

well-cultivated farm of three hundred and ninety acres, part of which lies in Kragnes township and part in Morken township. He makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle.

On October 15, 1890, Edward A. Kassenborg was married at Concordia church, Clay county, to Christina Kragnes, who was born in 1871 in Houston county, this state. She is a daughter of Levi and Sarah (Oleson) Kragnes, natives of Norway, the father born in 1837. They came to Minnesota in an early day and located on a farm in Houston county. The father died in 1900. His widow is still living on the homestead in Houston county, being now seventy-three years old. There were fourteen children in this family, eleven of whom are now living.

Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kassenborg, namely: Dora, the eldest; Alva, at home; Mabel, who is working as a bookkeeper in St. Luke's Hospital at Fargo; Louise and Selvene, twins; Elmer, Florence, Edna, Bennie, Gilbert and Ernest. They all live at home but the three elder children.

Politically, Mr. Kassenborg is a Republican. He served as treasurer of the school board in district No. 103, and was a director on the board for a period of twenty years.

MONS J. WANGEN.

Any man who works on the land, who feeds a field and watches the result, gains a real fundamental knowledge of the underlying foundation on which rests all our civilization. It makes him a sober man, a thoughtful man; and, if he experiments wisely, a hopeful optimist. Such a man is Mons J. Wangen, a farmer of Spring Prairie township, Clay county. He was born in Norway on September 1, 1851. He is a son of Johanas Monson and Carrie (Aslaksdater) Wangen, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their future home. They never came to America and died in their native country. He was a carpenter by trade. To these parents seven children were born.

Mons J. Wangen grew to manhood in Norway and there he attended the common schools. As a young man he learned the carpenter's trade under his father and in due course of time became an expert workman. He came to America about 1871, locating in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he spent six years, then came to Clay county with Ole G. Farsdale, a sketch

of whom appears elsewhere in this work. After looking over this section of the state Mr. Wangen took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 32, Spring Prairie township, which was the first homestead in that township. He was therefore the first pioneer in this locality, and he endured the usual hardships and privations incident to life on the frontier in those days, but he persevered, worked hard and has succeeded, remaining here ever since. He has brought his place up to a high state of improvement and cultivation and has built a cozy home and such outbuildings as his needs require. He set out a large grove which is now very attractive. He began with nothing, but he has forged ahead unaided and is now very comfortably situated. He passed through the lean years with hope for better times ahead, which finally came.

On March 17, 1876, in Goodhue county, Mr. Wangen was married to Anna Olson, a native of Trogenlien, Norway, and a daughter of Ole Irneson and Anna Peterson, also natives of Norway, who died there. Mrs. Wangen came to America in 1874. To Mr. and Mrs. Wangen seven children have been born, namely: Caroline, John (deceased); Anna, wife of William Moore, of Glyndon; a son who died in infancy; Oscar and two daughters who died in infancy.

Mr. Wangen is a Republican and has taken an active interest in local public affairs from the first. He helped organize Spring Prairie township and was one of the first members of the township board. He belongs to the Lutheran church and built the church, donating his labor to the congregation.

H. C. POSSEHL.

H. C. Possehl, farmer and potato dealer of near Baker, in the southern part of Clay county, and former postmaster at Baker, was born in Cook county, Illinois, May 24, 1871. He is a son of Fred and Minnie (Schlede) Possehl, both natives of Germany, where they spent their earlier years. The father immigrated to America about 1861, locating in Dupage county, Illinois, where he worked out the first few years, then rented a farm. He continued farming in that state, mostly in Cook county, until 1892, when he moved to Franklin county, Iowa, where he farmed seven or eight years, then retired from active life, locating in the town of Latimer, Iowa. In 1911 he moved to Minnesota, locating at Baker, where he has since lived retired. His wife died some years ago. Fred Possehl started out with lit-