

August Germolus was only five years old when his parents brought him to America and settled in Norman county, where he received his elementary education in the public schools. Reared on the old home farm, to the improvement of which he gave his best effort, Mr. Germolus received a very valuable training in agriculture, which he found very useful when he started out on his own account, in 1903, on the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, south of the old home place, which his father had bought in 1894. In 1903, when he began an independent career, Mr. Germolus purchased this farm from his father, and has since lived there, making all the improvements. Now he has one of the best-equipped farm plants in his neighborhood. In addition to his farming interests, he has been active in local business affairs and now holds shares in a potato warehouse and a packing plant at Fargo.

On June 24, 1906, August Germolus was united in marriage to Amalia Kurpjuweit, a native of Germany, born on February 7, 1886, and who came to America when she was twenty years of age with her brother, Fred, who now lives in Canada. She is a daughter of Gotfried and Amalie (Siedelmann) Kurpjuweit, who were both natives of Germany, the former being a farmer and dying in the land of his nativity ten years ago. The mother now lives with her daughter, the wife of the subject of this review, at the age of seventy-two years. Mrs. Germolus has also another brother in America, Rudolph, who married Lydia, a sister of August Germolus, and is now living on his farm in Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Germolus are the parents of six children, Gustav, Edna, Albert, Emil, Clara and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Germolus are members of the Methodist church and in the faith of this denomination they are rearing their children. In politics, Mr. Germolus is independent and has never sought public office.

ADOLF ANDERSON.

Farming has been considered a game of chance too long and the uncertainties of the elements have been overcome to such an extent by intelligent study and use of fertilizers, irrigation and drainage, also by intensive cultivation, that day by day agriculture is becoming more and more an exact science. One of the leading farmers of Tansem township, Clay county, is Adolf Anderson, who was born in Norway, October 23, 1868, a son of Anders and Karen (Arnesdatter) Tonneson, both born in Norway, where

they grew to maturity, married and established their home. There the father died, after which the mother was again married, her last husband being Andrew Eliason. They came to Minnesota in 1878, and located in Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county, among the pioneers of that community. They came by train to Barnesville. There was no railroad station there at the time, only a platform. The only hotel in the village could not accommodate them, so they spent their first night there in a store. They went on to Otter Tail county overland and took up a homestead on which they lived about three years, then bought railroad land in section 35, Tansem township, Clay county, where Andrew Eliason still lives, now owning an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres. The mother of the subject of this sketch died there in 1914. Her only child by her first marriage was Adolf, whose name introduces this review. By her second marriage she was the mother of seven children, four sons and three daughters. Of these daughters, but one, Mrs. Sam Norton, of Norwegian Grove, is now living. Of the sons, Charles, Ole and Axel are living in Canada and John, who was for some time located in Montana, is now living with his father in Clay county.

Adolf Anderson was ten years old when his mother and stepfather brought him to America. He received some schooling in his native land, and later attended the district schools in Tansem township, Clay county. He worked on the homestead there and as a young man worked on a big ranch near Hillsboro, North Dakota, for seven years. He then returned to Clay county and located on the farm he now occupies in Tansem township. The place consisted of two hundred and eighty acres in section 1, Tansem township. He later added another eighty acres, making his farm now three-fourths of a mile square. It is under a fine state of cultivation and improvement. He has erected a large modern barn and remodeled the other buildings. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He farms on an extensive scale, shipping a large amount of grain and a good deal of live stock to the markets annually. He was one of the first settlers in the northern part of Tansem township, which he has been instrumental in developing, having taken an active interest in the general affairs of his locality from the first.

Mr. Anderson has been twice married; first, in 1899, to Aleda Thorson, of Parke township, Clay county, and to that union six children were born, four of whom are still living, namely: Clara Alphena, Alma Gurene, Ole Rudolph and Albert Arnold. Two sons, Carl and Edwin Arnold, are deceased. In 1911 Mr. Anderson married Petra Josephine Egge, a native

of Tansem township, where she grew to womanhood and attended the public schools. She is a daughter of Erik J. Egge, who located in Tansem township in 1887. He now lives in Skree township, but owns land on both sides of the township line. A biographical sketch of Mr. Egge appears elsewhere in this volume. Four children have been born to Mr. Anderson and his second wife, namely: Carl Melvin, Elmer Oliver, Emma Josephine and Hilda Annette, all of whom are living. The Andersons belong to the Rollag Lutheran church and give proper attention to the neighborhood good works.

ADOLPH BJORNDAHL.

No matter what line of work one is engaged in he should strive to become an expert in it, which will not only result in better remuneration but a greater degree of satisfaction and pleasure all around. If one goes at his work in a half-hearted, slipshod manner very little good will be accomplished and little satisfaction gotten out of it. In fact, it is not too much to say that poor work should never be done, for it is very often worse than nothing—detrimental. Adolph Bjordahl, one of the enterprising young farmers of Parke township, Clay county, realized these facts when he started out in life for himself, and he has tried to do well whatever he undertook.

Mr. Bjordahl was born on the farm where he still resides, in section 6, Parke township, Clay county, in 1880, and he has been contented to spend his life at home, fully appreciating the opportunity. He is a son of Nels and Torgen (Ulvig) Bjordahl, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, were married and established their home, continuing to reside there until the spring of 1878, when they immigrated to the United States, and came to Minnesota, presently locating on and homesteading the farm where their son Adolph now lives in Parke township, Clay county. They had lived a short time on another place nearby upon their arrival here. The father worked hard in developing the raw land and in making a home for his family in the Western frontier and, by perseverance and good management he succeeded. He made most all the improvements, putting up good buildings, etc., and here he spent the rest of his life, dying in 1914, at the age of seventy-nine years. His widow is still living on the homestead. To these parents ten children were born, namely: Ragnil, Vil, Nels, Carrie, Ole, Inga, Adolph, Louis, Knut and Nina. The first five were born in Norway and the others in Clay county, Minnesota. They all attended the public