this module so it was an exciting time in the office. In March, 1968, we moved to the farm here in Nielsville and guess city living didn’t take the “country out of either of us”. We have three sons: Timothy, Terry and Ricky and they attend Climax School. We farm in the summer and snowmobile in the winter. Terry’s interest is mainly horses and consequently we belong to the Halstad Saddle Club. For several years, I’ve been so lucky to be able to go to oil painting classes so in the winter months you might find me deeply engrossed in a picture, practicing my organ or knee-deep in various craft projects.

**OTTO EIDSMOE**

Otto Eidsmo was born October 5, 1889 east of Nielsville. His parents were Amund Eidsmo, born April 16, 1863 and Anna Hansebraaten, born April 12, 1865. Both were born in Valres, Norway. They came to the United States in their early twenties and were married after they got here. They homesteaded on a farm three and one-half miles south of Nielsville, where they raised seven children. Ingvold married Gunda Rasmussen and they had two children, Adeline and Arnold. Otto married Lillias Johnson and had three children, Margaret, Shirley, and Orrin. Gustav married Elaine Bakke and had three girls, Georgie Ann, Kathleen, and Bonita. Inger Marie married George Larson. Henry married Helen Rasmussen and had three boys, Allen, Myron, and Wayne. Albert married Clara Howland and had three children, Arlene, Luverne, and Myles.

There was a great deal of hard work in those early years, breaking up the sod and getting it ready for planting and seeding. When the people visited the neighbors they walked, and went to town about once a week to get groceries and the mail. The *Dekora Posten* was a favorite paper for all to read. In the spring and fall there were always plenty of wild geese, ducks and prairie chickens out on the prairies. So much hunting was done and also trapping of fox and coyotes. Most of the children walked to school, which was over a two mile walk. In the cold winter the parents would come and get the children in bob sleds.

Church services were held in Norwegian at Nielsville. Otto entered the army and was wounded by shrapnel October 12, 1918. When he returned he farmed the home place for a while and then moved to a farm east of Shelly. He moved back to the Nielsville area and farmed until he retired and bought a house and moved into town. After a lingering illness, he died at the Fargo Veteran’s Hospital. He was survived by his wife, one son, two daughters, ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was a member of the St. Petri Church and the American Legion.

**JULIUS ENGELSTAD**

Julius Engelstad was born December 16, 1857 near Nannesstad, Norway. Julius’ father was Jens Engelstad. Julius migrated to America in 1875, arriving at Ada, Minnesota and then going to Shelly to the home of his sister, Mrs. Hans (Jorgine) Paulson, where he stayed for a short while.

He married Maren Norby, who was born at Lanesboro, Minnesota, Fillmore County. She was the daughter of Christina Fredrica Ursin and Ole O. Norby. After their marriage they lived on the present Emil Hanson farm, where most of the children were born. They bought the Engelstad farm one mile northwest of Nielsville in the late 1880’s. Children born to them were: John, Carl, Eddie, Melvin and Annie Mathilde (Tillie). Mrs. Engelstad passed away when Tillie was a baby. Tillie was then raised by Mrs. Jacob (Martine) Danielson, who was a sister of Mrs. Engelstad. Julius and the boys remained on the homestead tending the farm and doing the housework. Later, Bertha Berg became the housekeeper and remained for over 20 years.

Eddie attended Sather’s Business College at Crookston, where he also studied commercial law, graduating in 1908. In January, 1910, he became bookkeeper at the State Bank of Shelly. He held all positions in the bank becoming president, a position he held for 20 years. In 1960, he was awarded recognition of 50 years of banking service by the Minnesota Bankers’ Association. He retired in 1964. He married Selma Egenes on June 12, 1912. Three children were born to this union: Earl, Elizabeth and Katharine. Tillie married Herbert Myers, and lived in Cedar Rapids, Iowa until she passed away. They had one daughter. Merle. Julius died August 20, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Engelstad, Carl, John and Melvin are buried in the St. Petri Cemetery at Nielsville.

**MR. AND MRS. GUSTAV GILBERTSON**

Mr. Gustav Gilbertson was born in Iowa in 1870. His parents both passed away when he was a child and he was raised by the Breidlands of Fargo, North Dakota. He homesteaded in Montana but returned to Minnesota and married Tomine Tolison in 1895. Tomine Tolison was born in Cresco, Iowa. January 22, 1873, the daughter of Ole and Gunvor Tolison. Ole Tolison was a Civil War Veteran and fought in the Battle of Gettysburg. Gustav and Tomine Gilbertson homesteaded east of Nielsville. Later they moved to a farm at Climax, where they farmed for many years.

In 1909, Gustav Gilbertson and Marcus Nelson purchased the flour mill on the Sand Hill River in Climax and operated it for four years when they sold it to Bestad. Gustav was a school bus driver for many years.

Gustav and Tomine Gilbertson had nine children: Mrs. Thomas Demers (Emma); Mrs. Archie Sundet (Clara); Mrs. Carl Kunkel (Gena); Mrs. Edwin Amundson (Alice); Mrs. Lawrence Kraker (Irma). Sons were Obert, Ernest, Lyman and Alvin.

The Gilbertsons moved back to a farm west of Nielsville, where Mrs. Gilbertson passed away in 1941 and Mr. Gilbertson in 1944.

**ANDREW GULLINGSRUD**

Andrew Gullingsrud, the youngest of nine children, was born September 5, 1871, in Ness, Hallingdal, Norway. His parents were Ole T. Gullingsrud and Kari Sanden. They came to America in 1880, sailing to Bremen and Bremenhaven, then on to America. They spent some time in Oxford, Wisconsin, later homesteading in Edinburg, North Dakota. Andrew worked out there from the time he was twelve years old until he grew up. He did all kinds of field work and often had to drive oxen, which wasn’t exactly pleasure. Later Andrew joined his parents at Gary, Minnesota, where they had moved from Edinburg. He learned the carpenter trade and it was while helping build Bjorn Lanager’s house that he met his future wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Gullingsrud.

Julia Lanager was born July 29, 1873, in Springrove, Minnesota. She was the youngest of four children who came with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Bjorn Lanager to Gary Minnesota at the age of three years. Bjorn Lanager homesteaded at Gary. He also purchased a quarter of land from the railroad. He was a