

FRED SCHEEL.

Among the well-known residents of long standing in and about the town of Sabin, Clay county, Fred Scheel, fuel merchant at that place, deserves recognition. He was born in Germany on February 22, 1858, a son of Wilhelm and Margaret (Kraino) Scheel, both of whom were also born in Germany and spent their entire lives in that country, the son, Fred, being the only member of the Scheel family to settle in the United States.

Wilhelm Scheel, father of the subject of this sketch, followed the occupation of a railroad man for several of the active years of his life. His diligence and attention to his duties brought him recognition and he was eventually promoted to the important position of railroad inspector, his journeys in connection with this work taking him on long trips over the railroad system on which he was employed. Wilhelm Scheel was also in the military service of his country and saw active campaigning in 1866 during the war between Germany and Austria. Mr. and Mrs. Scheel were the parents of five children, namely: Caroline, Fred, Wilhelm, Margaret and Henry.

Fred Scheel was educated in the public schools of Germany, and some short time after the close of his school days he started life for himself as a sailor. He made several voyages to this country, the first being in 1874, and eventually decided to seek fortune as a landsman, settling permanently in the United States.

In 1885 Fred Scheel made a trip to America and located in Chicago, where he took up sailing on the Great Lakes, and continued thus engaged for some years. In 1894 he came to Clay county and worked for two years as a brick layer in Sabin and then started in the hardware business, buying out a former hardwareman, Fred Haffen. Mr. Scheel continued in that line of trade for several years during which time his hardware business proved a financial success, and in 1915 he turned the store over to his son, Fred M., who has since been conducting it, giving the business the same care which made it successful under his father's management. Following the transfer of the hardware business to his son, Mr. Scheel started in the fuel business and has been so engaged since 1915, making a success of his operations in that line as he had done previously in the hardware enterprise.

In 1892, Fred Scheel was united in marriage to Augusta Fraino, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Fred Fraino and wife, both of whom spent their lives in Germany, where the former was a farmer. To Mr. and

Mrs. Scheel three children have been born, namely: Fred M., Margaret, and Helen. The Scheel family are earnest members of the Lutheran church and are active in all its good works and in all community good works. Mr. Scheel was for three years chairman of the Elmwood township board, and also served on the school board for some time.

I. HAMMERUD.

I. Hammerud, manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Comstock, Clay county, was born in Norway, June 12, 1874, a son of Halvor and Jennie (Hanson) Hammerud, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and established their home. They continued to reside in their native land until 1880, when they immigrated with their family to America, locating near Lake Park, in Becker county, Minnesota, where the father became very well situated, owning a farm which he developed through his close application and persistency. He continued general farming and stock raising there until his death, which occurred in 1912. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as was also his wife. They were parents of eleven children, as follows: Ole, Hans, Christine, I., Mary, Andrew, Charles, Henry, George, Albert and Rudolph.

I. Hammerud was six years old when his parents brought him to the United States. He grew to manhood in Becker county, Minnesota, and assisted his father with the work on the home farm. During the winter months, he attended the district schools of Clay county, since the nearest school house was in Clay county. Later he attended Concordia College at Moorhead, this county. He continued farming until about 1902, when he came to Comstock, Clay county, and conducted a pool hall for about twelve years with success. In August, 1916, he became manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Comstock, which position he still holds and has discharged his duties in an able and faithful manner to the satisfaction of the stockholders and all concerned. He handles a large amount of grain each year and has made this the best-known elevator in the southwestern part of the county, doing a thriving business with the farmers on every side.

Mr. Hammerud was married on June 12, 1908, to Jennie Monson, who was born in Comstock, Clay county, Minnesota, where she was educated in the public schools. She is the daughter of Ludwig and Eliza (Knoph) Monson, both natives of Norway, who immigrated to America and are still