

the bare prairie which he speedily improved with the erection of good buildings, and brought under cultivation. Now he has three hundred and twenty-eight acres on which he carries on general farming and raises graded Holstein cattle.

On April 7, 1888, Mekkel O. Lee was united in marriage to Anna Nelsdatter Caldevand, who also was born in Norway, daughter of Nels and Ginneye (Birka) Caldevand, both also natives of Norway, the former of whom died there and the latter of whom is still living there. To Mr. and Mrs. Lee fourteen children have been born, namely: Nels, who is farming in the Peace river valley in Canada; Selma and Clara, twins, both of whom are married and now living in Canada; Melvin, deceased; Orlando, owner of a farm nine miles east of that owned by his father; Ingval, who enlisted for service in the European War, December 18, 1915, and went to the front with a Canadian regiment and is still serving with honor and bravery with that regiment, despite the fact that he has been twice wounded during his service; Martin, Rachel, Fritjof, Sarah, Hilda, Theodore, Inga and Ingman. Mr. Lee and family are devoted members of the Lutheran church and he helped to organize the Concordia Lutheran church. He has also had a good citizen's interest in the common enterprises of the community, as he helped to organize the creamery company, the Farmers Elevator Company and the Farmers State Bank at Hendrum.

MAX RICHARDS.

Max Richards is another member of that family who is prominently identified with the farming life of Kragnes township, Clay county, although he has been living in North Dakota for several years. He was born in Calumet, Michigan, in 1874, a son of Robert and Ellen (Giffin) Richards, the former of whom was born in Cornwall, England, in December, 1844, and the latter in Belfast, Ireland, in August of the same year. Mrs. Richards came to the United States early in life and died in 1913. Robert Richards attended the public schools of his native place and there grew to manhood. At the age of twenty years, in 1864, he immigrated to America, his first place of residence being Calumet, Michigan, where he worked in the copper mines for some time as foreman. In 1883 he moved to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Kragnes township, Clay county, and engaged there in

general farming and the raising of stock up to the time of his death in February, 1912; his death, however, occurred in Fargo, North Dakota. Robert Richards and wife were the parents of seven children, as follow: John, deceased; Tom; Max, the subject of this sketch; Alexandria; Margaret; Will and Gill. Of these children, Tom, Gill, and Margaret, are noticed in other parts of this volume, and to these reviews the reader is referred for further particulars respecting their individuality.

Max Richards was educated in the schools of Calumet, Michigan, and of Clay county, and grew to manhood on his father's farm. In common with his other brothers and sister he inherited land in Clay county, about three years ago, his share being eighty acres, located in Kragnes township, and on this land general farming is carried on. Mr. Richards has a house and two lots in Moorhead, this county. He lives in Fargo, North Dakota, where he is deputy sheriff and jailer, of Cass county. He has been living there for about fifteen years, for more than eleven years of which time he has occupied his present position. Mr. Richards has money invested in the Calumet mines in Michigan.

On February 18, 1915, Max Richards was united in marriage to Jennie Gravell, who was born in 1892 in Watertown, South Dakota, the marriage taking place in Fargo. Mrs. Richards' parents live in Fargo, where they are the owners of house property in the town and are also engaged in the wholesale paint and wall-paper business. They lived originally in Grand Rapids, Michigan, but have been residents of Fargo for the past twenty years, and are well known in the business life of the community.

BERNT ANDERSON.

Bernt Anderson, a well-known retired farmer, living in Spring Creek township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, born in that country on November 1, 1846, a son of Andrew and Anna Bright, both natives of Sweden, who came to America some years after their son, Bernt, had settled in this part of Minnesota. Andrew Bright homesteaded a quarter section of land in Spring Creek township and there spent the remainder of his life. His widow died at the home of her son, Bernt Anderson. By a former marriage Mrs. Bright was the mother of one son, Ole Lofgren, who died. By her marriage to Mr. Bright she was the mother of three children, Carrie, Ole and Bernt.