

In 1887, not long after he had "proved up" his homestead, Mr. Hanson left the farm to accept the position of manager of the Thorpe elevator and lumber yard at Gary and moved to the new town on the railroad. In 1889 he built a store building and started a general store at Gary, employing clerks to conduct the same for him, while he gave his attention principally to buying cattle and grain. At the same time he was running the local hotel and was serving as postmaster at Gary. From 1890 to 1895 he was engaged in buying grain for the P. V. Elevator Company at Gary and was thus engaged there until the latter year, when he sold his interests in the village and returned to his farm in Sundal township, where he remained until the fall of 1916, when he retired from the farm and returned to Gary, where he and his family are now very comfortably situated, their house, just recently completed, being provided with every convenience of a city home and regarded as one of the best houses in the county. During his long residence on the farm Mr. Hanson took an active part in public affairs, served for some time as assessor of Sundal township and also as justice of the peace in and for that township and was chairman of the board of township supervisors for three years, during which time he started the movement for the construction of bridges and sewers with concrete. In the general business affairs of his community he also continued to take an active interest and was one of the organizers of the Sundal Creamery Company and of the Sundal Mercantile Company.

It was in 1882, the year after he located in Norman county, that Peter H. Hanson was united in marriage to Mary Fossum, also of Freeborn county, and to this union three children have been born, Clara A., Henry P. and Maud P. The Hansons are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community, helpful in promoting all agencies designed to advance the common welfare.

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#### FRANK MUELLER.

Frank Mueller, one of Norman county's most substantial farmers, the owner of a fine farm of six hundred acres in Green Meadow township, former justice of the peace in and for that township, a former member of the board of township supervisors, president of the Green Meadow Creamery Company and in other ways actively identified with the general civic and business interests of his home community, is a native son of Minnesota

and has lived in this state all his life, with the exception of twelve years spent in the neighboring state of South Dakota. He was born in Nicollet county, on March 14, 1863, son of Henry and Frederica Mueller, natives of Germany, who came to Minnesota in 1858 and settled in Nicollet, where both spent the remainder of their lives, influential early residents of that place. Henry Mueller and wife were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Martin, who is engaged in business at New Ulm; Mary, who is married and lives at St. Peter; Henry and Herman, twins, who live in Nicollet; Louis, deceased; William, who is engaged in business at St. Peter, and Emil, who is living at New Ulm, this state.

Reared at Nicollet, Frank Mueller received his schooling there and early took to farming as a vocation. He married in 1884 and some time later moved to South Dakota, where he was engaged in a shoe store for twelve years, at the end of which time he came over into this part of the Red River country and settled in Norman county, buying then the farm on which he has ever since made his home, in Green Meadow township. Upon taking possession of that place Mr. Mueller proceeded to improve the same, planted a grove, erected a substantial set of buildings and otherwise began to make of it one of the best farms in that part of the county. He now owns six hundred acres of excellent land, which is being farmed by his sons, who have been in general charge of the place ever since their father was incapacitated for further active service by reason of a stroke of paralysis, from the effects of which he is kept to the house, though his mind is still as alert and active as ever. Mr. Mueller, ever since settling in Norman county, has taken an interested part in local public affairs and has served his township as justice of the peace and as a member of the township board and for years has been a member of the school board in district No. 20. He also has given his active attention to movements designed to increase the effective organization of rural conditions and is president of the Green Meadow Creamery Company.

On January 6, 1884, Frank Mueller was united in marriage to Theresa Shelhorn, who was born in Germany, daughter of Charles and Eliza Shelhorn, and to this union have been born six children, John, Elizabeth, Frank, Angeline, Henry and Lillian. Of these children, Angeline and Elizabeth are married and live in this state. Frank is married and lives at Cedar Rapids; Henry also is married, continuing to make his home on the home place with John, which he and his brother are farming with much success.

The Muellers are members of the German Lutheran church and the family takes a proper interest in church work and in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

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REV. HALVOR O. NORDBY.

Rev. Halvor O. Nordby, who has ministered to the spiritual needs of Lutheran congregations in this and other parts of Minnesota for many years and now has charge of the St. Peter Lutheran congregation in Strand township, Norman county, where he has, since his residence here, been prominently connected with all the good works of the community, was born in Norway, May 13, 1860, a son of Ole and Gunhild Maria Nordby, both of whom were native Norwegians, the former being a farmer in the old home across the Atlantic where he lived and died.

Halvor O. Nordby spent his early boyhood on the old home farm in Norway, but when he reached sufficient age, he entered the Aars & Far's Latin and Real gymnasium at Christiania, where he received his elementary education. Later, however, he attended the Sabici gymnasium in the same city and graduated therefrom in 1884. For five years he remained on his father's farm but in 1889, feeling that he could find a fruitful field for his endeavor in the New World among his countrymen who had immigrated to this country, he, too, joined a party of immigrants whose destination was America and landed here when he was twenty-nine years of age. From the early years of his manhood, Mr. Nordby had burned with the desire to serve his fellow-men in the capacity of a minister of the gospel, and after he had arrived on American soil, he entered Robinsdale Theological Seminary at Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he acquired the American attitude and thus prepared himself the more fully for his service among the Lutheran people of the great Northwest. He graduated from this institution in 1892, at which time he was ordained a Lutheran minister. For two years after his ordination, he had charge of the congregation at Audubon, Minnesota, after which time his work brought him to near Valley City, North Dakota, where he had charge of several congregations, doing missionary work. Reverend Nordby undoubtedly built nobly and well in that vicinity, for in that community the work which he did by himself now necessitates four ministers to take care of it. It was in 1912 that he came to his present charge, the St. Peter Lutheran church, in Strand township, Norman county, and