

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.

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### 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

the organizers of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and is also interested in the Sundahl Creamery, and in many other ways he has from the very beginning of his residence in the township, shown a practical desire to assist all movements designed to improve local conditions along legitimate lines.

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### SEVERIN A. HOSETH.

Severin A. Hoseth, a substantial and progressive farmer and stock man, former member of the Fossum township board and president of the Faith Milling Company, is a native son of Minnesota, born in Goodhue county, this state, February 21, 1870, a son of Andres and Marit (Kindseth) Hoseth, both of whom were born in Norway, where they were farming people.

About 1866, Andres Hoseth, who had married some years previously, immigrated to America from Norway and located in Goodhue county, this state, and bought a tract of land on which he immediately started farming operations and thus continued to the end of his life. He was recognized as a skillful and energetic farmer, who worked his land to advantage, getting all possible results from the soil. Mr. Hoseth died in 1880 and his widow survived until 1912, in which year her death occurred. They were the parents of eight children as follow: Karen Ann, deceased; Peter Magnus, deceased; Severin A., the subject of this sketch; Andres; Martinc, who died young; Martin, who also died young, and Martin and Andrew.. These parents were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were brought up in the same faith.

Severin A. Hoseth was educated in the public schools of Goodhue county and there learned the trade of a carpenter, at which occupation and on farms he worked until 1899. In the latter year he came to Norman county, having previously, in 1896, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in section 11, Fossum township. The tract, however, was without any improvements and he immediately set to work to get the place in condition and cleared one hundred acres of timber, in addition to which he erected substantial buildings and now has one of the best improved places in that section of the township. He is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising and from the very beginning of his operations has met with a substantial measure of success.

In 1898 Severin A. Hoseth was united in marriage to Helena Ovalson, born in Goodhue county, this state, a daughter of Hans Ovalson and wife.