

in the city of Ada. In 1906 Mrs. Norby married Dr. Walter B. Holmes, of Ada, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Joris C. Norby, Jr., late of St. Johns Military School, is now an acting corporal in the United States Marine Corps stationed at Mare Island, California, having enlisted at the first call for recruits after the declaration of war. Of his brothers—the firm of Norby Brothers, of Great Falls, Montana—Erling Norby stands subject to the second call to arms. Frithjof Norby stands subject to the third call. Offsprings of a worthy sire, they go without fear or trembling, to the end that liberty and the rights of man may not perish from the earth.

W. C. LEE.

W. C. Lee, register of deeds for Norman county and the proprietor of the *Twin Valley Times* at Twin Valley, is a native of the neighboring state of Iowa, but has lived in Minnesota, a resident of Norman county, since the days of his infancy, his parents having settled here in pioneer days. He was born at Decorah, Iowa, November 22, 1881, son of K. G. and Susan (Bursham) Lee, both of whom also were born at Decorah and the former of whom was a son of G. K. Lee and wife, natives of Norway, who came to this country and were among the early residents of Decorah.

K. G. Lee grew to manhood at Decorah, married there and engaged there in the general mercantile business, remaining thus engaged until in March, 1882, when he disposed of his interests at that place and came up into Minnesota, putting in his lot with the early settlers of the new county-seat town, Ada, where he spent the remainder of his life, one of the useful and influential citizens of that city, his death occurring in 1905. K. G. Lee was an ardent Republican and early became one of the leaders of that party in Norman county. For six years he served as sheriff of the county and there were few men in this part of the state who had a wider acquaintance than he during the days of his activity. He and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being as follow: May, who married A. J. Johnson; George, of Idaho; Alice, wife of Rev. H. Schliesser; Emma, wife of P. Simonson; Raymond, of Twin Valley, and Kenneth, of Twin Valley. A daughter, Kyle, died when only six months old.

As noted above, W. C. Lee was but an infant when his parents moved up here from Iowa in 1882 and he grew to manhood at Ada, receiving his schooling in the schools of that city. When fifteen years of age he began learning the printing trade in the office of the *Ada Index* and remained with that paper for twelve years, becoming thoroughly familiar with all details of the newspaper business. He then, in June, 1909, bought the *Twin Valley Times* at Twin Valley, a flourishing village over in the eastern part of the county, and was conducting that sprightly newspaper in 1912, when he was elected register of deeds for Norman county and returned to Ada, the county seat, where he since has made his home, continuing, however, to retain his ownership of the *Twin Valley Times*. So satisfactory did Mr. Lee's services as register of deeds prove that he was re-elected to that office and is now serving his second term. Mr. Lee is an earnest Republican and has ever taken an active interest in local political affairs. During the years 1907-08 he served as assessor of the city of Ada.

In May, 1905, W. C. Lee was united in marriage to Florence Andrist, daughter of Fred Andrist, of Gildford, Montana, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Anna.

MADS LARSON.

Mads Larson, a well-known landowner and early settler of Hendrum township, was born in Norway, June 4, 1854, the son of Lars and Anna (Noe) Nilson, both natives of Norway, where they remained their whole lives, the former being a school teacher and landowner. They were the parents of seven children, Nels, Jacob, Johan (deceased), Anna (deceased), Peter, Hansena and Mads.

Mads Larson, who spent his boyhood and early manhood in the land of his nativity, decided, in 1876, that his opportunity lay in the New World across the Atlantic, and in that year came to America, locating for two years in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Seeking to better himself, he decided to come northward into Minnesota. Driving a team of horses hitched to a covered wagon, he attached himself to a party of two hundred settlers, and they all started from Ossian, Winneshiek county, Iowa, for Norman county, Minnesota. As Mr. Larson and Hans Larson, now a resident of Ada, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, drove horses and their companions oxen, they soon outstripped the slower moving settlers and arrived at their destination first, the journey taking them about two weeks.