

Pacific recently. He has been a resident of Clay county for upwards of twenty years and is recognized throughout the township as one of the most progressive and substantial farmers in the district in which he resides. He is now the owner of four hundred and sixty-five acres of prime land, located in sections 9, 16 and 17, Riverton township. Mr. Romkey carries on general farming and since the commencement of his operations he has been quite successful, everything about his holdings being in excellent condition. He has carried out many valuable improvements at considerable expense, and his farming is managed according to modern methods of agriculture, thus ensuring a maximum of profitable results.

In the summer of 1897 Charles B. Romkey was united in marriage to Nellie M. Miller, who was born in Burlington, Iowa, in 1876. To this union two children have been born, Horace C., aged seventeen, and Margaret G., aged thirteen. Mr. and Mrs. Romkey take a proper interest in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of people and district. Mr. Romkey served as postmaster at Stockwood, for many years, giving general satisfaction to the patrons in the discharge of the duties of the office. He was chairman of the township board for three years; was treasurer of the district school board for six years, and is at present serving as justice of the peace. In many other ways also he has given of his time and energy to the interests of the public.

PROF. SEVERT O. TANG.

Prof. Severt O. Tang, superintendent of schools of Clay county and one of the best-known and most influential citizens of Moorhead, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was two years of age, and is therefore as much a Minnesotan as one "native and to the manner born". He was born at Wauzeka, in Crawford county, Wisconsin, August 26, 1866, son of Ole and Sophia (Guam) Tang, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to this country in 1862 and proceeded on out to Wisconsin, settling first at Stoughton, in that state, and after spending the summer there moved to Madison, the capital of the state, where they remained for four years. At the end of that period they moved to Wauzeka, where they remained until 1868, in which year they came over into Minnesota and located at Albert Lea, where

they resided until 1878, when they came up into this part of the state and located in Lake Park township, Becker county. A year later they moved over into Clay county and Mr. Tang homesteaded a tract of eighty acres in Eglon township, where he established his home and where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, honored pioneers of that section of the county. Ole Tang was a substantial farmer, and he added to his homestead tract until he became the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres, which is now owned by his son, Professor Tang. Ole Tang and wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom six are still living, those besides Professor Tang being: Susan, who married O. N. Larson; Anna, who married L. N. Larson, and Henry M., Sophia and Christian.

Severt O. Tang was but two years of age when his parents moved from Wisconsin to Albert Lea, this state, and was about thirteen years of age when they came up here and settled in Clay county. He completed the common-school course in the graded schools at Lake Park and then began teaching school, rendering service in the school room during the winters and continuing a valuable aid in the labors of improving and developing the home farm during the summers. He was thus engaged for two years, at the end of which time he entered the State Normal School at Moorhead and was graduated from that institution in 1896, meanwhile continuing his teaching service, thus working his way through the Normal school. Following his graduation, he continued teaching and, after three years of service in the district school, was hired as grade teacher of the schools at Hawley, where he remained one year and then accepted the position of principal of the schools at Auburn. There he remained for three years, at the end of which time he was made principal of the schools at New York Mills and was thus engaged when, in 1909, he was elected superintendent of the schools of Clay county, with his office at Moorhead. Upon the expiration of that term of service two years later, Professor Tang was made principal of the consolidated schools at Comstock and was thus engaged there for two years and six months, at the end of which time he transferred his services to the new consolidated schools at Oak Mound. He was engaged as principal of the schools last named when, on January 6, 1914, he was appointed to fill an unexpired term in the office of superintendent of schools of Clay county and thus resumed his former official position. He then was elected county superintendent for a term of four years and is still serving in that important public capacity, long having been regarded as one of the leading schoolmen in this part of the state. In addition to his official duties, Professor Tang retains an active interest in

his farming operations and is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in Eglon township, having added to the old home farm, which he owns, a tract of forty acres. During his residence in Eglon township, he served for five years as assessor of that township and also served for twelve years as justice of the peace in and for that township.

On July 19, 1916, Prof. Severt O. Tang was united in marriage to Jennie Ronning, a former teacher in the schools of Clay county. Professor and Mrs. Tang are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community, helpful in advancing all worthy causes hereabout.

A. J. NORBY.

A. J. Norby, merchant and banker at Hitterdal, was born in Norway on January 12, 1867, a son of John G. and Thorena (Akre) Norby, both natives of that country. John G. Norby came to America in the spring of 1867 and located for one year in Allamakee county, Iowa. He then came to Minnesota, and for three years lived in Fillmore county. In 1871 he moved to Becker county and located on a farm two and one-half miles west of Lake Park, where he made his home until his death, which occurred on March 17, 1913. He owned two hundred and seventy acres at the time of his death. He was the father of ten children: G. J. Norby; Louise, who married C. K. Ekern; L. J., L. M., A. J., Henry (who died at the age of thirty-five), Hannah, Martin, William and Hilda. Mr. Norby was a member of the Norwegian church.

A. J. Norby was educated in the public schools of Lake Park, and worked on his father's farm until his marriage, in the summer of 1892. In that year he moved to Moorhead and was engaged in the general grocery business there until the spring of 1916. In that year he moved to Hitterdal, opened up a general merchandise store there and has been engaged in this business since. He is a successful business man and is interested in the promotion of business enterprises. He was one of the organizers of Clay County State Bank, of Hatterdal, and is at present one of the directors of this bank.

In 1892 Mr. Norby was married to Florence May Peck, daughter of E. A. Peck, of Lake Park, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Norby have four children: Sarah, Myrtle, Corral and Lucile. They are members of the Synod Lutheran church. Mr. Norby is a member of the Yeoman lodge.