

was in 1902 that he started farming where he now lives in Bear Park township, this county, and he operates one hundred and sixty acres, carrying on a scientific form of diversified agriculture. The farm plant is comprised of excellent buildings, around which is a beautiful grove, partly planted by Mr. Sirjord.

On November 1, 1908, George K. Sirjord married Mrs. Petra (Leines) Holmviik, and to this union two children have been born, Morris Gifford and Pearl Judie. Mrs. Sirjord was first married to John Holmviik in 1894, a year after she came to America. Mr. Holmviik had immigrated to this country with his mother and stepfather, who were early settlers of Norman county. By her first husband, Mrs. Sirjord had three children, Clara, Ada and Norman. Her parents, Cornelius and Petrena (Sahl) Leines, were natives of Norway, where they lived and died. Mrs. Sirjord had four brothers and two sisters, namely, Bang, Oluf, Kornelius, Ole, Nekoline and Ane. Mr. and Mrs. Sirjord are active workers in the Norwegian Lutheran church, rearing their children in that faith, and are zealous participants and hearty supporters of all the good works of the community in which they live.

In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Sirjord has important business interests. He helped to organize the Bear Park Mercantile Company and the Farmers Elevator at Bijou; he is also interested in the creamery at Rindahl. While he takes a good citizen's interest in public affairs of the same, however, he has never sought office.

---

### JOHN CHRIST DESING.

John C. Desing, well-known lumberman, former justice of the peace in and for Elmwood township and otherwise identified with the public life of the community, is a native son of Clay county, born in Baker on December 29, 1886, a son of William and Fredericka (Wright) Desing, both natives of the German empire, and who came to America single, later marrying in Clay county.

John and Mary Desing, the paternal grandparents, came to America in an early day and were among the first homesteaders in the vicinity of Baker, Clay county, in which place they spent the remainder of their lives, honored and respected pioneers. The maternal grandparents also were among the early settlers, probably in the seventies, and likewise settled in the neighborhood of Baker, where they continued to reside to the end of their lives.

William Desing, father of the subject of this sketch, immigrated to this country in the early seventies and in 1874 came to Norman county and homesteaded a tract of land in Elmwood township, where he engaged in general farming for several years. Mr. Desing, who also learned the trade of a carpenter and was an expert workman, is now living in Roscau, Minnesota. His wife died some years ago. They were the parents of four children as follow: Mrs. Mary Peterson, who lives at Dalton, Minnesota; John C., the subject of this sketch; Manda, who lives in Rochester, Minnesota, and David, living with John C. The parents and sisters of the family belong to the Adventist church, while John C. and David are members of the Lutheran church.

John C. Desing was educated in the schools of Clay county and was reared on his father's farm, later acquiring a thorough knowledge of the carpenter trade while with D. W. Tulley, of Barnesville. In 1911 he moved to Downer and started out as a contractor on his own account, and for the next four years continued at that branch of activity and met with a considerable share of success. In 1915 Mr. Desing joined the Interior Lumber Company at Downer and from the beginning of this connection he has held the responsible position of manager. He also is engaged in the buying of potatoes for Louis Altenbrend during the past two years.

In June, 1916, John C. Desing was united in marriage to Clara Nelson, of Rollag, Minnesota, a daughter of C. E. Nelson, a pioneer of that place and who now resides in Osakis, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Desing have become the parents of two children, twins, Floyd and Florence. Mr. and Mrs. Desing take an earnest interest in the social and general activities of the community in which they reside, ever desirous to assist in all movements calculated to benefit the people. In 1917 Mr. Desing built a handsome stucco residence, and here the family are comfortably situated.

---

#### LUDWIG B. LARSON.

Ludwig B. Larson, well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Bear Park township, former township assessor and former school clerk, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been living in this country since he was three years old. He was born in Norway on July 4, 1869, a son of Severt and Randi (Petersdatter) Larson, also natives of Norway.