Severina Larson who married Ole Bosgard and lived in Esther township. Both are now dead. Lewis Larson was married in Chippewa county, to Agnes Peterson, a sister of James Peterson, and a native of Sweden. Five children were born to this union, Adolph, of East Grand Forks; Annie, who died at the age of nineteen, a few months after her marriage to Peter Baker of Goodhue county; Albert, who lives on the home place; Julius, who resides in East Grand Forks, and Amanda, the wife of Oscar Steele, a mail carrier on an East Grand Forks route. The death of Mrs. Larson occurred eleven years after their marriage and in 1889, Mr. Larson contracted a second union with Anna Dalberg, who is a native of Sweden and they have four children, Elmer, who is a graduate of Aaker's business college at Grand Forks, Wilhelm, Elvin and Rudolph. After twenty-six years union, the latter Mrs. Larson died on December 6, 1915. Mr. Larson is still on the farm.

CHARLES W. WILDER.

Since March 15, 1899, Charles W. Wilder, of Crookston township, has been a resident of Polk county, and during nearly all of the time has been engaged in market gardening on a large scale and the leader in that industry in this part of Minnesota. He has also been carrying on general farming operations for a number of years on three different farms which he owns and has cultivated under his direct personal supervision and control. He was not the pioneer in the market gardening line but has been very successful in it, having the best years of the trade at his command during the activity of the big lumbering mill in Crookston, which is now dismantled. His success in the business has led to active competition, but he is still the leader in the particular line which he started in this locality.

Mr. Wilder was born and reared in the province of Ontario, Canada, and in 1883 went to Dickey county, North Dakota, and took up a pre-emption and a tree claim. He lived on these claims sixteen years and was engaged in raising grain. When he went to North Dakota he had no capital, and was one of the first settlers on the prairie in what is now Dickey county. The prairie was then covered with buffalo in that region, and the soil is strewn with their bones, for they were slaughtered with relentless extravagance.

On his arrival in this county, with $2,500 in cash as his capital, Mr. Wilder began operations as a market gardener on 34 acres of land. He raised vegetables and small fruits for sale and disposed of them at houses and stores in Crookston. He put up a hothouse of fair proportions to which he added others as his trade increased. From time to time he bought additional land, and he now owns and cultivates his home farm of 164 acres in Section 32, Crookston township, and another river farm of 160 acres and one of 40 acres on the prairie in Section 33, Fairfax township. For some of this land he paid $50 an acre, but he has made good use of it and rendered it far more valuable. He also erected all the buildings on his farms, expending in doing so upwards of $5,000.

In his truck gardening Mr. Wilder has about 40 acres devoted to raising potatoes and 15 in tomatoes and sweet corn, onions, cabbage, etc., regularly with other products in proportion. He employs several persons in carrying on his work and uses modern machinery of the most approved models. He also conducts a general farming industry principally devoted to raising grain, and has averaged 38 bushels of wheat to the acre on a tract of 15 acres, and reached averages almost as high on other tracts from year to year.

Mr. Wilder was married while living in Dickey county, North Dakota, to Miss Lillian Coddington, a native of the state of New York. They have four children: Florence Elizabeth, who was graduated from the Crookston high school and taught school in Polk county three years, one of them in the town of Beltrami, and is now the wife of J. D. Dewar, of