

HENRY SCHROEDER.

Henry Schroeder, who began his active life in an humble way, now president of the First National Bank at Moorhead, also interested in other banking institutions, and owner of extensive land holdings in and about Clay county, is a native-born German, but has been living in this county since 1871. He was born in Renesburg, Holstein, Germany, August 31, 1855, a son of Henry and Wilhelmina (May) Schroeder, both of whom were natives of that same country and there spent all their lives.

The senior Henry Schroeder was engaged in the tannery business in his native land, and had followed that occupation during all of his active life, the tannery still being carried on by his son, Adolph. The elder Henry Schroeder died in Germany before the subject of this sketch came to America. Wilhelmina Schroeder, his wife, died the summer after her son, Henry, immigrated to this country. The tannery has been in the possession of the Schroeder family for upwards of one hundred years. To Henry Schroeder and wife three children were born, namely: Adolph, who still operates the tannery in Germany; Emil, who came to America about 1867, now living in San Francisco, where he is engaged in the fur-dyeing and dressing business; and Henry, the subject of this review. The parents of these children were members of the German Lutheran church.

Henry Schroeder attended the excellent schools provided by the educational system of Germany and received a very thorough education. He came to the United States in 1871 and proceeded out to Benson, Minnesota, which town was then the terminus of the Great Northern railroad. From this point he started out on an eighty-mile walk, going north to Alexandria, the journey occupying a few days, to join an uncle. While living at the latter place he worked on farms during the summers, going for that purpose to different parts of southern Minnesota. When winter would set in he generally returned to Alexandria, and north of that town he spent most of the winter seasons hunting and trapping, still continuing to reside with his uncle, and during a portion of the time he lived in a very rude shack.

In 1878 Henry Schroeder left Alexandria and came to Wadena, accompanying the mail carrier on the journey. From Wadena he traveled on to Glyndon, Clay county, via the Northern Pacific railroad, and then walked to where Sabin now is, most of the way being partly under water. He purchased a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Elmwood township, Clay county. He then returned during the next winter, going on foot,



MRS. HENRY SCHROEDER



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to Alexandria and there bought a team of horses, which he brought back to Elmwood township, the following January. In the preceding summer he had purchased oxen near Sabin and used them to break the land for tillage. He continued at the laborious task of breaking and clearing the land on his tree claim, and finally got it fit for the planting of crops. Later, he added forty acres to the tree-claim holding and still lives on that farm, where he was first housed in a small shack, which had been standing up to a recent date.

Prosperity attended Mr. Schroeder's efforts from the very start. He became an extensive farmer and potato grower. He is now the owner of two thousand six hundred acres of prime land, one thousand acres of which is lying near Sabin and sixteen hundred acres near Glyndon, Clay county. He has effected numerous costly and substantial improvements on his various tracts of land, the entire amount so expended being seventy-five thousand dollars. He erected warehouses at Watts and Sabin, and bought potatoes for some years, storing them in these warehouses, but the latter he now operates for his own use. In addition to his vast land holdings Mr. Schroeder is connected with banking. He is now the president of the First National Bank of Moorhead, which institution has flourished under his wise guidance. In 1908 he helped to organize the First State Bank of Sabin, and is also the president of that thriving bank. He is also interested in the operations of other banks, principally as a stockholder, and is recognized throughout the entire county as one of the foremost bankers in this part of the state, as well as being one of the most substantial landowners in the county.

In 1879 Henry Schroeder was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Krabbenhoft, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Wolf Krabbenhoft and wife, also natives of Germany. Her parents were farmers in their native land. They immigrated to the United States in 1874, coming on the same ship which had brought Mr. Schroeder three years earlier. On their arrival in this country they came on out to Minnesota and located near Sabin, Clay county, and bought land on which they carried on general farming for several years, later dying in the vicinity where they had settled. They were members of the German Lutheran church. Their eldest son, W. C., who had come to America some couple of years before them, is still living near Sabin. Mr. and Mrs. Krabbenhoft, were the parents of the following children: W. C., Chris, Eliza, Anna, Henry O., Wilhelmina and Henry. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder the following children were born: E. C., Theo, Minnie, Emma, Ernest, Irene, Erhart and Henry. Mrs.

Schroeder passed away on April 5, 1917, and was buried in the German Evangelical Lutheran cemetery at Sabin on April 8. The Schroeder family are earnest members of the German Lutheran church and are active workers in all church affairs, warmly interested in all that concerns the welfare of the community, where during their long years of residence they have been universally esteemed and regarded as representing the highest type of citizens. In politics, Mr. Schroeder is a supporter of the Republican party, but has never been a seeker after public office, preferring to devote his time and energies to his commercial, banking and land-holding interests.

ANDREW EGGIMAN.

Among the native-born Swiss who have come to America and engaged in general farming with considerable success in Elmwood township, Clay county, is Andrew Eggiman, who was born in the republic of Switzerland, August 24, 1869. He is the son of John and Anna (Merkendahl) Eggiman, also natives of the same country, the former of whom is now about seventy years old, but the son, Andrew, has not heard from his father or mother for some twenty years. John and Anna Eggiman are parents of three children, namely: Anna and Elsie, who are living in Switzerland, and Andrew, the subject of this sketch. The members of the Eggiman family in the old country are members of the Lutheran church. The parents came from a long line of ancestors, noted for upright lives in the part of their native country in which they lived.

Andrew Eggiman attended the schools of his home district in Switzerland, and when he reached the age of twenty-three in 1892, he immigrated to the United States. On arriving in this country, he went on out to Livingston, Illinois, where he was employed at farming work for two years. At the end of that period, he went to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he also engaged in the labors of the farm, living in that state for nine years. He then decided to acquire land for himself and, with that purpose in view, came to Minnesota in 1900, and settled in Elmwood township, Clay county. Here he is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of choice land, which has been placed in a high state of cultivation. He has placed important and valuable improvements on his farm, on which his operations are very successful. When Mr. Eggiman assumed possession of his farm, a house stood on the land, but this he has torn down and a new and substantial dwelling erected