

now living in Benson county, North Dakota; Gerta, a widow, now living in the state of Washington, and Lizzie, who is married and living in Canada.

Upon coming to this country in 1882 Ole Nilson located at Moorhead and two years later, in 1884, was married to Ingeborg Bernhardson, who also was born in Sweden, in 1865, and who was but four years of age when she came to this country with her parents in 1869. After his marriage Mr. Nilson established his home on his present farm in Holy Cross township and has ever since made that his place of residence, he and his family being very comfortably situated there. He has a fine place of two hundred and forty acres, which he has improved in admirable shape and has long been regarded as one of the substantial farmers of that neighborhood. He has made all the improvements on this place himself and has a very well-kept farm plant.

Mr. and Mrs. Nilson have eight children, namely: Lena, a widow; Freda, who is married; Andrew; Mila, who is married, and Lottie, Tilla and Ella, at home. The Nilsons have a very pleasant home and take an interested part in the community's general social activities. Mr. Nilson has given his earnest attention to local civic affairs and has served as a member of the town board and as a member of the school board in his local district. He is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

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### GUST EKLUND.

Gust Eklund, a well-known contracting painter and decorator at Moorhead, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country, living at Moorhead, since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born on December 9, 1860, son of A. G. and Anna (Bowman) Anderson, also natives of Sweden, the latter of whom died there and the former of whom is now living there, after a residence of fifteen years or more in this country.

On June 5, 1875, he then being but fourteen years of age, Gust Eklund was apprenticed to learn the trade of painting and paperhanging in his native land and after a four-years apprenticeship began working along that line on his own account, remaining in Sweden until 1884, when he came to Minnesota and located at Moorhead, where for five years he was employed at his trade, working for Fred Johnson. He then became a partner of Mr.

Johnson, a connection that continued for eight years, or until 1897, when he became an independent contractor in the painting and decorating line and has since been very successfully thus engaged. Mr. Eklund is a member of the Moorhead Commercial Club and takes an active interest in the general business affairs of his home town, for years having been one of the most earnest "boosters" of that city. He aided in the organization of the Moorhead Building Corporation and has been vice-president of the same since its organization.

In 1885, the year after his arrival in this country, Gust Eklund was united in marriage to Margaret Nordine, who also was born in Sweden and who was but a child when her parents, Jens Nordine and wife, came to Minnesota and settled in the neighboring county of Otter Tail. To that union eleven children have been born, two of whom died in infancy, the others being as follow: Ewin G., who is now engaged in educational work in Boston, Massachusetts; Rudolph, who is engaged in the jewelry business at Moorhead; Florence, who is a teacher in the public schools of Warren, this state; Anna K., who is now attending college at Cambridge, Massachusetts; Margaret V., who has just completed the course in the Moorhead high school, and Ila, Horace, Ruth and Iva, who are still in school. Mr. and Mrs. Eklund are members of the Congregational church and take a proper interest in church work and in the general good works of their home town. Mr. Eklund is a thirty-second degree Mason and a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He also is affiliated with the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Order of Yeomen and takes a warm interest in the affairs of these several organizations.

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#### ELISHA C. SPRAGUE.

There is no positive rule for achieving success, and yet in the life of the successful man there are always lessons which might well be followed. The man who gains prosperity in any vocation is he who can see and utilize the opportunity that comes in his path. Such a man is Elisha C. Sprague, a real-estate dealer and farmer, of Moorhead, Clay county.

Mr. Sprague was born on November 26, 1880, in Moorhead, a son of Elisha C. and Louise (Carlson) Sprague. The mother was born in Christiania, Norway. When about fifteen years of age she came with her uncle