

ship, on a quarter section in section 19. On that place the family established their permanent home and the parents continued to reside on the land the rest of their lives, the father's death occurring in the winter of 1887 and that of the mother in the fall of 1900. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Ole J., the subject of this review; Rasmus, who died in infancy; Gertina, deceased; Bennie, who lives in Wild Rice township, this county; Anna, deceased; Ella, living in McHenry county, North Dakota; and Samuel, who is deceased. The Brekke family were consistent and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, the father having helped to organize the first church in the community, meetings being held in the Heiberg school house until a place of worship was erected in Twin Valley some years later. In those days Twin Valley was not yet established and Ada was the market.

Ole J. Brekke received his early education in the schools of Norman county, where he was reared on his father's farm. There he laid the foundation for his success in later years when he struck out for himself in agriculture. After he reached manhood, he decided that McKenzie county, North Dakota, proffered him the chance to become a landowner, and accordingly he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in that county and proved it up. In addition to his homestead in North Dakota, he owns a farm of one hundred sixty acres of improved land in Wild Rice township, this county. At present Mr. Brekke is a retired farmer, and being single, lives with his brother, Bennie, of Wild Rice township. In addition to his farming, Mr. Brekke has been interested in a business venture, having helped to organize the creamery at Twin Valley.

LARS H. ROSTVOLD.

Lars H. Rostvold, one of the substantial pioneer farmers of Lee township, Norman county, and the owner of one hundred and fifty acres in that township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-four years of age and of Norman county since the year 1883, and has consequently seen this region develop from the days of the pioneers. He was born in 1857, last of the ten children born to his parents, Halvor Anderson and wife, the latter of whom died when the subject of this sketch was but thirteen years of age. The other children

in this family are as follow: Andrew, who is still living in his native land; Arndt, who also continues to live in Norway; Nels, who came to this country years ago and is now a resident of Hendrum; Mrs. Ingeborg Skauge, also of Norman county; Ingebore, who is a resident of Polk county, this state; Anna, wife of A. A. Rostvold; Randa, wife of O. Johnson, of Hendrum; Cecelia, who continues to make her home in Norway, and Mary, who died in that country. Years ago, after his son Lars had secured a settlement on the land he now occupies, Halvor Anderson came to this country and his last days were spent here, his death occurring at the home of his son about twenty years ago.

Reared in his native land, where he acquired his education, Lars H. Rostvold remained there until he was twenty-four years of age and then, in 1881, came to the United States and two years later, in 1883, he came up here into the Red River country and settled in Norman county, where he ever since has made his home. For some time after coming here Mr. Rostvold worked on the farms of other settlers and then bought a piece of land of his own, owning then the land on which the village of Borup now stands. He later bought the place on which he is now living, a tract of eighty acres in section 4 of Lee township, and after his marriage in 1892 established his home there. When he bought that place it was wholly unimproved and all the substantial improvements that now adorn the place have been made by him. Mr. Rostvold also owns a tract of forty acres in section 3 of Lee township and another tract of thirty acres in section 8 and is accounted one of the substantial farmers of his neighborhood. He also owns stock in the elevators at Perley and Hendrum and in the canning plant at the former place and is a stockholder in the Farmers Bank of Hendrum. Mr. Rostvold has ever given a good citizen's attention to local political affairs and was for some time a member of the board of supervisors of his home township.

In 1892 Lars H. Rostvold was united in marriage to Ovedia Johnson, also a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in 1873, and who was seventeen years of age when she came to this country with her brother Bernard, now a resident of Norway. Mrs. Rostvold is the last-born of the five children born to her parents, the others being Bernard, of Hendrum; Peter, of Marshall county, this state; Martin, also of Marshall county, and Julia, wife of Paul Kragness. To Mr. and Mrs. Rostvold two children have been born, Halvor, deceased, and Halvor (second), who is living on the home farm, a valued assistant to his father in the labors of the same. The Rost-

volds are members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in the affairs of the same, Mr. Rostvold having been for years one of the deacons of the local congregation. The family have a pleasant home and have ever taken a proper interest in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

EMIL AUGUST MENGE.

Norman county has many native sons who have won distinction in the various walks of life, and who with their families have had much to do with the general progress and development of the district, which today is one of the great farming and business centers of the United States. Not the least among these worthy people, who have had so much to do with the prosperity and growth of the county, is Emil August Menge, a successful farmer and stockman, living one-half mile west of the town of Lockhart, in Lockhart township, Norman county, who was born on November 8, 1882, and is a son of August and Fredericka (Malakowsky) Menge.

August and Fredericka (Malakowsky) Menge were born in Germany, and there they received their education, and there they were reared and in 1868 were united in marriage. August Menge was born in the year 1842 and is the son of Carl and Fredericka (Steinerans) Menge, both of whom were natives of the fatherland, where they died many years ago. After their marriage, August and Fredericka Menge continued to live in Germany for ten years, when they decided that they would seek a home in America. Here many of their neighbors and friends had located and were meeting with success. On their arrival in the United States in the year 1878, they at once proceeded to Minnesota, and located at Red Wing, where they remained for four years. In 1882 they came to Norman county, and here Mr. Menge took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land, in Lockhart township, and here he and his wife made their home until they retired from the more active duties of life in 1913, and moved to Ada, where they have a pleasant and substantial home, and are enjoying some of the comforts of life to which their many years of hard work entitle them.

At the time Mr. and Mrs. Menge located on their homestead, they were among the early pioneers of the section and their tract of land was an unbroken prairie. A small house was erected in which the family lived for a number of years. The farm was developed, and in time Mr. Menge