

wife were the parents of the following children: John, Randi, Anton, Martinus, Sivert, Guro and Jacob N., the subject of this sketch. All these children are living here except Randi, who lives in Norway, and Guro is deceased.

Jacob N. Erstad took up his residence on a homestead farm in Sundahl township upon coming to Norman county and immediately set to work to get the place into a state fit for the planting of crops. He succeeded in his operations and is now the owner of a fine tract of two hundred and ten acres of land, ten acres of which is in timber, and is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising, being recognized throughout the neighborhood as one of the practical and painstaking farmers of the district.

When Mr. Erstad acquired possession of this holding he commenced his farming operations with a pair of oxen for which he paid one hundred and thirty dollars and lived for some time in a log cabin. Later he erected a good dwelling and some substantial outbuildings and he and his family are comfortably and pleasantly situated. At the age of thirty years, in 1873, Mr. Erstad was united in marriage to Cecelie Anderson, who came to this country at the same time as her husband, and since his marriage he has continued to reside on the original homestead farm. They are the parents of one child, a daughter, Randena, who is married and lives on a farm in this county. Mr. Erstad takes a good citizen's interest in all matters appertaining to the welfare of the community in which he resides. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Sundahl, Minnesota, and also has an interest in the elevator.

ADOLPH J. FRIDLUND.

Adolph J. Fridlund, a well-known building contractor and architect of Moorhead, former member of the city council and now a member of the charter commission of that city, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of Minnesota for more than a quarter of a century, during which time he has done much to help build up the city of Moorhead, of which he has been a resident since the year 1891. He was born on April 23, 1864, son of John M. and Johanna (Carlson) Fridlund, also natives of Sweden, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of nine children, those besides the subject of this sketch, the sixth in order of birth, being as follow: Ingre Marie, deceased; Carolina, who continues to make her home in her native land; John, who came to Minnesota and is now living at Hawley; Otto, who also came to the Red River Valley

and is now living at Fargo; Albertina, deceased; Ida, who continues to make her home in Sweden; Elof, a well-known resident of Moorhead, and John Edward, who remained in his native land and is still living there. John M. Fridlund and wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

John M. Fridlund was a carpenter and his sons were trained to that trade. It was in 1891 that Adolph J. Fridlund came to this country after having worked for some years as a carpenter in his native land, and after a brief stay in Michigan, to which state he had gone after arriving in port, came on up into this part of Minnesota, arriving at Moorhead on June 2 of that year and has ever since made his home in that city. Immediately after his arrival in Moorhead Mr. Fridlund began working at his trade, having been engaged by a contractor across the river in Fargo and later worked for other builders, meanwhile spending some time at the high school and in attendance at the Hope Academy in Moorhead putting a polish on his then somewhat limited knowledge of the English language. At the same time he continued his study of mechanical drawing and architecture and presently became quite proficient in these lines. After a while he and his brothers, Otto and Elof, formed a partnership, under the firm name of Fridlund Brothers and engaged in general building contracting on their own account, that connection continuing for seven years, at the end of which time Elof Fridlund withdrew from the firm. Three years later Otto Fridlund withdrew and since then Adolph J. Fridlund has continued the business alone, one of the best-known and most successful building contractors in Moorhead. The first public building erected by him, then in partnership with his brothers, was the second ward school building at Moorhead and since that time he has done a large amount of work on public buildings as well as on many of the other distinctive buildings in and about Moorhead. Ever since becoming established at Moorhead Mr. Fridlund has taken an active interest in the general affairs of the city, has served as a member of the city council, alderman from his ward; as a member of the board of education, and is now a member of the city charter commission; a director of Clay county Building Association for five years and a director of the Fargo Builders and Traders Exchange seven years.

On November 14, 1897, Adolph J. Fridlund was united in marriage to Nellie Sater, daughter of Amund Sater, of Carlisle, in the neighboring county of Otter Tail, and to this union eleven children have been born, Albert Julian, Anna Jeannette, Esther Florence (deceased), Ethel Florence, Victor Ferdinand, Adolph Harold, Evelyn Mildren, Carroll Reuben and Carl Rudolph

(twins), Marian Bernice and Dorothy Vivian, born in July, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Fridlund are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and they and their family take a proper interest in church work. Mr. Fridlund takes an active interest in lodge work and is a member of the local lodges of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of the Knights of Pythias, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of the Mutual Benefit Association, of the Royal Arcanum, the Order of Yeomen, and the Modern Brotherhood of America.

ALFRED ANDERSON.

Alfred Anderson, one of the real pioneers of the village of Twin Valley, for years a merchant there, former recorder of the village, formerly and for many years postmaster and now assistant to Postmaster Meighen, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twenty-one years of age and of Norman county since 1884, thus very properly being regarded as one of the old settlers hereabout. He was born at Toten on August 22, 1860, son of Christian and Marie (Paulson) Anderson, the former a steamboat engineer, who spent all their lives in their native Norway and who were the parents of eight children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Helen, Carl, Annie, Nettie, Christian, Anton and Johannes.

Reared in his native town in Norway, Alfred Anderson received his schooling in the public schools and remained at home until he was past twenty-one years of age, when, in 1882, he came to the United States and proceeded directly on out to Minnesota, beginning work on a farm in the vicinity of Rushford, in Fillmore county. In 1884, attracted by the possibilities then awaiting settlers up in the Red River valley, he came up here and located in Norman county, spending his first winter here as a clerk in a store at Faith. He then went to Lake Park and was there engaged until in October, 1885, when he became engaged as a clerk in the store of Thorpe Brothers at Ada and was there thus engaged until Christmas time in that year, when he was transferred to the store the Thorpe Brothers had opened at the old Twin Valley townsite. In the fall of 1886 that store was moved to the new Twin Valley townsite and Mr. Anderson continued connected with the same, in the employ of Thorpe Brothers, until the spring of 1888, when he transferred his services to D. Swenson and was employed by the latter for a year, or until the spring of 1889, when he received his first com-