

home, spending the rest of their lives there, both dying in 1916, the father in August and the mother in January. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were born five children: Alice, Carrie, Albert, Emma and Nettie, all of whom are living at this writing. Nels Johnson was an influential man in his township. He helped organize the Norwegian Lutheran church there and was a useful man in his neighborhood.

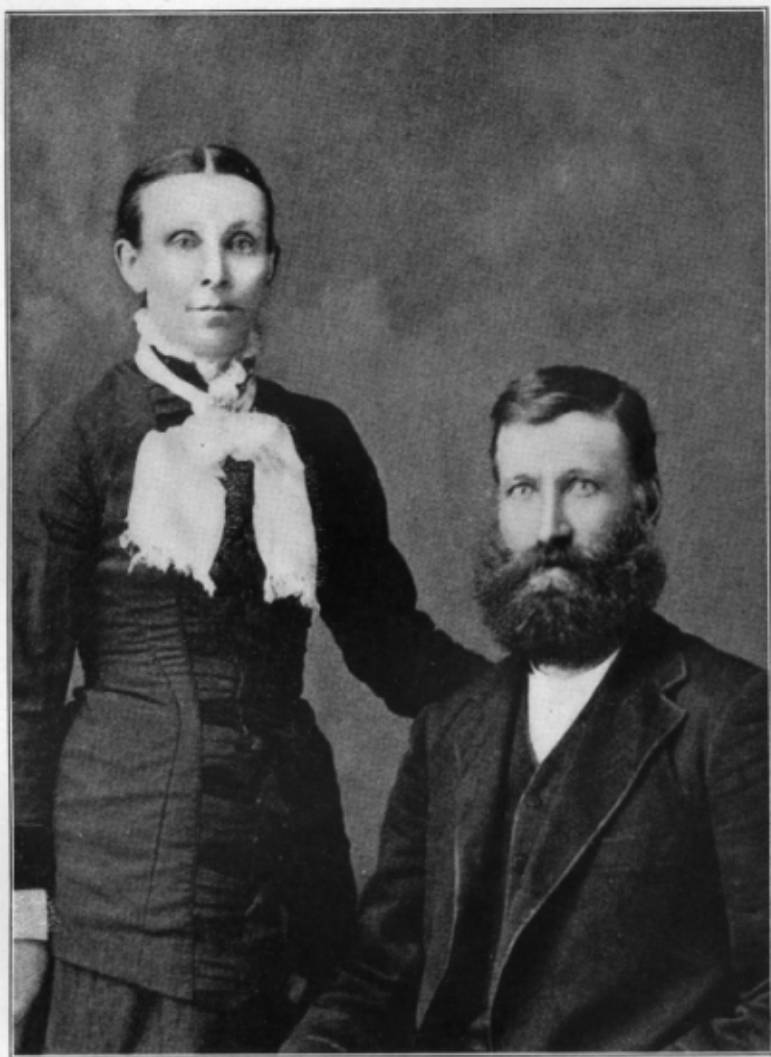
Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dahlen, namely: Cora, born in 1903; Melvin, 1907, and Nellie, 1909. Politically, Mr. Dahlen is a Republican. He has held the office of township supervisor for the past four years and is also a member of the township school board, which position he has held for a number of years. Mr. Dahlen has worked hard to get a start in the new world, and by perseverance has succeeded in becoming very comfortably established.

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#### OLE T. AASEN.

Ole T. Aasen, one of the pioneer farmers of this section of the Red river valley and the owner of a fine farm and a comfortable home in Lee township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since 1870, having come here when about twenty-five years of age. He was born on November 17, 1845, and grew to manhood on a farm in his native land, receiving his schooling there and remaining in that country until 1870, in which year he came to the United States. His parents spent all their lives in Norway. They were the parents of six children, two sons and four daughters, all of whom are living save two. One of the daughters is a resident of Minnesota, living in Houston county.

In 1878 Ole T. Aasen decided to settle in the Red river valley. With that end in view he homesteaded a tract of eighty acres on the Dakota side of the Red river, across the river from his present home in Norman county, and after his marriage in 1881, established his home there, but later moved across the river to his present place of residence in Lee township, where he since has made his home. Mr. Aasen prospered in his farming operations and as he prospered added to his holdings until he became the owner of four hundred and eighty acres on the Dakota side of the river and three hundred and forty-five acres on this side of the river. The former tract he has divided among his children and continues to make his home on his Lee township tract, a fine farm of three hundred



MR. AND MRS. OLE T. AASEN.

and forty-five acres in section 13. Mr. Aasen not only has been a successful farmer, but he has found time to give his intelligent attention to various business enterprises in the neighborhood of his home. He was one of the organizers and a director of the company which established the "Famous" elevator at Perley and has shares also in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at that place. Mr. Aasen also has ever taken an interested part in the general civic affairs of the community and was for years a member of the local school board and treasurer of the same.

It was in May, 1881, at Fargo, that Ole T. Aasen was united in marriage to Mary Christinia Lein, who was born in Norway in 1853 and who was but four years of age when her parents came to this country, the family settling in Iowa, where she was reared and where she received her schooling. Her parents spent their last days in Iowa. They were the parents of seven children, of whom but three now survive. Mrs. Aasen has a sister living in the neighboring county of Becker. Mr. and Mrs. Aasen have six children, namely: Mrs. Clara Johnson, who lives in North Dakota; Theodore, who is married and also lives in North Dakota; Paulina, who is at home with her parents; Mrs. Christina Grady, who lives in North Dakota; Mrs. Matilda McMasters, who also lives in North Dakota, and Charles, who remains at home, taking practical charge of the home farm. The Aasens have a very pleasant home in Lee township and have ever taken an interested part in the community's general social activities, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare.

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#### ASKILD T. BEKKERUS.

Among the native-born Norwegians who have come to America and who have become successful farmers, is Askild T. Bekkerus, who was born in the kingdom of Norway, but who has been living in this country since 1882. He is a son of Torjus and Ingeborg (Skriosen) Bekkerus, also natives of Norway, who were married in that country many years before immigrating to this country.

Torjus Bekkerus was born in Norway in 1821 and had been a farmer in that country before coming to the United States. His wife, Ingeborg Skriosen, was also born in Norway in 1837 and came to this country with her husband and other members of the family. She has been living