

and remained with that firm for eleven years, at the end of which time he transferred his services to Lofsness & Shordahl, hardware, and was with that concern for some years. He then started a hardware store and tin shop of his own and operated the same for three or four years, or until failing health compelled his temporary retirement. About a year ago Mr. Arnestad started a vulcanizing and repair shop at Ada and is meeting with a good measure of success in his new enterprise. Mr. Arnestad has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and is now serving his fourth year as fire warden at Ada.

It was on March 21, 1881, in Norway, that Alert Arnestad was united in marriage to Martha Ilang, who also was born in that country, a daughter of Ingebright and Olena (Ingebrightson) Ilang, farming people, and to this union seven children have been born, Eliza, Arnold, Helga, Bertha, Adel, Ruth and Esther, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Arnestad are members of the Hauges Lutheran church and have ever taken much interest in church work.

EDWIN O. STUDLIEN.

Edwin O. Studlien, a farmer of Kragnes township, Clay county, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in March, 1865. He is a son of Ole O. and Bertha (Lundelein) Studlien, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married and made their home until 1853, when they immigrated to America, locating in Houston county, Minnesota, and bought a farm. There the father established a comfortable home and developed a fine farm. He was one of the earliest pioneers of that county and he and his family endured the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. Ole O. Studlien continued to reside there until 1874, when he moved to Clay county and bought the farm in Kragnes township on which his son Edwin O. now resides. There he spent the rest of his life, engaged in general farming with his usual success, his death occurring there in 1908 at the advanced age of eighty-two years. His widow also reached the age of eighty-two, dying in 1914 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Olena Kragnes. To these parents eight children were born, namely: Inger, who is married and lives in Houston county; Jane, deceased; Galena, the wife of O. E. Tangen; Mrs. Olena Kragnes, mentioned above; Edwin O., the subject of this sketch; Mary Ann, who is married and lives in Moorhead; Otis, who disappeared in St. Paul, Minnesota, in December, 1891, and it is

believed that he is dead, and Robin, who lives with Mrs. Olena Kragnes, his sister.

Edwin O. Studlien grew up on the home farm in Houston county and there attended the district schools. He has devoted his life to general farming and has lived on his present farm in section 25, Kragnes township, since 1876, buying the place from his father in the year 1899. He has kept it well improved, replacing all the old buildings with new ones. He first bought a half section, later one hundred and fifty acres in section 26, and later a quarter section in section 13, which he later sold. He now owns five hundred and forty acres, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, ranking among the leading farmers of his township.

Mr. Studlien was married in 1889 to Engeborg Roholt, who was born in 1865 in Norway, where she grew up and attended school. She came to America in the fall of 1885, making the trip to Minnesota alone, to join her two brothers who had come here from Norway several years previously and had settled in Clay county. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Studlien, namely: Olaf, Eugene, Elida, Anna and Edwin, all of whom are living.

Mr. Studlien is now a member of the board of township supervisors and is also clerk of school district No. 101, having held this latter position since the district was organized in 1901. He has been a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge for twenty years, or since 1897. His family are Lutherans. He is one of the well-known and influential men in public affairs in Kragnes township.

BENDT O. HITTERDAL.

There is no better farmer in Goose Prairie township, Clay county, than Bendt O. Hitterdal, who was born in Norway, November 30, 1855. He is a son of Ole and Bertha (Hertse) Hitterdal, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1869. In that year they immigrated to America and located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they spent two years, then came to Clay county, Minnesota, driving an ox-team to a prairie-schooner overland, in 1871, and thus were among the early pioneers of this county. The trip from Iowa took about one month. The father at once took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, lying