

a farm and established his home. In 1900 he bought the farm on which he is now living, in section 2 of Alliance township, and has since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. Mr. Barry has an excellent farm of five hundred and sixty acres and has the same improved in admirable shape, one of the best general farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to keeping up his farming interests, Mr. Barry has long given his earnest attention to the civic affairs and general business life of the community and for seventeen years served as a member of the school board and is now serving as town clerk. He is also president of the Baker Telephone Company and has done much to extend the telephone service throughout that part of Clay county.

At Moorhead, Minnesota, June 25, 1891, John S. Barry was united in marriage to Cora Agnes Burns, who was born in Mason county, West Virginia, near Glenwood, June 25, 1867, and to that union have been born seven children, namely: Irwin, who was married on June 2, 1917, and who is the owner of a quarter of a section of land in the neighborhood of his father's home; Edith, who is a teacher in the schools of Clay county; Paul, deceased, and Malcolm, Russell, John and Philip, who are at home. The Barrys are Catholics, members of the church at Barnesville, and take a proper interest in parish affairs, as well as in the general social and cultural activities of their home neighborhood, and are helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout. Mr. Barry is a member of the local lodge of Woodmen and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

VICTOR E. VERNE, M. D.

Dr. Victor E. Verne, a practicing physician at Moorhead since the summer of 1909, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born in the city of Minneapolis, March 2, 1883, son of Olof and Charlotte (Blom) Verne, natives of the kingdom of Sweden, who are still living at Minneapolis, where Olof Verne is engaged in the merchant tailoring business and where he has made his home since he came to this country in 1871. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church. They have four children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest, the others being Dr. Paul C. Verne, a well-known dentist at Moorhead; Dr. Arthur Verne, of Cando, North Dakota, and Charlotte.

Hubert. The Wendlandts are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of their home community.

THEODORE EVANSON.

In the case of Theodore Evanson, a farmer of Ulen township, Clay county, the opportunity to succeed may not have sought the man, but most certainly the man sought and took advantage of the opportunity and he has made good application of the gifts which nature has bestowed upon him.

Mr. Evanson was born in Decorah, Iowa, May 4, 1866. He is a son of John and Catherine (Anderson) Evanson, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, but were not married until after they came to the United States. He came in 1850 and she preceded him by about one year, coming with her mother and stepfather, Iver Ringstad. Mr. Ringstad bought government land in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on which he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. The parents of the subject of this sketch located near Decorah, Iowa, where they were married, in 1851, being the first couple to marry in Winneshiek county, and were among the early pioneers there. They worked hard to get a start in the new country and eventually became very comfortably established. They owned one hundred and twenty acres for which they paid only one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. They subsequently bought and sold other farms in that county. Mr. Evanson made all the improvements on the homestead, erecting good buildings, his first house being of logs. Later a large frame dwelling was erected. When he married, Winneshiek county had not been organized and he was compelled to go a long distance to the county seat of Allamakee county, in order to procure the necessary license. Not knowing the customs in America very well he took his bride to the parson's residence and when asked for the license handed the preacher his first naturalization papers. So he had to leave his bride there and make a long journey to secure the proper license.

John Evanson took an active interest in the early affairs of Winneshiek county, which he helped organize, also assisted in organizing the township in which his land was located. He was thereafter incumbent of some township office, most of the time, until his death, the township being Madison. He was assessor of the same for a period of twenty-five years, also served as

treasurer for more than a quarter of a century; a part of the time he held both offices simultaneously. He gave a lot for the first cemetery and also for the first Evangelical Lutheran church in his community, and it was built on one corner of his farm. He and his wife spent the rest of their lives in that county, each reaching an advanced age.

To John Evanson and wife ten children were born, named as follows: Emelia, deceased; Nora; Eliza, deceased; Evan, deceased; Maria, Theodore, Lena, Edva, Anna, deceased, and Emma. They grew up on the home farm in Iowa and attended the district schools there.

Theodore Evanson grew to manhood on the home farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and he received his education in the district schools there. He continued to work on his father's farm until he went to Ada, Minnesota, in 1885, east of which town he rented a farm one summer; then returned home for a year. He later went to Norman county, Minnesota, and located in Green Meadow township, where he bought a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres, which he rented out most of the time and worked in the vicinity of Ulen, Clay county. He has made his home in Ulen township for a period of thirty years, or since 1887. During that time he has seen the township developed from a sparsely settled prairie to its present advanced position as a modern farming community. Upon coming here he bought a homestead right of one hundred and sixty acres, which he proved up on, but later sold out and in 1900 bought one hundred and twenty acres on which he has since resided. He made all the present excellent improvements on this land and has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Ulen, whose pronounced success has been due very largely to his efforts. He was formerly a director of this concern and in 1916 he became manager and vice-president, but later gave up the office of manager; he is still discharging the duties of vice-president.

Mr. Evanson was married in September, 1891, to Gena Mobeck, who was born in Norway, from which country she came to America when young. She is a daughter of Lars Mobeck and wife. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Evanson, all of whom live at home at this writing; they were named as follows: Leonard, Eliza and Mildred.

Mr. Evanson has long been active in public affairs. Politically, he is a Republican. He was first road boss; later served about seven years as township assessor and is now clerk of the township, which position he has held for eighteen years, or ever since the village of Ulen was separated from the township. He served as school clerk while living on his homestead farm