

Hilda, Lottie, Ben, Ole, and Theodore. The family are earnest members of the Lutheran church and warmly interested in all its good works.

Melvin O. Bredeson, at the age of fourteen years, came with his parents from Otter Tail county to Clay county, in 1902. He received his education partly in each of these counties and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped with the farming work for some time. The family settled three and one-half miles south of Barnesville and there Louis Bredeson operated a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land until 1914, when he moved to Clear Water county, where he is still engaged in farming.

In 1908 Melvin O. Bredeson commenced to work as a carpenter in the town of Barnesville and has since followed that line of activity, his services being in much demand throughout a large part of the county. In 1916 he added to his carpentry work the broader branch of general contracting, and in the short period he has been thus engaged he has met with most encouraging success, with every prospect of his being recognized as an extensive contractor in the near future.

In May, 1914, Melvin O. Bredeson was united in marriage to May Griswold, of Barnesville, a daughter of Noyes Griswold and wife, well-known people of that district. Mr. and Mrs. Bredeson are the parents of one child, a daughter, Stella. The Bredesons are active members of the Lutheran church and are earnestly interested in all its good works and in all community movements having for their object the welfare of the public at large.

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#### OLE NILSON.

Ole Nilson, a well-known and substantial farmer of Clay county, owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in sections 30, 31 and 32 of Holy Cross township, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since the days of his young manhood, he having come to Minnesota in 1882, not long after attaining his majority. He was born on June 5, 1860, son of Nils and Eliza (Donaldson) Olson, also natives of Sweden, the latter of whom died in 1861, her son Ole then being about one year of age, and the former of whom survived her many years, his death occurring in May, 1917, he then being past eighty-four years of age. Nils Olson was a well-to-do farmer and a man of standing in his community. He and his wife were the parents of five children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Nels and Jens, who also came to this country and are

now living in Benson county, North Dakota; Gerta, a widow, now living in the state of Washington, and Lizzie, who is married and living in Canada.

Upon coming to this country in 1882 Ole Nilson located at Moorhead and two years later, in 1884, was married to Ingeborg Bernhardson, who also was born in Sweden, in 1865, and who was but four years of age when she came to this country with her parents in 1869. After his marriage Mr. Nilson established his home on his present farm in Holy Cross township and has ever since made that his place of residence, he and his family being very comfortably situated there. He has a fine place of two hundred and forty acres, which he has improved in admirable shape and has long been regarded as one of the substantial farmers of that neighborhood. He has made all the improvements on this place himself and has a very well-kept farm plant.

Mr. and Mrs. Nilson have eight children, namely: Lena, a widow; Freda, who is married; Andrew; Mila, who is married, and Lottie, Tilla and Ella, at home. The Nilsons have a very pleasant home and take an interested part in the community's general social activities. Mr. Nilson has given his earnest attention to local civic affairs and has served as a member of the town board and as a member of the school board in his local district. He is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

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### GUST EKLUND.

Gust Eklund, a well-known contracting painter and decorator at Moorhead, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country, living at Moorhead, since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born on December 9, 1860, son of A. G. and Anna (Bowman) Anderson, also natives of Sweden, the latter of whom died there and the former of whom is now living there, after a residence of fifteen years or more in this country.

On June 5, 1875, he then being but fourteen years of age, Gust Eklund was apprenticed to learn the trade of painting and paperhanging in his native land and after a four-years apprenticeship began working along that line on his own account, remaining in Sweden until 1884, when he came to Minnesota and located at Moorhead, where for five years he was employed at his trade, working for Fred Johnson. He then became a partner of Mr.