

Ole N. Stoen was about four years old when his parents brought him to America. He received most of his education in the public schools of Tansem township, where he grew to manhood on the home farm. He lived in Tansem township until 1910 on rented land. Since then he has made his home on his fine farm of two hundred and forty acres near Barnesville, which land is well improved and under a high state of cultivation. He also owns some timber land besides his home place. He has set out a large grove on the place, and he has a comfortable home and numerous convenient outbuildings. He raises a large quantity of grain, much of which is fed to live stock. He makes a specialty of raising blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shorthorn cattle. His fine stock brings fancy prices owing to its superior quality. He has done much to encourage the raising of better live stock in his community; he is an excellent judge of stock and is regarded as one of the best farmers in his township. He has been very successful financially, having managed well and persevered. He is one of the stockholders of the Farmers Elevator at Barnesville, which he helped organize. He is also a stockholder in the Barnesville Co-operative Creamery, and a member of the board of directors of the same.

Mr. Stoen was married in 1897 to Marie Hoveland, a daughter of Ole Hoveland, one of the pioneer settlers of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mrs. Stoen was first married to Andrew Stadum, and to their union two children were born; Matilda and Oscar. Her union with Mr. Stoen has also resulted in the birth of two children, Arthur and Oris. Mention is made of Ole Hoveland, father of Mrs. Stoen, on another page of this volume. Mr. Stoen is a member of the Lutheran church.

JOHN K. TATLEY.

John K. Tatley, one of Clay county's best-known landowners and a prosperous dealer in agricultural implements, with a well-equipped store at Olive, Montana, and land interests in that state as well as in Clay county and in the Dominion of Canada, is a native son of Clay county and most of his life has been spent here. Though his business interests are in Montana, he continues to regard Clay county as his home and his time is spent variously here and in Canada and Montana. He was born on a pioneer farm in Keene township, Clay county, February 18, 1878, a son of Knudt Nelson Rodahl and wife.

Knudt Nelson Rodahl became a pioneer farmer and settled on a homestead farm in the immediate vicinity of Hawley, where he met his death about three years later by being drawn into the lake by a double team of oxen which he was driving and which became stampeded and plunged into the lake. About 1885 his widow married Martin Lund, better known as Martin Tatley. She was a daughter of Johannes and Bertha Tatley, who were born in Norway and who came to Minnesota, making their home at Spring Grove, in Houston county, until about 1867, when they came up into this part of the state, driving through by ox-team, and settled in what afterward became known as the Hawley neighborhood. At that time there was no organized settlement here; Indians still were numerous hereabout and white settlers were few and far between. Though in the early days of the settlement of the Tatleys, grasshoppers were a great scourge, Indians were regarded as greater foes than the pestiferous insects and a constant guard was maintained against a possible outbreak of the redskins. Though occasionally reports would be heard of massacres in other settlements, the Tatleys never were attacked. Johannes Tatley bought a tract of school land in what later came to be organized as Keene township and there established his home, he and his wife spending the remainder of their lives there. When he settled there his nearest trading point was at Alexandria, where the land office was located, and it was a long and tedious trip to and from market.

Reared on the pioneer farm in Keene township, John K. Tatley grew toward manhood without any schooling save that received in his home, his mother teaching him with diligent care, and he never saw inside a school house until he was eighteen years of age, and the entire extent of his formal schooling covered but one hundred and twenty days of actual attendance in the school room, a part of this time being spent in the normal school at Moorhead. He was a close student, however, and a careful reader of the newspapers, for several of which he for some time acted as a correspondent during the days of his young manhood. Mr. Tatley made his home on the farm until his marriage in 1902 to Clara Winjum, daughter of Jens Winjum, of Lake Park, and in January, 1903, established his home on a homestead farm in Canada, his mother and his younger brother, Nicholas, accompanying him and his wife to their new home in the Dominion. Mr. Tatley homesteaded a quarter of a section of land there and later added to the same until he had four hundred acres of land, his brother Nicholas still living there. In July, 1906, Mr. Tatley returned with his wife to Minnesota. Mrs. Tatley was taken ill during the trip back and shortly afterward developed consumption, for a year thereafter being confined to the Luther Hospital.

Grasping at the last hope of saving his wife, Mr. Tatley, on the advice of physicians, went out to Montana, took a homestead at a point twenty-eight miles from a railroad, erected a house on the same and prepared a home for the reception of his wife, it having been believed that a change of climate and a higher altitude might prove beneficial to her, but she was unable to be moved and her death came not long afterward, her death occurring in the home of her father, her husband being thus left with two small sons, Earl and Melvin.

After the death of his wife Mr. Tatley remained on his Montana homestead until 1915, when the railroad was finished through from Beach to Olive, Montana. He built a store room at Olive and began the sale there of agricultural implements, which business he still continues, having been quite successful in the same. In addition to his business interests at Olive, Mr. Tatley is the owner of a fine farm of four hundred acres at Hawley, his father's old homestead, which he bought in 1908, and has other land in Canada and in Montana. Though his mercantile business requires that most of his time be spent at Olive, Montana, he manages to spend two or three months during the year looking after his farming interests at Hawley and in Canada. Mr. Tatley is a member of the Minnesota Implement Dealers Association. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, but in the absence of a church of that denomination at Olive, attends the United Brethren church there. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

SWENSON BROTHERS.

The Swenson brothers, Lenus and August, proprietors of "Spring Valley Stock Farm" in Spring Creek township, Norman county, have long been recognized as among the leading stockmen and public-spirited men of affairs of this section of the Red River valley. In addition to their fine farm of five hundred and eighty acres, on which they give much attention to the raising of registered Shorthorn cattle, they have other interests which place them well up in the list of the substantial citizens of that part of the country, August Swenson being president of the Fertile Co-operative Creamery Company of Fertile, one of the most prosperous concerns in northern Minnesota, and treasurer of his home township and a member of the school board