On February 23, 1881, Mr. Holmes was married in Sumner county, Kansas, to Miss Addie Dillon, who was born near Danville, Illinois, July 28, 1862, and reared to womanhood in the adjoining county of Champaign. They have three children, Mabel E., Melvin D. and Roland W. Mabel is the wife of Reinhold Lohi. Melvin married Miss Jessie Cunningham and lives at Melvin. Roland is a student at the high school in Fertile. Mr. Holmes has taken an active part in township affairs and has filled with credit to himself and benefit to the people several township offices. He has been assessor, treasurer and supervisor in Onstad township, and has served as a justice of the peace for many years. He and his wife and children are members of the Christian church.

J. H. McNicol.

J. H. McNicol, station agent for the Northern Pacific at Grand Forks, North Dakota, and a prominent citizen of East Grand Forks, is a native of Canada, born at Renfrew, Ontario, June 10, 1877, the son of Duncan A. and Lucy (Wright) McNicol, who were also natives of Ontario. Duncan McNicol came to Grand Forks in 1880 and in the following year was joined by his wife and family. He was a millwright by trade and previous to his removal to Polk county, had engaged in the contracting business. On settling in Grand Forks he entered the lumber trade on the Red river, buying and shipping logs and later returned to the contracting business in which he engaged for many years, until 1901, when he removed to Anaconda, Montana, and is employed in the construction work on the Butte, Anaconda & Pacific railroad. J. H. McNicol was the eldest of five children and became a resident of Polk county at six years of age, when after two years in Grand Forks, the family settled in East Grand Forks. He attended the public schools and at fifteen years entered the employ of the Northern Pacific railroad company as a call boy and received steady advancement, working as car tracker and night clerk and was then made ticket clerk at Grand Forks. Subsequently he was employed as assistant trainmaster and traveling freight agent and after serving as assistant agent at East Grand Forks, in 1901 was appointed agent. His rapid promotion and efficient services for many years as an official attest to the marked success of his career as a railroad man and in public affairs, he has been prominently associated with all projects for the advancement of the general welfare. As a member of an important committee he was particularly influential in securing the present valuable water works and sewerage system and also served for five years as secretary of the Commercial club. His marriage to Alice Mullally occurred in East Grand Forks, December 26, 1898. She was born in Ontario, the daughter of James and Euphemia (May) Mullally, who settled in East Grand Forks in 1879. A sketch of the former, a pioneer railroad man of Polk county is included in this work. Two children have been born to Mr. McNicol and his wife, Lucy Geraldine and Ruth Isabelle. Mr. McNicol is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Masonic fraternity.

Peter J. Paulsrud.

Born and reared to the age of seventeen in a land far distant from this and with institutions, scenes and associations very different from ours; coming to this country alone in his youth with no capital but his wise head, strong arms, willing hands and unyielding pluck; making his own way in the world to a condition of substantial comfort and independence, Peter J. Paulsrud, one of the leading farmers and citizens of Hubbard township, Polk county, has been a hard worker and a good manager, and is entitled to full