Andrew Matthias, who has taken a claim in Montana; Ida Agnes, a teacher in the schools at Ashley; D., who makes her home with her parents, and Christopher William, who is in charge of the home farm.

R. J. MELQUIST.

R. J. Melquist, a well known farmer of Brandsvold township, is a native of Minnesota, born in Freeborn county, June 10, 1872, the son of John and Randa (Jacobson) Melquist. John Melquist was born in Sweden and was married to Randa Jacobson in Norway, her native land. They came to the United States about the time of the close of the Civil war and located in Minnesota, in Freeborn county. Here his death occurred and she was later married to Ole Runhoug and in 1883 the family removed to Norman county and in 1888 came to Polk county. They bought a claim of Ole Trunson, paying five hundred dollars. A log house had been built on the place and but three acres of land had been cleared. Soon after settling here, the departure of his step-father left the management and development of the homestead to Mr. Melquist, then a lad of seventeen years. He capably shouldered the responsibility and has continued to devote his efforts and interests to the farm which with careful management and hard work, he has built from the primitive timber land left in his charge. For two years he worked at the clearing of his land without the assistance of a team and then became the owner of a yoke of oxen which he later exchanged for horses. The timber which he cut from his land he sold in Fosston and McIntosh as cord wood, receiving from one dollar and a quarter to three dollars a cord. He has now seventy acres under cultivation and engages in the raising of grain, wheat being his principal crop. His farm is pleasantly situated six miles northwest of Fosston and about the same distance from McIntosh. During the years of his residence in this county, Mr. Melquist has ever taken a public spirited interest in the welfare of the community and has given able service as a member of the local school board. He takes keen pleasure in hunting and enjoys frequent trips, in pursuit of his favorite sport, in the deer country. Mr. Melquist has never married and his mother made her home with him until her death, April 4, 1912, at the age of eighty-six. He is a member of the Synod Lutheran church at Fosston.

C. P. HOLE.

C. P. Hole, the editor of the Erskine Echo, has been successfully associated with newspaper interests of the county for some twenty-five years. He is a native of Norway, born October 2, 1876, the son of B. K. and Mathea Hole, and when five years of age accompanied his parents to the United States and to Fargo, North Dakota. B. K. Hole was a graduate of Lille Hammer, a famous educational institution of Norway, and had taught for a number of years in the parochial schools of that country. After locating in Fargo he became employed in carpenter work, but also taught for several months in a school in the vicinity. In 1883, at the opening of the land of the Thirteen Towns for settlement, he took a homestead in King township, a few miles south of McIntosh, and brought his family to the new home in the following spring. His activities as a pioneer farmer were of short duration, his death, from typhoid fever, occurring in the autumn of the same year. He was survived by his wife and three small children: C. P. Hole, who was then eight years of age; P. B. Hole, who is now a resident of McIntosh, at the age of six, and Marie, then in her infancy. The latter is the wife of C. H. Hendrickson of Moorhead. After two years spent on the homestead the mother married Charles Johnson, a settler of Knute township, whose farm was three miles east.