engaged in farming in Douglas county. For the past two years he has been living at Kellerton, Iowa.

H. B. Hobart was the only child in the family and received his education in the schools of Murray county. After having graduated from the high school he engaged in teaching in his home county and later in Otter Tail county and then in North Dakota. On June 9, 1909, he was united in marriage to Pearl Gilmore, the daughter of M. S. Gilmore. To this union two children have been born, Gordon and Grant.

Soon after marriage, H. B. Hobart purchased one hundred and fourteen acres of land in sections 34 and 35 of Carlos township. This was in 1909 and he has since made his home there. The buildings were on the place at the time he made the purchase, yet he has made many other substantial and valuable improvements that have added to the beauty as well as to the value of the place. He and his wife are active and influential members of the Methodist church and have always taken much interest in religious affairs. They are prominent in the social life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Hobart is much interested in the educational development of the township and the county, and his efforts have ever been to assist in placing the schools on a higher plane, an advocate of all improvement possible in the present excellent system. For some years he has been treasurer of his home school district.

H. A. Hobart is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is progressive and believes in the keeping of the best that can be had. Mrs. Hobart has taken much pride in her chickens, and has won several prizes at the local fairs, and also at St. Paul and Minneapolis, and Fargo, North Dakota and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mr. Hobart is at present devoting much time and attention



Mrs. AND Mrs. H. R. HOWARD



to his high-class Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mrs. Hobart also has some fine specimens of the bronze turkeys, some of which won for her the first prize at the Minneapolis poultry show. One of her chickens, a cock, won first prize at the fair at Fargo, North Dakota.

Mr. Hobart is a man of much ability and has devoted much of his time to the interests of the township. He is a firm believer in all public improvements that have tendency toward making the county better and greater. Mrs. Hobart is achieving noted success with her poultry and the reputation of her stock extends beyond the limits of the state.

LARS THORSON.

Lars Thorson, a successful farmer and a prominent citizen of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on October 1, 1849, the son of Thor and Ingeborg (Larson) Larson, also natives of Norway, where they received their education and were married. For many years after their marriage, they continued to live in the land of their birth. In 1866 they sailed for the United States and after their arrival in this country they located in Rock county, Wisconsin, where they resided for eight years, after which they came to Minnesota and purchased land in Moe township, Douglas county, and there they lived and engaged in farming until the time of their deaths, some years ago. They were active members of the Lutheran church at Brandon and took much interest in religious work. They were the parents of three children, Lars, Knute and Martin, all of whom are living.

Lars Thorson received his education in the schools of his native land and was there confirmed in the Lutheran church. He attended some school in Wisconsin, where he located with his parents. After his parents left Wisconsin, he continued to live there for a year and then came to Douglas county, where he has since resided. For the past forty years he has lived on his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Moe township, which he has developed and improved and has long been recognized as a successful farmer and stock raiser. His farm is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He believes in intensive farming and in the keeping of the best of stock.

In 1879 Lars Thorson was united in marriage to Anna Stuberg, a native of Norway and the daughter of Peter Stuberg and wife, who came to America when the daughter, Anna, was but four years of age. The

family later came to Minnesota in 1875 and settled in Douglas county, where Mr. Stuberg died in 1914, at the age of eighty-four years. To Mr. and Mrs. Thorson have been born the following children, Theodore, Alfred, Carl, Louisa, Dena, Selma, Martin, Minnie, Lorenz, Arthur, Oscar, Agnes and Lilian. The children are all living, with the exception of Alfred, and all live in the neighborhood of the old home in Douglas county, with the exception of Theodore, who lives in California.

Lars Thorson and family are active members of the Lutheran church and take an active part in church work. Mr. Thorson and his father were among the organizers of the local church at Brandon, known as the Lutheran Free church. In addition to his activities in church work, Mr. Thorson has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of the township. He assisted in the organization of the school district and was for thirty-four years clerk of the same, much of the success of the school in that district being due to his untiring efforts to make it among the best.

At the time Lars Thorson purchased his present farm there was only a dug-out on the place. The farm today is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. Mr. Thorson is recognized as a farmer of ability, a man of the highest integrity and possessed of sound judgment. His life has been an active one and he has won for himself the confidence and esteem of a host of friends and admirers.

OTTO WILHELM NELSON.

Otto Wilhelm Nelson, a prominent resident of La Grand township, Douglas county, was born on the farm where he now lives on April 13, 1873, the son of Elof and Karin (Johnson) Nelson, natives of Sweden, who were married in their native land, after which they decided to seek a home in the United States. In 1870 Elof Nelson came to this country for the purpose of seeking a location before bringing his wife to the strange land. On his arrival he remained one summer in Wisconsin. He then came to Minnesota, homesteading eighty acres in La Grand township, Douglas county, where his wife joined him the same year, and there they continued to live for a number of years before his death, some twenty years ago. The widow died on the home farm in 1903.

Elof Nelson was a man of much business ability and an excellent

farmer and stockman. Coming to his homestead at a time when it was all wild and unimproved, he by hard work succeeded in making it one of the most desirable farms in the township. The log hut that was on the place at the time he came here, was in time replaced by a more modern and substantial building. He erected other farm buildings as well as making many substantial and valuable improvements on the place. He became successful and soon purchased another tract of land, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. He became one of the prominent men of the township and took an active interest in local affairs. He assisted in the organization of the Swedish Lutheran church and was one of the active workers of that denomination. For a number of years he was a member of the board of supervisors of the township and had much to do with the development of that commonwealth. He always took much interest in the success of the schools and the betterment of the public highways.

To Elof and Kari Nelson were born the following children: Nels E., Jens, Emil, Carrie, Peter J., John E., Magnus, Otto W., and Edward. Jens, Carrie and Edward are now deceased, Carrie having died in infancy. Before his marriage to Kari Johnson, Elof Nelson was united in marriage to Breta Johnson and to that union one child was born, Lars Nelson, who came to America some ten years after his father and settled in Polk county, Minnesota, where he is a successful farmer. Breta Nelson died at her home in Sweden some years before the marriage of Elof and Kari Nelson.

Otto Wilhelm Nelson received his education in the schools of Douglas county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the farm work. His home has always been on the old homestead, which he now owns and which he has increased to two hundred and forty acres, all of which is under cultivation and well improved. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

In 1901 Otto Wilhelm Nelson was united in marriage to Ingeborg Unumb, a native of Douglas county, the daughter of Peter and Olivia (Hangard) Unumb, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to the United States in 1866, locating in Madison, Wisconsin, where they resided until 1869, when they, with their family, came to Minnesota, where the father homesteaded a tract in Moe township, Douglas county, which he later converted into an excellent farm, soon coming to be recognized as a good farmer and one of the substantial citizens of the county. He and his wife remained on the home farm until the time of their deaths, which occurred in

1913 and 1915, respectively. They were the parents of six children, E. O., Peter O., C. B., Oscar, Bertha and Ingeborg.

To Otto Wilhelm Nelson and wife have been born five children, Archibald, Clarence, Rudolph, Marion and Robert, all of whom are living. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take an active interest in church work. Mr. Nelson has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has served as township chairman and as treasurer for many years. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Alexandria.

JULIUS LARSON.

Julius Larson, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Norway, on February 13, 1862, the son of Lars and Johannah (Johnson) Olson, also natives of Norway, who died in that country many years ago, when the son, Julius Larson, was but a small boy. The father was a farmer and he and his wife were active members of the Lutheran church, and took much interest in religious work. They were prominent in the social circles of their home community and were held in the highest esteem and regard by all who knew them. They were the parents of the following children; Magnus, Ole, Johannus, Berget, Johannah, Martin (deceased), Julius and Lottie (deceased).

Julius Larson received his education in the public schools of Norway and there grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-two, in 1884, he decided that he would seek a home in America. Upon his arrival in New York City he came direct to Minnesota and located in Brandon township, Douglas county, where he worked by the day for some years, and also worked on the Great Northern railroad. In time he purchased one hundred and thirty-one acres in sections 8 and 17, Brandon township, to which he later added one hundred and sixty-nine acres in section 17. A part of the land had been developed, but Mr. Larson has placed the substantial buildings on the place, building the barn, thirty-two by ninety feet, in 1908. The house he built in 1913, on his Stone Lake farm, which borders the lake on the north and the west. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

Julius Larson was united in marriage to Mattie Augdahl, the daughter of Frederick and Olivia (Christopherson) Augdahl, natives of Norway, who were married in that country and in 1872 came to Minnesota, locating

on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Brandon township, Douglas county, which they developed and improved and later added eighty acres. There the father lived until the time of his death on August 30, 1901, at the age of sixty-eight years. The mother is living on the home farm, with her son, Carl O. Augdahl, at the age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of two children, Mrs. Larson and her brother, Carl O.

To Mr. and Mrs. Julius Larson four children have been born, Olga, who married Arthur Johnson, of Minneapolis, and Lewis, Myrtle and Leon. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social life of the community. Mr. Larson has taken much interest in local affairs and has for some years been a member of the school board. He is a public-spirited man and believes in the substantial development of the township and the county.

MARTIN DAHLBERG.

Belle River township, Douglas county, can boast of a large number of scientific tillers of the soil, among whom is Martin Dahlberg, who was born in Gefleborgs, Sweden, December 9, 1861. He is a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Swenson) Dahlberg, natives of Sweden, where they spent their lives. They lived on a farm, where they died many years ago. They had but two children, Catherine and Martin.

Martin Dahlberg grew to manhood in Sweden, assisting his father with the work on the farm, and attended the common schools. He immigrated to Canada in 1889, landing at Quebec, but he came on to Minnesota, where he purchased eighty acres in Stearns county, which he later sold and in 1899 moved to Douglas county, where he has since resided. He first located in section 32 of Belle River township, on eighty acres, where he lived until 1907, when he sold out and purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and on which he carries on mixed farming. He is also a stockholder in the Nelson creamery.

Mr. Dahlberg was married in Sweden to Johanna Erickson, a native of that country, and to their union five children have been born, Edwin, Andrew, Albin, Agnes and Ellen, all unmarried. Mr. Dahlberg is a Republican and has served on the school board in district No. 40. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church at Osakis.

HON. HENRY L. LEWIS.

A well-known and highly respected citizen of Douglas county, among the farming element, is the Hon. Henry L. Lewis, of Holmes City township, former representative in the Legislature from this district. He was born in Sweden, August 20, 1845, a son of Peter and Carrie Lewis, natives of Sweden, where they established their home and where the mother died when Henry L. Lewis was young. The father brought his children to America in 1857, locating on a farm near McGregor, Iowa, where he spent the rest of his life, dying there many years ago. To the above-named parents six children were born, an equal number of sons and daughters, namely: Martha, Carrie, Henry L., Peter, Anna, and Samuel. The father married again, and had two children, Christena and John, by his last wife.

Henry L. Lewis spent his boyhood in Sweden, being twelve years old when his father brought him to Iowa. He assisted with the work on the farm in that state and attended the public schools. When eighteen years old he enlisted, December 18, 1863, in Company I, Twenty-seventh Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and saw considerable service during the Civil War. He participated in the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, and also in several fights in Louisiana. He also participated in battles in Mississippi, including the Battle of Tupolo; also in the battle of Nashville, Tennessee, and Mobile. A cousin of his, H. Lewis, was killed while a member of the same company. He was honorably discharged on January 2, 1866, and remained for a while thereafter in Alabama, engaged in reconstruction work. After his discharge he returned to McGregor, Iowa, but in April, 1866, came to Minnesota, "squatting" on land in Holmes City township, Douglas county, which he later homesteaded—about one mile south of where he now lives, the place consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. Selling out he bought the place he now occupies in 1868 and has lived there practically ever since. He is one of the pioneers of his township and has taken an active part in the development of his locality. In the early days he did a great deal of teaming between here and St. Cloud and between the latter town and Ottertail City. His present farm consists of one hundred and sixty acres. It was all timber land when he took possession. He cleared and developed it, and increased his acreage to an aggregate of two hundred and forty-eight, which he retained until early in 1916, when he sold off a portion of his land. He cleared and improved an original quarter section, erected good buildings and has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

He is now living retired from active work, one of the substantial men of the township.

In 1872 Henry L. Lewis was married to Christine Falen, who was born in Sweden, from which country she came to America in 1867, making her home with her brother in Holmes City township. Her father died in Sweden, and her mother later came to America. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, namely: Albert, who has traveled extensively as a construction engineer; Christine, who is at home; Hattie, who is at home, and Oscar, who is operating the home place, and in connection with general farming, is a breeder of Hereford cattle and Poland China hogs.

Mr. Lewis is a member of George F. Reynolds Post No. 51, Grand Army of the Republic. Politically, he is a Republican and has been active and influential in his party for many years, doing much for its success in this part of the state. He has served in a number of minor local offices, such as township supervisor, township treasurer and school director. He was elected twice as representative to the Legislature, first, in 1884, and second, in 1893, making a most praiseworthy record each term. On January 7, 1873, Mr. Lewis traveled to Morris with a load of wheat and encountered a severe storm, in which a number of people who were exposed perished. He finally reached his destination after enduring severe hardships.

FREDRICK KLUG.

Germany has not sent as many of her sons to Douglas county as Sweden, Norway and possibly Denmark, but those who, have come here have been enterprising and have profited by the move from their native land. One of this number is Fredrick Klug, a farmer of Ida township. He was born in Germany, August 25, 1841, and is a son of Fredrick Klug and wife, natives of that country, where the father was for some time in the regular army. He removed to Wisconsin with his family where he engaged in farming. His children were Charles, Albertine, Fredrick, Fred-erica, Wilhimena, Anna and Gustav.

Fredrick Klug was about seven years old when his parents brought him to America. He received his education in the common schools of Watertown, Wisconsin. About thirty years ago he came to Minnesota, and has been engaged in general farming in Douglas county ever since, owning a good farm in Ida township, which place was wild land when he took

possession of it. He has made all the improvements on the same, including an excellent set of buildings, including a new dwelling. He has worked hard and has succeeded.

Mr. Klug was married in 1870 to Bertha Kronfeldt, a native of Germany, and a daughter of Karl and Albertina (Kickhafer) Kronfeldt, and to their union twelve children have been born, namely: Anna, Christiana, Louise, Adelia, Henry, Alexius, Frederick, Robert, Martin, Antone, Bertel and Walter. Mr. Klug belongs to the German Lutheran church.

OSCAR F. WOLF.

Oscar F. Wolf, a well-known and successful blacksmith, of Holmes City, was born in Sweden on November 25, 1862, the son of Svante and Carolina (Olson) Wolf, natives of Sweden, who spent all their lives in their native land. They were educated in the public schools and became well known in the industrial and social circles of their home community. The father was a soldier in the Swedish army for twenty-five years, after which he received an honorable discharge. During the winter months, while not in active military service, he engaged in carpenter work and in the building of wagons, and was recognized as a successful workman in his line. He and his wife were the parents of five children, Charles, John, Theo, Oscar F. and one who died young.

Oscar F. Wolf received his education in the common schools of his native land and there grew to manhood. As a young man he learned the trade of a blacksmith, at which he worked in his home country. In 1882 he came to America and located in Trenton, New Jersey, where he worked at his trade in a large factory. He remained there for a year and then, in 1883, came to Minnesota, locating at St. Paul, where he worked in one shop for ten years. In 1893 he moved to Holmes City, where he purchased the only shop that was then there. He later erected a new shop, where he has continued to carry on his trade. He has a substantial home in the village, where he resides.

Oscar F. Wolf is a man of exceptional ability, a good organizer and a successful leader. In 1891 he made a trip to Scotland, where he obtained a charter for the Independent Order of Good Templars for this country. It was necessary for him to visit the I. N. S. P. lodge and there meet the grand officers, in order to obtain the charter which he sought. On his return to

the United States he devoted a considerable part of his time to the work of the order and many of the lodges in the country owe their existence to his careful work and assistance. He has traveled over the greater part of the United States giving lectures on the good of the order and has received much praise and favorable comment on the excellence of his work.

In addition to his shop and his home, Mr. Wolf is the owner of thirty acres of land one mile northwest of Holmes City. He takes much interest in agricultural pursuits, and is well read on plant and animal industry. He is an extensive reader on nearly every subject and has a fine library, in which he takes much pleasure and delight. He is a believer in doing well that which is to be done and has the reputation of being one of the very best workmen in this section of the country. His life has been an active one and he has accomplished much that is good, not only for himself, but for his fellow man. He is kind and affectionate, takes pleasure in disseminating cheerfulness and happiness wherever he goes, and is held in the highest regard by all for his generous spirit and many traits of character.

In 1889, Oscar F. Wolf was united in marriage to Charlotta Johnson, a native of Sweden and the daughter of Jonas Johnson, a well-known man in his community. To this union eight children have been born, Lilian, Ethel, Hilda, Herbert, Julia, Alice, Rudolph and Eva, all of whom are living. The family are active members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in church work. Mr. Wolf has always taken a keen interest in local civic affairs, having been justice of the peace for the past twenty years, and has served as clerk of the school board of his town.

THEO RINGDAHL.

Theo Ringdahl of Holmes City township, Douglas county, has succeeded as a general farmer because he has been willing to work hard and patiently wait for results. He was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, February 24, 1885. He is a son of N. O. and Minnie (Paulson) Ringdahl, both natives of Sweden, from which country they came to the United States while single and were married in Goodhue county, this state, where they made their home until the year 1900, when they came to Douglas county. The father purchased one hundred and twenty acres here which he developed and on which his widow still resides, his death having occurred in 1910. To these parents three children were born, L. J., Theckla and Theodore.

Theodore, or "Theo," Ringdahl, as he is familiarly known, grew up on the homestead where he worked hard during his boyhood, assisting his father with the crops, and in the winter time he attended the district schools in Goodhue county. He accompanied the family to Douglas county in 1900 and has resided on the home place ever since, purchasing the same in 1913. He has kept it well improved and under a high state of cultivation and has been successful as a general farmer.

Mr. Ringdahl was married in 1912 to Effie Elvira Kron, a daughter of Victor Kron and wife, of Holmes City township, Douglas county. After a brief married life she was called from earthly scenes on January 7, 1916, while young in years. To Mr. and Mrs. Ringdahl two children were born, Arley Theodore and Oren Kenneth.

Mr. Ringdahl was reared in the Lutheran faith. His mother is a member of the Oscar Lake Lutheran church, to which his father also belonged. Politically, he is a Republican.

LAURITZ SYVERSON.

Lauritz Syverson, a successful and well-known farmer of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in that township on July 16, 1867, the son of Syvert and Martha (Christianson) Olson, who were born in Norway, he on January 1, 1831, and she, December 4, 1832. They were married in June, 1855, and continued to live in the land of their birth for four years after their marriage, or until 1859, when they decided to come to America. On their arrival in this country they proceeded to Wisconsin, where they lived for four years. They then came to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county, where they resided for four years. In 1867 Syvert Olson came to Douglas county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 10 of Moe township. He there erected a log house, in which the family lived for ten years. The land was gradually developed and improved and there Mr. Olson engaged in general farming and stock raising and became successful, in time becoming the owner of more than six hundred acres of fine land, all of which was developed and improved. When he first located on the farm it was necessary to market the products of the farm at St. Cloud, a week being required to make the trip. In addition to his farm duties, Mr. Olson for two years was associated with Hans Peterson in the buying of wheat and other grains at Garfield.

To Syvert and Martha Olson were born the following children: Carloline, Ole, Peter, Olena, Lauritz, Sophia, Taulo and Nellie. Mr. and Mrs. Olson were long active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were prominent in church work, Mr. Olson for many years being one of the trustees of the local society in Moe township. He took much interest in local affairs and did much for the township and the county of his adoption. His death occurred on August 4, 1903, thus ending a good and useful life.

Lauritz Syverson received his education in the public schools of Moe township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work on the farm. Early in life he decided that he would be a farmer and as a young man engaged in that work for himself. He owns one hundred and sixty acres located in sections 10 and 23, Moe township. This farm he has developed and improved, having erected all the buildings. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he is successful. He is interested in Shorthorn cattle and is developing a fine herd.

In 1894, Lauritz Syverson was united in marriage to Anna Levang, and to this union two children have been born, Mabel and Harvey. The family are members of the Moe township Norwegian Lutheran church, of which Mr. Syverson has acted as trustee. He has always taken an active interest in local affairs and for fifteen years he was township clerk. In 1916 he was elected a member of the board of township supervisors and is now serving the public in that capacity.

WILLIAM J. CRABB.

William J. Crabb, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Carlos township, Douglas county, was born in Michigan on March 12, 1876, the son of John C. and Eliza Jane (Stephen) Crabb.

John C. Crabb was born in Cornwall, England, on September 7, 1847, and died on July 24, 1915. On coming to America as a young man, he worked in the state of New York and in Pennsylvania. During the last few years that he was in Pennsylvania, he worked in the vicinity of Pittsburgh. He later left that state and located in Keweenaw county, Michigan, and there he was united in marriage to Eliza Jane Stephen. It was while the family were residing there that the son William J. was born. After some years of residence in that county, John C. Crabb and wife came

to Minnesota and located in Douglas county. After a residence here of a few years the family removed to Ouray, Colorado, where they remained but a few years and then returned to Douglas county, and located in Belle River township. There Mr. Crabb purchased land and engaged in general farming and stock raising and was successful. As a young man he had devoted much of his life to mining, and was considered an expert in that line. He and his wife were the parents of three children, William J., Mary Jane and Steven. Jane Crabb married James Walker of Douglas county.

William J. Crabb received his education in the public schools, and after reaching manhood engaged in farming. He is unmarried and has rented from his uncle, John Rosemergy, the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he has operated for the past two years. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been most successful. He deals in Durham cattle and mixed grade of hogs. His father having died in 1915, his widowed mother is living with him. Mr. Crabb is progressive and believes in the modern methods of conducting a farm. He is a believer in intensive farming and in the thorough cultivation of the soil and has demonstrated the value of that means of operating the modern farm.

HENRY HANSON.

Henry Hanson, one of the well-known and prominent farmers of Moe township, Douglas county, was born on the old Hanson homestead in that township, on December 29, 1870, the son of Hans and Syverine Peterson, also natives of Norway, where they received their education in the public schools and where they grew to manhood and womanhood. Hans Peterson remained a resident of the land of his nativity until he was eighteen years of age, when he came to the United States, settling in LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming for a number of years. In 1867 he came Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Moe township, Douglas county, a tract of land in the wild state and difficult of cultivation. The family suffered many of the hardships of pioneer life, but with a firm determination they succeeded and in time had one of the best farms in the township, Mr. Peterson becoming the owner of two hundred acres of excellent land, all of which he put under cultivation and improved by the erection of substantial buildings, and there he and his wife spent their last days.

Hans and Syverine Peterson were the parents of five children, Peter, Mary, Martha, Henry and Hannah. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were active members of the Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. Their family have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community, and are held in the highest regard by all. Mr. Peterson also took much interest in the civic affairs of the township and ever gave of his time and ability to advance the interests of the county.

Henry Hanson received his education in the public schools of Moe township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a young man he engaged in farming with his father. In 1897 he went to the Pacific coast, where he remained for one year. On his return to Douglas county he again engaged in farming and in 1901 began farming for himself, being now the owner of one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land, on which he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has done much in the way of development on the farm and has placed all the present substantial buildings on the same.

Henry Hanson was united in marriage to Mary Salvesson, the daughter of Ole Salvesson, a prominent resident of the county, and to this union four children have been born, Harold, Glenville, Luella and William. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are active members of the Lutheran church, and have always taken much interest in church work, Mr. Hanson having served for three years as trustee of the local society in Moe township. He has also taken much interest in the schools of the township and has served on the school board for a number of years.

ANTON HOLING.

Anton Holing, one of the well-known young farmers of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born on the old Holing homestead in that township, on February 28, 1883, the son of Haagen and Anna (Lillemoe) Holing.

Haagen Holing was a native of Norway and there received his education in the public schools. He continued to reside in his native land until he was twenty-two years of age, when he came to the United States, proceeding directly to Wisconsin, where he worked as a farm hand for several years, at the end of which time he came to Minnesota, locating at Minneapolis, where he was engaged in a lumber yard until he came to Douglas county. Here

he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 33 of Brandon township, where he continued to live until the time of his death on February 8, 1907, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife died on January 9 of that same year, at the age of sixty-five years. They were the parents of six children, Martin, Bertine, Nettie, Hannah, Anton, and John.

At the time Haagen Holing settled on his homestead, the same was a practical wilderness and the nearest neighborhood was four miles away. There were still many Indians in the country and they gave the settlers much bother. A log cabin was erected, in which the family resided for many years. The land was broken with oxen, their only team for some time. Mr. and Mrs. Holing were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were prominent in church work, Mr. Holing having been one of the organizers of the local society at Brandon. Mr. Holing also took much interest in local affairs, and much to do with the development of the township and for thirty-five years was the township treasurer. His keen interest in the success of the schools made him a pioneer in the organization and perfection of the schools of the community and for many years he was a member of the school board. He assisted in the organization of the Farmer's Elevator Company at Brandon and had much to do with its future success. He was successful as a farmer and stock raiser and at the time of his death was the owner of four hundred acres.

Anton Holing received his education in the public schools of the township, at Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, and at the business college at Fergus Falls. Upon completing his schooling he returned to the old homestead, where he has since lived. On June 26, 1909, he was united in marriage to Gina Knudson, and to this union three children have been born, Alta, Vernon and Arnold. In 1915, Mr. Holing took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in the Berthold reservation, North Dakota, and now has it all under cultivation, in 1916, having had one hundred acres of flax growing on the place. He also formerly owned three hundred and twenty acres of land in Montana, which he sold in 1913. He is now managing two hundred and forty acres of his father's estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Holing are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church of Brandon township and take much interest in church work. Mr. Holing has been assessor of his township for two years and has served as treasurer of the school board. He is a stockholder in the local creamery, as well as in the Farmers and Merchants Union Elevator Company, in the Farmers Bank at Brandon and in the Peoples Bank at St. Paul.

PETER M. ENGLUND.

Peter M. Englund, a well-known and successful farmer of LaGrand township, Douglas county, was born at Gummarskog, Wermland, Sweden, on May 28, 1865, the son of Magnus and Bertha (Svendson) Nelson, also natives of that country, who were married there and continued to live in their native land until 1882, when they came to Minnesota and for a time located in Minneapolis, but soon came over to Douglas county, where the father homesteaded in LaGrand township, on the farm now the residence of Hans Erickson. In 1869 Mangus Nelson had come to the United States and at that time homesteaded in Moe township but did not prove up on the claim before returning to Sweden, where he had left his family, but in 1882, when he returned to America with his family, he came to stay. In LaGrand township he had eighty acres of land, which he developed and improved, and there he died in 1889. His widow survived until 1902. They were the parents of five children, Nils, Andrew, Marie, Peter and Ole. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were for many years members of the Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. Mrs. Nelson later united with the Swedish Baptist church and was a member of that denomination at the time of her death. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were held in high regard by all who knew them, and they made many staunch friends in the neighborhood in which they lived.

Peter M. Englund received the greater part of his education in the public schools of his native land and in the church schools and was confirmed before the family came to the United States. After coming to Douglas county, he attended school one hundred and ten days in the schools of LaGrand township. He was seventeen years of age when he came with his parents to this country and he did much to assist his father with the work of clearing and breaking the land on the home farm. As a young man he engaged in farming and has followed that occupation all his life. At the time he engaged in farming for himself he obtained the farm of one hundred and ten acres where he now lives, and there he has developed one of the best farms in the township, having improved the place with excellent buildings. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

On December 29, 1891, Peter M. Englund was united in marriage to Christiania Johnson, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of Johanas and Stina (Nelson) Johnson, both of whom died in Sweden. To this union have been born the following children, David, Samuel, Joseph, Arvid, Victoria,

Gideon, Ruben, Amanda, John, and Richard, all of whom are living. Victoria Englund won the prize at the county oral spelling contest and represented the county in the state contest. Mr. and Mrs. Englund were always active members of the Swedish Baptist church. Mrs. Englund died on January 31, 1911, after a useful and active life, and her death was mourned by all who knew her.

Mr. Englund has always taken a keen interest in local civic affairs, and for eighteen years served as a member of the school board, one year as township treasurer, two years as justice of the peace and for seventeen years as township clerk, which latter position he is still holding. Being a man of good judgment and wide experience, he has had much to do with the growth and the development of the township. He has always been interested in the success of the schools and has done much to further the cause of education in his community.

CLAUS PETERSON.

Claus Peterson, a hard-working farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden, March 4, 1863. He is a son of Emmanuel and Mary (Valine) Peterson, who were born, reared and married in Sweden, from which country they came to America in 1882, landing in New York and proceeding directly to Minnesota, locating on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres two miles east of Garfield, in Douglas county. Emmanuel Peterson sold his thirty-acre farm in Sweden when he left there, receiving the sum of fourteen thousand dollars for it. Having plenty of capital when he arrived in Douglas county, he soon became well established and was a substantial and influential citizen. His death occurred there in 1892, at the age of sixty-five years. His widow survived him many years, dying in 1911, at the age of seventy-eight years. They were parents of six children, Claus, Charles, Betsy, Hilda (deceased), Anna and Ida. Emmanuel Peterson served in a number of local township and church offices, and was known as a man of fine character.

Claus Peterson spent his boyhood in Sweden where he was educated in the common schools. He was married in 1892 to Josephine Sylverson, whose death occurred on May 21, 1893. To that union one child was born, Edwin Peterson, who married Maud Roach and has one child, Fern. Edwin Peterson lives in the village of Garfield, where he operates a livery barn.



CLAUS PETERSON.

Claus Peterson bought his present farm in Ida township thirty years ago. It contained one hundred and forty-eight acres, on which he has made all improvements and has been carrying on general farming and stock raising successfully. He makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. He is a stockholder in the elevator at Garfield, also in the creamery there. Politically, he is a Republican and has served on the village board for some time.

C. H. LARSON.

C. H. Larson, president of the Nelson State Bank and a prominent and well-known farmer of Alexandria township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on April 30, 1864, the son of Gustave and Carolina Sophia (Larson) Larson.

The maternal grandparents of C. H. Larson were Johanas and Christina Larson, who came to America in November, 1868, and came directly to Minnesota, where they homesteaded in Alexandria township, Douglas county, on a farm just adjoining the present home farm of C. H. Larson, and there they spent the rest of their lives, their deaths occurring some years ago.

Gustave P. and Carolina Sophia Larson received their education in the schools of their native land, where they grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. In 1868 they decided to locate in America, where they hoped to make a home for themselves and family. They came to Minnesota and the next year the father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, where the son, C. H. Larson, now lives, and it was there that he made his home until his death in 1873. His widow died some years later, at Dazey, North Dakota, where she was making her home with a daughter. To Mr. and Mrs. Larson were born the following children, C. H., Amanda S., Constant and Augustus. After the death of Gustave Larson, Mrs. Larson married Charles Anderson and to that union were born two children, A. E. and Adolph J.

C. H. Larson received his education in the public schools and was reared on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted with the farm work and where he remained until he was eighteen years of age, when he went to Alexandria, where he was employed as a clerk in a store, after which he engaged in the shoe business for one year. He then moved to Garfield, where he conducted a general store for two years and was postmaster. In

1894 he disposed of his business at Garfield and established a general store at Nelson. There he erected two large business rooms in which he conducted his business until August 7, 1913, when he returned to the old homestead of his father and there he now resides. For the past ten years Mr. Larson has been extensively engaged in the real-estate business and has been quite successful. He is now president of the Nelson State Bank, which he helped to organize and establish.

In 1887 C. H. Larson was united in marriage to Ida C. Peterson, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of A. P. Peterson, who came to Minnesota about 1868 and settled at Benwood and later at Alexandria. To this union the following children have been born: Hector (deceased), Edna, Hugo (deceased), Elmer V., Grace O., Herman R., Edith S., Reuben M. (deceased), Wallace and Donald M. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, are prominent in the social and religious activities of the community and are held in high esteem by all who know them. Mr. Larson has always taken a keen interest in the development of the community in which he lives and has had much to do with its development. Being a man of broad views and sound judgment his advice and influence are of much value.

AARON ANDERSON.

Another young farmer of Belle River township, Douglas county, who has made an excellent start in his chosen vocation is Aaron Anderson. He was born in the above-named township and county on May 2, 1880, a son of John and Christine Anderson, both natives of Sweden, in which county they spent their earlier years. The father came to the New World in 1848, before his marriage, and located in Minnesota, where he worked out as a farm hand for some time. When the Civil War came on he enlisted in the Fourth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in which he saw considerable hard service at the front. After the war he returned to Minnesota and located in Carver county, moving thence, in 1868, to Douglas county, where he took up a homestead of a quarter section in Belle River township, thus being among the early pioneers of Douglas county. He is still living on that place, which is one of the choice farms of the township. During his residence here of forty-eight years he has noted great changes in the country and has played well his part in develop-

ing the same. He has gradually improved his farm from time to time and has been successful as a general farmer. His family consisted of the following children: Emma, Albert (deceased), Walter, Hannah, Aaron and Victor (deceased).

Aaron Anderson grew up on the homestead farm, where he worked during the crop seasons, when he became of proper age, and during the winters he attended the district schools of Belle River township. He has remained on the home place, which he purchased a few years ago, although his father still lives at the family home. General farming is carried on and special attention given to stock raising, large numbers of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs being raised annually. Both father and son are stockholders in the Belle River creamery. The son is unmarried. Politically, he and his father are Republicans. The family affiliate with the Lutheran church.

A. ALFRED MAGNUSON.

A. Alfred Magnuson, one of the progressive farmers of LaGrand township, Douglas county, is a native of Sweden, where he was born on January 9, 1866, the son of Magnus and Christine Johnson, both natives of that country, where the former still lives, being engaged in farming. The mother of A. Alfred Magnuson died years ago, and the father was again married, his second wife being Emma Carlson. Mr. Johnson is the father of twenty children, sixteen of which number are still living, those by Magnus Johnson's first marriage being as follow: Charles, Alfred, Magnus, Emil and Olaf. The survivors of the children born to Magnus and Emma (Carlson) Johnson are Gustave, Christine, Hannah, Ereka, Marie, Tilda, Oscar, Augusta, Agnes, Albertina and Wilhelmina.

A. Alfred Magnuson received his education in the public schools of Sweden and remained in his native land until he was twenty-two years of age. As a lad he assisted his father on the farm and as a young man engaged in farming. In 1888 he decided to leave the land of his birth and seek a home in America. In the spring of that year he set sail for the new country, where so many of his neighbors and friends had settled, and on his arrival in the United States he came directly to Minnesota, in December of that same year settling in Douglas county, where he purchased the farm of one hundred and twenty acres on which he now lives. The tract at the

time of the purchase was heavy timber and required much work to prepare for cultivation, but in time it was cleared, crops planted and harvested, excellent buildings erected and the farm became one of the ideal ones of the township. There Mr. Magnuson has been engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful.

In 1890 A. Alfred Magnuson was united in marriage to Susana Erickson, also a native of Sweden, who came to Douglas county from her native land in 1889. To this union the following children have been born: John Axel, August E., Gustave Albert, Julius, Nina Marie and Esther Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Magnuson are members of the Swedish Free Baptist church and take an active interest in church work.

As a farmer, Mr. Magnuson is recognized as one of the most progressive in the township. Coming to the county, with but little financial backing and a stranger to the local conditions, as well as to the country, he has succeeded and today has a productive farm and a substantial country home, where everything is kept in an excellent state of repair. In addition to his personal interests, Mr. Magnuson has always taken much interest in local affairs and has had much to do with the civic life of the township. For a number of years he served as treasurer of the township and is now a member of the board of supervisors. Being a carpenter, he has personally erected and kept in repair the buildings on the place. He is independent in politics.

CHARLES J. CHRISTOPHERSON.

Ida township, Douglas county, has been a good enough place for Charles J. Christopherson to spend his life in, for he has no desire to migrate. He was born near the farm where he still lives, July 22, 1872, a son of O. N. and Bertha (Larson) Christopherson. The father came to Minnesota in 1870 from Sweden, locating in Douglas county, first on eighty acres in Ida township, which he operated a few years; then sold and in 1880 moved to the adjoining section, buying one hundred and sixty acres, on which he still lives. To him and his wife five children were born, Charles, Lena, Matilda (deceased), William and Mary. The father has remained on his farm, but is not now active. He has served on the local school board.

Charles Christopherson grew up on the homestead farm and received a common-school education in Ida township. On November 5, 1901, he married Augusta Johnson, a daughter of Erick Johnson, who homesteaded

in Osakis township and there married Hannah Lusty. His father, John Johnson, came to America, bringing the family from Sweden. The following children have been born to Charles Christopherson and wife: Arlance, George, Mildred, Wallace, Vernon, Pearl, and Violet.

As before stated Mr. Christopherson has always lived near the home farm. After his marriage he built a dwelling of his own near the family home. He has been in charge of the home place since his father retired from active life. He also owns forty-four acres in the same section, which he also operates. He has made important improvements on both places, including a residence in 1901 and a large barn in 1913. He is a stockholder in the farmer's elevator at Garfield, also in the potato warehouse there. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church at that place. Politically, he is a Republican and is now serving as township clerk. He also has been clerk of school district No. 68 and takes an active interest in local affairs.

PETER HANSON.

Peter Hanson one of the well-known and successful farmers of Moe township, Douglas county, was born in LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, on October 28, 1862, the son of Hans and Siverina (Haakenson) Hanson, who were born in Norway, where they received their education in the public schools. At the age of eighteen, Hans Hanson decided that he would come to America, and after his arrival in the United States he came to Wisconsin and located in LaCrosse county. In 1867 he left Wisconsin and came to Minnesota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Moe township, Douglas county, the country at that time being new and the neighbors far apart. The land that he homesteaded was undeveloped, being wild and hard to clear and make ready for the crops, and he and his little family suffered all the hardships of early pioneer life. Yet they had the will to make for themselves a home and in time the land was cleared and improved. Mr. Hanson was successful and added forty acres to his homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, making a two-hundred-acre farm, where he lived until his death, the farm since then being divided among the children. To Hans Hanson and wife, the latter of whom also is deceased, were born five children, Peter, Mary, Martha, Henry and Hannah. The family are active members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in church work.

Peter Hanson received his education in the public schools of Moe township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work of clearing and developing the place. He later engaged in farming with his father, but since 1901 has been operating the farm for himself. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty-eight acres, which was part of his father's place. He has built some of the buildings and remodeled and rebuilt others.

In 1886 Peter Hanson was united in marriage to Caroline Anderson, who was born on August 15, 1869, the daughter of Gulbron and Karn Anderson, well-known residents of the county, and to this union the following children have been born: Hattie, George, Carl, William, Agnes, Palmer, Cora, Hazel, Lawrence and Esther. Agnes died in 1916. Hattie, Carl and William are now living in Canada. Hattie is the wife of Taulo Skrove, a successful farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are prominent and active members of the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Hanson has served as trustee. The family are held in the highest esteem and regard by all and they have long been identified with the social and religious life of the community.

Peter Hanson has always taken much interest in the civic affairs of the township and was for five years assessor and for six years a member of the school board, giving excellent service in both positions.

PETER J. HOLM.

Farming, in its various phases, has been the work which Peter J. Holm, of Holmes City township, Douglas county, has been best qualified for and most contented to do. He was born in Sweden, November 1, 1849, a son of John and Breta (Peterdatter) Holm. The mother was a daughter of Peter Myer. John Holm was a son of Ole Holm. The grandparents of the subject of this sketch lived and died in Sweden, and there the parents spent their earlier years, coming to Minneapolis in 1883, locating in Holmes City township, Douglas county, where they spent the rest of their lives. The father devoted his life to farming in his native land, but lived retired after coming to this state. He belonged to the Lutheran church. His family consisted of seven children, Peter J., Jennie, Ole, John, Anna, Jennie and Ellen.

Peter J. Holm spent his boyhood in Sweden, where he received his

education. He came to America in 1870, locating in Clay county, Iowa, near the town of McGregor, and for some time hired out to farmers in that vicinity. In 1882 he came to Minnesota, locating on a farm in Holmes City township, Douglas county, where he has since resided. He has one hundred and fifty-five acres, most of which he has cleared and has under a high state of cultivation. He has put up all the buildings and has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

In 1876, in Goodhue county, Minnesota, Peter J. Holm was married to Anna Hogman, a native of Sweden, and to this union five children have been born, Mary, Ole, Ida, Oscar and Betsie, all of whom are living. Mr. Holm is connected with the Holmes City Mutual Fire Insurance Company. Politically, he is a Republican. He served as school director for about six years and served as supervisor for sixteen years, during eight of which he was chairman of the board. He has long been one of the active and influential men in public affairs in his locality. He and his family affiliate with the Oscar Lake Lutheran church.

MARTIN SKROVE.

Martin Skrove, a well-known farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on May 11, 1848, the son of Tores and Rachild (Peterson) Olson, also natives of Norway, where they were married. They came to Minnesota about 1876 and homesteaded a place in Jackson county, where they resided for five years, and then owing to the destruction caused by the grasshoppers, they gave up the homestead and moved to Douglas county, where the father purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land and there spent the rest of his life. He and his family were active members of the Lutheran church and took much interest in church work.

Martin Skrove received his education in the public schools of his native land and there grew to manhood and engaged in farming. On coming to the United States and after he had located in Douglas county he invested in land and is now the owner of three hundred acres in section 34 of Brandon township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

Martin Skrove was united in marriage to Julia Ann Tores and to this union the following children have been born: Regina, Pauline, Lawrence, Ole, Toul, Marens, Sigert, Emma, George, Myer, Tonny, Julia and Alma.

Mr. and Mrs. Skrove are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take much interest in religious work. They are prominent in the social life of the community.

SAMUEL M. CARLSON.

Samuel M. Carlson, who was born in LaGrand township, Douglas county, is still living on the farm where he was born on November 22, 1882, the son of Magnus and Cajsa (Svenson) Carlson, who were born in Sweden and there received their education, and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. In 1869 they decided to seek a home in America, and upon landing in the United States they came direct to Minnesota, locating in Goodhue county, where they remained for two years, Mr. Carlson there being engaged as a farm hand. In 1870 they moved over to Douglas county and homesteaded eighty acres of land in LaGrand township, where the son, Samuel M. Carlson, now lives. Magnus Carlson later purchased another eighty acres, all of the one hundred and sixty acres being heavy timber.

The township, at the time Magnus Carlson and family located here, was little better than a wilderness, with here and there a broad stretch of wild prairie. The family lived on their farm during the first summer before they knew that there were two other families in the township, and their life was of necessity a hard and lonely one during those trying days. The few neighbors were far apart and the nearest markets were many days' travel. Yet with all the hardships that they had to endure, they were determined to have a home. Log buildings were erected, in which the family and their little stock were housed. The father at once began the task of clearing the tract, a difficult task, yet he was successful, and in a few years he had a productive and valuable farm. The log buildings later were replaced by substantial buildings and it was there that Magnus Carlson lived until the time of his death in 1904, and there his widow still makes her home.

Magnus Carlson engaged in general farming and stock raising, and was recognized as a successful and prominent man in the community. He was a firm believer in intensive farming and thorough cultivation of the soil. To such men the township and the county owe much for the early development and the later improvements that were made. He assisted in the organization of the township and later served as treasurer and as a member of the board of supervisors. He was a man of excellent judgment and of wide



MAGNUS CARLSON AND FAMILY.

experience and was a valuable member of the community. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Christine, Anton, John and Samuel, all of whom died of diphtheria, and Carl, of Rae, North Dakota, and Samuel M., the subject of this sketch.

Samuel M. Carlson received his education in the early schools of LaGrand township and grew to manhood on the home farm, as a lad assisting with the farm work. He later engaged in farming for himself on the old homestead, where he now lives and which he now owns, and where he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1905, Samuel M. Carlson was married to Christina Mattson, the daughter of Andrew M. Mattson, now deceased. To this union three children have been born, Mabel, Carl and Marvin, the latter of whom died in infancy. The family are active in the social life of the community and are among the prominent residents of the township. Mr. Carlson has always taken an active interest in the civic life of the township and has served six years as township clerk, six years as clerk of the school board and is the present assessor of the township.

RAY F. ELLIS.

One of the enterprising young farmers of Osakis township, Douglas county, is Ray F. Ellis, who was born on August 21, 1882, at Little Falls, Minnesota, the son of Edward E. and Rosella (Bernell) Ellis, the former of whom was a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Illinois. Edward E. Ellis was a lumberman in Wisconsin, and while foreman of a lumber camp was accidentally killed in a log drive in 1884. The children of Edward E. Ellis and wife were Ida, Charles, of Minneapolis, and Ray F. After the death of Edward E. Ellis, his widow married Edward Wagner and to this union one daughter was born, Rosella.

Ray F. Ellis was but two years of age when his father was killed, and he was brought up by his grandparents, who were residents of South Dakota, and he received his education in the public schools of Brooking county, South Dakota. In October, 1902, he came to Minnesota, locating in Orange township, Douglas county, where he purchased a half section of land. In 1914 he sold one hundred and sixty acres of this farm, but still retains the other one hundred and sixty. In the fall of that year he went

west to Colorado, Oregon and Washington, looking for a location, but returned to Douglas county in the following March and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Osakis township, where he is now living. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has met with a very commendable success.

In 1907 Mr. Ellis was married to Martha Jensen, the daughter of Hans Jensen, of Osakis, township, and to this union three children have been born, Meryl E., Howard and James. Mr. Ellis made all the improvements on his farm, including a large silo, erected in the fall of 1916.

JOHN H. COOLEY.

From the old Buckeye state came John H. Cooley to Douglas county, and he has long maintained his home on a good farm in Hudson township, where he is well known. He was born in southeastern Ohio, at Coolville, September 10, 1858, a son of Leonard J. and Fannie Anna (Elliot) Cooley, both natives of Ohio. The father was of New England descent and the mother was of Irish descent. The father was a soldier in a company of one of the regiments of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and saw much hard service in the Civil War. He died in a hospital about two weeks before the expiration of his term of enlistment. He was a farmer before enlisting, as was also his father before him. Leonard J. Cooley and wife had four children, Sarah, Frances, Moses, and John H.

John H. Cooley grew up on the home farm in Ohio and there attended the public schools, working at home until he was twenty-one years old; then, in 1879, came to Minnesota directly from his boyhood home. He bought seventy-two acres near Victoria Lake, in Douglas county, a part of which land he cleared, erected a small log house and lived there until the spring of 1889, when he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Hudson township and has since made his home there, making extensive improvements, including the remodeling of the house and the erecting of a number of outbuildings. He has been successful as a general farmer and in the spring of 1901 started a creamery on his farm, and operated the same five years, then assisted in organizing the Farmers Creamery Company of Forada. He was president of this thriving concern until the summer of 1915, having held that position since the company was first organized. In 1912 this company's business was increased and the name became the Forada

Co-operative Manufacturing and Warehouse Company, of which Mr. Cooley was president and active manager, and the pronounced success of the same was due very largely to his able management and industry. The company owns a creamery, elevator and warehouse. Mr. Cooley specializes in dairying and hog raising on his farm. He has not sold a bushel of grain for twenty years, feeding the products of the place to his livestock. Formerly he handled Holstein cattle crossed with Polled Angus stock, selling "baby beef." He helped organize the Farmers State Bank of Forada and was for a number of years a director of the same, but now has no connection with the institution.

In the fall of 1882 Mr. Cooley was married to Mary Gaffaney, a daughter of John and Anna (McManan) Gaffaney, natives of Ireland, from which country they came to Minnesota in an early day. Five children, all living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cooley, namely: Fannie Ann, Mary Ethel, John, Jr., Leonard J., and Rose. Politically, Mr. Cooley is a Socialist. He was a member of the township board for about eighteen years, ten years of which period he was chairman of the board. He is a rationalist in his religious belief.

SWEN SWENSON.

Swen Swenson, one of the well-known and successful farmers, Ida township, Douglas county, was born on the farm where he now lives on March 30, 1875, the son of Abraham and Anna Louise (Sanstead) Swenson.

Peter Sanstead, the maternal grandfather of Swen Swenson, was born in Sweden in 1807 and came to Minnesota in 1868, locating in Ida township, Douglas county, homesteading the farm where Swen Swenson now lives. He developed and improved that farm and engaged in general farming until a few years before his death, when he retired to Garfield, where he died some years ago.

Abraham and Anna Louise Swenson were born in Sweden and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married and there three of their children were born, Mary, Christine and Augusta. The other two children, Alma and Swen, were born in the United States. It was in 1871 that Abraham Swenson decided to locate in the United States, and it was in that year that he and his family landed in Boston. They came directly to Minnesota and settled in Douglas county, where Abraham Swen-

son and his wife spent the rest of their lives, his death occurring in November, 1912, at the age of seventy-eight years, and hers, December 1, 1906, at the age of sixty-five years. They were active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and prominent in the social life of the community. They were highly respected, ever ready and willing to assist a friend in trouble or sickness, and were greatly missed in the neighborhood where they had made so many friends. Their lives had been active ones and they had accomplished much good.

Swen Swenson received his education in the common schools of Ida township and grew to manhood on his father's farm, where as a lad he assisted with the farm work. He remained at home until December 16, 1912, when he was united in marriage to Constance Peterson, the daughter of Ove Peterson, who was born in Norway and never came to America. To this union two children have been born, Mabel, born on August 15, 1913, and Sylvia, April 7, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Swenson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community in which they live. Mr. Swenson is the owner of eighty acres of land that was a part of his grandfather's home place. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. In addition to his farming interests, he is the owner of stock in the Farmers Elevator Company, in the creamery and in the potato warehouse at Garfield.

ALFRED J. THOMPSON.

Alfred J. Thompson, a progressive farmer of Alexandria township, Douglas county, is a native of Olmsted county, Minnesota, born on June 22, 1870, the son of William and Mary Ann (Hardwick) Thompson, who were natives of England and Ireland, respectively, and now live at St. Charles, Minnesota, he at the age of eighty-one years and she at the age of seventy-one. On leaving their native homes in England and Ireland, they came to the United States, she locating in Minnesota and he in the state of New York. After a time Mr. Thompson settled in Minnesota and here was married. They were the parents of twelve children, Robert (deceased), Minnie, William, Florence, Alfred J., Mary Ann, Hiram, Lucy, Mabel, Ethcline and two who died in infancy. After locating in Minnesota, Mr. Thompson invested in land and in time became one of the successful farmers and stock raisers of his section of the state. As he prospered he invested in more land and became one of the large landowners of the county.

He was always progressive and took an active interest in the growth and the development of the township and the county in which he lived.

Alfred J. Thompson received his education in the common schools of Olmsted county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted with the farm work. As a young man he engaged in farming with his father on the home place, but after two years he operated one of his father's farms, in Redwood county, where he remained for three years as his father's agent. He then purchased the farm, which he continued to operate until 1900, in which year he removed to Douglas county and purchased a farm of one hundred and eighty acres in LaGrand township, where he resided and engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1902, when he sold the place and bought one hundred and thirty acres in Alexandria township, where he now lives. The tract at the time he made the purchase was all in heavy timber, many acres of which is now under high cultivation and improved with excellent buildings.

Mr. Thompson is a careful farmer and stockman, as well as prudent in business. While being engaged in general farming, he devotes much of his efforts to the raising of potatoes and has been quite successful in that line. He pays careful attention to the cultivation of the soil, believing that a goodly part of the cultivation of the crops can be done before the planting. In addition to the raising of crops, he pays much attention to his fine herd of dairy cattle and to the raising and the feeding of many hogs. He makes it a practice to feed all the hogs that he raises and disposes of them only when they are ready for the market.

In addition to his many duties on the farm, Mr. Thompson has always taken a deep interest in promoting the interests of the township and the county in which he lives. He was one of the organizers and is now one of the directors of the Potato Warehouse Association, which was organized some years ago and which has been of much value to all local growers of potatoes. Mr. Thompson is a carpenter by trade and has constructed and kept in repair the buildings on his farm. He also does his own mason work. His life has been a busy one and he has accomplished much in the years that he has lived.

In 1895, Alfred J. Thompson was united in marriage to Belle Otter, daughter of James and Susan (Bailey) Otter, of South Dakota, and to this union five children have been born. Pearl, Mathew Robert, Kenneth, Harold and Marcella, all of whom are living. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Alexandria and take an active part in church work.

JOHN MCFARLANE.

John McFarlane, now deceased, was one of the prominent and successful farmers of LaGrand township, Douglas county. He was born in Canada on September 10, 1843, the son of Robert and Margaret (Anderson) McFarlane, both of whom were natives of Scotland. They emigrated to Canada in the early part of the nineteenth century and there the father engaged in general farming. It was there they died many years ago.

John McFarlane was one of a family of eleven children and received his education in the public schools of Canada, where he grew to manhood, as a lad assisting his father on the farm. As a young man he engaged in farming and remained a resident of his native county until he was twenty-six years of age. In 1869 he came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in LaGrand township, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising and where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring on March 31, 1916.

On June 17, 1870, John McFarlane was united in marriage to Jeannette Dodds, who also was born in Canada, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Dick) Dodds, natives of Scotland, who had accompanied their respective parents to Canada, he at the age of sixteen and she at the age of ten years. John Dodds, after completing his schooling, engaged in teaching and was one of the successful teachers of Canada for a number of years. He later engaged in farming and became a successful tiller of the soil.

To John and Jeannette McFarlane were born thirteen children, Robert, Elizabeth, John, Edward, Margaret, Thomas, Lillie, Mae, Nettie, William, George, Minnie and Samuel, all of whom are living save Margaret. Elizabeth McFarlane married J. K. Elsie. Robert McFarlane married Hester Scott. Thomas McFarlane married Anna Ewbank. George McFarlane married Hazel Block. William McFarlane married Agnew Gilmer and Minnie McFarlane married R. L. Huntsperger. Mr. McFarlane was an active member of a local undenominational church, of which Mrs. McFarlane is still a member, taking much interest in church work. She resides on the old homestead in LaGrand township, where she is held in high esteem by all who know her.

John McFarlane was a man who took much interest in the affairs of the community and did much for the growth and the development of the township and the county. He was a man of much force of character and his influence on matters of public importance had much weight. Being a

man of excellent judgment, his advice was often sought on matters pertaining to the civic affairs of the community. He was a believer in a better education for the children of the township and did much to bring about a higher standard of election in the schools of the community. The family have ever been prominent in the social and religious life of the district and are regarded as among the best citizens of the county.

CHARLES F. SCHELIN.

Another of the substantial farmers of Swedish birth in Alexandria township, Douglas county, is Charles F. Schelin, who was born in Wisteras, Sweden, August 4, 1867, the son of Lars F. and Louisa M. (Bjorklund) Schelin, both of whom were natives also of Sweden, the former born in 1844 and the latter in 1843. In 1881 Lars F. Schelin and his family came to the United States. After stopping for a short time at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he remained until March, 1882, Mr. Schelin came on to Minnesota, and purchased eighty acres of land in section 13 of Alexandria township, Douglas county, which he at once began to improve and cultivate, and there he lived until his death in September, 1912. In Sweden he was a member of the Lutheran church. His wife attended the Baptist church. Lars S. Schelin and wife were the parents of two sons, Charles F., and John H.

Charles F. Schelin received most of his education in the public schools of his native land, for, after coming to this country, he had little opportunity to attend school. As a young man he worked at the carpenter trade for about four years, being employed in Superior, Minneapolis, and other places, as well as in his home neighborhood. He then moved to Nelson, where for four years he bought grain for the Union store at that place. For the next eleven years he was employed in the same capacity for the Andrews & Gage Grain Company. In 1901 he purchased the farm of eighty acres in section 13 of Alexandria township, where he is now living. Mr. Schelin has placed practically all of the buildings on this farm since acquiring it, and in various ways has improved the farm until he now has one of the best in the township. He carries on a diversified system of farming and until 1908 continued in the grain buying business, but since that time has devoted his attention exclusively to his farming interests.

In 1901 Charles F. Schelin was married to Anna Christina Sherlin, and to this union seven children have been born, Theodore W., John O., Helen,

Carl, Margaret, Lawrence and Lois. Mr. Schelin is a Republican and takes an active interest in local politics. He has served his township as clerk for four years, as assessor for two years, and as treasurer for two years. For the last five years he has been secretary of the creamery near his place, and is at present serving as secretary of the school board.

FERDINAND G. DOBMEYER.

One of the well-known and substantial citizens of Millersville township, Douglas county, is Ferdinand G. Dobbmeyer, who was born in Stearns county, Minnesota, on July 24, 1871, a son of George and Justine (Fidler) Dobbmeyer, both of whom were natives of Bavaria.

George Dobbmeyer came to the United States about 1866, while Justine Fidler came to this country with her parents about two years later. George Dobbmeyer had learned the trade of a miller in his native land, and upon coming to Minnesota, in partnership with Ferdinand Dancel, conducted a mill for some time at St. Joseph, Stearns county. Mr. Dobbmeyer also operated a mill for two years at Cold Springs, Minnesota. In 1873 he moved over to Douglas county and built the mill which his son, Ferdinand G. Dobbmeyer, now owns, and there he remained in active business until his death on October 10, 1885. George Dobbmeyer and his wife were the parents of nine children, Carrie, Ferdinand, Barbara, Lena, Justine, Kate, John and two who died when young. After the death of George Dobbmeyer, his widow married Dr. J. C. Drexler, who took charge of the mill as manager, and to this union six children were born, George (deceased), George, Emma, Joseph, Mary and Leo, all of whom are living with the exception of the two eldest. The mother of these children died in 1913, at the age of sixty-one years, while Doctor Drexler lives on a farm near the mill now conducted by Ferdinand Dobbmeyer.

Ferdinand Dobbmeyer received his education at Collegeville, in Stearns county. When he was fourteen years of age his father died, and he learned the milling business under his step-father's management. At the age of seventeen he became manager of the mill, filling that position until he reached the age of twenty, when, with the assistance of an uncle, he purchased the mill in 1891, and has since operated it as sole proprietor. The mill is ideally located on the Chippewa river, two miles northeast of Millersville. When the mill was first built, millstones were installed to grind the wheat, and



FERDINAND G. DOBMEYER'S MILL.



RESIDENCE OF PETER J. NELSON.

these were used for years, but the mill has been remodeled, and is now completely equipped with modern and up-to-date milling machinery. It is operated by water power obtained by a sixteen-foot fall of water through a modern water wheel. Steam is also available to operate the mill, the steam equipment including a new Corliss-valve engine, which Mr. Dobbmeyer installed a few years ago. Both the mill and the residence of Mr. Dobbmeyer are equipped with electric lights and steam heat, the owner having his own electric light plant. The capacity of the mill is seventy-five barrels of flour daily, and Mr. Dobbmeyer enjoys a large patronage in the community. Besides his milling interests, Mr. Dobbmeyer also owns a good farm of two hundred and forty acres in Leaf Valley and Millerville townships, as well as an elegant home near the mill. He rents out his farm to reliable tenants, but raises a goodly number of fine cattle at his home place.

On October 25, 1892, Ferdinand G. Dobbmeyer was married to Anna Kotschevar, the daughter of Mathias Kotschevar, who was formerly a merchant at Millerville, but is now located at Eden Valley. To this union fourteen children have been born, eight of whom are living, as follow: Mary, who is now Sister Atona, of St. Joseph's Academy; Justine, Alois Joseph, Hildegard, Adelheid, Adelbert, Ermaline and Cordelia. The family are all earnest and devout members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Dobbmeyer is a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Society, and of the Foresters, being chief ranger of St. Otto Court No. 671, at Millerville.

PETER J. NELSON.

Peter J. Nelson, one of the painstaking and progressive farmers of Holmes City township, Douglas county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, born in the laen of Wermland, March 10, 1865, a brother of O. W. Nelson, in a biographical sketch of whom, presented elsewhere in this volume, there are set out further details of the history of this family in this part of Minnesota. There are three other brothers in this family, John E. Nelson, E. E. Nelson and N. E. Nelson. Peter J. Nelson has been a resident of this country since he was six years of age. About a year before that time his father, Elof Nelson, had come to the United States with a view to seeking a new home for his family, the mother and the children, five sons, following in March, 1871, coming over on a small sailing vessel, the "Annadelle," which was six weeks and three days in

making the passage. Mrs. Nelson had tickets through to Chicago, expecting to go thence to McGregor, Iowa, where she was to meet her husband. Running short of money, she was compelled to leave her trunk at Chicago as security for funds with which to make the trip to McGregor. On arriving at the latter place she found that her husband had gone to Minnesota to take a homestead, he having homesteaded a place in Douglas county; but a letter apprising him of the presence of his family at McGregor caused him speedily to join them there and at that place he worked on the railroad and in the harvest fields until he had made enough money to take them to the place he had homesteaded, which was on the north bank of Lake Latoka, or Long Lake, in LaGrand township, Douglas county, where he presently made his home. It was on that homestead farm that Peter J. Nelson grew to manhood, receiving his schooling in the schools of the neighborhood and proving a valued assistant to his father and his brothers in the labors of developing and improving the home place; remaining there until he was nearly twenty-three years of age, when he bought a farm of forty acres on the northwest shore of Lake Latoka, where, upon his marriage shortly afterward, he established his home and continued to live there until about seventeen years ago, when he moved to his present farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Holmes City township, where he has since made his home and where he and his family are very comfortably and pleasantly situated. Mr. Nelson has done well in his farming operations and has a modern dwelling and good farm buildings.

On December 7, 1889, Peter J. Nelson was married to Carolina Peterson, who was also born in Wernmland, Sweden, from which country she came to Minnesota in 1888 with her parents Peter and Maria (Johnson) Larson, the family locating in Lake Mary township, Douglas county, engaging in farming there for many years. The parents spent their last days at the home of the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Larson were the parents of five children, namely: Christina, wife of John Blyund; Maria, wife of Ole Haglund; Lars Peterson, next in order of birth; Carolina, wife of Mr. Nelson, the subject of this sketch, and John Peterson, the youngest.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson two children have been born, William Arthur, who is a bookkeeper in Alexandria, and Ellen Maria, who is attending school at the Bethel Academy at St. Paul. Mr. Nelson has always taken an active part in public affairs and served as township clerk in Renville township, Stevens county, during the time of his residence there some years ago. The Nelson family affiliate with the Swedish Baptist church at Alexandria, with

which Mr. and Mrs. Nelson became connected in 1892. Mr. Nelson has always taken part in religious meetings, and in 1912, with the help of friends, he built the Baptist church in Holmes City, and in 1914 he founded the Rose Hill cemetery at Holmes City.

CHRIST L. HOLTE.

Christ L. Holte, a well-known and prominent farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Norway, on March 14, 1866, the son of Lars and Carrie Holte, also natives of Norway, where they received their education and were married. They lived in their native country for some time after their marriage and then decided that they would seek a home in America. They continued their journey to Wisconsin, where they remained for a short time and then, in 1867, came on to Minnesota, locating in Moe township, Douglas county, where Mr. Holte homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 3. The tract at that time was undeveloped and unimproved, but in time, by the hard work and determination of Mr. and Mrs. Holte, the place became one of the productive farms of the county. It was there that Mr. Holte engaged in general farming and made his home until his death, at the age of fifty-five years. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Clara, Christ L., Antoinetta, Laura, Ole and Thilda. Mr. Holte took an active interest in the local affairs of the township and was soon recognized as a man of much ability and force of character.

Christ L. Holte received his education in the schools of Douglas county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where he as a lad and young man he assisted his father in the management of the place. At the age of twenty-three Mr. Holte began farming for himself. In addition to his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 34, Mr. Holte is interested in the Farmers and Merchants' Union Elevator Company at Brandon. He has always taken much interest in the civic life of the township and has ever used his influence for the advancement of the interests of the district.

On October 27, 1900, Christ L. Holte was united in marriage to Sophia Syverson, daughter of Syvert and Martha (Christianson) Olson, natives of Norway, who were married in that country and who came to the United States in 1859, settling in Wisconsin, where they remained until 1863, when they came to Minnesota, settling in Olmsted county and remaining there until 1867, in which year they came over to this part of the state and settled

in Moe township, Douglas county, where Syvert Olson spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on August 4, 1903. He was born on January 1, 1830. His widow is now living at Alexandria. They were the parents of eight children, of whom Mrs. Holte was the seventh in order of birth, the others being Caroline, Ole, Peter, Olena, Lauritz, Taulo and Nellie. To Mr. and Mrs. Holte four children have been born, Lawrence (deceased), Clifford, Lawrence and Mamie. Mr. and Mrs. Holte are members of the Lutheran church and take an active part in the affairs of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

EMIL BRUESKE.

The Brueske family, of which Emil Brueske, a farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, is a well-known representative, came from Dodge county, Wisconsin. There Emil Brueske was born on December 12, 1858, a son of Fred and Coelestina (Cosson) Brueske, natives of Germany, where they grew up and married. To their union six children were born, Helen, Bertha, Emil, Fred, Mary and an infant who died. The father finally brought his family to America, landing at New Orleans, Louisiana, coming up the Mississippi river on a steamboat to Cairo, Illinois. They lived in that town a short time, then went to Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they lived on a farm until 1876, in which year they came to Minnesota. Fred Brueske, the father, took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Ida township, Douglas county, which he developed into a good farm, and on which he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring on August 19, 1889. He was born on August 9, 1829. His wife, who was born on July 21, 1822, lived to an advanced age, dying on September 16, 1911. Fred Brueske was active in the affairs of his locality and served on the township board five or six years. He was a soldier in the Civil War, serving from 1863 to 1865 in the Forty-eighth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

Emil Brueske grew up on the farm and attended school in Dodge county, Wisconsin. On December 15, 1881, he married Anna Shultz, a daughter of Henry Shultz, who took up a homestead in Leaf Valley township, Douglas county, in 1870. To Mr. and Mrs. Brueske the following children have been born: Henry, Alfred, Johannah, Otilla, Minnie, Alvin, Willie, Anna, Emil and Ida.

Mr. Brueske has always followed farming. He now owns a part of

the old homestead and has one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved and valuable land, on which he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has put on all the improvements now seen on his place, doing the work himself, including the building of a large barn in 1914. His dwelling was built in 1900. It is a substantial, modern brick structure. He raises large numbers of Poland-China and red hogs. Politically Mr. Brueske is independent. He has been a member of the German Lutheran church board for the past twelve years and is also a trustee of the church of that denomination in Leaf Valley township, to which himself and family have long belonged. He has served the public as a member of the board of township supervisors and served for some time as chairman of that board.

HON. WILLIAM H. GOETZINGER.

The Hon. William H. Goetzinger, judge of the probate court of Grant county and who for years, or until his recent retirement from the editorial tripod, was the editor and publisher of the *Grant County Herald* at Elbow Lake, which city has been his home since 1890, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born at Faribault on January 11, 1872, son of Martin Goetzinger, a native of Germany, who had come to this county with his parents when a small boy, his family settling in Wisconsin, whence he had later come to Minnesota, establishing his home in this state, moving from Faribault to Fergus Falls, where he was successfully engaged in the retail meat trade.

William H. Goetzinger received his schooling in the public schools of Fergus Falls and there learned the printing trade, at which he was engaged in that city for six years, at the end of which time, in 1890, he moved down to Elbow Lake, where he began working in the office of the *Grant County Herald*. Five years later he bought that paper and continued as its editor and publisher until April 1, 1914, when he sold it to its present owner. From the time of his arrival at Elbow Lake, Judge Goetzinger has taken an earnest interest in local civic affairs and had held various village offices before his election to the important office of judge of the probate court in 1903. So efficient did his services in that capacity prove that the Judge has been continuously re-elected to that office and is still serving.

It was in 1900, ten years after his arrival at Elbow Lake, that Judge Goetzinger was united in marriage to Elizabeth J. Godward, of that city,

daughter of the Rev. James Godward, and to this union two children have been born, William M. and Ruth E. Judge and Mrs. Goetzinger take an interest in the general social activities of their home town, and are helpful factors in the work of promoting all good causes hereabout. Judge Goetzinger is a member of the local lodges of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, in the affairs of which several organizations he takes a warm interest.

SIMON LARSON.

Simon Larson, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Gorton township, Grant county, was born in Norway on April 25, 1873, the son of Lars and Ingeborg Kundsén, also natives of Norway, who received their education in the public schools of that county and were there married. They continued to remain residents of the country of their birth until 1875, when they came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Goodhue county, where they remained until 1879, when they came on over to this part of the state and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Gorton township, Grant county, which was developed into one of the best farms in the township, well improved with good and substantial buildings, and there Mr. Knudson engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred in 1914, at the age of eighty-six years. His widow died in 1916, at the age of seventy-eight years. They were the parents of seven children, Julia (deceased), Thea, Knut, Simon, Annie, Jennie and Lena.

Simon Larson received his education in the public schools and was reared on the old homestead in Gorton township, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work of developing and cultivating the farm. As a young man he engaged in farming for himself and purchased eighty acres of land in section 13, Gorton township, which he later sold and purchased eighty acres in section 22, where he now lives, and which farm he has developed and improved, erecting good and substantial buildings, and bringing his farm under a high state of cultivation. Mr. Larson is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful, being today recognized as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of the township.

In 1903 Simon Larson was united in marriage to Inga Amundson, who was born in Norway in 1881, the daughter of Andrew Amundson, whose

life's history may be found on another page of this work, and to this union four children have been born, Stella, Alfred, Leonard and Eunice. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are active members of the United Lutheran church and have long been interested in church work. They are prominent in the social life of the community and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

Politically, Simon Larson is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in the local affairs of the township. He has never aspired to office, but has ever used his influence and his efforts to further the interests of the township and the county. He is progressive in his views and believes in all public improvements that tend to make better and greater the community in which he lives.

NELS BYE.

Nels Bye, a well-known and prominent farmer of Urness township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on October 29, 1867, the son of Even and Ely Bye, who also were born in Norway and there spent their lives, both now being deceased. The father was a farmer and devoted his life to that work. He and his wife were the parents of six children, Nels, Lars, Ole, Thonetta, Anton and Amie.

Nels Bye received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. As a lad and young man he worked on the farm, where he learned the principles of intensive farming. In 1889 he came to America, and on his arrival in this country he came West and worked on the farm in the summer and in the woods of Chippewa county, Wisconsin, in the winters for four years. In 1893 he came to Douglas county and located on his present farm in Urness township, where he owns three hundred and forty acres of excellent land, on which he has erected most of the buildings and made many other valued and substantial improvements. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

On December 13, 1893, Nels Bye was united in marriage to Annetta Egeberg and to this union the following children have been born: Morris, Clarence, Ebba, Henry, Thora, Alice, Borghild, Edwin, Sigurd, Carl and Svanhild. Mr. and Mrs. Bye are members of the United Lutheran church and take much interest in the social and religious life of the township. Mr. Bye has always been interested in the civic life of the township and has done

much toward the general development and prosperity of his community. For the past twenty years he has been a member of the board of supervisors and has acted as chairman of that body. He has for the past fifteen years been a member of the school board and has taken much interest in the growth and development of the schools. He is a trustee of Concordia College at Moorhead, is a firm believer in the support of the schools and has had much to do with the development of the schools in his county.

K. N. O. MELBY.

K. N. O. Melby, deceased, formerly one of the most prominent and successful farmers and business men of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in Norway on April 3, 1840. There he was educated in the public schools and there he grew to manhood. As a young man he decided to come to America, and upon his arrival in the United States proceeded at once to Wisconsin, where he located in Walworth county. He was there but six months, when he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-second Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served during four years of the Civil War, where he saw much active service. He was captured by the Confederates and was confined in Libby Prison, where he remained for months, at the end of which time he was released in exchange for a Southern soldier. He was with Sherman on the march to the sea and remained with that command until the close of the conflict. After having received his discharge, at the close of the war, he returned to Wisconsin, and engaged in farming.

In 1868 K. N. O. Melby was united in marriage to Sarah Peterson, who was born at Sharon, Wisconsin, on June 24, 1847, the daughter of Ole and Helga Peterson, natives of Neumadahl, Norway, where they were educated in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They later came to the United States and located on a farm near Sharon, Wisconsin, where Mr. Peterson engaged in general farming and where the daughter, Sarah, was born. Ole and Helga Peterson were active in the early social and religious life of the community in which they lived, and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them. Mr. Peterson took much interest in local affairs and was prominent in the civic life of the township. He was a man of ability and his advice was often sought on matters of public interest.

After his marriage, K. N. O. Melby came to Minnesota and homesteaded



K. N. O. MELBY.

one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 15, Pelican Lake township, Grant county. He then returned to Wisconsin for his wife, they making the return trip to Grant county with horses and wagon. On his homestead Mr. Melby erected a log cabin, in which he and his family lived for some years and which still stands on the farm. Mr. Melby devoted many years of active life in clearing and developing his farm, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising, and was successful, he having owned, at one time, some three sections of land. He made the farm his home until he retired from the activities of a farmer's life, when he moved to Ashby, where he died on February 7, 1913.

During his residence on the farm, Mr. Melby took much interest in local affairs and was one of the prominent men of the township, as well as of the county. He was a member for years of the township board of supervisors and served on the school board. He always took much interest in the success of the schools, as well as in the financial development of the community. He assisted in the incorporation of the town of Ashby, where he owned an interest in the general store, known as the Melby and Madland Company. For a number of years, before he engaged in the mercantile business, he was the local postmaster and was also president of the village board for two terms. He was an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as is his widow, and always took much interest in church work, both he and his wife being prominent in the social and religious life of the community and held in high regard by their neighbors and friends. Mr. Melby was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, W. W. Preston Post No. 185, and was also a member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias.

To K. N. O. Melby and wife were born thirteen children, K. O., Hannah, Severina, A. K., John O., Lewis, Emma, Bessie, Sarah, Lena, Nellie, Minnie and Christian, of whom John O., Lewis, Sarah, Lena, Nellie, Minnie, and Christian are now deceased. Mrs. Melby is now living at Ashby and her two daughters, Emma and Hannah, are with her to give her every care and attention. Hannah is the widow of B. E. Ellingson, who was for many years a prominent grain dealer at Ashby. Mr. and Mrs. Ellingson were the parents of five children, Minnie, Edwin, Sidney, Leonard and Helen.

To such men as K. N. O. Melby, Grant county owes much. To them is due the credit for much of the splendid condition of this section of the state today. To them is due the credit for the clearing of the forests, the breaking of the wild prairie land and the bringing of the district into the

class of well-cultivated fields, well-improved and dotted here and there with fine herds of cattle. By them the villages were organized, schools established, churches built and the township and county governments set in motion. All this was not accomplished in a day, and not without the most strenuous work, and untold hardships. Their work was well done and the future success of the county was assured.

OTTO NELSON.

Among the many natives of Sweden who are successfully engaged in farming and stock raising, in Lien township, Grant county, is Otto Nelson, who was born on May 17, 1866, the son of Andrew and Catharin Nelson, who were also born in Sweden and there received their education in the public schools and were married. They continued to reside in their native country until 1868, when they decided that they would seek a home for themselves and their family in America. In that year the father and husband came to the United States, the wife and mother not coming until the next year. Andrew Nelson, on his arrival in the United States after his voyage of thirteen weeks, came at once to Minnesota and located at Red Wing, Goodhue county, where he and his wife remained until 1872, when they moved to Pierce county, Wisconsin, where Mr. Nelson purchased ninety acres of land and there he engaged in general farming for some twenty-five years, at the end of which time he moved to Minneapolis. While on a visit to his son, Otto Nelson, in Grant county, he died on March 21, 1905, at the age of eighty-seven years, he having been born in 1818. His wife had died in 1903 at the age of eighty-two years.

Andrew and Catharin Nelson were the parents of eight children, Charley, Mary (deceased), Lena, Betsey (deceased), Andrew (deceased), Fred, John and Otto. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. They were prominent in the social and religious life of the community and were greatly interested in the growth and the development of their home district, in which they took an active part. Politically, Mr. Nelson was a Republican.

Otto Nelson came to the United States with his mother in 1869, his father having come the year before. He received his education in the public schools of Pierce county, Wisconsin, and there grew to manhood on the father's farm, where as a lad he assisted with the work. As a young man

he learned the mason trade, at which he worked for some years. In 1893 he came to Grant county and worked for J. A. Noel for two years. He then engaged in farming on rented land. In 1910 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 32 of Lien township, which he developed and improved, erecting good and substantial buildings and making other valuable improvements. He is there engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful.

Politically, Otto Nelson is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in local affairs, being recognized as one of the influential men of the township. He is progressive in his views and believes in good roads and in the best of schools. He is now the clerk of the school board, to which he gives the same careful attention that he does to his own business, believing that the public is entitled to his best efforts while acting in an official capacity. He is an active member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

In 1887 Otto Nelson was united in marriage to Augusta Erickson, who was born in Sweden in 1870, the daughter of Andrew and Annie Erickson, both natives of that country, who continued to reside in their native land until 1882, when they came to the United States and located in Pierce county, Wisconsin, where Mr. Erickson engaged in general farming and stock raising, until the time of his death in 1899, his widow surviving him until 1904. They were active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them.

To Otto and Augusta Nelson were born the following children: Agnes, Clarence, Mabel, Nora, Abner, Helen, Lawrence, Eva, Earl, Roy, Ruth, Reuben and Ethel. Clarence, Lawrence, Roy and Ruth are now deceased. Augusta Nelson died on January 1, 1914, after a useful and active life, mourned by a large circle of friends, who knew her to be an affectionate wife and mother and a kind neighbor and friend.

HON. ANDERS G. JOHNSON.

The Hon. Anders G. Johnson, a well-known and enterprising merchant of Melby and one of the largest landowners in Douglas county, former member of the state House of Representatives and of the state Senate, former member of the board of county commissioners of Douglas county and since the days of his youth actively identified with the work of developing the resources of this part of the state, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but

has been a resident of Minnesota since he was eleven or twelve years of age. He was born on September 25, 1857, son and only child of Magnus and Sophia Johnson, who later became pioneers of this part of Minnesota and spent their last days on their pioneer farm in Lund township, Douglas county.

It was in 1869 that Magnus Johnson came to the United States and joined the earnest band of home-seekers then heading toward this section of Minnesota. After a bit of prospecting he decided on his location and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and forty-three acres in Lund township, Douglas county. He erected a claim shanty on the same and then sent for his wife and son, who joined him on the homestead in 1870. Not long after establishing their home there the little claim shanty occupied by the Johnsons was destroyed by fire and for two years thereafter, or until a log house could be erected to replace the same, they lived in a cellar. During the first year of his operations on the farm, Magnus Johnson had no crop and the second year had but twenty-six bushels of wheat. He presently began to prosper, however, built a new frame house and was soon accounted one of the substantial residents of that community, both he and his wife taking an active part in the development of proper social and economic conditions in that pioneer neighborhood. Mr. Johnson has been dead for more than twenty years, and Mrs. Johnson died three years ago.

Anders G. Johnson was the only child of his parents and at the time of his marriage, at the age of twenty-one, his father turned over the management of the farm to him. He was successful from the very start of his operations and as he prospered gradually added to his holdings until he is now the owner of nearly one thousand acres of land and has long been accounted one of the most substantial citizens of Douglas county. About thirty years ago Mr. Johnson gave up the active operation of his farm and started a general store at Melby. He was successful in his commercial venture from the very start and has added to his stock as the demands of the trade warranted until now he has a very well stocked store, carrying a full line of dry goods, groceries, shoes, men's furnishings and the like. He also is an extensive dealer in cattle and is interested, in partnership with Mr. Palmquist, in the local elevator at Melby. Mr. Johnson is a Republican and from the days of his young manhood has taken an active part in local political affairs, long having been regarded as one of the leaders of his party in this section of the state. He has held numerous local offices, including those of township clerk and county commissioner, and has also served as a member

of the state House of Representatives, representative from this district, and as a member of the state Senate, his service in both the House and the Senate having given him a wide acquaintance throughout the state.

Mr. Johnson has been twice married. His first wife, who was Sygrun Iverson and to whom he was married when he was twenty-one years of age, died in the spring of 1905, leaving ten children, Amanda, Richard, Elnora, Adolph, Victor, Edwin, Joseph, Bennie, Thorwald and Esther. Mr. Johnson later married Anna B. Bjorgan, and to this union four children have been born, Harold, Agnes, Einar and Hildur. The Johnsons have a very pleasant home at Melby and for years have taken an interested part in the various social activities of their home town and in the community at large. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran church, Mr. Johnson being secretary of the local congregation, and take a warm interest in the beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works, ever helpful in promoting such agencies as are designed to advance the common welfare hereabout.

M. C. AANERUD.

County Commissioner M. C. Aanerud, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial pioneer farmers, proprietor of a fine farm of more than six hundred acres in Delaware township and for many years one of the most active factors in the development of that part of the country, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1878, the year in which he came to America. He was born on a farm in the vicinity of Kongsvinger, a mountain fortress in the stift of Aggershuus, amt of Hedemarken, beside the Glommen, about fifty miles east and north of Christiania, October 11, 1857, son of Christian and Maren (Arenson) Aanerud, both of whom also were Hedemarkens, the former a farmer and landowner who served his time in the army, and who spent all their lives in their native land. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Erick, who lives in Norway; Arne, who went to sea and whose present whereabouts are unknown; Anton, who died in Norway; Lauris C., who came to Minnesota and settled in Grant county and is now a retired farmer in Delaware township; Hans, a farmer in North Dakota, and Anna, who came to this country and married Ole Schgerud.

M. C. Aanerud was reared on the home farm in his native land, receiving his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood, and in his youth learned the trade of a cabinet-maker, following the same for three years, at the end of which time, in 1878, he then being twenty-one years of age, he came to the United States, being the first member of the family to come to this country. He came directly out to Minnesota and his first summer here was spent in Redwood county, working on farms. He then, in the fall of that year, traveled through South Dakota and Minnesota seeking a permanent location and finally selected Grant county, selecting the place on which he ever since has made his home, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12 of Delaware township. When Mr. Aanerud settled there the country thereabout was all raw prairie, no buildings in sight, no groves save a fringe of trees that grew along the lakesides and the little village of Herman the nearest station and market. He erected a small frame house on his place and began to develop the farm. The next year he married and there established his home, presently bringing his place under cultivation and becoming recognized early as one of the most progressive farmers in that part of the county. Mr. Aanerud began breaking his farm with a four-ox team and for some time thereafter his mode of travel was by ox-team, a wide difference between his present mode of getting about over the country in his high-powered automobile. As he prospered in his farming operations, Mr. Aanerud added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of six hundred and ten acres of fine land, practically all in one body. In 1898 he erected a fine new house on his place and in 1910 built a modern new barn. Mr. Aanerud is a Republican and from the very beginning of his residence in Grant county has taken an earnest interest in local civic affairs. For many years he served as clerk of his school district, was for years a member of the board of township supervisors, was for fourteen years treasurer of Delaware township and in 1910 was elected a member of the board of county commissioners from his district, a position he still occupies and to the administration of the affairs of which office he has devoted his most intelligent attention.

It was in 1879 that M. C. Aanerud was united in marriage to Berthea Arenson, who also was born in Norway, daughter of Arne Spetalen and wife, who spent all their lives in their native land, and to this union seven children have been born, namely: Adolph, who is married and lives on part of the home farm; Claudia, who married Charles Anderson; Matilda, who died at the age of sixteen years; Emma, who also died at the age of

sixteen, and Harry, Morton and Joseph, at home. The Aaneruds are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the welfare of the community in which they have lived since pioneer days.

ANDREW C. RUSTAND.

Andrew Rustand, one of the prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, was born in that township on December 1, 1880, the son of Christian Rustand and wife, a more complete sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. He received his education and grew to manhood in North Ottawa township, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work on the farm. After completing his schooling Andrew C. Rustand engaged in farming and is now the owner of two hundred acres of excellent land, his farm being the one that his father owned. There Mr. Rustand has erected excellent buildings and has added many other valuable improvements that have added greatly to the value and the beauty of the place. As a general farmer and breeder of high-grade stock, he has been successful. He believes in intensive farming and in the keeping of the best of stock. He is interested in Shorthorn cattle and has a beautiful herd of these animals. Mr. Rustand is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He is progressive in civic affairs as well as with his private business interests. His ability has been recognized by the people of his township and he is now a member of the school board as well as township treasurer. He is a strong advocate of good schools and believes in the maintenance of the best that it is possible to have in that line.

In 1908 Andrew C. Rustand was united in marriage to Ida Cordal, who was born in Stony Brook township, Grant county, on February 8, 1889, the daughter of Fosten T. Cordal, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. To this union one child, a daughter, Gladys, was born on December 31, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Rustand are active members of the United Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are highly regarded.

JOHN C. JOHNSON.

One of the most prominent farmers and stockmen of Lund township, Douglas county, is John C. Johnson, who was born in Clinton county, Iowa, November 24, 1855. He is a son of Christopher and Sarah (Olson) Johnson, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Christopher Johnson came to the United States at the age of twenty-five years, locating in Iowa, where he worked for some time. He was married there and started farming for himself on government land, which he purchased in small amounts at first, but kept adding to his holdings until he had about two hundred acres. He was among the pioneer farmers of that part of Iowa, his first house consisting of a log shanty, and for some time he farmed with an ox-team. His death occurred in 1863, and his widow married Ole O. Kjorn, who took charge of the farm, and the family lived in Iowa until 1870, when they came to Minnesota, where they purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Lund township, Douglas county. Part of this was timber and started to improve and cultivate their land in true pioneer style. Finding land and all was wild, unimproved land. There the family built a log house that horses were unfitted to conditions in the new country, they traded their horses for oxen. Their first house on that pioneer farm was a small frame shanty, but they later built a better log house. Ole Kjorn retired from active farm life some years before his death, which occurred in 1909, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife died at the age of seventy-two. Christopher Johnson and his wife were the parents of three children, Ole, Nels and John C., and of these children only John C., the immediate subject of this review, is now living. By her second marriage to Ole Kjorn, there were three children born to Mr. Johnson's mother, Betsy, Caroline and Mary.

John C. Johnson received his early educational training in the schools of Clinton county, Iowa, and after coming to Minnesota with his mother and step-father, lived on the home place, assisting with the farm work, until he was nineteen years of age, when he bought eighty acres of wild land in section 36 of Lund township and started to farm for himself. He rented his step-father's farm for a year or two after his marriage, then built a small frame house on his own land and started to improve and cultivate it. He has added to his holdings from time to time until he is now the owner of four hundred acres of fine land, and has one of the best-improved farms in the county. He has a good modern house and one of the best and most



RESIDENCE OF JOHN C. JOHNSON.

up-to-date barns in the county, having room for more than one hundred tons of hay. His buildings are all arranged and equipped for the most modern and scientific farming. His first barn was a straw shed, after which he built a log barn, which still stands on the place. The new barn was built in 1915. Mr. Johnson is one of the most extensive stock breeders in the county, making a specialty of thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle and full-blooded Percheron horses. He is the owner of a full-blooded white Percheron stallion, which was imported from France. He also raises many mules for the market.

In 1879 John C. Johnson was married to Anna Hanson, who is a native of Iowa, of Norwegian parentage, and to this union have been born twelve children—Henry, deceased; Caroline, the wife of Henry Skinnemoen, a farmer living in Grant county, is the mother of four children, Stanley, Chester, Alice and Raymond; Sender, at home; Joseph, who married Alma Christianson and conducts a restaurant at Wendell; Tilda, the wife of John Peterson, a hardware merchant at Goodhue, Minnesota, is the mother of two children, Howard and Alvin, and Odell, Mabel, John, Luella, Clifford, Birdie and Henry, who are still at home with their parents.

Mr. Johnson is a Republican in politics, and has served his township as supervisor for twenty years, and as school director of district No. 35 for twenty-eight years.

LEANDER KELLOGG.

The late Leander Kellogg, an honored veteran of the Civil War and one of the most substantial pioneer citizens of Douglas county, who died at his home in Alexandria in 1911, was a native of the great Empire state, born in Cattaraugus county, New York, February 1, 1839, son of Peter and Millie (Omstead) Kellogg, both natives of the state of New York, the latter of whom spent his last days in Douglas county, a member of the household of his son, Leander. Peter Kellogg and his wife were the parents of six children, those besides the subject of this sketch having been Elias, Matilda, Elmeda, Justus and Joseph.

Leander Kellogg was reared on a farm in Pennsylvania, to which state his parents had moved when he was a child, and upon the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in Company 6, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and with that gallant command served until the close of the war. Upon the completion of his military service, in 1865, Mr. Kellogg determined to make his

home in what then was regarded as the very frontier of civilization in the Northwest and in that same year came to Minnesota. He left his family at Owatona and drove on through to Douglas county, entering a claim to a tract of land on beautiful Maple Lake. He then returned for his family and presently had his home established on the lake shore, where he remained until 1880, in which year he traded a part of that land for another farm located in Hudson township and on the latter place made his home until 1900, when he retired from the farm and moved to Alexandria, where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring there on July 27, 1911. Leander Kellogg was a good farmer and a substantial, progressive citizen; a worthy pioneer, whose industry was rewarded until he became the owner of more than six hundred acres of land in Douglas county. He was a Republican and in the early days of the county's settlement took an active part in civic affairs. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and for some time served as a member of the board of trustees of the same.

Leander Kellogg was twice married, his first wife having been Esther Patterson, to whom he was married in the East. To that union four children were born, namely: Mary M., who married Charles Klatt and has four children, Merl, William, Hazel and John; Alice M., wife of Henry A. LeRoy, the well-known capitalist of Alexandria, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume; Florence and Orin, who married Beatrice Hawley and has two sons, Melvin and Clair. In 1881, some time after the death of the mother of these children, Leander Kellogg was united in marriage to Mary E. Westerfeld, daughter of the Rev. John H. and Cynthia (Lacy) Westerfeld, of Stoughton, Wisconsin, and to that union four children were born, namely: Laura A., who married A. Holmberg and has three children, Adolph K., Kenneth L. and Dorothy; John, who married Esther Friedland and has one child, a daughter, Marion E.; Joseph L. and Helen E. The Rev. John H. Westerfeld, for years a well-known minister of the German Methodist church, was a native of Germany, born in Hanover. He came to this country when twenty-one years of age and for a time followed his trade as a stonemason. He then attended college at Oberlin, Ohio, and there fitted himself for the ministry and was ordained as a minister of the German Methodist church. In 1847 he married Cynthia Lacy, who was born in the state of New York, and some years later moved to Wisconsin, where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring at Stoughton, that state, on June 20, 1900. He and his wife were the parents of four children, of whom Mrs. Kellogg was the second in order of birth, the others having been George, Frank and Hattie.

ALBERT O. HALVORSON.

Albert O. Halvorson, clerk of Elbow Lake township, a well-known and progressive young farmer of Grant county, was born on the homestead farm on which he still makes his home, in Elbow Lake township, and has lived there all his life, with the exception of the time he spent away from home completing his schooling. He was born on July 5, 1889, son of Halvor O. and Ella (Germundson) Halvorson, both natives of Norway, the former of whom died at his home in Elbow Lake township early in 1916 and the latter of whom is still living there.

Halvor O. Halvorson was born in Telemarken, Norway, November 22, 1854, and at the age of thirteen came with kin folks to the United States and settled with them on a farm in Fillmore county, this state, where he grew to manhood. About 1885 he came over to this part of the state and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 20 of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, erected a log house and prepared to establish his home there. Shortly afterward he married Ella Germundson, also a Telemarken, born on December 22, 1860, and the two set up their home there on the raw prairie. As Mr. Halvorson prospered in his farming operations he bought another quarter section and thus became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of fine land and was soon recognized as one of the most substantial farmers in his neighborhood. About 1910 he erected a fine new modern farm house, remodeled his farm buildings and otherwise brought his place up to a high standard of improvement. In addition to his general farming he for years gave considerable attention to the raising of high-grade live stock and did very well. He was a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at West Elbow and in other ways took an active part in the development of the business interests of his home community. From the very beginning of his residence in Grant county Mr. Halvorson took an active part in civic affairs and for years was a member of the board of supervisors of his home township. He helped to lay out the roads in that part of the county and for years was director of school district No. 17. He also was one of the builders of the Synod Lutheran church of Elbow Lake township, in the organization of which he took an influential part and of which he and his family were members. Halvor O. Halvorson died at his home in Elbow Lake township on January 19, 1916, and his widow is still living there. To them six children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Ole, who is living on

the home farm; Julius, who died at the age of nineteen years; Oscar, who died at the age of two years, and Germund and Olga, at home.

Albert O. Halvorson was reared on the homestead farm on which he was born and received his elementary education in the schools of his home district, supplementing the same by a course at Glenwood Academy and at the Alexandria Business College and also spent one winter at Red Wing Seminary, after which he returned to the home farm and has ever since been actively engaged in the cultivation of the same, and since the death of his father has been manager of the place, being recognized as one of the most progressive young farmers in the neighborhood. Mr. Halvorson is a Republican and since 1911 has been serving his home township in the capacity of clerk. He also is clerk of his home school district and in other ways has given his services to the public of that community. He is a member of the band at Wendell and makes a specialty of the violin and the alto. Mr. Halvorson is a member of the Synod Lutheran church and takes a warm interest in all movements designed to advance the common welfare in the community in which he lives.

JOHN E. GILLIES.

John E. Gillies, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Urness township, Douglas county, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, on April 2, 1867, the son of George and Janet (McCarra) Gillies, natives of Scotland, who became sweethearts in their youth and the promise was made that some time they would marry. George Gillies remained in the land of his birth until 1847, when he decided that he would come to America and here make a home for himself and his future bride. Upon his arrival in the United States he came West and settled in Dane county, Wisconsin, where he bought government land, his nearest market at that time being at Milwaukee, eighty miles away. In 1849 Janet McCarra, his sweetheart, joined Mr. Gillies and they were married. They continued to live on the farm of one hundred and twenty acres that George Gillies had bought when he came to the country, and by much hard work and enduring many of the hardships of the early settlers, developed and improved the same, remaining there until 1882, when they removed to Clark county, South Dakota, where they purchased a tree claim of three hundred and twenty acres, to which they later added one hundred and sixty acres. They continued to live on their farm in Clark county until 1903, when they moved to Clark, the county seat, where they lived for a short time, after which they went to Tracy, South Dakota, and there Mrs.

Gillies died. After the death of his wife George Gillies came to Grant county on a visit and died here in 1905. The two are buried in the cemetery at Clark, South Dakota.

George and Janet Gillies were the parents of the following children: Agnes, James, Janet, George W., Johanna, Robert S., Margaret, John E. and Hattie. Agnes is the wife of Charles Warrington and resides at St. Ansgar, Iowa; James is a resident of Stewartsville, Minnesota; Janet married Harry Douglas and resides at Lemon, South Dakota; George W. resides at Clark, South Dakota; Johanna is the wife of Charles Douse and they reside at Elkhorn, Wisconsin; Robert S. resides at Brooklyn, Wisconsin; Margaret married C. E. McNabb and resides at Shell Lake, Wisconsin, and Hattie E. is the wife of Frank McCallister, whose home is at Long Beach, California.

John E. Gillies received his education in the district schools of Wisconsin and at Raymond, South Dakota, and completed a commercial course in the school at Watertown, South Dakota. After completing his school work he returned to the home farm and there he engaged in farming with his father until he was twenty-three years of age, when he entered the employ of a grain company at Virgil, South Dakota, where he remained for one year, after which he was sent by the company to Erdahl, Minnesota, where he bought grain for the next eight years. About that time he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and during these eight years he devoted much of his time to general farming. He remained there until 1902, when he purchased two hundred and eighty acres in Urness township, Douglas county, where he has since made his home. This farm he has developed and improved and is now engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

In 1892 John E. Gillies was united in marriage to Emma L. Schickles, daughter of George C. Schickles, of Beadle county, South Dakota, and to this union four children have been born, Clinton C., Clifford E., Robert A. and Leona E., all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Gillies are active members of the Presbyterian church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Gillies is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Modern Woodmen of America and he and his wife are members of the Royal Neighbors at Evansville.

John E. Gillies has always taken an active interest in local affairs, has ever been an advocate of the best and most substantial public improvements and has given of his time and ability in the promotion of the best interests of the township and the county. While residing in Clark county, South Dakota, he was township clerk for some years and since coming to Minnesota has served as a member of the board of supervisors of his township.

OLAF JOHNSON LINDSTROM.

Olaf Johnson Lindstrom, a native of Sweden and one of the well-known and successful farmers and stockmen of Land township, Grant county, was born on July 20, 1841, the son of Johan and Julia (Gerlin) Johnson, also natives of Sweden, who received their education in the public schools of that country and were there married. It was in that country that their children were born and there the father died, years ago. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Johnson came to America and made her home with her son, Olaf Johnson Lindstrom, until the time of her death. Johan Johnson devoted his life to farming and he and his wife were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community in which they lived and were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them. They were the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Julia, who is the wife of Prof. Samuel M. Hill.

Olaf Johnson Lindstrom received his education in the public schools of his native land and there grew to manhood and was married. He and his wife continued to live in the land of their birth until June, 1870, when they decided to come to America where they could establish a home for themselves and their family. On their arrival in the United States they located for a short time at McGregor, Iowa, and then came to Minnesota, locating on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Land township, Grant county, where they still live. In addition to the homestead, Mr. Lindstrom purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Douglas county. The homestead was for the most part a wild prairie at the time Mr. Lindstrom came to the township, but by hard work and close application to business he has made it one of the ideal farms of the community. There Mr. Lindstrom has grown a beautiful grove and erected substantial and modern buildings. On his arrival in the county, the Great Northern railway only came to Willmar, and the trip had to be completed with horses and a wagon which were hired for the purpose.

Shortly before coming to this country Olaf Johnson Lindstrom was united in marriage to Maret Nelsdatter, who was born in Sweden and received her education in the public schools of that country, where her parents died some years ago, and to this union the following children were born: Nels, John, Ole, Carrie, Julia, Matilda and Peter. Nels is engaged in farming with his father; John is now deceased; Ole is connected with the Farmers' State Bank at Hoffman, and Carrie, Julia, Matilda and Peter are

deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Lindstrom are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church, and were among the organizers of the local society. Mr. Lindstrom was for a number of years a member of the choir. He has taken much interest in local affairs and has served as a member of the board of supervisors and as school treasurer for twenty-two years.

JOHN SANDBERG.

John Sandberg, one of Grant county's substantial farmers and the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and twenty acres in Lien township, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since 1880. He was born in Halland, a laen of Sweden, April 7, 1857, son of John and Netta Louisa (Nelson) Sandberg, natives of that same section and the former of whom, a blacksmith, is still living there. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: Nils, a blacksmith, living at Guttenberg, Sweden; Mrs. Clara Person, who lives in New York City; August, a banker, of Brooklyn, New York, and three who were born since John Sandberg came to America and are still living in their native land.

Brought up to the trade of blacksmith, in which he was trained by his father, John Sandberg remained at home, working at that trade, until 1880, when he came to the United States and began to work in the coal mines at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. A strike occurred in the mines about two years after he began working there and he left there and went to Lafayette, Indiana, where he worked in the car shops of the Monon Railroad for five years, at the end of which time he moved over into Illinois and was engaged in farm labor in the vicinity of Ford, that state, until 1902, when he came to Minnesota and located in Grant county, where he ever since has made his home. Upon coming out here he bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres in section 35 of Lien township, tore down the old shanties that were on the same, erected a modern house and farm buildings and soon brought his place up to a high standard of improvement and cultivation. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Sandberg has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has an excellent herd of dairy cattle. He is a shareholder in the local elevator company and also in the local creamery association and takes an active interest in the work of promoting the general business interests of his home community. In his political affiliations he is a Republican and has served the public in the capacity of a school director.

It was in the year 1891 that John Sandberg was united in marriage to Albertina Larson, who also was born in Sweden, and to this union seven children have been born, Ernest, Nils, Carl, Mabel, Lily, Edwin and Ethel. The Sandbergs are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the general beneficences of the same, as well as in the general good works of their community, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

NELS D. ANDERSON.

One of the well known and substantial farmers of Evansville township, Douglas county, is Nels D. Anderson, who was born in Sweden on August 11, 1858, the son of Daniel and Bareth Anderson, both natives of the same country.

Daniel Anderson came with his family to the United States in 1870, coming directly to Douglas county, Minnesota, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in section 15 of Lund township. He filed on this land on June 3, 1870, and on July 5, 1870, his family came on from St. Paul by rail to St. Cloud, from which place the rest of the journey was made by ox-team, Mr. Anderson having rented the oxen for the trip. Part of his land was timber, and the first house which the family lived in was built of logs, having no floor, the roof being constructed of hay and sod. The first year he managed to raise a few potatoes, and the next season had four or five acres of wheat. He bought his first oxen in 1871, but had no wagon, and hauled his first hay and wheat crop on a sled. There were no roads in the township at that time and the nearest market was Perham, forty-five miles away, on the Northern Pacific, but in true pioneer style the family kept bravely on clearing, cultivating and developing their land, and in 1876 a better log house was built, and various other improvements added from time to time. Daniel Anderson continued to live on the old homestead until his death in the fall of 1896, he then being sixty-six years of age. His wife, who was born in Sweden in 1838, survived him four years, her death occurring on July 3, 1900. They were the parents of ten children, Nels D., Stena, Maria, Andrew, Carl, Daniel, Matilda, Alfred, Oscar and Willie. Of these children, Stena, Daniel, Matilda and Alfred are now living in Canada; Maria is a resident of California; Andrew is living in North Dakota; Oscar is living on his father's old homestead in Lund township, and Willie is renting land in Lund township.



MR. AND MRS. NELS D. ANDERSON.

Nels D. Anderson received some of his elementary education in the schools of his native land, but obtained most of his schooling in Lund township, and lived on the homestead farm of his father, assisting in the cultivation and development of the land until his marriage, when he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land near Melby station, which was partly improved, with a small house on it. There he lived for the next ten years, after which in 1896, he moved to Evansville township, where he bought two hundred acres in sections 4, 5 and 8. This land was partly improved, having on it a small log house, where Mr. Anderson and his family lived for five years. In 1900 he built a good, modern two-story house, and also erected a new barn, thirty-six by eighty feet in dimensions, as well as making many other improvements on his farm. He has a beautiful grove of about five acres around his house, which he planted. He gradually added to his land holdings until he is now the owner of five hundred acres of fine farming land, most of which he farms himself, renting out one hundred and twenty acres. He is extensively engaged in general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of breeding thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle, and is the owner of a very fine imported full-blood Shorthorn bull, registered as "Barrington's Heir 118880." This animal was brought from England and was given to Mr. Anderson by the late James J. Hill, the railway magnate. Besides his farming interests, Mr. Anderson managed a grain elevator in Evansville for the Inter-State Grain Company for a period of ten years.

In 1886 Nels D. Anderson was married to Lotta Anderson, daughter of Anders Peterson, and to this union six children have been born, Victor, Elvira, Esther, Aaron, David and Joseph, the two last-named being twins, and all living at home with their parents. Mr. Anderson is a Republican in politics and the family are members of the Swedish Mission church.

FRANK ELGIN.

Frank Elgin, a well-known and progressive farmer of Delaware township, Grant county, is a native of the neighboring "Hawkeye" state, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1890 and of Grant county since 1895. He was born on a farm in Benton county, Iowa, May 12, 1860, son of Herman and Sophia (Grass) Elgin, natives of Germany, whose last days were spent in Iowa. Herman Elgin was born in Saxony, as was his wife. He was a brickmaker by trade and also for some time served as a coachman. In 1856

he and his family came to the United States and settled in Benton county, Iowa, where for four years they made their home on a rented farm. Mr. Elgin then bought a farm in that vicinity and there lived many years. His wife died on the farm about 1898 and he presently retired from the farm and moved to Newhall, Iowa, where he died in 1903, being then past seventy-seven years of age. They were members of the German Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were five of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last born, the others being as follow: Herman, who was twelve years of age when he came to the United States with his parents and is now a retired farmer, living in Worth county, Iowa; Pauline, who also was born in Germany, married Benjamin Franklin and now lives at Spellsburg, in Benton county, Iowa; Amelia, born in Germany, who married August Doble and lives at Manly Junction, Iowa, and Alvina, who was but a baby when she was brought to this country by her parents, now living near Adair, Iowa, widow of Henry Slaughterback.

Frank Elgin was reared on the farm on which he was born in Benton county, Iowa, receiving his schooling in the public schools of that neighborhood, and early became a farmer on his own account, renting a farm until 1890, in which year he went to St. Paul and for three years thereafter was engaged there as a teamster. He then for two years worked in a wagon shop and in 1895, the year following his marriage, came out to this part of the state, locating in Grant county, where for eighteen months he worked on the farm of Henry Gotsche. He then began working in a blacksmith shop at Herman and later resumed farming, being thus engaged for two years, after which for some time he worked as a butcher and then as a carpenter, following the latter trade until 1901, when he rented a farm near the village of Herman and for two years worked the same, making his home in the village. He then, in 1902, rented the half section of land in Delaware township which he is now occupying and has ever since made his home there, doing very well in his farming operations, in addition to which he has paid considerable attention to dairying, milking from ten to fifteen cows. In 1913 Mr. Elgin bought three hundred and thirty-one acres of raw prairie land in Pennington county, this state. He is a Democrat and has served as director of his local school district. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

It was in 1894 that Frank Elgin was united in marriage to Ida Frarck, who was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, daughter of John Frarck and wife, who came to America about 1891 and settled in Lyons county, Iowa, later coming to Minnesota and locating at Luverne, where they spent the rest of

their lives, John Frarck dying there about 1906. To Mr. and Mrs. Elgin two children have been born, Elmer and Louis, both of whom are at home. The Elgins are members of the German Lutheran church and take an active interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works.

E. J. NEWMAN.

E. J. Newman, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers of Grant county, proprietor of a fine farm in Lien township, former supervisor of that township, for twenty years treasurer of the same, for twenty-five years clerk of his school district, former road superintendent of the township and in 1916 the nominee of his party for the office of county commissioner from his district, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this county since 1880 and a landowner in Grant county since 1885. He was born on a farm in Vermland, August 24, 1856, son of Erick and Christine (Olson) Newman, natives of that same district, who spent all their lives in their native land, their deaths occurring in the middle nineties. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born and all of whom are still living, the others, daughters all, being Jane, Anna and Elsie, who married and remained in Sweden, and Mrs. Louise Jacobson, now a resident of New York City.

Reared on the home farm in Sweden, E. J. Newman received his schooling in the schools of his native land and in 1880, he then being twenty-four years of age, came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating at Stillwater, where for five years he worked in the pineries and in saw-mills during the winters and on farms during the summers and in 1885 came on out to this part of the state and bought a quarter of a section of railroad land in section 23 of Lien township, Grant county. Employing neighbors to break the land for him, he returned to Stillwater, but the next year returned to Grant county to take possession of his farm and has ever since resided there. In partnership with Mr. Okstrom he bought an additional "eighty" and the two farmed the place together until Mr. Newman's marriage three years later, in 1889, when a division occurred, Mr. Newman retaining the original tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which he since has improved in excellent shape, he for many years having been regarded as one of the leading farmers in that part of the country. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to stock raising and has

done very well. He also has given considerable attention to general local business affairs and has served as a member of the board of directors of the Barrett co-operative creamery, as president of the local telephone company and as president of the Farmers' Shipping Association. In his political affiliations, Mr. Newman is a Republican and has served as supervisor of his home township, was for twenty years treasurer of the township, school director and clerk of the board for twenty-five years, two years superintendent of roads for Lien township and in the campaign of 1916 was nominee of his party in his district for a place on the board of county commissioners.

It was in 1889 that E. J. Newman was united in marriage to Emma Asplund, who also was born in Sweden, daughter of John P. Asplund and wife, early settlers in the neighboring county of Traverse, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Lily, formerly a teacher in the public schools of Grant county, who married Gus H. Gustavson and is now the owner and operator of the roller mills at Barrett; David, who is at home, and Alice, a teacher in the public schools, also at home. The Newmans have a very pleasant home and take a proper part in the various social activities of the community in which they live.

ANDREW I. HAUGEN.

Andrew I. Haugen, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers of Grant county, assessor of Elbow Lake township, member of the board of directors of the Wendell State Bank, a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Wendell and in two such concerns at Elbow Lake, former clerk of his home township and for many years one of the most active factors in the civic and industrial life of his community, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was ten years old and has been a witness to and a participant in the wonderful development of this section of the state since pioneer days. He was born at Sigdal, Norway, July 20, 1859, son of Iver and Ingeborg Haugen, natives of that same section, who came to the United States with their family in 1869, crossing in a sailing vessel that was six weeks in making the passage. Upon landing on the shores of this country the Haugens proceeded directly to Minnesota and settled in Houston county, where they remained until 1872, in which year they came over to this part of the state and settled in Grant county. During the year previous, in 1871, the eldest son, Halvor, had come over here and had pre-empted in behalf of his father a tract of one hundred and

sixty acres in section 10 of Elbow Lake township and upon the family's arrival the next year a home was established there, the same being the place now occupied by Andrew I. Haugen. Upon settling on his homestead tract Iver Haugen, assisted by his sons, erected a log house and constructed a sod shanty for a stable, the same occupying the sites now occupied by the present comfortable farm house and modern barn on the Haugen farm, and in the home thus established Iver Haugen and his wife spent their last days, honored and respected pioneers of that community. They were members of the Synod Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were six of these children, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Halvor, the Grant county pioneer, who pre-empted the old Haugen homestead in 1871 and who died when he was about fifty years of age; Klemet, a merchant of Decorah, Iowa; Joran, who married Ole O. Canestorp and lives at Elbow Lake; Bertha, who married Andrew Soliah and lives over the line in Aastad township in the neighboring county of Otter Tail, and Anna, who married Ole C. Johnson and died on a farm near Wendell.

Andrew I. Haugen was but ten years of age when he came to the United States with his parents in 1869 and was about thirteen years old when the family moved from Houston county to Grant county, his schooling therefore being acquired in the schools of his native land and in the schools of the two Minnesota counties above mentioned, though the schools of Elbow Lake township in his school days were primitive affairs, indeed, it not being until some little time after the Haugens had settled there that well established school districts were organized in the township. Mr. Haugen remained on the home farm, a valued assistant to his father in the development of the same, and in 1886 bought the farm and has ever since made it his place of abode. In 1895 he built a new frame house, and has since added to and remodeled the same, making it a very pleasant and comfortable residence. Soon after he bought the farm he built his present ample barn and the other improvements on the place are in keeping, the farm being looked upon as one of the best-improved places in the neighborhood. In addition to his general farming Mr. Haugen has given considerable attention to the breeding of high-grade live stock. He also has given his close personal attention to local business affairs, was one of the organizers of the Wendell State Bank, of the board of directors of which he is a member, and is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery Company at Wendell, in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Wendell and in two such concerns at Elbow Lake. Mr. Haugen is a Republican and for many years has served in some public capacity or another in behalf of his home township, having been former

township clerk, former township treasurer and for the past six years assessor of Elbow Lake township, while in other ways he has given unselfishly of his services in behalf of the advancement of the common good in his community.

On June 20, 1889, Andrew I. Haugen was united in marriage to Berit Rustand, a sister of Ole Rustand, a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, and to this union seven children have been born, namely: Iver, who is at home; Albert, a physician, at present an interne in the Cook County Hospital at Chicago; Hilda and Mabel, teachers in the public schools of Grant county, and Elmer, Cora and Joseph, at home. The Haugens are members of the Synod Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general good works of the community in which they live.

WILLIAM W. NIEMACKL.

William W. Niemackl, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Macsville township, Grant county, was born in Germany on October 19, 1855, the son of Engelbert and Francesco Niemackl, both of whom were born in Germany, where they received their education in the public schools and were married. There the father was engaged in farming and there the family continued to live until 1863, when they came to the United States, locating in Calumet county, Wisconsin, and there engaging in farming until August, 1872, when they came to Minnesota, settling in Grant county. Here the father purchased one hundred and eighty-five acres of land from Francis Longe, a French half-breed, and also homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 34 of Macsville township. He also bought the farm in section 33, where his son, William W. Niemackl, now lives, and where the father lived until the time of his death in 1886, at the age of fifty-six years. The widow died in 1892 at the age of sixty-two years and eleven months. They were the parents of three children, William W., Anthony and Engelbert. Anthony died in 1901 at the age of forty-three years and Engelbert is a resident of Minneapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Niemackl were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community and Mr. Niemackl took much interest in the civic life of the township, and became one of the substantial and influential citizens. He was an advocate of substantial public improvements and did much for the growth and the development of the township.

William W. Niemackl received his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and remained a resident of that state until 1872, when he came to Grant county with his parents. Here he assisted his father in the work of clearing and developing the farm. In 1883 and 1884 he was the manager of the Van Dusen elevator at Herman, and after that time he returned to the farm, where he has devoted his energies to general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is now the owner of eight hundred and eighty acres of good land that adjoins the old homestead. This he has developed and improved, having erected excellent buildings and in other ways made the farm one of the most attractive in the township. Mr. Niemackl has always taken an active interest in local affairs and is one of the prominent men of the township. He is now a member of the board of supervisors, a member of the school board, township clerk and assessor, devoting the same careful attention to his duties as a public official that he does to his own individual interests. He is progressive in his views and believes in the highest class of public improvements. He takes much interest in the success of the schools of the district and has exerted every effort to bring them up to their present high standard, he fully realizing that the future of the district to a great extent depends upon the training the youth of the present generation receive.

In 1887 William W. Niemackl was united in marriage to Mary Handschug, who was born in Germany on December 23, 1870, the daughter of William and Florentiana Handschug, who were also born in that country. The parents came to Minnesota in 1882 and located in Grant county, where William Handschug became a prosperous and well-known farmer and stock raiser. He died on September 18, 1911. His widow is still living on the old home farm, at the age of eighty years.

To William and Mary Niemackl have been born the following children: Frances, William, Mary, Bertha, Englebort, Florence, Alice, Carl, Katherine and Joseph Donald, all of whom are living and at home, with the exception of William, who is in Minneapolis, where he is successfully engaged in the automobile business. Mr. and Mrs. Niemackl are members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in church work. They have long been prominent in the social life of the community and are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They have a beautiful farm home, with every modern convenience; the buildings are substantial and surrounded with beautiful groves and the fields are under a high state of cultivation, the farm and surroundings being among the most desirable in the county.

CLEMENT H. BRONSON.

Clement H. Bronson, editor and proprietor of the *Osakis Review*, was born in Charles City, Iowa, October 26, 1871, a son of the Rev. S. M. and Anna (Nicholson) Bronson. On his father's side he is descended from a family of that name who came to this country prior to the Revolutionary War. On his mother's side his lineage runs back and is connected with the Pennsylvania-Dutch colony.

The Rev. S. M. Bronson was born in New York state in 1817, and was there reared and educated. In early life he determined to prepare himself to become a minister of the gospel, and applied himself to such studies as would qualify him for that profession. In due time he completed his preparatory studies and was licensed to preach by the conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, the denomination to which he belonged. For several years he was a member of the northern Iowa conference of that denomination and his ministerial labors were within the bounds of that conference. In 1877 he came to Minnesota and took a charge in Alexandria, leaving his family for about two years in his former home in Iowa. Later he brought his family to this place, and afterwards removed to Evansville, Minnesota, where he continued to live until his death, which occurred in 1887.

The Rev. S. M. Bronson and Anna Nicholson, of Pennsylvania, were married in 1835. She died at her home in Evansville, Minnesota, in 1907. She was the mother of six children: William N., Nellie M. (deceased), Stella, Gertrude, Rollin and Clement H.

Clement H. Bronson was educated in the public schools of Alexandria, Dassel and Evansville, Minnesota, where his father was stationed at various times. In 1889 he was a student in the high school at Evansville and left school to take a position as a job printer in an office at St. Paul, Minnesota, and held that position for about a year and a half. For about one year afterward he was employed in the office of the *Grant County Farmer*, at Ashby, and in 1892 he went to Osakis, and bought the plant of the *Osakis Review*, a newspaper founded there in 1889 by A. L. Heikes, and has continued as editor and publisher of this paper since that time. He has added to the mechanical equipment of the office and now has an up-to-date newspaper plant, with facilities for the various kinds of work required in a modern print shop. Mr. Bronson is now the dean of the newspaper fraternity in Douglas county, having been engaged in continuous newspaper publication



CLEMENT H. BRONSON.

longer than any other man in the county. In addition to his newspaper work Mr. Bronson is extensively engaged in the real-estate and insurance business and has large investments in farm lands.

In 1895 Clement H. Bronson was united in marriage to Mabel J. Stevens, a daughter of W. H. and Mary L. Stevens, of Osakis, and to this union three children have been born: Carol Gladys, born on June 4, 1896, who is now a student in music and liberal arts in St. Benedict's academy at St. Joseph, Minnesota; Agnes Lucile, February 24, 1899, and Helen Louise, May 8, 1902.

The *Osakis Review* is a Republican paper, reflecting the sentiments of its editor and publisher, who is an ardent advocate of the principles of the Republican party, and actively identified with all his party's affairs. He has served as village recorder, was for four years justice of the peace and was a member of the school board for six years. He served as postmaster of Osakis for eight years, having been first appointed to that office by President Roosevelt, and re-appointed by President Taft.

Mr. Bronson is a member of Osakis Lodge No. 180, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and has taken the eighteenth degree in the Minneapolis consistory. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Modern Woodmen of America at Osakis. As a citizen Mr. Bronson is held in high esteem. He is an intelligent, public spirited, all-around "booster" for the town and community, and is actively interested in every movement for the promotion of the general business of the community and of the welfare of the people. He is the present president of the Osakis Commercial Club and has done much to increase the activities of that admirable organization.

KNUT O. FJOSLIEN.

Knut O. Fjoslien, one of the largest landowners and most substantial and progressive farmers of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-one years of age. He was born in the stift of Christiania on March 27, 1861, son of Ole Siverson and Sigrid (Haakonsdatter) Fjoslien, both natives of Norway, the former born on November 13, 1810, and the latter some years later, and both of whom spent all their lives in their native land. Ole S. Fjoslien was a farmer and landowner and he and his wife were the parents of eleven children, of whom the subject of this

sketch was the ninth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Haakon, born on September 19, 1844, who is still living in Norway; Aase, December 15, 1845, married and also lives in Norway; Gunil, August 23, 1847, a widow, living in Norway; Halvor, October 22, 1849, who died in his native land in 1916; Joran, December 28, 1851, a widow, living in Norway; Erik, April 11, 1854, who also continues to make his home in his native land; Ole, March 6, 1857, who lives at Pelican Rapids, this state; Gunder, January 8, 1859, who lives in Norway; Bergit, November 6, 1863, who lives in Norway, and Christopher, March 15, 1867, who also continues to make his home in his native land.

Knut O. Fjoslien grew to manhood on the home farm in Norway and received his education in the schools of his home neighborhood. In 1882, he then being twenty-one years of age, he came to the United States and settled on Jefferson prairie, in southern Wisconsin, about eight miles east of Beloit, where he worked on a farm for a year, at the end of which time, in 1883, he came over into Minnesota and settled in Grant county. During the first year of his residence in this part of the state, Mr. Fjoslien bought a tract of eighty acres of land in section 30 of Pomme de Terre township as an investment, but for four years thereafter continued working as a farm hand during the summers and during the winters as a blacksmith at Aastad. He then moved onto his farm in Pomme de Terre township and after his marriage in 1891 established his home there, in the meantime having bought an additional "eighty," and there he continued to live for about eleven years. In 1900 Mr. Fjoslien bought a farm of three hundred and sixty acres in section 19 of that same township and moved over to that farm, where he and his family have ever since made their home and where they are very pleasantly and comfortably situated. In 1903 he erected a fine, new two-story brick house on the place and in the following year put up a modern barn on the place. As he prospered in his farming operations, Mr. Fjoslien bought additional land until now he is the owner of eight hundred and forty acres of land all in one piece, besides various strips of land here and there elsewhere in the county, and has long been recognized as one of the leading farmers in the community. In addition to developing his landed interests in excellent shape, Mr. Fjoslien has given considerable attention to other forms of business and has served as president of the Viking Telephone Company, as a director of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Elbow Lake and as a director of the Bank of Elbow Lake. He is independent in his political persuasion and for some years has served as a school director in his local district.

On July 14, 1891, Knut O. Fjoslien was united in marriage to Tina Thorson, who was born in the neighboring county of Otter Tail, daughter of Andrew Thorson and wife, early settlers of that county, and to this union ten children have been born, all of whom are living save Sigrid, the seventh in order of birth, and another, the eighth in order of birth, who died in infancy, the others being Ole, owner of a garage in North Dakota, and Sigrid, Andrew, Aase, Haakon, Henry, Sigurd and Christy Torella, who are at home. The Fjosliens are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Aastad and take a warm interest in the general good works of their home community.

MARTIN LARSON WICK.

Martin Larson Wick, a well-known and well-to-do retired pioneer farmer of Grant county, proprietor of an excellent farm in Lien township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has lived in this country since 1869 and was a homesteader in Grant county as early as 1871. He was born on a farm in Norway on July 24, 1842, son of Lars Ingebrigtsen and Andrea (Anderson) Wick, natives of that same country, both of whom spent all their lives in their native land. Lars I. Wick was a considerable landowner and he and his family were quite well circumstanced. His wife died in 1886, at the age of seventy years, and he survived until 1897, being ninety-five years of age at the time of his death. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follows: Margaret, who married Kolden Anderson and died years ago in her native land; Peter, a school teacher, who also died in Norway; Caroline, who married Anders Jergenson and upon his death married Ove C. Brevig and is still living in Norway; Anton, a farmer in Norway, and Ellen, who died in infancy.

Reared on the home farm, Martin L. Wick grew to manhood there, receiving his schooling in the local schools, and upon attaining manhood was for some years engaged in fishing. In 1869 he came to the United States and proceeding on out to Minnesota settled in Goodhue county, where he remained four years, working on farms. In the meantime, in 1871, he came out to this part of the state, homesteaded a quarter of a section in section 2 of Lien township, Grant county, and proved up on the same. During the time he was proving his claim Mr. Wick constructed a dug-out on his place, planted a grove and did considerable in the way of breaking the virgin soil.

He started farming with an ox-team and gradually brought his place under cultivation, planted more trees and soon became recognized as one of the leading farmers of that part of the county. In 1878 he erected a small frame house and in 1902 built his present comfortable and commodious residence. Some years later he practically retired from the active labors of the farm, giving the place over to the management of his son-in-law, Sivert Shervey, who has since been in charge, at the same time operating his own place of eighty acres nearby.

In 1874 Martin L. Wick was united in marriage to Kari Larson Berge, who was born in Norway on February 9, 1833, daughter of Lars and Martha (Toskedal) Berge, natives of that same country, who spent all their lives in their native land, and to this union was born one daughter, Lena, born on December 19, 1874, who married Sivert Shervey, also a native of Norway, and a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, and has seven children, J. Martin, Caroline, Selmar, William, Adolph, Agnes and Lillian. Mr. and Mrs. Wick are members of the Synod Lutheran church, and for many years have been active and earnest supporters of the same. Mr. Wick is a Republican and gives proper attention to local civic affairs, but has never been a seeker after office.

OLE HANSON.

Ole Hanson, one of the best-known and most substantial retired farmers of Grant county, now living very pleasantly situated in the city of Elbow Lake, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country ever since he was twenty-one years of age. He was born on October 14, 1846, son of Hans and Mary (Olson) Olson, natives of Norway, and grew up to the carpenter's trade in his home country. In the spring of 1868, in company with his mother, his brother, Gunder, and his two sisters, Dorothy and Mary, he came to the United States, the father and another sister, Betsy, remained on the other side until a new home could be established in this country.

The mother and her two sons and two daughters landed at the port of New York practically penniless and for the first year of their residence in this country lived at Jamestown, New York, where Ole Hanson worked on the railroad. In 1870 the family came West and located in Clayton county, Iowa, where Ole Hanson began working at his trade as a carpenter. For

two years the family remained in Clayton county, during which time they were joined by the father and the other sister and the reunited family, in 1872, came to Minnesota, settling in Sherburne county, where they remained for six years, during which time Ole Hanson took a homestead of eighty acres and where, in 1875, he married Anna Thompson, also a native of Norway. During his residence in Sherburne county he continued following his trade, at the same time developing his homestead tract, his brother, Gunder, also acquiring a start in the same fashion by developing a homestead tract. In 1878 the family disposed of their interests in Sherburne county and came up into this part of the state, settling in Grant county. Ole Hanson and his brother, Gunder, bought a tract of five hundred and forty acres in Sanford township, just north of the village of Elbow Lake, and later bought an additional tract of three hundred and twenty acres about one mile east of the village, on which latter tract Ole Hanson established his home. Previous to that the brothers, who continued their farming operations largely in partnership, had both made their homes on the original tract north of the village, Gunder part of the time making his home in the village. It was in 1891 that Ole Hanson moved to the farm east of Elbow Lake and there he and his wife made their home until about 1908, when they retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Elbow Lake, where they built a substantial residence and where they still live, well-to-do and useful citizens of the county-seat town. They are members of the United Lutheran church and take an active interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works, for years having recognized as among the helpful factors in the work of promoting all proper causes having to do with the betterment of conditions in the community in which they live and for which they have done much since coming out here in the pioneer days.

NICK THIES.

Nick Thies, one of the prominent and successful farmers of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, and chairman of the board of supervisors of that township, was born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, about twelve miles from Milwaukee, on February 2, 1856, the son of Nick and Katherine Thies, who were born in France, where they continued to reside until they came to the United States and located in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where Mr. Thies bought thirty acres of land and resided for some years. They

later removed to Clark county, in that same state, and there purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, which they developed and improved and there spent the rest of their lives. The elder Thies was killed on the railroad in 1877, at the age of eighty-seven years, he having been born in 1791. His widow died in 1901, at the age of eighty-seven years. Nick Thies was a soldier at the battle of Waterloo and was there wounded. He remembered with pleasure that on several occasions he had seen Napoleon Bonaparte.

Nick Thies, Sr., was first married to Mary Thies and to that union two children were born, Mat and Mary. Mat Thies was a soldier in the Civil War and saw much active service in the Twenty-Second Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He died in 1912, being then nearly one hundred years old. To Nick Thies, Sr., and Katherine Thies the following children were born: John, Peter, Nick, Kate and Mat. Peter and Kate are now deceased.

Nick Thies, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and there grew to manhood. In 1879 he came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Elbow Lake township, Grant county, where he has since made his home. The place at that time was undeveloped and unimproved. He set out a large grove and has erected good and substantial buildings. His farm is in excellent condition and he has a barn thirty-six by fifty feet. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful, being a believer in intensive farming and in the keeping of the best of stock. Mr. Thies is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He assisted in the organization of North Ottawa township in 1882 and for two years served as justice of the peace, has been chairman of the board of supervisors for thirty years and is the present occupant of that office. He and his family are devout members of the Catholic church and have always been active in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest esteem.

On February 22, 1879, in Wisconsin, Nick Thies was united in marriage to Katherine Schuster, a native of Germany and the daughter of Peter and Mary Schuster, who came to Wisconsin at an early day, the father dying in that state and the mother, in Grant county, in 1901, at the age of seventy-five years. To Nick and Katherine Thies the following children were born: Lizzie, John, Nick, Clara, Peter, Anna, Mary (deceased), Mary and Susan. Mrs. Katherine Thies was killed by lightning in 1898 and was mourned as an affectionate wife and mother and a kind neighbor. Mr. Thies succeeded in keeping his children all at home until they had reached manhood and womanhood.

CHRIS CHRISTIANSON.

Chris Christianson, a well-known and successful farmer of Delaware township, Grant county, was born in Norway on August 7, 1864, the son of Christ and Berit (Jacobsen) Halverson, both of whom were natives of Norway and there lived and died.

Chris Christianson received his education in the public schools of his native land, where he lived until 1887, when he decided to come to America. On his arrival in the United States he came direct to Minnesota, arriving at Starbuck, where he remained over night. The next day with his satchel, containing all his earthly possessions, he walked to Farwell and was so little pleased with the aspect of things that he would have gone back to the land of his birth if he had had money enough. As it was, he proceeded on over to Herman and there he worked on the railroad for three summers, later renting land and engaging in farming. In 1911 he purchased one hundred and thirty-three acres in Delaware township, which he has now increased to two hundred and twenty-eight acres. This farm he has developed and improved, has erected good and substantial buildings and in other ways has added valuable improvements. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. Mr. Christianson is progressive in his methods and believes in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil. By close application to business and hard work he is today one of the substantial farmers and stockmen of the township and is recognized as one of the prominent men of the community.

Politically, Chris Christianson is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He believes in substantial public improvements and favors all enterprises that tend to the growth and the development of the township and the county. Good roads and good schools are to him two of the important factors in the development and future stability of the district. He has for the past six years been a member of the school board and he has done much for the success of the excellent schools of the district.

In 1893 Chris Christianson was united in marriage to Agnes Johnson, who was born in Wisconsin in 1877, the daughter of L. E. and Anna (Johnson) Johnson, of Stockholm, Wisconsin, and to this union nine children have been born, Charley, Alice, Clarence, Mabel, Lloyd, Florence, Ralph, Bert and Herbert, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Christianson are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and have always taken an active in-

terest in church work. They are prominent in the social and religious life of the community in which they live and where they are held in the highest regard and esteem. Mr. Christianson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and is active in the work of the order. Mrs. Christianson's parents, L. E. and Anna Johnson, are natives of Norway, who came to Wisconsin in 1867 and were married there. They have continued to reside in Wisconsin and are now retired.

NILS NILSON.

Nils Nilson, a well-known and well-to-do retired farmer, one of the real pioneers of this section of Minnesota, for fourteen years a resident of Kensington, where he and his wife are living in substantial comfort, and who has served that village as president of the village, as assessor and as overseer of streets, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since 1873 and of Minnesota since 1877. He was born on November 1, 1845, son of Nils and Margaret (Olesdatter) Nilson, farm owners in Sweden, who spent all their lives there. They were the parents of ten children and their son, Nils, grew to manhood on the farm and became a farmer in his native land. He married there in 1869 and in 1873, with his wife and two children, came to the United States, proceeding to Michigan and locating in Marquette county, where he worked in the iron mines until 1877, when he and his family came to Minnesota and pushed right out into the outskirts of civilization on the western edge of the state. Proceeding by way of the Great Northern railway as far as Herman, Mr. Nilson and his family then equipped themselves for their further western journey and drove on into Traverse county, which at that time had but two houses in it and not a house on the stretch of thirty-nine miles between Herman and Breckenridge. Mr. Nilson's objective was a quarter section of land which he had homesteaded in what later became Redpath township, Traverse county, in a section thirty-five miles from the nearest house, a log cabin in which the Indian trader, Brown, kept a frontier trading stand, the location of Brown's cabin later becoming known as Brown's Valley. When Mr. Nilson settled on his prairie homestead thirty-five miles from Brown's, there was but one other house within the whole extent of Traverse county and that was another log trading-post. Mr. Nilson presently erected a frame house on his place, the firm frame house erected in Traverse county,



NILS NILSON AND FAMILY.

and lost little time in developing and improving his homestead, early becoming recognized as one of the most substantial and influential pioneers of that section. When Redpath township was organized he was one of the leaders in the work of organization and for more than twenty years was chairman of the board of supervisors. As he prospered in his farming operations he added to his holdings until he became the owner of a full section of land in one body, well improved and profitably cultivated. There he lived until 1902, when he and his wife retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Kensington, where they ever since have made their home and where they are very pleasantly situated. Since locating at Kensington, Mr. Nilson has continued his active interest in civic affairs and has served as president of the village, as assessor and for ten years as overseer of streets, while in other ways he has done well his part in promoting the best interests of his home town, the energies of his pioneer days apparently being but little abated in his later years. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and for many years have taken an earnest interest in the affairs of that congregation, helpful in all good works.

It was in 1869, while still living in Sweden, that Nils Nilson was united in marriage to Helma C. Sherlanda, also a native of that country, daughter of Carl Gustav Sherlanda and wife, and to this union two sons were born, Martin Robert and Enoch Benedictus Nilson, both of whom are engaged in the grain business in North Dakota. Mrs. Nilson was bereft of her mother when she was fourteen years of age. Years later, about 1865, her father came to the United States and located at East Parma, Michigan, where he spent the remainder of his days.

JACOB TRIESE.

Jacob Triese, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial retired farmers, a resident of Elbow Lake since 1898, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this country practically all the time since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born on November 14, 1838, son of Lucas and Rebecca (Marx) Triese, both of whom were natives of Germany, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native country. Lucas Triese served for some time as a soldier of his country. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, the first-born of whom died in infancy,

the others being as follow: Christopher, who came to the United States and became a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, serving as a member of Company B in one of the Pennsylvania regiments until he met his death at the battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia; Jacob, the subject of this biographical sketch; Minnie, who is still living in Germany; Edward, who has for years been a resident of St. Paul, this state; William, who remained in Germany, and Paulina, who also is still living in her native land.

In his twenty-fourth year, in April, 1863, Jacob Triese came to the United States, landing at the port of Philadelphia and in that city he remained for three years, working at anything his hand could find to do, even to the selling of ice cream on the streets. He then returned to Germany, where he remained for four years, at the end of which time, in 1870, he married and with his bride returned to the United States, proceeding directly to Minnesota, where he homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Todd county, on which he made his home for six years, developing his homestead in fine shape. He then disposed of his holdings there to advantage and moved down into Stearns county, where he bought another quarter of a section, on which he made his home for eight years, developing a fine piece of property there, which, in 1884, he sold and then moved up into Grant county, settling in Pomme de Terre township on a tract of land which he proceeded to develop and as he prospered there added to his holdings until he became the owner of a fine farm of four hundred acres and there he lived until 1898, in which year he retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Elbow Lake, where he and his wife have ever since made their home and where they are very pleasantly situated. In 1912 Mr. Triese sold the farm and has since been relieved of the cares of management. For some years during his residence on the farm in Pomme de Terre township, Mr. Triese was overseer of highways in his district and did much for the advancement of the cause of good roads thereabout. In addition to his general farming he gave considerable attention to the raising of live stock and did very well in his operations.

It was in 1870, during his visit back to his native land, that Jacob Triese was united in marriage to Mrs. Dorothy (Marx) Hillman, widow of Edward Hillman, proprietor of a large hotel, and for five years a soldier, who had died some time before, and to this union two children have been born, Charlotte, who married Jacob Vestner, and Alvina, who married Frank Shaffer. Mrs. Triese was born in Germany, daughter and only child of Jacob and Fredericka (Kinemont) Marx, the latter of whom died when her daughter was six years of age. In 1873 Jacob Marx came to the United States and

rejoined his daughter in Grant county, where he spent his last days. By her first marriage Mrs. Triese was the mother of one child, a son, Herman Hillman, who accompanied his Grandfather Max to Minnesota in 1873 and thus rejoined his mother in Grant county. Mr. and Mrs. Triese are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works.

SWEN MATTSON.

Swen Mattson, a well-known and progressive farmer of Grant county, member of the board of supervisors of Lien township and the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres lying partly in that township and partly in Roseville township, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of the United States since 1873. He was born on a farm in Hallen, Sweden, March 6, 1852, son of Anton and Brita (Swanson) Mattson, natives of that same district, well-to-do farming people, the former of whom died in May, 1855, and the latter in 1872, who were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last-born, the others being as follows: Aaron, a grocer, who is still living in his native land; Andrew, a liveryman, who died in his native land; Sophia, who married Nils Nelson and lives in Sweden; John, who died in Sweden, and Anna, who died in her youth.

Rearred on the home farm, Swen Mattson received his schooling in the schools in the neighborhood of his home and remained there, working on the farm, until he was twenty-one years of age, when, in 1873, he came to the United States and for about a year was engaged working in the coal mines around Morris Run, Tioga county, Pennsylvania. He then returned to his home across the water, but a year later returned to Pennsylvania and was for a few months again engaged working in the Morris Run mines, after which, in September, 1875, he went to Illinois, locating in Ford county, where for two years he was engaged working on the big Sullivan estate. He then, in 1877, rented a part of that estate and there remained, farming on his own account, until 1903, in which year he came to Minnesota and took up his residence in Grant county, where he ever since has made his home. In 1902, the year previous to his settlement in Grant county, he had bought a farm of two hundred and eighty acres in section 35 of Lien township and in section 3 of Roseville township and upon moving his family out

established his home there. Though the farm had been improved and all had been brought under cultivation, the buildings were old and Mr. Mattson tore down the latter and replaced them with modern buildings and otherwise improved the place, bringing it up to a high standard. In addition to his general farming he gives some attention to local business affairs and is a member of the board of directors of the Barrett Grain Company. In his political affiliations Mr. Mattson is a Republican and is a member of the present board of township supervisors.

In 1880, while living in Ford county, Illinois, Swen Mattson was united in marriage to Louisa Anderson, who also was born in Sweden, daughter of Gustav Anderson and wife, who came to this country and settled in Ford county, and to this union six children have been born, namely: John, a concrete contractor, who lives at Marshalltown, Iowa; Elizabeth, who married Alfred Jenson and lives in Erdahl township; Gertrude, who married Martin Peterson and lives in Ford county, Illinois, and Albert, Arthur and Huldah, who are at home with their parents. The Mattsons are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the general beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

HENRY HESSEL.

Henry Hessel, local manager of the office of the Globe Land and Loan Company of Minnesota at Elbow Lake and of the best-known and most energetic young real-estate men in this part of the state, is a native of Wisconsin, born at Bloomer, in Chippewa county, that state, February 19, 1888, one of the eight children born to Henry and Justina (Link) Hessel, both of whom were born in Waukesha county, Wisconsin, and now reside at Rice Lake, in that same state. The senior Henry Hessel, a well-to-do retired farmer and soda-water manufacturer, was formerly a member of the board of supervisors of Barron county, Wisconsin.

The junior Henry Hessel was reared in Wisconsin, receiving his elementary education in the public schools, and after a couple of years in the high school at Cameron entered the Curtis Business College at Minneapolis, from which he was graduated in 1906. He then was engaged by the Globe Land and Loan Company of Minnesota, this state, and was located in the

main office of that company at Minnesota until the first of the year 1911, when he transferred his services to the Bank of Canby at Canby, this state, where he remained but a short time, however, his services presently being secured by the Globe Land and Loan Company, which put him in charge of the branch office of that concern at Elbow Lake, where he has ever since been located and where he has come to be recognized as one of the most enterprising young real-estate men in this part of the state.

HANS BARDAHL.

Hans Bardahl, one of the well-known and prominent retired farmers of Barrett, Grant county, was born on April 30, 1841, in Norway, the son of John and Olena (Olson) Larson, also natives of Norway, where they were married and where they spent all their lives. John Larson was a well-known farmer of his community and he and his wife were the parents of two children, Annie and Hans Bardahl.

Hans Bardahl received his education in the public schools of his native land, where he lived until he was twenty-five years of age, when he decided to come to America. On his arrival in the United States he came directly to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county in 1866. He remained in that county but one year, at the end of which time he removed to Renville county, where he engaged in general farming until 1890, when he came to Grant county and located in Sanford township for five years, and then in 1895 came to his present farm of two hundred and eighty acres in section 30 of Elk Lake township. He has placed practically all the present modern and substantial buildings on the place and has developed the farm into one of the best in the township. It was there that he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1913, when he retired from the activities of farm life and is now enjoying some of the results of his long years of hard and systematic work. Mr. Bardahl has always taken an active interest in the social and civic life of the community and has had much to do with the growth and the development of the township and the county.

In 1873 Hans Bardahl was united in marriage to Annie Ellent, a native of Norway and the daughter of Erick and Sarah Ellent, both of whom were natives of that country. It was there that the parents of Mrs. Bardahl received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood until 1855, when they decided to come to America. They located and

resided in Iowa for two years, at the end of which time they moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where the father met his death by being crushed under a falling tree. Mr. and Mrs. Ellent were the parents of three children, Henry, Susie and Annie. They were prominent in their community and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them.

To Hans and Annie Bardahl have been born seven children, Steve, Sarah, John, Ole, Susie, Hannah and Ella. The family are active members of the Synod Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Bardahl is identified with the Republican party and has always taken much interest in the civic life of the township, as well as of the county at large.

HENRY HENDRICKSON.

Henry Hendrickson, postmaster at Hoffman, former township clerk, former justice of the peace, village recorder and member of the board of county commissioners of Grant county and for years active and influential in the civic life of that county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived here all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in the near vicinity of Albert Lea on June 17, 1863, son of Henry and Anna (Andresdatter) Hendrickson, natives of the kingdom of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1861 and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling near Albert Lea, where they lived until about 1868, when they moved with their family to Douglas county, homesteading a quarter section in Moe township, where they lived until 1874, when they moved over into Grant county, settling on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Lien township. There the elder Henry Hendrickson established his home, proceeding to develop his farm and became one of the most substantial farmers in that neighborhood. Upon retiring from the active labors of the farm he made his home with his son, Nels Hendrickson, on a farm about four miles south of his home farm and there he died in 1886. His widow survived until 1907, her death occurring at the home of her son, John Hendrickson, on the old home farm. They were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and took an active part in the affairs of that congregation in the pioneer days in their neighborhood. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom five grew to maturity, John, Anna, Nels, Henry and August.

Henry Hendrickson received his schooling in the early schools in the

neighborhood of his old home in Lien township and when well grown became employed with a hardware and implement firm at Hoffman, being thus engaged for about five years, at the end of which time he took employment with an agricultural-implement company and was thus engaged for four or five years. He then took up construction work and for a year was engaged on work in connection with the construction of the railroad between Hoffman and Kensington, after which he became connected with the flour-mill at Kensington and for eight years worked in that mill. Meanwhile he had been actively identified with the public service in and about Hoffman and in 1909 was appointed postmaster of that village, a position which he ever since has held. For years Mr. Hendrickson had been giving his close attention to local civic affairs and had served his community as township clerk, as justice of the peace, both in Lien township and in Hoffman; had served as village recorder and had also served for a term as a member of the board of county commissioners.

In 1891 Henry Hendrickson was united in marriage to Hannah Knudson, who was born in Solem township, Douglas county, this state, daughter of Peter Knudson, and to this union five children have been born, three of whom, Claire V., Ruth V. and Walter, are living and Walter and Henry are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Hendrickson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all good works in and about their home towns, ever helpful in the work of promoting all causes designed to advance the best interests of the community in which they live.

L. H. PIKOP.

L. H. Pikop is of Norwegian birth and ancestry. He was born in Norway, February 6, 1878, a son of Herbrand and Martha (Rustand) Pikop, both natives of Norway. The family came to Minnesota in 1879 and were among the early settlers in Grant county. The father entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township, put up buildings and made the improvements on that land and there made his home for the rest of his life, his death occurring October 12, 1909. The children in this family are: Ole, L. H., Knute, Gilbert, Gena, Mabel. The father was a member of the United Lutheran church.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Elbow

Lake township and at the Minnesota Normal School and Business College at Minneapolis. After completing his school studies he came to Wendell and was employed as a clerk in the store of P. O. Floan for about a year. In 1902 he, with E. A. Dybdal and S. S. Skinnemoen started the general merchandise business of the Dybdal, Pikop, Skinnemoen Company and the business has been conducted by that firm since.

In 1911 L. H. Pikop and Annetta Dybdal were united in marriage. Mrs. Pikop is a daughter of Asle Dybdal, of Wendell. Martha Harriet is the only child by this marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Pikop are members of the United Lutheran church. He is a Republican.

OLE G. OLSON.

Ole G. Olson, the well-known miller at Alexandria, was born in Sweden on March 9, 1860, a son of Ole Grus Olson and Anna (Erickson) Olson, both natives of Sweden, the former born on May 17, 1832, and the latter in 1835. The Olsons came to America in 1870, coming direct to Minnesota. The elder Olson located a homestead of government land of one hundred and sixty acres, five miles east of Alexandria, in Douglas county. He put up buildings for a residence and farm purposes and improved the land, which was a wild and uncultivated tract at the time of settlement. In time he had a splendid farm and a good home, in which he continued to live until 1912. He was the father of four children, Bertha, Ole G., Anna and William. Mr. Olson was a member of the Swedish Lutheran church and was affiliated with the Republican party.

The junior Ole G. Olson received his education in the public schools of Alexandria township, Douglas county, and worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1885 he married and bought a part of the old homestead and began farming on his own account, working on that farm for about two years. About 1887 he removed to Alexandria and there worked at the carpenter trade until 1892, when he returned to the farm and resumed farm work. In 1903 he sold the farm and returned to Alexandria and took up his residence there. He left his family there while he went to Ogema, Becker county, and there engaged in the flour and feed business, for about two years. In 1905 he disposed of his business in Ogema and for several years thereafter was engaged in the carpenter and contract work at Alexandria. In 1912 he bought an interest in the roller



MR. AND MRS. OLE G. OLSON.

mills of Atwood Brothers & White at Alexandria and has been engaged in that business since that time, the milling plant now being known as that of the Alexandria Milling Company, of which company Mr. Olson is the president and manager.

In 1885 Ole G. Olson was married to Lottie Anderson, a daughter of N. J. Anderson, of Alexandria township, Douglas county, and to that union six children were born, Nellie, Eddie, Sadie, Carl, Chester and Cornelia. The mother of these children died on January 10, 1903, and three years later, in 1906, Mr. Olson married Helen A. Anderson, sister of his deceased wife. To this union one child has been born, Tolcatt. Mr. Olson is a member of the Swedish Baptist church and is at present a member of the board of trustees of the local congregation. He has served as secretary of the congregation for over twenty years. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party.

OLE T. GERJORD.

Ole T. Gerjord, a well-known and substantial farmer of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born at Telemarken on March 18, 1853, son of Toleff Halvorson and Helga Evenson, natives of that same district, who had grown up there, married there and there reared their family. Toleff Halvorson was a farmer and landowner and he and his wife were the parents of twelve children, nine sons and three daughters, who were left orphaned when the subject of this sketch, the youngest of the family, was thirteen years of age. After the death of his parents, Ole Gerjord made his home with his elder sisters and in 1867, when he was fourteen years old, came with his sister, Sigrid, and one of his brothers to America, the trip being made on a sailing vessel which was seven weeks in making the passage. Upon landing they made their way west and settled on Jefferson Prairie, in the neighborhood of Beloit, Wisconsin, where Ole Gerjord began working on farms and where he remained for four or five years, at the end of which time he moved to Trempealeau county, in that same state, and was there engaged at farm labor for twelve years, or until about 1884, about the time of his marriage, when he came over into Minnesota and bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of school land in section 4 of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, where he ever since has made his home. When Mr. Gerjord took possession of his place it was wild prairie land, wholly unimproved,

and his first effort at improvement was the erection of a log house on the site of his present comfortable home. There he established his home and began to break the soil and to bring it under cultivation. As he prospered in his farming operations he gradually added to his holdings until at one time he was the owner of four hundred and forty acres, but he later sold off all but the quarter section on which he continues to make his home and which he has improved by the erection of a comfortable residence and modern farm buildings, long having been regarded as one of the most progressive farmers in his neighborhood. In addition to his general farming Mr. Gerjord has given considerable attention to the raising of high-grade live stock and has done very well. In his political affiliations he is a Republican and for six years has served as school director in his district.

It was in 1884, about the time that he came over into Minnesota, that Ole T. Gerjord was united in marriage to Aslaug Halvorson, who also was born in Norway, a daughter of Ole Halvorson, who also settled in Pomme de Terre township about 1884, and to this union six children have been born, namely: Theodore, who died at the age of four years; Henry, who lives at home and is the owner of a farm in Pomme de Terre township; Hilma, who married Martin Brekke and lives in that same township; Ida, at home, and Oscar and Viola, also at home. The Gerjords are members of the Hjerdal Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works.

KNUTE WAUGH.

Knute Waugh, a successful farmer and a well-known resident of Lien township, Grant county, was born in Fillmore county, this state, on May 19, 1859, the son of Harbum and Tilla Waugh, natives of Norway, the former born in 1806 and the latter in 1812. They received their education in their native land, and there grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to live in the land of their birth until 1855, when they decided to come to America. Upon their arrival in the United States they came to Minnesota and settled in Fillmore county, where Mr. Waugh purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land, for ten dollars an acre. They remained residents of that county until 1878, when they came to Grant county, where Mr. Waugh bought one hundred and seventy-eight acres of land in Lien township at ten dollars an acre. This farm he

developed and improved and here he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred in 1883. His widow died in 1884. They were the parents of nine children, Tilla, Sarah, Gene, Esther, Carrie, Belle, Ole, Harvey and Knute, of whom Sarah, Gene, Esther Ole and Harvey are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Waugh were active members of the Lutheran church and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them. Mr. Waugh always took much interest in local affairs and was ever ready to assist in any worthy cause that would tend to the advancement and the betterment of the township and the county.

Knute Waugh received his education in the public schools of Fillmore county and there grew to manhood on the home farm where as a young man he assisted his father with the work of clearing and developing the place. In 1878 he came to Grant county with his parents, and here settled in section 10, Lien township, and engaged in farming. He has been successful and is now the owner of two hundred and fifty-five acres of excellent land, all of which is under good cultivation and improved with substantial and modern structures. He continued the life of a farmer and stock raiser, until 1915, when he retired to Barrett, where he lived a retired life after a useful and successful career. Mr. Waugh is identified with the Republican party and has long been active in local affairs. Being a man of broad experience and excellent judgment, his worth was recognized by the residents of his township and he served for many years as a member of the board of supervisors and for twenty years was a member of the school board. He was always a firm believer in the best of roads and the best of schools possible. He and his wife are active members of the Lutheran church, have always taken much interest in church work and have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community.

In 1881 Knute Waugh was united in marriage to Sarah Olson, who also was born in Fillmore county, this state, on September 2, 1857, the daughter of Ole and Ingeborg Flatastol, natives of Norway, who came to Minnesota in 1850 and settled in Fillmore county, where Mr. Flatastol engaged in general farming and spent the rest of his life there. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Annie, Sarah, Carrie and Ole. Annie is the wife of F. Felland, a well-known farmer of Fillmore county. Sarah is the wife of the subject of this sketch. Carrie became the wife of Henry Appelen, of Fillmore county. Her husband died some years ago and she now lives in Clark county, South Dakota. Ole is now deceased.

To Knute and Sarah Waugh the following children have been born:

Tilla, Emma, Annie, Tina, Henry, Carl and Selma. Tilla is the wife of Wesley Beach, a prosperous farmer of Lien township. Emma married Carlos Laastuen, of Elbow Lake township. Annie is the wife of John Swenson, who is operating the home farm of Knute Waugh. Tina is the wife of Frank Nelson, a farmer of Lien township. Henry is on the old homestead and Carl and Selma are at home.

NELS M. OTTERSON.

Nels M. Otterson, a well-known and successful farmer, of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Steele county, this state, on March 27, 1875, the son of Amund and Johanna (Gunderson) Otterson.

Amund Otterson was born in Norway on October 16, 1844, the son of Otter and Lispet (Amundsdatter) Nelson, the former born on May 27, 1812, and the latter on June 12, 1817, and both of whom spent all their lives in their native country, where the father was engaged in farming. Amund and Johanna Otterson were educated in the common schools of Norway, and there were married in 1872. In his native country, Mr. Otterson worked on the farm and on the railroad. The same year of his marriage he and his wife came to Minnesota and located at Owantona, where they remained until 1882, when they came to Grant county, where Mr. Otterson purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Elk Lake township and has since made that farm his home. Since he first came here he has added forty acres to his original tract and is now the owner of two hundred acres. He has developed the farm and added all the present substantial improvements. He and his wife are the parents of five children, S. O., Thomas, Nels M., Lauris (deceased) and Annie. Mr. and Mrs. Otterson are members of the Synod Lutheran church, and take much interest in church work. They have long been prominent in the social religious life of the community and have taken keen interest in the moral, as well as in the civic development of the county.

Nels M. Otterson received his education in the public schools of Elk Lake township. He was but seven years of age when his parents settled in that township and there he grew to manhood on the home farm. With the exception of three years during which he was engaged as a clerk in a store at Bartlett, he has devoted his life to farming in Elk Lake township and is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres, which he purchased

in the spring of 1909, he having purchased his Uncle Nels Otterson's old home place. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, is interested in the raising of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs and has met with much success both as a farmer and a stock raiser.

On September 16, 1905, Nels M. Otterson was united in marriage to Julia Peterson, who was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Hans Peterson, an early settler of Lien township, Grant county. To this union no children have been born, but Mr. and Mrs. Otterson have an adopted daughter, Evelyne Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Otterson are active members of the Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community, where they are held in high regard by all who know them. Mr. Otterson has taken a keen interest in the civic life of the township and has served as a member of the township board of supervisors.

OLE OLSON SANNES.

Of the many farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, who have been successful in their work and have become well-known residents of the community, is Ole Olson Sannes, who was born on the farm where he still lives, December 9, 1870, the son of Thor and Ingeborg Olson, who were born in Norway. As a young man the father came to the United States and spent seven years in California, where he was engaged in gold-mining. He later located in Wisconsin, where he was married to Ingeborg Olson, who had come to this country with a brother, Lewis Hauge, about 1864. Thor Olson and wife continued to reside in Wisconsin until 1867, when they came to Minnesota and settled in Elk Lake township, Grant county, where Mr. Olson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, the farm being the one on which Ole Olson Sannes is now living. On that farm the father made his home until the time of his death, which occurred when the son, Ole, was but nine years of age. The other two children of the family were both named Helen, the first-born having died when she was two years of age. The second died at the age of thirty-five years. Thor Olson and wife were members of the Lutheran church and were active in the social and the religious life of the community.

Ole Olson was educated in the old school house, which was the first in the county. The school was of the most primitive kind and the instruction received was in sad contrast to the advanced methods now in use

in the township and the county; yet it was the best that could be afforded at that time, and it required much effort on the part of the settlers at that time to organize and establish that, the first institution of learning in the district. It is in that township that Ole Olson Sannes has since resided, with the exception of one year spent at Kensington, where he was in the restaurant business, and three years in Barrett. With these exceptions, he has devoted his life to farming and is now the owner of the old homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, as well as thirty acres near Barrett, eighty acres near Hoffman and one hundred and sixty acres in Williams county, North Dakota. The latter tract is one that his sister, Helen, homesteaded. The beautiful grove on the home place was planted by Mr. Sannes's mother, with the assistance of her two children, Ole and Helen.

On June 26, 1915, Ole Olson Sannes was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary (Johnson) Reed, daughter of Peter Johnson and to this union one child has been born, a son, John. The family are prominent in the social life of the community and take much interest in all that tends to the betterment and the growth of the township and the county. In 1914 Mr. Sannes made a journey to Norway, where he visited the birthplace of his father and mother and viewed the scenery that was familiar to the childhood lives of his parents.

JOHN C. BETLAND.

John C. Betland, a well-known and successful farmer of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Goodhue county, this state, on March 1, 1866, the son of Christopher P. and Ingre (Lee) Betland, both natives of Norway. Christopher P. Betland came to the United States in 1861 and in that same year enlisted in the Third Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, enlisting from Goodhue county, where he had located on coming to this country. He was a musician and was a member of the regimental band. After a service of three years in the Civil War he returned to Goodhue county and in 1865 was there married to Ingre Lee, who had come to the county with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Betland continued to reside in Goodhue county until 1867, when they came to their homestead in Elk Lake township, Grant county, where Mr. Betland had one hundred and sixty acres that he had entered in 1866. They were the second family to locate in the township, Ole Goodmanson being the first. The farm at that time was all wild land, which was later developed and improved until it became

an ideal place. There Mr. Betland engaged in farming and stock raising for many years, and there he made his home until the time of his death. Mrs. Ingre Betland died when her son John C. was but five years of age. After her death Mr. Betland married Christina Anna Olson, a native of Norway, who still lives on the homestead. To Christopher and Ingre Betland were born three children, John C., Anna and Peter.

John C. Betland received his education in the public school of Grant county, attending in Elk Lake township the first school in the county. The educational advantages of that time were of the most primitive kind, and the greater part of Mr. Betland's education has been obtained since he entered the "school of experience." He grew to manhood on the home place, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the work on the farm, and came to his present farm of one hundred and twelve acres in 1891. This he has developed and improved and here he engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

John C. Betland is a member of the Lutheran church and takes much interest in the services of the church. He is recognized as one of the progressive farmers of the township and is held in high esteem by all who know him. He has always taken much interest in local affairs and has ever been ready to assist in all worthy undertakings having a tendency to add to the growth and the advancement of both the township and the county. He is a believer in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil and his farm is evidence of the methods of a prudent and successful farmer and stockman.

FLETCHER W. POWERS, M. D.

The subject of this sketch was born in Delano, Minnesota, September 25, 1872, a son of Melville J. Powers and Lucinda (Weston) Powers, the former born in Alliance, Ohio, and the latter in Foxcroft, Maine.

In 1854, while a young man, Melville J. Powers came to Minnesota and settled on a farm near Greenwood. In 1890 he removed to Minneapolis, where he lived for several years. A few years before his death he removed to Rockford, Minnesota, where he was living at the time of his death, which occurred in 1910. He was the father of three children: Lula, who married C. T. Walters and is now deceased; Nellie, the wife of E. E. Darrow, of Big Lake, Minnesota, and Fletcher W.

Doctor Powers was educated in the public schools of Rockford and in the high school at St. Paul, Minnesota. After completing his preliminary studies he entered Hamline Medical College and was graduated from that institution in 1902. He came immediately to Barrett, opened an office and began the practice of his profession, and has continued here since. In 1914 he established a hospital at Barrett, known as the Powers Hospital.

In 1892 Dr. Fletcher W. Powers was united in marriage to Hattie B. Lewis, a daughter of William Lewis, of Rockford, Minnesota, and to this union three children have been born, Pearl, Ruth, Esther. In political matters Doctor Powers affiliates with the Republican party and his only fraternal affiliation is with the Masonic order. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Minnesota State Medical Society and the Grant County Medical Society.

As a practitioner Doctor Powers stands high among the profession and he has the confidence of the community to an unusual degree. As a citizen he is a man of wide acquaintance and influence throughout the county. He is a man of pleasing manner, a broad-minded, public-spirited citizen; and yet, withal, a man of modest mien.

THRON C. THRONSON.

One of the most painstaking and systematic farmers of Evansville township, Douglas county, is Thron C. Thronson, who was born at Hudson, St. Croix county, Wisconsin, August 25, 1868, a son of Carl Frederick and Anna (Thorson) Thronson, natives of Norway, who came to this country in 1868, in the fall of that year settling in this part of Minnesota, where Carl Thronson spent the rest of his life and where his widow is still living.

Carl Frederick Thronson was born in Ringerike, Norway, June 17, 1842, and was trained to the trade of a shoemaker. On May 8, 1867, he married Anna Thronson and in the spring of 1868 he and his wife came to the United States and proceeded on out to Wisconsin, whence, in the fall of that year they came on over to this part of Minnesota and spent the winter of 1868-69 in Douglas county. In the spring of 1869 Mr. Thronson located a claim in the neighboring county of Grant and there established his home, remaining there until his retirement from the farm in 1900 and removal to the village of Evansville, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on July 28, 1916. Upon settling in Grant county

THIRON G. THIRNENSON AND FAMILY.



in 1869 Carl Thronson took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Erdahl township, all wild prairie land, with the exception of a good grove. Indians were at that time numerous in this part of the state. Carl Thronson built a log house with a sod roof and dirt floor, and began in typical pioneer fashion. He had no team for several years. In order to get ready cash he worked on the railroad near Morris, also split rails and did shoe repairing. He farmed a few years with oxen. He persevered and prospered and bought more land, including one hundred and sixty-eight acres in Douglas county. He continued on the homestead place in Grant county until 1900, when, as noted above, he retired and moved to Evansville, where his widow is still living. His son, Otto, operates the original homestead in Grant county and his son, Thron C., the subject of this sketch, is in charge of the Douglas county farm. Carl Thronson for many years took an active interest in the affairs of his locality and served as assessor and also as supervisor in Grant county. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and his children were reared in that faith. His family consisted of twelve children, namely: Olive, who died at the age of one year; Thron C., the subject of this sketch; Ingvald, who is farming in Battleview, North Dakota; Christian, who is a traveling salesman for a Minneapolis wholesale shoe house; Otto, who is farming in Grant county; Emil, who is engaged in the farm implement business at Kramer, North Dakota; Alma, the wife of David Davidson, of Battleview, North Dakota; Thora, who is the wife of Sivert A. Satterlee, a farmer of Evansville township; Hans, a wheat buyer at White Earth, North Dakota; Carrie and Anna (twins), who are at home with their mother, and Hjalmer, who is cashier of the First National Bank at Kenmare, North Dakota. A local newspaper in referring to the death of the late Carl Thronson said that Mr. Thronson was a model citizen. He was interested in public questions and wideawake to the importance of each. In referring to the funeral, which was conducted by the Rev. T. A. Sattre, the paper said that "the very large attendance bespoke the esteem in which the deceased was held."

Thron C. Thronson grew up on the home farm in Grant county and there he received his education in the common schools. When twenty-one years of age he bought his father's farm in Evansville township, Douglas county, in partnership with his brother, Ingvald, but not long thereafter purchased his brother's interest. The land was unimproved and he set to work at once bringing it under a good state of cultivation and improvement, erecting a comfortable dwelling and a good barn. There was a grove of about six acres on the place.

On December 7, 1904, Thron C. Thronson was married to Maria Erickson, a native of Norway, from which country she came to the United States with her mother, two brothers and sister, in 1891, locating in Minneapolis, where she remained until her marriage. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thronson, namely: Carlton Everett, born on October 28, 1905; Oswald Arthur, April 30, 1907; Morris Theodore, December 26, 1910, and Sidney Frederick, September 9, 1913.

Mr. Thronson has prospered as a general farmer and has purchased two hundred and seven acres additional land. He handles a good grade of live stock of all kinds common to this locality. He raises all varieties of grain, but wheat is his main crop. Politically, he is a Republican. He has been chairman of the township committee and also served as supervisor for nine years. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church at Erdahl and is a member of the official board of the same. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America lodge. He is secretary of the Erdahl Farmers' Elevator Company.

JENS O. STRAND.

Jens O. Strand, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial pioneer citizens, a well-to-do farmer of Lien township, former supervisor of that township and for many years clerk of his local school district, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was eighteen years of age and of Grant county since 1871, being therefore one of the oldest continuous residents of the county and a witness to and participant in the wonderful development that has marked this region within the past forty years or more. He was born on a farm in the stift of Nordje Trondjhem on July 4, 1850, son of Otto E. and Karen Johanna (Jenson) Strand, natives of that same district, who were among the pioneers in this section of Minnesota, their last days being spent on their homestead farm in Grant county.

Otto E. Strand was born in the year 1821 and grew to manhood on his native farm. After his marriage he continued to make his home there until 1868, when, with his wife and his son, Jens, the subject of this sketch, then eighteen years of age, and his daughter, Henrietta, he came to the United States and proceeded with his family directly to Minnesota, settling in Goodhue county, where he and his son worked on farms until 1871, in which year the family drove over to this part of the state by ox-team, the

trip occupying about three weeks, and settled in Grant county; thus having been among the pioneers of the county, for at that time this part of the country was very sparsely settled, indeed. Upon arriving here Otto Strand and his son homesteaded the south half of section 6 in Lien township and the family there established a new home. For some little time after coming out here the Strands lived in a dug-out which they constructed on the hillside near the center of the homestead tract, and later erected a log house, which stood on the site of the present comfortable farm house on the Strand farm. When the family settled there the settlers were few and far between and the wide prairie presented a desolate aspect. The railroad then was pushing along and the present prosperous village of Herman consisted of a cluster of tents of the railroad construction crew. There was not a single house between the Strand homestead and the line of the railroad and the present county-seat town of Elbow Lake had not even been thought of. Amid the discouragements and hardships of the frontier the Strands began to develop their pioneer farm and it was not long until they began to see their way clear, and in due time came to be recognized as among the most progressive and influential farmers of that part of the county. Mrs. Strand, the pioneer mother, died on the homestead in 1874, about three years after the family had settled there, and the father did not marry again. He was an earnest member of the United Lutheran church and was one of the leaders in the organization of a church of that communion in his community in early days. During the last twelve years of his life he was afflicted with blindness, but otherwise remained a vigorous man, and lived to the great age of ninety-one years and seven days, his death occurring in 1912. Of the three children born to him and his wife there is but the one survivor, the only son, the subject of this sketch. Henrietta, the daughter, who was a young girl when the family came to this country, married Mr. Stumprud and died years ago on a farm near Donnelly. Another daughter, Olesa, died in Norway before she was three years old.

As noted above, Jens O. Strand was eighteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to this country. He had received excellent schooling in his native land and there had been confirmed. During the two years the family remained in Goodhue county after coming to Minnesota he worked on farms there and when the family moved over into Grant county he and his father homesteaded a half section in Lien township, as already set out, and began to create a farm. Five years after settling on that farm he married and, his mother having died two years before, he and his wife

maintained the home of his father until the latter's death. As the elder Strand grew older the general management of the farm more and more fell to the son, who for many years before his father's death was in practical charge of the place, though the affairs of the two always were conducted in partnership. They bought land in partnership and at one time were the owners of five hundred and eighty acres. Mr. Strand has brought the old homestead place up to a high standard of cultivation and improvement and has fine buildings on the place. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and keeps a herd of about fifty Shorthorns. In his political affiliations Mr. Strand is an ardent Prohibitionist and has been so for many years. For the past sixteen years he has served as clerk of his school district and also for some time served as supervisor in his home township.

It was in 1876 that Jens O. Strand was united in marriage to Anna Rolien, also a native of Norway, who came to Minnesota with her parents when a girl, and to this union three children were born, Conrad, a farmer, at home, assisting in the management of the farm; Albert, who died when past twenty-six years of age, and Herman, who also is at home assisting in the operation of the farm. Mr. Strand is a member of the United Lutheran church and is a deacon in the same. His wife died in 1904.

S. S. LANDT.

The subject of this sketch was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, November 1, 1842, a son of Frederick and Anna (Edwards) Landt, both natives of New York. His wife, Margaret A. (Wilber) Landt, was born in Albany, New York, May 18, 1843.

Frederick Landt was a farmer in New York. He removed to Jefferson county, Wisconsin, in 1836, and located on a farm in that county. He lived there until 1849, when he removed to Big Springs, Adams county, Wisconsin, and made this his home until his death, which occurred in January, 1880. His wife died in 1879. They reared ten children.

S. S. Landt was educated in the public schools of New Haven, Adams county, Wisconsin, and worked on the farm during his early years. Later he attended the Bronson Institute at Point Bluff, Wisconsin. On September 14, 1861, Mr. Landt responded to President Lincoln's call for volunteers to aid in the suppression of the rebellion, by enlisting in Company D, Tenth

Wisconsin Infantry, and served for more than three years as a soldier in the Civil War, being discharged in November, 1864. The Tenth Wisconsin Regiment, commanded by Col. A. R. Chapin, Scribner's Brigade, Rousseau's Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps, commanded by General George H. Thomas, participated in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862. Under the same command in the Army of the Cumberland, commanded by General Rosecrans, the regiment participated in the battle of Stone's River, December 31, 1862, losing heavily in killed and wounded. Under the same command the regiment fought in the battle of Chickamauga and in the battle of Missionary Ridge. Under the general command of Sherman the regiment participated in the Atlanta campaign, taking conspicuous part in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, July 27, 1864, several other severe battles of that campaign and around Atlanta. It was with Sherman on the march to the sea; from Savannah on through the Carolinas, until the closing battles of the war. In all these campaigns and engagements Mr. Landt was with his regiment in the full discharge of a soldier's duty.

Returning to his home in Adams county, Wisconsin, after his discharge from the army, Mr. Landt engaged in farming until 1879, when he removed to Packwaukee, Marquette county, Wisconsin, and there engaged in the general mercantile business for about three years. He then returned to his farm and resumed farming operations. In 1886 he was elected treasurer of Adams county, Wisconsin, and served in that office until 1894. In that year he was elected as a representative from Adams and Marquette counties in the Wisconsin Legislature. In July, 1895, he was appointed superintendent of the state public schools for the neglected and dependent children, in which position he served until 1899, and during which time he was chosen a delegate to represent Wisconsin in an international convention of charities and reforms held at Toronto, Canada. In 1899 Mr. Landt removed to Milwaukee and there engaged in the manufacture of sheet-metal utilities. In 1911 he came to Minnesota and engaged in the creamery business at Herman, with his son, Homer A. Landt, in which he has since been engaged. They operate a general creamery and also handle creamery and farm products. In addition to the other official positions mentioned, S. S. Landt was superintendent of the Wisconsin state prison farm during the years 1901-2-3. He has a fine record as a soldier and as an official and his character as a citizen is above reproach.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Landt are: A. B., H. A., Elma, Ernest and Cora. Mr. Landt is a member of the Presbyterian church. He is a Republican and affiliates with the Masonic and Eastern Star lodges.

Herman A. Brandt, was educated in the public schools of Friendship, Adams county, Wisconsin, and later attended the Wisconsin Business College at La Crosse, from which he was graduated. After leaving college he learned the creamery business and in 1911 came to Herman and took charge of the creamery plant here as general manager. In 1908 he was married to Nellie Nolan, daughter of Andrew and Mary A. Nolan, and to this union four children have been born, Theodore, Elizabeth, Leon and Alice. The Catholic church is the family church. H. A. Landt is a Republican and a member of the Yeomen's lodge.

O. H. ANDERSON.

O. H. Anderson, a well-known farmer of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Houston county, this state, in October, 1864, the son of Halvor Anderson and wife, and is a brother of Andrew H. Anderson of Grant county.

Halvor and Tilda (Olson) Anderson, the parents of O. H. Anderson, were natives of Norway and there received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. They continued to live in the land of their birth until 1861, when they decided to come to America, where they could make a home for themselves and their family. Upon their arrival in the United States, they proceeded directly to Iowa, locating in Allamakee county, where they remained for three years, at the end of which time they came to Minnesota, settling in Houston county, where they remained for three years. In 1867 they came to Grant county, making the journey of over three hundred miles with an ox-team, being more than a month on the way. They were accompanied by four other families, all save one of whom settled in Urness township, these families being the first to settle in the township, with the exception of one family, of which Mrs. Anna Goodmanson is the oldest living representative, and their early life here was one of hardships and privations. Here Halvor Anderson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 11, which he later increased to seven hundred and thirteen acres. This farm he developed and improved and here he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death in 1908. His widow is still living, at the age of eighty-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were the parents of eight children. Andrew, Betsy, Olaus, Albert, Anna, Hilda, Hannah and

John. Hilda is the widow of Augustus Satterlund and lives in Grant county. The family became active in the social and civic life of the community and were active members of the Lutheran church when the meetings were held in the school house, for the lack of a church.

O. H. Anderson received his education in the public schools of Elk Lake township and grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting in the development of the same. In 1885 he and his brother, A. H. Anderson, purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 11, where O. H. Anderson ever since has continued to engage in general farming and stock raising. He now owns the place and is recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the county. He has had much to do with the growth and the development of the neighborhood and owing to his wide experience and excellent judgment is often consulted in matters relative to the interests of the township and the county. His life has been an active one and he has accomplished much that is worthy of emulation. He is an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and has long been identified with the social life of the township. He has never married.

EDWARD LIEN.

Edward Lien, a well-known and successful farmer of Lien township, Grant county, was born on the old homestead in section 15, of that township on May 30, 1880, the son of Ole and Margaret (Hustad) Evenson Lien, who were born in Norway, he on December 17, 1835, and she, August 26, 1845. Even and Bergit Lien, the paternal grandparents of Edward Lien, were natives of Norway and they continued to live in the land of their birth until 1861, when they came to America. Upon their arrival in this country they came directly to Minnesota and settled in Goodhue county, where the death of the grandfather occurred in 1865. The grandmother, after the death of her husband, came to Grant county, where she died in 1906, at the age of ninety-two years. They were the parents of Ole Evenson, Ingebor, Berget, Olaug, Rande, Annie and Tollof. Ole Evenson, Olaug and Randie are now deceased.

Ole Evenson Lien received his education in the public schools of Norway and there resided until 1861, when he came to Minnesota with his parents and located in Goodhue county. In 1869 he came to Grant county and located in Lien township, later named in his honor. He was married

in Otter Tail county, on June 25, 1871, to Margaret Hustad, and to this union eleven children were born, namely: Belisa, the wife of Andrew Persen, a well-known farmer of Lien township; Inga, the wife of Iver Stanness, of Lien township; Edward, the subject of this sketch; Hannah, who is at home with her mother; Lena, the wife of Helmer Olson, of Erdahl township; John, who is with his mother in Elbow Lake, and five sons who died, Even, John, John, Eddie, and Eddie.

Ole Evenson Lien and wife were always active in the work of the Lutheran church and were prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Lien was active in the affairs of the township and had much to do with the early civic life of the district. He was a patriotic citizen and gave three years of his life to the services of his adopted country, he having enlisted in Company D, Tenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, August 22, 1862. Upon the close of the war he returned to Minnesota, and became a prosperous and successful farmer. Twelve years before his death, in 1902, he removed to Elbow Lake, where he lived a retired life and where he died on November 2, 1914.

Edward Lien received his early education in the public schools of his home township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the farm work. After completing his work in the local schools he entered Park Region College, where he completed his education. As a young man he engaged in farming and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of good land, it being his father's old homestead. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been successful. He is a member of the Synod Lutheran church, and prominent in the social life of the community.

JAMES R. BORRILL.

James R. Borrill, a well-known and successful farmer of Roseville township, Grant county, was born in Lincolnshire, England, on March 10, 1850, the son of John and Ann (Holmes) Borrill, also natives of Lincolnshire, the former born on March 18, 1818, and the latter, August 6, 1829. There they received their education and were married. They continued to reside in the land of their birth until 1851, John Borrill being engaged as a laborer. On their arrival in the United States, early in the year 1852, they located near White Pigeon, Michigan, where they remained for two

years. They then came to Minnesota and located in Dakota county, where John Borrill obtained government land, as a "squatter," and engaged in farming until 1876, when he sold his interest in the place and removed to Stevens county, where he homesteaded eighty acres. That farm he developed and improved and there engaged in general farming until he retired from the active duties of farm life and moved to Morris, renting his farm. Mr. and Mrs. Borrill continued to reside in Morris, until the time of their death, he dying in November, 1904, and she in 1910, at the age of eighty-one years. They were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and always took much interest in church work. They were the parents of the following children: James R., Mollie, George, John, Ida, Belle, Robert, Freeman, Walter, Nellie, Emma and Robert. Mollie is the widow of Mr. Beach and lives at Seattle, Washington. Robert died in infancy. George was the first white child born in Dakota county, Minnesota, and is now a farmer of Saskatchewan, Canada. John is a farmer of Adams county, North Dakota. Ida is single and lives at Morris. Belle is also single and lives at Seattle, Washington. Robert is a clerk at Seattle, Washington. Freeman Elsworth died in infancy. Walter lives in Minneapolis, where he is a stock broker. Nellie lives in Olympia, Washington, and is a stenographer, and Emma is the wife of Frank Smith and lives in Alberta, Canada.

James R. Borrill received his education in the public schools of Dakota county and there grew to manhood on the home farm. As a young man he went to Stevens county with his father and there he homesteaded eighty acres of land and engaged in farming. The farm at that time was all wild prairie. He erected a small claim shanty and at once began the task of breaking the land. The first year he succeeded in breaking ninety acres on his own place and that of his father. In time he had his farm well developed and erected good and substantial buildings, and there he lived until he was thirty years of age, and then, in 1880, he came to Grant county, where he purchased the homestead right to one hundred and sixty acres in section 30 of Roseville township. There were no buildings on the place at that time, but were later erected by Mr. Borrill. There he resided for two years and was then married and moved to his wife's homestead in the township. He later sold his homestead and has continued to live in section 32, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, paying particular attention to the dairy business, and keeps about twelve milch cows. He has developed the farm and improved the same with good and substantial buildings and

now has one of the most desirable places in the township, where he is recognized as one of the substantial and successful men of the community.

On December 27, 1882, James R. Borrill was united in marriage to Margaret Kerr, who was born in St. Louis and there received her education in the public schools and grew to womanhood. In 1878 she came to Grant county and homesteaded the farm of one hundred and sixty acres where she now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Borrill have no children of their own, but have adopted their nephew, Walter L. Borrill, the son of John Borrill, the brother of Mr. Borrill. Mr. and Mrs. Borrill have long been identified with the interests of the township and the county, having come to the township when the life of the pioneer was a most strenuous one. Here they endured the life of the early settler and submitted to the hardships and privations of the early life on the plains. By hard work and economy, they have today one of the ideal farm homes of the township and are held in the highest regard by all. Since coming to the township in 1880 Mr. Borrill has served as clerk of the school board.

ANDREW ISAKSON.

Of the many well-known and successful farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, who are natives of Norway, it is well to mention Andrew Isakson, who was born on October 19, 1856, the son of Isak and Ellen (Linbo) Swenson, both natives of Norway, who were educated in the public schools, grew to maturity and were married in their native land. Ellen Swenson was born in 1820 and Isak Swenson in 1823. They remained in Norway until 1870, when they decided to come to America. As a young man and until he came to this country, Isak Swenson was engaged in the mines of Norway. On his arrival in the United States he located in Edger-ton, Wisconsin, where he remained until the fall of 1870, when his family joined him and they came to Minnesota, locating in Steele county, where the father engaged in farming, and where he remained the rest of his life. Isak and Ellen Isakson were the parents of the following children: Ellen Maria, Sven, Ole, Maren Helvine, Grete Johane, Ellen Sofie, Syvert Gustav, Bertha Martine, Andrew, Timan, Edward, Trina Ollave and Martinus. Mr. and Mrs. Isakson were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were prominent in the social and religious work of the township.

Andrew Isakson received the greater part of his education in the pub-

lic schools of Norway attending school but very little after coming to the United States, although only fourteen years of age at the time. He assisted his father with the work of developing and cultivating the home farm, remaining a resident of Steele county, Minnesota, until he was twenty-six years old, when he came to Grant county and purchased forty acres of land in Elk Lake township, to which he has since added until he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land in section 19, all of which is under high cultivation and well improved. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has met with a very commendable degree of success.

As a young man, Andrew Isakson was married to Lise Anderson, and to this union the following children have been born: Anne Elvine, Josephine Marie, Edward Isak, Clara Elizabeth, Hannah Matilda, Agnes Karoline, Ida Juliane, Lina Alexandria, Karl Norman and Timan Melvin. The wife and mother died in 1904, being mourned by many friends and neighbors, who admired and loved her for her many noble qualities of womanhood. Mrs. Isakson was a member of the Synod Lutheran church as is Mr. Isakson, and was active in church work, as well as prominent in the social life of the community. For the past four years Mr. Isakson has been a member of the board of trustees of the local society of the church and has had much to do with the success of the organization. He has always taken an active interest in the civic life of the township and has used his influence in the promotion of all worthy causes.

ENGBRET O. HOLT.

Engbret O. Holt, one of the well-known and prominent farmers of Roseville township, Grant county, was born at Kongswinger, Norway, on July 18, 1853, the son of Ole and Maren (Engbretson) Peterson, also natives of Norway, where they spent all their lives, his death occurring in 1863 and hers in 1876. The mother died while the son, Engbret, was serving in the army of his country. The father was a shoemaker. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Inga Maria, Olena, Engbret and Karen. Inga Maria became the wife of Andrew Johnson and resides in Norway. Olena is single and is still a resident of the home country. Karen became the wife of John Brusendatter and after his death married Mr. Peterson and now resides in Chicago. The parents were members of the Lutheran

church and took much interest in church work, prominent in the social and religious life of their home community, where they were held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew them.

Engebret O. Holt received the rudiments of his education in the public schools of Norway, but the greater part of his education he gained through his own efforts. After coming to the United States he devoted much time to the learning of the English language and through his own efforts soon became proficient in the use of the same. He was reared on the farm and after reaching manhood served three years in the Norwegian army and remained a resident of his native country until he was twenty-nine years of age, when, in 1882, he decided to come to America. On his arrival in the United States he came directly to Minnesota and located at Herman. He worked as a farm hand and on the railroad for a number of years and in 1895 he engaged as a farmer in Roseville township, having rented land in that township. He continued as a renter until 1898, when he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 28 of Roseville township, where he has since continued to live. A part of the land has been broken, but the buildings were poor and since that time Mr. Holt has erected good and substantial buildings and developed the rest of the farm. He engaged in general farming and was successful and in time added to his original tract until he is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land in sections 27 and 28. He has continued his work as a general farmer and stock raiser and is recognized as one of the substantial men of the township. In addition to his large interests on the farm, Mr. Holt is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Donnelly and has had much to do with the success of that company. Politically, Mr. Holt is identified with the Republican party and has had much to do with the civic life of the township. For the past seven years he has been overseer of the highways, and in that position has given the best of satisfaction. He and his wife have long been members of the Lutheran church and have taken much interest in church work.

In 1883 Engebret O. Holt was united in marriage to Jergins Olson, who was born in Kongswinger, Norway, and who was but two years of age when she came to the United States with her parents, Ole Olson and wife. She received her education in the public schools of Minnesota and died in the year 1900. To Engebret O. and Jergins (Olson) Holt were born four children, Olaf, Mary, Olivia and Emil. Olaf Peter is at home and works the place with his father. Mary Randina is the wife of Otto Krogen and lives in Morris, Minnesota. Olivia lives in Montana and Emil is at home. Mr. Holt has been for many years active in the general life of the community

and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. He has always taken an active interest in local affairs, and has had much to do with the development of the township and the county. He is a progressive farmer and stockman and is recognized as one of the substantial and successful men of the neighborhood in which he lives. Coming to the United States in early manhood without any financial support and among strangers and amid new conditions, he has made his own way in the world, and by hard work, economy and close application to business has become one of the successful men of his home community. His home farm and the buildings are evidence of his careful care and attention and he is a firm believer in substantial public improvements, good roads and the maintenance of the highest standard of public schools for in these, he believes, rest the future growth and prosperity of the community.

OLE G. JENSTAD.

One of the many prominent and successful farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, is Ole G. Jenstad, who was born in Norway in 1846; the son of Gunder and Anna Jenstad, also natives of Norway, where they were married. It was there that their family was born and reared and there they spent their lives. Gunder Jenstad was a laboring man, industrious and faithful. He and his wife were devout and active members of the Lutheran church and were held in high regard. They were the parents of three children, Ole G., Haugen and Olava, of whom the subject of this sketch is now the only survivor, the others having died in Norway.

Ole G. Jenstad received his education in the public schools of Norway and there grew to manhood and was there married. He continued to live in the land of his nativity until he was thirty-six years of age, when, in 1882, he decided that he would come to America. Upon his arrival in this country, he came directly to Minnesota and located at Evansville, where he remained for several years, at the end of which time he came to Elk Lake township and worked as a farm hand. During his residence at Evansville he was employed by the railroad. In 1894 Mr. Jenstad purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Elk Lake township and has developed and improved the same, having placed all the present substantial buildings on the place.

Ole G. Jenstad was united in marriage in Norway to Mary Halvorsdatter, also a native of Norway, and to that union four children were born,

Gunder, Anna (deceased), Mary and Hilda. The mother of these children is now deceased. She was an active member of the Swedish Lutheran church, in which denomination Mr. Jenstad is still a devout worker. Mr. Jenstad has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has added much to the growth and the development of his home township. He has always been an advocate of good roads and of the best of schools, and has served as a member of the school board and as road boss. He has always had the confidence and the respect of the community and is highly regarded by all who know him.

SIVERT SHERVEY.

Sivert Shervey, a well-known and progressive farmer of Grant county, resident of Lien township and a stockholder in the Barrett Grain Company and in the creamery company at Barrett, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since 1891 and of Grant county since 1893. He was born on a farm on the island of Shervey, in the stift of Trondjhem, November 16, 1868, son of Jergen and Sigrid (Peterson) Shervey, both natives of that isle, who spent all their lives in their native land. Jergen Shervey was a small farmer and a fisherman. His wife died in 1901 and he survived until 1915. They were the parents of three children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Fred, who remained on the home place in Norway, and Anna, who in 1891 married Martin Olson, a fisherman and farmer, and also continues to make her home in her native land.

Reared on the home farm in his native isle, Sivert Shervey received his schooling in the local schools and was raised a fisherman and farmer. In 1891, he then being twenty-three years of age, he came to the United States and proceeding West settled at Iceland, Wisconsin, where he remained six months, at the end of which time he went to Drummond, same state, where he remained for two years, or until 1893, in which year he came into Minnesota and located in Grant county, where he ever since has made his home. For some years after his arrival in Grant county, Mr. Shervey worked as a stone mason and as a thresher, being thus engaged until 1904, the year of his marriage, when he bought a farm of eighty acres in Lien township and there made his home for two years, at the end of which time he moved to the home of his father-in-law, Martin L. Wick, in that same township, and has since been operating both the Wick farm

and his own. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Shervey gives considerable attention to the general business affairs of the community and is a stockholder in the Barrett Grain Company and in the creamery company at the same place. He is a Republican and gives a good citizen's attention to local political affairs, but has never been included in the office-seeking class.

It was on April 7, 1904, that Sivert Shervey was united in marriage to Lena Wick, who was born on the homestead farm in Lien township, on December 19, 1874, daughter of Martin L. and Kari L. (Berge) Wick, natives of Norway and early settlers in Grant county, a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, and to this union seven children have been born, Martin, Caroline, Selmar, William, Adolph, Agnes and Lillian. The Sherveys are members of the Synod Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in the general good works of the community in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

HENRY W. MILLER.

Henry W. Miller, a well-known and successful resident of Roseville township, Grant county, was born in Holstein, Germany, on October 4, 1859, son and only child of Henry and Johanna (Miller) Miller, also natives of Germany. Three days after the birth of his son Henry Miller died. After three years of widowhood the mother, in 1862, married Henry Groth and continued to live in the Fatherland until 1864, when they decided to come to the United States and located at Davenport, Iowa, where the mother died in 1910. Mr. Groth died some time previous to her death. To Mr. and Mrs. Groth were born two children, William, who is a foreman in a box factory at Davenport, and Alvina, who married Julius Slichting and later died at her home in Davenport.

Henry William Miller was but five years of age when his mother and stepfather settled at Davenport, Iowa, and he there lived until he was eleven years of age when he went to a farm, where he lived until 1889, when he engaged in farming in Rock county, Minnesota, where he remained for one year. The next year he went to Martin county, where he engaged in farming until 1901, when he moved to Morrison county and there remained for one year. The next year he came to Grant county and here rented three

hundred and twenty acres of C. B. Kloos, in Macsville township, where he remained for more than eight years, at the end of which time he moved to Roseville township, where he rented land and where he now resides. In 1910 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 13 of Roseville township and is there engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

On January 14, 1889, Henry W. Miller was united in marriage to Bertha Vetter, who also was born in Germany, daughter of Gottfried Vetter, one of the old settlers of Grant county. To this union the following children have been born: Henry, Minnie, Fred, Carlo, Annie and Reinhart, all of whom are now living, and at home. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have long been identified with the social and the religious life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Miller is a Republican and has always taken much interest in the affairs of the township. He is a progressive farmer and stockman and is recognized as one of the substantial men of the township. His life has been an active one and he has accomplished much of value, not only to himself and family, but to the community in general. He believes in the highest grade of public improvements and in the support of good schools.

LEWIS BAKER.

It is a privilege which should be fully appreciated to be able to spend one's life on the old homestead, for about it "associations" cluster which one cannot find elsewhere. Lewis Baker, a young farmer of Douglas county, has had this privilege, which he fully appreciates. He was born on the farm on which he now lives in Orange township, February 20, 1884, a son of John and Rettie (McClerry) Baker, the former of whom was born near Berlin, Germany, and the latter in Indiana. John Baker spent his boyhood in his native land and there attended school. He came to the United States before the Civil War, and after awhile located on a homestead on the wild prairies, on the place where his son Lewis now resides, having thus been one of the earliest pioneers in Douglas county, which was at that time still in the Indian domain, and he had for neighbors the red men. He worked hard and underwent many privations, but succeeded in establishing a comfortable home, homesteading a quarter section in what is now Orange township, which place he has operated together with his sons, Gustav, Levi and Lewis.

under the firm name of John Baker & Sons. They have land holdings of five hundred and nineteen acres, on which they carry on general farming and stock raising on a large scale and also operate a threshing-machine; but dairying and hog raising are their main specialties. They keep large herds of roan Durham cattle. Besides the above-named sons, John Baker and wife have a daughter, Charlotte, who is the youngest, Lewis being the eldest. Levi, the second child, married Emma Schwanke, and has one child, Pearl.

Lewis Baker is unmarried. Politically he is independent. The family attend the Methodist church.

FRANK A. PETERSON.

Frank A. Peterson, one of the successful and well-known farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Washington county, this state, January 16, 1867, the son of John O. and Katherine (Nelson) Peterson, who were born in Sweden and there were married. They continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1865, when they came to Minnesota and located in Washington county, where they remained for three years. Then, in 1868, they came to Grant county, and here they settled on the farm in Lake township, where Frank A. Peterson now lives. There they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which was later developed and improved and there John O. Peterson engaged in general farming and stock raising and made his home until the time of his death some years ago. His widow later moved to Barrett, where she died.

John O. and Katherine Peterson were prominent in the social and the church life of the township and were among the organizers of the Zion Lutheran church. Mr. Peterson assisted in the building of the first school house in the township, which was also the first in the county. He had much to do with the civic life of the township and was for many years a member of the board of supervisors. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, Martha, Christine, Mary, Matilda, John, Peter J., Charles G., Frank A., Martin J., and three who died in infancy. Christine, Matilda, John, Charles G. and Martin are now deceased.

Frank A. Peterson received his education in the district school in Elk Lake township which at the time was the only school in the county. He grew to manhood on the home farm and has continued to live on the old homestead with the exception of three years that he spent in Erdahl township. In early

life he decided that he would be a farmer and has always engaged in that work. His father had erected the barn on the place, which Mr. Peterson has since remodeled and has also built a fine new house, one of the best in the community. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful.

In 1889 Frank A. Peterson was united in marriage to Martha Thune, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Peter and Margaret Thune, and to this union six children have been born, Martin J., Alfred F., Franklin P., Alice, Monroe and Chester. Mr. and Mrs. Thune came from Norway to the United States with their family in 1882 and located in Elk Lake township, where Mr. Thune engaged in farming and later died. His widow is now a resident of Barrett. They were the parents of the following children: Mary, the wife of William Olson, Peter, Georgia, Koren, Martha, Julia and Mathias. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are active members of the Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

OLAF M. HUBRED.

Olaf M. Hubred, one of the prominent and successful farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in that township on October 26, 1874, the son of Anton and Barbara (Olson) Hubred, natives of Norway and Wisconsin, respectively, the former of whom was the son of Ole and Mary (Harsdatter) Anderson, both natives of Norway, where they received their education in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. Mary Anderson died in the land of her nativity, after which Mr. Anderson came to Minnesota and joined his son, Anton, in Grant county, where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring at his son's home. Ole W. Olson, the maternal grandfather, was a native of Norway and came to America in 1871. After arriving in this country, he and his wife came direct to Minnesota and located in Grant county, where they were early pioneers. They located on a farm and soon became identified with the social and civic life of the township and of the county, Mr. Olson becoming the first treasurer of the county in the days before there was a court house, his house being his office. That historic old house is now the home of Olaf M. Hubred. The family became prominent in the early social and religious life of the community and were held in the highest esteem.

Olaf M. Hubred received his education in the public schools of Grant

county and at Moorhead College, attending the latter institution of learning for two terms. Upon completing his schooling he returned to the farm, having decided in early manhood that farming was to be his life work. He later entered the postoffice at Hoffman, where he worked as a clerk for two years, after which he was engaged as a clerk in a store at Hoffman and later owned a hardware store at that place. His store was destroyed by fire and he then began his life's work, that of farming. He now owns the farm that was his Grandfather Olson's homestead and is the possessor of two hundred and thirty acres of excellent land. There he has done much in the way of general development and has placed all the present substantial buildings on the place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising in which he has been quite successful.

On October 2, 1899, Olaf M. Hubred was united in marriage to Bertha J. Rollofson, who was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Matt Rollofson, a native of Norway, who later settled in Grant county, but is now living in North Dakota. To this union the following children have been born: Alvin, Kenneth, Myrtle, Elliott, Gladys, Bernice, Lester and Clinton, all of whom are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Hubred are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Elk Lake township and are active in church work. Mr. Hubred has always taken much interest in local affairs and since 1906 has been clerk of the township. While living in Hoffman he was a member of the village council. He has also been assessor of Elk Lake township and is now clerk of the school board. He is secretary of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Barrett and assisted in the organization of that company. As secretary he looked after the building of the present fine building and had much to do with putting the company on a sound financial basis. Mr. Hubred is a man of ability and executive force and is recognized as one of the leading men of the township.

Anton Hubred, father of Olaf M. Hubred, was born on November 21, 1842, and grew to manhood in his native Norway. In 1864 he came to Minnesota and in 1867 homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22 of Elk Lake township, Grant county. During the three previous years he had lived in Houston county, where he worked as a farm hand. After coming to his homestead he at once began the task of development and improvement and there he made his home for ten years. He later moved to his present home in that same township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and where he has been quite successful, he now being the owner of some two hundred and forty acres of good land, all of which is under high cultivation and well improved. He has lived on his

present home farm for thirty years and has erected excellent buildings and in other ways made valuable and substantial improvements.

In 1871 Anton Hubred was united in marriage to Barbara Marie Olson, who was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Ole W. Olson, a well-known farmer of that state, and to this union five children have been born, Olaf, Richard, William, Eddie and Arthur, all of whom are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Hubred are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, ever prominent in the work of the church, and were among the organizers of the early church in their home township. They have long been prominent in the social and religious work of the community and are held in the highest regard by their neighbors and friends.

For a time Anton Hubred was a partner with his son in the hardware business at Hoffman, but later devoted his life and his energies to the development of his farm. He has always taken much interest in the civic life of the township and has done much toward the progress and the development of the district in which he has lived for so many years, and where he has always taken so prominent a part in public affairs. He has ever held that good public improvements were important assets for the future life of the state and has always taken keen interest in the development of the school system, advocating the best that was possible. When he came to Elk Lake township there was but one school district and the first school house in the county was built there, Mr. Hubred being one of the men who assisted in the building of the first seat of learning.

CHARLES F. RITZSCHKE.

Charles F. Ritzschke, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Macsville township, Grant county, was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on July 18, 1870, son of Carl and Louisa (Hensel) Ritzschke, natives of the kingdom of Saxony, Germany.

Henry Ritzschke and wife, the paternal grandparents of Charles F. Ritzschke, were natives of Germany who came to America and located in Wisconsin, where the wife died some years later. After the death of his wife, the grandfather came to Minnesota and located in Grant county, where he died some years ago. The maternal grandparents were also natives of Germany and died there many years ago. Carl Ritzschke learned the mason and plasterer trade in his native Saxony and worked at the same for many

years. He and his wife continued to live in the Fatherland until 1868, when they came to the United States after a voyage of six weeks on a sailing vessel. Their trip was a sad one, for their only child, born in the native land, died on the way over. Mr. and Mrs. Ritzschke settled at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where they remained for some eight years, Mr. Ritzschke being there engaged in his work as a mason and plasterer. In 1877 they left their home in Wisconsin and came to Minnesota, taking a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 24 of Macsville township, Grant county, the place at that time being all wild prairie and without improvements. A sod house was erected and Mr. Ritzschke began the task of breaking the tough prairie sod and developing his farm. In time he became a prosperous farmer and stock raiser; modern and substantial buildings were erected, and a beautiful grove was planted. He purchased more land and in time became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres. He still resides on the old homestead, but has retired from the activities of farm life, having sold the place to his son, Arthur. He always took much interest in local affairs and was for many years treasurer of the school board. Fraternally, he was a member of the Knights of Pythias and took much interest in the work of the order. His wife died on February 22, 1911.

To Carl and Louisa (Hensel) Ritzschke were born the following children: Charles F., Theodore, Martha, Albert, Clara, Arthur, Walter, Alfred and Edward. Theodore is a well-known farmer and stockman of the township. Martha is the wife of Harry Enwiller and lives at Russell, South Dakota. Albert is a farmer of Grant county. Clara married Henry Ristow and Edward died at the age of twelve years. In the early days Mr. and Mrs. Ritzschke took a prominent part in the social and the religious life of the community in which they lived and were held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew them.

Charles F. Ritzschke received his education in the public schools of Grant county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the clearing and the developing of the place. After reaching manhood he remained with his father until he was twenty-eight years of age, when, in 1898, he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 36 of Macsville township, but never lived on the place, though he developed and farmed it. In 1900 he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his father's farm on the south, and is now engaged in the operation of his own farm and that of his father. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator

Company, as well as in the local market, and is recognized as one of the substantial and successful men of the township and the county. Politically, he is a Republican and has taken much interest in local affairs. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Yeomen. He has never married.

PETER PETERSON.

Of the many successful farmers and stockmen of Elk Lake township, Grant county, is Peter Peterson, who was born in Sweden in 1851, the son of John J. and Helena Peterson, who also were born in Sweden, where they lived until 1868, when they came to Minnesota and located at Litchfield, where they remained for a year, at the end of which time they came to Grant county and homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres in Elk Lake township, which farm John J. Peterson developed and improved until in time he had one of the best and most highly cultivated farms in the county. He took much interest in local affairs and had much to do with the general progress of the township. He was one of the organizers of the Lutheran church in the community and he and his wife took much interest in church work. They were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them.

Peter Peterson received his schooling in the first school that was established in the county, and in the building of which his father assisted. Since coming to the county with his parents, when but a lad, he has continued to live here and has been engaged in farming. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land, all of which is under high cultivation and improved with excellent buildings which he has erected. He planted a fine grove and is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been engaged on his home farm for the past thirty-six years. He has been quite successful and is recognized as among the most thorough and successful farmers in the township. He believes in intensive farming and in the highest degree of cultivation and his buildings are kept in the best of repair and the farm is well looked after.

In 1881 Peter Peterson was united in marriage to Emilia Erickson, who was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Jacob Erickson, who came to Grant county in an early day and located in Lien township, where he lived for some years before he removed to his present home in South Dakota. To this

union seven children have been born, John, Martha, Milma, Alma, Manda, Helen and Florence. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are members of the Lutheran church, have long been identified with the social and the religious life of the community and are held in the highest esteem by their neighbors and their friends. Mr. Peterson has always taken much interest in the civic life of the township and has done much toward the growth and development of the district. He has served as a member of the school board and has taken much interest in the development of the schools of the township, believing that the future of the state depends upon the instruction given the youth of the present generation.

CHRISTOPHER P. BETLAND.

Christopher P. Betland, deceased, one of the earliest pioneers of Grant county, was a native of Norway, where he was educated in the public schools and there grew to manhood. As a young man he decided to come to America, and after his arrival in the United States he came direct to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county, about 1861. He had been in his new home but a short time when he enlisted in the Third Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and became a member of the regimental band. He saw much active service in the Civil War and took part in many of the important battles of that conflict. After having received his honorable discharge from the army he returned to the state of his adoption and in 1866 came to Grant county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Elk Lake township. This farm he developed and improved and here he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred in 1890, and here his widow still resides. The tract at the time Mr. Betland came here was for the most part a wild prairie and required much hard and patient work to develop. He erected buildings and planted a grove and in time had one of the model farms of the township.

Christopher P. Betland was first married to Inga Lee, and to that union three children were born, John C., Peter and Anna, all of whom are living. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Betland married Christina Anna Olson, also a native of Norway, and to this union five children were born, Ole, Edward, Carl, Lena and Matilda. Christopher P. Betland was an active member of the Lutheran church, as is his widow, and the family has long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community. Mr. Betland was a man of much force of character and was recognized as one

of the leading men of the township and the county. He took much interest in the growth of this region and had much to do with its development. He always advocated those measures that had a tendency to assist in the betterment and improvement of the county, such as good roads and the establishment and maintenance of the best of schools. His close association with men and affairs caused him to be often consulted in matters that related to the welfare of the township or the county. His life was an active one and he accomplished much that was praiseworthy, his death being mourned by the entire community.

Christina Anna (Olson) Betland was born in Norway, a daughter of Ole and Christe (Aresdatter) Erickson, natives of Norway, where they continued to live for some years after their marriage, later coming to the United States and locating on a farm in South Dakota, where they died some years ago.

Since the death of his father, Edward C. Betland, who has always lived on the home farm, has built a beautiful new house which has added much to the beauty and value of the place. He takes much pride in the upkeep of the farm, which he is now operating.

AUGUST MOLLMAN.

Among the many well-known and successful farmers of Grant county may be mentioned August Mollman, now a resident of Roseville township. He was born in East Prussia, Germany, on March 17, 1860, the son of William and Amelia (Zalnske) Mollman, also natives of Prussia, who spent all their lives in the land of their birth, where the father was a farmer and a landowner and a man of prominence in his district. The mother died in 1862, and after her death the father married Maria Oust, who is now deceased. The father died in 1889 at the age of sixty-four years. He was a member of the Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. He was the father of ten children, five by each of his wives. To Amelia Mollman the following children were born: Frederick, Wilhelm, Frank, August and Ferdinand. Maria Mollman was the mother of Augusta, Anna, Carl, Otto and Maria. Frederick learned the baker business, at which he worked for a number of years. He is now deceased, having died in the land of his birth. Wilhelm, now deceased, was engaged in farming; Frank is a harness maker and a painter; Ferdinand is a baker; Augusta and Anna are married

and live in the Fatherland. Carl, Otto and Maria are also married, and Carl and Otto are now serving in the German army.

August Mollman received his education in the public schools of Germany and there grew to manhood and was married. He was reared on the home farm and later engaged in agricultural work. He served three years in the German army and continued to live in his native country until 1889, when he and his wife and one son, Frank, came to America. On their arrival in the United States they came direct to Minnesota and Mr. Mollman rented a farm in Grant county for two years, after which he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Macsville township, on which he erected substantial buildings and there made his home for five years. He then sold the farm and moved to Stevens county, where he purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Renville township, and after a residence of five years there he sold the place and returned to Grant county and rented three hundred and twenty acres of land of C. B. Kloos, where he now lives. In addition to the operation of this farm, Mr. Mollman farms his own place of one hundred and sixty acres, which he bought in 1909, in Roseville township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. Mr. Mollman is identified with the Democratic party and has always taken much interest in local affairs. He and his family are active members of the Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community.

In 1887 August Mollman was united in marriage to Theresa Shuffler, daughter of Carl Shuffler and wife, who lived and died in Germany, and to this union eight children were born, Frank, Ernest, Hettie, Ida, Martha, Charlotte, Ella and Florence. Hettie is a clerk in a store at Fessenden, North Dakota, and Ida is the wife of Henry Diede, a resident of North Dakota. The other children are at home with their parents.

As a young man in Germany August Mollman was well taught in the science of farming and early in life decided that he would follow that work. As is the practice with the people of his country, he entered into the work in a systematic way and during his active life in the work he has taken much pride in being a progressive and systematic farmer. He is recognized as one of the substantial and successful men of the township, where he holds the confidence and the respect of the entire community. He is a firm believer in intensive farming, in the most thorough cultivation of the soil and in the keeping of the best of stock. He gives his undivided attention to his farm and his stock and his farm and buildings are kept in a good state of repair and in good order.

OLE GULBRANDSEN.

Ole Gulbrandsen, a well-known and successful farmer and stockman of Roseville township, Grant county, was born at Kongsvinger, in the stift of Aggershuus, amt of Hedemarken, Norway, April 20, 1852, the son of Gulbrand Erickson and Martha Olsdatter, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives in that country. The father was a farmer and a landowner and was prominent in the district. His death occurred in 1882 and his widow died in 1910, at an advanced age. They were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Erick, who is a farmer and lives on the old homestead in the native land; Ella, who lives near the old home; Thorval, who, as a young man, engaged as a sailor, but is now a resident of Chicago; Hans, who is employed by a railroad and lives in Minneapolis; Ingeborg, who married Ole Egen and lives in Minneapolis; Gumerius, who is a farmer in Norway, and Maria, who is the wife of Ole Satter and lives in Stevens county, Minnesota.

Ole Gulbrandsen received his education in the public schools of the land of his birth and grew to manhood on the home farm. He continued to reside in Norway until he was twenty-two years of age when, in 1874, he decided that he would come to America, he being the first of the family to come to the United States. On his arrival in this country he came direct to Minnesota and located in Grant county. For some years he was employed by the Great Northern railway on the section. After leaving the railroad he homesteaded eighty acres of land, two miles from Donnelly, but later gave this up and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 30, Roseville township. This farm at that time was all wild prairie and Mr. Gulbrandsen at once began the task of breaking the soil and developing the farm. He erected substantial buildings and engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was successful. In time he purchased more land and is now the owner of four hundred acres, all in one body. He has planted a fine grove and today has one of the desirable farms of the township.

In 1879 Ole Gulbrandsen was united in marriage to Olena Olson Satter, a native of Norway, born on January 17, 1860, the daughter of Arne Olson and Maren Clementson. In 1870 her parents came to the United States and for two years were residents of Vermont, after which they came to Minnesota and for a time resided at Morris, after which they resided at Donnelly for three years. They then went to Marshall county, where two years

later the father died, after which the mother returned to Donnelly, where she lived with her daughter, Mrs. Frank Wilson, until the time of her death. To Mr. and Mrs. Gulbrandsen have been born nine children, namely: Anton, who lives at home with his parents; Gena, who is the wife of Albert Gilbertson and lives at Morris, Minnesota; Warner, who is a farmer of Roseville township; Mens, who is a resident of Fergus Falls; Annie, who is the wife of Axel Thompson and lives in Marshall county; Miller and Freda, who are at home; Olga, who died at the age of four years, and Hjalmer, who died at the age of eight months.

Ole Gulbrandsen and wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and have always taken interest in church work. They have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the township, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem. Mr. Gulbrandsen is identified with the Republican party and has always taken a keen interest in the civic affairs of the township, where he has had so much to do with development and improvement. His life has been an active one and he has accomplished much that is worthy of emulation. Coming to this country a stranger, amid new conditions and without financial means, he has, by his own efforts, risen to be one of the substantial men of his community and is today recognized as one of the successful and well-to-do residents of the township.

CARL J. NEWHOUSE.

Carl J. Newhouse, one of the well-known young farmers of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in that township on January 5, 1888. the son of Ole K. and Mina Olava (Tilleskjor) Newhouse.

Kittel Newhouse, the paternal grandfather of Carl J. Newhouse, was born in Norway, and there received his education. He came to America and located in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming and made his home until the time of his death. He was a man of much ability, a successful farmer, and was held in high regard by the people of the community in which he lived. Ole K. Newhouse was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, April 2, 1844, and there received his education in the public schools and was reared on the home farm. As a young man he came to Minnesota and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 32, Brandon township, Douglas county, in an early day in the settlement of that community, and on December 20, 1886, was united in marriage to Mina Olava Tilleskjor,

daughter of Johannes Tilleskjoer, a farmer and school teacher, held in high regard by all. He came from Norway to Minnesota, settling first in Goodhue county and later in Douglas county. Some time later Ole K. Newhouse bought another one hundred and sixty acres in the same section from Lars Lee, to which they moved; also other tracts of land near Brandon, and at the time of his death in 1905 was the owner of about four hundred acres. The greater part of the land at the time Mr. Newhouse made his purchase was wild prairie. He planted some fine groves and in time became one of the prominent farmers and stockmen of that section. He took much interest in his Shorthorn cattle and his Poland-China hogs, of which he had many. In connection with his work on the farm, Ole K. Newhouse operated a threshing outfit and had one of the first threshing-machines in the county and was recognized as one of the prominent men of the township.

Carl J. Newhouse received his education in the common schools of Brandon township and at the agricultural college at St. Paul's, from which he was graduated in the year 1911. After completing his schooling he remained on the home farm, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and for the past few years, in connection with his farm work, has been engaged in threshing and has one of the finest large gas tractor outfits in the county.

Carl J. Newhouse was united in marriage to Alma Josephine Johnson, who was born in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, on July 17, 1891, the daughter of John and Anna Johnson, who came from Norway and settled in St. Croix county, where they now reside. To this union one child has been born, Julian Orvel, whose birth occurred on July 5, 1915. They reside on the old homestead with Carl Newhouse's mother, Mina O. Newhouse, where he is engaged in the management of the estate of his mother and younger brothers, Oskar and Clarence, and sister, Kari Oline, who also live with their mother. In 1915 Oscar and Clarence Newhouse started a cement drain-tile factory and building blocks in Brandon. Their factory is equipped with the best machinery on the market for putting out first-class material with which they are furnishing the local trade and shipping out several carloads throughout the season. This factory is a credit to the town of Brandon.

The Newhouse farm home is perhaps one of the finest in the county, and was erected in the last few years. The house, as well as the barn and all outbuildings, is lighted by electricity through a large storage battery and is supplied with every modern convenience, with hot and cold water provided by the air pressure system. The farm is located along the eastern shore of Long Lake and presents a most pleasing view, with its well-kept fields.

beautiful groves and excellent buildings. The same engine that produces the current for charging the storage battery to light the house and other buildings is used to grind feed as well as fanning grain, running the granary elevator and pumping air pressure for the water system and other uses in the operation of the farm. A gas tractor is used to do the plowing of the land, running the threshing machine and doing customary work of road grading and the like. The Newhouses are up-to-date farmers, with the progressive spirit of the times. Intensive farming is practiced, the most modern and improved machinery is used on the farm and high-grade cattle and hogs are kept, the products of the farm being recognized as among the best in the community.

Carl J. Newhouse is recognized as among the substantial and progressive young men of the township. He and his wife are prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are held in high regard by all. Mr. Newhouse has been manager of the Farmers' Society of Equity, a farmers' organization, in Brandon, since its organization in 1913. He takes much interest in the schools of the township and is an advocate of the best possible teachers. He also advocates good roads and believes that much of the future success of the district depends upon the co-operative spirit of the farm community working through an organization for the marketing of farm products as well as the educational and social welfare of the community.

HANS H. SLOTSVE.

Hans H. Slotsve, one of the well-known and successful farmers and stockmen of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Norway on September 17, 1863, the son of Hans H. and Gerta Borolina (Lornsatter) Slotsve, who also were born in Norway, where they received their education in the public schools and where they were married. In 1863 Mr. Slotsve came to the United States and located in LaCrosse county, Wisconsin, but after awhile returned to Norway to join his wife and family and there engaged in farming, at which work he is still engaged. His wife died some years after he returned to his native land. They were the parents of nine children, Elna, August, Hans, Helmer, Marius, Olaf, Ole, Johannes and John.

The junior Hans H. Slotsve received his education in the public schools of Norway and there grew to manhood, remaining there until 1881, when he

came to Minnesota and located at Ashby, where he remained for eighteen years, becoming the owner of two hundred and thirteen acres of excellent land. He later sold the land and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Elk Lake township, where he now lives. He has done much in the way of development and has added many valuable improvements to the farm, having erected the present substantial buildings and planted a part of the grove. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful, being recognized as one of the progressive and substantial men of the township.

In 1891 Hans H. Slotsve was united in marriage to Theolina Tollofson, also born in Norway, who came to the United States with her father, Jens Tollofson, when she was but two years of age. To this union nine children have been born, George, Hilma, Minnie, Helmer, Nora, Oscar, Walter, Ethel and Edna, the last two named of whom are twins. Mr. and Mrs. Slotsve are members of the Lutheran church and are prominent in the social life of the community.

ELMER BOERNER.

Elmer Boerner, one of the well-known young farmers of Roseville township, Grant county, was born on the farm where he now lives on January 9, 1882, the son of William and Elizabeth (Kriedler) Boerner.

Fred and Christena (Boerner) Boerner, the paternal grandparents of Elmer Boerner, were natives of Saxony, Germany. In 1863 they came to Minnesota and located in Wright county, where the grandfather homesteaded eighty acres of land, which he developed and improved and there engaged in farming for fifteen years, at the end of which time he sold the place and in 1878 moved to Grant county and took a tree claim in Roseville township. That farm he also developed and improved and there he lived until the time of his death, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife also died on that farm within three days of the death of her husband, at the age of seventy-nine years. They were active members of the Lutheran church and always took much interest in church work. They were prominent in the early life of the county and were held in the highest esteem by all. They were the parents of the following children: Caroline, who is unmarried and lives in Roseville township; Fred, who died at Buffalo, Minnesota; Sophia, now deceased, who was the wife of William Ziberth; Henry, who died in Roseville town-

ship; William, the father of Elmer Boerner; Albert, a well-known farmer of Roseville township, and Julius, who is retired and lives at Herman.

Samuel G. and Barbara (Leatherman) Kriedler, the maternal grandparents of Elmer Boerner, were born in Pennsylvania and Germany, respectively, and were married in Wright county, Minnesota, where the grandfather located on a farm and continued to live there until March, 1879, when he moved to Grant county and took a tree claim. He later purchased much land in Roseville township and continued to engage in general farming and stock raising for many years, or until his retirement and removal to Herman, where he lived until 1909, when he and his wife moved to Minneapolis, where they now reside, past eighty years of age. They are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and during their younger days took much interest in church work, were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community and were held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew them. They were the parents of the following children: Ellen, who is the wife of Julius Boerner and lives at Herman; George D., now deceased, who was a well-known farmer of Roseville township; Elizabeth, who married William Boerner; Laura, who is the wife of George Steinhelber and lives in Minneapolis; Lou Anna, the wife of Louis Hafton, also of Minneapolis; Minnie, who died at the age of five years; Edith, who died at the age of seven months, and Herman, who is a hardware merchant at Minneapolis.

William and Elizabeth Boerner, the parents of Elmer Boerner, were born in Germany and in Wright county, Minnesota, respectively, he having been born in February, 1849, and she, November 20, 1864. William Boerner received the greater part of his schooling in the public schools of his native land, where he resided until he was fourteen years of age, when he came to America with his parents. On their arrival in the United States they came direct to Minnesota and settled in Wright county, where William grew to manhood on the home farm, and where as a lad he assisted with the farm work. He remained at home until 1876, when he came to Grant county, where by pre-emption and tree claim he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 18 of Roseville township, the tract at that time being all wild prairie. A small frame house was erected and Mr. Boerner began the task of breaking and improving his farm. The buildings that he erected at that time are still standing and in use on the farm. He became successful in general farming and stock raising, and later purchased an additional one hundred and sixty acres of land and there he lived until the time of his death in 1909.

William Boerner was twice married. By his first marriage he was the

father of one child, a daughter, Huldah, who is now married and lives in the West. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Boerner was united in marriage, in 1881, to Elizabeth Kriedler, and to that union three children were born, Elmer, Effie, who is the wife of John Sulinska and lives in Grant county, and Ellis, who lives with his mother in Herman. Mr. Boerner took much interest in the growth and the development of the township, was active in the civic life of the district and had much to do with the substantial development of the community. He was a man of ability and his advice was often sought in matters that pertained to the affairs of the community. He was a progressive farmer and believed in intensive farming and in the thorough cultivation of the soil and was recognized as one of the substantial and prominent men of the township. After the death of William Boerner, his widow lived for two years on the home farm and then on January 26, 1911, she was united in marriage to William Mengel and since that time has lived in Herman.

Elmer Boerner received his education in the public schools and was reared on the home farm. Being the eldest son, he remained at home and assisted his father with the farm work. As his father's health failed him, Elmer remained on the farm and managed the place for him until his death. Since that time he has continued to operate the place and is the owner of eighty acres. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

HANS HUBRED.

The late Hans Hubred was for many years an honored and useful citizen of Douglas county, and his name is deserving of preservation on the pages of local history. He was born in Norway in 1844, and in that country he grew to manhood and attended the common schools. When about twenty-eight years old he emigrated to the United States, locating in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he spent about four years; then moved to Douglas county and settled in section 19 of Evansville township. He prospered through close application and good management and became owner of over five hundred acres of valuable and well-improved land, all in one body, and there he devoted the rest of his life to general farming.

On November 10, 1877, Hans Hubred was married to Helmina Paulson, a native of Norway, but who, when five years old, was brought to Minnesota by her parents, Paul and Pernella Paulson, who were early settlers

in Douglas county, where Mrs. Hubred grew to womanhood and attended school. Four children were born to the subject of this memoir and wife, namely: Oliver, who has remained on the homestead; Mina, who is the widow of Louis Fedje, and lives on her farm in Evansville township; Peter, deceased, and Petra, who lives at home with her mother, who has remained on the home place. The death of Hans Hubred occurred on October 24, 1905, he then being sixty-one years of age.

Oliver Hubred grew up on the home farm and received his education in the public schools of his district. He has had charge of the homestead since the death of his father, and has been very successful as a general farmer, keeping the land in good cultivation and improvement. He built a substantial barn in 1910, also a modern granary. He operates three hundred and twenty acres of the estate. The dwelling has been kept in good repair and is pleasantly situated.

Oliver Hubred is a Republican. He and the family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

MRS. ELNA LARSON.

Mrs. Elna Larson, of Roseville township, Grant county, was born in Skane, Sweden, on January 16, 1851, the daughter of Nils and Hannah (Paulson) Sanders, also natives of that country, who spent all their lives there. The father was a farmer and landowner and was prominent in local politics. The family were active members of the Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. The parents were prominent in the social and religious life of the community and were held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew them. They were the parents of six children, those besides the subject of this sketch being as follow: Andrew, who engaged in farming and died in his native land while yet a young man; Gerste, who married Jonas Klien and lives in Roseville township, Grant county; Paul, who also came to Minnesota and settled in Grant county, where he engaged in farming until his death some years ago; Johanna, who died as a girl in Sweden, and Olof, who died in Roseville township.

Elna Sanders received her education in the public schools of her native country and there grew to womanhood and married Mons Nelson. They continued to live in the land of their birth until 1880, when they came to the United States, locating at Manistee, Michigan, where they remained for

nearly two years, at the end of which time they came to Minnesota and Mr. Nelson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22 of Roseville township, Grant county. Soon after establishing his new home, Mr. Nelson died and his widow continued her residence on the homestead, which she later proved up. The tract at that time was wild prairie, unbroken and without improvements. Those were trying times for the mother with her two children to care for, on the plains of a new country, among strangers and amid new conditions, but she demonstrated her bravery and her ability to do things. She broke the tough prairie sod, planted her grain and reaped her harvests. She erected the buildings on the place and planted her grove, and her farm in time became one of the desirable ones of the township. Her life was a hard one, yet she succeeded where many a less brave woman would have failed.

In 1887 Mrs. Elna Nelson was united in marriage to Jonas Larson, a native of Sweden, where he also had received his education in the public schools and there grew to manhood. He remained a resident of his native country until 1880, when he came to Minnesota and located in Grant county. By her first marriage Mrs. Larson is the mother of two children, Alfred, born on July 25, 1876, and Anton, June 18, 1878. By her second marriage she has one son, Albert, born on June 24, 1888. For some years Anton and Albert have been operating the home place, yet each owns one hundred and sixty acres. Alfred is a prosperous farmer in Roseville township.

HON. LOUIS O. FOSS.

Hon. Louis O. Foss, former judge of probate for Grant county, former representative from this district to the Minnesota state Legislature, president of the Farmers Elevator Company at Wendell, owner of six hundred acres of land in Stony Brook township and for years one of the most active factors in the development of his home community, is a native of the Badger state, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1878 and has consequently been a witness to and a participant in the development of this part of the state since pioneer days. He was born at Ixonia, Jefferson county, Wisconsin, December 13, 1854, son of Ole O. and Joran (Buserud) Foss, natives of the kingdom of Norway, both born in Numedal, the former in 1816 and the latter in 1814. Ole O. Foss was a farmer and had served for ten years during the days of his young manhood in the Norwegian army.

In 1852 he and his wife and the four children who had been born to them in the old country came to the United States, the sailing vessel on which they came over being nine weeks in making the passage. Upon arriving in this country they proceeded West and settled in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, and there Ole O. Foss resumed his life of a farmer amid entirely new conditions. About four years later, in 1856, he moved with his family to Portage county, same state, where he bought a small farm and there he and his wife made their home until their retirement from the active labors of the farm in 1903, when they sold the farm and came over into Minnesota, spending their last days in the household of their son, Louis O. Foss, in Grant county. Both died in 1911 and are buried in the Aastad cemetery. They were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were five of these children, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the last-born, the others being as follow: Mary, widow of Halvor H. Bruna, of Portage county, Wisconsin; Jane, widow of Hans Johnson, of Cedar Falls, Iowa; Anna, who married Knut Lien and lives at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and Ole, who died at sea during infancy, when the family was coming to this country.

Louis O. Foss was not yet two years old when his parents moved from Jefferson county to Portage county, Wisconsin, and in the latter county he was reared on a farm, receiving his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood. During his young manhood he clerked in a store for a year and for five years worked in the pineries of his native state. In 1878 Mr. Foss came over to this part of Minnesota and homesteaded a tract of eighty acres in Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, on which he erected a small frame house and began to develop the tract. Four years later, in 1882, he married and about 1885 sold his homestead place and bought a quarter of a section in Stony Brook township, where he ever since has made his home and where he and his family are very pleasantly situated, his present fine residence there having been erected in 1902. As Mr. Foss's farming operations prospered he added to his holdings until now he is the owner of six hundred acres of land in Grant county. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Wendell and was elected first president of that concern, a position which he still occupies. Mr. Foss is a Republican and from the beginning of his residence in Grant county has ever taken a close personal interest in the civic affairs of this section of the state. For eight years he served as judge of probate for Grant county and for three terms as a member of the Legislature, representing the fifty-seventh legislative district of the state, comprising the counties of Grant, Big Stone, Tra-

verse and Stevens. During these years Mr. Foss found time for extensive self-cultivation, becoming a wide reader and acquiring a thorough reading knowledge of both German and French. Mr. Foss has one of the best equipped private libraries in this part of the state, containing more than one thousand volumes of well-selected literature.

It was on December 14, 1882, that Louis O. Foss was united in marriage to Nicolina Bratlien, who was born in Norway, daughter of Nels N. Bratlien and wife, early settlers in this part of Minnesota, who came here in 1872, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Olaf Nicolai, who lives on a farm in Stony Brook township; Gustave Justinian, a farmer in that same township; Clara Elvira, who married Joseph Harstad and also lives in Stony Brook township, and Roydon Vincent, who is at home. The Fosses are members of the United Lutheran church and Mr. Foss for nine years served as a member of the board of trustees of his local congregation.

ELI WEBSTER BROWN.

Eli Webster Brown, one of Grant county's best-known farmers and dairymen, a director of the Wendell creamery and the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Lawrence township, is a native of the great Empire state, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was four years old, his parents at that time having come into the Northwest and settled in the neighboring county of Otter Tail. He was born on a farm in St. Lawrence county, New York, May 21, 1867, son of Ira James and Rhoda (Dewey) Brown, both natives of that same county, who later came to Minnesota and who are now living retired in the city of Fergus Falls.

Ira James Brown was born in 1843, son of Harvey Brown and wife, well-to-do farming people of St. Lawrence county, New York, both members of old families there, who spent all their lives in their native county. He grew to manhood on the home farm and upon the outbreak of the Civil War enlisted for service in his home regiment and went to the front, two years later being taken captive by the enemy and for some time was kept a prisoner at the infamous Andersonville prison, his health being so undermined by the dreadful treatment given prisoners there that he was incapacitated for further service; but after his exchange did recover sufficiently to be mustered out with his regiment at the close of the war. Shortly after the completion of his military service Mr. Brown married Rhoda Dewey, who

also was born in St. Lawrence county in 1843, daughter of William H. and Harriet (Blanchard) Dewey, also natives of that same county, who in 1872 came to Minnesota, following the arrival here of Mr. and Mrs. Brown. William H. Dewey bought a homestead right in Western township, Otter Tail county, established his home there and there he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. It was in 1871 that Ira J. Brown and his family left New York and came out to this part of Minnesota, this then being regarded as the western frontier, the trip being made from Crow Wing, then the nearest point on the railroad, over into Otter Tail county by wagon. Mr. Brown homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Western township, erected a shanty upon the same and began to develop a farm out of the virgin prairie soil. He later bought a tract of eighty acres over in Lawrence township, in the neighboring county of Grant, but continued to make his home on his homestead farm until his retirement from the active labors of the farm in 1904, when he and his wife moved to Fergus Falls, where they are now living. For many years Mr. Brown served as justice of the peace in and for his home township and was regarded as one of the most active and influential pioneers of that section. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and their children were reared in that faith. There were five of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: Mattie, who married Elmer Johnson and now lives in Tacoma, Washington; May, who married Winfield Toombs and lives at Glenwood, this state; Harvey, who lives on the old Homestead in Otter Tail county, and Jeanette, who married Herman Berry and lives at Glenwood.

As noted above, Eli W. Brown was only about four years old when his parents came to Minnesota from New York and he grew to manhood on the homestead farm in Otter Tail county, receiving his schooling in the primitive local schools of that neighborhood and in the schools at Fergus Falls. He remained at home, a valued assistant to his father in the work of developing the home farm and also worked at the carpenter's trade until he was twenty-one years of age and then he bought the eighty-acre farm his father previously had bought over in Lawrence township, Grant county, and proceeded to develop the same; after his marriage, in the summer of 1891, establishing his home there and has ever since made that his place of residence, he and his family being very pleasantly and comfortably situated. Mr. Brown is a carpenter and upon taking over the farm on which he now resides he built his own buildings. These were destroyed by fire in 1913 and he rebuilt, better than before, now having a fine house, a good barn, a silo and other

improvements in keeping with the same. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Brown has given much attention to the raising of dairy stock, in which he has been quite successful, and as a director of the Wendell creamery has done much to develop the dairy industry in that part of the county. He is a Republican and has been a member of the school board in his district for a number of years.

It was on June 10, 1891, that Eli W. Brown was united in marriage to M. Sue Godward, who was born in Ohio, daughter of the Rev. James Godward and wife, who came to this section of Minnesota in 1888, locating in the village of Evansville, later moving to Elbow Lake, where they spent their last days, Mr. Godward dying there in 1913, and to this union four children have been born, Donald, Ralph, Elizabeth and Ira James. The Browns are members of the Presbyterian church and Mr. Brown is a member of the board of trustees of the same, he and his wife ever helpful in promoting all local good works.

EZRA E. McCREA.

Ezra E. McCrea, one of the well-known and highly respected citizens of Alexandria and editor and proprietor of the *Alexandria Post News*, was born at Merrickville, Ontario, Canada, on January 4, 1864, the son of Alexander W. and Cynthia (Whitney) McCrea.

Alexander McCrea was a native of Merrickville, Canada, and his wife was born near Brockville, Canada. They grew up in Canada, were educated in the public schools of their native land and were there married. In 1878 Alexander McCrea left his native country and came to the United States, locating in North Dakota, where he founded the town of Drayton, on the Red river, there becoming a prominent and successful man and one of the leaders in his community. He and his wife were the parents of four children, George A., Ezra E., Anna and Almeron. The family were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and took an active interest in church work, prominent in the social, civic and religious life of their home town.

Ezra E. McCrea received his education in the public schools and in Hamline University, where he received the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and of Master of Arts. He later received the degree of Bachelor of Law at the University of Minnesota and did post-graduate work in the Columbia University, New York City. Upon completing his schooling he engaged in newspaper work, to which he has devoted the greater part of his life, having

been engaged, for the most part, on the metropolitan papers. During the eight years from 1894 to 1902 he was assistant city clerk of St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1903 he purchased the *Alexandria Post News* and has been the editor and publisher of same ever since.

In 1893 Ezra E. McCrea was married to Winifred E. Hoyt, of Red Wing, Minnesota, and to this union two children have been born, Frederick H. and Alexander W. The family are members of the Congregational church, in the affairs of which they are actively interested, Mr. McCrea being the superintendent of the Sunday school, where he is recognized as an efficient leader and teacher. He is also a member of the library board of the city of Alexandria and has rendered valuable assistance to that organization. Fraternally, he is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Ezra E. McCrea has led an active and useful life and his various positions with the newspapers of the country have given him a wide field of influence. As editor and publisher of the *Alexandria Post News* his influence for good has long been recognized in the county and state. He is progressive in his methods and because of his training, he takes a broad view of life. He has done much to advance the interests of his community in a social, financial and religious way. He has the confidence of the people and is held in the highest regard by all who know him. Alexandria and Douglas county owe much to Mr. McCrea for the valuable work he is doing along the lines of civic, educational and moral development.

WILLIAM E. LANDEENE.

The subject of this sketch is of Swedish birth and ancestry, a nationality that comprises a considerable part of the enterprising, substantial citizenship of Minnesota.

William E. Landeene was born in Sweden on May 20, 1868. His father was Olaf Landeene, born in Sweden, July 30, 1842; his mother was Cecelia Landeene, who was born in Sweden, August 1, 1838. They came to America in the spring of 1869 and came direct to Minnesota. The prime object Mr. Landeene had in coming to America was that he might secure cheap land to engage in farming. He found the object of his search in Douglas county and located on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, near Millerville. He put up buildings and made improvements on this place and established a home for himself and family, and this was their home for

the rest of their active lives. The father died on February 4, 1911, and the mother died on June 3, 1916. In coming to this place they drove through from St. Cloud by ox-team and landed here with very little capital and a small assortment of worldly possessions of any kind. By thrift and economy Mr. Landeene became the owner of quite a large body of land, owning at one time about one-half section of fine farming land in Douglas county. The children in this family were: William E., O. W., F. G., N. E. and Hulda A. The family church was the Swedish Lutheran, and the political faith of Mr. Landeene was Republican.

W. E. Landeene was educated in the public schools of Douglas county and in the high school at Alexandria, from which he was graduated. As a young man he was employed as a bookkeeper in the Douglas County Bank. At the time of the organization of the First National Bank of Elbow Lake, September 1, 1891, Mr. Landeene took a position in that bank and in 1894 was made assistant cashier. A year later he was promoted to the position of cashier, which position he held until 1911, when he was elected president of the bank, the position he now holds. He is also secretary and manager of the Grant County Telephone Company.

In 1896 W. E. Landeene and Pearl Barker were united in marriage. To this union six children have been born, Mae, Sidney, Byron, Lorna, Howard and William. Mr. and Mrs. Landeene are members of the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. Landeene is an elder. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party. His fraternal association is with the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen, and the Yeomen.

HANS SIMONSON.

Hans Simonson, a hard-working general farmer and stock raiser of Solem township, Douglas county, was born in Langa Skane, Harjedalen, Sweden, July 1, 1855, a son of Simon and Karen (Zakres) Ingebrightson, both natives of Sweden, in which country they lived and died, the father devoting his life to farming. Their family consisted of the following children: Ingebright, Emmerenta, Zakres, Anna, Sten, Simon, Hans, Carrie and Per.

Hans Simonson grew up in Sweden and there attended the public schools. He came to Minnesota in 1879, locating at once in Solem township, Grant county, where he has since made his home. He entered his present farm of

one hundred and sixty acres as a homestead, and the same was under dispute for years, he living on the place a number of years before establishing his rightful claim to it. He has now three hundred and twenty acres of well-improved and valuable land, all in one farm, on which he is carrying on mixed farming successfully. He has erected a good group of buildings and set out a nice grove.

On July 1, 1880, Hans Simonson was married to Karen Peterslatter, who was born on December 28, 1857, at Valmasen, Harjidalen, Sweden, from which country she came alone to the United States in 1880, and they were married immediately upon their arrival. To that union two sons have been born, Simon, born on October 1, 1881, who married, October 28, 1903, Dagny Danielson and has one child, a son, Roy, and Carl, born on December 5, 1890, who married Ruth Johnson on June 24, 1916. Mr. Simonson is a Republican and served for several years as a member of the local school board. He has been a member of the Vennersburg Lutheran church since 1880 and for many years served the same as a member of the board of trustees. The Simonsons have a very pleasant home and take a proper part in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

WILLIAM R. HAND, M. D.

A widely known and successful physician of Grant county is Dr. William R. Hand, of Elbow Lake, a man who has worked persistently and conscientiously to advance himself in his chosen calling, and is therefore deserving of the success he has achieved.

Doctor Hand was born in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, September 14, 1856, a son of Nathan G. and Leah Hand. The paternal grandparents were Robert and Susan (Longstreet) Hand, the former a native of Germantown, Pennsylvania, but of English extraction, a son of an early emigrant, one of three brothers who settled on Long Island; the other two brothers having been killed by the pirate, Captain Kidd, and his crew, after which the survivor removed to Germantown, Pennsylvania, where he spent the rest of his days. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was with Washington at Valley Forge. Robert Hand, the grandfather, was a farmer and lumberman in northeastern Pennsylvania, owning a farm and a saw-mill, operating both many years. His death occurred in Wayne county, that state, about 1850. His wife, Susan Longstreet, was a native of Germany. They were parents

of seven children, namely: Charles, Nathan, William, David, Melissa, Elizabeth and Sarah. David Hand, the only survivor, makes his home in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Nathan G. Hand, father of Doctor Hand, was a resident of Wayne county, Pennsylvania. His wife resided near Milford, some twenty miles away, before her marriage. He took up the lumber business, continuing to operate his father's mill until about 1861, when he moved to Table Rock, Pawnee county, Nebraska, but after spending one summer there returned to Pennsylvania and enlisted in the One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Civil War, under General George B. McClellan, under whom he served in the Peninsular campaign. Disease overtook him and he died in an army hospital in Philadelphia early in 1862. His widow never remarried and died at Scranton, Pennsylvania, about 1891. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They were parents of four children, those besides the subject of this sketch being as follows: Susie, who died when a child; Annie, who married John L. Lee, who died after she moved to Louisiana, where her death occurred, and Alida, who is married and lives at Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania.

Dr. William R. Hand received his early education in the Hawley high school in his native state, and later entered the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, from which institution he was graduated in 1877, after which he went to Scrub Grass, Pennsylvania, an oil town in the northeastern part of the state, where he spent one year; then spent two years at Bradford and then practiced two years in partnership with an uncle in Scranton. On February 19, 1883, he came to Minnesota and located in the village of Herman, in Grant county, and thus became one of the pioneer physicians of this section of the state. He remained there continuously, with the exception of a year when he took post-graduate work in New York City, until 1897, when he located at Elbow Lake, where he has since resided, being now the oldest general practitioner in Grant county, over which he is well known. Doctor Hand has always enjoyed a large and satisfactory practice. He is also a registered pharmacist and owned and operated a drug store in Herman. Upon moving to Elbow Lake he established a drug store there, which his son now conducts.

Doctor Hand is a member of the American Medical Association, of the Minnesota Medical Society, and of the Park Region Medical Society. He is the local surgeon for the Soo Railway and has been for the past five years and has also been the surgeon for the Great Northern Railway for several years. He belongs to the American Association of Railroad Surgeons and

to the Association of Soo Railroad Surgeons. He is independent in politics. He has served as coroner of Grant county, also as county health officer. Fraternally, he is a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight Templar.

On April 2, 1884, Dr. W. R. Hand was married to Jennie E. Hugunin, who was born in Minnesota, a daughter of David R. and Sarah E. Hugunin, of Kasota, and to the Doctor and his wife two children have been born, namely, Lillian Mae, who is the wife of George L. Isensee and lives in Courtney, North Dakota, and Robert Donington Hand, a registered pharmacist and is conducting his father's drug store in Elbow Lake.

ADOLPH BORGEX.

Adolph Borgen, a native of Denmark, and one of the successful farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born on July 18, 1856, the son of Thomas and Johanna (Christianson) Borgen, also natives of Denmark, where they received their education and were married. As a young man, Thomas Borgen learned the blacksmith trade, at which he worked for a number of years in his native country, where he continued to reside until 1866, when he and his wife came to the United States, locating at Chicago, Illinois, where they resided for some time, moving thence to Milwaukee, where they resided until 1870, when they came to Minnesota and located in Douglas county. Thomas Borgen homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Evansville township, which he later developed and improved, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years. He later retired from the activities of the farm and moved to Evansville, where he lived for twenty years before his death. He always took much interest in the affairs of the community and he and his wife were prominent in the social and the religious life of the township. They were the parents of five children, Adolph, Kate, John, August and Peter. As a farmer and stockman Thomas Borgen was successful and was recognized as one of the substantial men of the county, respected for his many sterling qualities of true manhood.

Adolph Borgen received his education in the schools of Milwaukee and in Evansville township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he engaged in farming with his father. In 1882 he located on his present farm in Elk Lake township, and there has since been engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has developed his farm and improved the same with all the present substantial buildings. He is progressive

in his methods and is a strong advocate of intensive farming and the most thorough cultivation of the soil. He keeps good stock and has a fine herd of some of the best in the community.

In 1881, Adolph Borgen was united in marriage to Anna Elvrum and to this union seven children have been born, Thomas P., Johanna C., Alma M., Katie E., Arnold L., Milo L. and Eva B. Mr. and Mrs. Borgen are prominent in the social life of the community and are held in high regard by all who know them. Mr. Borgen has always taken an active interest in the civic life of the township and has served as a member of the school board for several years, as well as on the township board of supervisors and as assessor. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and has had much to do with the success of the local lodge of that order. He is active in all that he engages in, and has met with success.

MONS RONHOVDE.

Among the many native Norwegian farmers of Lien township, Grant county, who have become well known and successful, is Mons Ronhovde, who was born on October 6, 1861, the son of Andrew and Marie Ronhovde, natives of Norway, where the father died in 1909, at the age of seventy-three years, and where the mother is still living, at the age of ninety years.

Mons Ronhovde received his education in the schools of his native country and there continued to live until he was twenty-two years of age, when, in 1883, he came to Minnesota and for three years thereafter worked as a farm hand. In 1886 he purchased eighty acres of land in Lien township, Grant county, and is now the owner of one hundred and forty acres. With much hard work and close application Mr. Ronhovde has brought his place up to a high agricultural standard. He has good and substantial buildings and a beautiful grove. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. Mr. Ronhovde is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He has for many years served as a member of the school board and for eight years was supervisor of the township. He is progressive and his work, both on the school board and as supervisor, was of much value to the substantial development of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Ronhovde are members of the Synod Lutheran church, in which they are active workers.

In 1888 Mons Ronhovde was united in marriage to Anna Blixrud,

daughter of Jens Blixrud, an early settler of Lien township, now deceased, to that union nine children have been born, Josie, Anton, Inga, Ivan, May, Raymond, Andreas, Lorna and Dortha. The mother of these children died on February 4, 1914. The family have long been prominent in the social and the civic life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them.

Jens N. Blixrud was born in Halkedalen, Norway, on March 13, 1841, the son of Nels and Cjestina Blixrud, the latter of whom died in Norway. After the death of the mother and wife, the father, with his son, Jens N., came in 1864 to Minnesota and settled in Houston county, where the father spent his last days with his daughter, Helena Dolli. Nels and Cjestina Blixrud were the parents of six children, all of whom came to America. Martin died in Wilmington, Houston county. Helena became the wife of Ingvald Dolli, and died in Houston county some years ago. Soren died in southern Wisconsin; Carl died in North Dakota and Andrena is the widow of Ingvald Tvedt and lives in Wilmington, Minnesota. Jens N. Blixrud served five years in the army before coming to America with his father in 1864, and after locating in Houston county he worked for some years as a farm hand. In 1870, two years after his marriage, he came to Grant county with his wife and small daughter, driving over with an ox team, being four weeks on the way. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 26 of Lien township, and during their first winter here the little family lived in a sod house; but the next year Mr. Blixrud obtained logs from Elk Lake township and built a log house, one of the few houses on that part of the township, for the neighbors then were few and far apart. The family suffered many of the hardships of the early settlers, but were determined to have a home in the new land. The tough prairie sod was broken, the land put under cultivation, and in time good and substantial buildings were erected and a large grove and orchard were planted, and there Jens Blixrud engaged in general farming and was successful, later adding eighty acres of land to his homestead farm. He took much interest in local affairs and served as a member of the school board and was an active member of the Lutheran church. His death occurred on April 6, 1909.

On November 20, 1868, Jens N. Blixrud was united in marriage to Joran Lee, a native of Norway, where she was born on January 2, 1846, the daughter of Knut and Berit (Johnson Lommen) Lee, who came to America in 1857, making the voyage in a sailing vessel, being four weeks on the water. On their arrival in the United States they came direct to Minnesota and settled at Spring Grove, Houston county, where the husband and father died,

after which the widow came to Grant county, where she made her home with her daughter Joran, and here she died in 1894. They were the parents of the following children: Joran, the wife of Jens N. Blixrud; Anna, who married Even Bjerke and lives in Elk Lake township; John, now deceased, who was a farmer of Lien township, and Ole, who lives in Valley City, North Dakota.

To Jens N. and Joran Blixrud were born the following children: Anna, Bertha, Nellie, Johanna, Conrad, John and Marie. Anna, who was the wife of Mons Ronhovde, died in Lien township; Bertha married N. J. Endreson and lives in Roseville township; Nellie is deceased; Johanna married Iver Ronhovde and lives in Lien township; Conrad married Emma Peterson and is engaged in general farming and stock raising in Roseville township; John married Alma Onstad and is farming the old home place, and Marie lives in Minneapolis, where she is engaged as a trained nurse.

FRED ZIEMER.

Fred Ziemer, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Roseville township, Grant county, was born in Carver county, this state, on August 16, 1861, the son of William and Minnie Ziemer, who were born in Germany and were there married. They continued to live in the land of their birth until 1860, when they came to Minnesota, Mr. Ziemer presently homesteading eighty acres of land in Wright county, which he developed and improved and where he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred in 1910, at the age of eighty-six years. His wife died in 1895, at the age of fifty-three years, both having lived useful and honorable lives. They were the parents of six children, Fred, Charles, Mary, Julia, Minnie and Henry, all of whom are living.

Fred Ziemer received his education in the public schools of Wright county and there grew to manhood, assisting his father with the work on the homestead. He remained in Wright county until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1881, he came to Grant county and purchased the homestead right to two hundred and forty acres of land in section 28 of Roseville township. The place included a tree claim, and there he set out a large grove and developed the farm into one of the best in the township. He erected substantial and modern buildings, all of which are kept in a fine state of repair, and there he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. Fred Ziemer is a Republican and has always taken an active

interest in local affairs, being recognized as one of the influential men of the township. He has for many years served as a member of the school board and as a member of the board of township supervisors.

In 1882 Fred Ziemer was united in marriage to Rose Boerner, who was born in Wright county, this state, in 1865, and who is a niece of Albert Boerner, of Roseville township. To this union five children have been born, Julia, Albert, Mabel, Minnie and Leslie, all of whom are living. Mr. Ziemer and family are active members of the German Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community. They have had much to do with the improvement of the social standard of the community in which they live, and are held in high regard.

REV. ALBERT F. W. BARTZ.

The subject of this sketch was born in Germany, July 6, 1867, a son of William Bartz, born in Germany, October 2, 1824, and Wilhelmina (Hannemann) Bartz, born in Germany, February 8, 1832.

William Bartz came to America in 1868, and located at Shawano, Wisconsin, where he engaged in farming for the rest of his life. He died on August, 1910. He was the father of seven children, Emelia, Herman, Bertha, Augusta, Albert F. W., and William. The German Lutheran was the church to which this family belonged.

Albert F. W. Bartz received his early education in the parochial schools of Belleplaine, Wisconsin, and afterward attended Concordia Seminary at Springfield, Illinois, graduating from that institution in 1889. Having completed his course of study for the ministry, which he had decided as his calling, he took his first pastoral charge at Hanover, North Dakota, soon after graduating from the seminary. On January 1, 1890, he came to Alexandria as pastor of the German Lutheran church at this place. For the first twelve years he had five congregations included in his pastoral circuit. From 1902 to 1910 he served Alexandria and Carlos and from 1910 until this time he has been serving Alexandria and Garfield. Reverend Bartz has been a resident pastor in Alexandria longer than any other minister in that place.

The Rev. Albert F. W. Bartz has been twice married. In October, 1893, he was married to Lizetta Prill, who died in 1910, leaving one child, Pauline, who was born on December 11, 1905. Mr. Bartz later married Bertha

Scheunemann, and to this union has been born one child, a son, Harold, born on July 30, 1915.

Mr. Bartz is an official of the Missouri Synod and has served as overseer of the Park Region (Minnesota) conference of his church for ten years.

GUSTAVUS GUENTHER.

Gustavus Guenther, one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on January 1, 1850, the son of Gustavus and Wilhelmina (Kirchberg) Guenther, the latter of whom was born in Germany on June 22, 1830, and there was educated in the public schools and confirmed in the Lutheran church. At the age of sixteen years she came to the United States with her parents, who located near Watertown, Wisconsin. It was there that she became the wife of Gustavus Guenther in 1848. Soon after their marriage they moved to Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where Mr. Guenther worked at the cabinet-making trade. In 1858 they took a homestead in Calamus township, Dodge county, that state, and there she lived for fifty-seven years. After the death of her husband, on June 5, 1877, she and the children took charge of the home place, which they operated, and which one of the sons, Rudolph, is now operating.

Gustavus and Wilhelmina Guenther were the parents of twelve children, Gustavus, Charles, Lawrence, Amelia, Albert, Anna, Leonard, Henry, Rudolph, Barney, Mary and Rosie. Charles is a farmer of Douglas county. Amelia is the wife of Robert Hanf. Albert lives near the old home place, near Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Anna is the wife of Theodore Yoing, of Beaver Dam. Leonard lives at Alden, Minnesota. Henry lives near Beaver Dam. Rudolph lives on the old homestead at Beaver Dam. Barney resides at Wausau, Wisconsin. Mary, who is the wife of Henry Hedrick, lives in Chicago, Illinois, and Rosie is the wife of George Bonner, of near Beaver Dam.

The senior Gustavus Guenther died at his home in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on June 5, 1877, at the age of fifty-two years. He was a native of the grand duchy of Baden, Germany, where he received his education in the public schools, and as a young man learned the cabinet-making trade, at which he worked before coming to the United States. He was born on March 20, 1825, and lived in his native country until he was twenty-three



MR. AND MRS. GUSTAVS GENTHER AND FARM HOME.

years of age. In 1848 he came to the United States and located at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, the first German settler there. He worked at his trade there until 1858, in which year he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Calamus township, Dodge county, Wisconsin, later increasing his holdings to four hundred acres, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising and was quite successful. He was a man of good education, his father having been a schoolmaster, and he soon became a leader in the affairs of the community. He was one of the organizers of the Catholic church at Beaver Dam and was a member of the William Tell Lodge No. 162, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His life was a useful one and he was held in the highest regard by all.

The junior Gustavus Guenther was the first boy of German descent born at Beaver Dam. He received his education in the public schools of that community and grew to manhood on the home farm. On October 31, 1875, he was united in marriage to Mary Gutsell, who was born in Dodge county, Wisconsin, on September 15, 1856. She was the daughter of Andrew and Mary (Sherman) Gutsell, who were well known people of Dodge county, where Mr. Gutsell is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He was born on November 2, 1828. His wife died on January 16, 1902, at the age of seventy-seven years.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Guenther lived at Beaver Dam for five years and then came to Douglas county, Minnesota. Here Mr. Guenther purchased his first farm on May 17, 1880, in Brandon township, where he now lives. His home farm is one hundred and sixty acres in section 3. He also owns another eighty in section 3 and has forty acres in section 2. The tract at the time of purchase was for the most part undeveloped and unimproved, but today Mr. Guenther has one of the best farms in the county. He has erected all the improvements and has a fine house and excellent barns. His present barn he built in 1901 and the house in 1907. He has a gasoline engine. He pumps his water for the house and barn with a windmill. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been most successful. He has some fine graded Shorthorn cattle and mixed hogs.

Gustavus Goenther and wife are the parents of the following children: Frank, Charlotte, Barbara, Minnie, Frances, Mamie, Andrew, Anna, Gustavus, Rudolph and Gertrude. Frank married Cecelia Willhm, and is a farmer of Douglas county. Charlotte is the wife of Henry Theonnies. Barbara married W. P. Lamb. Minnie is the wife of Christ Theonnies.

Frances became the wife of Charles Stottler. Minnie is the wife of George Zwack and the other children are at home.

Mr. Guenther is a man of much influence in the community and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He has served for thirty years as a member of the board of supervisors and for several years was chairman of the board. For the same length of time he has been a member of the school board of district No. 37. He was one of the organizers of the Brandon creamery and served as its president for six years. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Bank at Brandon and is now one of the stockholders in that well-known institution. He is a member of the Farmers' Society of Equity and has been one of the active workers since its organization.

Mr. and Mrs. Guenther have always taken much interest in the social and religious life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all. They are hospitable people and royal entertainers, and their home is often the scene of happy gatherings, where all are made welcome. Much of the success of the schools of the community as well as the real development and success of the township, is due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Guenther and his ability has everywhere been recognized. He joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and then transferred his membership to Brandon, Minnesota No. 224, becoming a charter member of Lodge No. 224, and has been through all the chairs. He also is a member of the grand lodge of Minnesota Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The Brandon lodge was consolidated with Alexandria lodge No. 54, where Mr. Guenther now holds his membership.

F. O. ANDERSON.

One of the native-born farmers of Lund township, Douglas county, is F. O. Anderson, who was born there on May 6, 1880, the son of Daniel and Bareth Anderson, both of whom were natives of Sweden, and who are written of elsewhere in this work in the sketch of Nels D. Anderson.

F. O. Anderson received his educational training in the public schools of Lund township, attending school during the winter seasons and assisting his father on the home farm during the summers. After the death of his mother in 1900 Mr. Anderson and his brother, Andrew, bought the old home-
stead farm of two hundred acres and operated the same in partnership for

about six years, at the end of which time the subject of this review purchased his brother's interest in the home farm, and he now has two hundred and eighty acres of fine farming land. On this farm he has a nice house and commodious barn, thirty-five by sixty feet in dimensions, with full basement. His farm is well improved in all ways and equipped with all modern machinery for scientific farming and stock raising. Besides raising all the crops common to this part of the state, Mr. Anderson is also engaged in the breeding of good live stock, having Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, of which he markets a goodly number annually.

In 1904 Mr. Anderson was married to Matilda Lindberg, a native of Douglas county, of Swedish parentage, and to this union four children have been born, Olga, Harvey, Blanche and Pearl, all of whom are living at home with their parents. Mr. Anderson is a Republican in politics, but while interested in all matters that have for their object the betterment of his township and community, has never aspired to public office.

GUSTAF HERNFRID GUSTAFSON.

Gustaf Hernfrid Gustafson, one of the well-known and successful business men of Barrett, was born in Sweden on March 7, 1882, the son of Gustaf and Stena (Christofferson) Johnson, who were also born in Sweden, where they still live. The father is a farmer and he and his wife are the parents of two children, Carl and Gustaf Hernfrid, the former of whom is still a resident of his native country, where he is engaged in farming.

Gustaf Hernfrid Gustafson received his education in the public schools of his native country, and continued to live at home until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1902, he came to Minnesota and located at Barrett. For the first two years after his arrival here he worked as a farm hand, and then for two years he was engaged in carpenter work in the vicinity of Barrett. In 1907 he went to South Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and remained in that state one year. He then returned to Barrett and began work in a grist mill for J. E. Peterson, for whom he worked for two years. In 1910 he purchased the mill, which he has operated since that time with much success. The mill is known as the Barrett Roller Mills, and turns out a high grade of flour, as well as doing much custom grinding. Mr. Gustafson produces the "Bluestem" brand of flour, which is quite popular with the home merchants as well as with the foreign trade. His

constant effort is to produce the best possible flour and to satisfy his customers in all lines of his trade.

In 1914 Gustaf Hernfrid was united in marriage to Lillie Newman, daughter of A. G. Newman and wife, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Ethel Sylvia. Mr. and Mrs. Gustafson are active members of the Swedish Mission church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Gustafson has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has ever exerted his influence in behalf of worthy enterprises. He is an enterprising citizen and enters into his enterprises with a firm determination to make them successful. He has done much to make his milling business a benefit not only to himself, but to the community in general. He now has the confidence and the respect of the community and is operating a successful and growing business. He gives the closest attention to his business and believes in the modern and progressive methods of milling.

THEODORE A. H. RITZSCHKE.

Theodore A. H. Ritzschke, one of the well-known and successful residents of Macsville township, Grant county, was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on January 1, 1873, the son of Carl and Louisa (Hensel) Ritzschke.

The paternal grandparents of Theodore A. H. Ritzschke were Henry Ritzschke and wife, natives of Germany, who, soon after their marriage, came to the United States and located in Wisconsin, where the grandmother died some years later. After the death of his wife, Henry Ritzschke came to Minnesota and located in Grant county, where he died some years later. The maternal grandparents were also natives of Germany, where they spent all their lives. Carl and Louisa (Hensel) Ritzschke were born in Germany and there were married. In 1868 they sailed for the United States and were six weeks on the ocean, the voyage being saddened by the death of their son who was born in the Fatherland. On their arrival in this country they located at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, where they remained for eight years, the father there being engaged in his work as a mason and plasterer. In 1877 they came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 24 of Macsville township, Grant county. Mr. Ritzschke constructed a sod house and began the task of breaking the prairie sod and developing the farm, in time becoming one of the prosperous and substantial men of the township. More land was purchased and he became the owner of three hundred and

twenty acres of excellent land in the township. He built a modern house and erected other substantial buildings, planted a fine grove and in other ways greatly improved the place. He still lives on the old homestead, which he has sold to his son Arthur, but he has retired from the activities of farm life. He always took much interest in local affairs and was for many years treasurer of the school board of his district. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge and took much interest in the work of that order. His wife died on February 22, 1911, mourned by a large circle of friends, among whom she had lived a true Christian life. To Carl and Louisa Ritzschke were born the following children: Charles F., Theodore A. H., Martha, Albert, Clara, Arthur, Walter, Alfred and Edward. Martha is the wife of Harry Enwiller and lives at Russell, South Dakota. Albert is a farmer of Grant county. Charles F. is a prominent farmer and stockman of Macsville township; Clara is the wife of Henry Ristow, and Edward died at the age of twelve years.

Theodore A. H. Ritzschke received his education in the public schools of Macsville township, and attended school for one year in the town of Herman. He grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting his father with the work on the farm, and remained at home until he was twenty-six years of age, when he was married and purchased a farm of two hundred and forty-four acres in section 28 of Macsville township. The place was not well developed and the buildings were old and in a bad state of repair. These structures were later replaced by modern buildings, including a fine brick house and a good barn. In 1910 Mr. Ritzschke purchased eighty acres that adjoined him on the east and is now the owner of three hundred and twenty-four acres in the township, all of which is under cultivation and well improved. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, paying particular attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs, in which he has had marked success. For some time Mr. Ritzschke was engaged in buying grain at Herman.

Theodore A. H. Ritzschke married Emma Ristow, who was born in Grant county, the daughter of William Ristow and wife, early pioneers of the county, and to that union four children were born, Herman, Bertha, Linda and Erick. Mr. and Mrs. Ritzschke made a trip to Germany in 1909 and visited the old home of Mr. Ritzschke's parents in Saxony. The trip was a most enjoyable one, but on their return, Mrs. Ritzschke died, February 18, 1910. Mr. Ritzschke is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He has given much attention

to the development of the schools and is now a member of the school board. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias lodge and to the Yeomen and is a member of the German Lutheran church.

JOHN A. URNESS.

John A. Urness, a well-known and successful farmer of Urness township, Douglas county, was born in that township, on the old homestead in section 13 on November 3, 1873, the son of Andrew and Antoinetta (Jacobson) Urness, natives of Norway.

Andrew J. Urness came to the United States in 1861, locating at Madison, Wisconsin, where he enlisted in Company B. Fifteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the Civil War. He saw much active service and at the battle of Chickamauga, where he was color-bearer, he received a severe bullet wound in the right breast, which gave him much trouble for many years. At the close of the war he came to Minnesota and located in Urness township, Douglas county, the township being named after him. There he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 13. The first log shanty that he built on his claim is still standing. As far as is known, Mr. Urness was one of five or six that came into the township at that time, they having walked from St. Cloud. It was a dreary sight that met their eyes, on their arrival in the territory, where they hoped to make a home. The second winter the neighbors left and he was alone, eight miles from the nearest neighbor. The winter was a long one to him, yet he had the determination to win. Two years after he homesteaded his land he married Antoinetta Jacobson, of Moe township. The early years were hard ones, yet he won out and in time became prosperous and was the owner of four hundred and fourteen acres of good land. This he developed and improved and engaged in general farming. The present buildings, for the most part, were erected by Mr. Urness during the last years of his life. Late in life he retired from the activities of the life on the farm, and removed to Alexandria, where he died some years ago.

Andrew J. and Antoinetta Urness were the parents of the following children: Carrie, Johanna, Johannes, Anna, Martha, Andrew and Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Urness were active in all church work, the first organization of that society in that neighborhood having been perfected in their home, and Mr. Urness assisted in bringing the lumber for the first church from

Herman, thirty miles away. Politically, he was a Republican and took an active interest in all local affairs.

John A. Urness received his education in the public schools of Urness township and at Alexandria. He grew to manhood on the home place, where as a lad and young man he farmed with his father. In 1896 he started farming for himself, on his father's farm. He now owns two hundred and thirty acres and is engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

On March 25, 1902, John A. Urness was united in marriage to Anna Larson, the daughter of Peter Larson, deceased, who never took land, his health having been poor and he died in Chippewa county, this state, five years after his arrival in America. Mr. and Mrs. Urness are active members of the Lutheran church and are prominent in social life of the community. Politically, Mr. Urness is a Republican and has served his township as trustee and has been a member of the board of supervisors.

TOSTEN E. DYBDAL.

Tosten E. Dybdal was born near Decorah, Winneshiek county, Iowa, June 13, 1868. He is of Norwegian ancestry, his parents being among the first of the Norwegian colony to settle in that part of the state.

Ellend Dybdal, born in Norway in 1828, and his wife, Berit (Asleson) Dybdal, born in Norway the same year, were the father and mother of Tosten E. Dybdal. They came to America in 1867 and located on a farm near Decorah, Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the father died in 1875. There were eight children in this family: Sigri, Asle, Thore, Elling, Knute (deceased), Tosten, Bernhard and Eline. The father was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Tosten E. Dybdal was educated in the public schools of Winneshiek county, Iowa. In 1878, after his father's death, his mother came to Minnesota with part of the family and settled in Grant county, leaving Tosten in Winneshiek county, at the age of ten years. He remained there for five years and in 1883, at the age of fifteen years, joined the rest of the family in Grant county. The first three years after coming here he worked on the farm. He was then employed as a clerk in a store at Wendell, and afterward was engaged in buying grain at that place for about two years. Then for about two years he was employed in the court house at Elbow Lake. He then held

a position in the Bank of Elbow Lake. In 1894 he took the position of cashier in the Bank of Painesville. In 1896 he went to Morris and was cashier of the Citizens' Bank at that place until 1899. In that year he returned to Elbow Lake and engaged in the real-estate and loan business.

Tosten E. Dybdal was married in 1902 to Edna L. Marsh, and they have one child, Elmarsh. Mr. Dybdal is a member of the Catholic church and is a Republican. He has served as a member of the village council. His lodge affiliation is with the Workmen and the Elks. Mr. Dybdal is a capable business man and a public-spirited citizen, interested in every movement that tends to the welfare and prosperity of the town.

EDWARD P. ERICKSON.

Edward P. Erickson, manager of the Farmers' Elevator Company, at Barrett, and one of the well-known men of that community, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, on February 10, 1878, the son of Peter and Annie Erickson.

The paternal grandparents of Edward P. Erickson were Lars and Annie Erickson, who were natives of Sweden and there lived and died. The grandfather was a tailor by trade, but operated a farm which he owned, and was quite successful. The family were prominent in their native country and were highly respected by all. Lars and Annie Erickson were the parents of the following children: Erick, Annie, Peter, Brita and one who died in infancy. Peter, the father of Edward P., was the only one of the family that came to the United States.

Peter Erickson was educated in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-two years, he came to America, after having devoted his early life to the duties of his father's farm. Many of his countrymen and neighbors had sought and obtained homes in the United States, and this had much to do with the young man locating in this country in 1865. On his arrival in the new country, he located at Lockport, near Chicago, where he worked in a stone quarry, for some months. He later went to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he worked on the railroad and later worked as a farm hand near Shakopee. In the winter he was engaged in the pineries, after which he located in Minneapolis, where he worked in a saw-mill for some time before locating at Spring Grove, where he engaged in grubbing and clearing of the land of the settlers in that locality. There

he was united in marriage to Annie Ellingson, a native of Norway and the daughter of Erick Ellingson, a well-known farmer of that section. To this union the following children were born: Edward P., Annie, Alice, Peter and Albert. Soon after his marriage Peter Erickson and wife located in Grant county and there took a claim to a homestead in section 30 of Stony Brook township, which they later developed and improved and to which they added forty acres, and it is there that the father has successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Edward P. Erickson received his education in the schools of Grant county and as a lad and young man he worked on a farm, soon deciding that he would be a farmer or a grain buyer. At an early age he engaged in the buying of grain, in which he was successful. For four years he was at Bordulac, North Dakota, after which he was at Wendell, Minnesota, for two years in the machine business. In 1904 he located in Barrett as a grain buyer, and in 1910 he became the manager of the Farmers' Elevator Company of that place, and it is in this capacity that he has since remained.

In 1909 Edward P. Erickson was united in marriage to Martha Anderson, and to this union two children have been born, Irene and Celeste. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Republican party and has taken much interest in local affairs. He is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

FRANK A. EKBERG.

Frank A. Ekberg, one of the best-known and most successful farmers of Macsville township, Grant county, was born in Sweden on June 16, 1858, the son of Isaak and Johana Christina (Gustafson) Ekberg, who were also born in Sweden and there were married. They continued to live in the land of their nativity until 1870, when they came to Minnesota, locating at St. Paul, where Mr. Ekberg worked at the carpenter's trade, at which he was engaged for a number of years. In 1873 he went to Herman, where he worked on the section for the Great Northern Railway Company, and later took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Macsville township, five miles east of Herman. That farm he developed and improved and there he made his home until the time of his death, which occurred on August 11, 1916, at the age of eighty-seven years, he having been born on October 5, 1828, at Traheryd, Smaland, Sweden.

Isaak Ekberg was one of the early settlers of the county, and had much to do with the early civic life of Macsville township, where he homesteaded forty years ago. Mr. Ekberg was a man of much influence in his home district and was held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew him. He and his family had long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the township and he was one of the charter members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Of the children born to him and his wife four are still living: Frank Albert, of Herman; Gustaf Ferdinand, of St. Paul; Mrs. Peter Noren, of Macsville, and Carl Victor, of Everett, Washington. The widow is still living at her home in Macsville, at an advanced age.

Frank A. Ekberg received his education in the schools of Sweden and in Herman. He was twelve years of age when, in 1875, he came to the United States with his parents and he grew up in Grant county. He later took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14 of Macville township, planted a grove and in time erected good and substantial buildings. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1900. He had sold the homestead farm in 1899, and the next year moved to his present farm of three hundred and ninety acres in section 3, which he had purchased in 1896. There he has a large grove which he planted, and the farm is improved with substantial and modern buildings. There he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has a fine herd of Shorthorn cattle. Being progressive, Mr. Ekberg believes in intensive farming, in thorough cultivation of the soil and in the keeping of the best of stock. Politically, Mr. Ekberg is identified with the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in the local affairs of the township and the county. He has served for four years as a member of the board of county commissioners and for twenty-five years has been a member of the school board, doing much for the advancement of the schools of his district. He has represented his party on several occasions at the state conventions and is recognized as a local leader of his party. He served for some years as a member of the township board and during a part of that time was chairman of the board.

In 1885 Frank A. Ekberg was united in marriage to Augusta Wilhelmena Peterson, who was born in Sweden on November 30, 1864, the daughter of Peter Otto and Johanne (Peterson) Peterson, also natives of Sweden, who came to Minnesota in 1880 and located in Herman, where the father died on November 28, 1908, and where the widow is now living at the age of eighty years. They were the parents of four children, Augusta Wilhelmena, Anna, Hulda and Charlie. Mr. Peterson was seventy-one years of age at the time of his death and was held in the highest regard and esteem

by all who knew him. He took much interest in local affairs and he and his family were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community.

Frank A. and Augusta Wilhelmena Ekberg are the parents of five children, Oscar Albert, Effie Annetta, Walter Clay, Irvin Richard and Ray Conrad, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Ekberg are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church, take much interest in church work and are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. In addition to his popularity and influence in his home township, Mr. Ekberg is well-known throughout the county, as he served four years as county commissioner, in which position he gave entire satisfaction, and where his work was recognized of much value to all. He advocated progressive and substantial improvements as a public official and accomplished much good for the county. As a farmer he is recognized as one of the most systematic and successful in the township. His home place is neat and well kept and is one of the beautiful places in the community.

LARS LYNNE.

Lars Lynne, cashier of the First National Bank of Elbow Lake, and former treasurer of Grant county, is a native of Norway, born on January 17, 1852. He belongs to a family of Norwegians who came to America in 1853 and settled in Iowa. Johan Lynne, his father, was born in Norway in 1819. His mother, Mary (Molden) Lynne, was born in Norway, in 1824. The elder Lynne located on a farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa. He first bought a farm of eighty acres and later added forty acres to his original purchase, and was engaged in general farming and stock raising, making his home on that place for the remainder of his life. He died in 1906 and his wife died in 1911. Their children were: Anna, Lars, Edward, John M., Peter and Claus. They were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and Mr. Lynne was trustee of the congregation for many years. He was a Republican.

Lars Lynne received his elementary education in the public schools of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and afterward attended Luther College at Decorah, in that county. After completing his college studies he taught school for three years at Madison, Wisconsin. Then, in the fall of 1875, he entered the University of Wisconsin and spent two years of study in that institution.

He then was engaged in teaching for three years in St. Olaf College, at Northfield, Minnesota. Then he went to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and was for three years engaged in bookkeeping. For four years following this he held a position in the bank at Ashby. In 1888 he was elected county treasurer of Grant county, and was re-elected from time to time, serving in that office for twenty-two years. He retired from the office in 1910 and in 1911 he was elected cashier of the First National Bank of Elbow Lake, and is at present serving in that position.

Lars Lynne and Josephine Norman, daughter of Alexander Norman, of St. Olaf township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, were united in marriage in 1883. To this union six children have been born: Justus A., Agnes M., Edna M., Alfred N., assistant cashier in the First State Bank of Turtle Lake, North Dakota; Victor A. and Philip Walter. Victor A. is a high school student and Walter died at the age of two years.

Mr. Lynne is a member of the Lutheran church and has served as secretary of the congregation for the last ten years. His political affiliation is with the Republican party. He has served as a member of the school board for about fourteen years and served as president of the village council at Ashby while a resident of that place. Mr. Lynne is a well educated, high-class business man, and as a bank official is regarded as eminently trustworthy. He has the confidence and esteem of the people who have business with the bank and of the people of the entire community of which he is a citizen.

WILLIAM A. HANDSCHUG.

William A. Handschug, a native of Germany and a well-known and successful farmer of Macsville township, Grant county, was born on September 28, 1874, the son of William and Florentina Handschug, also natives of Germany, who, in 1882, came to Minnesota and settled at Herman, Grant county. Mr. Handschug homesteaded forty acres in Macsville township, which he later gave to his daughter, Mary. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 26 of the same township. That farm he developed and improved, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was successful. He erected good and substantial buildings and set out a beautiful grove, making his place one of the attractive farms of the township, and there he lived until the time of his death on September 18, 1911, at the age of seventy-three years. His widow is still living on the farm

at the age of eighty years. They were members of the Lutheran church, took much interest in church work and were prominent in the community in which they lived so many years. The father took much interest in the civic life of the township and did much for its growth and development. They were the parents of four children, Mary and William A., now living, and Carl and Elizabeth, who died in Germany.

William A. Handschug received his first educational training in the schools of Germany, and came with his parents to Minnesota when he was but eight years of age. Here he completed his education in the public and parochial schools and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the farm work. As a young man he worked on the railroad and in the machine shop, and continued in that work for some years. He also engaged in threshing, and in 1908 purchased the old homestead, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has done much in the way of developing and improving the place and today has one of the best farm homes in the township. He built the present modern and substantial house and has in many ways added to the beauty and the value of the place. In 1914 Mr. Handschug lost two good buildings by the terrific cyclone that passed over the county, doing much damage to buildings and crops, as well as to stock. Mr. Handschug has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has always been an advocate of good roads and the best of schools. For five years he served as a member of the school board and gave his best efforts to the success of the schools of his district.

In 1907 William A. Handschug was united in marriage to Lydia Schwartz, who was born at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, the daughter of August and Augusta (Stender) Schwartz. Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz were born in Germany and there were married. They later came to Minnesota and homesteaded land at Thief River Falls, where they remained for some years before moving to Goodhue county. To Mr. and Mrs. Handschug have been born five children, Myrtle, Flora, Frances, William and Elizabeth, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Handschug have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Handschug is recognized as one of the successful farmers and stockmen of the community. He is progressive and believes in intensive farming, in the thorough cultivation of the soil and in the keeping of the best of stock. He is an advocate of substantial public improvements and gives his support to all worthy causes that tend to aid in the growth and the betterment of the township and the county. His life has been an active one and he has accomplished much of value, not only

to himself and family, but for the entire community. He and his wife are most hospitable people and take much pleasure in the entertainment of their neighbors and friends.

OLE J. LERAAS.

Ole J. Leraas, a well-known and successful farmer of Lien township, Grant county, was born in Norway on December 7, 1844, the son of Johanes and Annie Leraas, who were also born in Norway. Johanes Leraas engaged in farming and lived his life in the land of his birth, dying there in 1880, at the age of seventy-six years. The widow came to Minnesota in 1886 and died in Grant county in 1893, at the age of seventy-three years. Before his marriage to Annie Leraas, Johanes Leraas was married to Mary Leraas and to that union one child was born, Knute, who is now deceased. After the death of his first wife Mr. Leraas married Martha Leraas, and to that union one child was born, Mary, who is deceased. After the death of his second wife he married the mother of Ole J. Leraas, the subject of this sketch. By that marriage the following children were born: Ole J., Askil, Martha, Jacob, John and Bretta. Martha and Jacob are deceased. Johanes and Annie Leraas were active members of the Lutheran church and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them.

Ole J. Leraas received his education in the public schools of his native land and there grew to manhood. He continued to reside in the land of his birth until he was twenty-two years of age, when, in 1866, he came to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county, where he remained until 1871, when he removed to Faribault and remained there for one year. In 1872 he moved to Grant county, and later moved to Minneapolis, where he remained for four years. In 1878 he returned to Grant county and bought forty acres of school land in section 16 of Line township. That farm at that time was for the most part wild land and required much work to bring it under cultivation. Mr. Leraas has increased his holdings to two hundred acres and now has one of the best developed farms in the township. He planted a grove and has erected modern and substantial buildings. His barn is thirty-four by sixty-four feet and is one of the best barns in the community. Mr. Leraas is identified with the Republican party and has always taken a keen interest in the affairs of the township. For many years he was a member of the board of supervisors, during a part of the time chairman of that body, and for sixteen years he was treasurer of the township. He is progressive and has always

advocated substantial public improvements, that would be worthy of the future growth of the district.

In 1870 Ole J. Leraas was united in marriage in Goodhue county to Martha Stanness, who was born in Norway in 1844 and who came to the United States alone, her parents having died in the native land. To this union the following children have been born: Louis, Julia, Martin, Lena, John, Anton and six who died young. Louis is a resident of Pierce county, North Dakota. Julia is the wife of Emil Eide and resides in North Dakota. Martin is at home on the farm. Lena is the wife of Steffen Thompson, a farmer of North Dakota, and John and Anton are both in the state of North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Leraas are active members of the Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest esteem by all who know them. Their lives have been busy ones and they have accomplished much that is worthy of emulation.

MELVIN A. BARKER.

Another young farmer of Grant county, who hails from the great agricultural state of Iowa is Melvin A. Barker of Lawrence township. He was born in Delavan county, Iowa, January 2, 1880, and is a son of Charles and Mary (Dutton) Barker. The father was born in Iowa in 1846 and the mother was born in Ohio, December 9, 1851. She came to Iowa when young with her parents, John J. and Hannah (Phillips) Dutton. Her father was born in Ohio in 1816 and her mother in that same state in 1819. The family moved to Illinois in 1866 and to Delavan county, Iowa, in 1867, and bought eighty acres of land on which the parents spent the rest of their lives, the father dying in 1869 and the mother in 1872.

Melvin A. Barker was reared on the farm in Iowa where he worked when a boy, and there he attended the public schools. He came to Minnesota in 1902 and rented land in Grant county until 1910, in which year he bought a farm of his own—one hundred and sixty acres in section 20 of Lawrence township and there he has since resided. He has made a number of important improvements on the place, including the erection of a new barn, and has put up all the fences now on the place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising. His mother makes her home with him. She is now (1916) sixty-five years old. She is the mother of six children, all living, namely: Merlie, Della, Melvin A., Herman, William and Glenn.

The maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch had eight children, named as follow: Jane (deceased), Martha (deceased), Mary, Charles, Owen (deceased), Homer, Frank and Juniata. The parents of the above named children were early pioneers of Iowa, to which state they came from Illinois in "prairie schooner," having made the trip from Ohio in the same manner.

Melvin A. Barker is unmarried. Politically, he is a Republican.

HENRY A. LEROY.

Henry A. LeRoy, founder of the Alexandria Hardware and Lumber Company at Alexandria, vice-president of the Farmers National Bank of that city, one of the organizers of the National Drainage Company, a large landowner in Douglas county and in other ways actively identified with the business interests of this section of the state, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Alexandria since 1887 and has consequently been a witness to and a participant in the substantial development that has marked the growth of that city during the past thirty years. He was born at Manston, in Juneau county, Wisconsin, November 6, 1862, son of James and Adelia (Phillips) LeRoy, the former a native of the state of New York, born in Oneida county on July 4, 1822, and the latter, of Michigan, born in Oakland county on November 19, 1839.

James LeRoy received but limited school advantages in the days of his youth, but was a natural student and as a young man, by close application and diligent self-study, fitted himself for the practice of the law. He was admitted to the bar and engaged in the practice of his profession at Cleveland, Ohio; later removing to Rockford, Illinois, and thence, after some time, to Sparta, Wisconsin. His last days were spent at Tomah, in the latter state, his death occurring there on January 5, 1877. His widow survived him for more than twenty years, her last days being spent in Alexandria, where she died on January 5, 1899. James LeRoy was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the faith of which church their children were reared. There were five of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Edith, Addie, Cora and Florence.

Henry A. LeRoy received his schooling in the schools of Manston.,



HENRY A. LeROY.

Sparta and Tomah, Wisconsin, and early in his youth began to "shift for himself," a part of the time being engaged as a clerk in a store. At the age of eighteen he began to learn the builders' trade and was thus engaged, as a carpenter, in his native state until he was twenty-five years of age, when, in 1887, he came over into this part of Minnesota and bought a drug store at Alexandria. In the fall of 1888 he sold that store and bought an interest in the agricultural-implement business at that time conducted by Robert McCrory in a building located on the ground where the Alexandria Hardware and Lumber Company's building now stands, one of the best corners in the city, the postoffice being situated on the opposite corner to the north and the city hall on the corner across the street to the west. Two years later a fine new building was erected on that corner, the expanding business of the implement firm demanding an extension of quarters, and in 1897 Mr. LeRoy bought Mr. McCrory's interest in the firm and added a general line of hardware to his stock, at the same time enlarging his quarters by the erection of an addition to his store on the north. In 1905 he added lumber to his stock in trade and his affairs continued to prosper; and in 1910 he incorporated the business under the name of the Alexandria Hardware and Lumber Company, of which he is the vice-president. In the year 1901 the Farmers National Bank of Alexandria was organized. Mr. LeRoy has been a member of the board of directors of that bank since its organization and is now the vice-president of the same. He is also connected with the Northwest Mortgage Security Company, of Fargo, North Dakota; is interested in the National Drainage Company, of Alexandria, power dredgers, and is one of Douglas county's most extensive landowners, the present owner of more than twelve hundred acres of fine land in that county. Mr. LeRoy also is connected with the First National Bank of Sanborn, North Dakota, and in all the enterprises in which he is engaged is recognized as a leading spirit, even as he is recognized as one of Alexandria's most influential citizens and progressive business men.

On April 5, 1895, Henry A. LeRoy was united in marriage to Alice M. Kellogg, who was born in Douglas county, daughter of Leander and Esther (Pettersen) Kellogg, pioneers of that county and further reference to whom is made elsewhere in this volume, and to this union seven children have been born, Esther A., James K., Henry D., Addie M. (deceased), Lois M., Donald J. and Elizabeth R. Mr. and Mrs. Leroy are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. LeRoy is a member of the Masonic

fraternity. He is independent in his political views and has given close attention to local civic affairs, having served as a member of the local school board and is a present member of the library board.

CARL O. RUSTAD.

Carl O. Rustad, a well-known and successful farmer of Pelican Lake township, Grant county, was born in Fillmore county, this state, on February 19, 1861, the son of Ole and Marthe (Baalrud) Rustad.

Abraham and Karren Rustad, the grandparents of Carl O. Rustad, natives of Norway, came to the United States, July 24, 1849, and located in Clinton county, Iowa, where they were among the early pioneers. Mr. Rustad entered land in the county and became one of the substantial farmers and stock raisers of that section. On a visit to his son Ole, in Fillmore county, Minnesota, Mr. Rustad died. Karren, his wife, died in Ashby and is buried in the Pelican Lake cemetery.

Ole Rustad was born in Norway and came to the United States, with his parents. He grew to manhood on the home farm in Iowa, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the farm work. He later engaged in general farming and stock raising in Fillmore county, this state, where he died on March 17, 1891. His wife, Marthe, died on October 12, 1899. As an investment he had purchased two hundred and forty acres of land in Grant county, in addition to his large farm in Fillmore county. To Ole and Marthe Rustad were born the following children: Hans, Carl O., Julia, John, Betsy and Peter. Hans is a farmer of Grant county. Julia is now deceased. John is a representative of Fillmore county, where he has always taken an active interest in the civic life of the county. He is a Republican and as his party's candidate has represented the county in the state Legislature. Betsy lives in Fillmore county and Peter lives at Farmington, Montana. Ole Rustad and wife were active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. During the gold excitement, Ole Rustad, made a trip to Pike's Peak, but was not successful in his expedition.

Carl O. Rustad received his education in the public schools of Fillmore county and there grew to manhood on the home farm. On December 30, 1885, he was united in marriage to Anna Thorud, and to this union

the following children have been born: Minnie, Otilia, Ole, Carl, Alfred and Grace (deceased). Minnie is the wife of Erick Alvstad.

The next year after their marriage, Carl O. Rustad and wife moved to Grant county and there Mr. Rustad has since engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 32 and 33 of Pelican Lake township, and twenty-nine and one-half acres in section 13. Mr. Rustad has developed the farm into one of the best in the township, and has added many valuable improvements. He built his fine barn in 1898 and his modern house in 1910.

Carl O. Rustad and wife are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are prominent in religious work. Mr. Rustad has taken much interest in local affairs and has served as a member of the township board and as a member of the school board. He is the owner of stock in the farmers elevators at Ashby and at Erdahl.

THEO THOMPSON.

The late Theo Thompson, a pioneer of Urness township, Douglas county, was born in Norway on September 16, 1856, and died at his home in Urness township in January, 1916. He was but sixteen years of age at the time he came to America. The family after their arrival in this country came direct to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county, where Mr. Thompson completed his schooling in the public schools. At the age of nineteen, in 1875, he came to Douglas county, where he worked as a farm hand for two years. He then purchased two hundred and eighty acres of land in Urness township, and there established his home. The tract at that time was for the most part a wild waste, but he devoted his energies to the task and developed the place into one of the fine farms of the township. He erected the buildings, made many valuable and substantial improvements and engaged in general farming and stock raising quite successfully. During the last fifteen years of his life he devoted much of his time to the nursery business in connection with his farming and the care of his stock and demonstrated his ability as a grower of trees and shrubbery.

In 1881 Theo Thompson was united in marriage to Julia Syverson, who was born in Iowa, daughter of Christian Syverson and wife, well-known residents of the community in which they lived, and to this union

the following children were born: Mary, Olaus, Carl, Tillie, Anton, Gilbert, Bennie, Christine, Bertha, Mabel, Selma, Ella, Louis and Gilbert. Mary is the wife of John Larson and Tillie is the wife of Ole Aasen. Gilbert is now deceased. The family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which Mr. Thompson was for many years a trustee.

Theo Thompson was a man of ability, took much interest in the educational facilities of the township and was for years a member of the school board. He was a man of broad mind and excellent judgment and the schools of his community made much progress during his term of office. He believed in public improvements of all kinds and had much to do with the substantial development of the township and the county. Being a man of influence in the community and held in the highest esteem, his death was mourned by the entire resident population of the district. His life had been an active one and he had accomplished much that was good, both to his family and his neighbors. He was a kind father and an affectionate husband and was beloved by all who knew him.

CHARLES B. KLOOS.

Germany has given to the United States many of her native sons and daughters, who have become successful and well-known men and women. Among this number is Charles B. Kloos, a prominent farmer of Roseville township, Grant county. Charles B. Kloos was born on February 20, 1847, the son of Henry and Dorathea (Keller) Kloos, also natives of Germany, where they received their education in the public schools and were married. There their children were born and there the mother died in 1856. Henry Kloos was a farmer in the Fatherland and there learned systematic methods of conducting a farm. After the death of his wife, Mr. Kloos, in 1869, came to Minnesota and in that same fall bought eighty acres of land in Carver county, which is still owned by the family. In 1861 he purchased one hundred and forty acres from John Hessen in Carver county and there he engaged in general farming for some years. He later sold the farm and moved to Chaska, where he lived a retired life until the time of his death, which occurred in 1881.

Henry and Dorathea Kloos were the parents of the following children: Katherine, Henry, Ludwig, Elizabeth, Charles B., John, Daniel and Dwight, all of whom are dead with the exception of Katherine, Elizabeth

and Charles B. Mr. Kloos was a man of much force of character and an exceptionally good farmer. He always took an active interest in local affairs and was recognized as a man of ability, held in the highest esteem by all who knew him.

Charles B. Kloos received his early education in the schools of Germany and was there confirmed, with his sister Elizabeth, at the age of twelve years. He came to America with his father and later entered the business college at St. Paul. After completing his schooling there he was employed in a steamboat office and was there engaged for seventeen years in that city. In 1879 he came to Grant county and purchased six hundred and forty acres of land in Delaware township. He moved on the farm in 1879 and a few years later, in 1882, sold the place and bought three hundred and twenty acres in Macsville township. This latter farm he developed and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1894, when he moved to his farm of six hundred and fifty-seven acres in sections 26 and 35, which he had purchased in 1886. That farm he developed and improved with the best of buildings, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising very successfully, steadily increasing his land holdings until now he is the owner of some five thousand acres of land in Grant and Stevens counties and six hundred acres in Mahnomen county.

Politically Charles B. Kloos is independent, but he has always taken an active interest in the local affairs, is a strong advocate of the best of public improvements and a supporter of all worthy enterprises that tend to the betterment and the growth of the township and the county. He is a man of excellent judgment and broad experience and is recognized as one of the most prominent men in the county. He has served as a member of the board of township supervisors for many years and was chairman of the board. He has also served as township clerk and has had much to do with the civic life of the community for many years. He and his family are active members of the German Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community.

In 1875 Charles B. Kloos was united in marriage to Margaret Eichmiller, who was born in Carver county, Minnesota, on January 4, 1856, the daughter of Lawrence and Magdalena (Utz) Eichmiller. Mr. and Mrs. Eichmiller, who were natives of Germany, came to Minnesota in 1854 and were among the first settlers in Carver county. There they died, she in 1886 and he some years later. To Charles and Margaret Kloos have been born the following children: Annie, Louis, William, Ora and Cora

(twins), Bretteman, Mabel, Ethel, Lee, Lawrence and Alice. Mabel and Ethel are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kloos are estimable people and are held in the highest regard by the people of their home community.

ALBERT P. KIETZMANN.

Albert P. Kietzman, a native of Grant county, and one of the successful and well known farmers of Logan township, was born on January 28, 1883, the son of Henry and Wilhelmina (Schimmelpfenig) Kietzmann, who were natives of Germany, and who came to America and for a time resided at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. In 1873 Henry Kietzmann came to Minnesota, and homesteaded eighty acres of land in Logan township, Grant county, and a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres. That farm he developed and improved, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising, until the time of his death. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Bertha, Emil, Viva, Adolph, Laura, Albert, Alice, Ella, Henry, Herman and Minnie. Mr. and Mrs. Kietzmann were active members of the German Lutheran church and were prominent in the social and the religious life of the community. Mr. Kietzmann took much interest in the civic life of the township, had much to do with the early development of that district and was held in the highest regard by all who knew him.

Albert P. Kietzmann received his education in the public schools of Herman and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the farm work. Early in life he decided that he would be a farmer and for a number of years he engaged in farming with his father. In 1912 he engaged in the work for himself on the farm where he now lives and where he is the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of excellent land. He has erected all the buildings, which are modern and substantial, and has done much in the way of development, making his farm one of the most desirable in the township. Mr. Kietzmann is progressive and believes in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful, his stock being among the best in the community and his farm under a high state of cultivation. He has always taken much interest in local affairs and has had much to do with the development of township affairs. He is progressive, a strong advocate

of modern methods in the conduct of the affairs of the district and believes in the maintenance of good roads and the best of schools, knowing that in these rests the future stability of the county. His life has been an active one and he is recognized as one of the substantial and well-to-do citizens of the community, where he is held in the highest regard by all who know him. He has been prominent in the social and the civic life of the township and the county and has ever exerted his influence for the promotion of such enterprises as would tend to the betterment and the growth of this section of the state. Mr. Kietzmann is still unmarried.

ANDREW L. LERAAS.

Andrew L. Lerass, cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Barrett, was born in Lien township, Grant county, November 3, 1890, of Norwegian ancestry, his parents, Jacob and Bertha (Eide) Leraas, both being natives of Norway. Jacob Leraas came to Minnesota and located in section 27 of Lien township, Grant county. He first bought eighty acres and later added another eighty to his original purchase. He put up all the buildings and made all the improvements on this land and continued to make this his home until his death, which occurred on January 9, 1903. His widow is still living, making her home with her son in Barrett. The children of this family are John N., born in 1887, and Andrew L. The father was a member of the Emmanuel Lutheran church, of Lien township.

Andrew L. Leraas received his early education in the public schools of Lien township and afterward attended the Glenwood Academy, being a student in that academy in the years 1906-07-08, graduating from that institution in the spring of 1909. The following year he attended the Globe Business College at St. Paul and completed a commercial course in that institution. In March, 1910, he took a position as bookkeeper in the First State Bank at Kensington. After remaining there for a short time he took a position in the bank at Elbow Lake and continued there until July 15, 1910. In September of that year he returned to the First State Bank at Kensington and remained there until the following December, when he went to the Citizens Bank of Barrett, to take a position as teller of that bank. On July 17, 1912, he went to Deering, North Dakota, and took a position as assistant cashier of the Farmers State Bank at that place. On February 15, 1913, he went to Berthold, North Dakota, and took a posi-

tion as assistant cashier of the bank at that place, remaining there until April 15, 1914, when he returned to the Citizens State Bank of Barrett, as assistant cashier. On January 1, 1915, he was elected cashier of that bank, the position which he at present holds.

Mr. Leraas is a member of the Synod Lutheran church, affiliates with the Republican party in politics and is the present treasurer of the village of Barrett. He is a well educated and capable business man and especially well qualified as a banker. In this, as well as in all other respects, he has the confidence of the community and is regarded as eminently trustworthy.

A. EMIL ANDERSON.

A. Emil Anderson, one of the successful and well-known farmers of Alexandria township, Douglas county, was born on a farm just east of where he is now living, on April 10, 1875, a son of Charles and Caroline (Larson) Anderson, both natives of Sweden, who were reared in that country, receiving their education in the public schools of their native land. The latter came to Minnesota in 1869 and the former a year or two later. They were married in 1874 and made their home on Mrs. Anderson's homestead in Alexandria township, where also Mr. Anderson bought some land joining this homestead, and that farm they developed and improved and there made their home for many years. They later retired from active farm life, and moved to Alexandria, where Charles Anderson died. His wife passed away one year earlier in North Dakota. They were the parents of two sons, A. Emil and Adolph J.

A. Emil Anderson received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and during his early life assisted his father with the work on the home farm. Upon reaching manhood he engaged in farming for himself and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, a part of which was the old homestead, where he is very successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has erected all the present excellent farm buildings and in various other ways improved and developed his land.

In 1906, A. Emil Anderson was married to Hannah M. Anderson, the daughter of John Anderson, a prominent resident of the county and one of its substantial citizens. To this union three children have been born, Lawrence Emil, Raymond and Florence Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are

members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take an active part in the work of that organization. They are prominent and active in all the social and religious life of the community and are popular among their neighbors and friends. Mr. Anderson has always taken a keen interest in local affairs and since his young manhood has used his influence in the direction of good, and for the advancement and growth of the township and county where he lives. In 1911 the voters of his township elected him clerk, and he has since retained that important position, discharging the duties of his office with credit to himself and his constituents.

Being a native of the county, the early life of Mr. Anderson was spent amid the scenes of pioneer life and he experienced many of the hardships of the early days in the county. Knowing the value of good schools, his aim has been to place the schools of his township on a high plane, and the present excellent school system has no stronger advocate than Mr. Anderson.

FRANK OACHS.

Of the well known and successful farmers, of Macsville township, Grant county, is Frank Oachs, who was born in Mountain Lake, Cottonwood county, Minnesota, on October 7, 1873, the son of Peter and Elizabeth (Stopelman) Oachs, natives of Wisconsin, who left the state of their nativity and came to Minnesota, locating at Mountain Lake, Cottonwood county, where they lived until 1875, when they moved to Blue Earth county, and there purchased forty acres of land, which they later increased to two hundred and twenty acres. That farm was developed and improved by Mr. Oachs and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred on August 12, 1914, at the age of sixty-seven years. His widow is still living, at the age of sixty-seven years. They were the parents of eight children: Frank and Emma (twins), John, Ida, Annie, Willie, Edward and Milton, all of whom are living. Mr. Oachs was a man who took much interest in local affairs, and always used his influence for the advancement and the growth of the township and the county. He was a man who was universally honored and respected and his death was mourned by his many friends and neighbors.

Frank Oachs received his education in the public schools of Blue Earth county and there grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting his father with the duties of the farm. As a young man he engaged in farming for

himself and owned forty acres of land in Blue Earth county, which he sold in 1899 and came to Grant county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 16 of Macsville township. The farm at that time was for the most part wild prairie and required much labor to place it under its present high state of cultivation. Mr. Oachs set out a beautiful grove and erected substantial buildings, and there became successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. On June 1, 1914, his house burned and in August of the same year he and his family moved into their present beautiful home, which is one of the most attractive in the community. Mr. Oachs is Republican, has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has been a member of the school board for a number of years. He is progressive in his views, believes in the support of the best possible schools and has had much to do with the perfection of the present system in his district.

In 1899 Frank Oachs was united in marriage to Jeannette E. Little, who was born in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, May 25, 1873, the daughter of Andrew and Euphemia (Hislop) Little, who were born in Scotland, and in Janesville, Rock county, Wisconsin, respectively. Mr. Little received his education in the public schools of his native country, where he lived until he was eighteen years of age, when he came to the United States and located in Wisconsin. There he was married on June 7, 1865, to Euphemia Hislop, of Janesville. For one year after their marriage they lived at Red Wing, Goodhue county, Minnesota, after which they removed to Blue Earth county, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres, to which they later added forty acres. That farm they developed and improved and there Mr. Little has since engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful. Mr. Little was born on November 6, 1838, and his wife, December 3, 1842, and are both living on their home farm in Blue Earth county. They are the parents of the following children: John D., Thomas W., Grace I., Euphemia J., Jeannette E. and Agnes C., all of whom are living. Mr. Little has always taken much interest in local affairs and is a man of much influence in his home community. He is the only survivor of six sons born to his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Oachs are the parents of six children, Andrew P., Walter J., Bessie L., Dessie L., Alexander W., and Euphemia. The family have long been prominent in the social activities of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Oachs is recognized as one of the most progressive farmers and stockmen in the county, and

though he has been in the county but seventeen years he has won the confidence and the respect of all. He has ever used his influence to further the better and more substantial development of the county.

JENS PETERSON LEE.

Jens Peterson Lee, one of the well-known and prominent citizens of Elbow Lake, and one of the real pioneers of Grant county, was born in Norway on March 29, 1838, the son of Peter and Sarah Hermanson, also natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1845 and settled in Wisconsin, where they purchased land and continued to live for some years. They later removed to Columbia county, that state, and there Mr. Hermanson continued to farm until the time of his death in 1891. Before moving to Columbia county, his wife, Sarah Hermanson, died and he later married Kari Peterson. By his first wife, Mr. Hermanson was the father of two children, Ingeborg and Jens Peterson. By his second marriage he was the father of two children, Herman and Nels, both of whom are deceased. The family were prominent in the early social life of the communities in which they lived and took much interest in the work of the Lutheran church, to which they belonged.

Jens Peterson Lee was but seven years of age when his parents left their native land and located in Wisconsin, and there he was educated and grew to manhood, in Dane county and in Columbia county. He received the greater part of his education in the parochial schools, but has gained much of it through his own efforts. He came to Grant county in 1866 and purchased one hundred acres of government land, and homesteaded fifty acres, to which he later added fifty acres in Sanford township. The land at that time was for the most part wild and required much work to place it under cultivation. He engaged in general farming and stock raising until his retirement in 1904, when he came to Elbow Lake to live. Mr. Lee has always taken much interest in local affairs and did much toward the growth and the development of the township and the county. He has been a patriotic citizen of his adopted country and during the Indian outbreak in 1862 he served with General Sibley for one year and was later one year in the navy of the United States, serving until the close of the Civil War.

In 1868, at Alexandria, Jens Peterson Lee was united in marriage to Bergithe Holing, who was born in Norway on September 2, 1848, the daughter of Sever and Jonetta Holing. Her parents lived in Norway until 1866, when they came to the United States and located for a time at Minneapolis. The father, that same year, homesteaded in Douglas county, but never lived on the place, as he died in the fall of the year that he came to this country. After the death of the husband and father, the mother with the children moved to the homestead and here she died on March 22, 1895, at the age of seventy-two years. They were the parents of the following children: Hogan, who was one of the first settlers of Douglas county; Bergithe, deceased; Bergithe, who married Jens Peterson Lee, and Mette, Ole, Sophia and Johan, all of whom are deceased.

To Jens Peterson and Bergithe (Holing) Lee one child was born, Sophia, whose birth occurred in Douglas county on May 25, 1869. In October of that year, the parents moved to Sanford township, Grant county, where they lived in one of the Indian shanties the first year. Mrs. Lee was the first white woman in that township and her daughter was the first white child. Sophia was educated in the old log school house and her first teacher was Alice Heald. She grew to womanhood among the primitive surroundings of the early settlers in Sanford township, where she was married on June 22, 1902, to Otto E. Ostby. Mr. Ostby was born in Norway on April 2, 1870, and received his education in the public schools of his native land and in Wisconsin. He also attended Willmar Seminary and Brue Flat Academy in North Dakota. He lived with his sister, Mrs. Olema Ostby, and in 1892, came to Grant county, where for sixteen years he was a grain buyer and for six years the manager of the farmers elevator at Elbow Lake. Politically, Mr. Ostby is an independent Republican and has always taken much interest in local affairs, and has done much to advance the welfare of the community. He is a member of the Lutheran church and he and his wife have always taken much interest in church work, and have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community, where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They are the parents of one child, Joseph Omandus Bernard, who was born on May 4, 1908. Owing to his long association with the grain business of the county, Mr. Ostby has a large acquaintance throughout the district, and is recognized as one of the successful and honorable business men of the locality.

Mrs. Bergithe (Holing) Lee was for two years the only white woman

in Sanford township. The Indians, who were still numerous in that section, when she and her husband settled there, for the most part treated her with the utmost kindness and respect, yet her life was a lonely one. Those were trying times for the little family and they suffered many of the hardships common to the early settler. For ten years they had nothing but oxen with which to do their clearing and farm work. Mr. Lee was many times at the place where Elbow Lake is now situated, when it was but an Indian camp, and where he was entertained by the Indian chief and served with the choicest of roast muskrat, one of their favorite dishes. Yet despite these conditions, the family succeeded in the clearing of their farm and in time becoming prominent in the affairs of the county. Mrs. Bergithe (Holling) Lee died on June 24, 1907.

A. D. LARSON, M. D.

Dr. A. D. Larson, one of the successful physicians and business men of Herman, president of the First National Bank of Herman, and former representative in the Legislature, was born on March 1, 1863, in Sweden, the son of L. Larson and wife. The mother died in Sweden and the father later came to the United States and located in Minneapolis, where he died some years ago.

A. D. Larson was educated in schools of Sweden, where he resided until 1881, when he came to America and located at Minneapolis. He later attended the Gustavus Adolphus college at St. Peter and after completing his work there was in Europe for a year doing post-graduate work. Upon his return to the United States he entered the University of Minnesota, and was graduated from the medical department of that institution in 1893, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, receiving his degree on June 1. He began active practice on June 3, at Herman, where he succeeded Dr. W. R. Hand, now of Elbow Lake. As a young practitioner Doctor Larson was quite successful and continued active practice until 1904, when he retired from the active practice of medicine, and has since then been conducting a drug store at Herman, where he is now located. As a physician and druggist he has always been held in the highest regard by the people of the community.

Doctor Larson has always taken a keen interest in local and state affairs and his wise and conservative methods have won the respect of the

community in which he lives. In 1898 he was elected coroner of the county and held that position for four years. In 1903 he was elected to the state Legislature as representative from this district, and in 1905 he was re-elected. His service in that connection being highly commended by all parties.

As a business man, Doctor Larson's ability and acumen were recognized and in 1906 he assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of Herman. Prior to that time the bank had existed as a private institution. At the time of the organization Doctor Larson became a director and in January, 1912, was elected president of the institution.

In 1895 Dr. A. D. Larson was united in marriage to Anna Benson and to this union have been born two children, Clarence Walter and Florence Josephine. The family are active supporters of the Methodist Episcopal church at Herman and take much interest in church work. Fraternally, Doctor Larson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

ADOLPH G. KIETZMAN.

Adolph G. Kietzman, one of the well-known farmers of Macsville township, Grant county, was born on the old homestead in Logan township, that county, November 13, 1878, the son of Henry and Wilhelmena Kietzman, who were born in Germany, he on January 26, 1841, and she on August 8, 1850. They came to the United States and located in Wisconsin, where they resided for some years. In 1871 they came to Minnesota and located in Grant county, where Henry Kietzman homesteaded eighty acres of land and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres in Logan township, to which he later added forty acres. This land he developed and improved and had one of the most desirable farms in the township. He set out a fine grove and erected substantial buildings, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred on June 21, 1912. His wife died on May 20, 1912. They were active members of the German Lutheran church and their family has long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community. Henry Kietzman was a man of much ability and was possessed of rare judgment and business acumen. By hard work and good management he became the owner of nine hundred acres of excellent land, all of which is still owned by the family. He was recognized as one of the wealthy and substantial citizens of the township and was highly

respected by all who knew him. He took much interest in local affairs and had much to do with shaping the affairs of the township and the county. He was progressive in his views and was a firm believer in the highest standards of public improvements. Though starting life as a poor man, he became one of the most prominent and influential men in the county. To Mr. Kietzman the township owes much for its high social and civic standing, and his death was mourned by the entire community. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Bertha, Emil, Viva, Adolph, Laura, Albert, Alice, Ella, Henry, Herman and Minnie, all of whom are living.

Adolph G. Kietzman received his education in the public schools of Logan township and grew to manhood on his father's farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted with the farm work. Early in life he decided to be a farmer and after completing his education he engaged in that work, and is today one of the successful and well-known farmers of Macsville township. He owns a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres in sections 20, 21 and 28 and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Politically, Mr. Kietzman is an independent, but he has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has had much to do with the civic life of the township. He is an active member of the German Lutheran church and is unmarried.

K. E. SLETTEN.

K. E. Sletten, manager of the Elbow Lake Hardware and Lumber Company at Elbow Lake, is a native of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in the neighboring county of Pope, in 1873, and is a son of Erik Sletten, a native of Norway, who came to the United States in 1868, settling first in Wisconsin, from whence, in 1871, he came to Minnesota and settled in Pope county, where he lived until his retirement from the active labors of the farm and removal to Elbow Lake, where he spent his last days in the household of his son, the subject of this review.

K. E. Stetten was reared on the paternal farm in Pope county and early learned the details of the agricultural-implement business, with which he was connected for a period of ten years at Hoffman. He then removed to Kensington, where for two years he was manager of the Kensington Hardware and Lumber Company. In the spring of 1912 Mr. Sletten was

sent to Elbow Lake as the local manager of the Elbow Lake Hardware and Lumber Company, and has ever since been thus engaged, one of the best-known hardware and lumber men in this part of the state, having built up a large trade for his company.

In September, 1902, K. E. Sletten was united in marriage to Josephine Stone, of Pope county, and to this union six children have been born, namely: Magdaline, Helen, Lillian, Nora, Glenn and Norman. Mr. and Mrs. Sletten are members of the Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all good causes hereabout.

HON. CARL A. WOLD.

Hon. Carl A. Wold, former representative in the Legislature from the Alexandria district and one of the prominent and successful, as well as one of the most widely-known men of Douglas county, being the editor and proprietor of the *Park Region Echo* at Alexandria, was born on a farm in Jackson county, Minnesota, on July 4, 1870, the son of Ole and Margaret Wold, who were born in Norway, received their education in the public schools there and were there married. Some time after their marriage they decided to leave the land of their nativity and locate in America. Upon landing in the United States in 1869 they came directly to Minnesota and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Jackson county and later purchased one hundred and sixty acres. The tract at that time was a wild prairie and their first home was a dug-out, with a hay and sod roof. It was there that they resided for some time and there that the son, Carl A., was born. The family lived there until 1882, the father meantime doing much toward developing the place, and had erected a good-sized log house to replace the dug-out. After selling that farm the family moved to Douglas county, where Ole Wold purchased one hundred and eleven acres in Brandon township, paying for the same ten dollars an acre. The tract was located one mile from Brandon village and was at that time a wild prairie. A frame house, sixteen by sixteen feet, was erected, and preparations were at once made to develop the farm. In a short time the wild prairie was transformed into well-cultivated fields and the large barns were well filled with the golden grain and well-selected stock. A fine brick house was erected and the family became recognized as one of the successful and



MR. AND MRS. CARL A. WOLD.

prominent families of the township. It was there that Ole Wold engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, in 1905. His wife died in 1899.

Ole and Margaret Wold were the parents of the following children: Carl A., John O., Ole M., Pernell Matilda, Minnie J., Helen and Olof. John O. Wold is now a prominent farmer of Laurel, Montana. Ole M. Wold is engaged in the general-merchandise business and is the proprietor of an elevator at Laurel, Montana. Minnie J. Wold married H. W. Horton and resides at Big Fork, Minnesota. Helen Wold lives at Laurel, Montana. Olaf Wold is a resident of Woldridge, Canada, and Pernell M., now Mrs. James, lives at Forsyth, Montana.

Carl A. Wold received his early schooling in the public schools of Jackson county. The school was conducted at the home of his father for three or four years, or until the time the school house was built. He later attended school at Brandon and was graduated from the high school at Alexandria, with the class of 1893. During his high-school life he worked with a threshing outfit, in the fall, in order to meet his personal expenses. Upon completing the high-school course he entered the University of Minnesota and worked as a newspaper reporter to pay his way. Before he had completed his course it was necessary for him to return to the home farm, where he assisted his father with the work, and there he remained for three years, working on the farm during the summers and teaching school during the winters. Upon completing his collegiate course, he and his brother engaged in the general-merchandise business at Brandon, and Carl A. Wold remained thus engaged for seven years, at the end of which time he purchased the *Brandon Echo*. Three years later he reorganized the paper, removed to Alexandria and established there the *Park Region Echo*. The newspaper outfit at that time was small, but was later enlarged and today is the most complete of any paper in Douglas county. The office is equipped with a linotype, a cylinder press and a large job press. The *Park Region Echo* is a weekly paper, six-column quarto, of high tone. Mr. Wold is a man of much ability and his influence is widely felt throughout the county. He has for years been an ardent advocate of county option and prohibition and his influence in that direction has had much to do with making Douglas county a dry county. In 1912 Mr. Wold was a candidate for the Legislature from this district, standing on the county option and prohibition plank and was defeated. In 1914 he again made the race, on the same platform,

and was elected. He was again a candidate in 1916, but was defeated by thirty-one, out of a total vote of nearly three thousand five hundred.

On July 4, 1900, Carl A. Wold was united in marriage to Eva Emerson, one of the best-known and most prominent women in the state. She was born in Brandon township on February 12, 1880, the daughter of Theodore and Mary (Bower) Emerson. Her father was the son of Abe and Mary Ann Emerson, the former of whom was a direct kinsman of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Abe Emerson came from the eastern part of the United States and located in La Grange county, Indiana, in which state the greater part of that branch of the Emerson family is now located. Theodore A. Emerson was born in La Grange county, Indiana, on March 30, 1843. He spent his boyhood day at Wolcottville, Indiana, and there he enlisted in the Sixty-ninth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served in the trained guard service until the close of the war.

Theodore A. Emerson was united in marriage on August 25, 1867, to Mary Bower, and in October, 1887, came to Minnesota, locating in Douglas county, where he purchased a farm in the northern part of Brandon township. He later took a homestead and continued to add to his farm until he had more than four hundred acres. He continued to engage in general farming and stock raising until 1902, at which time his health failed him and he sold his farm and returned to Wolcottville, where his wife died on December 21, 1905, and was buried there, beside her father and mother. Some years later, Mr. Emerson removed to Ulysses, Nebraska, where he and his daughter, Edith May, are now living.

Theodore A. and Mary Emerson were the parents of the following children: Roxanna, Byron T., Lenora, Eva, Raymond, Edith May, Nancy Ann and Elsie. Roxanna Emerson, now deceased, was the wife of James Landa, a successful farmer of Brandon township. They were the parents of three children, Eunice May, a teacher in Brandon township, Myrtle and Ralph Emerson. Byron T. Emerson is an instructor in science in the new central high school at Minneapolis. He married Hattie Roth and has three children, Grace Lorane, Mary Elizabeth and Harold. Lenora Emerson married the Rev. W. J. Ewing, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Villiska, Iowa, and has three children. Raymond Emerson is an undertaker and furniture dealer at Lexington, Nebraska. He married Myrtle Goodman of Michigan and has one child. Edith May Emerson lives with her father in Nebraska. Nancy Ann Emerson married Clyde Cook, and resides now at Minot, North Dakota.

Eva Emerson Wold received her early schooling in the district schools of Brandon township, attended the high school at Alexandria and later was graduated from the normal school at St. Cloud, with the class of 1899. She taught school for four years and was a most successful teacher. Since her marriage to Mr. Wold she has been of much assistance to her husband in his newspaper work. She is efficient in all branches of the work and is an excellent writer. She has devoted much of her time to the cause of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and is state press superintendent of that organization. She is also secretary for the nineteenth district and is president of the local organization at Alexandria.

Mr. and Mrs. Wold have one child, a daughter, Blanch Emerson, who is now a student in the Alexandria high school. Mr. and Mrs. Wold have long been identified with the social and religious life of the community and are held as among the most popular and prominent people in the county. They have devoted much of their lives to the cause of temperance and have accomplished much good by their noble labors.

PAUL SIGURD BARTNESS.

Paul Sigurd Bartness, one of the well-known younger farmers and stockmen of Lien township, Grant county, was born on the old homestead in that township on October 2, 1885, the son of Ole D. and Hausine (Barlne) Bartness, who were born in Norway. Upon coming to the United States they came direct to Minnesota and homesteaded in section 6 of Lien township, Grant county, entering one hundred and sixty acres of land, which was later increased to two hundred and forty acres. The tract was broken and put under cultivation, good and substantial buildings were erected and a beautiful grove planted. Ole D. Bartness had nothing but his own push and energy as an asset when he came to the county, and it was the determination of himself and his wife to win that placed them among the successful farmers of the township. During the first years, Mr. Bartness worked on the railroad in order to accumulate ready funds with which to assist him in his work on the farm.

Ole D. Bartness was a Republican and took much interest in local affairs, both in the township and the county. For a number of years he was township assessor, and was sheriff of the county in an early day. Into all his official work he put the same energy and care that he did in his own

business. He and his wife were active members of the United Lutheran church, took much interest in church work and were prominent in the social and religious life of the community. They were the parents of three children, Peggy (deceased), Sophus, a resident of Elbow Lake, and Paul Sigurd. Mr. Bartness died in 1908 and his widow is now living in Montana.

Paul Sigurd Bartness received his education in the public schools of Grant county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the work on the farm. As a young man he decided to be a farmer, and today he is the owner of eighty-four acres of land, a part of the old homestead, and farms the whole place of one hundred and sixty-four acres, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. He has a fine herd of Shorthorn cattle, in which he takes much pride.

In 1912 Paul Sigurd Bartness was united in marriage to Mary Hjelle, who was born in Grant county, daughter of Lars Hjelle, of Lien township, and to this union two children have been born, Osburn and Harold, Mr. and Mrs. Bartness are active members of the United Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community, where they are highly regarded by all who know them.

CHARLES T. BROWN.

Grant county has been a good enough place for Charles T. Brown, a farmer of Pomme de Terre township, to spend his life in and he has been wise in remaining in his native locality; many young men making a grave mistake by leaving the farm and going away to the cities. He was born in Elbow Lake township on December 19, 1872, and is a son of Henry and Velzora Brown, both natives of the state of Maine, the former a son of John Brown, who lived and died in that state. Timothy Heald, the maternal grandfather of the subject of this sketch, came to Grant county in an early day, and bought the farm on which Charles T. Brown now lives, and here his death occurred in 1901. His widow, Elizabeth Heald, died in 1902. Henry Brown, mentioned above, came to Grant county about 1868 and entered a homestead. He owned several farms and here he spent the rest of his life, dying in 1906, but his widow is still living. They had three children, namely: Charles T., the subject of this sketch; Marietta, who lives in Canada, and Joseph, of Pomme de Terre township.

Charles T. Brown was reared on the farm and attended the district schools. He has always farmed and now owns a productive and well-kept place of one hundred and ninety-seven acres in Pomme de Terre township, the land which his Grandfather Heald owned in the early days. He has kept the place well improved and carries on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Brown is an independent voter. He belongs to the United Lutheran church.

In 1895 Charles T. Brown was married to Annie Sanby, who was born in Wisconsin in 1878, a daughter of Ole and Annie Sanby, who came to Grant county from Wisconsin in 1884. Ole Sanby is still living. Annie Sanby died in 1909. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown six children have been born, Elaine, Amy Thelma, Mildred Glendoline, Claudie, Clifton and Lorna, all of whom are living.

HALVOR O. SOBERG.

Halvor O. Soberg, one of the successful and well-known farmers of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born in Norway, the son of Ole and Pemelle (Halvorson) Soberg, also natives of Norway, where they were married. They continued to live in their native land for a number of years after their marriage, Mr. Soberg being there engaged in farming. In 1881 Ole Soberg came to Minnesota and was joined here by his wife and children the next year. On his arrival in Minnesota Mr. Soberg located on the farm in Holmes City township, Douglas county, where his son, Halvor O. Soberg, now resides. He at first purchased one hundred and twenty acres, fifty-five acres being added by the family in later years. When Mr. Soberg took possession of the farm, there were but ten acres of the tract cleared, the balance of the tract having been cleared and put under cultivation since that time. The farm today is under a high state of cultivation and well improved, the buildings having all been erected by the family.

Ole and Pemelle Soberg were the parents of the following children: Peter, Halvor, Bertha, Ellen, Ole, Mina and Carrie. Ellen was the wife of G. Hanson. She and her sister, Bertha, are now deceased. Mina is the wife of Halvor Johnson and Carrie is the wife of Peter Mattson. The family are active members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in church work. The father was a man of much prominence and was interested in the Holmes City Fire Insurance Company. Mrs. Pemelle So-

berg died at her home on the farm in the fall of 1901. Mr. Soberg later retired from the activities of the farm life and removed to Alexandria, where he died in the fall of 1911.

Halvor O. Soberg received his education in the schools of his native country, where he lived until he was twenty-three years of age. In 1882 he came to Minnesota with his mother and for the first two years thereafter worked in various places. In 1884 he located on the home farm and after the death of his mother he purchased the place from his father. Here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. He has always taken much interest in local affairs, was one of the organizers of the Holmes City creamery and is interested in the Holmes City Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is interested in the social and religious life of the community.

LOUIS HANSEN.

Louis Hansen, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Delaware township, Grant county, was born in Norway on September 14, 1865, the son of Hans and Barte Norby, also natives of Norway, where the father is still living. His wife died in December, 1902. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Ole, who is on the old home farm in Norway; Amund, who is a farmer in Delaware township, Grant county; Millie, who lives in Norway; Martha, who is the wife of Otto Runing, of Spicer, Kandiyohi county, this state, and Anna, who died in Norway.

Louis Hansen received his education in the public schools of Norway and grew to manhood on the home farm, continuing to reside in the land of his birth until 1888, when he decided to come to America. On his arrival in this country he came direct to Minnesota and in 1889 purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 1 of Delaware township, Grant county. This farm he has developed and improved and since making his original purchase has added other land until he is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres, having at one time owned four hundred acres. He set out a fine grove and has erected modern buildings. The barn is forty-two by twenty-four feet, with a silo sixteen by forty-two feet, all in the best state of repair. He is engaged in general farming and stock

raising and has been quite successful. He is a believer in intensive farming and in the keeping of the best of stock, and being a progressive farmer operates his farm in accordance with the modern methods of the up-to-date farmer and stockman. Mr. Hansen is a Republican, has always taken much interest in local affairs and his ability and excellent judgment have been recognized by the people of the township. He has served as a member of the school board and has been a supervisor of his township for a number of years. He and his wife are members of the United Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take an active interest, and are prominent in the social and religious life of the township, where they are held in high regard by all who know them.

In 1892 Louis Hansen was united in marriage to Lena Emberson, who was born in Norway in 1864 and who came to the United States as a young woman, having received her education in the public schools of her native country, where her parents died some years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have no children but have raised a boy, Ingwald, who is now at home.

LEWIS T. FAGERBERG.

Lewis T. Fagerberg, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial farmers, former member of the board of county commissioners, former chairman of the board of supervisors of Sanford township and for many years active in public affairs, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty years of age and of Grant county since the year 1880. He was born at Tinn, in Telemarken, August 17, 1854, son of Torger and Gunhild (Olson) Halvorson, both natives of that same district, the former born in 1807 and the latter in 1814, who spent all their days in their native land. Torger Halvorson in the days of his young manhood was a soldier in the army of his country, but never saw any active service in time of war. He owned a farm home and was a carpenter and cabinet-maker. He died in 1875 and his widow survived him nearly thirteen years, her death occurring in 1888. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were six of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last-born, the others being as follow: Halvor, who lives on the old home place in Norway; Ole, a wagon-maker, who came to this country and spent his last days in Grant county; Berget, who also came to this country,

married Tosten Ostensón and lives in Sanford township; John, a cabinet-maker, who still lives in Norway, and Anna, unmarried, who continues to make her home in her native land.

Reared on the home farm in Norway, Lewis T. Fagerberg received his schooling in the local schools of that neighborhood and continued to make his home there until he was past nineteen years of age, when, in the spring of 1874, in company with a cousin, he came to the United States and located in Lee county, Illinois, where he remained until 1880, working on farms during the summers and attending school during the winters. In the year last mentioned he came to Minnesota and proceeded on out to Grant county, where for awhile he worked on farms and then bought a quarter section of railroad land in section 1 of Delaware township. In the spring of 1886 he disposed of that tract and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 32 of Sanford township, on the south short of Round lake. Having married a couple of years previously he established his home on this latter place and there has lived ever since, he and his family long having been very comfortably and very pleasantly situated there. When Mr. Fagerberg took possession of that farm it was raw, unimproved prairie land and with the exception of a small fringe of trees along the lake was treeless. He had been living on a "forty" he owned three-quarters of a mile southwest of there and he moved the house from the latter tract onto the new tract and began to break and improve the place. He planted a fine grove, started an orchard, which now consists of more than one hundred and seventy trees, and in other ways endeavored to make his place one of the most attractive in the neighborhood. In 1897 he built a new farm house and in 1900 a new barn. From time to time he has added to his farm until now he owns there four hundred acres and is also the owner of a quarter of a section in section 18 of Sanford township. From the very beginning of his residence in Grant county, Mr. Fagerberg has taken an active interest in local civic affairs; for some time was chairman of the board of supervisors in his home township; for eight years, including the period during which the new court house was erected, was a member of the board of county commissioners, and has also served in local school offices. For many years he has been engaged in the threshing business and for the past five years or more has been the owner of a threshing-rig of his own. In the fall of 1913 Mr. Fagerberg took a trip back to his native land and was gone for more than three months, reviewing the scenes of his youth. The return trip was made on the "Oceanic" and it proved a very tempestuous voyage, the rails

of the vessel being washed away, a leak developing and other thrilling incidents occurring to give the passengers cause to remember the voyage.

It was in 1884 that Lewis T. Fagerberg was united in marriage to Joran Helleckson, who also was born in Norway, daughter of Helleck Gunufson and wife, who spent all their lives in their native land, and to this union six children have been born, namely: Theodore, a farmer, living near the village of Evansville; Helmar, who lives on his father's quarter section near West Elbow; Bennie and Gus, twins, who are operating the home place for their father; Oscar, a homesteader in Montana, and Genia, who married Bennie Westrom and lives in Sanford township. The Fagerbergs are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in all local good works, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare hereabout.

GEORGE D. KREIDLER.

The late George D. Kreidler was born in Wright county, Minnesota, December 17, 1861, the son of Samuel and Barbara (Deckmer) Kreidler, who were born in Pennsylvania and Germany respectively. They came to Minnesota in an early day and in 1878 came to Grant county, where they took a homestead of eighty acres and a tree claim of eighty acres. That farm they developed and improved and there engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years. They then sold the farm and moved to Herman, where they lived retired lives for a number of years. Samuel Kreidler later moved to Minneapolis, where he now lives, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife also is well advanced in years and the two are enjoying the evening of life after a useful and eventful life.

George D. Kreidler received his education in the public schools of Wright county, where he lived until he was seventeen years of age. He grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting his father with the farm work, and after coming to Grant county he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6 of Roseville township. That farm he developed and improved, erected excellent buildings and planted a beautiful grove. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred on January 6, 1916.

George D. Kreidler was identified with the Republican party, always

took an active interest in local affairs and was one of the prominent men in the civic life of the community. He served as a member of the school board for many years and was treasurer of the township. He was always greatly interested in the success of the schools of the district and during his official service on the school board did much for the benefit of the schools. He was a man of ability and was recognized as one of the substantial men of the township. He and his family were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and always took much interest in church work. They were long prominent in the social and the religious life of the township and were held in the highest regard by all who knew them.

On November 29, 1887, George D. Kreidler was united in marriage to Louise Steinhilber, who was born in Wright county, this state, August 28, 1866, the daughter of George and Mary (Shuler) Steinhilber. The parents were natives of Germany and there received their education in the public schools and grew to manhood and womanhood. They came to the United States and were married in this country. The father was a tailor by trade. He settled in Wright county, this state, where he died in 1868. The widow died in 1897, at the age of seventy-four years. To George D. and Louise Kreidler were born the following children: Howard, Marilla, Willard, Lola, George, Isabel and Lawrence. Howard Kreidler was born on June 29, 1889, and is now a resident of Wapenton, North Dakota. Marilla was born on March 16, 1891 and is living at home with her mother. Willard was born on June 4, 1893; Lola, August 5, 1895; George, October 30, 1899; Isabel, April 23, 1901, and Lawrence, April 9, 1904.

ERICK G. ERICKSON.

Erick G. Erickson, a native of Sweden and a well-known and successful farmer of Urness township, Douglas county, was born on April 5, 1861, the son of Erick Erickson and wife, also natives of Sweden. In 1866 Erick Erickson came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 5 of Urness township, Douglas county. Mr. Erickson at once began the task of developing and improving the place, preparatory to bringing his family to their new home. For two years he worked alone, during which time he accomplished much in the way of preparing his farm for cultivation. In 1868 he brought his wife and children to this country and together they developed the farm until in time it became one of

the desirable places in the township. In the beginning they had little to assist them in their efforts, but by hard work and close application to business, Mr. Erickson became the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in the township. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising, until 1904, when he moved to Roseau county, where he purchased two hundred acres of land, and there he lived until the time of his death on March 13, 1915. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Erick G., Emil (who died when a child), Charles M., and Minnie, the latter of whom is the wife of Ole Erickson. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson were active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and were prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Erickson was identified with the Republican party and was one of the prominent and substantial men of the county. From 1886 to 1890 he served as treasurer of the county, and retired from the office with the confidence and respect of the entire community.

Erick G. Erickson received his education in the public schools of Urness township and there grew to manhood on the home farm, assisting his father with the farm work. In 1886 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 20, to which he later added forty acres, and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1910, when he sold the place and bought his present farm of two hundred and ninety-five acres in section 5, where he continues in the work of general farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful.

In 1886 Erick G. Erickson was united in marriage to Caroline Lindstrom, the daughter of Lars Lindstrom, and to this union the following children have been born: Hilda, Jennie, Clara, Edna, Oscar, Constance, Walter, Loren, Leona, and Vernon, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community. For many years Mr. Erickson has been a trustee of the local church organization, and is recognized as one of the substantial supporters, as well as one of the most active workers in the church. He has long been identified with the civic life of the township. Politically, he is an independent and feels that he can best serve the interests of the community as well as his own political conscience, by so acting. He has served as township clerk, as school clerk and as justice of the peace for many years. He not only believes in modern and progressive methods in the management of his personal affairs, but in the conduct of public affairs as well, and is a strong advocate of good roads

and the best of schools, believing that in them rests the future success of the growth and prosperity of the township and the county. Being a man of broad experience and excellent judgment, his advice is often sought in matters pertaining to the welfare of the community where he lives and where he is held in the highest esteem.

EVEN E. BJERKE.

One of the many well-known and successful farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, who are natives of Norway, is Even E. Bjerke, who was born on June 26, 1844, the son of Even Olson and Martha (Johnson) Bjerke, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives in their native country, well-known farming people, who were held in the highest regard. They were the parents of seven children, Ellena, Karene (who died when but a child), Olena, Bergena, Johames, Hans and Even.

Even E. Bjerke received his education in the public schools of Norway and there he lived until he was twenty years of age, when he decided to come to America. On his arrival in the United States, in 1864, he located in Chicago, where he remained for two years, after which he came to Minnesota and located in Houston county, the next year coming on over to Grant county, where he obtained a tract of wild land in Elk township and there began his life as a farmer and stock raiser. There were still many Indians in the district at that time and the neighbors were few and far apart. The nearest market was at Benson, where Mr. Bjerke sold his first wheat, which was the first shipped from that place, now one of the well established wheat markets of this section. As a farmer and stock raiser Mr. Bjerke has been quite successful and is now the owner of three hundred and sixty-eight acres of land in Grant county, as well as much land in other counties. He homesteaded in sections 15 and 12 and made his improvements in the latter section. The first buildings, were, of necessity, but rude affairs, but all these have been replaced by modern and substantial structures.

As a young man, Even E. Bjerke was united in marriage to Anna Lee and to this union the following children have been born: Matilda, who died when but a child; Edward, Conrad, William, Emil, Eda, Selma, Martin, John, Levi and Benjamin. Mr. and Mrs. Bjerke have long been identified with the social and religious life of the community where they are held in the highest regard. Coming, as he did, into the county, with Anton Hubred,

one of his nearest neighbors, for many years, Mr. Bjerke was closely identified with the early civic and educational history of the township and the county. He was one of the earliest pioneers of the district, and assisted in the organization of the first school district and assisted in the building of the first school house in the county. He has served as township clerk and as a member of the board of supervisors, and was for two terms county commissioner, always giving the same careful attention to the public work that he did to his own. Some years ago he retired from the activities of the farm life and moved to Barrett, where he now resides.

FRED WEIGAND.

Fred Weigand, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Lawrence township, Grant county, was born in Germany, on July 11, 1863, the son of George and Katarina Weigand, also natives of Germany, who spent all their lives in the land of their nativity, the father dying in 1877, at the age of forty-seven years and the mother, in 1878, at the age of forty-one years. They were the parents of six children, Fred, John, George, Rochus, Leonhard and Carl. The parents were prominent in the community in which they lived and took much interest in the social and religious activities of the same. Their children are all still residents of Germany, with the exception of George, Fred and Carl.

Fred Weigand received his education in the public schools of his native country and there grew to manhood. He served for three years in the German army and there received excellent training. In 1892 he decided that he would come to America and after landing in this country, proceeded directly to Chicago, arriving there on January 16. Having left Germany on January 5, he had been eleven days in making the journey. From Chicago he went to Iowa and located at Rockford, where he remained until 1900, in which year he came to Minnesota, locating in Lawrence township, Grant county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, which farm he has increased by later purchase, to two hundred and forty acres. The land was undeveloped at that time, but today Mr. Weigand has one of the finest farms in the township. He has set out a beautiful grove and has erected modern and substantial buildings. He has a barn that is forty by forty-eight feet, with a shed that is twenty-four by forty-eight feet and a silo that is sixteen by thirty and holds one hundred and twenty tons. He

has been quite successful, and today he is recognized as one of the substantial farmers of the county. He is a firm believer in intensive farming and in the most thorough cultivation of the soil, his farm and buildings being evidences of the careful care and attention that they receive.

Fred Weigand is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in the civic affairs of his township and the county. He has been clerk of the school board for the past ten years and has served as township treasurer for a number of years. He is active in all affairs that have to do with the growth and betterment of the community and is held in the highest regard by all who know him.

On October 6, 1897, Fred Weigand was united in marriage to Minnie Kuck, who was born in Germany in 1877, the daughter of Carl and Minnie Kuck, who came to the United States in 1882 and located at Rockford, Iowa, where they now live retired lives. To Fred and Minnie Weigand have been born seven children, Carl, Albert, Leonard, Bertha, Lizzie, Anna and Walter, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Weigand are members of the Presbyterian church.

P. M. WESTLUND.

There is no more persistent and careful tiller of the soil in Land township, Grant county, than P. M. Westlund, who was born in Sweden, October 18, 1860. He is a son of Magnus and Martha (Sjelleson) Westlund, both natives of Sweden, where they spent their earliest years, immigrating to America in 1879 and locating near Redwing, Minnesota, moving on to Grant county in 1886, and purchasing the present farm of the family in Land township, where they have since resided. The father is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church. His family consists of the following children: Nels, P. M. and Emma.

P. M. Westlund spent his boyhood in Sweden, where he attended the public schools. He was nineteen years of age when he accompanied the family to the United States. He worked with his father the first year after arriving here, in the vicinity of Hastings, Minnesota, and was also employed in Minneapolis at the plumbing trade during the summer seasons for a few years. In 1888 he came to the family homestead in Land township, Grant county, and has since resided there, engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has managed well and has met with pronounced success in his

chosen calling, and now owns a valuable and well-improved farm of two hundred and forty acres, on which he has erected practically all the buildings, and has also made many other excellent improvements on the place.

In 1896 P. M. Westlund was married to Christine Olson, the daughter of Olof Larson and to this union two children have been born, Edwin and Mabel. Politically, Mr. Westlund is a Republican, but takes no active part in politics.

CHARLEY J. ANDERSON.

Charley J. Anderson, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Sweden, on May 18, 1873, the son of John and Ellen (Nelson) Anderson, who also were born in Sweden and there continued to live until 1881, when they decided to come to America. Upon landing in this country they proceeded at once to Michigan and located at Manistee, where they remained for four years. In 1885 they came to Minnesota and located in Roseville township, Grant county, where they remained for two years, after which they moved to Stevens county, where John Anderson engaged in farming and where he lived until the time of his death. His widow is still living. They were the parents of six children, Nels, Anna, Hannah (deceased), Charley, Paul (deceased) and Andrew.

Charley J. Anderson was about twelve years of age when he came to this county with his parents and he completed his education in the public schools of Michigan. He grew to manhood on his father's farm, assisting with the farm work, and remained with his father until he was twenty-three years of age, when he engaged in farming for himself on one hundred and sixty acres of the old home farm, in Stevens county, where he remained until the fall of 1909, when he came to Grant county, where he now has two hundred and twenty-two acres in Elk Lake township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has a fine dairy herd.

In the fall of 1896 Charley J. Anderson was united in marriage to Matilda Lofgren, who was born in Sweden, daughter of Olof Lofgren, and to this union six children were born: Edner, Ruben, Viola, Leonard, Clifford and Mildred, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are active members of the Swedish Mission church, and have always taken much interest in the religious and social life of the community. They and their family are prominent in the district and are held in the highest esteem by all who

know them. Mr. Anderson has taken a keen interest in the civic life of the township and has done much toward its growth and development. He has ever been ready to assist with his time and ability in the promotion of any worthy cause that had for its purpose the betterment of the social and the financial development of the township and the county. His life has been an active one, and he has accomplished much of value to himself and the community in which he lives.

FRED HENRY SYMONDS.

Fred Henry Symonds, one of Grant county's best-known and most progressive young farmers, chairman of the board of supervisors of Lawrence township and the proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in that township, is a native son of Grant county and has lived in the county all his life. He was born on the paternal homestead, nearby his present place of residence in Lawrence township, August 14, 1885, son of Franklin P. and Isabel (Swift) Symonds, the former a native of the state of Massachusetts and the latter of New York, who are still living on their homestead farm in Lawrence township.

Franklin P. Symonds was born in Essex county, Massachusetts, January 22, 1852, son of Henry B. and Elizabeth (Leighton) Symonds, the former a native of that same state and the latter of Maine. Henry B. Symonds was born in 1821, of old New England stock, and his wife was born in 1831, daughter of Smithson and Eliza (Yallaly) Leighton, who left Maine in 1858 and moved to Michigan, settling about eighteen miles north of Benton Harbor, where they spent the remainder of their lives. For some years after his marriage, Henry B. Symonds continued to make his home in Essex county, Massachusetts, where he was connected with saw-mills and factories, and in the fall of 1861 moved to Michigan, settling on a farm in Allegan county, where he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. In 1864 he enlisted for service in one of the Michigan regiments and was with the Army of the Potomac during the closing year of the Civil War. His death occurred in 1898 and his widow survived until 1908. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Franklin P. was the first-born, the others being as follow: Lewis, who lives in northern Michigan; Rensselaer, who lives in Allegan county, Michigan; Warren and Willard, twins, the former of whom died in Michigan in 1914 and the latter of whom was last heard from in Texas;

Leander, who lives on the old home place in Allegan county, Michigan, and Abbie Jane, a daughter, who died in infancy while the family still lived in Massachusetts.

Franklin P. Symonds was about nine years of age when his parents moved from Massachusetts to Michigan and on the home farm in the forests of Allegan county he grew to manhood. When twenty years old, in 1872, he came to Minnesota and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 2 of Lawrence township, Grant county, being one of the earliest settlers in that township. He there erected a claim shanty, twelve by sixteen feet in dimensions, with a shingle roof, and began to develop his place. Four years later he married and established his permanent home on the farm. In 1882 he built a substantial frame dwelling on his place and has several times remodeled and made additions to the house. In that same year he also built a new barn, which was struck by lightning and destroyed in 1890, after which he erected his present commodious barn. As he prospered in his affairs, Mr. Symonds added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of four hundred and forty acres of land in one body. He keeps a herd of about sixty Hereford cattle and about fifteen horses. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Creamery Company at Wendell and has been a stockholder in the same since the time of its organization. Politically, Mr. Symonds is a Prohibitionist. He has served as a member of the board of township supervisors, for some time chairman of that body, and has also served as township treasurer.

It was in 1876 that Franklin P. Symonds was united in marriage to Isabel Swift, who was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, a daughter of James Swift and wife, who came to Minnesota in 1871 and settled in Otter Tail county, and to this union five children have been born, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: Walter, who died at the age of four months; Laura, who married Adolph Mann and lived on a farm in Lawrence township, west of the Symonds place; Mary, a music teacher, who makes her home with her parents, and Lewis, also at home. The Symonds are members of the Presbyterian church and have ever given earnest attention to the general good works of their community.

Reared on the paternal homestead in Lawrence township, Fred H. Symonds received his elementary education in the public schools of his home district and supplemented the same by a course in the high school at Fergus Falls, after which he remained on the home farm, a valued assistant to his

father in the development of the same, until 1911, the year before his marriage, when, in partnership with his father, he bought the southeast quarter of section 2 in Lawrence township. A year later he bought his father's interest in the same and has since been the sole proprietor. He has improved the farm in admirable shape and has a very comfortable and pleasant home. Mr. Symonds is a shareholder in the farmers' creamery at Wendell. He is a Democrat and is the present chairman of the board of supervisors of Lawrence township. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masonic lodge at Wendell and with the Modern Woodmen of America at the same place, in the affairs of both of which organizations he takes a warm interest.

It was on December 12, 1912, that Fred S. Symonds was united in marriage in Buffalo county, Wisconsin, to Ethel Borst, who was born at Independence, in Trempealeau county, that same state, March 16, 1890, daughter of Henry and Annie (Bugbee) Borst, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Wisconsin, who settled in Trempealeau county after their marriage and later moved to Buffalo county, where Henry Borst is still making his home and where his wife died on April 30, 1912. To this union two children have been born, Annie Elizabeth, born on November 1, 1913, and Franklin Borst, December 9, 1915. Mr. and Mrs. Symonds are members of the Presbyterian church and take an active interest in the beneficences of the same, as well as in all movements designed to advance the common welfare of the community in which they live.

CHARLES S. PETERSON.

Charles S. Peterson, a well-known merchant at Evansville, doing an extensive business in the furniture and retail-meat line, is a native of Iowa, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was four or five years of age. He was born at Osage, Iowa, December 23, 1873, son of Andrew and Elsa Peterson, natives of Sweden, who were married in their native land and in the latter sixties came to the United States, settling in Iowa, whence they later came to Minnesota, settling in Douglas county, where the latter spent the rest of her life and where the former is still living.

Andrew Peterson had been trained to the trade of blacksmith in his native country and upon locating at Osage, Iowa, continued to follow his trade there until 1878, when he and his family came to Minnesota, driving through to Douglas county in a "prairie schooner." Mr. Peterson entered a

homestead tract of eighty acres in Urness township, on which he built a small claim shanty and established his home, living there many years. As his affairs progressed he erected a nice two-story frame house and good farm buildings, and otherwise improved the place until he had one of the best farms in that neighborhood. To his original homestead tract he added an adjoining "eighty" and farmed the quarter section until about 1901, when he sold his place and he and his wife moved to Alexandria, where the latter died in 1905 and where he is still living. They were the parents of eight children, of whom three died in infancy, the others being as follow: Ellen, wife of M. A. Schledrup, of Minneapolis; N. A., a farmer, living two miles west of Alexandria; Mary, wife of Oscar Nelson, of Alexandria; Charles S., the subject of this biographical sketch, and Wilbert, of Two Harbors, this state.

Charles S. Peterson was not yet five years old when his parents moved to Douglas county and he was reared on the pioneer farm in Urness township, receiving his schooling in the district school in the neighborhood of the same and supplementing the same by a course in a business college at Sauk Center, after which he clerked in the general store of S. P. Hanson at Sauk Center for about eighteen months, at the end of which time he returned to the home farm, where he remained until his marriage in the fall of 1895. In the meantime he had bought a tract of forty acres in Urness township, not far from the paternal homestead, and on that place he and his wife began housekeeping, remaining there two or three years. Mr. Peterson then sold his farm to advantage and moved to Hoffman, where he engaged in the restaurant business, but about seven months later sold his restaurant and moved to Kensington, where he bought a meat market, to which he later added a livery stable. He remained at Kensington for more than nine years, at the end of which time he sold his business there and moved to Evansville, where, in partnership with his wife's brother, N. J. Lindstrum, he engaged in the hardware and farm-implement business, continuing thus engaged for about four years, when the firm sold out to the Evansville Hardware and Lumber Company. In the spring of 1915 Mr. Peterson opened a furniture store at Evansville and also opened another meat market and is now conducting both establishments and is doing very well. His store is well stocked and his meat market is well equipped in up-to-date, hygienic shape. Mr. Peterson is a Republican and gives a good citizen's attention to political affairs, but has not been a seeker after public office, though he served as a member of the council while living at Kensington.

It was in October, 1895, that Charles S. Peterson was united in marriage

to Emma Lindstrum, daughter of Lars and Maria Lindstrum, pioneers of Douglas county, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Rudolph Irvin, who is now a student at Northwestern College at Fergus Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works.

JOHN W. NELSON.

John W. Nelson, a well-known farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, and an honored veteran of the Civil War, was born in Ireland on October 19, 1832, a son of William and Mary (Braden) Nelson. Thomas Nelson, the grandfather, was born in Ireland, where he followed farming. William Nelson, the father, was three times married, the first wife dying early, and the second was the mother of John W. Nelson, who was very young when his mother's death occurred in Ireland. The third wife was Catherine Collins and that union was without issue.

William Nelson came to America in 1850 and settled on a farm on Long Island, New York, where he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, the former dying there in 1896. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. To William and Mary (Braden) Nelson the following children were born: John W., the subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, who married and died in March, 1864, and James Goodfellow, an architect and builder at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

John W. Nelson received part of his education in Liverpool, England, where his father worked for some time in a grocery store. He later emigrated to New York, then went to Philadelphia to visit his uncle, James G. Nelson, with whom he made his home until about 1865, when he came to Minnesota; coming to the wilds of a new state to hunt, trap and fish—to get away from city life, which he never liked, and for awhile he made his living hunting and fishing throughout this "park region" of Minnesota. When he came here there were only one or two houses where now stands the town of Alexandria. He was one of the earliest pioneers of this county. He took up a homestead in 1865—in section 35 of what is now Brandon township—paying one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre for two hundred and two acres (that is for all over one hundred and sixty acres). In 1872 Mr. Nelson married Martha Stewart, whose death occurred in 1894. To their union the following children were born: Elizabeth, who married John Sherman; Mary

Jane, who married Charles Williams; William J., who married Euchine Baker and now lives in Yellowstone county, Montana, and Martha, who married Louis Bylund and continues to live on the homestead farm.

Mr. Nelson cleared and developed his land in Brandon township; however, he has a good deal of timber land yet. The land skirts Lake Nelson, which was named after him. He has been quite successful as a general farmer and is one of the best-known citizens in his part of the county, which he has been influential in developing for half a century. He has lived through all the stages of progress that have been made in Douglas and adjoining counties, and talks interestingly of the early days here, when the land was still an Indian domain and wild game was abundant. He has always been a great lover of nature and of the outdoors. He once owned a good deal of land, but has given the major portion of it to his children. He prefers the simple life and has never cared for a pretentious home or the trappings of wealth in any form. He is now well advanced in years, but is hale and hearty, because of his outdoor life and steady habits. He is a fine type of the old pioneer hunter and has always worn his hair long, like other plainsmen of an earlier day, a habit Mr. Nelson began in the early days to keep mosquitoes off his neck. Mr. Nelson has served as clerk of his school district and was chairman of the board of supervisors for several years. During the Civil War he enlisted in the Fourth Union Regiment of Philadelphia, under Colonel McClain, and was corporal of Company F. His services were principally confined to Pennsylvania, where his command was on guard duty.

FRANK H. HEALD.

Frank H. Heald, register of deeds in and for Grant county and one of the best-known men in public life in this section of the state, is a native son of Grant county and has lived there all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Pomme de Terre township, January 17, 1872, son of Aaron and Margaret H. (Young) Heald, the former a native of the state of Maine and the latter of Scotland, pioneers in Grant county, where their last days were spent.

Aaron Heald was the son of Timothy and Elizabeth (Martin) Heald, members of old families in New England, the former tracing his descent back to the days of the Pilgrims. They came West early in the fifties and located at Minneapolis, where they remained until about 1866, when they

came over into this part of the state and homesteaded a tract of land at "The Ford", the ford of the Pomme de Terre river, where Timothy Heald opened a tavern, one of the two first hostelries between Alexandria and Fergus Falls, the other having been at the old stockade at Alexandria. There they spent the remainder of their lives, honored and useful pioneers. Aaron Heald was little more than a lad when he came into the great Northwest with his parents and he grew to manhood at Minneapolis, where he married Margaret H. Young, who was born in Scotland and who, with her widowed mother, Mrs. Agnes Graham Young, had emigrated to Canada about 1854, later coming over into Minnesota and settling in the near vicinity of Minneapolis. A year or two after his parents had located at the ford of the Pomme de Terre, Aaron Heald and his wife also came over into this part of the state, settling on a homestead in Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, and there they spent the remainder of their lives. It was about the year 1868 that Aaron Heald settled out here and he and his wife thus took their places among the earliest settlers of this section, becoming influential and useful members of the pioneer community. There Aaron Heald died in 1892, and his widow died in the spring of 1914. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Agnes Esther, Elizabeth L., Walter E., George P., Margaret Christina and Nellie Louisa.

Frank H. Heald was reared on the paternal farm in Pomme de Terre township, receiving his schooling in the early schools of that neighborhood and proving a valuable assistant to his father in the work of developing and improving the homestead until he was sixteen years of age, when he entered the harness shop of Axel Husley at Elbow Lake and learned the harness-making trade. When about eighteen years of age he began teaching school and for eleven years spent his winters as a teacher in the public schools of his home county, meanwhile extending his acquaintance throughout the county and giving at all times his earnest attention to local civic affairs, becoming one of the best-known young men in the county. In 1902 he was made the nominee of his party for register of deeds in and for Grant county and was elected to that important office, in the administration of the affairs of which he demonstrated such capacity that he has been continuously re-elected to that office and is still serving, one of the most popular and painstaking officials about the court house at Elbow Lake.

In 1906 Frank H. Heald was united in marriage to Alice M. Marfell, who was born in Cardiff, Wales, and who had come to this country with her

parents, and to this union three children have been born, Alice Lillie, Donovan Frederick and Agnes Sophia. The Healds have a very pleasant home at Elbow Lake and take a proper interest in the various social activities of their home town, helpful in all good works thereabout. Mr. Heald is a member of the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias, of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Court of Honor and in the affairs of these several organizations takes a warm interest.

JASPER N. SANFORD.

Jasper N. Sanford, an honored pioneer of Grant county, who was one of the organizers of Elbow Lake township and chairman of the first board of supervisors of that township, where he has made his home since the year 1870, thus being one of the oldest continuous residents of the county, and the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Elbow Lake township, where he is now living practically retired from the active labors of the farm, his son assuming the active management of the same, is a native of the great Keystone state, but has lived in Minnesota since he was sixteen years of age and has consequently been a witness to and a participant in the development of this region since pioneer days. He was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, July 14, 1854, son of Ebenezer and Lurana (Beardsley) Sanford, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of New York state, who later moved to Illinois, where Ebenezer Sanford spent his last days, his widow later coming to Minnesota with her children and settling in Grant county, where she died in 1892.

Ebenezer Sanford, as noted above, was born in Connecticut, where he grew to manhood, later going to Michigan, where he settled on a tract of government land, which he later sold and then returned East and located in Crawford county, Pennsylvania; where he married Lurana Beardsley, who was born in New York state, daughter of Levi and Maria Beardsley, who had moved to Crawford county when she was a girl. Ebenezer Sanford bought a farm in Crawford county and there remained until 1856, in which year he sold out and moved to Millersburg, near Rock Island, Illinois, from which place he presently went to Pike's Peak on a prospecting trip, seeking gold. He returned to his home in Illinois about the time of the breaking out of the Civil War and organized a company for service in one of the Illinois regiments, but died in 1861, before his company was sent into active service.

To him and his wife had been born seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth and the eldest of whom was Francisco, who later became one of the most prominent and influential pioneers of Grant county. Francisco Sanford left his home in Illinois when a young man and came to Minnesota, being a resident of this state when the Indian outbreak occurred in 1862. He served as a soldier during that trying period and shortly after the completion of his term of service came over to this part of the state, some years before the organization of Grant county as a civic entity, and homesteaded a tract of land in what afterward became Sanford township, which was named in his honor, he being the first homesteader in that region. Francisco Sanford took a prominent part in the early affairs of the county, served for some time as a member of the board of county commissioners; also served as postmaster at Elbow Lake for some years and gave equally efficient service for some time as auditor of Grant county. The other children in the Sanford family were Sylvia, Newman, Sena, Susanna and James.

Jasper N. Sanford was about two years old when his parents moved from Pennsylvania to Illinois and was about seven years of age when his father died in 1861. During his boyhood days he had experience both on a farm and in a country store and when he was sixteen years old he urged his mother to leave Illinois and move to Minnesota to join his elder brother, Francisco, on the latter's homestead out here on what then was practically the western frontier of the state. Mrs. Sanford consented and thus the family emigrated to this region. Of course, Jasper N. Sanford was too young then to avail himself of a homestead privilege, but his mother homesteaded a place for him in the eastern part of what later became Elbow Lake township, not far from his brother Francisco's place, and there the family home was established, a rude log house being put up for a place of shelter until a better residence could be provided. At that time there were but five neighbors in the entire community and the nearest market was at Benson, from which place the family had driven over by ox-team. In 1872, however, the Soo Line came out this way, passing through Herman, and that seemed to the settlers a very near market compared with what they had previously enjoyed. Mr. Sanford "made good" on the homestead tract he began to develop in the days of his boyhood and later bought a quarter of a section of railroad land adjoining his place, thus having a half section, which he still owns and which has been brought to a high state of cultivation. In the

fall of 1883 he married and established his permanent home on his farm, ever since making that his place of residence, although for some years he has been spending his winters in New Mexico. Shortly after entering upon his homestead Mr. Sanford put out a grove of ten acres which now makes a most attractive feature of his place. He has good buildings on his place and for many years has been recognized as one of the most substantial pioneer farmers in the county. For some years Mr. Sanford gave considerable attention to the breeding of Hereford cattle and during that time maintained a herd of from forty to fifty head. In recent years he has practically retired from the labors of the farm, his son, Paul, running the place for him. Never having exercised his homestead right, Mr. Sanford several years ago went to southwestern New Mexico and there, about sixty miles from Columbus, homesteaded a quarter of a section of land, on which he now makes his winter home. Mr. Sanford is a Democrat and ever since taking up his residence in Grant county has taken an active interest in civic affairs. He was one of the organizers of Elbow Lake township and served as the chairman of the first board of supervisors of that township. In the early days he was the rural postmaster in his community, long before there was a hint of such a place as the village of Elbow Lake, and in other ways served the public in pioneer days. He is a member of the Presbyterian church at Elbow Lake and both he and his son, Paul Sanford, are members of the session of that church. Mr. Sanford for many years has been specially interested in the subject of ornithology, particularly as relating to the bird life of Minnesota, and many specimens which he has gathered have been sent to the Smithsonian Institute at Washington. Some years ago he made a trip to the Rio Grande river, collecting specimens as he went, and the result of his labors, a fine ornithological collection, now graces the Smithsonian Institute.

It was on November 15, 1883, that Jasper N. Sanford was united in marriage to Melva Delawater, who was born in Ohio, daughter of Henry Delawater and wife, and to this union four children were born, namely: Paul, who is now managing the old home farm; Newman, who now lives in California, where he is going in for orange culture; Elaine, who married Don Hand and lives at Elbow Lake, and Marjorie, who married Errol McDonald and lives in Sanford township. Mrs. Sanford, who for many years had been one of the leaders in all good works in her home community, died in 1915.

MARTIN P. JOHNSON.

The late Martin P. Johnson, for years one of the best-known and most substantial farmers of Sanford township, Grant county, one of the organizers of the Farmers Shipping Association and a director of the Farmers Elevator Company, was a native of Sweden, but had been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his early manhood. He was born at Onslandes, in Skone, March 11, 1858, son of Per and Anna Jenson, both natives of Sweden, whose last days were spent in their native land, though Per Jenson had spent three years in this country. Per Jenson was a farmer and he and his wife were the parents of ten children, two of whom died young, the others being as follow: Martin P., the subject of this memorial sketch; Peter Ekelin, a well-known farmer of Sanford township; Jens Ekelund, who is still living at the old home in Sweden; Gertude, who married and died in her native land; Anna, who married Peter Iverson and died in Canada; Kari, a widow, still living in Sweden, and Cjastena, also still living in her native land.

Martin J. Johnson was reared in his native land, receiving his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood and early learned the carpenter's trade. When a young man he came to America with his sister, Anna, they being the first members of the family to come over; but after about four years he returned to Sweden, where he remained for about a year, at the end of which time, in company with his brother, Peter, he again crossed the ocean. Upon his return to this country he came to Minnesota and settled at Grove City, in Meeker county, where he was engaged working at the carpenter's trade for twelve or thirteen years. In the summer of 1891 he married there and the next year, 1892, moved over into Grant county, where he bought a farm of two hundred acres in Sanford township and there established his home. When Mr. Johnson took possession of the farm there were a few buildings on the same and it was partially broken and a small grove had been started. He began to improve the place and break up the rest of it and in due time had a well-developed and profitably cultivated farm. There Mr. Johnson spent the rest of his life, one of the most active and influential farmers in his neighborhood, his death occurring on April 15, 1913. He was a Republican and had given good service to the community as a member of the school board. In the general business affairs of the community he ever took an active interest and was one of the organizers of the Farmers Shipping Association, which he served as a director, and was also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company. Since Mr. John-

son's death his widow continues to manage the home place and is maintaining the same excellent standard of farming established there by her late husband.

It was on June 6, 1891, that Martin P. Johnson was united in marriage to Sophia Hegg, who was born at Grove City, in Meeker county, this state, a daughter of Peter and Anna (Mickleson) Hegg, natives of Skone, Sweden, who came to the United States during the early sixties and, proceeded directly to Minnesota, settled in Meeker county, where both are still living. Peter Hegg, a well-to-do farmer of that county, enlisted for service in the Union army during the Civil War, but saw no active service. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson twelve children were born, namely: Anna, who married Ben Wick, of Stewart, this state, and has two children, Bernice and Vernille; Arthur, who lives on a farm adjoining the home place, married Jensine Flatness and has one daughter, Margaret; Alma, who married Ole Larson, assessor of Sanford township; Andy, who died at the age of two years and six months, and Nellie, Hazel, Stella, Alice, Myrtle, Chester, Irene and Luella, who are at home with their mother.

HENRY T. LIETZ.

Henry T. Lietz, one of the prominent and successful farmers of Osakis township, Douglas county, was born at Rochester, Minnesota, on April 4, 1877, the son of Gotlieb and Minnie (Brown) Lietz, natives of Germany and of the state of Ohio, respectively. Gotlieb Lietz received the greater part of his education in the schools of his native country, where he lived until he was eleven years of age, when he came to the United States with his parents. On their arrival in this country they located on a farm in Wisconsin and there the son grew to manhood. He later came to Minnesota, and was in the vicinity of Mankato at the time of the Indian massacre in 1862. In 1874 he located in Olmsted county, where he has since lived. He engaged in general farming and stock raising and was quite successful, at one time having been the owner of one thousand three hundred and forty acres of land. During the past ten years he has been retired from the activities of the farm and has spent much of his time in travel and in visiting his old friends. Mrs. Lietz is also living on the home farm, and enjoying fairly good health. To them the following children were born: John, Minnie, Ella, Henry T., William, Charles, George, Jesse, Paul, Margaret, Edwin,

Eleanore and two who died in infancy. Mr. Lietz is a Democrat has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has been honored by election to local offices.

Henry T. Lietz received his education in the public schools of his home county and at Dover, Minnesota. As a lad and young man he engaged in farming with his father for a number of years, after which he removed to Minneapolis, where he resided for fifteen years; ten years of that time were spent as a barber at the Rodgers Hotel, he and his brother, William, still owning the hotel shop. In 1912 Mr. Lietz retired from the active work of the shop and purchased one hundred and sixty-two acres of his present two-hundred-and-thirty-nine acre farm in Osakis township, Douglas county. There he is successfully engaged in general farming, dairying and cattle raising. He is interested in full-blood Shorthorn cattle and is now milking some twenty cows. He believes in the keeping of the best stock and has a fine herd of dairy cattle.

On April 5, 1904, Henry T. Lietz was united in marriage to Elizabeth Jackels of St. Paul. They are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal church, are active in the social life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them.

EMIL LARSON.

Emil Larson, a well-known and progressive farmer of Delaware township, Grant county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Grant county since the spring of 1889 and has thus been a witness to the wonderful development that has marked this region during the past quarter of a century or more. He was born on a farm in Soler, Norway, September 5, 1873, son of Lars and Lena (Olson) Erickson, both natives of that same country, who are still living in their native land. To them twelve children were born, of whom but two, the subject of this sketch and his brother, Ole Moe, came to this country, the others remaining in their native land.

Emil Larson was reared on a farm and received his schooling in the schools of his neighborhood. In the spring of 1889, he then being about sixteen years of age, he came to the United States and proceeded at once to Minnesota, settling in Grant county, where he worked on farms until about the time of his marriage in 1897, when he bought a farm of one hun-

dred and sixty acres in Delaware township and has ever since made his home on that place. When he took possession of the place it was but partially broken and had a set of poor buildings on it. He completed breaking the farm and later put up his present set of substantial buildings. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has done very well in his operations.

It was in 1897 that Emil Larson was united in marriage to Mary Peterson, who was born in Grant county, daughter of Peter Strand and wife, early settlers in Lien township, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Lena, who is at home with her parents. The Larsons are members of the Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works.

Ole Moe, brother of Emil Larson, was born on the family farm in Norway on July 27, 1871, and was reared on the farm, receiving his schooling in the neighborhood schools, remaining at home until 1892, in which year, he then being twenty-one years of age, he came to America to join his brother, Emil, in Minnesota and has ever since made his home with the latter. For some years after his arrival here he was engaged at farm labor in Grant county and he then bought a place of eighty acres in Delaware township, which he proceeded to develop. He later sold that place and bought another "eighty," which he still owns. Mr. Moe has taken a proper interest in the civic affairs of the community and has served his home township in the public capacity of assessor. He is a member of the United Lutheran church and is properly interested in the affairs of the same.

FRED MAHLKE.

From Germany has come a number of the industrious and painstaking farmers of Douglas county. One of this number is Fred Mahlke, of Miltona township, whose birth occurred in that country on September 16, 1864. He is a son of Carl and Caroline Mahlke, who spent their lives in Germany, the father spending his active life principally in the service of the government, as a forest ranger. His family consisted of six children, Bertha, Augusta, Minnie, Carl, Amelia and Fred.

Fred Mahlke spent his boyhood in his native land and there received his education. He emigrated to the New World in 1881, landing at New York City. From there he went to Albany, thence to Cleveland, Ohio, where

he spent one year employed in a factory. He then came to Minnesota and bought a farm of eighty acres in section 8 of Miliona township, Douglas county, about twenty-five years ago, and there he has since resided, making a comfortable living as a general farmer. He has improved his place from time to time and has a comfortable home.

Mr. Mahlke was married to Mathilda Shultz, and to their union five children have been born, Willie, Elford, August, Walter and Edwin. Mr. Mahlke has been a member of the school board in district No. 72. He belongs to the German Lutheran church.

JOHN THOMPSON.

There is no more enthusiastic farmer in Brandon township, Douglas county, than John Thompson, who was born in Norway, December 1, 1856. He is a son of Thomas and Anna (Kleven) Thompson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married, and there the mother died. The father remarried and in 1865 came to America, spending one year in Wisconsin, then came to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and in 1867 to Douglas county, driving overland with a party composed of a half dozen families. He had visited this locality the previous year, and then had bought one hundred and seventy-three acres in Brandon township, for which he paid one hundred and twenty dollars. Here he began life in primitive fashion, living in a dugout for some time. He gradually put his land under cultivation, and by perseverance won out, although undergoing many hardships. He farmed with oxen for many years. Here he married Junetta Holin, who had a homestead in the same township, and they located on her land, where he engaged in farming the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1883, at the age of sixty-one years. His widow survived him nine years. His second union was without issue, but there were two children by his first marriage, Anna, who married Christ Moe and is now living in Spokane, Washington, and John, the subject of this review.

John Thompson was nine years old when his father brought him to America and he grew up on the farm. He attended school one year in Wisconsin, and a short time after coming to Douglas county. But it was necessary for him to assist his father get a start in the New World, and he had little opportunity to obtain an education. He remained at home until he was married, at the age of twenty-one years, to Betsy O. Berg, a native of

Norway. They located on the homestead, where he built a house and began farming for himself with a team of oxen. He planted a grove about that time and in 1914 he sawed about two thousand feet of lumber from it. About 1899 he built a good two-story frame house. In 1887 he built a large barn. He has made general improvements and has a good farm, now owning two hundred and fifty-three acres in all. He is now living in retirement, renting his land to his son. He has five children, namely: Carrie, who married Martin Halverson, a farmer of Rugby, North Dakota, and has one child; Anna, who is at home; Lena, who married Alfred Foslein, a farmer of Moe township; George, who married Jennie Banggaard, of Grant county, and Maggie, who married Oscar Rosengrin, who is engaged in the lumber business at Brandon. George Thompson, who now rents all of his father's land, received a good education. After attending the local public schools he became a student in Park Region College at Fergus Falls. He is making a success as a general farmer. He has two children, Glefern and Orine.

John Thompson has held township and school offices. He is a member of St. Peter's Norwegian Lutheran church, in which he is an officer. He is a stockholder in the Brandon Creamery, and was formerly a member of the board of directors of the same.

JOHN BOLIN.

One of the energetic farmers of Alexandria township, Douglas county, is John Bolin, who was born in Sweden, March 29, 1877, the son of Peter O. and Karon (Eastlund) Bolin, both of whom also were natives of Sweden. Peter Bolin's wife died in Sweden in 1879, and in 1882 he came to Minnesota, settling at once in Alexandria township, Douglas county, and there he lived until 1916, when he moved to Montana, where he had previously homesteaded a tract of three hundred and twenty acres. The children of Peter O. and Karen (Eastlund) Bolin were John, the immediate subject of this brief review, and Peter, who has been in the gold mines of Alaska for the last ten years. Peter O. Bolin's second wife was Emma Floding, and to this union the following children have been born, Samuel, Elmer, Julius, Ray, Effie, Edward. The family are members of the Swedish Baptist church.

John Bolin was but a small child when brought to Minnesota by his father, and he received his education in the public schools of Alexandria

township. After leaving school he found employment on neighboring farms, and also worked one year in the electric-light plant at Alexandria. In 1905 he purchased the farm of eighty-six acres on which he lives, in section 2 of Alexandria township, and at once began the work of improving and cultivating the place, erecting a new barn and other buildings. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he enjoys a very commendable degree of success.

In June, 1905, John Bolin was married to Hilda Johnson and to this union five children have been born, Ethel E., Vernal R., Floyd E., Harold H. and John Reuben.

Politically, Mr. Bolin is identified with the Republican party, and takes an active interest in all matters pertaining to the general welfare of his community. He is now serving as a justice of the peace.

PETER FLODEN.

Peter Floden, a well-known and substantial farmer of Lawrence township, Grant county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty years of age and of Grant county since 1889. He was born on a farm in the laen of Kalmar on August 2, 1861, son of Lars and Gergit (Oberg) Johnson, natives of that same section of Sweden, the former a farmer and life-leaseholder, both of whom spent all their lives in their native land. They were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Kari, who remained in Sweden; John, who came to this country and is now living in the neighboring county of OtterTail; Sophia, who died in Sweden; Christine, who continues to make her home in her native land, and Otto, who is a citizen of the United States.

Reared on the home farm, Peter Floden received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and remained at home, assisting his father in the labors of the farm, until he was twenty years of age, when, in the year 1881, he came to the United States and for a time made his home in Tioga county, Pennsylvania, later going to Michigan and locating in Schoolcraft county, where he remained until 1889, the year of his marriage, when he came to Minnesota and settled in Grant county, where he ever since has made his home. About 1892 Mr. Floden bought a tract of forty acres in section 13 of Lawrence township and there established his home. When he took

possession of the place it was wild land and he broke the soil, put up all the farm buildings and made all other improvements on the place. As he prospered in his affairs, Mr. Floden bought adjoining land until he now has a well-developed farm of one hundred and sixty acres, all in one body. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has done very well. In his political views, on questions of national importance, Mr. Floden is a Republican.

In the year 1889 Peter Floden was united in marriage to Inga Kvilvang, a native of the kingdom of Norway, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Lars, Carrie, Margaret, John and Inga, all of whom are at home. The Flodens are members of the Union Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all neighborhood good works.

JULIUS C. OLSON.

Julius C. Olson, a well-known and successful farmer of Lien township, Grant county, was born in Vernon county, Wisconsin, December 23, 1868, the son of Christ and Mary (Moen) Olson, natives of Norway, who some sixty years ago, came to America, and located in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where they were married. They later purchased eighty acres of land in that county, to which they added forty acres, and there they engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years, afterward moving to Westby, Wisconsin, where they lived retired. The father died on December 25, 1912, at the age of seventy-three years. The widow is now living at her home in Westby, at the age of seventy-three years. They were the parents of the following children: Ole, Caroline (deceased), Christine (deceased), Julius, Peter, Mat, Samuel, Hannah, Caroline and Christine. The father and mother were active members of the United Lutheran church and took much interest in church work. The father was a Republican and took an active part in local affairs.

Julius C. Olson received his education in the public schools of Vernon county, Wisconsin, and grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad and young man he assisted his father with the farm work. In early life he decided to be a farmer and devoted his energies to that end. In 1901 he came to Minnesota and purchased two hundred acres of land

in Lien township, Grant county, to which he has added eighty acres. He has done much in the way of development and improvement, having made extensive repairs on the buildings and set out a large part of the grove. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. Mr. Olson is identified with the Republican party and has always taken much interest in local affairs. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and the religious life of their community.

In 1894 Julius C. Olson was united in marriage to Mary Abrahamson, who was born in Vernon county, Wisconsin, in 1872, daughter of Andrew and Caroline Abrahamson, natives of Norway, who came to the United States and located in Vernon county, Wisconsin, later moving to Waseka county, Minnesota. Some years ago they retired from the activities of life and are now living in Minneapolis. To Mr. and Mrs. Olson have been born two children, Arthur, born on November 17, 1895, and Esther Clarissa, in November, 1898.

THOMAS QUINN.

It would be hard to find a more progressive tiller of the soil in Douglas county than Thomas Quinn, of Belle River township. He was born in Scott county, Minnesota, February 3, 1857. He is a son of Frank and Bridget Quinn, who were natives of Ireland, where they grew up and married, later emigrating to America and locating near St. Louis, Wisconsin, on a farm. They later bought land in Scott county, Minnesota, where they spent a short time; then, in 1869, came to Douglas county and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Belle River township, which they developed and where they spent the rest of their lives, the father dying on March 23, 1881, at the age of seventy-eight years; his widow surviving until May 15, 1902, she dying at the advanced age of eighty-two. They were parents of the following children: James (deceased), Peter, Thomas, Frank, Edward, Mary, Sabina (deceased) and Andrew. The elder Frank Quinn was one of the earliest pioneers of Douglas county; was one of the organizers of Belle River township and also assisted in organizing school district No. 41. He donated ten acres to the Catholic church in his township.

Thomas Quinn grew up on the home farm and worked hard when a boy during the crop seasons, attending the pioneer public schools in the winter

time. On June 24, 1889, he married Josephine Nabower, a daughter of Mathias and Mary (Shindler) Nabower, natives of Austria, from which country they came to Minnesota in 1880 and established the future home of the family in Douglas county. To Mr. and Mrs. Quinn eight children have been born. William, Mary, Henry, Frances, James, Alice, Andrew and Ruth. William, the eldest child, married Katherine Hagen and Mary, the second child, married Howard Jund.

In 1900, Thomas Quinn bought his present farm of two hundred and sixty acres, twenty acres of which lies over the line in Todd county. He has made many important improvements and now has one of the choice farms of the township, on which he is carrying on general farming and stock raising successfully. Mr. Quinn has long been more or less active in local public affairs and is a member of the school board of district No. 41. He and his family belong to the Catholic church in Belle River township and take an active interest in the affairs of the same.

AUGUST SCHULZ.

Among the successful farmers of Leaf Valley township, Douglas county, is August Schulz, who is progressive in his ideas of husbandry. He was born on the old Schulz homestead in the above-mentioned locality, on April 25, 1877, a son of Henry and Elvina (Krause) Schulz, natives of Germany, who were married in their native land and came to America in 1869, locating in southern Minnesota, coming thence to Douglas county in April, 1870, and entering a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 35 of Leaf Valley township, all wild timber land. Henry Schulz built a log hut and began in typical pioneer fashion to carve out a new home. He had little capital and was compelled to carry his provisions many miles on his back. It was some time before he was able to purchase his first ox-team. The first few years, while clearing and improving his place, he hired out to neighbors at intervals to obtain ready cash. His first crop consisted only of a few potatoes, raised with the hoe; he not even having a plow with which to break up the sod. But he persevered and put his farm under good cultivation, built a good group of buildings and later bought eighty acres of school land, which he also cleared and improved. His son, Will, is now living on the latter place. The father's death occurred in 1911. His family consisted of eleven children, named as follow: Charles, Anna, Bertha, Will-

iam, Tillie, Elricha, Henry, August, Paulina (deceased), Emma (deceased) and Elvina.

August Schulz remained on the homestead, receiving his education in the public schools in Leaf Valley, and worked for his father, until his marriage, when his father signed the home farm over to him. He has made many important improvements on the same, including the erection of a comfortable frame residence. He also has cleared some of the land. In connection with general farming he raises considerable live stock.

In 1904 August Schulz was married to Mary Friedenberg, and to this union two children have been born, Eugene (deceased) and Cora. Mr. Schulz is a Republican and he and his wife belong to the German Lutheran church.

JOHN H. CLARK.

John H. Clark, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial farmers and stockmen, president of the Delaware & Lien Telephone Company, former chairman of the board of supervisors of Lien township and the proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and forty-five acres lying in that township and in Delaware township, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a farm in Mower county, this state, February 3, 1862, son of Joseph Perry and Alice (Cunningham) Clark, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Ireland.

Joseph Perry Clark was born on a farm near Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood and about the year 1860 came to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Mower county. There he married Alice Cunningham, who was born in Ireland and whose parents, when she was but a slip of a girl, started for Canada. The mother died on board ship while crossing the ocean and not long after arriving in Canada the father went South and never again was heard from by his daughter. After being left thus alone she came to Minnesota and joined an older sister, who was married and living in Mower county. At the time of the Indian outbreak in 1862 Joseph P. Clark enlisted for service in one of the Minnesota regiments and when the uprising was put down went South with his regiment and was captured by the enemy at the battle of Guntown, Mississippi, and taken to Andersonville prison, where he was confined from June to January, suffering such hardships that he was not able to recover and he died at Florence, Tennessee, on his way home, in 1865. His widow presently married Cyrus

Smith, who died in Mower county in 1886, and in 1899 she took up her residence with her son, the subject of this sketch, in Grant county, where she remained until 1906, when she went to Elbow Lake, where she lived with a daughter for two or three years, at the end of which time she went to Portland, Oregon, where she spent her last days in the home of another daughter, her death occurring there on February 7, 1912, she then being sixty-seven years of age. She was the mother of five children, three by her first husband and two by her second. Of these the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Joseph, who died in infancy, and Winifred B., who married William Loucks and lives at Portland, Oregon. Laura Smith, the eldest daughter of the second marriage, married Edson Phillips and now lives in California, and Viletta, the second daughter by that marriage, died unmarried in Portland, Oregon.

John H. Clark was but three years old when his soldier father died and he grew to manhood on the farm of his stepfather, receiving his schooling in the public schools of Mower county. When twenty-two years of age he became engaged in the breeding and training of driving horses and for eight years was thus engaged, during that time producing some excellent trotting horses in the 2:12 class and better, on his well-equipped stock farm in Mower county. He abandoned the race-horse business in 1897, sold his Mower county farm and in 1899 came up into this part of the state and located in Grant county, where he bought a tract of two hundred and forty-five acres in Lien and Sanford townships and there he and his mother established their home. He put up a new set of farm buildings on the place, erected a new dwelling, and it was not long until he was very pleasantly situated. In the fall of 1905 he married and has ever since made his home there. In addition to his general farming Mr. Clark continues to give considerable attention to the raising of high-grade live stock and makes a specialty of Percheron horses and Guernsey cattle. He is president of the Delaware & Lien Telephone Company, is clerk of his school district and for six years served as a member of the township board of supervisors, for five years of that time being chairman of the board. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

It was in the fall of 1905 that John H. Clark was united in marriage to Rose Marie Smith, who was born in Fillmore county, this state, a daughter of George H. Smith and wife, old settlers there; and to this union five children have been born, Alice Mildred, Kenneth Joseph, Howard John, Richard George and Ralph Russell. The Clarks have a very pleasant home

and take a proper part in the various social activities of the community in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

CARL RITZSCHKE.

Carl Ritzschke was born in Germany in 1842 and there received his education in the public school and there grew to manhood, engaged in farming. In 1868 he decided to come to America and after his arrival in the United States, came direct to Wisconsin and located at Oshkosh, where he remained for nine years. In 1877 he came to Minnesota, settled in Grant county and took a homestead in Macsville township. He homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, to which he later added another quarter section. The land was for the most part wild prairie and required much labor to bring under cultivation. The farm was in time developed and improved, modern buildings were erected and a fine grove set out, and today the farm is one of the best developed places in the township. Here Carl Ritzschke engaged in general farming and stock raising and was quite successful. His wife died on February 22, 1911, at the age of fifty-six years. Mr. Ritzschke is still living on the farm, but has retired from the activities of farm work, yet he takes much interest in the management of the place. He has always taken much interest in local affairs and has had much to do with the civic life of the township. For some time he served as treasurer of the township and was for years a member of the board of supervisors.

To Carl Ritzschke and wife were born the following children: Charles, Theodore, Martha, Albert, Clara, Arthur A., Walter Alfred and Edward, the latter of whom died at the age of thirteen years. Mrs. Ritzschke was an active member of the Lutheran church, as is Mr. Ritzschke, and took much interest in church work, both early becoming prominent in the social and the religious life of the community.

Arthur A. Ritzschke received his education in the public schools of Macsville township and grew to manhood on the old homestead, where he was born on January 9, 1883. Since completing his schooling he has devoted his life to farming, with the exception of four years spent as a rural mail carrier, out of Herman. He bought the old homestead of his father in 1915 and there he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has always taken much interest in the local affairs of the township.

On September 17, 1912, Arthur A. Ritzschke was married to Bertha C. Jones, who was born in Iowa on May 21, 1889, daughter of Charles W. Jones and wife, later of Herman. To this union one child has been born, Charles Kenneth, whose birth occurred on November 6, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Ritzschke are active members of the Presbyterian church at Herman and are prominent in the social life of the township, are held in the highest regard by all who know them.

Charles W. Jones, father of Mrs. Arthur A. Ritzschke, was born in Floyd county, Iowa, on September 9, 1860, the son of Edward and Catherine (Austin) Jones, the former born in Canada in 1830 and the latter in Pennsylvania in 1839. Hugh and Christine Jones, the paternal grandparents of Charles W. Jones, were natives of Canada, who later located in Floyd county, Iowa, where they spent the rest of their lives. When Edward Jones left his home in Canada he first located in Rockford, Illinois, where he remained for some years, after which he returned to Canada. He later came to Minnesota, where he remained for one year and then removed to Floyd county, Iowa, where he and his wife spent their last days, his death occurring in 1905 and hers in 1908. They were the parents of the following children: Elizabeth, Charles W., Hugh (deceased), Albert, Newton, George, Minerva, John, Ernest, Mabel and Frances.

Charles W. Jones received his education in the public schools of Floyd county, Iowa, and there grew to manhood on the home farm. He later engaged in farming for himself and became the owner of one thousand and thirty-six acres of land. In 1901 he came to Minnesota and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22 of Logan township, Grant county. He improved the farm with excellent buildings and made that his home until 1913, when he retired to Herman where he now lives. He always took much interest in local affairs and was for some years supervisor of his township. He also had served as a member of the school board in Floyd county, Iowa. He and his family are active members of the Presbyterian church and have long been prominent in the social life of the community.

On October 4, 1885, Charles W. Jones was united in marriage to Maggie Bolan, who was born in Canada on August 9, 1868, daughter of John and Jennie (Clark) Bolan, both of whom, were born in Canada and settled in Floyd county, Iowa, about 1876. There John Bolan died in 1888, at the age of forty-five years. His widow died in 1909, at the age of seventy-four years. They were the parents of five children, Maggie, James, George,

John and Carrie, all of whom are living. To Charles W. and Maggie (Bolan) Jones have been born four children, Walter, Bertha, Pausy and Malcolm.

JENS LEKANDER.

The late Jens Lekander, who for many years was one of the leading farmers of Solem township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden, April 15, 1842. He was a son of Jens Rose, mention of whom is made on another page of this work. He grew up in Norway and attended school there, immigrating to America in 1868, bringing his wife. They reached McGregor, Iowa, in August of that year. There he and his wife worked for a man who had advanced money to pay their passage to the United States. In the spring of 1869 they came to Minnesota, where Mr. Lekander took up a homestead of eighty-five acres in Solem township, Douglas county, on which land his son, John E. Lekander, now lives. Later he purchased another eighty, and subsequently still another eighty, all in one body, and this land he developed into a splendid farm on which he carried on general farming and stock raising successfully until in January, 1913, when he removed to Nelson county, North Dakota, to make his home with his daughter, Mrs. Anna Nelson, and there his death occurred on May 14, 1913. His widow is still living there. To these parents the following children were born: John, born in 1852, who was drowned while the family was enroute to America from the old country; Carolina, is deceased; John E., who is living on the homestead; Emma and Lewis, deceased; Anna, living; Mary, deceased. Carolina, Emma, Lewis and Mary all died of diphtheria in the fall of 1881.

John E. Lekander was born on the farm now occupied by his uncle, Lars Rose, in Solem township, Douglas county, August 16, 1869. He grew to manhood on the home farm, and attended the district schools. He has always lived on the homestead, which he now owns, the place consisting of two hundred and forty-five acres, which was brought up to a good state of development by his father: but the son put up the present group of buildings, erecting a new residence in 1909, and remodeled the barn in 1903. He has kept the place well improved in every respect and has been quite successful as a general farmer. He was married in 1895 to Mary Nelson, who was born in Sweden, from which country she came to America in 1887, locating in Nelson county, North Dakota. She is a daughter of Nels and Stena

(Johnson) Sagfritzson, natives of Sweden, from which country they brought their family to America in 1887.

The following children have been born to John E. Lekander and wife: Mabel, Lillie, Esther and Edwin (twins), Lewis and Ruth, all of whom are living. Mr. Lekander has served on the local school board, being treasurer of the same for six years. He belongs to the Lutheran church.

GILBERT J. THOMPSON.

A contented and prosperous farmer of Miltona township, Douglas county, is Gilbert J. Thompson, who was born on the place where he now lives, the place his father homesteaded in pioneer days. The date of his birth was January 16, 1874, and he is a son of Tolliff and Inger (Grondvold) Thompson. Ole Grondvold, the maternal grandfather, was born in Norway in 1812 and came to Minnesota in 1868, taking up a homestead in the neighborhood of Spring Grove, in Houston county, where he spent the rest of his life. Tolliff Thompson, the father, was a native of Norway, who came to Minnesota in 1867, first settling in Houston county, coming to Douglas county in 1871 and homesteading a tract of land in section 22 of Miltona township. He made several return trips to Norway and induced a number of his countrymen to come to Douglas county. He returned to his native land in 1900 and died in 1902 at Christiania. He and his wife were the parents of six children, namely: Mary, who married E. B. Lanager, who is engaged in the hardware business at Plummer, Minnesota; Herman T., a barber at Alexandria, who married Amanda Stoffle; Gilbert J., the subject of this sketch; I. T., who married Jane B. Hove; Helen E., who is unmarried, and Lillian O., who married Halver H. Loken, a banker at Thief River Falls, Minnesota. While living in Douglas county, Tolliff Thompson took an active interest in public affairs. He served on the school board of district No. 46 and was township clerk for several years. He belonged to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Gilbert J. Thompson grew up on the home farm, attending the local public school and a business college at Sauk Center. On November 22, 1915, he married Melvina S. Oberg. He has always followed farming on the homestead, which he purchased in 1894. He owns one hundred and fifty-four acres of the home place, one hundred and twenty acres in sections

21 and 22, of Miltona township and one hundred and twenty acres in Kansas. He is a stockholder in the bank at Carlos, was vice-president of that institution for four years and has been assistant cashier of the same for the past three years. For twelve years he was engaged extensively in buying and shipping live stock and is well known as a stock buyer all over this locality. He is now giving his attention principally to the management of his farm which lies on the eastern bank of Miltona Lake. The Monmouth Club, of about fifty members, has been located there for twenty-eight years. Mr. Thompson has long been active in public affairs and has been assessor of his township for the past eight years, prior to which period he was township clerk for seven years and chairman of the township board for four years.

WILLIAM TORSTENSON.

William Torstenson, a well-known and successful farmer of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born on the farm where he now lives on July 8, 1885, the son of Ole and Julia (Sannesdatter) Torstenson, the former of whom was born in Norway and the latter in the state of Iowa. In 1862 Ole Torstenson decided that he would come to America, and on his arrival here he came direct to Minnesota and located in Houston county. When he left his native country, his mother, Mary Olson, and his sister, Clara, accompanied him. While living in Houston county, Mr. Torstenson worked in the pineries in the winters and on the farms in the summers, for three years. Then in the spring of 1865 he and Hans Ansterson and Per Gran came to Grant county and he "squatted" on the tract of land in what is now Elk Lake township, where his son William is now living. Having located his claim, Mr. Torstenson returned to St. Cloud and filed his papers, returning then to the homestead tract, where he lived alone that winter. Upon his marriage the next spring he established his home there and continued to make that place his home until the time of his death. The tract was for the most part wild prairie, with some timber. This was later cleared and developed, and there Mr. Torstenson engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful. The farm is nicely located on Lake Torstenson, named in honor of the pioneer who first settled there.

On April 19, 1867, Ole Torstenson was united in marriage to Julia Sannesdatter, the daughter of Anon Sannesdatter, who came to America, locating in Iowa, where he remained for a time, later coming to Minnesota

and locating in Elk Lake township, Grant county, in the early seventies. He later moved to North Dakota, where he and his wife spent their last days.

Ole Torstenson always took an active interest in local affairs and had much to do with the early civic life of the township. He was one of the organizers of the township, was a member of the first school board and of the first board of supervisors and for twenty years served as chairman of the latter board. He was a member of the first jury in this part of the state, the court being held in Alexandria, and Knute Nelson, now United States senator from Minnesota, was the county attorney. He was also one of the organizers of the Lincoln Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he and his wife were among the most active, and prominent members. He was active in the organization of the first farmers' elevator at Hoffman and was the first president of the company, a position he held for many years. He was recognized as one of the most progressive farmers and a man of much business ability. During his active life he added to his homestead until he became the owner of seven hundred and thirty-nine acres of valuable land, all of which he developed and improved. His life was an active one and he accomplished much of value, not only for himself, but for his township and the county. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Anna, Tillie, Clara and William, all of whom are living. The mother of these children died in April, 1888, and the father died on January 24, 1913.

William Torstenson grew to manhood on the farm on which he has always lived, and received his education in the public schools of the township and at Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls. He attended the latter institution for three years and was graduated from the business department. Upon completing his school work he returned to the farm, and has devoted his life to general farming and stock raising.

On December 2, 1908, William Torstenson was united in marriage to Laura Jacobson, who was born at Hastings, in Dakota county, this state, daughter of John and Tillie Jacobson, natives of Sweden. To this union have been born two children, Florence and Grace. Mr. and Mrs. Torstenson are members of the Lincoln Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

William Torstenson has always taken an active interest in local affairs and has always assisted in such causes as had for their purpose the growth and upbuilding of the community. He was for seven years president of the Hoffman Grain Company, was one of the organizers of the Farmers Co-operative Mercantile Company and of the Farmers State Bank at Hoff-

man, and a member of the board of directors of both concerns. Mr. Torstenson is now the owner of three hundred and sixteen acres of fine land. As was his father, he is regarded as one of the progressive men of the township and has always stood for good roads and the best of schools. The first school house in the township, which was also the first in the county, was built on land donated by Ole Torstenson, who also assisted in the building of the same. The first teacher in the school was Mrs. Martha Sethney, who had the honor of having taught many of the present well-to-do and prominent people of the township and the county.

ELLEN ELLINGSON.

Ellen Ellingson, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial farmers, proprietor of a fine farm in Stony Brook township, a director of the Farmers Elevator Company at Wendell and in other ways actively identified with the work of developing the best interests of his home community, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was three years of age and of Grant since he was twelve years, having therefore been a witness to and a participant in the development of this section of the state since pioneer days. He was born on a farm in the Sigdal district of Norway on July 2, 1865, son of Elling Nilson and Annie Ellenson, both natives of that same district, who came to the United States with their family in 1868 and came on out to Minnesota, locating in Houston county, where they remained until 1877, in which year they moved to Grant county, becoming pioneers in Stony Brook township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. In a biographical sketch relating to Nils Ellingson, elder brother of the subject of this sketch, presented elsewhere in this volume, there is set out in detail further particulars of the history of the Ellingsons in Grant county, to which the reader is respectfully referred in this connection.

As noted above, Ellen Ellingson was but three years of age when he came with his parents to this country and his early childhood was spent in Houston county, this state, where his elementary education was received. He was about twelve years of age when the family moved over into Grant county and his schooling was completed in the pioneer schools of Stony Brook township. Reared as a farmer lad he was from early youth a valued assistant in the labors of developing the homestead farm that had been

entered by his father and upon growing to manhood's estate he continued to help operate the farm, later managing the same for his father, and finally, in 1890, bought the old home place, at that time consisting of two hundred and forty acres, and has since continued to own the same. After his marriage in 1897 he remodeled the house and has further improved the place until he has one of the most attractive farms in that neighborhood. As he prospered in his farming operations, Mr. Ellingson added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of five hundred and fifty-two acres. He has an excellent orchard and a very attractive grove on his place and his farm is cultivated according to modern methods. Mr. Ellingson is a director of the Farmers Elevator Company at Wendell. He is a Republican and during a considerable period of service as a member of the board of township supervisors served for some time as chairman of that board. He also for ten or twelve years served as a member of the school board and in other ways has given his intelligent attention to local civic affairs.

Mr. Ellingson has been twice married. It was in 1889 that he was united in marriage to Jennie Knutson, who died in 1892, leaving two children, Elmer and Emily, both of whom are at home. In 1897 Mr. Ellingson married Annie Jenson, who was born in Norway, daughter of Jens Lilleby and wife, and to this union seven children have been born, Joseph, Julius, Agnes, Edson, Loren, Marion and Raymond. Mr. and Mrs. Ellingson are members of the United Lutheran church and Mr. Ellingson is a member of the board of trustees of the local congregation.

OLE GULDBRANSON.

Few of the citizens who have come to Douglas county from Norway have succeeded better at agricultural pursuits than Ole Guldbranson, a well-known pioneer citizen of Holmes City township. He was born in Norway in 1843, a son of Guldbranson Olson and wife who lived and died in Norway.

Ole Guldbranson grew to manhood in his native land, where he attended the common schools, and there resided until he was twenty years of age, coming to America in 1863 and located at Madison, Wisconsin, where he spent a few years; then lived in various places, each move being westward, during which period he worked at many things. He reached Alexandria in 1871 and in that year took up a homestead—a quarter section in what is now Holmes City township, Douglas county, and he still resides on that

land, which, through long years of persistent toil and careful attention, he has developed into one of the choice farms of his locality. Mr. Guldbranson has been thrifty and has accumulated about one thousand acres, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale.

In 1871, at Alexandria, Ole Guldbranson was married to Lena Ingebretson and to this union thirteen children have been born, of whom six are still living, Emma, Lauritz C., Ida, Mandt, Emil and Iver.

Lauritz C. Guldbranson grew up on the home farm in Holmes City township and received his elementary education in the local public schools. He then spent two years at Glenwood Academy and also attended two terms at Willmar Seminary. He worked on the home place during vacations, and after leaving school took up farming for himself, which he has continued to follow successfully. He owns a well-kept and productive place of one hundred and sixty acres in Holmes City township, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

H. C. KERSTEN.

H. C. Kersten, a well-known Grant county farmer, proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township, where he makes a specialty of poultry raising, is a native of Iowa, born on a farm in Muscatine county, that state, April 30, 1863, son of Frederick and Hattie (Pfluger) Kersten, natives of Germany, the former of whom is still living in Iowa and the latter of whom died in that state many years ago.

Frederick Kersten came to the United States about the year 1846 and in Iowa met and married Hattie Pfluger, who had come from Germany about that time. He became a farmer and landowner in Muscatine county, Iowa, and remained there until about 1867, when he moved to Poweshiek, same state, where he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres and there made his home until 1884, in which year, following the death of his wife, he sold out and moved to Calhoun county, same state, where he bought a place of two hundred and forty acres, which he sold in later years and then returned to Poweshiek county, where he is now living, at the great age of ninety-five years, making his home with his daughter, Carrie. His wife died in 1883, at the age of forty-eight and he never remarried. They were members of the Christian church, among the founders of a church of that denomination in their old home community, and their children were reared in that

faith. They were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: William, who died at the age of fourteen years; Carrie, who married Robert Raudebush and is living in Poweshiek county, Iowa; Henry, who died at the age of twenty-two years; Emma, who died at the age of seven years, and Frank, who died at the age of two years.

H. C. Kersten was about four years old when his parents moved from Muscatine county, Iowa, to Poweshiek county, same state, and in the latter county he received his elementary schooling, remaining there until he was about eighteen years of age, when he accompanied his father to Calhoun county, where he started farming on his own account, renting farms for a few years and then buying a farm of eighty acres, to which he later added an adjoining "eighty". Mr. Kersten married in 1889 and continued on the farm until about 1894, when he sold his place and for some time thereafter was engaged in the cattle business, later moving to Kossuth county, Iowa, where he resumed farming and was thus engaged there until the spring of 1902, when he came up into Minnesota, locating in Grant county and buying a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6 of Elbow Lake township, where he ever since has made his home and where he has done very well. Upon taking possession of that place, Mr. Kersten found it only partly broken and with no buildings on it. He broke up the rest of the land, erected a dwelling and a good set of farm buildings, planted a grove, constructed fences and otherwise improved the place to suit his notion of a well-conducted farm, and is now very pleasantly and very comfortably situated. In addition to his general farming Mr. Kersten has made somewhat of a specialty of poultry culture, keeping from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty hens, and has sold as many as two thousand one hundred and sixty dozens of eggs in a year, his operations in this connection having frequently been the subject of mention in agricultural papers. Mr. Kersten also has engaged extensively in the raising of onions and in some years has raised as many as two hundred and fifty bushels of these. He is a member of the board of directors of the Hereford Telephone Company and in other ways has given his attention to the work of developing the interests of his home community. In his political views Mr. Kersten is "independent" and has given his services to the public in the capacity of clerk of his school district. By religious persuasion he is a member of the Church of God, a local organization, and is a member of the board of trustees of the same.

It was in 1889, in Iowa, that H. C. Kersten was united in marriage to

Mollie J. Kincaid, who was born in Indiana, daughter of Benjamin Franklin and Sarah (Grose) Kincaid, the latter of whom died in Iowa and the former in Georgia, his native state. Mrs. Kersten died on February 21, 1915. She was the mother of six children, namely: Arthur, who died at the age of four months; Harold, now a homesteader in Roseau county, this state; Merle, who died at the age of six weeks, and Bernice, Ozella and Opal, who are living at home with their father.

JOHN W. KLOOS.

The late John W. Kloos, for years one of Grant county's most substantial landowners, was born in Germany on August 1, 1849. His mother died in the Fatherland and after her death the father came to the United States and spent his last days in Carver county, Minnesota.

John W. Kloos received his early education in the public schools of Carver county and attended college for one year. Upon completing his schooling he entered the meat business in St. Paul, where he remained for some years. In 1883 he came to Grant county and purchased one hundred and twenty-eight acres of land, which he developed and improved and engaged in general farming and stock raising and was quite successful, eventually becoming the owner of twelve hundred and forty acres of land, nine hundred and sixty acres of which is still in the possession of the family. To the many substantial improvements that were made by Mr. Kloos, the family have added the more recent modern buildings on the place. John W. Kloos was identified with the Democratic party and always took much interest in local affairs. He was a man of prominence and influence in the county and because of his broad experience, his honest judgments and his ability, was often consulted in matters relating to civic affairs. He was a firm believer in substantial public improvements and favored all enterprises that tended to the betterment and the growth of the community.

On December 21, 1885, John W. Kloos was united in marriage to Huldah Schimmelpfennig, who was born in Germany on June 14, 1865, the daughter of Fred and Justina Schimmelpfennig, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1869 and settled in Wisconsin, buying a farm in Waupaca county, and there resided until 1876, when they came to Minnesota and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Macsville township, Grant county. There they lived for some years and then retired to

Herman, where the father died in June, 1904, and his widow in 1911. They were the parents of six children, Augusta, Wilhelmina, Carl Frederick, Bertha, Amelia and Hulda.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kloos seven children were born, Mary, Daniel, Elsie, Arthur, Hazel, Mabel and Elanore. The family are active members of the German Lutheran church, to which denomination John W. Kloos devoted many years of active service. The family have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them.

JOHN HOLING.

John Holing, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in that township on June 14, 1885, the son of Haagen and Anna (Lillemoe) Holing.

Haagen Holing came to America at the age of twenty-two years and located in Wisconsin, where he worked as a farm hand for some years. He then came to Minnesota and resided in Minneapolis, where he worked in a lumber yard until he came to Douglas county. On his arrival in this county he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 33 of Brandon township and there he lived until the time of his death on February 8, 1907, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife had died on January 9 of that same year, at the age of sixty-five years. They were the parents of six children, Martin, Bertine, Nettie, Hannah, Anton and John, all of whom are living.

At the time Haagen Holing entered his homestead, the tract was wild prairie, without improvements. A log cabin was erected, and in this the family resided for several years. The nearest neighbors were four miles away. The land was broken with an ox-team and farming was done for some time with oxen. There were still numerous Indians in this district at that time and they caused the settlers considerable trouble. Mr. and Mrs. Holing were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and assisted in the organization of the church at Brandon. Mr. Holing also took much interest in general local affairs and had much to do with the development and the improvement of the township and the county. For thirty-five years he served as treasurer of the township, always took keen interest in the success of the schools and was a member of the school board of school district No.

82, which he helped to organize. He assisted in the organization of the farmers' elevator at Brandon and had much to do with its success. As a general farmer and stock raiser he was quite successful and at the time of his death was the owner of four hundred acres of land.

John Holing received his education in the common schools of Brandon township and at Augsburg Seminary at Minneapolis. He was reared on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted his father with the many duties of a successful farmer. Upon completing his schooling he returned to the farm, having determined at an early age that the farmer's life was the one for him, and has ever since followed that vocation.

On September 8, 1905, John Holing was united in marriage to Ida Berg, a daughter of John Berg, a pioneer farmer of Brandon township, and to this union have been born six children, Elvira, Howell, Dagny, Ira, Bennie and Ruby. Mr. and Mrs. Holing are prominent in the social activities of the township and are highly respected.

A number of years ago John Holing went to Montana, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Musselshell county. He proved his claim in 1911 and remained a resident of that state until 1914, when he returned to Douglas county, where he is now managing one hundred and sixty acres of his father's estate, there being successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Holing is a stockholder in the Brandon Creamery Company and in the Farmers and Merchants Union Elevator Company and is also a stockholder in the Peoples Bank at St. Paul. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Brandon and take a proper interest in church work.

L. J. DERBY.

L. J. Derby, one of Grant county's best-known and most substantial farmers, owner of a fine farm in Delaware township, former state boiler inspector for the district comprised in the counties of Grant and Traverse and for several terms a member of the board of supervisors in his home township, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a farm in the near vicinity of Cottage Grove, Washington county, this state, July 15, 1867, son of John L. and Frances B. (Van Slyke) Derby, both natives of New York state, who became early settlers in Grant county, where their last days were spent.

John L. Derby was born in Herkimer county, New York, December 10, 1837. His parents were natives of that same state and many years ago moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, where they spent their last days. Upon reaching manhood's estate John L. Derby came to Minnesota and located at Cottage Grove, in Washington county, where he married Frances B. Van Slyke, who also was born in Herkimer county, New York, March 30, 1841, daughter of Nicholas and Polly (Petra) Van Slyke, also natives of that same state, of Dutch descent, who moved to Wisconsin about 1858 and about ten years later came over into Minnesota, locating at Cottage Grove, where they lived until their retirement from the farm and removal to Hastings, where they spent their last days, both living to ripe old ages. After his marriage John L. Derby began farming on his own account, continuing to live in the Cottage Grove neighborhood, and at one time lived on Governor Ramsey's farm. He later bought land in that vicinity and there made his home until 1884, in which year he moved to Grant county, retaining, however, his farm in Washington county, and bought an improved farm of eighty acres in Delaware township, on which he spent the rest of his life. Mr. Derby ever took an active interest in civic affairs and while never himself an aspirant for public office, was helpful in the campaigns of his friends. The enactment of the thresher's lien bill into a law was largely due to his personal influence, for he went to St. Paul during the time of the session of the Legislature that considered that bill and labored indefatigably in its behalf. He was appointed state boiler inspector and for two terms served in that important capacity. Mr. Derby's widow survived him some years, her death occurring on March 26, 1916. They were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Ellen M., who married J. F. Cassels and lives at Veteran, Alberta; William R., manager of a "pop" factory at Herman, and John R., who is butter-maker in the creamery at Herman.

L. J. Derby grew to manhood on the farm on which he was born in the vicinity of Cottage Grove, receiving his schooling in the schools of that village, and early learned the trade of a stationary engineer. In 1884 he moved with his parents to Grant county and in 1889 bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Delaware township and proceeded to develop the same, operating it from his home on his father's farm. In 1894 he was married and the next year was appointed state boiler inspector for the district comprised in Grant and Traverse counties, which position he occupied for two years, 1895-96. Two years later, in 1898, he erected a good set of

buildings on his quarter section in Delaware township, planted a grove, otherwise improved his place and has ever since resided there, he and his family being very pleasantly and very comfortably situated. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Derby has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has done very well. Some time ago he bought an additional "eighty" and now has two hundred and forty acres of well-cultivated land. In his political affiliations Mr. Derby is a Republican and has served his township as supervisor during several terms and also as a school director.

As noted above, it was in 1894 that L. J. Derby was united in marriage to Anna Brown, who was born at Sterling, Illinois, daughter of George Brown and wife, and to this union five children were born, namely: Ruby, who married William Hedlund and lives in Delaware township; Frank, who is at home; Mabel, who is a graduate of the high school at Wheaton and lives near that place; Raymond C. and George L., the latter of whom is making his home with his Grandfather Brown. The mother of these children died in 1902 and in 1914 Mr. Derby married Josephine Johnson, who was born at Albert Lea, this state, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Leland A. The Derbys have a very pleasant home and take a proper part in the various social activities of the community in which they live.

PEDER JENSEN.

Peder Jensen, a well-known retired farmer of Nelson, was born in Denmark on December 8, 1851, the son of Jens and Kirsten (Nelsen) Jorgensen, natives of Denmark, where they spent their lives, they having died some years ago. The father served in the war with Germany in 1850 and was a worthy soldier. He and his wife were the parents of five children, namely: Karen, who is living in Denmark; Peder, the subject of this sketch; Sedse, the wife of Nels Olson of Nelson, and Nels and Maria, deceased.

Peder Jensen was educated in Denmark and there grew to manhood. He remained in his native country until he was thirty years of age, employed there as a laborer. He realized that the opportunities were better in America and in 1882 he left his native country and came to the United States, proceeding directly to Minnesota and locating in Alexandria township, Douglas county, where for four years he worked as a farm hand, much of his time being employed in clearing land and gathering crops. In 1882, the year in

which he came to America, Mr. Jensen purchased forty acres of school land in Alexandria township, and after some years he cleared and developed the farm and erected substantial buildings. There he made his home for fourteen years. He then purchased eighty acres south of Nelson, which he improved and developed, and there he made his home until 1910, when he sold the place and moved to Nelson where he has since lived a retired life.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jensen four children were born, Anna Christenia, Mary, Jens Frederick and Henrietta, all of whom are living.

OLAF J. DAHLGREN.

Olaf J. Dahlgren, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Land township, Grant county, was born in Sweden on January 2, 1860, the son of John and Karen (Paulsdatter) Johnson, also natives of Sweden, who spent their lives in the land of their birth, where they died some years ago. The father was a farmer and devoted his life to that work. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, five sons and two daughters.

Olaf J. Dahlgren received his schooling in the public schools of his native land and resided there until he was twenty-three years of age, when, in 1883, he sailed for the United States. On his arrival in this country he came direct to Minnesota and for one year resided in Clay county, after which he removed to Douglas county, where he lived with his brother for a short time and then returned to Clay county, where he remained until 1889. During these years he worked at various things and was a part of the time in the Dakotas. In 1889 he settled in Grant county and located on his present farm in Land township in 1890. That farm he has developed into one of the finest farms in the township and has a set of substantial and modern buildings.

Olaf J. Dahlgren was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary (Randin) Lindstrom, who was born in Sweden on April 14, 1852, and who came to America with her parents at the age of sixteen years. On their arrival in the United States the family located for a time at McGregor, Iowa, and later came to Minnesota, where the father homesteaded in Land township, Grant county, just south of where Olaf J. Dahlgren now lives. There Hans Randin engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful, becoming the owner of four hundred and forty acres of land, and was recognized as one of the substantial citizens of the community.

Peter Lindstrom, the first husband of Mrs. Dahlgren, was one of the early settlers of the township, having homesteaded the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, where Mr. and Mrs. Dahlgren now live, about 1870. To Mr. and Mrs. Lindstrom were born three children, Ole, who died some years ago; Hans, who was born on January 2, 1870, and Margaret, December 19, 1880. Peter Lindstrom was born in Sweden. On his arrival in this country he first located in Iowa, where he resided until 1870, when he came to Minnesota and settled on a homestead in Land township, Grant county, where he was engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death on December 24, 1883. He and his wife were among the number who assisted in the organization of the Venersborg Lutheran church. Hans Randin, the father of Mrs. Dahlgren, took much interest in the civic life of the township and being a man of much experience was often consulted in matters relating to the affairs of the community.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dahlgren one child has been born, a daughter, Caroline, who was born on June 26, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Dahlgren have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community, have taken much interest in the work of the Venersborg Swedish Lutheran church, of which they are members, and are held in the highest regard. Mr. Dahlgren has served the public as a road overseer and as a member of the school board.

WILLIAM BROWN.

William Brown, a well-known merchant at Osakis, member of the firm of Brown Brothers, was born in Stearns county, this state, February 22, 1883, son of John and Johannah (Dunn) Brown, natives of Ireland, who came to America in 1862 and located at Waterloo, Iowa, where John Brown was employed as roadmaster for the Illinois Central Railroad for several years. About 1870 he came to Minnesota and bought a farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Stearns county, where he engaged in farming, and there spent the rest of his life, his death occurring on March 27, 1900. His widow is still living. They were the parents of ten children, Samuel J., Nellie (who married M. J. Clarity), Thomas, Anna, Hannah (who married Frank Quinn), John, William, Michael, Edward and Katherine.

William Brown received his early schooling in the public schools of Stearns county and afterward attended the commercial college at Sauk Center for four years. In 1899 he began working on the railroad, and for about

eight months was section boss on the Great Northern at Fergus Falls. He then was employed by the state in laying the track connecting the main line with the state hospital at Fergus Falls. After that work was completed he took a position, in 1899, with the Red River Lumber Company and was placed in charge of that concern's manufacturing plant. In 1900 he moved to Osakis and engaged there with his brothers in the general merchandise business. He began business in a small building on Main street, with practically no capital. In 1903 the postoffice building was burned and a store building was erected on the site. The Brown Brothers moved into that building and increased their stock considerably. In August, 1907, that building also was destroyed by fire, including the stock of merchandise contained therein, on which there was practically no insurance. In December of that year the Browns opened up again in the building which they now occupy. They have increased their stock from time to time and now carry a complete line of general merchandise in their store on Second street. They also handle farm implements, machinery and automobiles in their store on Main street. They also operate a branch implement business at Alexandria, under the firm name of Brown Brothers & Chapin. They have a potato warehouse opposite the Great Northern depot in Osakis, and are large buyers and shippers of potatoes, hay, poultry and farm produce.

The home of the Brown Brothers is located on Main street and is one of the finest and most modern homes in the town. There are five of these brothers, all live, hustling business men, a fact which is evidenced by the remarkable growth of their business.

SIVER DYRUD.

Among the substantial citizens and enterprising farmers of Osakis township, Douglas county, is Siver Dyrud, who was born in Norway on January 10, 1865, the son of John Holverson and Anna Dyrud, both of whom were natives also of Norway. The father was a farmer and carpenter in that country and lived there all of his life. John Dyrud and wife were the parents of ten children, all of whom are living except Ole, the eldest. The others are Mary, Helmer, John, Lena, Carrie, Mena, Anna, Emma and Ole.

Siver Dyrud received his education in the public schools of his native land, and in 1881 came to America. He located first in Wilkins county, Minnesota, where he lived for two years, at the end of which time he came

to Douglas county and purchased one hundred and twenty-two acres of land in Osakis township. This he began at once to cultivate and improve, gradually adding to his land holdings until he is now the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and seventy acres. On this place he carries on a general system of diversified farming and stock raising and has met with success in his farming operations.

Siver Dyrud was married to Anna Englund and to this union three children have been born, John E., Willie and Emil.

ALFRED NELSON.

Alfred Nelson, a well-known and successful farmer of Roseville township, Grant county, was born in Skone, Sweden, July 25, 1876, the son of Mons and Elna (Sanders) Nelson, natives of Sweden, who came to the United States in 1880 and located at Manistee, Michigan, where they lived for two years, at the end of which time they came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 22 of Roseville township, Grant county, where Mr. Nelson died shortly after his arrival. His widow, who was left on the homestead, with her two sons, Alfred and Anton. She showed her determination and ability, for she proved up on the homestead. In 1887 she married Jonas Larson, a native of Sweden, who came to Grant county in 1880, and to this union was born one child, a son, Albert, who, with his half-brother, Anton, is living on the old home place.

Alfred Nelson was four years of age when he came to this country with his parents and for two years he lived in Michigan, coming to Grant county, at the age of six years. He received his education in the public schools and remained on the home farm until he was twenty-three years of age, when, in 1899, he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12 of Roseville township, and is there engaged successfully in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Nelson has always taken an active interest in local affairs. He is a Democrat and is now serving as clerk of his township. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Hoffman, in the Hoffman Mercantile Company and in the local telephone company at Hoffman. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and take much interest in church work. They are prominent in the social and the religious life of the community and are held in the highest regard. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In 1902 Mr. Nelson went to Pierce county, North

Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he sold after proving his claim.

In 1905 Alfred Nelson was united in marriage to Agnes Wallstrom, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of Andrew Wallstrom, who came to America late in life and still lives here. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of three children, Myrtice, Morris and Irene.

ANDREW HAWKINSON.

Andrew Hawkinson, a successful farmer of Elbow township, Grant county, was born in Norway, on December 9, 1867, the son of Hawkin and Christie (Traslem) Mohagen, who spent all their lives in their native country and who were the parents of ten children, E'lof, Ole, Rachael (deceased), Iver, Andrew, Hulgren (deceased), Annie, Rachael, Christie, and one who died in infancy.

Andrew Hawkinson received the greater part of his education in the public schools of his native land, but attended school for a short time in Grant county. His early life and young manhood was spent in the land of his nativity, where he lived until he was eighteen years of age, when, in 1885, he came to Minnesota and began working as a farm hand and at the carpenter trade in Grant county. In 1889 he purchased forty acres of land in section 3 of Elbow Lake township, but later sold it and in 1890 bought forty acres in section 16. In 1891 he bought an additional forty acres in the same section and in 1892, one hundred and sixty acres in section 22. In 1896 he traded the one hundred and sixty acres for eighty acres in section 16, and now has one hundred and sixty acres in that section. He set out a beautiful grove and has improved his farm with substantial buildings. For the past seventeen years Mr. Hawkinson has operated a threshing machine. His life has been a most active one and he has missed but two days work in seventeen years. Mr. Hawkinson is a Republican and is now a member of the school board. He has also served his township as a member of the board of supervisors. He and his family are members of the United Lutheran church.

On November 22, 1891, Andrew Hawkinson was united in marriage to Lena Ferguson, who was born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1871, daughter of Halvor and Thona Ferguson, who came to Minnesota in 1870

and now live in Elbow Lake township, Grant county. To this union seven children have been born, Henry, Laura, Mary, Dora, Sophia, Arthur and Florence, the latter of whom died in infancy.

F. F. QUAST.

F. F. Quast, one of the well-known citizens of Alexandria township, Douglas county, was born in Germany on February 11, 1872, the son of Fred and Henrietta (Ihlenfeldt) Quast, who also were born in Germany, the former on May 17, 1847, and the latter on June 7, 1849. In 1874 they came to America and located at Delafield, Wisconsin, where they resided for a few years, after which they removed to Mapleton, Wisconsin, and were residents of that place for fourteen years. Upon leaving Mapleton they located at Oconomowac, Wisconsin, and remained there for two years or more, at the end of which time, in 1892, they came to Minnesota with their family and purchased the Alex Olson farm of eighty acres in Hudson township, Douglas county. Mr. Quast made that place his home for eight years and engaged in general farming and stock raising. In 1910 he and his wife removed to Alexandria, where they now live. Mr. Quast and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church. They were the parents of the following children: Ernest (deceased), F. F., Emma, Lena, Charles, Anna (deceased), Matilda and Henrietta.

F. F. Quast received his early education in the public schools of Wisconsin and attended the Union Lake school one year after coming to Douglas county. Upon completing his schooling he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he has been engaged ever since, and also does some contract work. In 1898 Mr. Quast purchased a farm of eighty acres in section 33 of Alexandria township, where he has since lived. He later added to his original purchase until he is now the owner of one hundred and ninety-three and one-third acres of land, which he has developed and improved with good and substantial buildings. In addition to his carpenter work, he is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1897 F. F. Quast was united in marriage to Josephine Thurke, daughter of August Thurke and wife, and to this union four children have been born, Walter, Arthur (who died in 1913), Esther and Edwin. Mr. and Mrs. Quast are members of the German Lutheran church. Politically, Mr. Quast is "independent".

ANDREW H. ANDERSON.

Among the many well-known and successful farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, who were born in Norway, is Andrew H. Anderson, who was born on June 15, 1860, the son of Halvor and Tilda (Olson) Anderson, also natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1861, locating in Allamakee county, Iowa, where they remained for three years. They then came to Minnesota and lived in Houston county for three years, at the end of which time, in 1867, they moved over to Grant county, making the journey to their new home with an ox team and wagon. It required over a month to make the three-hundred-mile trip. They were accompanied by four other families, early settlers in this part of the state, and all settled in Elk Lake township but one, which located in Urness township, Douglas county.

Halvor Anderson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 11 of Elk Lake township and before his death had added to his original farm until he was the owner of seven hundred and thirteen acres of excellent land. The families that located there at the time Mr. Anderson came, were the first to settle in the township, with the exception of one family, of which Mrs. Anna Goodmanson, of Barrett, is now the oldest survivor. Halvor Anderson spent the rest of his life on his farm in Elk Lake township, his death occurring in 1908. His widow is still living at the age of eighty-five years. Their children, besides Andrew H., are, Henry H., Betsy, Olaus, Albert, Anna, Hilda, Hannah and John. Hilda is the wife of Augustus Setterlund. The family early became prominent in the social and civic life of the community, active members of the Lutheran church, even from the days when the meetings were held in the school house.

Andrew H. Anderson had the advantage of but two weeks in the Norwegian school and one month in the English school, and was confirmed in the first school building in Grant county, November 10, 1874. Since coming to the county he has always lived in the township of Elk Lake and has for the past nineteen years lived on his present farm, where he is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of land. When he bought the place there was but a shed on the place, but since that time Mr. Anderson has planted a beautiful grove and erected substantial buildings. He has an orchard of seventy-five trees and on the place there is a wooded tract of six acres.

On July 4, 1892, Andrew H. Anderson was united in marriage to Margaret Thompson, who was born in Price county, Minnesota, daughter of

Ole T. Ring and wife, natives of Norway, who came to Grant county in 1870. To this union the following children were born: Henry, Arnold (who died at the age of three years), Thea, Myrtle and Maggie. The mother of these children died on January 30, 1900, and on November 17, 1902, Andrew H. Anderson married Anna Thorstenson, who was born in Elk Lake township, daughter of Ole Thorstenson, a native of Norway, who homesteaded in Elk Lake township in 1865, and to this union two children have been born, Lilian and Oliver.

In addition to his large farm interests, Andrew H. Anderson is the owner of stock in the Farmers Elevator Company at Barrett, in the Citizens State Bank and in the creamery of that place. He and his family are active members of the Lutheran church at Barrett and take much interest in church work. The family have long been identified with the social and the religious life of the community, and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Anderson has always taken an active interest in the local affairs, and is recognized as one of the prominent and successful men of the district; his worth having been demonstrated in his services as a member of the township board of supervisors, where he has served for many years.

JOSEPH PENNOCK.

Joseph Pennock, agent for the Standard Oil Company at Elbow Lake and an honored veteran of the Civil War, was born in the state of Missouri on December 3, 1846, the son of Elijah and Caroline (Tucker) Pennock, who were born in Pennsylvania and in Virginia, respectively, and who were married in Illinois, later moving to Missouri, where Mr. Pennock purchased land. After some years residence in that state they returned to Illinois and later moved to Kansas. In the latter state, they purchased land and there spent the rest of their lives, both dying in the same month in 1886, he at the age of sixty years and she at the age of seventy years.

Joseph Pennock received his education in the public schools of Illinois and there grew to manhood. In 1863 he enlisted in Company K, Sixteenth Illinois Cavalry, and served until the close of the Civil War. He saw much active service and was captured on January 3, 1864, and confined in the Andersonville prison, where he remained for considerably more than a year, being released on April 29, 1865. At the close of the war Mr. Pennock returned to Illinois and in 1866 located in Minneapolis, where he remained

for two years. He then came out to this part of the state and located in Grant county, where he built one of the first houses in this section. That was in Pomme de Terre township. Mr. Pennock later took a soldier's homestead of a quarter section in Pelican Lake township, which he later sold and then located in Ashby, where he remained for two years. In 1891 he established a dray line at Elbow Lake and has remained in that business. A few years later he was appointed local agent for the Standard Oil Company at Elbow Lake and for twenty-one years has occupied that position. Mr. Pennock owns a fine home and as a business man he has been successful. He is a Republican and has always taken an active interest in local affairs, but has never aspired to office. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church and take much interest in church work.

Joseph Pennock was united in marriage in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, to Loantha Heald, who was born in the state of Maine, daughter of Timothy Heald, further mention of whom may be found on another page of this work. To this union seven children have been born, Caroline (deceased), Lulu, Alica, Frank, Fred, Taylor and Agnes.

WENZL ADENSAM.

Another painstaking and ambitious young farmer of Carlos township, Douglas county, is Wenzl Adensam, who was born in Austria, September 8, 1876. He is a son of Lawrence and Mary (Hiss) Adensam, and a grandson of Lawrence Adensam, who spent his life farming in Austria. The parents grew up in Austria where they married and lived until they came to this country in 1889 with their two children, Henry and Wenzl, and located at River Falls, this state, but soon thereafter came on to Douglas county, buying land in section 12 of Belle River township, where they established their home, Lawrence Adensam operating the place along general lines of farming until his death, which occurred on October 17, 1914, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife died eleven days later.

Wenzl Adensam grew up on the farm and he was educated in the public schools. He assisted his father clear and develop the homestead in Belle River township, the land having been heavily timbered when the family took possession of it. He has always followed farming and now owns a valuable and well-improved place of three hundred and sixty acres in section 12 of Belle River township and one hundred and twenty acres in the neighbor-

ing county of Todd. He has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and has a comfortable home and substantial outbuildings. He also owns stock in the Belle River creamery.

In 1906 Wenzl Adensam was married to Kate Trisko, a daughter of Henry Trisko, one of the well-known pioneers of Douglas county, and to this union four children have been born, Christine, Wenzl, Mary and Lawrence. Mr. and Mrs. Adensam are members of the Catholic church.

CLAUS P. ADRIANSON.

Claus P. Adrianson, a farmer of Ida township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden, July 7, 1864, and is a son of Adrianson Johnson and Sarah E. (Adrianson) Johnson, natives of Sweden, who were the parents of four children, namely: Hannah, who remained in Sweden; John, next in order of birth; Christine, deceased, and Claus P., the subject of this sketch. The family came to the United States and settled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, but soon thereafter came to Minnesota, arriving at Alexandria in July, 1879. The father bought land in section 15, Ida township, the place on which the subject of this sketch now resides, paying five dollars an acre for one hundred and sixty acres. There the death of the mother occurred a few years later, and the father was again married, his last wife being Karaline Danelson, which union was without issue.

Claus P. and John Adrianson own and operate the old homestead place, carrying on general farming and stock raising, each owning eighty acres. John Adrianson married Mary Johnson. Claus P. Adrianson has remained unmarried.

JOHN N. HOGSTROM.

John N. Hogstrom, one of the prominent residents of Douglas county and a successful farmer of Moe township, was born in Sweden on November 16, 1839, the son of Nels and Christine (Olson) Johnson, who lived there all their lives, the father being there engaged in farming. They were the parents of eight children, Christine, Mary, Nels, John, Ole, Johannes, Kari and Betsy.

John N. Hogstrom received his education in the public schools of

Sweden and there grew to manhood. In 1866 he came to Minnesota and located in Goodhue county, where he resided for one year. He then went to Minneapolis, where he remained for one year, after which he came to Douglas county, and located in Moe township, homesteading his present farm of one hundred and fifty-eight acres, and now has one of the well-developed farms of the township. There he was engaged in general farming and stock raising until his retirement from the activities of farm life in 1896.

John N. Hogstrom was united in marriage to Betsy Peterson and to that union eight children were born, Nels, Christine, Matilda, Emma, Selmer, Lena, Inga and John. The mother of these children died in 1906 and Mr. Hogstrom later married Mary Benson. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community. Mr. Hogstrom served for years as a member of the board of trustees of the local church society. Politically, he is a Republican and has served as school clerk.

During his active life, Mr. Hogstrom was the owner of a saw-mill, in La Grand township, which he operated for twenty years. He sold the property in 1904. He also was the owner at one time of a store building in Lowry, which he sold in 1906.

JOHN E. RAINES.

John E. Raines, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers of Grant county, proprietor of a fine farm in Lawrence township, of which township he formerly was supervisor, president of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Wendell and in other ways actively identified with the general public and industrial life of that community, is a native of the neighboring "Hawkeye" state and spent some years of his life in Kansas, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1900 and has found conditions here very much to his liking. He was born on a farm in Mills county, Iowa, April 24, 1872, son of James T. and Lucinda (Rickabaugh) Raines, the former a native of Missouri and the latter of Ohio, who had moved to Iowa with their respective parents in the days of their youth, had married there and many years later, in the spring of 1904, came to Minnesota and settled in Grant county, where they are still living, now making their home in the pleasant village of Wendell.

James T. Raines was born in Missouri on November 8, 1847, son of John and Elizabeth (Williams) Raines, the former of whom also was a native of that same state, son of Henry Raines, a native of North Carolina, probably of Scotch-Irish descent, who emigrated to Missouri at an early day in the settlement of that state and settled in Pettis county. There John Raines grew to manhood and married Elizabeth Williams, establishing his home on a farm. During the bloody border warfare that marked that region during the days preceding the Civil War, along in the middle fifties, John Raines's wife was murdered by a gang of "border ruffians" and in 1856, following that tragic occurrence, John Raines, with his three motherless children and his father and mother, Henry Raines and wife, moved up into Iowa and settled in Mills county, John Raines making his home with his parents until his death a few years later, in April, 1859. Henry Raines became an active factor in the development of that community, serving for years as a member of the board of county commissioners, and there he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in the eighty-third year of his age. To John and Elizabeth (Williams) Raines three children were born, James T., father of the subject of this biographical sketch; Mary, who married James Miller and lives at Malvern, Iowa, and Taylor, who lives at Concordia, Kansas. In Mills county, Iowa, James T. Raines married Lucinda Rickabaugh, who was born in Ohio on November 24, 1852, daughter of Isaac and Lucinda (Dubodway) Rickabaugh, both natives of that same state, who in 1864 moved to Iowa and settled in Mills county, where Isaac Rickabaugh became a farmer and landowner and where both spent the remainder of their lives, Isaac Rickabaugh dying in 1872 and his widow surviving him until 1895. They were the parents of nine children, of whom Mrs. Raines was the last-born, the others being as follow: John, who died years ago; Louis, also deceased; Rachel, who married Job McMillan and died in Ohio; Elizabeth, who married Samuel Masters and died in Iowa; Isaac, who lives in Arkansas; Sarah, who married A. W. Raines and died in Iowa; Milton, who died in Nebraska, and Dudley, who died in Mills county, Iowa.

Following his marriage James T. Raines settled on a farm in Mills county, Iowa, and there made his residence for a few years, at the end of which time, in 1871, he went to Kansas and homesteaded a farm in Cloud county, where he presently established his home, moving there with his wife and their infant son in the latter part of 1872, and there he made his home for about sixteen years, at the end of which time he returned to Mills county, Iowa, and there made his home until the spring of 1904, when he

sold his farm and came up into Minnesota, settling in Grant county. He bought a farm of two hundred acres in Stony Brook township and there made his home until in October, 1914, when he retired from the active labors of the farm and he and his wife moved to Wendell, where they are now living and where they are very comfortably situated. James T. Raines is a Republican in his political affiliations and fraternally, is connected with the Masonic order. He and his wife are members of the Christian church and their children were reared in that faith. There are six of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: May, who married M. E. Thiel and lives at Wendell; Carrie, who died when about four years of age; Olive, who married U. W. Hammaker and lives at Great Falls, Montana; Frank, a farmer of Lawrence township, Grant county, and Alice, who married R. B. Hosford and lives at Wendell.

John E. Raines was but an infant when his parents moved to Kansas and was a well-grown lad when they moved back to Iowa. His schooling thus was received in the schools of both those states. Reared to the life of the farm, he early became a valued assistant to his father in the labors of the farm and was thus engaged until after his marriage in January, 1900, in the spring of which year he came up into Minnesota and established his home in Grant county. He bought a quarter of a section of land in Lawrence township and there made his home until the death of his wife three years later, after which he made his home with his parents on their farm nearby and remained there until their retirement from the farm and removal to Wendell, since which time he also has made his home in the village. In addition to operating his own farm, to which he has added by purchase until he now is the owner of a fine place of three hundred and twenty acres, Mr. Raines also is managing his father's farm and is doing very well. In addition to his general farming he is giving considerable attention to the raising of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs and has quite a herd of both, about twenty registered cattle and more than fifty of a more ordinary strain and seventy-five or eighty hogs, selling many of the latter for breeding purposes both in his immediate locality and in the territory covered by his numerous shipments. In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Raines gives close attention to the general business affairs of his neighborhood and has been the president of the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Wendell since the organization of that flourishing industry in 1912. Mr. Raines is a Republican and gives a good citizen's attention to local political affairs. For four years he served as a member of the board of supervisors

in Lawrence township; for eight years was a member of the school board in that same township and for three years has been a member of the school board at Wendell. He is a member of the Presbyterian church and in his fraternal relations is a member of the Masonic order and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

It was on January 4, 1900, in Mills county, Iowa, that John E. Raines was united in marriage to Rhoda F. Hammaker, who was born in that county, daughter of John Hammaker and wife, early settlers of that community, and who died on July 3, 1903, leaving two children, Edith, born on February 17, 1902, and James, June 25, 1903.

GILBERT HANSON.

Gilbert Hanson, a well-known and successful farmer of Erdahl township, Grant county, was born at Benson, Swift county, Minnesota, in 1875, the son of Peter and Carrie (Bjornson) Hanson.

Peter Hanson was born in Norway in 1843, the son of Hans and Ingra Erickson, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives in their native country, where Peter Hanson continued to live until 1868, when he came to the United States, locating in Wisconsin, where he remained for two years, at the end of which time he came to Minnesota and located in Swift county, homesteading one hundred and sixty acres of land near Benson. There, in 1871, he married Carrie Bjornson and there he made his home until 1875, when he came to Grant county and took a homestead of eighty acres in section 14 of Erdahl township. He built a small log house and at once began the task of breaking the land, using a team of oxen to do his work. Many were the hardships he endured during the first few years of his residence on the homestead, the first crop on the place being destroyed by the grasshoppers. In time, however, Mr. Hanson became prosperous and became the owner of four hundred acres of excellent land. There he was actively engaged in his work as a farmer and stockman until some few years ago, when he retired from the active operation of the place, but still resides on the farm.

To Peter and Carrie Hanson have been born eight children, Hans, Gilbert, Albert, Ida, Nettie, Palma, Anna and Thora. Hans is engaged in general farming and stock raising at Woodworth, North Dakota. Albert is on a homestead in Canada. Ida is the wife of Randolph Mahla, a well-

known farmer of Evansville township, Douglas county. Nettie married William Anderson of Minot, North Dakota. Palma is the wife of Frank Goodwin of Noonan, North Dakota. Anna is at Minot, North Dakota, and Thora is at home with her parents. For years Mr. Hanson served as a member of the school board.

Gilbert Hanson received his education in the public schools of Erdahl township. In 1899 he was united in marriage to Anna Johnson and engaged in farming for himself by renting a part of his father's farm, and is now operating the whole place of four hundred acres. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are the parents of four children, George, Myrtle, Avis and Ethel. They are members of the synod branch of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Hanson has been active in local affairs and is now assessor of his township. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Erdahl.

PETER N. BREVIG.

Peter N. Brevig, of Stony Brook township, Grant county, was born in Norway, January 2, 1856, a son of Nels N. and Margaret Brevig, both natives of Norway, who, in 1867, brought their family to America, locating in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they spent five years; then, in 1872, came to Minnesota, the father securing one hundred and sixty-one acres of land in Stony Brook township, Grant county, which he developed into a farm on which he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. Five children were born to them, namely: Carrie, who is the wife of James Woodworth; Nels, next in order of birth; Julia, the wife of Henry Olson, of Aastad; Peter N., the subject of this sketch, and Andrew, deceased.

Peter N. Brevig spent his early boyhood in Norway. He had little chance to attend school, for he was compelled to work hard when a boy on his father's farm. He came with the family from Iowa to Grant county and has since lived on the home place, which he now owns and which he has kept well improved and under a high state of cultivation. He has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, and has erected good buildings and set out a large grove.

In 1881 Peter N. Brevig was married to Olena Severson, who was born in Norway in 1866, and to this union one son was born, Nels, born in 1882, who grew up on the homestead. He married Mary Hanson and now lives

in North Dakota. He and his wife have two children, Olive and Harold, the latter of whom lives with his grandfather.

Peter N. Brevig is a Republican, but has never aspired to public office.

OLE N. BERGAN.

Ole N. Bergan, one of the careful and persevering farmers of Stony Brook township, Grant county, was born on April 22, 1857, in Norway, in which country his parents lived and died, and where he grew up and was educated in the common schools. In 1876 he came to the United States, locating in Iowa where he remained until 1879, when he came to Minnesota, locating at Evansville, the next year, 1880, pre-empting eighty acres in section 18 of Stony Brook township, Grant county. He has been a hard worker and has managed well. Prospering, he added more land to his original holdings until he now has a valuable farm of three hundred and seventy acres. Mr. Bergan is a Republican, but has never aspired to public office.

In 1884 Ole N. Bergan was married to Ingeborg Ericksson, who was born in Norway in 1835, from which country she came to Minnesota. She is a sister of Jens Pletan, who is mentioned in another part of this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Bergan three children have been born, namely: Nils, born in 1885, lives on a farm in Stony Brook township, married Mary Lund and has one son, Oris; Gurna, born in 1887, who lives at home, and Edwin, born in 1889, who is also with his parents.

WILLIAM R. BAKER.

William R. Baker, a well-known merchant at Osakis, was born in Albert Lea, Minnesota, September 11, 1875. His father, Charles E. Baker, was born in Pennsylvania and his mother, Maria (O'Connor) Baker, was born in Ohio.

Charles E. Baker came to Minnesota when a young man and settled on a farm near Albert Lea, in Freeborn county, where he lived for several years engaged in farming. In 1895 he removed to Todd county, six miles northwest of Osakis, where he lived on a farm until his death, which occurred in 1912. He was the father of three children, Arthur R., William R. and

Nellie O., the latter of whom died in 1915. Mr. Baker was a supporter of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics he affiliated with the Republican party.

William R. Baker was educated in the public schools of Austin and worked on the farm with his father until 1895, at which time he began farming for himself, in Gordon township, Todd county. In October, 1912, he removed to Osakis and entered into partnership with Swore & Olson in the general merchandise business, the style of the firm being Swore, Olson & Baker. On January 1, 1913, he sold his interest in this business to Mr. Swore and on May 10, 1913, he entered a partnership with Anderson Brothers, in the hardware and implement business, the style of this firm being Anderson Brothers & Baker. Mr. Baker is an active and aggressive young business man and the firm with which he is associated is doing a successful business in a general line of hardware and farm implements, enjoying a very gratifying patronage among the people of the town and surrounding country.

William R. Baker married Clara S. Stolcop, daughter of L. E. Stolcop, and to this union four children have been born, Inez, Russell, Erma, who died young, and Wallace. Mr. Baker attends the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically, he affiliates with the Republican party. His lodge membership is with the Woodmen.

JOHN O. BERG.

The late John O. Berg, for many years one of the leading agriculturists and esteemed citizens of Elbow Lake township, Grant county, was born in Norway on October 10, 1850. His parents spent their lives in that country and there he grew up and when a young man emigrated to the United States, first locating in Illinois, later coming to Minnesota and locating in Goodhue county, whence he moved to North Dakota, where he remained until coming to Grant county. He took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Elbow Lake township and developed the same into a good farm. Prospering, he added one hundred acres to his original tract. He made substantial improvements and carried on general farming and stock raising with success.

On November 7, 1886, John O. Berg was married to Annie Falla, who was born in Norway, May 5, 1863, a daughter of Anders and Martha (Tor-

gesson) Anderson, who were born, reared and married in Norway, where the father's death occurred in 1878. His widow and children came to Minnesota in 1885, locating in Grant county. The mother spent her last days at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Berg, where her death occurred in 1894, she then lacking but one month of being seventy-four years of age.

The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Berg: Ole, Anna, Thomas, Albert, Josephine, Julia, Lila, Myrtle, Nels and Edith Amy, the latter of whom died on February 15, 1910, at the age of three years and three months.

John O. Berg was a Republican and was for some time a member of the local school board. His death occurred on November 15, 1909.

WILLIAM SCHMIDT.

William Schmidt, a successful farmer of Leaf Valley township, Douglas county, was born in Germany on June 26, 1859, the son of Frederick and Augusta Schmidt, also natives of Germany, who came to the United States late in life and spent their last days in the home of their son, William Schmidt. They were the parents of two children, William and Rica, the latter of whom married Charles Schmidt, of Alexandria.

William Schmidt received his early education in the public schools of Germany and also attended school for a while in the United States. On coming to this country, as a young man, he located in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where he worked for five years as a farm hand. He then, in 1871, came to Minnesota and homesteaded a farm of eighty acres in section 34 of Leaf Valley township, Douglas county. He at once built a small log house and proceeded to the clearing of his land. The task was a hard one and he endured all the hardships of the pioneer life, using oxen to do his work. In time the farm was developed into a well-cultivated tract, and Mr. Schmidt became a successful and prosperous farmer. He later added to his original farm and is now the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land. He built a fine home on the place and made that his home for twenty years, engaging in general farming and stock raising, in which he was quite successful. He is now living on one of his farms in section 36, where he has lived for the past fifteen years, and is actively engaged in the farming of one hundred acres, his sons farming the balance of his land.

In 1870 William Schmidt was united in marriage to Helen Brueske and to this union the following children have been born: Charles, Christina, Robert, Agnes, William, Helena and Alfred. Charles Schmidt married Anna Schoenick and is engaged in farming in Leaf Valley township. Christina is the wife of Gust Schoenick, a farmer of that same township. Robert married Amelia Schultz and lives in Alexandria. Agnes is the wife of Gust Bitterman, a farmer of Milton township. William married Anna Sweesh and is farming a part of his father's place. Helena is the wife of Richard Schulz, a farmer of Leaf Valley township, and Alfred is at home with his parents.

William Schmidt is a Republican, has served as a member of the board of supervisors of the township for the past twenty-five years, and was formerly a member of the school board in district No. 23. The family are members of the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Schmidt is a deacon. He is a stockholder in the Leaf Valley creamery.

CARL HERMAN SWENSON.

Carl Herman Swenson, an enterprising farmer of Holmes City township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden on August 8, 1862, a son of Swen and Johanna (Gustavson) Swenson, both natives of Sweden, whence they came to America in 1864. After living two years in Dekalb county, Illinois, and eight months in Red Wing, Minnesota, they came to Douglas county in 1867, taking up as a homestead the northwest quarter of section 32 in Holmes City township, all prairie land. The father broke the sod and improved the place in general, building a house in which his son, Carl H. Swenson, still lives, the same being the second dwelling the elder Swenson built after coming here. His death occurred on that farm on December 13, 1887. His widow survived until October 5, 1893. The father, Swen Swenson, was twice married and was the father of eleven children. His first wife died in Sweden. To that union nine children were born, namely: Sven N., Johanna, Christina, Carlina, Andrew and three who died young. The two children by his second marriage were Gustav Alfred, and Carl Herman.

Carl H. Swenson was two years old when his parents came to America. He grew up on the farm and remained with his parents the rest of their lives. He has continued to operate the homestead, keeping it well improved

and under a high state of cultivation, and now owns two hundred acres, including the old homestead. He has six acres of woodland near the village of Holmes City.

Mr. Swenson has never married. He was three times road boss and has also been a member of the school board. He belongs to Oscar Lake Lutheran church.

LOUIS BENSON.

Louis Benson, one of the well-known and successful farmers of Roseville township, Grant county, was born in Sweden, on May 6, 1866, the son of Ben and Caroline Benson, also natives of Sweden, where the mother died in 1880 and the father about 1887. Of their eight children, Louis was the only one who came to the United States.

Louis Benson was but three years of age when he went to live with his grandparents, and there he was reared on a farm. When twenty-three years of age, in 1889, he came to the United States and located in Ford county, Illinois, where he worked in a brick yard for two years, after which he worked, as a renter, on the Sullivan estate, which comprised many acres of rich Illinois land. In 1903 he came to Minnesota and purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 1 of Roseville township, Grant county. At the time Mr. Benson assumed possession of the farm it was run down and the buildings were in a dilapidated condition. New buildings have been erected and farm developed in excellent shape. Mr. Benson takes much interest in local affairs and has served as a member of the school board. He is a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

HALBERT H. EVJU.

Halbert H. Evju, a well-known farmer of Brandon township, Douglas county, was born in Norway, April 22, 1860, a son of Herband and Gernel Evju, both natives of Norway where they grew up and married and established their home on a farm, the father owning a small tract of land there, on which his death occurred, after which the widow brought some of their children to Minnesota, where her son Halbert H., the subject of this sketch, had previously located, in Douglas county, whither he came twenty-four

years ago. Here his mother's death occurred on October 7, 1914, at the age of seventy-eight years. Her children were Halbert H., Osta, Gulek, Ole, Herband and Hilda, the latter of whom died in 1913.

Halbert H. Evju grew to manhood in Norway and came to America in 1880, landing at Boston. He came on direct to Minnesota and worked for a short time in Renville county, then went to Wisconsin, where he remained a year or two, after which he returned to Minnesota and settled in Douglas county, where he has since remained. After renting land three years he bought one hundred and sixty acres in 1889, in section 22 of Brandon township, and there he has since carried on general farming and stock raising, making many important improvements on the place in the meanwhile, including the building of a large, modern barn in 1915. Mr. Evju is a stockholder in the Brandon creamery and elevator.

In 1886, Halbert H. Evju was married to Hannah Turkelson and to this union ten children have been born, Florence, Jennie, Louise, Olga, Betsy, Nellie, Agnes, Herbert, Ethel and Gilman. Mr. Evju served on the township board for nine years.

MAGNUS SKOGLUND.

Another venerable and highly respected citizen of Lake Mary township, Douglas county, is Magnus Skoglund, who has devoted his long life successfully to general farming. He was born in Vermland, Sweden, in 1837, and remained in his native land until he was thirty-two years of age, coming to America in 1869. He first located at Redwing, Minnesota, but not long thereafter went to Hastings, where he spent eleven years; while there working on railway construction when the first railroad was built through that section of the state. In the spring of 1880 he came to Douglas county, locating on the farm he still occupies in Lake Mary township. During his residence here of some thirty-six years he has made many changes in his place, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation. Upon coming here Mr. Skoglund purchased one hundred and thirty-seven acres on the west bank of Lake Mary and began in pioneer fashion to clear the land, erecting modest buildings and improving the place gradually.

On June 24, 1872, at Minneapolis, Magnus Skoglund was married to Louise Anderson, a native of Sweden, who came to America in 1869, locating in Minneapolis, and to this union seven children have been born, namely:

Andrew, Fred, Bernard, Amanda Bloom, Carl, who is living on the home farm; Victor, who is on a nearby farm, and Julia Sherlin, deceased. The family are members of the Swedish Baptist church.

CARL O. AUGDAHL.

Carl O. Augdahl, was born in Brandon township, Douglas county, where he is now a well-known and successful farmer, July 10, 1875, the son of Frederick O. and Olive (Christopherson) Augdahl.

Ole Augdahl, the grandfather, was a native of Norway and there lived his life, a fisherman. The father, Frederick O. Augdahl, was also a native of Norway and there received his education in the public schools of his native country, and there grew to manhood and was married, to Olive Christopherson, also a native of that country. Some time after their marriage they decided to come to America, where many of their former friends and neighbors had settled, and in 1872 they came to Minnesota, locating on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 16 of Brandon township, Douglas county. The farm was for the most part cleared by Frederick O. Augdahl, who also improved the place and later added eighty acres to the farm. There he engaged in general farming and stock raising until the time of his death, which occurred on August 30, 1901, at the age of sixty-eight years. His widow is living with her son, Carl O., on the home farm, at the age of eighty-five years, she having been born on June 24, 1832. They were the parents of two children, Mattie, the wife of Julius Larson, and Carl O.

Carl O. Augdahl received his early education in the school in district 76 of Douglas county and later attended Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls for one year. Upon completing his schooling he returned to the home farm, where he has since devoted his life to the interests of agriculture. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and has been quite successful.

On July 10, 1897, Carl O. Augdahl was united in marriage to Thea Larson, daughter of Julian Larson, an early settler in the township, and to this union six children have been born, Clifford, Edwin, Mabel, Hazel, Philip and Lloyd. Mr. and Mrs. Augdahl are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are prominent in the social and religious life of the community.

Carl O. Augdahl has always lived on his present farm, where he now has two hundred and forty acres in sections 16 and 21. The place is well improved and under a high state of cultivation. He has always been interested in local affairs and has served for the past fifteen years as a member of the school board in district No. 76. He has served as a member of the board of township supervisors for eleven years, and has been chairman of the same for eight years. He is a stockholder in both the farmers' elevators at Brandon and is also interested in the Brandon creamery, having been one of the organizers of the same.

PETER J. PETERSON.

Peter J. Peterson, one of the well-known farmers of Elk Lake township, Grant county, was born in Sweden on December 9, 1862, the son of John O. and Catherine (Olson) Peterson, also natives of Sweden, the former of whom was a farmer and distiller, who, in 1865, came to Minnesota and located in Chisago county, where they remained for two years. In 1867 John O. Peterson came over to Grant county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 2 of Elk Lake township, and with a team of oxen and three or four cows began the task of breaking and clearing the farm and making a home on the prairie. The task was a hard one and the family had many difficulties and hardships to overcome. The second year Mr. Peterson succeeded in seeding five acres of his land, but the gophers took much of the seed in the spring and the blackbirds took most of what remained in the fall. The nearest flour-mill was at Osakis and it required five days to make the trip and get a grist ground. In addition to the loss of his second seed crop, Mr. Peterson was afflicted during the second year of his residence there with paralysis, with which he suffered for more than three months, during which time his brave wife looked after the place and made the hay and cared for it. These were trying times for the little family, yet they had the determination to win for themselves a home in the new land and in time they prospered. The farm was cleared, substantial buildings were erected, and the place was enlarged until they were the owners of four hundred acres of excellent land. There Mr. Peterson engaged in general farming and stock raising for many years. The last years of his life he engaged in the elevator business at Evansville and at Barrett, and was quite successful.

To John O. and Catherine Peterson were born seven children, Martha, Christina (deceased), Mary, Matilda (deceased), Peter J., C. C. and Frank A. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were prominent in the work of the Swedish Lutheran church and were among the organizers of the local society. Mr. Peterson was also one of the organizers and builders of the first school house in the county and always took much interest in the success of the schools. He was active in the civic life of the township and served for a number of years as a member of the township board of supervisors, long having been recognized as one of the influential men of the township.

Peter J. Peterson received his education in the public schools of Elk Lake township and grew to manhood on the home farm, where he remained until he was twenty years of age, when he started farming for himself. He now owns four hundred and forty acres in sections 1 and 2, on which he has placed practically all the improvements and has brought the farm under a high state of cultivation, being today recognized as one of the substantial farmers of the community.

In 1890 Peter J. Peterson was married to Carrie Thune and to this union seven children have been born, Serene Matilda, Stella G., Maranda E., John Prues (who died in 1915), Alma C., Carron and Carl. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are active members of the Swedish Lutheran church and take much interest in church work, for the past twelve or fifteen years Mr. Peterson having served as a deacon. He takes much interest in the civic life of the township, has served as a member of the township board of supervisors and has been a member of the school board for twenty-five years, serving in the capacity of clerk.

ANDREW ZELLER.

Andrew Zeller, a well-known farmer of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, was born in Germany, August 5, 1857. His parents died in the Fatherland.

Andrew Zeller grew up in his native land and came to Minnesota in 1881 and spent six years in Alexandria, working in a brewery. In 1887 he moved over to Grant county and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Pomme de Terre township. On that farm he has succeeded admirably, and has added to his holdings until he now has four hundred and forty acres of valuable and well-improved land, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He has a pleasant home and up-

to-date farm buildings. He set out a fine grove, which now adds much to the appearance of his place.

In 1886 Andrew Zeller was married to Tina Koth, who was born in Germany in 1856. To this union two children have been born, Amelia, born in 1892, and Arlene, 1897, both of whom are at home. Mr. Zeller is a Republican, but has never been active in public affairs nor sought office. He belongs to the German Lutheran church of Pomme de Terre township.

ANDREW KULLANDER.

Andrew Kullander, the owner and proprietor of a fine farm in Solem township, Douglas county, was born in Sweden in 1840, and is a son of John and Carrie Kullander, both of whom were also natives of the same country, the former of whom died in Sweden. The mother came to America to live with her son after he had been here about two years.

Andrew Kullander received his education in the schools of his native land, coming to America in 1863. He was employed in the saw-mills and at other work in Minneapolis, for four or five years after he arrived here, and then homesteaded a quarter section of land in Douglas county, in section 21 of Solem township, and on this place he is now living. His land was raw prairie when he first acquired it, but by perseverance and industry, he has brought it to a high state of cultivation and development. He has a handsome residence surrounded by a fine grove, with a nice driveway bordered with trees on either side leading to the house; a large and commodious barn and other outbuildings, and, in fact, has one of the best farms and most attractive places in the township. He added to his land holdings from time to time until he had two hundred and forty acres all in Solem township. He also owned at one time eighty acres in Wisconsin, but later disposed of it. About six years ago he sold his land to his son, Frank, and has since retired from the active management of the farm.

In 1876 Andrew Kullander was married to Caroline Peterson, and to this union the following children have been born, Christian, Christine, Albert, Anna, Selma, Frank, Lydia and Lucy, all of whom are living, with the exception of Albert. The family are earnest members of the Lutheran church, and actively interested in the affairs of the church. Mr. Kullander served his township many years as treasurer and also as township supervisor.

NELS B. BREKKE.

Nels B. Brekke, a well-known and well-to-do retired farmer of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, is a native of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1873, in which year he took up his residence in Grant county, shortly after the formal organization of the county, and ever since has made his home there. He was born in the district of Aurland, in Norway, in 1840, son of Bottolf and Kari Brekke, natives of that same district, who were married there and became small property owners, rearing their family there and remaining in their native land until 1871, when they came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, where they made their home with their son, Eric, in Otter Tail county, spending there the rest of their lives. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last born, the others being as follows: Sivert, who died in Norway; Eric, who died in Otter Tail county, this state; Ellen, who also died in Otter Tail county, and Ingeborg, who married Ole Flom and died in Goodhue county, this state.

Nels B. Brekke was reared on a farm in his native land and there grew to manhood, receiving his education in the schools of his home neighborhood. He married in 1868 and continued to make his home in Norway until 1873, in which year he and his family came to this country and came on out to this section of Minnesota. Upon his arrival here Mr. Brekke homesteaded a quarter of a section in section 2 of Pomme de Terre township, Grant county, constructed a dug-out on a side hill just west of his present comfortable residence and there established his home, he and his family continuing to reside in the dug-out for seven years, at the end of which time they built a log house and there lived until 1902, when the present comfortable dwelling was erected. Mr. Brekke's farming operations prospered and he was able later to buy an additional "forty," which he still owns, making him a fine farm of two hundred acres, which he now rents out, living practically retired from the active labors of the farm. Mr. Brekke's first barn was destroyed by a cyclone and in 1912 he built his present modern barn. In addition to his general farming, he gave considerable attention to the raising of live stock and did very well. He is a Republican in his political affiliations, but has never been included in the office-seeking class.

It was in 1868 that Nels B. Brekke was united in marriage, in his native land, to Martha Peiro, also a native of that country, and to this

union five children have been born, namely: Bottolf, who is now managing the home farm for his father; Peter, who lives on a farm three miles west of the old home farm; Tina, who married Tosten Haagen and lives on a farm adjoining the Brekke farm; Martin, who is at home, and Josie, also at home. The Brekkes are members of the United Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in all local good works.

OLE SATTERLUND.

Ole Satterlund, one of the well-known farmers of LeGrand township, Douglas county, was born in Vermland, Sweden, on August 8, 1873, the son of Nils and Martha (Johnson) Satterlund, also natives of Sweden, who came to Minnesota in 1890 and located in Lund township, until he retired some years ago. He now makes his home with the son, Ole Satterlund. His wife died at her home on the farm. They were the Douglas county, where Nils Satterlund engaged in agricultural pursuits parents of two children, Ole and Martha, the latter of whom became the wife of Peter Holm, of Douglas county, and is now deceased.

Ole Satterlund received his education in Sweden, where he lived until he was seventeen years of age. On coming to this country, he located in Lund township with his parents, and remained there until eighteen years ago, when he came to the farm where he now lives, and where he owns one hundred and twenty acres of land, a goodly portion of which he has cleared and improved. He has erected substantial buildings and made other valuable improvements.

In 1896 Ole Satterlund was united in marriage to Christina Lundlie and to this union, four children have been born, Gideon Nicholis, Milton Minor, Constance Olivia and Carl Joseph, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Satterlund are active members of the Ida congregation of the Mission church and take much interest in church work. Mr. Satterlund has always taken an active interest in local affairs and for four years was a member of the school board and is at present a member of the board of township supervisors, which position he has held for six years, and became chairman of the board two years ago. He took an active part in the organization of the Garfield Shipping Association and has served as vice-president of the company since its organization. He is also an agent for the Home City Fire Insurance Company.

HENRY ADENSAM.

Among the substantial farmers and influential citizens of Belle River township, Douglas county, is Henry Adensam, who was born in Austria on July 6, 1870, the son of Lawrence and Mary (Spenc) Adensam, also natives of Austria, the former of whom was born in 1838 and the latter in 1840. Lawrence Adensam and wife both grew to maturity in their native land, married there, and owned and operated a farm in that country before coming to America. In 1888 they sold out their holdings in Austria and came to the United States with their family, landing in New York that same year. They settled first in Marshall county, Minnesota, and later lived in Crookston for a time; finally locating in Douglas county, where they purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Belle River township. This farm was partly improved and had an old frame house built on it. They started at once to improve and cultivate their land, buying more land from time to time until at one time they owned four hundred and forty acres, and there they lived the remainder of their lives, Lawrence Adensam dying on September 14, 1914, his wife surviving him only a few days, her death occurring on September 23, 1914. They were the parents of two children, Henry, the immediate subject of this review, and Wenzl, born in 1875.

Henry Adensam received his education in the schools of his native land and assisted his father for many years with the work of the home farm, both in Austria and in this country, remaining with his parents until his marriage. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 24 of Belle River township, known as the Ole Bergstrom farm, which was only fairly well improved at the time Mr. Adensam acquired it. He has made many and various improvements on this place and now has one of the best managed and most-up-to-date farms in the township. In 1914 he built a new barn, thirty-six by sixty feet in dimensions, and has all his farm buildings in good repair. His farm is equipped with all the latest and most improved farm machinery, including a new Henneman milking-machine, and many other modern devices which go to make the work of the farm of today much less laborious than formerly. Mr. Adensam has about fourteen dairy cows, besides much other live stock. He also raises a great deal of grain on his farm, most of which is fed to his stock.

In February, 1909, Henry Adensam was married to Mary Weber and to this union has been born one son, Henry. The Adensams are members of the Catholic church, and Mr. Adensam has contributed generously to

the new Catholic church now being built in the township. He and his brother, Wenzl, purchased one of the fine bells to be used in the new church, the same costing about six hundred dollars. Mr. Adensam is independent in politics, but is actively interested in all that makes for the general welfare of his community.

JOHN M. LYNNE.

John M. Lynne, a well-known merchant at Ashby, was born in Glenwood township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, August 22, 1859, a son of John Lynne. He is a brother of Lars Lynne, of Elbow Lake, whose biographical sketch appears in another place in this work.

The subject of this sketch received his early education in Iowa and after coming to Minnesota he attended St. Olaf College, at Northfield. In 1883 he came to Ashby and was employed for about six years as clerk in a store. In 1889 he started a small grocery store and about one year later was burned out. He then put up a building in which he opened a store in the line of general merchandise, and has continued in that line since. He now has a good stock of goods and is doing an excellent business.

In 1889 John M. Lynne was married to Mary Alexon, daughter of Edwin Alexon, and to that union four children have been born, Milla, Gilfred, Roy and Gladys. The Lynnes are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Mr. Lynne is a Republican and has served for several years as a member of the village council. He is at present the president of the local telephone company and is one of the substantial citizens of the community, among the foremost factors in the promotion of the community's prosperity and welfare.

FREDERICK G. HARRIS.

Frederick G. Harris, a well-known real-estate dealer at Osakis, was born in David City, Nebraska, September 11, 1871, a son of A. T. Harris, who was born in Tompkins county, New York, and Alzina (Carlisle) Harris, born in Goshen, Vermont.

A. T. Harris, father of the subject of this sketch, came with his fath-

er to Dodge county, Wisconsin, while he was a young man. There he grew to manhood. Afterwards he went to Butler county, Nebraska, where he entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of government land and was one of the pioneer settlers of that county. He lived there for several years and then went to Oregon, where he died. He was the father of two children, Sallie R. and Frederick.

Frederick G. Harris was educated in the public schools of Dodge county, Wisconsin, and as a boy found employment in working on the farm. At the age of fifteen he came to Minnesota and worked on a farm in the vicinity of Tracy for several years. In the fall of 1896 he came to Osakis, and found work on a nearby farm in Gordon township, Todd county, where he remained for about a year. He then entered the employ of the Plano Harvester Company, as salesman, and continued in that business until 1904, in which year he opened up a real-estate business in Osakis and has been engaged in that business ever since. In 1908 he organized the Harris Land Company, of which he has since been the manager.

In 1896 Frederick G. Harris was united in marriage to Katie R. Hughes, daughter of R. H. Hughes, and to this union two children have been born, Frederick I. and Eva. The Harrises are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Harris is one of the trustees. Politically, Mr. Harris affiliates with the Republican party. He is a member of the Masonic order and also of the Modern Woodmen.

Mrs. Harris was the first white girl born in Center township, Lyon county, Minnesota. Her father was one of the pioneers of that county and was one of the young men of Minnesota who responded to the call of President Lincoln for volunteers in the Civil War and served for three years.

ED STEINHORST.

In a good wheat county like Douglas there are always to be found men who follow the threshing business during the summer and fall months. One such is Ed Steinhorst, of Hudson township, who is widely known as a thresher. He was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, December 6, 1878, and is a son of August and Emma (Raether) Steinhorst. The father was born in Germany and the mother near Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The date of birth of the former was 1854. He spent his boyhood in Germany, coming to the United States in 1872, and locating in Jefferson county, Wisconsin,

where he engaged in farming, and there was married. On October 1, 1902, he came to Minnesota, buying the farm on which he still lives in Hudson township, Douglas county. He and his wife have eleven children, Ed, Mrs. Bertha Abraham, Alvin, William, Mrs. Lydia Roth, Victor, Walter, Lena, Mrs. Alma Melchart, Oscar and Arthur.

Ed. Steinhorst received a common-school education in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, and has devoted his life principally to general farming. He is now assisting his father on the homestead, and he and his brother Walter operate a threshing machine, threshing over a large territory during the past four years. He and the rest of the family affiliate with the German Lutheran church.

GILBERT J. BRAKKEN.

Gilbert J. Brakken, was born in Norway on June 13, 1843, and died at his home in Douglas county, Minnesota, May 16, 1902. He was the son of Gens and Anna Brakken, natives of Norway, who continued to live in Norway for years after their marriage, when they came to the United States, locating for a year in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Later Gens Brakken came to Douglas county, where he remained for some years and then went to Polk county to live with his daughter.

Gilbert J. Brakken received his education in the schools of Norway and there grew to manhood. As a young man he decided to come to America and was the first of the family to locate in the United States. On his arrival in this country he came direct to Minnesota and located in Fillmore county, where he remained for one year, and then came to Douglas county, where he homesteaded one hundred and fifty acres in section 13 of Carlos township, and later purchased thirty-three acres adjoining. This he developed and improved and there he made his home until the time of his death. He was first married to Gurne Lofte and to that union three children were born, Samuel, Archibald and Anton. After the death of Gurne Brakken, he was united in marriage to Mary Dahlsag, and to this union nine children were born, Anna, Antoinette, Julia, Gena, Amelia, Alena, Lora, Attina and Halma.

Gilbert J. Brakken took much interest in the work of the Lutheran church at Alexandria and at the time of his death was one of the trustees of the local society. For nineteen years he was the assessor of his home township. He assisted in the organization of school district No. 36, and

made out a school check, as clerk of the board, the night he died. He had also served as a member of the board of township supervisors. Since the death of the father, the children have operated the farm and have done much in the way of development, and have improved the place with a new house and barn and two large sheds. The farm lies on the east side of Lake Ida, seven and one-half miles north of Alexandria.

After the death of her husband, Mary Brakken was united in marriage to Albert Grulke, who was born in Germany on March 13, 1853. To this union one child has been born, Albert. Before his marriage to Mrs. Mary Brakken, Mr. Grulke, had been previously married to Elizabeth Heber and to that union five children were born, Alvin, Walter, Hugo, Frieda and Reinhardt. The families have long been prominent in the social and religious life of the community and are held in the highest esteem by all.

CLARENCE STEDJE.

Among the well-known young farmers of Carlos township, Douglas county, is Clarence Stedje, who was born on his father's farm in that township, where he now lives, on February 1, 1885, the son of Samuel and Lena Stedje, natives of Norway, the latter of whom is still living on the old home place.

Samuel Stedje received his education in the public schools of the land of his birth and when twenty years of age came to America, locating in Wisconsin, where he worked as a farm hand. He some time later came to Minnesota and located in Douglas county. Here he married and homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres in section 2 of Carlos township. This farm he developed and improved and here he lived until the time of his death in 1912. The farm came to be one of the best developed farms in the township and Mr. Stedje erected excellent buildings, having built a large new barn in 1906 and a fine new house in 1908.

In addition to his farm duties, Samuel Stedje always took an active interest in township and county affairs. He served for some time as a member of the township board of supervisors and was a member of the school board in district No. 69. He also served as a member of the board of county commissioners for two terms, having been elected on the Republican ticket. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Olaf, Inger, Christine, Carl, Clarence, Nellie, Henry and Lawrence. Of

these children, Inger and Christine are married and Clarence and Nellie are at home with their widowed mother.

Clarence Stedje received his education in the public schools of Douglas county and grew to manhood on the home farm, where he has always lived and which he is now operating, being engaged in general farming and stock raising. The family are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Carlos.

KITTIL O. SAND.

Kittil O. Sand, a farmer of Stony Brook township, Grant county, was born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, August 15, 1872, and is a son of Ole H. and Annie Sand, natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota in 1871, settling in Freeborn county, and in 1873 moved on to Grant county, locating in Elbow Lake township, where the father took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he developed by hard, persistent work, and where his son Ole now lives. The father prospered through good management and added to his original place until he had fourteen hundred and eighty acres, on which he carried on a general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, and there he spent the rest of his life, dying on the old homestead on June 27, 1913, at the age of seventy-six years. His widow survives, being now seventy-six years of age. To these parents the following children were born, Ole, Henry, Annie, Kittil O., Sara, Lars and Mary, all of whom are living.

Kittil O. Sand grew up on the home farm. He received a common-school education and he has always followed general farming and stock raising for a livelihood. He is now the owner of a valuable and well-kept farm of two hundred acres in section 25 of Stony Brook township. He has made many important improvements on the same, including the erection of substantial buildings and the planting of a nice grove. Mr. Sand is a member of the local school board. During his residence of fifteen years on his present farm he has taken an active interest in the affairs of his community for its general welfare.

In 1900 Kittil O. Sand was married to Andrena Dybdal, who was born in Grant county on March 23, 1879, daughter of Asle Dybdal and wife, of Stony Brook township, and to this union six children have been born, Arthur, Kenneth, Lonis, Leonard, Edmond and Adaline.

