

College at Moorhead, from which institution he was graduated in 1900, with the degree of Bachelor of Accounts. Upon leaving school Mr. Mortenson became engaged in the office of a real-estate dealer at Moorhead and after awhile engaged in the real-estate business on his own account in that city and was thus engaged there until 1904, when he went to Sawyer, over in Ward county, North Dakota, where he established the Sawyer State Bank and remained there, acting as cashier of that concern, until 1908, when he went over into Montana, homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in that state and remained there, improving and developing his tract, until January 1, 1911, when he returned to Moorhead, where he since has made his residence. Upon returning to Moorhead Mr. Mortenson resumed his connection with the real-estate business and was engaged in the interest of various land firms until 1915, in which year he organized the Moorhead Realty Company, of which he since has been the secretary, and has worked up an extensive business in that line, his operations in realty covering a wide territory hereabout.

On June 23, 1904, Otto J. Mortenson was united in marriage to Leonora H. Dahl, daughter of T. H. Dahl and wife, of Moorhead, and to this union six children have been born, Ethel, Carroll, Kenneth (deceased), Philip, Wilbur and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Mortenson are members of Trinity Lutheran church at Moorhead and take a proper interest in church works, as well as in the general good works of the community. Fraternally, Mr. Mortenson is affiliated with the Masonic order and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

JOHN E. BURUD.

Success as a general farmer has come to John E. Burud because he worked hard and managed well and he is now enabled to spend his declining years in retirement. He is one of the well-known citizens of Goose Prairie township, Clay county. He was born on November 1, 1854, in Norway, a son of Ellef Jenson and Barbara (Erickson) Burud, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home, but came to America in 1881, locating in Clay county, Minnesota. There they took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Hagen township, which they developed into a good farm through their industry, and there continued to carry on general farming until about 1894 when they

sold out and spent the rest of their lives with their son John E. on his farm in Goose Prairie township. The death of the father occurred in 1910 at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, and that of the mother in 1907. She was two years younger than her husband. To these parents five children were born, namely: John E., of this sketch; Mary, who died in the spring of 1917; Edward, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 4, Goose Prairie township; Mrs. Tilda McTeney, living in Chicago, and Ole, who lives in Ulen, Minnesota, and works on the Northern Pacific railroad.

John E. Burud grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. He immigrated to America when twenty-three years old in 1878, alone, and came on west to Clay county, where he worked out for two and one-half years, then took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Goose Prairie township. He worked hard developing this land, but prospering with advancing years, he later bought more land and now owns one of the choice farms of his township, consisting of four hundred and forty acres. He has made all improvements on this land, erecting a comfortable home and numerous substantial outbuildings, and setting out a large grove. Everything about the place denotes thrift and good management. He has been very successful, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He raised some pure-blooded stock.

Mr. Burud was married in Lake Park, Minnesota, in 1880, to Caroline Thompson, who was born in Rice county, this state, in 1859. Her parents were natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota in pioneer days, locating first in Rice county. Later they moved to Becker county, where they spent the rest of their lives, both being now deceased, the mother dying when her daughter Caroline was twelve years old. Not long thereafter, Mr. Thompson sold out and bought a farm in Becker, where he lived until his death in 1910. To Mr. and Mrs. Burud four children were born, namely: Theodore, who died when twenty-two years old; Albert, Oscar and Joseph.

Mr. Burud bought property in the village of Ulen, Goose Prairie township, in 1915, and moved thereto, retiring from active farm work. He has since rented out his land to Ole Holt. Mr. Burud served as township supervisor for many years, also as a director of the school board in his district. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he was a trustee for a number of years.