

going to Thief River Falls, he was employed by others in management of their stores. Having met with unusual success he came to Lockhart as manager of the general store of Theo. Salverson. Here by his courteous manner and business-line methods he has won the confidence of the proprietor of the concern and the honor and respect of the public. Being a man of ability and possessed of a most progressive spirit, he is able to know his customers and to cater to their wants. Honest, upright and industrious, he has won for himself an enviable place in the estimation of the people among whom he lives. Few men in public life have a higher regard for the duty they owe to the community in which they live and transact business than has Mr. Thorstad.

On June 1, 1911, Ed. O. Thorstad and Elma Becken were united in marriage. To this union two children have been born, Jordan and Harriet, who are now reaching the age when they are of much comfort and pleasure to their parents. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thorstad are active members of the United Lutheran church, to the support of which they are liberal subscribers and in the services of which they take the greatest interest.

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#### ANUND K. STRAND.

Anund K. Strand, a prosperous and well-known farmer, owner of a splendid body of land consisting of seven hundred and twenty acres, breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep, former treasurer of Norman county and for forty years a member of the local school board, was born in Norway on November 27, 1846, a son of Kittel B. and Asjer Olson (Strand) Strand, also natives of the same country.

Kittel B. Strand, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Norway and at an early age commenced at the work of a farmer, which he continued throughout his active life. He was married to Asjer Olson Strand and they became the parents of six children as follow: Anund K., Bjorguf, Aase, Olaf (deceased), Eglef (deceased), and Halvor. The parents of these children spent all their lives in their native land and were respected residents of the place where they reared their family. They were active and influential members of the Lutheran church and their children were brought up in the faith of the same congregation.

Anund K. Strand was educated in the schools of his native land and later became a valued assistant to his father in the operation of the home farm. At the age of thirty-five years he decided to try his fortune in this country, where so many of his countrymen had preceded him, and in 1871

he arrived in the United States and proceeded to Wisconsin, settling in Vernon county, that state, living there for ten years, engaged at various occupations, including clerking and teaching school. In the fall of 1880 Mr. Strand came to Ada, Norman county, where he spent two years, engaged at clerking and other occupations. In 1882 he came to Lake Ida township and homesteaded sixty acres of land, part of his present holding of seven hundred and twenty acres, and here he has remained ever since, actively engaged in general farming and stock raising. He is generally recognized as one of the most progressive and extensive agriculturalists in this part of the county and his farm, to which he has added an excellent grove, ranks among the best in the county. In addition to his land holdings he is interested in the raising of Shorthorn cattle, Percheron horses, Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep, and in this branch has been eminently successful.

On January 4th, 1878, Anund K. Strand was united in marriage to Anna Ramstad, a daughter of Lars and Marie Ramstad, who were born in Norway and there spent part of their lives and where Lars Ramstad was a farmer. In 1865 Lars Ramstad came to the United States with his wife and nine children and settled at Coon Prairie, Wisconsin, where his wife died in 1894. He returned in 1895 to his native land and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring there in 1898. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom but two are now living, Mrs. Strand and her sister, Mrs. Karie Handey. The Ramstads were all members of the Lutheran church. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Strand the following children were born: Carrie, Olaf, Kittel (deceased), Nordahl, Elmer, Laura and Silas. The Strands are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are warm supporters of all its good works, as well as of all community movements having for their object the betterment of the township and county.

Mr. Strand has always been actively connected in the public affairs of his home neighborhood, serving the public with zeal and fidelity. In the fall of 1882 he was elected treasurer of Norman county, being the first to fill the duties of that important office, and served the people for six consecutive years, living on his farm and attending to the duties of his office every day, walking to and from Ada for that purpose. While in office he planted the big cottonwood tree which is to be seen in the courtyard, and which is now the largest tree in the yard. He has served for the unusually long term of forty years on the local school board and during that period has been one of the most regular attendants at the board. He and Anton Shea helped to organize and name the county and they are the only two men now living of

those who were originally connected with the early official work of Norman county. Mr. Strand is now in his seventy-first year and is honored and respected throughout the county by a large circle of friends, who recognize his worth and the value of his works to the community at large.

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### BENNIE BREMER.

Bennie Bremer, a well-known and energetic farmer living in Pleasant View township, Norman county, was born on his father's homestead on December 29, 1882, a son of Peter and Anna (Tomhove) Bremer, natives of Germany, who came to this country in the early seventies.

Peter Bremer was born about 1831 and died in 1894, at the age of sixty-three years. He was a farmer in his native land and on coming to this country he proceeded on out to Minnesota and settled in Norman county, where he homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6, Pleasant View township, in 1877. Some years later he bought a quarter section in section 28, Pleasant View township, and immediately commenced the task of putting the place into a state of cultivation, engaging in general farming, and from the beginning of his operations met with marked success. He carried out a number of valuable improvements, erected substantial buildings, and was generally regarded as one of the progressive agriculturalists of this part of the township. Mr. Bremer died on this place, where he had been living for two years before his death.

Peter Bremer was twice married. He was married to his first wife in Germany and they became the parents of three children as follow: Peter, who is married and lives near Lockhart; Henry, who is married and lives in Montana; and Dick, who is living in Seattle, Washington. Following the death of his first wife Mr. Bremer was married to Anna Tomhove, a native of Germany, and who is still living at the age of seventy-two years. By his second union Peter Bremer became the father of six children, namely: Katie, who is married and is living in Fosston; Willie, married and living in Dakota; Anna, married and living in Fosston; Fred, living in section 6, Pleasant View township; Bennie, the subject of this sketch, and Clara, married and living near the old homestead. Peter Bremer helped to organize and was a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Ada. While taking a good citizen's interest in all matters tending to the welfare of the public, he was not an aspirant to public office.