

ants moving to other places. Mr. Jelsing started the village of Dale, in Highland Grove township, where he has since resided: He purchased the townsite and laid out the town, built a store and began a general-merchandise business, which he has conducted with ever-increasing success to the present time, carrying a large and well-selected stock of goods and enjoying an excellent trade with the people of the surrounding country. He was active in securing a postoffice for the town and was appointed postmaster when the office was first established, in March, 1910, and has discharged the duties of the same ever since. He is a notary public and is clerk of the local school board. He was formerly justice of the peace at Dale. As a public servant he has discharged his duties in an able, faithful and acceptable manner, always taking a great interest in the affairs of his locality. Politically, he is a Republican, and, religiously, he belongs to the Lutheran church, being active in the work of the same.

On February 15, 1898, Mr. Jelsing was married to Lena L. Bjerke, a native of Lake Park township, Becker county. She is a daughter of the late Lars C. Bjerke, and was born on January 29, 1873. Her father was one of the early homesteaders of that township. Mr. and Mrs. Jelsing have no children of their own, but they have an adopted daughter, June Jelsing, whom they have had from infancy.

EDWARD A. TRONNES.

Edward A. Tronnes, a substantial and progressive farmer, and stockman of Hagen township, this county, owner of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres in that township, chairman of the township board and interested in public utilities, is a native son of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty-two years old, having immigrated in 1887. He was born on September 13, 1865, a son of Andrew and Carrie (Tronnes) Tronnes, both born in Norway, where they spent all their lives, Andrew Tronnes having been a farmer and engaged at that calling all his life. They were the parents of the following children: Andrew, Haaken, Edward A., Helge, Cornelius, Bertha, Carrie, Annie and an infant daughter. They were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Edward A. Tronnes was educated in the schools of Norway and assisted his father in the work of cultivating the small farm of which the

senior Tronnes was the owner. In 1887, at the age of twenty-two years, Edward A. Tronnes immigrated to America and proceeded out to Minnesota on arrival, locating in Norman county, and bought a homestead right to one hundred and sixty acres of land in Home Lake township and lived there five years, but did not prove up. At the end of the latter period he sold his right in the homestead and then took eighty acres of homestead land in section 20, in Hagen township, Clay county, and proved up. He carried out many valuable improvements and lived on that holding for about ten years, at the end of which time he sold out and bought two hundred acres in Hagen township, where he has since lived. Some time later he added another quarter section in section 16, same township, and has several substantial buildings on the holdings, including a good barn, which Mr. Tronnes erected. He has also set out a fine grove that adds considerably to the appearance and value of the place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and since the very commencement of his operations has prospered, being now accounted one of the most substantial and progressive farmers in Hagen township.

Immediately before leaving his native Norway, in 1887, Edward A. Tronnes was united in marriage to Oleanna Olson, also a native of Norway and a daughter of Ole and Carrie Olson, who spent all their lives in that country. To Mr. and Mrs. Tronnes the following children were born: Alfred, Ella, Clara, Minnie, Inga, Melvin and Amanda, all of whom are living. The Tronnes family are members of the Lutheran church, the Jewnagers Lutheran church having at its organization had valuable help from Mr. Tronnes, although he was at the time living across the line in Norman county.

Mr. Tronnes gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and he has now entered on his first year as township chairman and has been a member of the township board for about thirteen years, serving the people with fidelity and ability. He is interested in the Farmers store and also in the Farmers creamery at Ulen, in the organization of which he proved a valuable aid. He also assisted in the organization of the local telephone company, known as the Ulen and Twin Valley Telephone Company, and in other ways he has given of his time and energies to the advancement of all movements calculated to serve the public interests.

All of Mr. Tronnes' brothers and sisters, with the exception of Annie and Haaken, remained in Norway. Annie is now Mrs. Martin Tronnes, of Wisconsin, whose husband was born in Norway, in which country they were married. Haaken was the first of the Tronnes family to come to Amer-

ica. He located in Morris county, Minnesota, and in 1884 came to Norman county and filed on a homestead tract in Home Lake township, but never proved up. He later moved to Thief River Falls, Minnesota, and at the present time is living in Montana.

HANS L. NORBY.

Hans L. Norby, of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, has made a success as a farmer very largely because he has been willing to give up many of the old and antiquated ideas of tilling the soil and has adopted such new ones as were practicable in this latitude.

Mr. Norby was born in Norway in 1851. He is a son of Lars and Martha Henson, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home and where the mother died, in 1858, when her son Hans L., was about seven years of age. The father finally came to America and spent the last three years of his life at the home of his son, the subject of this sketch, where his death occurred in 1907, he then being at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He owned farming land in Becker county, Minnesota, which he sold when old age incapacitated him for active farming. The family consisted of five children, namely: Hans L., the subject of this sketch, the eldest; Mary, a widow, who lives in North Dakota; Jens, who also makes his home in North Dakota; Carrie, deceased, and Ole, a resident of South Dakota.

Hans L. Norby grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. When twenty-three years of age, in 1874, he immigrated to the United States and began working out on farms near Mankato and Albert Lea, Minnesota. After his marriage he worked at the carpenter's trade. He came to Clay county and lived a year in Lake Park, then, in the fall of 1879, he moved to his present farm in Goose Prairie township, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14. Mr. Norby worked hard and applied himself closely and in due course of time had the raw land under a fine state of cultivation. He made all improvements, including the erection of a splendid group of buildings. During his residence of thirty-eight years on this place he has accumulated a comfortable competency and is now able to retire from active life, even now (1917) planning to sell or rent his place and move to Hawley, where he has long owned a commodious home and a large lot, which has been rented out.