

one who died in infancy, Axel (deceased), Ella (deceased) and Oscar.

As noted above Charles R. Kall was but two years of age when his parents came to this country and he thus has spent all his active life in and about Moorhead. Upon completing his schooling in the schools of that city he continued working on the home farm for a few years and then became an assistant to his father in the brick-laying way. About twenty years ago he equipped himself with an outfit for the moving of houses and has since then been a general contractor in that line, doing the bulk of the business done in a house-moving way in and about Moorhead. He also is a carpenter and works at that trade during the periods not engaged in house moving.

In 1908 Charles R. Kall was united in marriage to Blanche L. Piper, of Minneapolis, and to this union three children have been born, George, Evelyn and Robert.

HANS P. OIEN.

Among the well-known citizens and substantial landowners in the immediate vicinity of Shelly, in Norman county, is Hans P. Oien, proprietor of a fine farm on Marsh river near the village. He also has interests in the local elevator and lumber company at Shelly and in other ways has displayed his public spirit in promoting the development of that community. Mr. Oien is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born on August 10, 1850, a son of P. A. and Gertrude (Lilledahl) Oien, who came to the United States with their family in 1869 and settled in Houston county, this state, where both spent their last days. P. A. Oien was eighty-three years of age at the time of his death. He and his wife had five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Ole, Benct M., Margareta and Rogna.

Hans P. Oien was eighteen years of age when he came to Minnesota with his parents in the spring of 1869 and he became a valuable aid in the labors of developing the home place in Houston county. In 1876 he was united in marriage there to Gunil Velker and later came up into the Red River country and bought the land on Marsh river on which he established his home and where he is still living, one of the real pioneers of the north-western part of Norman county. He planted a grove upon settling there and the same is now an attractive feature of the landscape in that section. Mr. Oien has a well-improved farm and has done well in his operations. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the

development of local business affairs at Shelly and owns an interest in the elevator and lumber yard there.

Mr. and Mrs. Oien have six children, Sophia, Hannah, Mattie, Henry, Carl and Gerhart, all of whom are at home. The Oiens are members of the Lutheran church at Shelly and Mr. Oien helped to organize the same. They have a pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the village and of the community at large.

FRED GRUHL.

For more than thirty years Fred Gruhl has been a citizen of Clay county, during which period he has seen the country transformed from the wild plains to a fine farming locality, himself a pioneer of Cromwell township, where he has worked his way up from a modest beginning to a position of independence and comfort. He is one of the large landowners and leading farmers of the county.

Mr. Gruhl was born in Germany, October 2, 1849, a son of Fred and Fredericka (Ulich) Gruhl, both natives of Germany, where they lived and died. The father was a common laborer, a hard-working, honest man. He and his wife were members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. To these parents, four children were born, namely: Fredericka, who is living; Paulina, deceased; Herman, who is living; and Fred, the subject of this review.

Fred Gruhl grew to manhood in Germany and there attended school. He immigrated to America in 1884 and located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where he spent one year, then went to Bismark, North Dakota, for a short time; later moving to Fargo, where he worked until 1885, when he came to Clay county and began farming south of Hawley on rented ground in Cromwell township, remaining there seven years. In 1892 he bought four hundred and eighty acres in section 20 of Cromwell township and here he has remained ever since. When he took possession of the place only a few old shacks stood on it and only a small part of the land had been broken. Mr. Gruhl worked hard, persevered and managed well and he soon had a fine farm under cultivation and in a high state of improvement, putting up a commodious residence and substantial outbuildings, including an elevator. He set out a large grove which is now a valuable asset to his place. He has prospered with the advancing years and now owns a total of over twelve hundred acres of valuable land in one body in