

erecting new buildings and now he has an excellent farm plant. His thrift and industry during the years of his residence on this place has enabled him to add to his holdings until they now comprise two hundred forty acres, on which he carries on general farming.

On June 6, 1881, Mr. Lee was united in marriage to Johanna Bendics, before he came to this country. She was born in Norway in 1857, a daughter of Lars and Dora Bendics Heler. To this union fifteen children have been born, the twelve living are: George, Lars, Dora, Bertha, Theodore, Ole, Nora, Carl, Anna, John, Severt and Oscar. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Strand and in this faith they are rearing their children. He takes a good American citizen's interest in local and state affairs. Being a farmer of foresight, he sees the necessity of good roads to his community and has rendered valuable service in his district as road supervisor. In addition to his foregoing activities, he helped to organize the Peoples Supply Company at Gary and is still interested in the same.

MATT CHLOUPEK.

Matt Chloupek, a prosperous farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he is the owner and operator of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, a part of which is the old home place and who takes an active interest in the civil affairs of the community in which he lives, was born in Kewance county, Wisconsin, August 4, 1868, a son of Albert and Dortha (Amedly) Chloupek, both natives of Bohemia. The father came to America in 1857 and became a pioneer settler of Kewanee county, Wisconsin, where he bought government land which he farmed. His holding there comprised forty acres, which he sold in 1881 and came directly to Norman county, Minnesota, where he bought the homestead right of Rier Byverson to one hundred sixty acres, on which the subject of this sketch still resides. At first the homestead was entirely unimproved, having on it only a little shanty for a dwelling when the elder Chloupek bought the right, but he immediately set to work with a will to improve the holding, erecting excellent buildings and planting a fine grove. The father was one of the organizers of Waukon township. By his first wife, whom he married in Bohemia, Albert Chloupek was the father of two children, daughters, Mary and Anna, both coming with their father to America, where the latter died. Sometime

after the death of the first wife occurred in Bohemia, the father married there again and his second wife bore him five children, all of whom came to this country with him; they are: Katherine, Dortha, deceased; Barbara, Josie and Jacob. On the death of the second wife, the father married a third time, after he took up his residence in Wisconsin, to Dortha Andedly and by her he had the following children, namely: Matt, the subject of this review; Bertha, Nettie, Albert, and two others who died in infancy. The father and mother lived on the old homestead in Waukon township until their deaths. They were devoted members of the Roman Catholic church and were active participants in all local parish affairs.

Matt Chloupek spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Wisconsin and there received a common school education in the neighboring district schools, but when he was thirteen years of age his parents removed to Norman county, settling here in Waukon township, where he has continued to live on the old old homestead. After the death of his father and mother, he purchased the farm from the estate and to the original tract he has added eighty additional acres. He has reorganized the old farm plant by the erection of the present excellent set of buildings which replaced the old ones. Now he carries on a scientific form of general agriculture.

On May 29, 1894, Mr. Chloupek was united in marriage to Anna Witasek, who was born in Bohemia, and came to America with her parents, Valentine Witasek and wife, when she was only six years of age. To this union have been born five children, all of whom are living at home: George, May, William, Dorothy and Frances. Mr. and Mrs. Chloupek are devoted members of the Catholic church and they take a proper interest in the affairs of the parish. Mr. Chloupek takes an active part in local civil affairs, serving now as township supervisor and as a member of the school board, on which he has been for several years.

CHRISTIAN OLSON.

Christian Olson, formerly a large landowner of Lee township, Norman county, and now a retired farmer and well-known banker and prominent citizen of Lake Park, Minnesota, was born in Norway, August 20, 1844, a son of Ole and Margrcte (Dokken) Olson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and reared their family, and there died at a ripe old age, industrious farmers in their community.