they all became residents of Polk county, Minnesota. They located in Fisher township, where they were pioneers, and where the father took a leading part in all public affairs, filling numerous local offices and that of county auditor, which he held for four years.

Of the eight children born in the parental household R. T. was the second in the order of birth. He lived in Fisher township, this county, until the spring of 1913, and, with the exception of six years, he has been engaged in farming since his boyhood. He was assessor of Fisher township for several terms, and in other ways has shown his interest in the abiding welfare and improvement of Polk county. In the fall of 1890 he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Kane, of Buffalo county, Wisconsin. They have five children, Ray, Zuella, Clifford, Mary C. and Allen H. Mr. Webster’s farm is one of the best in Reis township, and his skill and enterprise have made it this.

JACOB BJONTEGARD.

Jacob Bjontegard, a successful farmer and dredge contractor, of Queen township, has been a resident of the county since 1886. He was born in Norway, March 6, 1860, and was educated in the under officers school at Christiania. When twenty years of age he enlisted in the regular army as corporal and within a year was promoted to the office of sergeant and detailed to service as a drill master for recruits and made an excellent record in military training. He received his honorable discharge after five years service and in 1886 came to the United States and to Minnesota. For a time he rented a farm near Fisher, Polk county, and then bought two hundred and forty acres, of which eighty acres were wild land. This was prairie land and after six years of successful operations in that region, he decided to move to a timber country with a milder climate and sold the farm with the intention of investing in Oregon property but on visiting the eastern timber section of Polk county, concluded to locate there. He bought the homestead claim of Halkinrud in section twenty-eight of Queen township, seven miles northeast of Fosston, paying $2,500 for the property with a small frame house and sixty acres of cleared land. The greater part of the land was covered with large timber, for the most part, oak, spruce and ash and Mr. Bjontegard has sold a great deal of first class lumber cut from his place and has now all the land in use in his various agricultural activities. This region, being a fine grass country and naturally adapted to the raising of clover, has proven peculiarly advantageous to dairy farming and Mr. Bjontegard has given some attention to this enterprise. During the fifteen years which he has spent on this place, he has built up a fine, modern farm, erecting good buildings and has advanced the efficiency of his operations with the improvements and conveniences of progressive farm equipment and has a good watering system with a drilled well. Aside from his farming activities he has engaged in the ditch contracting business and has constructed some eighteen miles of the county drainage in three different ditches and has at times employed a force of twelve men in this work. Previously he was selected as the viewer and assessor for a number of the county ditches. On his own farm, which is named “Meadow Brook Farm,” he has reclaimed thirty acres of valuable meadow land. Mr. Bjontegard is a member of the Republican party and has always taken an active interest in public affairs and has been honored with numerous local offices, his able services beginning as a member of the school board to which he was elected a few days after locating in Queen township and he has filled the offices of chairman of the board of supervisors, treasurer and justice of peace and has served continuously on the school board. He is a member of the Norwegian Free church, one mile east of his home, and is associated with the business interests of the community as a stockholder in the cooperative creamery and Farmers elevator at Fosston. He has also for a number of years been director and agent for the