

local political affairs and is now serving as a member of the township board, a service he had rendered during another term some years ago, and also has been a member of the school board in his home district almost all the time since moving here. He also held local office during the time of his residence in Lac qui Parle county.

On June 27, 1896, Louis Knudtson was united in marriage to Louisa Hagen, who was born in the town of Freeman, Freeborn county, Minnesota, a daughter of Thorsten Hagen, a veteran of the Civil War, and to this union have been born eight children, all of whom are living, namely: Gustav, Gena, Elmer, Ernest, Lillian, Mabel, Gladys and Florence. The Knudtsons are members of the Lutheran church and take an interested part in local church work, as well as in other local good works and in the general social affairs of the community in which they live.

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#### ALBERT BRAUNSCHWEIG.

Albert Braunschweig, the proprietor of a fine farm in Pleasant View township, Norman county, and who takes a good citizen's interest in the social and moral betterment of the community in which he has lived for several years, was born in Germany, a son of Carl and Amelia (Finskie) Braunschweig, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father and mother came to this country, bringing their family with them, and located on the farm where their son, the subject of this sketch, now lives. Two years ago, they retired from active agricultural pursuits, and moved to Ada, Minnesota. They had four children, of whom the subject of this review is the eldest, the others being Lena, who is dead; Amelia and Anna, who became Mrs. Lockhart.

Albert Braunschweig was only eleven years of age when he landed on American soil, and he came on out to Norman county with his parents, whom he aided in the development and cultivation of the home place. Here in the local public schools, he received his formal education, but while he gave his assistance to his father on the farm, he gained a practical training in the agricultural operations of this section. It was in 1915 that he bought the home farm from his parents, when they moved to Ada, this county, and he now is the proprietor of a farm of four hundred and forty acres, on which he carries on general farming and raises stock, having eleven horses and some cattle. Under his skilful management the farm has continued to pro-

duce abundantly, and he has improved the land by the erection of substantial and adequate farm buildings and by planting trees; thus he has one of the best appointed farm plants in this section of the county.

On July 16, 1897, Mr. Braunschweig was united in marriage to Maria Merkins, at Ada, this county. She was born in Goodhue county in 1877, a daughter of Henry and Maria (Merkins) Merkins, and this marriage has resulted in the birth of twelve children, namely: Bertha, Anna, Henry, deceased; Lena, Willie, Ida, deceased; Louis, Eitel, Albert, August, Martha and Otto. Mr. and Mrs. Braunschweig are members of the Lutheran denomination and are active in the church work of the community, belonging to the Pleasant View church of that faith. They are rearing their children according to the precepts of this creed. Mr. Braunschweig is a trustee of the Pleasant View congregation, and the way he has discharged his duties has been in strict accord with the character of the man and the responsibilities of the office. He has held some important township offices, but he resigned the official trusts so that he could give his undivided attention to his extensive farming interests. This does not mean that he has ceased to be solicitous for the common welfare, for whenever any movement is inaugurated in the community for its social or moral betterment, it is sure of the hearty co-operation and support of Mr. Braunschweig.

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#### NERE J. NERESON.

Nere J. Nereson, one of Norman county's well-known and substantial farmers, the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres in Strand township, former assessor of that township and in other ways interested in the public affairs of that community, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born in Nicollet county, this state, March 9, 1857, a son of one of the pioneers of that part of the state, and grew up familiar with pioneer conditions in Minnesota. In 1879, shortly after his marriage, he settled on the farm on which he is now living and there has made his home ever since, he and his wife thus being pioneers of that part of the county, having been residents there since the days prior to the formal organization of Norman county as a separate civic entity, and have ever done well their part in promoting the interests of that part of the county in all proper ways. They have a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres, twenty acres of which is timber land, and have one of the best-kept