

type of diversified agriculture. In addition to his farm, he owns a house and lot in Twin Valley, Minnesota.

On June 20, 1907, Mr. Schulstad married Hansens Lystre, who was born at Grand Meadow, Mower county, Minnesota, November 8, 1887, a daughter of Hans and Gunild Lystre. To this union have been born six children: Gladys Matilda, Christian Herbert, Harvey Cyrus, Ruth Mildred, Lilie Evylin and Kenneth Norman. Mr. and Mrs. Schulstad are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and they are rearing their children in the same faith. For nine consecutive years the former has been clerk for the local school district, and is still in office. Especially is he interested in the co-operative distributing agencies of this section of the Waukon Mercantile Company. He is also interested in the creamery at the latter place. In politics, Mr. Schulstad is a Republican, taking a proper interest in the activities of his party.

JOHN ERICKSON.

A retired business man of Moorhead, Clay county, who has contributed much to the development of this section of the Red River Valley, is John Erickson, who during his active years has owned about fifteen thousand acres of land in Clay and adjoining counties and now owns fourteen hundred acres, the builder of the Jay Cooke House, a famous hotel of Moorhead, which was destroyed by fire some years ago, the first clerk of the Clay county court, mayor of Moorhead for three terms, and who is now finding surcease from his many years of active life in the calm of retirement. He was born in Sweden, November 26, 1840, a son of Erick and Marie (Peterson) Juronson, the former of whom was a small farmer of Sweden, born in 1813 and died in 1900 at the age of eighty-seven years, never having come to America. The mother was born in 1820 and died in 1912 at the advanced age of ninety-two years on the old home place, back in her native land. They were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the oldest; the others being: Gustav, who died at the age of twenty-two; John, whose death occurred here in America at the age of twenty-three years; Mary, the wife of John Swanson, of Baker, Clay county; Tilda, who married James Peterson and lives at Sabin, Clay county; Nels, a farmer who owns land in Sweden, and John, the subject of this review.

Reared on the home farm back in Sweden, where his father barely eked out a living on his small holding, John Erickson in his early years learned

what it meant to work hard for his livelihood. The habits of industry and thrift which he acquired in that period were invaluable to him when he began his career in this country, where he achieved a remarkable success. A striking thing about Mr. Erickson's life is that he has achieved this success since he was thirty-one years of age. It was in April, 1870, that he first breathed the air of America, with no capital save excellent habits of industry and thrift, rugged health, an unshakable determination to be successful and an indomitable will. He wandered about the first year of his life in America and did not come to Clay county until 1871, where he secured such employment as he could find in the frontier stores and in wood chopping during the first winter. The country was then new and many settlers were coming in, hence he was seized with the idea of establishing a hotel for the accomodation of the incoming homesteaders. In April, 1872, he erected his hotel, which was a small tent affair and he continued this enterprise until 1874, in which year he started a general merchandise store, a valuable aid to the pioneers of that day, because bases of supplies were very few and far between in those days. He continued the merchandising business until 1881, when he decided to enter the hotel business on a large scale, erecting the Jay Cooke House at the cost of eighty thousand dollars on the site of the present Comstock hotel. He operated the large hotel until 1911, in which year it was completely destroyed by fire. Since that time he has made no further ventures in the hotel business. In addition to his large hotel and merchandising business, Mr. Erickson has also had large farming interests. There have been times when he has farmed as much as three thousand acres of land at one time, and all in all he has owned fifteen thousand acres of farm land in Cass county, North Dakota, Ottertail county, Minnesota, and mostly in Clay county.

During his years of active life, Mr. Erickson was very active in politics, being prominently connected with the Democratic party, in the councils of which his voice was well known in the city, county and state phases of its activity. He was the first clerk of the Clay county court and was later elected mayor of Moorhead three times. He took a further important part in the development of the city as a member of the common council, which position he held for twenty-one years. In 1905, when he was sixty-five years of age, Mr. Erickson gave up politics, business and farming and retired from active pursuits to spend the evening of his life in quietude after his many years of arduous labor. He still, however, owns fourteen hundred acres of land, on which he formerly carried on general farming in Wadena and Clay counties, but he now leaves the operation of the farm

to other hands. He also retains stock in some of the important financial institutions of the county. During his years of active business life, he owned and operated a large brewery here in Moorhead, but his retirement from business caused him to relinquish his interests in that enterprise.

On October 22, 1872, Mr. Erickson was united in marriage to Anna Larson, who was born in Sweden, August 16, 1852, who came with her parents to America when she was only three years of age. The family settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where Mrs. Erickson was reared to womanhood. Her death occurred in Moorhead, October 16, 1899. By her Mr. Erickson is the father of five children, as follow: Gust, residing in Reno, Nevada; Carolina, married and living in Scobey, Montana; Edward, a resident of Reno, Nevada; Albert, who lives here and is a candy manufacturer, and May, a teacher in the Breckenridge schools, who is a graduate of the State Normal school here and has taught in this state for seven years. Since his retirement, Mr. Erickson has not given up entirely his interest in the public welfare, for whenever any worthy movement is started in the city for the common social, educational and moral betterment, it is assured of his unstinted support.

GUSTAV KYLLANDER.

Gustav Kyllander, for many years identified with the farming industry either as an instructor or as a practical farmer, now living in Bear Park township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of the United States since 1865, having come to this country when he was thirty-one years old. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, October 6, 1834, a son of Pehr and Marie Elizabeth (Swenson) Kyllander, both also natives of Sweden and in which country they spent their last days. During his active life Pehr Kyllander was a farmer. He and his wife were the parents of one child, Gustav Kyllander, the subject of this sketch, whose mother died when he was but one year old.

Gustav Kyllander was educated in the schools of Sweden and took a course in the gymnasium and took the examination at Upsala University, later attending the Agricultural College at Ultena, Sweden, where he spent two years, and from which institution he was graduated. Thus prepared, he then taught an agricultural school at Halland, Sweden, later going to an uncle to gain some practical experience on the farm. Subsequently, he taught agriculture at Smoland for a time.