music at Minneapolis he has been a pupil a long time of the world’s famous violinist and teacher, Maximilian Deck. He was married in Hubbard township, this county, February 3, 1904, to Miss Clara Hanson, a daughter of Christian and Tilda Hanson. They have four children, Viola, Eleanore, Cardiff and Spencer.

BRNT M. BENNES.

The whole of the life of this estimable citizen of Polk county to the present time has been passed in cultivating the soil and raising live stock, and by strict attention to his business and industry and good judgment in conducting it he has been very successful in it, making substantial gains for himself and contributing essentially to the improvement of the country around him. He has taken an earnest interest and an active part in the public affairs of his township and illustrated the best qualities of its citizenship in his own record of success in his business and useful service.

Mr. Bennes was born in Norway October 18, 1859, and lived in that country until he reached the age of nearly twenty years, working on his father’s farm and obtaining his education there. In July, 1879, he emigrated to the United States, landing at Philadelphia and coming at once to Brown county, Minnesota. In that county he worked out at farm labor until June, 1880, then came to Polk county and took up a claim of 160 acres in Garden township, where he lived until 1900. In that year he moved to Section 11, Garfield township, in which he owns 166 acres, well improved with good buildings and in an advanced state of cultivation, on which he has made his home ever since, having sold his Garden township farm. He also owns 145 acres in Clearwater county.

Mr. Bennes was married October 13, 1900, to Mrs. Margaret H. (Messeth) Solheim, who was born in Norway February 7, 1867, and was the widow of Andrus O. Solheim, who died in 1897. The late Thomas Messeth was her brother. By her first marriage she became the mother of two children, Selma and Aleda. She and her present husband are the parents of five children, four of whom are living, Melvin, Henry, Edwin and Ivel. Their only daughter, Ida, died when she was five years old. The parents are members of the United Lutheran church and actively interested in all the undertakings of the congregation in which they hold their membership.

Mr. Bennes’ business has been general farming in the main, but he has for some years given a good deal of attention to raising sheep of superior strains, the Shropshire breed being his favorite product. In this department of his industry, as well as in his general farming operations, he is studious and careful and his success is pronounced. By means of it he has also contributed essentially to the improvement of the standard of live stock in his own township and others.

HANS H. BANGEN.

For nearly half a century a resident of Minnesota and for over forty years a forceful factor in the life of Polk county in several lines of serviceable activity, Hans H. Bangen, one of the zealous and successful farmers and energetic spirits of Vineland township, who is now, however, living retired from active labor, has been a very useful citizen of his adopted land, repaying it with interest in his elevated manhood and good work for his community for the opportunities for advancement to consequence it has given him.

Mr. Bangen is a native of Norway, where his life began December 24, 1838, and where he was reared and educated. In 1866 he emigrated to this country and took up his residence in Freeborn county, Minne-