

the organizers of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and is also interested in the Sundahl Creamery, and in many other ways he has from the very beginning of his residence in the township, shown a practical desire to assist all movements designed to improve local conditions along legitimate lines.

SEVERIN A. HOSETH.

Severin A. Hoseth, a substantial and progressive farmer and stock man, former member of the Fossum township board and president of the Faith Milling Company, is a native son of Minnesota, born in Goodhue county, this state, February 21, 1870, a son of Andres and Marit (Kindseth) Hoseth, both of whom were born in Norway, where they were farming people.

About 1866, Andres Hoseth, who had married some years previously, immigrated to America from Norway and located in Goodhue county, this state, and bought a tract of land on which he immediately started farming operations and thus continued to the end of his life. He was recognized as a skillful and energetic farmer, who worked his land to advantage, getting all possible results from the soil. Mr. Hoseth died in 1880 and his widow survived until 1912, in which year her death occurred. They were the parents of eight children as follow: Karen Ann, deceased; Peter Magnus, deceased; Severin A., the subject of this sketch; Andres; Martinc, who died young; Martin, who also died young, and Martin and Andrew.. These parents were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were brought up in the same faith.

Severin A. Hoseth was educated in the public schools of Goodhue county and there learned the trade of a carpenter, at which occupation and on farms he worked until 1899. In the latter year he came to Norman county, having previously, in 1896, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in section 11, Fossum township. The tract, however, was without any improvements and he immediately set to work to get the place in condition and cleared one hundred acres of timber, in addition to which he erected substantial buildings and now has one of the best improved places in that section of the township. He is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising and from the very beginning of his operations has met with a substantial measure of success.

In 1898 Severin A. Hoseth was united in marriage to Helena Ovalson, born in Goodhue county, this state, a daughter of Hans Ovalson and wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoseth are the parents of four children, namely: Arnold Martinus, Hilma Selmina, Sander Hilfred and Myrtle Edna, all of whom are now living. The Hoseth family are members of the Lutheran church and are warm supporters of all its good works. Mr. Hoseth has ever given much time and attention to public affairs and for six years, from 1911 to 1917, he served as a member of the township board. He helped to organize the Faith Milling Company and has been its vice-president and president since the commencement of the company's milling operations. He also assisted in the work of organizing the Faith Creamery Company and in other ways has given of his time and energy to promote all movements calculated to advance the community welfare.

OLE I. OFSTEDAL.

Ole I. Ofstedal, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres of prime land, living in Bear Park township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was five years old. He was born in Norway, December 15, 1858, a son of Iver J. and Gertrude (Bersley) Ofstedal, also natives of Norway.

Iver J. Ofstedal was educated in the schools of his native land, where he was brought up to the life of a farmer. In 1863 he and the members of his family immigrated to America, and on arriving in this country came on out to Minnesota and located in Freeborn county, where he has been living ever since. He took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he immediately proceeded to get into a state of cultivation and has prospered in all his farming operations, being generally regarded as one of the old school of husbandmen who made the most of their opportunities. He put up a number of good outbuildings and effected many improvements of a valuable character. His wife died on the place which Mr. Ofstedal homesteaded, and he is still living on the farm. They were the parents of the following children: Johanes, Ole I., Agate, Iver, Ingebright and Einar, all of whom are living.

Ole I. Ofstedal was educated in the schools of Freeborn county and was reared on his father's farm, where he learned the rudiments of agricultural labor. In 1880, at the age of twenty-one he moved to near Fertile, Polk county, where he lived for a short time. He then pre-empted a tract of