

many years, serving as secretary to the congregation for some time. He was one of the promoters of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and was a member of the board of directors of that company from the date of organization to the time of his death, and in many other ways gave evidence of his desire to assist public movements having for their object the betterment of the community at large.

In 1887 Albert Gartland was united in marriage to Marie B. Lee, born in Norway and who came to this country with her parents when a little girl three years of age. While still single she and a brother made the trip to Norman county by team and was married in this county. Albert Gartland and wife were the parents of the following children: Bertha Theresa, at home; Svart Lee, manager of the Bear Park Mercantile Company; Dwight, Ada Marie, who married Elias Stennes, of Hegne township; Clarence Emery, at home; Olga Dortha, who died at the age of two years, and Arthur. Dwight Gartland worked for two years at the Bejon grain elevator as grain buyer; he later took a business course at the Southern Minnesota University and worked as assistant cashier in the German American Bank at Bejon for two years. Clarence Gartland has taken a course at the Interstate Business College, at Fargo, North Dakota. Arthur Gartland is working out.

Svart Lee Gartland, the second eldest of the above children, was born on the home farm, and was educated in the public schools of Norman county. He learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked up to taking over the management of the Bear Park Mercantile Company, which concern has been making steady progress under his guidance.

---

### LARS J. STENSGAARD.

One of the sturdy pioneer farmers of Lake Ida township, Norman county, who has helped develop his community from wild prairie land into well improved and highly productive farms, is Lars J. Stensgaard, the owner and proprietor of a fine farm of eighty acres in the township. He was born in Norway on May 6, 1849, and is the son of John L. and Maria (Johnson) Stensgaard, both of whom also were natives of Norway.

John L. Stensgaard came with his family to America in 1853, arriving here in August of that year, locating first at Koshkonong Prairie, Wisconsin, where they remained for a year and a half after which they removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, making the trip overland by ox-

team and covered wagon. After arriving in Minnesota, they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of government land, paying two hundred dollars for the land, and on this place John L. Stensgaard and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. He was one of the pioneers of Fillmore county, and helped to organize his township, Norway, and was prominent and active in the social and civic development of his community, assisting in the establishment of the first church and school house in his neighborhood. The family were earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church. He and his wife were the parents of eight children: Bertha Maria, Johanna, Clara, Karen, Louisa, Martha, Inga and Lars J., all of whom are still living with the exception of Karen and Louisa.

Lars J. Stensgaard received his education in the rural schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in the summer seasons assisted his father in the work of developing and improving his land. In 1871 he left his father's farm and came to Becker county, Minnesota, with an ox-team and covered wagon, there being eleven covered wagons in the party, and settled on school land in that county within two and one-half miles of Lake Park, remaining on his farm for a period of seven years, during which time he improved the tract to a considerable degree. In 1877, in company with a number of other settlers, he came to Norman county, the entire number of pioneers making the trip overland by ox-team. After arriving in Norman county, Mr. Stensgaard homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Strand township, and remained on this farm five years, after which he removed to another farm in the same township, where he lived until 1893, when he came to Lake Ida township, where he has since resided. At one time he owned four hundred acres of land in the township, but in 1898 he moved to his present farm of eighty acres, and here he has surrounded himself with many improvements in the way of good buildings, and also planted a fine grove of trees, which makes his farm one of the attractive places of the township. He has always been engaged in general farming and stock raising, and ranks among the prosperous and substantial farmers of his community.

In 1873 Mr. Stensgaard was married to Maren Christopherson, a native of Norway, the daughter of Amund Christopherson, and to this union ten children have been born, all of whom are living: Alfred, Johan, Karl, Oscar, Louise, Johannah, Adolph, Emma and Nora, twins, and Ella. The family are all members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take an active interest.

Mr. Stensgaard has always taken a prominent and active part in the social, religious and civic affairs of his township, and was among those who organized the first church of his community, called St. Peter's Synod church. While living in Strand township, this county, he helped organize the township, and served as the second assessor of that township, holding that important office for a period of thirteen years.

---

### ERICK OLSON SWAVE.

Erick Olson Swave, well-known farmer, living in Bear Park township, is another citizen of Norwegian birth who has settled in this country, and has met with no small share of success in his agricultural operations since he arrived in Norman county thirty-six years ago. He was born in Norway on January 16, 1849, a son of Ole Erickson and Marit (Olson) Swave, both of whom also were born in Norway and spent all their lives in that country, during their active years engaged in farming. They were the parents of five children, named as follow: Ane, Erick, Sigrid, Ingeborg, deceased, and Ole.

Erick Olson Swave was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared on his father's place, where he grew to manhood and assisted on the home farm in developing and improving the same. In 1881, at the age of thirty-two years, he immigrated to this country and on arriving here came on directly to Norman county and took a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Bear Park township, and has been living on that place ever since. He immediately set to work to prepare the tract for the reception of crops and presently had things going in good shape and he has ever since been doing very well. He carried out many substantial improvements on his holding, including the erection of outbuildings, and he is generally regarded as one of the prosperous farmers of the community in which he resides.

In 1874 Erick O. Swave was united in marriage to Karen Quame, born in Norway, a daughter of Christopher Quame and wife, and to this union the following children were born: Mary, May, John (deceased), Jeanette (deceased), Caroline, Jeanette, Ole, Clara, Alice, Emma, Alfred (deceased), and Anna. Mr. Swave and the members of his family are affiliated with the Ness Lutheran church, which he helped to organize, and in the affairs of which he still continues to take an active interest. Mr. Swave always has given a good citizen's attention to community interests and was one of