time. But in the following year he withdrew from agricultural pursuits and located at Shevlin, Minnesota, which was then enjoying a prosperous lumber trade. He engaged in the hardware business and conducted a successful trade for five years, when the failure of a large lumber company brought disaster to the smaller business enterprises of the place. After spending a part of the year 1902 visiting in his old home in Norway, he returned to Minnesota and settled in Warroad, where misfortune again overtook him, when, after a year and a half residence, the town was destroyed by fire and his home and mercantile stock wiped out, he and his family barely escaping with their lives. However, his property was insured and he did not suffer a total loss. For some years he lived in eastern Washington, where he was employed in a hardware store and later removed to Seattle and invested in property in that city which he still owns. The news of his mother’s failing health brought him back to Minnesota. She died in the spring following his return and since that time he has operated the homestead in Brandsvold township which had been rented for a number of years. He has added eighty acres to the estate and has remodeled the old home and has all of the land under cultivation. He is particularly interested in dairy farming and keeps a large herd of cows, selling his produce to the cooperative creamery at Fosston, five miles distant. Mr. Widness was married in Polk county in 1889, to Anna Hogan, a native of Norway, from whom he was later divorced. They had two daughters, Minnie and Letta. During his visit to Norway in 1902, he was married to Christopha Torgeson and four children have been born to this union, Marvin, Arnel, Iva and Joyce.

JOHN R. McKINNON.

John R. McKinnon, retired capitalist and ex-mayor of Crookston, has been notably identified with the business activities of that city for many years. He is a native of Scotland, born at Inverness, on September 13, 1850, and was brought to America when four years of age, by his parents, Archibald and Jeanette (Gillis) McKinnon, who came to Canada in 1854 and located in Glengarry county, Ontario, near Montreal. The father engaged in farming there until his death in 1884, having survived his wife twenty-one years. They reared a family of seven sons and two daughters and five of the sons became residents of Crookston. John R. McKinnon remained in his Canadian home, attending the public schools, until his seventeenth year, when he began to work in the lumber region of Michigan. He remained in that state for thirteen years, employed as a lumberman, and also mastered the trade of carriage maker, and in 1880 came to Crookston and joined his brothers, Alexander McKinnon and A. J. McKinnon, in the manufacture of wagons and carriages. The firm of McKinnon Brothers was one of the pioneer industries of the county and conducted a thriving business as manufacturers and dealers in farm implements. In 1897 the company was disorganized and Mr. John R. McKinnon gave his attention to other enterprises until 1905, when he retired from active business pursuits. His has been an eminently successful career, which has included many able services in the promotion of the best interests of the community, and he has been actively associated with the development of Crookston since the first years of its growth. In 1887 he erected the McKinnon block, the first good business building to mark its progress from village to city. As a director of the First National bank, he has been interested in the direction of its affairs for thirty years. In 1895 Mr. McKinnon was elected mayor and capably discharged the executive duties during one term. He is a member of the Democratic party. His marriage to Henrietta McDonald, a native of Ontario, Canada, took place in Michigan, July 22, 1874. Her death occurred in March, 1909. Eight