

of the county: the first church in Bear Park township at Rindahl and the Synod church. They are also otherwise active in the good works of the community.

Mr. Flakne displays a keen interest in the educational and business progress of the community in which he has resided since he came to Norman county. For nine years he was school treasurer. His school district has two school houses: one on the south side of the river and the other on the north, and it was largely due to his efforts that the one on the south side was established. He helped to organize the Farmers Elevator at Gary and has shares in the co-operative stores at Bear Park and Rindahl.

JOHN HEDIN.

One of the well-known and prosperous Swedish farmers of Wild Rice township, Norman county, is John Hedin, the owner and proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and ten acres near Twin Valley. He was born in Sweden on May 25, 1864, the son of John and Gustava (Hendrickson) Orenson, both of whom were natives also of the kingdom of Sweden.

John Hedin was one of ten children born to his parents, the others being as follow: Clara, who is still living in Sweden; Mary Eliza, a resident of Rosa county, Minnesota; Andrew, who died in Sweden when young; Lotta, living at Upham, North Dakota; Andrew, of Bantry, North Dakota; Wilhelm, also a resident of Bantry; Alma, living in Alberta, Canada; Gust, who died young in Sweden, and Emil, a farmer, of Alberta, Canada. The parents of these children came to America in 1893 to make their home with their children, most of whom had preceded them to this country. The father died in North Dakota, while the mother is still living in that state with one of her children, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Both were earnest and consistent members of the Lutheran church, and active and interested in the affairs of that denomination.

John Hedin received his education in the schools of his native land, and in 1883 came to America, locating first at Lake Park, Minnesota, where he worked as a farm hand for a period of two years, then for the next four years he worked at various occupations in different parts of the Northwest. In 1889 he started to farm for himself by renting land in Case county, North Dakota, where he lived for four years, at the end of which time he came to Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Wild Rice township, this county, and has since made this place his home,

with the exception of one year, 1904, which he spent in McHenry county, North Dakota, where he homesteaded and proved up on a quarter section of land. On his home farm Mr. Hedin has made many and various substantial improvements, having rebuilt the house, and erected other buildings, as well as planting a fine grove. He has also added fifty acres of his original tract, making a total of two hundred and ten acres of good farming land. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has made a success of his chosen calling.

In 1889 John Hedin was united in marriage to Amanda Anderson, who is a native of Sweden, the daughter of Andres Hendrickson, and to this union ten children have been born: Harry, Ellen Marie, Hannah Pauline, Ruby, Andrew, Ida Albertine, Wilhelm, Carl Oscar, Victoria and Martin Richard, all of whom are living. The family are all members of the Lutheran church and take an active part in the affairs of the local church of that denomination.

Mr. Hedin has long ranked among the enterprising and substantial farmers and citizens of his community, and has served as a member of the township board almost continuously ever since he came to this county, and is now school director of his township. Besides his farming interests, Mr. Hedin is a stockholder and director in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Twin Valley, and was among the organizers of that company.

LEWIS HILMO.

Another of the substantial and enterprising farmers of Norwegian birth who has helped make Lake Ida township one of the finest farming districts of this part of the state is Lewis Hilmo, who was born in Norway, November 25, 1860, the son of Ole H. and Mary J. (Ostby) Hilmo, both of whom also were natives of Norway.

Ole H. Hilmo was a farmer in Norway who, in 1882, decided to come to America, the land of opportunity. He and his family first located in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, after coming to this country, and there he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. They were earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church, in which they always took an active and interested part. They were the parents of five children as follow: John, Hans, Mattie, Bernt and Lewis, all of whom are living, except John and Mattie.