

additions to his store since. In addition to his mercantile interests, Mr. Olson finds further occupation on his small, modern farm of twenty acres in Anthony township, which he operates for experimental purposes.

Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Josie Dalvey on May 15, 1889. She was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, April 13, 1867, the daughter of Ole and Scsila Dalvey, who emigrated from Norway, the land of their nativity, in 1856, and settled in Fillmore county. The Lutheran church has in Mr. and Mrs. Olson, devoted members, and in the affairs of this denomination they take a deep and zealous interest. Mr. Olson's family were valuable acquisitions to the community, especially in its early days, for they helped to organize the East Marsh River Lutheran congregation when the homes of the settlers were thrown open for services. Later the family was largely instrumental in the organization of the public schools of the township.

LARS O. NESS.

Lars O. Ness, a substantial and energetic farmer, owner of a prime piece of land in Hegne township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years old, coming here with his widowed mother in 1879 and ever since has been living in Norman county. He was born on January 3, 1860, son of Ole and Marit (Ness) Ness, both born in Selbn, Norway, where the former died and where Lars O. Ness lived up to the time of his coming to the United States. There were two children in the family, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Ingeborg, who came to this country with her brother and married Hans Stennes; she is now dead.

Lars O. Ness was educated in the schools of his native Norway and at the age of nineteen accompanied his mother and sister to America, landing at New York, coming thence to Norman county in 1879. He bought forty acres of railroad land on which he erected the farm buildings and as he prospered in his farming operations he added to his holdings and is now the owner of eighty acres of prime land, which is well covered with natural timber and trees which Mr. Ness planted. Mrs. Marit Ness, mother of the subject of this sketch, is now living with her son, having reached the advanced age of ninety-one years.

In 1879 Lars O. Ness was united in marriage to Dorteia Moslath, a native of Norway and daughter of John Olson, who came to America in

1883 and located in Elk Point, Union county, South Dakota. Mr. Olson lived there for six years, at the end of which time he moved to Norman county and lived with Mr. Ness for a further period of six years, when he died. His wife was Sophia Hosta, who came to this country with her husband and died while living with Mr. Ness, at the great age of ninety-three years and four months. To Mr. and Mrs. Ness the following children have been born: Sophia, who became Mrs. John Paulson, living at Crookston, this state, and Albert Ness, who died in 1911, leaving three children, Lloyd, Alma and Dora, all of whom are living. John Paulson and wife are the parents of five children as follow: Paul, Louis, Alice, Earl and Sylvia, all of whom are living. The Ness family are members of the Lutheran church and are active in all its good works, as well as in all community affairs designed to promote the common good. Mr. Ness gives close attention to public affairs and was a helpful factor in bringing about the organization of Hegne township. John Olson and wife, parents of Mrs. Ness, were the parents of six children, those besides Mrs. Ness being Ole and John, who live in Norway; Ellies and Jonas, who both died in Norway, and Marit, who died at Elk Point, South Dakota.

WILLIAM H. RABE.

William H. Rabe, assessor of Green Meadow township and one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of Norman county, was born in the village of Nicollet, in Nicollet county, this state, May 11, 1877, son and only child of Charles and Henrietta (Carsten) Rabe, natives of the state of Illinois, who located at Nicollet in 1875. Charles Rabe was a merchant and was engaged in the mercantile and milling business with his brother August at Nicollet for eight or ten years, at the end of which time he disposed of his interests there and moved to the city of Chicago, where he spent the remainder of his life, being engaged there as a collector. His wife died when the subject of this sketch was but three weeks old.

Having been but about eight years of age when his father moved to Chicago, William H. Rabe received his schooling in the schools of that city and was graduated from a business college there in 1894. For two or three years thereafter he was engaged as a bookkeeper at branch I of the United States Brewing Company at Chicago, but wearied of the life of the city and began to long for the free life of the farm. "Back to the land" was