

In the year 1893 S. O. Solum was united in marriage to Christine Austin, daughter of John and Bertha Austin, of Crawford county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Solum are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper part in church work, as well as in the general social and cultural activities of their home community.

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### CHARLES FOSSAY.

There is no more persevering tiller of the soil in Kragnes township, Clay county, than Charles Fossay, who was born in Norway in 1853. He is a son of Ole E. and Olia F. Fossay, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until immigrating to America in 1866, locating in Mitchell county, Iowa, where the father bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, for which he paid five dollars an acre. The same land is now worth one hundred and seventy-five dollars an acre. Here they engaged in farming, developing raw land by hard work. The father's death occurred there in 1907 at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. The mother died some three years later at the age of eighty-four. To these parents the following children were born: Eberhart, who was killed by a bull in 1912 in North Dakota; Anton, who died in Mitchell county, Iowa; Charles, the subject of this sketch; Bertha, who is married and lives in Mitchell county, Iowa; Emma, who is married and makes her home in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; Minnie, who died near Davenport, North Dakota; Oliva, who was married and who died in Foster county, North Dakota, in 1915; Oliver, who lives in McHenry county, North Dakota, and Mary, who died in Cass county, that state.

Charles Fossay was thirteen years old when his parents brought him to America. He received a common-school education and grew to manhood on the farm. Like all sons of pioneers he worked hard when a boy, helping his father develop the home farm. In 1877 he went to Fargo, North Dakota, and there operated a dray line for twelve years with very gratifying results. He then, in 1889, came to Clay county and bought his present farm in Kragnes township. The farm originally consisted of four hundred acres, but Mr. Fossay later sold half of it and now owns the two hundred acres, which lie in sections 30 and 31. He made all the improvements on this land, including the erection of a modern and substantial set

of buildings. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, and makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle.

On September 6, 1886, at Fargo, Mr. Fossay was married to Anna Danielson, who was born in Sweden in 1859. She spent her girlhood in her native land and there attended school, coming to America alone when eighteen years old, locating at Fargo, North Dakota, where she remained until her marriage. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fossay, namely: Charles, who is married and lives in the province of Manitoba, Canada; Edward, who makes his home with Charles in Canada, and Obert, Alice and Mabel, at home.

Politically, Mr. Fossay is an "Independent". He served as treasurer of the school board in his district for many years and was also a member of the township board for many years. He is a member of the Congregational church, in which he is a deacon, and is active in church affairs.

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#### HENNING O. KRABBENHOFT.

Henning O. Krabbenhoft, one of Clay county's most successful farmers and substantial landowners, proprietor of a section and a half of fine land in the Sabin neighborhood of Elmwood township, former assessor of that township, former chairman of the board of supervisors of the same and in other ways actively identified with the affairs of that community since pioneer days, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Clay county since he was eighteen years of age, having come here with his parents, who became the first permanent white settlers of what later became organized as Elmwood township. He was born in Schleswig-Holstein on May 27, 1856, son of W. F. and Katherine (Jess) Krabbenhoft, natives of that same province of Prussia, who came to the United States with their family in 1874 and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling on a homestead tract in what later came to be organized as Elmwood township, in Clay county, and there spent the remainder of their lives, useful and influential pioneers of that community, their original homestead tract there now being the place of residence of the subject of this sketch.

It was in 1872 that the Krabbenhoft tract in Elmwood was entered, W. C. Krabbenhoft, eldest son of W. F. Krabbenhoft having come here in that year and made his claim to the same, putting up a homestead shanty and preparing the way for the coming of his parents and the other members