

is the owner of land in Rockwell township; John, married and living in Valley City, North Dakota; Ed, deceased, as also his wife, left a daughter who married Severn Walsted and lives in Rockwell township; Christ, living in Norway; Hans, the subject of this sketch; Seifert, married and living in Valley City, North Dakota, and Julius, who died in 1901 in Twin Valley.

Hans Halvorson was educated in the schools of Norway and at the age of seventeen years he accompanied his parents to America, going first to Fillmore county, this state, and later coming to Norman county with his parents. He worked at farm labor for some years, finally buying land on his own account and is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of prime land in section 6, Home Lake township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, being recognized as one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the township. Mr. Halvorson carried out many improvements on his holding since acquiring it and has one of the well-kept places in the neighborhood.

Hans Halvorson was united in marriage to Mrs. John Hall, who was born in Fillmore county, this state, and whose parents are deceased. The following children have been born to Hans Halvorson and wife: John, deceased; Clara, at home; Edwin, married; and Adolph and Mabel, both at home. Mr. Halvorson has ever given a good citizen's attention to public affairs and helped to organize the first school district and served on the school board for many years. He helped in the organization of the creamery at Twin Valley, holding stock in that progressive undertaking, and in other ways he has demonstrated his ability to serve the general community welfare.

JACOB E. MILSTEN.

Jacob E. Milsten, a well-known and substantial farmer and stock raiser of Fossum township, who, during his residence in this state, has given evidence of a versatile and keen business instinct, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been living in the United States since he was twenty years old. He was born on July 28, 1858, a son of Erick Christianson and Kari (Storhugen) Milsten, also natives of Norway, who immigrated to America in 1878.

Erick C. Milsten arrived at Albert Lee, Minnesota, in July, 1878, and worked in that place for two years. He then moved to Norman county via ox team, supplied by his son, Jacob E., and by which the parents and the

other members of the family travelled to their new home. The father took a homestead tract of eighty acres in Bear Park township and on this land he carried on farming during all the active years of his life, later retiring to Gary, where they lived for a time, finally taking up residence with their daughter, Kari, in Sundahl township, Norman county, in which place they died. They were the parents of nine children as follow: Christian, deceased; Anna, deceased; Jacob E., the subject of this sketch; Ingeborg, deceased; Eliza, deceased; Carrie; Martha; Mary, and Rangdina, deceased. Carrie, Martha and Mary are living. The Milstens were members of the Lutheran church and their children also were reared in that faith.

Jacob E. Milsten was educated in the schools of Norway and at the age of twenty years came with his parents to America, in 1878, and brought them and the other members of the family to Norman county by ox team. During the same year he homesteaded a quarter section of land in Sundahl township, Norman county, and on that place he lived for some years, engaged in general farming, having improved the holding with buildings and also set out a fine grove. He then moved to Bear Park township and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he placed under improvements and on which he lived for a time. During his residence there he filled the office of township supervisor and served as a director of the local school board. His next move brought him to Gary, where he conducted a general store for a time and then organized the Gary Mercantile Company, of which he was the cashier for about two years, making in all about four years as a merchant in Gary. Mr. Milsten, at the end of his mercantile connection with Gary, came to Faith, Fossum township, and bought a flour-mill, operating the same alone for about one year, at the end of which time he sold a half interest to his cousin, Nels Kjos. The partnership continued until the death of Mr. Kjos, following which Mr. Milsten continued to carry on the business for a further period of two years, when he sold it to his son, Alfred, and Christ N. Juhl. Mr. Milsten then moved to his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Fossum township, and has cleared over one hundred acres of that place, having the same in an advanced state of cultivation, and on which he is now carrying on general farming and stockraising, having from the beginning of his operations met with a large measure of success. The holding has been improved by the addition of good buildings and the entire farm presents evidence of care and attention.

In 1882 Jacob E. Milsten was united in marriage to Hannah Yesen, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Nels Yesen and wife. To this un-

ion the following children were born: Clara, Ella (deceased), Edwin, Alfred, Eda, Hulda, Anton (deceased), Emma, Anna, Olga and Bernhard. With the exception of Ella and Anton, the other children are living. The Milsten family are members of the Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works. Mr. Milsten has always given a good citizen's attention to public affairs, but has never been a seeker after office.

MADS ROBERTSON

Mads Robertson, one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of Lockhart township, Norman county, and the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres there, is a native of the kingdom of Denmark and has been a resident of Minnesota since the year 1900. He was born on a farm in the vicinity of Fyn, Denmark, March 13, 1881, the last in order of birth of the eleven children born to Rasmus and Maren Robertson, natives of that same country, who spent all their lives there, the others of these children being Nels, Christ, Hans, Jorgen, Christopher, Frederick, Anna, Cherry, Cena (deceased) and Kirsten. Of these children, but two besides the subject of this sketch came to America, these two being Nels and Christ, the latter of whom is engaged in the railway service, in the employ of the Great Northern Railroad Company. The others are engaged in agricultural pursuits in their native land.

It was in 1900, as noted above, that Mads Robertson came to the United States. He lost little time in making his way to Minnesota and in due time became the owner of the fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres on which he now lives in Lockhart township, Norman county, and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. Mr. Robertson has made extensive improvements on his farm since taking possession of the same, including substantial farm buildings. In addition to his general grain farming, Mr. Robertson has given considerable attention to the raising of potatoes and has been quite successful. He is a man of method and keeps a careful account of outgo and income, as well as applying up-to-date principles to his farming, and has thus been able to figure that since taking possession of his farm the same has paid him almost a clear ten per cent. on the investment.

On July 31, 1907, Mads Robertson was united in marriage to Lizzie