organized by Mr. Cronquist, met with steady prosperity and growth and became one of the successful banking institutions of the county. Mr. Cronquist was prominently identified with its management and the business interests of the township as cashier for thirteen years. The bank had, at first, occupied the building vacated by the first bank and was later removed to a building erected by the directors, and had been reorganized as a state bank. Under the able management of Mr. Cronquist it had grown, to the time of its sale in 1912, to a capital stock of $10,000, with deposits of $170,000 and loans aggregating $150,000. During the years of his association with that institution his able services as cashier had won him a wide popularity in the section and soon after selling the bank, upon the urgency of his many former patrons, in 1913 he organized the Scandinavian State bank of Erskine, with a capital stock of $15,000 and deposits of $85,000. Mr. Cronquist assumed the responsibilities of the position of cashier and has been largely influential in its rapid growth and success. Julius Bradley is the president of the board of directors, with Carl Christianson, vice president; A. F. Cronquist, cashier, and I. I. Steenerson, assistant cashier. The other stockholders are D. W. Wheeler of St. Paul and Carl Paulson. Aside from his financial activities, Mr. Cronquist devotes his attention to the direction of his farming interests, giving the same keen business ability and careful study to all phases of agricultural enterprise, that have brought him success in commercial circles. One of his successful experiments in seeking to advance the efficiency of farming methods is known as the cheap man’s silo, his demonstration showing that the stacking of green corn in the same manner as in silo use produces an ensilage equal to the more complicated and expensive method. The novelty and simplicity of this idea has been given much favorable comment in a number of farm publications and enthusiastically received on its presentation at various conventions. He conducts his farming operations on the old homestead, to which he has added, making an estate of three hundred and eighty acres, which he has equipped with good modern buildings. He engages in diversified farming but gives particular attention to the raising of stock and dairying and has stocked his place with Red Polled cattle, Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep. He has taken an active interest in advancing the prosperity of the district through the promotion of dairy and drainage projects and has reclaimed some fifty acres of valuable meadow land from the small ponds which were on his land. He was the first treasurer of the local cooperative creamery and continued to serve as treasurer and director for twelve years. And for the same length of time gave competent service as a member of the board of education and was actively identified with the progress of school organization and the erection of the present building. He has been twice honored by his fellow citizens with the office of mayor, his election effecting the elimination of the liquor traffic in the village. Mr. Cronquist was married in September, 1889, at Ellsworth, Wisconsin, to Nellie Robbins, a native of that state, and four children were born to them, one of whom, a daughter, died in her infancy. The family are Floyd Clark, Ruth Marie, Vera Irene and Bernice Audria. Mr. Cronquist and his wife are active supporters and faithful members of the Rodness Congregational Lutheran church, five miles west of Erskine.

MARTIN G. PETERSON.

Martin G. Peterson, of Fertile, an eminent citizen and leading business man of Polk county, has been widely identified with the history of northern Minnesota and is a member of a well known pioneer family of Nicolet county. His parents were natives of Norway and crossed the ocean to this country on the Christina, a sailing vessel, that was thirteen weeks in making its destination and it was during this voy-