

with his brother and the latter's family. The Swensons have a very pleasant home and take an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful in many ways in promoting movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

NILS O. DAHL.

Nils O. Dahl, a well-known retired farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, owning three hundred nine acres of farming and timber land, and who is prominently connected with the social, religious and co-operative business interests of the community in which he lives, was born in Norway, January 18, 1860, a son of Ole and Kari Grytdalen, both of whom were born in Norway, where they died, the father being a farmer and carpenter. The father and mother were the parents of the following twelve children: Carl, deceased; Ingeborg, Marie, deceased; Davet, Johanas, who is dead; Karena, Otto, Nils O., the subject of this review; Ole, Andreas, deceased; Taale and Augusta.

Reared on the old home farm back in Norway, where each member of the large family had to contribute his industry and thrift to the cultivation of the father's holding, Nils O. Dahl received a practical training in farming, which assured much of his success after his coming to this country to establish his home. During his early days in the land of his nativity, he received a limited formal education in the local public schools. The success of many of his countrymen and neighbors in their activities in the New World prompted him to leave his native land and in 1882, when he had reached the age of twenty-two years, he landed on American soil. Knowing that many of his friends were situated in Norman county, Minnesota, he came directly to Ada and immediately took a homestead of one hundred twenty acres in section 32, Bear Park township, which farm he traded a few years later for a part of his present farm. His farming operations have been so successful that he has been enabled to increase his holdings until he now is the owner of three hundred nine acres, two hundred ninety-nine of which comprise the home place in Waukon township and ten acres in Fossum township, which is timberland. His farm is one of the best improved ones in the vicinity, for he has erected excellent buildings, including a substantial, capacious barn and granary and has made an addition to the farm home. At present, in order to assure the adequacy of his farm plant, he is putting

up a second set of farm buildings. Mr. Dahl has worked hard to achieve the remarkable success which he now enjoys, and in the spring of 1917 he retired from active farming operations.

On December 8, 1891, Mr. Dahl was united in marriage to Gure Hermanson, who was born at Spring Grove, Houston county, Minnesota, March 6, 1858, a daughter of Ole and Bergit Hermanson, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Clara Belena, who died at the age of thirteen years, and Obert and Martinus. Mr. and Mrs. Dahl are well-known and active members of the Norwegian Lutheran denomination, belonging to the Ness Lutheran church, which society the former helped to organize. He is interested in the local marketing and distributing agencies of the immediate vicinity, having helped to organize the Waukon Mercantile Company and being interested in the creamery at Waukon. Mr. Dahl has never sought after public office, he and his family take a deep interest in the social and civic betterment of the community in which they live.

ANDREW A. HOVLAND.

Andrew A. Hovland, well-known and substantial farmer, former township supervisor and for many years connected with business life of the part of the county where he now resides, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty-three years old and of Norman county since 1881. He was born in Norway on November 6, 1846, a son of Amund and Ingeborg (Arnold) Hovland.

Amund Hovland was born in Norway, as was also his wife, Ingeborg Arnold, and there he was educated in the schools of his day, later becoming an expert and thrifty farmer, always interested in the progress and welfare of his home neighborhood. He and his wife spent all their lives in their native land, dying there many years ago. They were the parents of seven children, five of whom are deceased, and whose names follow: Amund, deceased; Christina, deceased; Renald; Ella, deceased; Andrew, the subject of this sketch; John, deceased, and Johanas, deceased.

Andrew A. Hovland was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the labors of improving and developing the tract. In 1869, at the age of twenty-three years, he decided to try his fortune in America and immigrated in that year, first