

On December 18, 1895, Malzer O. Valen was united in marriage to Laura Larson, who was born in Rustad, Clay county, Minnesota, in 1877, the daughter of Gilbert and Mathia Larson, natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Valen are the parents of the following children: Tina, Lillian, Anna and Grant, all of whom are at home with their parents. The Valen family are members of the Lutheran church and are earnest supporters of all its good works. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Valen is also interested in the general welfare of the public. For many years he has given attention to the educational affairs of the township and served as a member of the school board for some time. He also served as township supervisor for six years, and as a supporter of the Republican party he has rendered valuable service to the public interests with which that party are identified.

HON. JOHN L. WOLD.

The Hon. John L. Wold, former representative from the sixty-first district in the Minnesota state Legislature, former president of the village council at Twin Valley, vice-president of the Security State Bank of that place and for years actively engaged in the hardware business there, one of the best-known merchants in Norman county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived here all his life. He was born on a farm in Sibley county on July 13, 1877, son of Nels and Cecilia Wold, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to this country and after a while became pioneers in this section of Minnesota, remaining here until 1900, when they went to the Pacific coast, where their last days were spent.

Nels Wold was born at Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, and there grew to manhood and married, later coming to this country by way of Canada. After a year spent in Quebec he moved to Chicago and after a few years spent there came to Minnesota and settled in Sibley county. In 1880, about the time this section of the Red River valley was beginning to be systematically settled, he came up here and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 21 of what later came to be organized as Wild Rice township, Norman county, and after developing the same moved his family here and established his home. On that pioneer farm he continued to make his home until 1890, when he left the farm and moved to Twin Valley, where he bought the Valley Hotel and was for ten years thereafter engaged in the hotel business. In 1900 he disposed of his interests at Twin Valley

and he and his wife moved to Portland, Oregon, presently moving thence to Everett, Washington, where their last days were spent, her death occurring in 1905 and his, in 1907. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were nine of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eighth in order of birth, the others being Trine, Christian, Anna, Lizzie, Bella, Theodore, Oscar and Bernhard.

John L. Wold grew up on the home farm in Wild Rice township, thoroughly familiar with pioneer conditions of living there. He received his elementary schooling in the schools of that township and supplemented the same by a two-years course at Red Wing Seminary and a course of two years at Concordia College at Moorhead. Upon leaving college Mr. Wold, in 1902, became engaged in the mercantile business at Twin Valley in partnership with J. K. Meium and was thus engaged until after his service in the Legislature, when, in 1907, he engaged in the real-estate business, continuing thus engaged until 1910, when, in partnership with A. H. Froshaug, he again engaged in the mercantile business at Twin Valley, his line this time being general hardware. In 1914 Mr. Wold bought his partner's interest in the store and has since conducted the same alone, for years one of the best-known and most energetic merchants of that village. In addition to his mercantile business Mr. Wold has other business interests in the village and has long been regarded as one of the "live wires" of that place. He was one of the organizers of the Security State Bank of Twin Valley, a member of the board of directors of the same since its organization and since 1915 has been vice-president of the same. He also was one of the organizers of the Twin Valley Auto and Supply Company and in other ways has taken an active part in the general business affairs of his home town. Mr. Wold also has been for years actively interested in local political affairs and, in 1906, was elected representative from the sixty-first Minnesota representative district in the state Legislature, serving with distinction in the House during the session of 1907. He also has served as president of the village council and in other ways has given of his time and energies to the public service.

In the year 1904 John L. Wold was united in marriage to Matilda Aaker, daughter of Ole Aaker and wife, of Flandrau, South Dakota, and to this union five children have been born, Carmen E., Otis L., Johan L., Delta L. and Arnt H. Mr. and Mrs. Wold are members of the Hauges Lutheran church and take an active and interested part in church work, Mr. Wold having served for many years as secretary of the local congre-

gation and is the present superintendent of the Sunday school. The Wolds have a very pleasant home and have ever taken a proper part in the community's general social activities, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare.

OLE M. LANGELAND.

A prosperous farmer and well-known stockman of McDonaldsville township, Norman county, is Ole M. Langeland, who was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, May 3, 1857, a son of Magne H. and Gertie (Bjorg) Langeland, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Magne H. Langeland came with his wife and two children from their home in Norway to the United States about 1850, locating first in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they lived for five years, engaged in farming. They then moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, driving overland by ox-team, the trip requiring three weeks. In this latter county Magne Langeland engaged extensively in farming, and became the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of land there, which he improved and brought to a high state of cultivation. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Rachel, Helge, Knut (first), Lars, Knut (second), Magne, Ole and Martha, all but three of whom are still living. The mother of these children died in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and the father passed away at the home of his son, Magne, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Ole M. Langeland received his education in the rural schools of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and assisted his father with the work on the home farm until 1883, when he came to Norman county, Minnesota, where, for the first year, he worked on the farm of A. L. Hanson, of Winchester township; after which, for the next two years, he worked on various farms in the county. He engaged in farming on his own account by purchasing eighty acres of land in Hegne township, which he cultivated and improved, later adding eighty acres more to the tract. He built a new barn on this place, besides making other improvements, and lived there until 1905, when he sold it and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in McDonaldsville township, where he has since lived. Here he has made many substantial improvements, erecting good buildings and otherwise adding to the appearance and value of the farm. He is engaged in farming and stock raising, and ranks high among the stockmen of his community as a breeder of thoroughbred