

he has given considerable attention to the raising of high-grade live stock and has done quite well in his operations. He also has given considerable attention to the general business affairs of the community in which he lives and is a shareholder in the local creamery company and in the telephone company at Gary.

To Mr. and Mrs. Norby nine children have been born, namely: Mary, Louis, Herman, Clara, Olga, Otilia, John, Olaf (deceased) and Ole (deceased). Clara Norby married and is now living on a farm in South Dakota. Otilia is on a farm in the vicinity of Thief River, this state, and the others are at home on the home farm. The Norbys have a very pleasant home and take a proper part in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

ANDREW J. WELLEY.

Andrew J. Welley, one of the best-known and most substantial pioneer farmers of Strand township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this state and of Norman county since 1882, the year after the formal organization of Norman county as a civic unit. He was born on February 15, 1850, one of the seven children born to John and Carrie (Oien) Welley, also natives of Norway, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land.

Reared and educated in Norway, Andrew J. Welley was married there in 1874 and continued to reside there until 1882, in which year he came with his family to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 28 of Strand township, Norman county, the place on which his son Hjelmmer now lives, and there established his home. Later he bought the eighty-acre tract on which he is now living, in that same township, and for a time resided on the same, but afterward moved back to his homestead tract, to which he added by purchase until he had two hundred and forty acres there. Still later, however, he returned to his "eighty" and has since made his home there, both farms being well improved and profitably cultivated.

To Mr. and Mrs. Welley fifteen children have been born, namely: Carrie (deceased), John, Laura (deceased), Ingeborg, Lewis, Edward (deceased), Elert, Ragne, Carl, Minnie, Ida, Amanda, Anna, Hjelmmer and Malvin. Mrs. Welley also was born in Norway, Ellen Benson, daughter of Bent Wennevald and wife. Hjelmmer Welley, who is now farming his father's old homestead

place in Strand township, was born on the farm on which his parents are now living, in that same township, in 1895, and received his schooling in the schools in districts 43 and 59. For a while he farmed in North Dakota, but for some time past has been farming the old homestead place and is doing well there. The Welleys are members of the Lutheran church and have ever taken an interested part in church work and in the general good works and social affairs of the community in which they live. Andrew J. Welley helped to build the first church erected in the community in which he settled in pioneer days, the church at Gary, and in other ways has been helpful and influential in promoting good works in the neighborhood of which he has been a part since the early days of the settlement of that part of the county.

ANDREW T. DEGERNESS.

Andrew T. Degerness, a well-known resident of Sundahl township, Norman county, where he is the owner and operator of a fine farm of two hundred acres of land and is otherwise prominently connected with the civil and business interests of the community in which he lives, was born in Norway, April 23, 1865, a son of Toris H. and Guro (Walvatne) Degerness, both natives of Norway, where they spent their whole lives, the father being a farmer. The father and mother were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this review was the second in order of birth, the others being: Halvor, deceased; Anna, who is now dead; Ele, Toris, Gurena, Anna, Abel, Gregoreus and Halvor.

Andrew T. Degerness was reared on the old home farm in Norway, where he received a limited education in the public schools. He also spent his boyhood and the years of his early maturity on the old farm, helping his father operate the same and incidentally gaining some valuable training which stood him in good stead when he established himself in America. About the time he reached the age of twenty-one years he decided to follow the example of many of his countrymen who had come to the New World and established comfortably here on large and productive holdings; accordingly he immigrated to America in 1886 and landed at Luverne, Rock county, Minnesota, on May 20 of that year. He soon obtained employment on a farm in the county mentioned above and remained thus engaged for two years. Knowing that excellent farming land could be obtained cheaply in Minnesota, he set out in 1888 for Norman county, that state, and when he