

Anun G. Anderson spent his boyhood in Norway, coming to America when fifteen years old, in 1873, with his parents, two brothers and two sisters. He lived in Fillmore county, this state, until 1881, when he came with the rest of the family to Clay county. As a young man he worked on the farm and in 1879 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 28, Goose Prairie township, later adding eighty acres in section 21 of that township, and now owns two hundred and forty acres of valuable and well-improved farming land, on which he has been very successful, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He has brought the land up to a high state of cultivation during his residence here of thirty-eight years. He made all the improvements on the place, including the erection of suitable buildings, fences, setting out a grove, etc.; has lived to see the community developed from a wild, sparsely settled prairie to one of the choice farming sections of the state and has played well his part in this transformation. He now rents his land, but still lives on the place. He sells all his stock to his renter. Wheat, oats and flax are the principal crops. Mr. Anderson used oxen in his first farming operations on this place, paying the sum of one hundred and forty-five dollars for a team.

Politically, Mr. Anderson is independent and has never been particularly active in public affairs, nor has he held office. He belongs to the Synod Lutheran church and was a trustee of the same for several years. Mr. Anderson has remained unmarried.

GEORGE JOHNSON.

George Johnson, a substantial farmer and landowner and a well-known citizen of Lake Ida township, Norman county, where he was one of the early settlers, was born in Norway on June 11, 1847, the son of Jens Jorgan and Elsie Katherina (Olsdatter) Knutson, both natives of Norway where they lived and died in the same community, the father being a farmer and landowner. Besides George Johnson, they were parents of eight other children, namely: Knut, Ole, Anna, Margareta and Ole Bijon, all of whom died in Norway; John, of Fossium township, Norman county; Jens, of Alberta, Canada; and Elsie Marie, who married Elwig Clausen and now lives in Alberta, Canada.

After George Johnson had received his education in Norway and had grown to maturity, the opportunities in the New World beckoned him to

leave the land of his birth for the conquest of new fields in America. Accordingly, in 1869, he with a party of his countrymen, in which number was his sweetheart, came direct to Leland, Illinois, and settled in Erwald, a town near the aforementioned city. Soon after his arrival in Erwald, he married and began working on the farms of that vicinity, where finally by dint of his industry he became the owner of four acres of land. After a three-year residence in Erwald, he and his wife went to Faribault, Rice county, this state, where he worked at the mason's trade and at other occupations for four years; but soon the call of the soil and the opportunity to become an extensive landowner sent him with a group of his neighbors and brothers northward toward Norman county. It was in the spring of 1872 when they started in covered wagons drawn by oxen, driving their stock before them toward the land of the Red river; and George Johnson, with his three brothers, John Jenson, Jens Morland and Henry Benson with their families and personal effects in three covered wagons, driving a large bunch of cattle, arrived at their destination in Fossum township, about five miles east of Twin Valley, after a long journey of three or four weeks.

Soon after George Johnson arrived in Fossum township he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land which comprised the southwest quarter of section 28, and there he raised log buildings and lived two or three years, at the end of which time he homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 14 in Lake Ida township, where he has since lived. When Mr. Johnson arrived in this community, there were very few settlers and conditions would not have been promising except for one permeated with the true pioneer spirit, there being no roads or bridges; but Mr. Johnson immediately set about to improve his holding by setting out trees and raising buildings and putting the virgin soil under cultivation. Now he has to show for all these years of toil one of the best improved farms in the township, where he raises grain, vegetables and hogs.

In 1869, the year in which Mr. Johnson came to America, he married Bergitta Olsdatter, who was born at Hvitsol, Norway, the daughter of Ole Oba, who, as did also his wife, lived and died in Norway. To this union were born the following children: Alfred, Emma Katherina (deceased), Karen Olena, Knut J. and Hannah Margareta (deceased).

Mr. Johnson's family are all staunch members of the Lutheran church, five churches of which he has helped to organize since he has been in America, one in Rice county and four in this part of Norman county. Especially instrumental was he in the organization of the West Wild Rice Lutheran congregation, as he picked out the location of the church building. Mr.

Johnson has also been active in local affairs, for he was present at the organization of Fossum and Lake Ida townships, the latter of which was named after a little lake which lay within the territory of the township and which was named for the first white girl born here or the first one to come here to reside. Mr. Johnson's activity locally did not cease with the organization of the townships, because he has served Ida Lake township as supervisor.

A. P. HEINEN.

Banking, one of the most important business and economic enterprises of a community, is the clearing-house process of any town or community. Throughout the portals of the bank passes the business of whatsoever nature that is conducted in a progressive and up-to-date business center. The men who have invested their capital and devote their time and best efforts to this branch of business are entitled to the highest commendation of the people of any section of the country. To successfully operate a bank, any man must have special training and be possessed of the best judgment and of the highest integrity. He is the confidential adviser of the business community and to him are submitted many personal propositions on which he must give his earnest and candid opinion. He must be a man who knows human nature, apt, able and quick of comprehension. In his hands are placed, not alone the funds of many an individual; but to him do they look for advice and counsel. He is the maker of loans of the funds of others and the guardian of their all. The successful banker must be all of this and more, for in him the community puts its trust and faith; more, perhaps, than in any other man in the community. He knows the social standing of the people and their ability to do things, better, in many cases, than they do themselves. Such a man, with these qualifications, is A. P. Heinen, the cashier of the State Bank of Lockhart, Norman county, Minnesota, who was born in Brown county, this state, in 1892, the son of P. J. and Margaret (Schwerzler) Heinen, both of whom are natives of Brown county, Minnesota.

The paternal grandparents of A. P. Heinen were natives of Germany, where they received their education and grew to manhood and womanhood and married. Early in life they decided to come to America, where many of their friends and relatives had located, and where they felt that they might the better have an opportunity to make a home for themselves and