

came to America. He devoted his active life to farming and to commercial fishing; in fact, he was known as a great fisherman in his locality. To these parents four children were born, namely: Dora, deceased; Lena, a widow, who lives in Norway; Bertenia, who has also remained in the old country, and Peter, the subject of this sketch.

Peter Larson spent his boyhood in Norway, assisting his father with farming and fishing, and in the winter time he attended the common schools. When nineteen years old he immigrated to America, first locating in Polk county, Minnesota, where he spent ten months, then came to Fargo and Moorhead and worked on farms in the vicinity of those cities for two years. He then accepted a position with the B. & R. Lumber Company in Fargo and remained with that concern for eight years, his long retention indicating that he gave entire satisfaction. He saved his wages and upon leaving the firm rented a farm, operating rented land until 1910, when he bought his present excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 35, in Hawley township, Clay county. He has made some improvements on the place, although it was already fairly well improved when he took possession. He is carrying on general farming and stock raising, specializing in potato growing, having had a fine field of twelve acres in the summer of 1917.

In 1897, twenty miles southwest of Fargo, North Dakota, Mr. Larson was married to Vine Engen, who was born in Norway in 1871 and who came to America when twelve years old. To this union five children have been born, namely: Alma, Sophia, Victor, Henry and Banhard, all of whom live at home. Mr. Larson belongs to the Sons of Norway.

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#### HENRY O. SKAURUD.

Henry O. Skaurud, one of Norman county's substantial farmers and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Lake Ida township, where he and his family are very comfortably situated, is a native son of Iowa, but has lived here in the Red River country since 1881, the year in which Norman county became formally organized as a county. He was born on a farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, not far from Decorah, March 2, 1874, son of John O. and Martha (Monson) Skaurud, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, who were married in Iowa and whose last days were spent on their pioneer farm in Norman county.

John O. Skaurud came to the United States in 1848 and made his way into the Northwest, locating at St. Paul, which then was but a village made up of a scattering group of log houses. For a time he was engaged in the work of construction of the Minneapolis & Peoria railroad and then made his way down into Iowa and settled in Winneshiek county, in the vicinity of Decorah, and there began farming; being, at one time and another during his residence in that county, the owner of three different farms. There he married Martha Monson, who was born in Norway in 1840 and who was thirteen years of age when she came with her parents, Mons and Katherina Monson, to this country, the family settling in the neighborhood of Decorah, Iowa, where Mons Monson and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. In 1879 John O. Skaurud came up here into the Red River country and bought a quarter of a section of railroad land in what later came to be organized as Lake Ida township, Norman county, and in 1881 moved with his family to that place, there establishing his home and developing an excellent farm. He planted a grove, erected substantial buildings and as he prospered added to his land holdings until he became the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land. On that pioneer farm he and his wife spent their last days, she dying at the age of forty-seven years. They were members of the Lutheran church, were active participants in the work of organizing the Synod church at Twin Valley and their children were reared in the faith of that church. There were six of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Christian, Mary, Albert (deceased), Fred L. and Joseph.

Henry O. Skaurud was, seven years of age when his parents moved from Iowa to Norman county and his schooling was completed in the early schools of this county. When thirteen years of age he was taken into the home of his sister at Sabin and for ten years made his residence there. He then started farming on his own account, renting a place in Wild Rice township after his marriage, and was thus engaged there until the spring of 1901, when he moved to the place he now owns in Lake Ida township and has ever since resided there. Upon taking possession of that place he found a bare tract of land, which he has improved and brought up to a high state of development, erecting on the same substantial buildings and otherwise bringing the place up to the status of a modern, well-kept farm plant. Mr. Skaurud has increased his original holdings there to four hundred acres and is doing well in his operations.

On December 12, 1896, Henry O. Skaurud was united in marriage to Nettie Erickson, who was born in the neighboring county of Becker, a daughter of Anton Erickson, now a resident of Lake Ida township, Norman county, and to this union have been born three children, Grace Myrtle, Florence Emilia and James Arthur. The Skauruds are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper part in church work, as well as in the general social activities and good works of the community in which they live and in which the family has been honorably represented since the days of the beginning of permanent settlement there.

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#### ANUN G. ANDERSON.

The mind of the farmer must be as well balanced as to farm affairs. With a good mental grasp on the situation a farmer should be enabled to get enjoyment and much profit out of his specialties without interfering with the known necessity for diversified farming. One of the farmers of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, who is making a success of diversified farming is Anun G. Anderson, who was born on February 4, 1858, in Norway. He is a son of Gunder and Oslog (Torbenson) Anderson, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home, but brought their family to America in 1873, coming on West to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they remained until 1881, when they located in Clay county, on the farm on which their son, the subject of this sketch, now lives, and here these parents spent the rest of their lives. However, the father never owned any land, working as a laborer all his active life. His death occurred in 1908, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The mother's death occurred in 1896, at the age of seventy-seven years.

Eight children were born to Gunder and Oslog Anderson, namely: Mrs. Tona Erickson, who lives on a farm in Goose Prairie township; Torben, who died in Highland Grove township, leaving a widow and a large family; Mrs. Carrie Olson, who lives on a farm in Goose Prairie township; Mrs. Christine Storsely, who lives in the state of Washington; Anun, the subject of this sketch; Aslake, who is engaged in buying and sellings hops in Silverton, Oregon; Anna, who is the wife of a farmer and lives in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and Mrs. Anluge Torgerson, of Moorhead, this state.