

after the death of the first wife occurred in Bohemia, the father married there again and his second wife bore him five children, all of whom came to this country with him; they are: Katherine, Dortha, deceased; Barbara, Josie and Jacob. On the death of the second wife, the father married a third time, after he took up his residence in Wisconsin, to Dortha Andedly and by her he had the following children, namely: Matt, the subject of this review; Bertha, Nettie, Albert, and two others who died in infancy. The father and mother lived on the old homestead in Waukon township until their deaths. They were devoted members of the Roman Catholic church and were active participants in all local parish affairs.

Matt Chloupek spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Wisconsin and there received a common school education in the neighboring district schools, but when he was thirteen years of age his parents removed to Norman county, settling here in Waukon township, where he has continued to live on the old old homestead. After the death of his father and mother, he purchased the farm from the estate and to the original tract he has added eighty additional acres. He has reorganized the old farm plant by the erection of the present excellent set of buildings which replaced the old ones. Now he carries on a scientific form of general agriculture.

On May 29, 1894, Mr. Chloupek was united in marriage to Anna Witasek, who was born in Bohemia, and came to America with her parents, Valentine Witasek and wife, when she was only six years of age. To this union have been born five children, all of whom are living at home: George, May, William, Dorothy and Frances. Mr. and Mrs. Chloupek are devoted members of the Catholic church and they take a proper interest in the affairs of the parish. Mr. Chloupek takes an active part in local civil affairs, serving now as township supervisor and as a member of the school board, on which he has been for several years.

CHRISTIAN OLSON.

Christian Olson, formerly a large landowner of Lee township, Norman county, and now a retired farmer and well-known banker and prominent citizen of Lake Park, Minnesota, was born in Norway, August 20, 1844, a son of Ole and Margrcte (Dokken) Olson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and reared their family, and there died at a ripe old age, industrious farmers in their community.

Christian Olson was reared on the home farm in the land of his nativity, where he received the elementary education which the time afforded, and there devoted his effort and industry to the cultivation of the old home place until his marriage in 1866. In that year, he and his wife decided to cast their lot with others of their countrymen in the New World and there establish their home; accordingly they boarded one of the clumsy sail boats of that day and struck out boldly across the Atlantic and landed in America on June 23, 1866.

Starting out in a lowly position of working on a farm on shares, Mr. Olson has achieved the position of prominence which he enjoys today. The first year of their residence in this country, Mr. and Mrs. Olson spent in Houston county, Minnesota, among friends and acquaintances from the fatherland; then they moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the former worked for three years on a farm on shares, but the inducement of cheap and fertile new land in the northwest section of Minnesota caused them to leave Iowa and strike out northward overland to Becker county, Minnesota, on May 17, 1870. Four or five hundred miles of trackless wilderness stretched away before them, and their progress was quite slow when it is remembered that a yoke of plodding oxen was their means of locomotion. Finally, on June 24 of that year, they arrived in Becker county, and immediately settled on their homestead of one hundred sixty acres in sections 18 and 19, Audubon township. At once, Mr. Olson began to improve his holding and, finally, as the years passed, he has been enabled to add to his holdings in Becker and adjoining counties, until he became one of the largest landowners in this section of Minnesota. Since he has large business interests, which have continued to grow, it became necessary for him to quit farming about sixteen or seventeen years ago and move to Lake Park, Becker county, Minnesota, so that he could the better attend to his affairs. He there bought property which he later sold and then built a large brick house in which he lives at present. When Mr. Olson quit farming, he sold the greater part of his holdings to his children and his son, Olaf, jointly with his daughter, Mrs. Ruster, own the large farm which formerly belonged to their father in Lee township, Norman county.

Since his retirement from agricultural pursuits, Mr. Olson has given his entire attention to his business interests. He helped to organize the Becker County State Bank at Lake Park and is now president of the same. He was a director in the Farmers Insurance Company of Lake Park and Cuba for a number of years, and at present, he owns stock in the Security State Bank of Detroit, Minnesota. Not only has he been active in the

extension of credit facilities of this section, but he has also been instrumental in providing better marketing facilities for the farmers as he helped to organize the Farmers Elevator and the creamery at Lake Park. Mr. Olson has had time in his very busy life to take an active part in the civic affairs of his community, for he has served on the town council of Lake Park for two terms and is at this time a director of the Lake Park Orphans Home.

In 1866 Christian Olson was united in marriage to Marie Rask, in the same year he and she came to America. Mrs. Olson is a native of Norway, born on February 6, 1843, a daughter of Halvor and Jorand Rask. To this union twelve children were born, namely: Christian, who lives in Lake Park, Minnesota; Hannah, the wife of Petter Ruster, now living in Crosly, North Dakota; Julia, who married O. W. Davis, and now lives two miles from Lake Park; Olaf, a prominent farmer living in Lee township, Norman county; Josephine and Caroline, both deceased; Helen, the wife of Ed. Ingebretson, living on the old homestead in Becker county; George, who also lives on the old place; Minnie, living with her parents; four daughters and one son, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are devoted members of the Lutheran church and in the faith of this denomination they have reared their children, Mr. Olson being at present a trustee of the congregation of which the family are members.

JOHN THOMAS LUSSENDEN.

The late John Thomas Lussenden, who was one of the more recent comers to Norman county, where he carried on farming operations in Green Meadow township, was born in Boltenville, Wisconsin, March 26, 1856, a son of George and Lydia (Marcellus) Lussenden, the former a native of England and the latter of Ohio, who came out to Wisconsin in an early day. There they settled in Boltenville, where they remained until death, well-known and respected pioneers and influential citizens of the community. They were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this review was the third in order of birth, the others being: Willet, Phoebe and Rosetta, deceased.

John T. Lussenden was reared to manhood in Boltenville, Wisconsin, under frontier conditions, and in his boyhood he had all the experiences common to pioneer boys. Sometime after he had reached man's estate, he