Elbin, Luther and Gerald. Arne married Tina Kaste and adopted a daughter, Ethel. Eddy married Tina Westad. Their daughter is Edith. Willy married Josephine Johnson and their children were Reuben, Irene, Kensal, Iva and Muriel. Nille married Julia Kaste. Their seven children were Lillian, Knute, Alvin, Joel, Norma, Leroy and Eva. Otto married Ellen Opheim. Their three boys were Kenneth, Erling and Edmund. Oscar (O. K.) married Anna Griffin. Their three children were Glenn, Ellsworth, and Everett. Ida married Ole Strom and their five children were Harvey, Paolo, Thelma and Shirley. Mabel married Oscar Landgren. Thea and Emma never married.

ERICK MIKKELSON DAHLE
Erick Mikkelson Dahle was born January 11, 1856 at Dale i Brudvig, Norway and in 1873, at the age of seventeen years, he came to America, settling in Winnebago County, Iowa where he lived for seven years. In 1880 he came to the Fertile area in covered wagon pulled by ox-team, in the company of Jacob Aldal. He homesteaded 160 acres in Garfield Township, two miles east of Fertile. The country was covered with heavy timber with a few clearings where the Indians did their hunting, and it was common to see wigwams on the edge of the forest. The Indians were friendly and would often stop and ask for food, especially home-made bread, sometimes trading some of their things. There were no railroads or public roads, only so-called "Indian trails." He had to grub and clear the land by hand, and built a sod hut to live in. Jens Gronvold, son of a pioneer family, was born in this sod hut.

Gurine Bolstad, one of eight children, was born January 1, 1862 at Voss, Norway, and came to America in 1882. She also had four brothers and a sister who settled in Garfield Township, Einer and Knute were the first settlers. Dr. Arne who was the first doctor, and Bertha. Mrs. Lars Knutson. After coming to America, they changed their name to Nelson as their father was Nels Bolstad.

Gurine and Erick were married December 4, 1882 at the Aldal settlement, one and one-half miles northeast of Fertile. The first buildings on their farm were a house, granary and barn, all made of log. Eleven of their twelve children were born while they lived in the log house. Then in 1903, they built a two story frame house and about 1914 a barn. A "summer kitchen" was built near the house. Here they did the cooking, baking and canning during the summer months as the wood stove would heat up the house too much.

Often Erick had to walk to Crookston to trade, a distance of twenty-five miles one way. He was a charter member of Little Norway Church, organized in 1880, and later belonged to Evanger Lutheran Church. In 1923, he was on the committee when the United and Evanger congregations decided to merge into what is now Concordia.

The Dahle children were Martin, Mrs. Mikkel (Clara) Helle, Mrs. Gust (Ella) Olson, Mrs. Gullick (Anna) Flag, Nels, Albert, Edwin, Norman, Theodore, Otto, Mrs. Gust (Edith) Leiser, and Louis. The three latter are still living. Gurine died in 1936 and Erick in 1937.

Mr. and Mrs. Erick M. Dahle.

MELVIN DALE
We are Melvin and Pearl Dale, who have lived in Polk County all of our lives. Melvin's parents were Tosten Dale, who came from Astridselde, Valders, Norway, Thea Sonsdal Dal, his mother, came from Tinn, Telemarken, Norway.

Pearl's parents came from Osterdalen and Voss, Norway. Her father was Martin Iverson from Dalton, Minnesota. Her mother was Martha Opheim, who lived all her days in Polk County. Martha's parents, Knute, came from Voss, Norway. Sold her mother.

The Melvin Dales have four sons to carry the Dale name in America: Arlen, who lives on the home farm in Garden Township; Rodger, who is a pastor at Mankato, Minnesota; James, who owns the J. R. Dale Farm Supply at Fertile; Charles, who is employed by Comindo Company at Dilworth, Minnesota. The Dales have one daughter, Joyce. Mrs. Lowell Bgehelt, of Stockton, California.

ARNOLD AND IDA ERICKSON
Arnold Erickson was born August 1, 1914, in the Township of Garfield in Polk County, Minnesota. His parents were Emil and Clara Erickson.

Ida Gredvig Erickson was born January 14, 1917 in Garfield Township. Her parents were Gerhard and Clara Gredvig. They both grew up in Polk County and had our education here. We were married July 3, 1939, at the bride's home by Pastor G. W. Tolo. We then lived on a farm owned by Emil Erickson and Arnold farmed with his dad.

We raised chickens, and some dairy cows, also some pigs and raised some grain and always some corn.

On May 1, 1940, our first son was born to us and was named Allen. On January 4, 1945, Barbara Ann was born.

On September 24, 1949, our son, Jerome, was born.

In 1952, we bought our farms which was then the Andrew Morvig farm. This was Ida's grandparents' farm, and where her mother was born. We have our home down by the river which we like very much.

Many days have been busy ones. We are raising hogs, beef and dairy cows and also grain farming. In November, 1961, Allen married Diane Nelson to whom three children were born: Nancy, January, 1965: Elizabeth, November, 1968; Paul, February, 1972. Allen is engaged in farming with his dad. In the year 1964, June 12, Barbara Ann was married to Charles Schustad. They both teach school in Fargo, North Dakota.

July 20, 1973, Jerome married Janice Wehner and he farms with his dad. We are farming 600 acres together. We have seen many changes in farming these years, from threshing to combining and milking cows by hand to using the milking machines.

We saw the depression of the '30s and also the time when we were snowbound all winter. Also, we have had many happy days. We are members of the Little Norway Church and have enjoyed our religious background. We love to think of our parents and think of the love they gave us.

Our grandparents came from Norway and they talked mostly Norwegian. As a child, I had trouble understanding them.

Now, in 1975, Arnold and Ida Erickson enjoy living on our present farm in Polk County in the Township of Garfield in partnership with our sons, Allen and Jerome.

GILBERT FOSSE
Gilbert Fosse and Helen Amundson were married on May 31, 1930, by Reverend P. E. Moen at Crookston. Gilbert was born February 11, 1892 near Fertile and passed away October 13, 1962, at the Veteran's Hospital at Fargo.

After honorable discharge from the navy, where he served in World War II, he attended Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis for a year; he and his brother, Lars, then took over the work on the family farm.

Helen Amundson, daughter of the Iver Amundsons near Erskine graduated from high school and Moorhead State College. She taught school in Polk, Norman and Ottertail Counties several years.

Farming during the depression years of the '30s was far