

all movements making for the welfare of the community. Mr. Grommesh and his two sons, John and Hubert, are members of the Catholic Order of Foresters and are ardent supporters of that fraternal organization and of all neighborhood good works. Mr. Grommesh was for two years clerk of the Alliance township school board. He also served as township chairman for three years and as alderman in Barnesville for some years, and in all these public positions he rendered excellent services to the citizens.

John Grommesh, eldest son of the subject of this sketch, was married to Minnie Palman, of Barnesville, and they are the parents of two children, Cecilia and Kenneth. Hubert Grommesh, the younger son, married Christina Lander, of Prior Lake, Scott county, this state, and they are the parents of one child, Lucy.

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#### ALERT ARNESTAD.

Alert Arnestad, fire warden of Ada, who operates a general automobile-repair and vulcanizing shop at that place, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Norman county since 1881, the year in which that county was organized as a civic entity. He was born on September 28, 1858, son of Hans Gulmonson Jacob and Eliza Leeberg, natives of that same country, farming people, who spent all their lives there. They were the parents of nine children, Theo, Carl, Olaf (deceased), Ludwig, Alert, Charlotta, Ole, Casper and Halvor (deceased).

Reared on a farm in his native Norway, Alert Arnestad early began learning the trade of wagon-maker and became a proficient craftsman in that line. In March of 1881 he married there and he and his bride straightway started for the United States. Upon their arrival here they came on out to this then frontier section of Minnesota and settled at Ada, where they ever since have made their home, thus being recognized as among the real "old settlers" of that city. Upon his arrival at Ada Mr. Arnestad secured employment at his trade in a local blacksmith shop and was thus engaged for about two years, at the end of which time he engaged in carpenter work and was thus occupied for five years or more, during which time he erected many of the houses built at Ada and surrounding country during that period. Mr. Arnestad then began farming near Ada, but after two years of that form of work gave up farming and began working in the establishment of Andrews & Hanson, hardware and lumber, at Ada,

and remained with that firm for eleven years, at the end of which time he transferred his services to Lofsness & Shordahl, hardware, and was with that concern for some years. He then started a hardware store and tin shop of his own and operated the same for three or four years, or until failing health compelled his temporary retirement. About a year ago Mr. Arnestad started a vulcanizing and repair shop at Ada and is meeting with a good measure of success in his new enterprise. Mr. Arnestad has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and is now serving his fourth year as fire warden at Ada.

It was on March 21, 1881, in Norway, that Alert Arnestad was united in marriage to Martha Ilang, who also was born in that country, a daughter of Ingebright and Olena (Ingebrightson) Ilang, farming people, and to this union seven children have been born, Eliza, Arnold, Helga, Bertha, Adel, Ruth and Esther, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Arnestad are members of the Hauges Lutheran church and have ever taken much interest in church work.

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#### EDWIN O. STUDLIEN.

Edwin O. Studlien, a farmer of Kragnes township, Clay county, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in March, 1865. He is a son of Ole O. and Bertha (Lundelein) Studlien, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married and made their home until 1853, when they immigrated to America, locating in Houston county, Minnesota, and bought a farm. There the father established a comfortable home and developed a fine farm. He was one of the earliest pioneers of that county and he and his family endured the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. Ole O. Studlien continued to reside there until 1874, when he moved to Clay county and bought the farm in Kragnes township on which his son Edwin O. now resides. There he spent the rest of his life, engaged in general farming with his usual success, his death occurring there in 1908 at the advanced age of eighty-two years. His widow also reached the age of eighty-two, dying in 1914 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Olena Kragnes. To these parents eight children were born, namely: Inger, who is married and lives in Houston county; Jane, deceased; Galena, the wife of O. E. Tangen; Mrs. Olena Kragnes, mentioned above; Edwin O., the subject of this sketch; Mary Ann, who is married and lives in Moorhead; Otis, who disappeared in St. Paul, Minnesota, in December, 1891, and it is