

He is owner of four hundred and forty acres in sections 16 and 21, Lee township, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation. He put on all the improvements now on his land, which are modern and substantial. He has a large and attractive home, with modern conveniences. He raises large quantities of grain, much of which he feeds to cattle and hogs, shipping several carloads of fat live stock to the markets. He is not only a close observer, but a diligent student of twentieth-century methods of agriculture and stock raising. Mr. Lee is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Perley and is president of the same. Its popularity and rapid growth have been due to his able and judicious management.

Mr. Lee was married in 1897 to Maria Larson, a native of Minnesota. She received a common-school education, and she is a daughter of Iver and Sissel Larson, natives of Norway. Three children have been born to Mr and Mrs. Lee, namely. Stella, Oliver Lawrence, and Clara. Mr. Lee has long been influential in local public affairs. He served as assessor of Lee township from 1897 to 1908. He was elected commissioner of Norman county in 1908 and he served in this capacity until 1917. For three years he was chairman of the board of county commissioners. As a public servant he discharged his duties in an able, faithful and creditable manner and to the satisfaction of all concerned. He is an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and was formerly secretary of the church.

JOHN HOVLAND.

The late John Hovland, for many years one of the best-known and most progressive farmers in Bear Park township, Norman county, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, but had been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years old, having come to America with his brother Andrew in 1869. John Hovland was born in Norway on November 22, 1850, one of seven children born to his parents, Amund and Ingeborg Hovland, the others being Amund, deceased; Christina, deceased; Renald; Ella, deceased; Andrew, mention of whom is made in another part of this volume, and Johanas, deceased. Amund and Ingeborg Hovland were farmers in their native land.

John Hovland, the subject of this memorial sketch, was educated in the schools of his native Norway and helped on the labors of the home farm.

In 1869, accompanied by his brother Andrew, he immigrated to this country, first settling in Goodhue county, this state, and remained in that part for about twelve years, engaged at farm work. In 1881 he moved to Norman county and homesteaded a quarter section of land, which he immediately proceeded to get into a state of cultivation, his labors in that direction being very successful from the beginning of his farming operations. He put up all the buildings on the place and carried out many valuable improvements and as he prospered in his undertaking he added to his land holdings, until he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of prime land; at the time of his death in 1915 being regarded as one of the most successful general farmers in that part of the county.

On June 7, 1882, in Norman county, John Hovland was united in marriage to Lena Johnson Hovland, a native of Norway and a daughter of John and Sönöv (Ronning) Hovland, also natives of Norway, in which country John Hovland died. His widow came to this country some time later and has since been living with her daughter, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of three children, Lena, who lives on her late husband's farm; Randine, living at Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Olea, deceased. To John and Lena Hovland the following children were born: Amund, a farmer of Bear Park township; Sven, farming the old home place, and Ida, who married John Hogensen, of Garfield township, Polk county.

The late John Hovland was an active member of the church at Rindahl, which he helped to organize, and of which he had ever been a liberal supporter. He also helped in the organization of the Rindahl Mercantile Company and of the Rindahl Creamery, always filling the part of a good citizen and neighbor. His death on August 7, 1915, was the occasion of very general regret throughout the community in which he had spent so many years of his life.

JOHN O. FLAKNE.

John O. Flakne, the owner and operator of two hundred and forty acres of well-improved land in Bear Park township, Norman county, and the owner of five additional acres of valuable timberland in Fossum township, same county, active in the educational and religious interests of the community in which he has always lived since he came to these parts, and otherwise known as a public-spirited citizen and good neighbor, was born in Nor-