

On November 6, 1895, Mr. Solberg married Emma Neil at Minneapolis. She was born at Vasa, Minnesota, in 1865, a daughter of Adolf Fredrick and Anna Katherine Neil. To this marriage have been born the following children: Esther, Olaf, a farmer of Flom township, this county; Harold, Clara, Helen, Victor, Anna and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Solberg are members of the Lutheran church, and are very active in the church work of the community. Both are members of the American Red Cross Association, giving that worthy organization all their moral support and of their substance as much as they can spare.

Mr. Solberg is an American-born citizen and is proud of it. His pride is pardonable for several of his relatives offered their lives to their adopted country, and two of them, a cousin and an uncle, gave their last full measure of devotion to the cause of national integrity and national honor in the Civil War. During that war, his father was a lieutenant in the home guard and he had an uncle, L. K. Aaker, who was a first lieutenant in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving with bravery throughout the War of the Rebellion. After the return of this uncle from the service, he was elected to the state Legislature, serving four terms in the lower house and one in the upper house. He spent his last days in Crookston, Polk county, this state, which was his home. During the time of the Spanish-American War, George O. Solberg kept up the family honor and tradition by offering his services to the United States army, but since he was married, he was rejected. At this time when the world is bleeding from the ghastly wounds of the three years of the greatest war in history, when the forces of absolutism and militarism are trying to dominate the world, he would again freely offer himself on the altar of freedom and democracy.

OLE THORSON.

Ole Thorson, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers and stockmen of the Flom neighborhood, former assessor of Flom township, former president and present member of the board of directors of the Flom Creamery Company, former secretary-treasurer of the Flom Mutual Fire Insurance Company and for years regarded as among the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of that community, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was eighteen years of age and of Norman county since the spring of 1886, being there-

fore very properly regarded as one of the "old settlers" of this section. He was born at Gudbrandsdalen, in Norway, December 10, 1863, son of Thor and Marit (Walden) Thorson, also natives of that country, who were the parents of three children, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Annie, and a brother, Thorwald. In 1888, a couple of years after Ole Thorson had settled in Norman county, his parents joined him here and the father is still living.

Reared on a farm in his native Norway, Ole Thorson received his schooling in the neighborhood schools and remained at home until he was eighteen years of age, when, in the spring of 1881, he came to the United States and proceeded directly on out into Minnesota, his objective point being Pope county. There he remained about five years, or until the spring of 1886, when he came on up into the Red River country and became engaged in farming in the township of Flom, in Norman county. Two years later, in 1888, Mr. Thorson bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 26 of that township and, his parents joining him in that year, established his home there. He married in 1892 and has ever since made that place his home, he and his family being very comfortably situated. As he prospered in his operations Mr. Thorson added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres and has one of the best-equipped farm plants in the Flom neighborhood. In addition to his general farming Mr. Thorson has given considerable attention to dairying and to the raising of live stock and has done very well, long having been recognized as one of the most progressive farmers in that part of the county. He was one of the organizers of the Flom Creamery Company, served as secretary-treasurer and later as president of the same and is still a member of the board of directors of that thriving concern. From 1897 to 1912 he served as secretary-treasurer and as a member of the board of directors of the Flom Mutual Fire Insurance Company and in other ways has given of his time and attention to the general business affairs of his home community. Mr. Thorson also has ever given a good citizen's attention to the civic affairs of his home county and for four years, 1913-17, served very acceptably as a member of the board of commissioners of Norman county. He also served for seven years as assessor of Flom township and for about twenty years as clerk of his home school district, to the duties of all of these several public offices giving his most thoughtful and intelligent attention.

In 1892 Ole Thorson was united in marriage to Augusta Dorseth, daughter of Andreas Dorseth and wife, and to this union four children have

been born, Mina, Oscar, Albert and Alma. The Thorsons are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and take an interested part in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

ASLAK HANSON.

Aslak Hanson, one of the first settlers in Halstad township, Norman county, where he owns two hundred and five acres of well-tilled and improved farming land, was born in Norway, June 25, 1841, the son of Hans and Martha (Ellingson) Aslakson. Both of the parents were natives of Norway, where the father was a farmer, but when the opportunities for thrifty farmers in America came to his notice, he decided to cast his lot in the New World and came to this country in 1869, with his family, and settled in LaSalle county, Illinois, and there remained until his death occurred in 1887. Some time after the death of Hans Aslakson his wife removed to Hardin county, Iowa, and there remained until she died in 1902. To these parents were born the following children : Aslak, the subject of this review; Bertha, Elling, Hans, Gurena, Martha and Ellen, all of whom are dead but the first two named

Aslak Hanson received his early education, which was limited, in Norway, and there he grew to manhood, helping his father on the old farm. In the year that his parents came to America, he, a young man in his prime about twenty-eight years of age, came with them and settled in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he remained until 1876. While there he worked on farms, and in addition to this, learned the carpenter trade. There was a great demand for the latter in Chicago at that time because the great fire had occurred in that city in 1871 and much building had to be done. After working in Chicago for four years, during which time he had added much to his financial resources, Mr. Aslak Hanson became a pioneer and removed to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1876, and bought the right to two hundred acres of railroad land from a settler in Halstad township, being the first settler in this vicinity. He has remained living on his first holding since his coming, and he now has a well-improved farm on which he has planted a grove and added the other necessary improvements. His experience in carpentering has been of much use to him since he came to this new country, because he has personally built all buildings but the barn. In addition to his