

cerned with the furtherance of its various beneficences. He also takes an active interest in local civic affairs, and is now serving his community as township supervisor. When any meritorious undertaking is launched in his community, it is sure to find in Mr. Gilbertson a staunch supporter.

In addition to their general farming, the Gilbertson brothers are breeders of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. They find time in their extensive farming operations to interest themselves in the work of bettering the market facilities of the township, and helped to organize the creamery and the farmers elevator at Halstad.

OLE O. HILDE.

Successful farming calls for the best of judgment. It means good crops, good live stock, well fed and handled, and a thoroughly balanced business in every way. No business, in fact, needs better management all around than farming. So many chances for failure are present that it is the exceptional farm that is strong in every particular. One of the best-kept farms in Hagen township, Clay county, is that owned and operated by Ole O. Hilde, who seems to have mastered the various ins and outs of the business.

Mr. Hilde was born in Norway in 1864. He is a son of Ole and Margit (Johnson) Hilde, both natives of Norway, where they spent all their lives. The father was a blacksmith by trade. To these parents six children were born, all of whom are living at this writing and who are named as follow: Aase, who lives in Norway; Ingeborg, the wife of Ole Halverson, of Stearns county, Minnesota; Ragnild, the wife of Tom Peterson, who lives in North Dakota; John, who lives in Norway, and Ole O., the subject of this sketch.

Ole O. Hilde spent his boyhood in Norway and there attended school. He came to Minnesota in the spring of 1885 and located in Stearns county, where he worked out as a farm hand until 1887, then came to Clay county, locating in Hagen township, where he has since resided. Upon his arrival here he took up a tree claim right of one hundred and sixty acres. He lived on it three years then sold out and moved to his present farm, taking up one hundred and sixty acres as a homestead. He broke up the wild prairie sod, fenced it, set out a grove and erected suitable buildings. Prospering with advancing years he added to his original purchase until he now owns a fine farm of two hundred and eighty-three acres, one of the choice farms of the township, and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Hilde was married in 1886, in Stearns county, this state, to Guri Anderson, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Andres and Anna (Tolefsdatter) Christianson, who lived and died in Norway. The father was employed on a large farm there. His family consisted of the following children: Mrs. Maria Elling, who lives in Norway; Christian, who also lives in Norway; Guri, wife of the subject of this sketch; Anna, the wife of L. Dahl, of Norman county, Minnesota, and Tolef A. Green, who lives in Hagen township, Clay county.

Eight children, all living but one, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hilde, namely: Matilda, who is the wife of I. B. Klévgard; Anna, who married Theodore Tweeton; Oscar, next in order of birth; Theodore, the fourth child; Alfred, deceased, and John, Carl, Inga and Melvin. Politically, Mr. Hilde is a Republican. He is a member of the school board in his district and has been treasurer of the same for many years. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, which they attend regularly.

REV. O. A. TH. SOLEM.

The Rev. O. A. Th. Solem, a retired minister of the Norwegian Lutheran church and the present owner and operator of a well-appointed fruit farm and nursery, in Halstad township, Norman county, was born in Norway, on March 6, 1855, the son of Thomas and Andrea (Stuphoug) Solem, both of whom left the land of their birth in 1870 and came to America. Here they settled in Union county, South Dakota, near the postoffice of Spink, Elk Point then being their nearest railroad station. Soon the elder Solem bought a farm near where the family first settled, and there he lived until his death in 1911. His wife died on the same place in 1915, surviving her husband only four years. To Thomas and Andrea Solem were born five children, the subject of this review being the first in order of birth, and the others, as follow: Andrew, who lives on the old farm in South Dakota; Maria; Henry, a Lutheran minister at Garretson, South Dakota, and Hannah, who still lives on the old home place with her brother, Andrew.

O. A. Th. Solem spent his boyhood in Norway, the land of his nativity, where he attended the public schools and at the same time studied English in a private educational institution. After he had reached the estate of manhood, he came to America with his parents, he then being about twenty-five years of age. He remained with his parents on their farm in Union county, South Dakota, for three years, in which time he had seen them become com-