

bought an additional eighty acres in section 29, and is now the owner of four hundred acres of prime land, from which he is obtaining most satisfactory results, the land being set out to wheat, barley, oats, corn, alfalfa and potatoes. He raises a fine strain of blooded Holstein cattle and has some splendid specimens of that breed on his place. In 1912 Mr. Skrei built a nine-room house, fitted with all modern requirements, including electric light, waterworks, hot-water heat, etc., and here he and his family are comfortably situated.

On September 27, 1897, at Moorhead, Theodore H. Skrei was united in marriage to Tilda Juve, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in 1867, a daughter of Ole and Gunhild Juve, who came to Clay county in the early seventies. Mr. and Mrs. Skrei are the parents of four children, namely: Anna, Obert, Milo and Targe. They are also providing a home for Robert and Nellie Olson, children of Mrs. Skrei's sister, the latter and her husband being both deceased, the children having been living with Mr. and Mrs. Skrei for the past five years.

Mr. Skrei and family are members of the 'Concordia' church, of which he has been trustee and in connection with which he has held other offices. He has been identified with public affairs for several years and served the people as township treasurer, in which responsible position he gave general satisfaction. He was clerk to the school board for six years, proving a satisfactory official. He is interested in the Farmers' Grain and Lumber Company of Glyndon, to the affairs of which he gives close attention. Mr. Skrei's life has been one of usefulness and hard work and proves again that being born in a log house with a sod roof is no barrier to progress.

CHARLES R. OLIVER.

Charles R. Oliver, former cashier of the First National Bank at Barnesville, Clay county, and now president of that flourishing institution, an extensive landowner, his land holdings amounting to four thousand acres, was born in the state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of this part of Minnesota for the past twenty-six years. He was born in August, 1860, in Grant county, Wisconsin, a son of Douglas and Sarah (Fitzgerald) Oliver, whose last days were spent in Kansas.

Douglas Oliver was born in Tennessee in 1819 and died in 1885, at the age of sixty-six years. During his active life he was a well-known woolen

manufacturer, having a large mill for that purpose, and he also farmed on an extensive scale, in Grant county, Wisconsin. Some years before his death he moved to Kansas and there spent his last days. His wife, Sarah Fitzgerald, was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, in 1834 and died one year after her husband, her death occurring in 1886, in Kansas at the age of fifty-two. They were the parents of the following children: Frank, living in Santa Cruz, California; Dwight, married and living in Lancaster, Wisconsin; Grant, married, lives in Dinuba, California; Fred, in Fresno, California; Charles R., the subject of this sketch, and Mrs. Harriet Mullen, of Tempe, Arizona.

Charles R. Oliver was educated in the schools of Grant county, Wisconsin, and was reared on his father's farm, with the work of which he assisted during a few of his early years. His business inclinations led him to follow the profession of a banker and before coming to Clay county he was associated with the First National Bank of Breckenridge. In 1891 he moved to Clay county and became assistant cashier in the First National Bank at Barnesville and has served through all the departments and official positions of the bank's service, for the past three years being president of the company. Much of the success of the institution is traceable to Mr. Oliver's sound and conservative methods of banking and he is generally regarded as one of the far-seeing bankers in this part of the state. In addition to his banking interests, Mr. Oliver is the owner of four thousand acres of land located in Clay and Wilkin counties, the greater part being in Wilkin. His farming is carried on according to modern methods of agriculture and he is fully abreast in the equipment of his farms, everything being maintained in first-class condition, the improvements being fully equal to the best in the county. He also owns business property in the town of Barnesville and is generally accounted one of the most prosperous and enterprising citizens of the township and county.

In April, 1898, Charles R. Oliver was united in marriage to Mary E. McGinn, who was born in Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, the marriage taking place in Barnesville. There are no children to this union. Mr. Oliver takes an active part in the general social conditions of the township and has long been holding membership in various fraternal organizations. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Barnesville and Shrine at Fargo, the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America, and has a warm interest in the successful working of these popular organizations. Mr. Oliver, however, devotes the greater part of his business life to his banking interests.