

John A. Rustvold received the first part of his common-school education in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and later when he moved with his parents to Norman county in his thirteenth year, he finished it in the early schools of Hendrum township. Since he has made his residence here, he has always made his home on the old place, which at present contains two hundred and forty acres, whereon he carries on general farming.

On July 16, 1892, Mr. Rustvold was united in marriage to Randa Hviding, who was born in Norway, August 27, 1870, the daughter of B. B. and Ellen (Pederson) Hviding, of Stavanger, the former of whom was a sea captain, but now a resident of Perley, Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Rustvold are the parents of the following children: Arnt J., Ellen, Bertha, Ann, Johnie, Orpha, Bernhart, Arthur, who died in infancy, and Arthur and Charlotte. They also have an adopted son, Martin Crogues. Mr. Rustvold and family are active and consistent adherents to the Lutheran faith, worshiping in the old Pontopedans Lutheran church which his father helped to organize. Mr. Rustvold has also been interested in bettering the marketing facilities of his community by helping to organize the creamery and Farmers Elevator at Hendrum. Mr. Rustvold takes a good citizen's interest in all the movements for the betterment of the community.

NELS J. STROMBERG.

Nels J. Stromberg, a well-known farmer, operating a tract of land in Bear Park township, treasurer of Bear Park township and otherwise identified with public affairs, is a native of Norman county, born on the farm on which he still resides, September 27, 1884, a son of Olof and Mary (Bjerk) Stromberg, both natives of the kingdom of Sweden.

In the year 1880 Olof Stromberg and his wife immigrated to the United States, and on arriving in this country came directly to Renville county, Minnesota, remaining in that county for two years. At the end of the latter period they moved to Griggs county, North Dakota, and were in that place for a further period of two years, engaged at farm work. In June, 1884, they moved to Norman county and settled on the farm in section 16, Bear Park township, still in the occupation of Nels J. Stromberg. On this place Olof Stromberg farmed for the remainder of his life, his death taking place in 1894. On settling here he acquired a tract of school land, containing eighty acres and also purchased forty acres of railroad land,

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 Sandor; 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-