Rev. Solstad cheerfully cast his fortune with his people, dedicating himself to the advancement of his Master’s work and laboring shoulder to shoulder with the settlers for the upbuilding of the best in community life. Besides his congregations he was assigned to minister to the spiritual needs of the scattered Norwegian settlers on both sides of the Red river extending north to the Canadian boundary.

In performing his pastoral duties he endured all the hardships of the early days, of no roads and bridges and the settlers few and far between. His mission field included about one hundred miles of territory. The first year he traveled on horseback, in summer crossing streams in a canoe and swimming his horse across. Rev. Solstad organized four new congregations and did the first church work at many other places where since flourishing churches of his faith have grown up. But the many arduous demands and strenuous exertions of the work told upon his strength and after seven years of ministration failing health required his retirement. Since that time he has engaged in farming on his homestead which is located on section twenty-two, Bygland township. A son, Alfred Solstad, is associated with him in working the farm.

Mr. Solstad was married in Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1876, to Annie Marie Hanson, who was educated at St. Olaf College at Northfield. Six children were born to them: Joseph, Peter, Martin, Alfred, Tiedmand and Albertina. The latter died in infancy and Mr. and Mrs. Solstad adopted a daughter Elena, who is now Mrs. Joel Ohnstad of Montfort, Wisconsin. Joseph, Peter and Martin were employed for several years as teachers in public schools in Minnesota and North Dakota. Martin and Tiedmand are now engaged in the mercantile business at Lang, Saskatchewan, while Joseph is superintendent of Rheinhardt’s Sheet Metal Works at Grand Forks.

Rev. Solstad is one of the oldest living settlers of the valley. He has many memories of the early years—of their struggles, disappointments and hardships, and treasured, dearly—memories of the friendships, joys and prosperity the years brought him; and he is deeply grateful that his life was cast among the people in this of the-Lord-richly-blessed, Red River valley.

FRANCIS MARION SLYTER.

If he who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before is a public benefactor, much more is the man who starts a new enterprise in a community, the development of which leads to increased prosperity and comfort for hundreds and greatly augments the industrial and commercial importance of the community, entitled to this distinction and large credit for fruitful enterprise. Francis Marion Slyter, an extensive and progressive farmer of Andover township, has earned the right to such consideration. When in 1912 he located on the farm which he still occupies there were not twenty-five dairy cows within six miles. Now there are nearly ten hundred in the same territory, and the business is a source of great wealth and progress. Mr. Slyter brought ten cows and began making butter for sale, others having since followed his example with excellent results.

Francis M. Slyter was born in Grundy county, Illinois, January 16, 1853. He moved to Benton county, Indiana, in 1872, and lived there nineteen years. In 1894 he changed his residence to Kossuth county, Iowa, where he bought a farm of 240 acres, which he sold in 1901 for more than double its cost. His two sons, L. E. and D. S. Slyter, had bought 160