

Park township, Norman county, and sold the homestead and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Sundahl township and established his home on that place and continued to live there to the end of his life, having developed one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to his general grain farming, Mr. Garden gave considerable attention to the raising of live stock and did well in his operations. Mr. Garden had an interest in the telephone lines at Fertile and at Garden Valley and took a general interest in the affairs of the community. For nine years he served as a member of the school board in his home district and in other ways gave of his time and energies to the public service.

On December 18, 1884, at old Sundahl church, Evans N. Garden was united in marriage to Kari Milsten, who was born at Norway, daughter of Erick and Kari Milsten, and to that union nine children were born, namely: Ella, Ida, Herbert (deceased), Genevieve, Emma, Halvor, Mary Ruth (deceased), Mary Susanna and Lillie. Of these children, Ella, Ida and Genevieve are married and live in the neighborhood of the old home, while the others are at home, all taking a part in the operation of the home farm. Mrs. Garden and family have a very pleasant home and have ever given their interested attention to the good works and general social activities of the community of which she has been a part since pioneer days. Mr. Garden was a janitor at the Sundahl church for thirteen years.

LARS MELBOSTAD.

Lars Melbostad, one of the recent settlers of Mary township, Norman county, where he carries on general diversified farming and stock raising, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, May 16, 1861, a son of Gubraun and Anna (Valose) Melbostad, both of whom were natives of Norway. The former came to America in an early day and here met Anna Valose, who became his wife. They settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the former owned two hundred acres of good land, a homestead. There both spent the rest of their days, the father dying in 1898, at the age of sixty-six years and the mother's death occurring in 1892, she being three years younger than her husband. The father was active in the civic affairs of his community in Winneshiek county, for he served there for many years on the school board. They were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest, the others being: George, married and

now living on the old homestead in Iowa; Martin, married and also living in Iowa; Goro, a widow, residing in Spring Grove, Minnesota; Chester, a farmer in Mary township, Norman county; Mary, the wife of Ole Tweeten, living at Spring Grove, Minnesota; Gena, married and living at Parklin, Washington, and Margarett, the wife of Ole Ellingson, residing in Spring Grove.

Lars Melbostad was reared to manhood on the old home place in Winnechick county, Iowa, where he attended the public schools, which training comprised his formal education. He remained on the old place, working with his father, until he was twenty-three years of age, at which time he was married. In 1895, two years after his marriage, he brought his family up to Norman county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in section 28, Mary township, on which he made all improvements and carried on general farming until 1904. In that year, he sold out his holding and removed to Perley, Norman county, where he was engaged for four or five years in the livery business, after which period he went to North Dakota, where he owned land, which he sold in 1910 and returned to Norman county. At first he bought land in Mary township, but later he purchased the tract on which he lives at present, one hundred sixty acres in section 20, Lee township. When Mr. Melbostad came to this farm, he found it entirely unimproved, but he set to work with a will and now has a splendid farm plant, including a fine new comfortable farm house. Here on his excellent farm, Mr. Melbostad carries on general diversified farming and stock raising, hogs and cattle.

To other business activities has Mr. Melbostad given his time and attention. He is a stockholder in the First State Bank at Perley, and also owns shares in the creamery and Farmers Elevator at that place. At one time he was the owner of some building lots at Perley.

On September 12, 1885, Mr. Melbostad was united in marriage to Clara Olson, who was born at Spring Grove, Minnesota, April 1, 1866, a daughter of Ole and Ragnild (Taasensen) Olson, who were natives of Norway, from which they immigrated to this country, settling in Spring Grove. To this union ten children have been born, as follow: Anna, the wife of James Milligan, a member of the police department at Fargo, North Dakota; Emma, Cora, Agnes, Leland, Ruth and Oscar, all of whom are at home; and three others who are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Melbostad are consistent and conscientious members of the Botainia Norwegian Lutheran church, and according to the precepts of this denomination they have reared their children. Mr. Melbostad has never held but one public office, that of school

director, while he lived in Mary township. Even though he is not given to office seeking, his hearty co-operation with every movement which has for its aim the social and material betterment of his neighborhood, makes Mr. Melbostad a very valuable citizen to the community in which he lives.

LARS PAULSON.

In making up the annals of Norman county, proper mention must be made of the part the late Lars Paulson, the first settler in Sundahl township, took in the settlement of that county. He was a native of the kingdom of Norway, born there on July 14, 1851, and grew to manhood there, remaining in his native land until 1879, in which year he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Iowa, shortly afterward coming up into Minnesota and proceeding on up into the Red River country, settling in what, in 1881, became organized as Norman county. Upon his arrival here he homesteaded a tract of land in what later came to be organized as Sundahl township, the extreme northeast township of the county, and not long afterward married Caroline Pederson and established his permanent home on that place. He planted shade and fruit trees, erected substantial buildings and in due time had a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of two hundred and forty acres. On that place he spent the rest of his life, one of the substantial and influential pioneers of that community, his death occurring there on December 12, 1895. To Lars and Caroline Paulson six children were born, namely: Bertha, Paul, Ole, Maria, Lars and Caroline, the last two of whom are twins. The daughters are married except Caroline, and Maria, the fourth in order of birth, died in Montana. Ole has served a term of service as a member of the United States marine corps, but is now at home.

On June 11, 1897, Mrs. Caroline Paulson, widow of Lads Paulson, married Halvor Peterson, who was born in Norway on November 27, 1856, son of Peter Jenson and Mollie (Halvor) Peterson, the former of whom died in his native land and the latter of whom is still living there at a ripe old age. Peter Jenson was a farmer and he and his wife were the parents of nine children, Jens, Anna, Halvor, Ingeborg, Peter, John, Lars, Ole and Michael. Anna lives in South Dakota and Ingeborg lives in North Dakota. Of these children, Halvor, Peter and John came to Minnesota and the two latter died here. The others are still living in Norway. To Halvor Peter-