

ica. He located in Morris county, Minnesota, and in 1884 came to Norman county and filed on a homestead tract in Home Lake township, but never proved up. He later moved to Thief River Falls, Minnesota, and at the present time is living in Montana.

HANS L. NORBY.

Hans L. Norby, of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, has made a success as a farmer very largely because he has been willing to give up many of the old and antiquated ideas of tilling the soil and has adopted such new ones as were practicable in this latitude.

Mr. Norby was born in Norway in 1851. He is a son of Lars and Martha Henson, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home and where the mother died, in 1858, when her son Hans L., was about seven years of age. The father finally came to America and spent the last three years of his life at the home of his son, the subject of this sketch, where his death occurred in 1907, he then being at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He owned farming land in Becker county, Minnesota, which he sold when old age incapacitated him for active farming. The family consisted of five children, namely: Hans L., the subject of this sketch, the eldest; Mary, a widow, who lives in North Dakota; Jens, who also makes his home in North Dakota; Carrie, deceased, and Ole, a resident of South Dakota.

Hans L. Norby grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. When twenty-three years of age, in 1874, he immigrated to the United States and began working out on farms near Mankato and Albert Lea, Minnesota. After his marriage he worked at the carpenter's trade. He came to Clay county and lived a year in Lake Park, then, in the fall of 1879, he moved to his present farm in Goose Prairie township, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14. Mr. Norby worked hard and applied himself closely and in due course of time had the raw land under a fine state of cultivation. He made all improvements, including the erection of a splendid group of buildings. During his residence of thirty-eight years on this place he has accumulated a comfortable competency and is now able to retire from active life, even now (1917) planning to sell or rent his place and move to Hawley, where he has long owned a commodious home and a large lot, which has been rented out.

In 1878, in Mankato, Minnesota, Hans L. Norby was married to Anna Thoreson, who was born in Norway in 1852, and who came to America in 1876 with Mr. Norby's father, two brothers and a sister. To Mr. and Mrs. Norby nine children have been born, namely: Theodore, who has a farm in North Dakota; Inga, who is married and lives in Colorado; Alma, who died in 1889, when four years of age; Albert, who lives at home; Alma the second, who works in North Dakota; Oscar, who is at home; Laura, who is married and lives in Montana; John, who is married and has a jewelry store in Clear Brook, Minnesota, and Nellie, who is at home.

Mr. Norby has been supervisor of Goose Prairie township at intervals for twenty years. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he has been a trustee for fifteen years, and has ever given proper attention to neighborhood good works.

ROBERT L. SCOTT.

Some farmers who have cropped their soils from year to year, taking everything off and returning nothing, when their crops fall off in yield until there are no profits, begin to realize that they will have to adopt a new system or else abandon their farm. Those who are wise look ahead and take proper steps to prevent such a deplorable state of affairs from ever coming. Robert L. Scott is one of the young farmers of Viding township, Clay county, who believes in conserving the soil elements, in keeping his land from ever wearing out.

Mr. Scott was born at Polo, in Ogle county, Illinois, February 6, 1881, a son of J. W. and Bessie (Lawson) Scott, who remained in Illinois, on the home farm. He grew to manhood on the farm near Polo, assisting with the general work on the same when he became of proper age, and received his education in the schools of Polo, graduating from the high school there. He remained on the farm with his parents until he was twenty-two years old, then, in the spring of 1903, he came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Viding township, Clay county, and here he has remained to the present time. He operates eleven hundred and twenty acres, carrying on general grain farming and potato raising on an extensive scale, specializing in Red River Valley seed potatoes, which he produces in great quantities every year. He understands every phase of successful