

way; Esten T., the subject of this sketch; Ole living near Bemidji, this state; Severt, who lives with his brother, Esten T.; Bernt, living in Hegne township; Thorsten, also of Hegne township; Mart and Pauline, in Norway, and Peter, who died young. Thor Wiegen and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in the faith of that denomination.

Esten T. Wiegen was educated in the schools of his native land and was reared on his father's farm, where he became a valued assistant in the labors of improving and developing the home place. At the age of twenty-six, in 1880, he immigrated to America and on arrival in this country he proceeded on out to this state, going to Barnesville, where he worked with a steel gang in the construction of the Great Northern railroad from Barnesville to Ada. He then worked for the Northern Pacific railroad on construction work, spending in all a period of three years. Mr. Wiegen's next move was to the farm and he engaged with Wilhelm Ray, a farmer, living two miles of Fargo, in Cass county, North Dakota, and worked there for sixteen years, or up to the time of Mr. Ray's death, after which he continued with the son for two years. In the meantime, about 1897, he had bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land in section 13, Hegne township, this county, and worked out on other farms until he had the holding paid for. The tract was all wild land and the task of clearing and preparing it for crops was a heavy one. He has the place in a thorough state of cultivation and has erected substantial and modern buildings and is generally regarded as a successful and progressive farmer, whose operations are conducted along modern agricultural lines. Mr. Wiegen is a member of the Lutheran church and earnestly interested in all its good works, as well as in all movements designed to serve the community at large.

IVER N. ELLINGSON.

Iver N. Ellingson, well-known and substantial farmer, owner of two hundred acres of prime land in Bear Park township, Norman county, connected with various mercantile pursuits and active in public affairs, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country for thirty-seven years. He was born in Norway on March 20, 1859, a son of Nels and Carrie (Jacobsdatter) Ellingson, both natives of the same country and who came to

America about 1893 and lived the remainder of their lives with their son, Iver N. Ellingson. Nels Ellingson died on May 14, 1909, aged eighty-three years, and his wife died on October 27, 1901, aged seventy-six years, and both were laid to rest at the Ness Congregational cemetery. The father was a farmer in Norway. They were the parents of seven children as follow: Karen (deceased), Johanna, still living in Norway, Edward, Iver N., John, Mary and Nels. Nels is in Norway, all the others are in the United States of America. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and earnestly interested in its good works.

Iver N. Ellingson was educated in the schools of Norway and reared on his father's farm, until fifteen years old; then hired out as fisherman on the northwest coast of Norway. In 1881 he immigrated to America, directly on arrival proceeding to Ada, Minnesota, working on farms there and in North Dakota and Wisconsin, but made his home with an uncle, Ingebright Ellingson, in Hendrum township, Norman county, for some years. In the fall of 1889 he started farming for himself in section 13, Hendrum township, having two years previously bought eighty acres of land in that township and in 1892 acquired a further tract of one hundred and sixty acres. On his first holding, which was all unimproved, he erected some good buildings and broke the sod for tillage, breaking fifty acres with the aid of three steers. In March, 1898, Mr. Ellingson came to his present farm in Bear Park township, having sold his place in Hendrum township, and bought one hundred and forty acres the first year and the following year added a further sixty acres, all of which is given over to general farming, at the same time raising graded Shorthorn cattle, for which he finds a ready market. He has erected substantial buildings to replace the log structures on the holding when he took it over, and he is regarded as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

In the fall of 1889 Iver N. Ellingson was united in marriage to Ellen Serena Stennes, born in Norway, a daughter of Severt Stennes and wife. To this union the following children have been born: Nels, who died at the age of two and one-half years; Selmer Julius, Clara Marie and Sophia Amanda, Nels Edwin, Ida Eliza, Joseph Helmer, Clarence Anfin, Sena Augusta, Martin Kermit and John Ingvold. Mr. Ellingson helped to organize the Lutheran church in Hendrum township. He has always taken an active interest in mercantile affairs and assisted in the promotion of the Farmers Elevator at Hendrum, the Sundahl Mercantile Company and the Sundahl Creamery. In partnership with three other farmers he owned and operated a thresher in Hendrum township. He is interested in the Independent Har-

vester Company in Plain, Illinois, and was formerly interested in the Farmers Elevator at Gary until it burned. While living in Hendrum township Mr. Ellingson served as road overseer for several years. In Bear Park township he has served as road overseer two or three terms, and is regarded throughout the township as an enterprising and public-spirited citizen.

CARL K. OLSON.

Carl K. Olson, a substantial farmer of Anthony township, Norman county, where he owns two hundred acres of good farming land, and a well-known resident of this community, was born in Halstad township, Norman county, December 29, 1877, a son of Knut and Olena (Helbrud) Olson, both natives of Norway, who came to America and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where the father worked during 1872-73. In the last year mentioned, Knut Olson yoked a team of oxen to a covered wagon into which he loaded his household goods and farming implements, with his family joined two other families, and drove directly through from Fillmore to Norman county. One of the members of this party was Ole E. Olson, now deceased, who was one of the pioneers of Halstad township, Norman county. Soon after Knut Olson arrived in the county, he homesteaded eighty acres in Halstad township, and his mother, who came with him, also homesteaded a tract of equal size nearby. There he lived on his holding until his death occurred, and during his life he entered actively into the affairs of the new community. As soon as the population of what is now Halstad township reached the requisite size, he and his neighbors organized it into the present civil unit, and he served his community as township supervisor. Not only was he interested in the initiation of the civil existence of the township, but he was also instrumental in the establishment of the Augustana Lutheran church. He and his wife, who now lives his widow on the old home place, were the parents of nine children, namely: Ole K., John, Mary, Albert, Carl, the subject of this review; William, Bertha, Emma and George B., the latter deceased.

Carl K. Olson, being born and reared in Norman county, received here his common-school education, and later he entered Concordia College, at Moorhead, graduating from the same. Soon after the completion of his higher education, he left the parental roof and went to Anthony township, where he has since lived after starting for himself in farming. As the year passed,