

had acquired enough money to buy eighty acres of state land in Wild Rice township, where his brother Ole now lives; this land being at the time of its purchase wild and unbroken. He put it in a state of cultivation, raised buildings and planted trees, thus bringing it to an admirable state of improvement. After residing there for about twenty years, he sold this tract to his brother, Ole, in 1905 or 1906, and bought one hundred sixty acres of the same section in which lies the eighty which now belongs to his brother. By perseverance and hard work he was enabled later to extend his holdings by the addition of another one hundred sixty acres, thus making him one of the chief landowners of the township. Mr. Hedahl has not been content with being a mere land holder, for he has all of these years been steadily improving his possessions; however, he has placed most of the farm buildings on the home place, which comprises the first quarter section he bought. His agricultural pursuits are limited to general farming and stock raising.

In 1890 Mr. Hedahl married Anna Martinson, who was born at Bergen, Norway, on December 18, 1871, the daughter of Martinus and Gert-rude Olsen, and to this union have been born the following children: Eddie, Ella, Oscar, Clarence, Minnie, and Elmer, all of whom are living. The family are active members of the Lutheran church and in the furtherance of the interests of this creed and of Christianity they have always been deeply interested, Mr. Hedahl helping start the first church in Twin Valley. In addition to his activities in the church, Mr. Hedahl has been a power in educational and civil affairs, having been a member of the township board for more than five years and is still an incumbent, and was the treasurer of the old school district board before he helped to organize school district, No. 96.

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### JAKOB J. LARSON.

Jakob J. Larson, the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of Wild Rice township land and a quarter section in Beltrami county, Minnesota, was born at Helgeland, Norway, on October 5, 1860, the son of Lars Johan and Anne Jacobson, both natives of Norway, where they lived and died, the father being a farmer. Lars Jacobson was married twice, and Jakob J. Larson was the only child by the second wife.

In his childhood Mr. Larson attended school in Norway and, as he grew to manhood, he derived valuable experience on his father's farm which he used handily when he started the plow in the raw prairie in the New

World. In 1880 when he was twenty years old, Mr. Larson emigrated to America, coming directly to Swedish Grove, Kandiyohi or Meeker county, Minnesota, and worked in those counties for two years. In October, 1882, Mr. Larson came northward to Norman county and located on a farm one mile west of Twin Valley, which was comprised of one quarter section of disputed land. There on the bare prairie he erected his house and farm buildings, around which he planted a grove. Later he homesteaded another quarter section in Beltrami county, Minnesota, which the government allowed him without his having to reside on it for the required number of years, in lieu of the disputed land which he later had to buy from the railroad. Mr. Larson carries on general farming and in his pursuits he is a careful manager and industrious man.

In June, 1883, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Julia Nerison, who was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, on April 7, 1861, and died August 3, 1888, the daughter of Gunder and Torbjr Nerison. By her, his first wife, he has three children: Augusta, George, and John. Mr. Larson was married the second time on December 13, 1890, when Elsie Hanson, who was born in Norway, January 15, 1867, the daughter of Hans and Jacobine Peterson, became his wife. To this union have been born five sons, namely: Helmer, Albin, Emil, William and Bennie, and three daughters, namely: Nora, Hilda and Dagny. Mr. Larson and family are active and consistent members of the Lutheran church, he having helped to organize the first church in Twin Valley.

Mr. Larson's activity has not been entirely limited to agriculture, in the pursuit of which he has been so successful, but he has branched out into business, being one of the organizers of the creamery at Twin Valley.

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### JOHN TORSKE.

John Torske, a well-known and prominent merchant of Borup, Norman county, was born in Norway on January 3, 1871, and is a son of John and Bridt (Hoven) Torske, also natives of Norway and were there educated in the schools and later married. They were of the farming class, and after their marriage they established their home on a farm and there the father lived until the time of his death some years ago. The mother is still living at her home in her native land. They were ever active members of the