

immediately starting to get his holding into a state of cultivation, and he was generally recognized as one of the good farmers among the settlers of that part of the county. He made many valuable improvements on his holdings and erected substantial outbuildings. Olof and Mary Stromberg were the parents of the following children: John E., Olof W., Carl L., Mrs Anna Bagne, who died leaving three children, Clara, Bertha and Sander; Nels J., an infant, deceased; Mary and an infant, twins, the latter deceased; Oscar, deceased; Ida, Freda, and Gustav, deceased. The Stromberg family formerly belonged to Waukon Lutheran church; however, they now belong to and support the Norman Lutheran church.

Nels J. Stromberg was educated in the schools of Norman county and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the labor of improving and developing the home place. He is now operating the farm, carrying on general farming and stock raising with considerable success, and is known in the community as an agriculturist of the modern school, keeping his place in such a state of cultivation as ensures the maximum degree of advantageous results. In addition to his work on the farm Mr. Stromberg finds time to devote to public interests and for the last five years has been township treasurer and is director of school board No. 60, in both of these responsible positions giving general satisfaction. Mr. Stromberg helped to organize the Rindahl Mercantile Company. He is president and manager of the Bear Park Mercantile Company, while his mother is interested in the Rindahl Creamery. He is a member of the Norman Lutheran church, in the services of which he takes a warm interest. The children of his deceased sister, Mrs. Anna Bagne, live with Mr. Stromberg on the old home farm since the deaths of Mrs. Bagne and her husband, both deaths occurring in 1906.

OSCAR OLSON.

Oscar Olson, a prosperous farmer of Halstad township, Norman county, where he operates three hundred twenty acres of the old home place, and an official of the Farmers Alliance Mutual Fire Insurance Company at Halstad, was born a native of Norman county, November 20, 1875, a son of Ole E. and Hannah (Scheie) Olson. The former was a native of Norway and came to America in 1851, locating in Iowa a few years. Later, he moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1874. In the latter year he drove with his family by horse team with a party of set-

tlers through to Norman county and located in Anthony township. After a few years, residence there, he and his family came to Halstad township acquired the holding on which his son, Oscar, now lives, and there resided until his death in 1892. He was a real pioneer in this new country, for he immediately set about to improve his holding of raw prairie by raising the necessary buildings and plowing up the stubborn soil. In addition to his general farming, he was a breeder of Holstein cattle. The elder Olson was very active in the local civic and religious affairs, for he was a member of the school and township boards, and helped organize the Augustana Lutheran church. In the days of the Peoples Party, he was a very staunch adherent of that political creed, having been a delegate of that party to the convention at Cincinnati, and the year he died he was the party's candidate for the Legislature, and undoubtedly would have been elected had he lived.

The mother, Hannah (Schcie) Olson was born in McHenry county, Illinois, July 7, 1847, a daughter of Andrew and Inger Scheie, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1839 or 1840. Her father, who was a cooper by trade, gradually worked his way westward from Rochester, New York, to McHenry county, Illinois, from thence to Muskego and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and on up into Minnesota. He and his family settled first in Fillmore county, this state, and later moved on up into Norman county, where they settled permanently in Halstad township. There he acquired a holding on which he and his wife lived the rest of their days, the former being one of the first Lutheran ministers in these parts. To Ole and Hanna (Scheie) Olson were born the following children: Ida, who became the wife of Stemus Isaacson; Albert E., Emma, who married Almer Tonder; Oscar, the subject of this review; Edward, Hannah, who married Oscar Carlson; Nora, the wife of Thomas Redland; Edna, who is now Mrs. Ben Johnson, and Clara, who lives on the home place with her mother.

Oscar Olson spent his boyhood days on the old home farm in Halstad township, contributing his efforts to the development of the same. He received his elementary education in the public schools of Norman county, but he later supplemented this by attending Concordia College at Moorhead. He attended school at Crookston and at Ada. He has always lived on the home place, operating three hundred twenty acres of it. Some time ago he purchased outright one hundred and sixty acres of the old place and on this he built his home and made all the necessary improvements to

the establishing of a farm plant. He now carries on general farming and the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

On January 21, 1903, Mr. Olson was married to Clara Larson, who is also a native of Norman county, born on August 12, 1884, a daughter of L. B. Larson and Anna (Faa) Larson, further mention of whom is made in another part of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are the parents of six children, namely: Carville, Vivian, Verna, Wallace, Lorraine and Harold. Mr. Olson is active in fraternal circles, being a member of the camp of the Modern Woodmen of America at Halstad. In politics, Mr. Olson is a member of Nonpartisan League and in favor of all reforms for the benefit of the common people, and takes a good American citizen's interest in the activities of his party. He has also been interested in local civic affairs, having served on the township and school boards for some years. In the common business enterprises of his community, Mr. Olson has been chiefly interested in insurance, being for the last six or seven years treasurer of the farmers Alliance Fire Insurance Company of Halstad, which office he still holds.

ERICK HAUSKE.

Few names are held in better remembrance in and about Halstad township, Norman county, than is that of the late Erick Hauske, for year's one of the well-known and prosperous farmers of that township, former township supervisor and one of the promoters of Halstad Telephone Company, and in many other directions associated with the advancement of the public interests in this part of Norman county. Mr. Hauske was a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in that country on March 13, 1852, a son of Lars and Malina Hauske, both, also, natives of Norway and who immigrated to this country in 1858, when Erick Hauske was but six years old, and first located in Fillmore county, Minnesota.

Erick Hauske accompanied his parents to America and remained in Fillmore county, this state, until 1872, in which year he migrated via ox-team to Norman county and filed on a homestead near Hendrum, but later traded his right in that place for a homestead right in Halstad township. On the homestead thus acquired Mr. Hauske proved up and settled on his farm, engaging in general farming and continued in that occupation for the