back to McIntosh to work at the First National Bank.

On February 15, 1942, Alvin M. Larsen and Avis M. Olson were married in Minneapolis, and came to Grand Forks, North Dakota in September, 1942. Their oldest sons, Lynn and Gary, married and left Grand Forks before Alvin and Avis purchased their present home in East Grand Forks, where Curtis and Brian, their youngest children, attend school.

**JAKOB J. LARSON**

Jakob J. Larson, the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of Wild Rice township land and a quarter section in Beltrami county, Minnesota, was born at Helgeland, Norway, on October 5, 1860, the son of Lars Johan and Anne Jacobson, both natives of Norway, where they lived and died, the father being a farmer. Lars Jacobson was married twice, and Jacob J. Larson was the only child by the second wife.

In his childhood Mr. Larson attended school in Norway and, as he grew to manhood, derived valuable experience on his father's farm which he used handily when he started the plow in the raw prairie in the New World. In 1880 when he was twenty years old, Mr. Larson emigrated to America, coming directly to Swedish Grove, Kandiyohi or Meeker county, Minnesota, and worked on one of those prairie farms for two years. In October, 1882, Mr. Larson came northward to Normand county and located on a farm one mile west of Twin Valley, which was comprised of one quarter section of disputed land. There on the bare prairie he erected his house and farm buildings, around which he planted a grove. Later he homesteaded another quarter section in Beltrami county, Minnesota, which the government allowed him without his having to reside on it for the required number of years, in lieu of the disputed land which he later had to buy from the railroad. Mr. Larson carries on general farming and in his pursuits he is a careful manager and industrious man.

In June 1883, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Julia Nerison, who was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, on April 7, 1861, and died August 3, 1888, the daughter of Gunder and Torbjør Nerison. By her, his first wife, he has three children: Augusta, George, and John. Mr. Larson was married the second time on December 13, 1889, when Elsei Hanson, who was born in Norway, January 15, 1867, the daughter of Hans and Jacobine Peterson, became his wife. To this union there have been born five sons, namely: Helmer, Albin, Emil, William and Bennie, and three daughters, namely: Nora, Hilda and Dagny. Mr. Larson and family are active and consistent members of the Lutheran church, he having helped to organize the first church in Twin Valley.

Mr. Larson's activity has not been entirely limited to agriculture, in the pursuits of which he has been so successful, but he has branched out into business, being one of the organizers of the creamery at Twin Valley.

**MARY RUBENA HANNAH LEE**

Mary Rubena Hannah Lee is 96 years young, born February 13, 1879. Mary's mother and father, Janet and John Hannah, along with Mr. and Mrs. James McDonald, settled in the Mailroy area after leaving Perth, Ontario, Canada. They shared a log house for awhile and when the children started arriving the two families built separate homes. Mary was one of ten children: William, Lawrence, Stewart, Alfred, Lottie, Minnie, Nettie, Annie and Pearl.

As a girl, Mary took sewing lessons from a seamstress in Grand Forks and would go to the home of a customer, take measurements and make her own pattern from a newspaper. She received piano lessons from a music teacher in Fisher and later played the organ at Bethel Church at Mailroy. She also taught a one room School for many years in the church.

Mary's childhood holds many memories, some of them recalled vividly, others fading as time passes. There were quite a few Indian families living in the area; sometimes these Indians would come to their home rubbing their stomachs and say "Buckety-Buck". This was a sign they were hungry, and Mary's mother Janet, would always find something for them to eat. An Indian custom was to put a new born baby in a pan close to the bonfire to keep it warm.

Mary still laughs when she recalls the day she and her sister and brother were coming home from church. She and Lottie were literally dropped in a snow bank when they slid off the board used as a seat on a "Jumper." They laughed so hard they couldn't shout to their brother to stop, so he had gone about a mile or more before he missed his two passengers.

About this time Thomas Duncan Lee entered the picture. Tom, at the age of four, came to the United States with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Lee, in 1878, arriving at Fisher's Landing. They had lived in Lanark Ontario, Canada. A year later in 1879, they moved to Mallory and started farming. This was where Mary met and married Tom in 1898. Like her parents, Mary and Tom had a large family, eight to be exact: Lila Mae Knox, Myrtle Larson, Violet Zimmerman, Laurence, Wallace, Kathryn Haynes, Luverne Bundlia, and Elaine Olsen. A log house was their home the first years of their marriage and their first two children were born in the long large bedroom. This log cabin still stands about two miles East of Mallory. As more children arrived, they moved into a larger house one half mile from Mallory. This was their home until Tom passed away in 1954. As of right now, there are sixteen grandchildren, twenty-four great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

After Tom passed away, Mary came to live with her daughter, Elaine, and son-in-law, Kenneth, in East Grand Forks, Minnesota. But the following spring, she went back to the farm, taking Elaine, Kenneth and family with her. They lived there the next eighteen years. For the past eight years, Mary, having sold the farm, has lived in East Grand Forks with Elaine and Kenneth. She is still an active member at Mendenhall Presbyterian Church, attends circle, UPW nights, helps at bazaars and is an Eastern Star member. Until this past year, she would fly alone to visit her daughters in Seattle, San Jose, San Diego, St. Louis and her son in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**LARS LOFTUS**

Lars Lofthus, son of Halvor and Gunhild Lofthus, was born in 1889. He was married to Helen Farder, who passed away in 1966. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ole S. Farder. There were five daughters; Mr. and Mrs. Willard (Geneva) Olson: Mrs. Luella Haugom: Mrs. John (Lillian) Hipkins: Mrs. Erwin (Orlys) Fish; Mrs. Gary (Patricia) Gowan and one son, Leeward.

In his early married years, Lars lived in Oslo in the present Robert Jamson house, which he built when they were first married. At that time he did carpenter work. In 1919 he purchased the I. Anneland farm, which is located two miles south of Oslo and is presently farmed by his son. This was the site of the former settlement of Granville, which consisted of the church, which was built in 1894, and is still located at this site. There was also a general store, built by Hilden, and another store operated by T. Anneland, a blacksmith shop operated by Carl Anderson, and a post office. In 1905, when the Soo Line Railroad came through, the settlement of Granville ended and the buildings were moved to the present site of Oslo. In the early years of his farming career, Lars did custom threshing with steam engines and he did custom lumber sawing for 24 years. Steam engines were his hobby for many years. He is presently making his home at the Good Samaritan Nursing Center in East Grand Forks, Minnesota.

Lars and Helen Lofthus.