

business. He sold out in 1914 and soon thereafter made an extensive trip to Europe, visiting England, Holland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Upon his return home he purchased a farm in Polk county, Minnesota, but in the fall of 1914 he came to Felton and has made his home here ever since. He was manager of the Otto Dahl store, owned by his cousin. In January, 1917, he bought a partnership interest in the business and is now manager and resident owner of this popular and successful store. He has everything under a superb system and a large and well selected general stock of goods is carried. A brisk trade is carried on at all seasons with the people of Felton and the surrounding country.

Mr. Dahl was married in 1907 to Anna Broin, who was born in Minnesota and was educated in the public schools. She is a daughter of John and Lena (Quale) Broin, natives of Wisconsin. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dahl, namely: Vernon, Arlie, Orville, Otto, Doris and Llewellyn.

Mr. Dahl was appointed postmaster at Felton in July, 1915, and he has filled that office ever since in an able and creditable manner. Politically, he is a Democrat.

SWAN NELSON.

Swan Nelson, proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Elkton township, Clay county, and one of the most substantial farmers of that part of the county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the year 1881. He was born on January 10, 1857, son of Nels and Cecelia (Swanson) Swanson, both also natives of Sweden, who spent all their lives in their native country, the former dying in 1909 and the latter, in 1910. During the active years of his life Nels Swanson was a coachman. He and his wife were the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Edith, deceased; Cecelia, who is still making her home in Sweden; Olaf, also a resident of his native land, and August and Mary, deceased. The Swansons were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared in Sweden, Swan Nelson received his schooling there and, in 1877, was married. About four years later, in March, 1881, he came to the United States with his family, his wife's widowed mother accompanying them, and proceeded on out to this part of Minnesota, Hawley being

his destination. For a year after his arrival here Mr. Nelson was engaged working on the farm of Nels Tiesel, in the Hawley neighborhood, and then homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 12 of Elkton township, in Clay county, where he established his home and has ever since resided, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers in that part of the county. Upon taking possession of his homestead tract Mr. Nelson planted a grove and gradually improved his place, putting up good buildings, and as he prospered added to his holdings by the purchase of an additional tract of two hundred and forty acres and now has a fine farm of four hundred acres. Though still making his home on the farm, Mr. Nelson has been practically retired from the active labors of the same for the past six years or more. He has ever taken an interested part in local affairs and for some years past has been serving as treasurer of the school district in which he lives.

Mr. Nelson's wife died in 1906. She also was born in the kingdom of Sweden, Helen Torkelson, and as noted above, her widowed mother, Elcna (Johnson) Torkelson, came to this country with her. Mrs. Torkelson ever afterward made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and her last days were spent there. Mr. Nelson has three children, Edith, Theodore and Anna. The family has ever given proper attention to the general social affairs of the community in which they live and have been helpful in many ways in advancing movements designed to promote the common welfare thereabout.

HALVOR OLSON.

A large number of Scandinavians have immigrated to Minnesota where they have found broader opportunities than existed in their native land, and they have been welcomed everywhere for reasons too obvious to mention in detail here. Clay county has been fortunate in securing a large number of these aliens, among whom was the late Halvor Olson, a skillful farmer of Eglon township, who, like others of his countrymen, benefited alike himself and us after casting his lot in this locality, where he was highly esteemed.

Mr. Olson was born in Norway on January 1, 1843. His parents were also natives of that country, where they lived and died on a farm. They were parents of the following children: Ole, who died in Norway; Halvor, the first, who came to America and died in this country; Tom and Fona,