

Mr. and Mrs. Hoseth are the parents of four children, namely: Arnold Martinus, Hilma Selmina, Sander Hilfred and Myrtle Edna, all of whom are now living. The Hoseth family are members of the Lutheran church and are warm supporters of all its good works. Mr. Hoseth has ever given much time and attention to public affairs and for six years, from 1911 to 1917, he served as a member of the township board. He helped to organize the Faith Milling Company and has been its vice-president and president since the commencement of the company's milling operations. He also assisted in the work of organizing the Faith Creamery Company and in other ways has given of his time and energy to promote all movements calculated to advance the community welfare.

OLE I. OFSTEDAL.

Ole I. Ofstedal, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres of prime land, living in Bear Park township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was five years old. He was born in Norway, December 15, 1858, a son of Iver J. and Gertrude (Bersley) Ofstedal, also natives of Norway.

Iver J. Ofstedal was educated in the schools of his native land, where he was brought up to the life of a farmer. In 1863 he and the members of his family immigrated to America, and on arriving in this country came on out to Minnesota and located in Freeborn county, where he has been living ever since. He took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he immediately proceeded to get into a state of cultivation and has prospered in all his farming operations, being generally regarded as one of the old school of husbandmen who made the most of their opportunities. He put up a number of good outbuildings and effected many improvements of a valuable character. His wife died on the place which Mr. Ofstedal homesteaded, and he is still living on the farm. They were the parents of the following children: Johanes, Ole I., Agate, Iver, Ingebright and Einar, all of whom are living.

Ole I. Ofstedal was educated in the schools of Freeborn county and was reared on his father's farm, where he learned the rudiments of agricultural labor. In 1880, at the age of twenty-one he moved to near Fertile, Polk county, where he lived for a short time. He then pre-empted a tract of

land containing one hundred and twenty acres in Bear Park township, which he has since developed and improved and to which he has added and is now the owner of three hundred twenty acres of choice land, on which he has carried out a number of valuable improvements and is engaged in general farming. In addition to his farming operations he is also engaged in the raising of Shorthorn cattle, of which he breeds an excellent strain. He has also carried on threshing since he was sixteen years old, and with the exception of three years has been actively employed at that branch of agricultural labor, now having a first-class outfit, which he operates with considerable skill, being thus engaged for about twenty years.

In 1883 Ole I. Ofstedal was united in marriage to Caroline Ofstedal, who was born in Olmsted county, this state, a daughter of Johanes Ofstedal, and to this union the following children were born: Ida, Cora, Ella, Anna, Johanes, William, Nora (deceased), Dina, Mabel, Benhart (deceased), Benhart, Alice, and Palmer. The mother of these children died on March 30, 1917. Mr. Ofstedal is a member of the Sundahl Lutheran church, which he helped to organize, and with which congregation he and the members of his family have been identified for several years. He has always taken a good citizen's part in the general welfare of the community and has assisted in all worthy projects calculated to serve the people. He assisted in the organization of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and in many other directions has given evidence of his earnest interest in all local affairs affecting the locality of which he has been a resident for nearly forty years.

JOHAN TOFTNER.

Johan Toftner, a prosperous and energetic farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of well-tilled land and where he is actively connected with the social, civic and co-operative business interests of the community in which he lives, was born in Norway, June 22, 1874, a son of Thomas and Marie Toftner, both natives of Norway, where the father spent his whole life as a farmer. A year before her son Johan came to America, the mother joined her son Gust in Strand township, Norman county, and made her home with him there on the farm until her death. Thomas and Mary Toftner were the parents of several children and the three who grew to maturity were: Gust, Crist, who came to this country with his brother Johan, and who went to