

that line in Moorhead. He has an excellent trade and his establishment is conducted along modern lines, conforming to the most approved methods in the sanitary handling of meats. Mr. Zervas is a member of the Moorhead Commercial Club and of the Retail Merchants Association of that city and takes an active part in the general business affairs of the city.

On January 27, 1891, Hubert Zervas was united in marriage to Emma Levitre, a daughter of Peter Levitre, a pioneer farmer near Felton, now deceased, and to this union have been born six children, namely: John, who is now serving in the United States navy, at present attached to the Atlantic fleet; Mary, who is cashier in her father's meat market; Anna, who is now in school at St. Benedict's Academy at St. Joseph, this state; Hubert, who is in school at Moorhead, and Emma and Cecelia. Mr. and Mrs. Zervas are members of the Catholic church and their children have been reared in that faith. Mr. Zervas is a member of the Holy Name Society of his local parish. For twenty-five years he has been a member of the church choir and is now the leader of the same. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Catholic Order of Foresters and in the affairs of these organizations takes a warm interest.

GEORGE K. SIRJORD.

George K. Sirjord, a well-known farmer of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he is the proprietor and operator of a well-appointed farm of one hundred and sixty acres and is connected with several important co-operative business enterprises of that and neighboring communities, was born in Norway, May 26, 1868, a son of John and Mary (Anderson) Johnson, both of whom were born in Norway, where they spent their whole lives, the former there a farmer. They were the parents of fifteen children, and the nine who grew to maturity were: Sverup, deceased; Jorgen, John Tormela, deceased; Bergita, Anna, Mary, deceased; Hannah and George K., the subject of this review.

George Sirjord received his formal education in the public schools of his native land, and his agricultural training behind the plow on the old home farm there. In 1890, when he was twenty-two years of age, he immigrated to America, journeyed on out to Norman county, Minnesota, where he had friends, and there worked out on farms for several years, in order to acquire the necessary capital for starting out for himself. It

was in 1902 that he started farming where he now lives in Bear Park township, this county, and he operates one hundred and sixty acres, carrying on a scientific form of diversified agriculture. The farm plant is comprised of excellent buildings, around which is a beautiful grove, partly planted by Mr. Sirjord.

On November 1, 1908, George K. Sirjord married Mrs. Petra (Leines) Holmviik, and to this union two children have been born, Morris Gifford and Pearl Judie. Mrs. Sirjord was first married to John Holmviik in 1894, a year after she came to America. Mr. Holmviik had immigrated to this country with his mother and stepfather, who were early settlers of Norman county. By her first husband, Mrs. Sirjord had three children, Clara, Ada and Norman. Her parents, Cornelius and Petrena (Sahl) Leines, were natives of Norway, where they lived and died. Mrs. Sirjord had four brothers and two sisters, namely, Bang, Oluf, Kornelius, Ole, Nekoline and Ane. Mr. and Mrs. Sirjord are active workers in the Norwegian Lutheran church, rearing their children in that faith, and are zealous participants and hearty supporters of all the good works of the community in which they live.

In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Sirjord has important business interests. He helped to organize the Bear Park Mercantile Company and the Farmers Elevator at Bijou; he is also interested in the creamery at Rindahl. While he takes a good citizen's interest in public affairs of the same, however, he has never sought office.

JOHN CHRIST DESING.

John C. Desing, well-known lumberman, former justice of the peace in and for Elmwood township and otherwise identified with the public life of the community, is a native son of Clay county, born in Baker on December 29, 1886, a son of William and Fredericka (Wright) Desing, both natives of the German empire, and who came to America single, later marrying in Clay county.

John and Mary Desing, the paternal grandparents, came to America in an early day and were among the first homesteaders in the vicinity of Baker, Clay county, in which place they spent the remainder of their lives, honored and respected pioneers. The maternal grandparents also were among the early settlers, probably in the seventies, and likewise settled in the neighborhood of Baker, where they continued to reside to the end of their lives.