

deceased; Annie, Agnes, Nettie, Norah and Frieda. Nels Amundson, as is his wife, was an active and devoted member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and he was one of the leading workers in the organization of the first church society in the community, the St. Peter Norwegian Lutheran church. Even though Mr. Amundson did not take an active part in the politics of his vicinity, he was always ready with his fullest and heartiest support and co-operation for any movement which had for its aim the civic, social and material betterment of the community.

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### JOHAN P. SUNDET.

The late Johan P. Sundet, who was a well known and substantial farmer of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he was the owner of a quarter section of fine land, on which his widow now lives, was born in Norway, June 24, 1848, and died, March 10, 1914. He was a son of Severt and Trinc Sundet, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they grew up, married, reared their family and died, the former a farmer in the home land.

Reared on the home farm in Norway, where he acquired such an elementary education as the time and place afforded, he acquired a practical farm training which stood him in good stead when he became a pioneer in the New World. He continued to live in Norway until 1880, in which year he immigrated to America and came directly to Norman county. Here he homesteaded a quarter section in Bear Park township, where his widow still makes her home. Since the land was raw and somewhat covered with underbrush and small timber, he had considerable difficulty in bringing it to a state of cultivation, but since he was made of the same stuff of which real pioneers are made, he cleared his holding, broke the ground and planted his first crop, from which he reaped a harvest which was entirely up to his expectations. The next problem was adequate farm buildings, but he set to work with a will and, finally as a reward for his labors, he finished an admirable farm plant, which includes good, substantial buildings and a comfortable farm home.

Before he came to America, he met Karen Gagnas, whom he married after he came to America. She was born in Norway, January 1, 1854, a daughter of Arnt and Johanna Gagnas, and to this union eight children have been born, as follow: Arnt, a farmer of Matana; Severt, cashier of the

First National Bank of Litchfield, North Dakota; Peter C., who operates the old homestead; Trena, who married Bert Davis and is now residing at Fertile, Minnesota; Martha, living with her brother and mother on the home place; Clara, the wife of Theodore Nordheim, and is now a resident of Godfrey township, Polk county, Minnesota; John, at home, and Joseph, who is assistant cashier of Security Bank of Temple, North Dakota.

Peter C. Sundet, who now lives with his mother on the home farm, which he operates very successfully, is a well-known farmer of the vicinity. He is now township supervisor and has served the community in that capacity for some years.

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### GEORGE HERBERT MELBYE.

George Herbert Melbye, well-known educator, superintendent of schools in Lockhart, interested in the coaching of boys bands and farm clubs, and otherwise identified with the general progress of educational affairs in and about Norman county, has the distinction of being the first child born in Ulen, Minnesota, his birth occurring on August 26, 1887. He is a son of O. C. and Anna (Bergeson) Melbye, natives of the kingdom of Norway.

O. C. Melbye immigrated to the United States in 1875 and came on to Ulen, where he settled and where he became the owner of a tract of land, which he later sold to advantage. He served the public for a time as postmaster and also successfully conducted an implement and general store. At the present time he is living retired, but nevertheless takes a keen interest in passing events. To O. C. and Anna (Bergeson) Melbye the following children were born: C. A., an engineer; O. W., deputy state board inspector; H. A., a farmer, living at Ulen; Hilda, the wife of Gill Fevig; Minnie, who married N. W. Murphy, a telegraph operator; George Herbert, the subject of this sketch; A. E. O., a former newspaper man, now at Camp Dodge; Carl, telegraph operator at Hawley; Ragna, the wife of C. Swensen, living at Flom; C. Bennett, who graduated from the Ulen high school and is now a member of Battery F, at Moorhead.

George H. Melbye was educated in the schools of Ulen and early developed a capacity for the teaching profession, to which he has since devoted his life, beginning his teaching career at the early age of fifteen. He prepared for the work of teaching by attending the normal school at Moorhead and taught school between times until he finished the course at