tonwood, which has since grown into the finest grove in the county and is a worthy tribute to the pioneer labors of Mr. Stowe. The years spent as a teacher were the years of the settlement of the Thirteen Towns and he is associated with the activities of the period as the first teacher in an organized school district, in Polk county, east of Crookston, and he recalls many experiences of that interesting day. At the close of the fall term of the Hafterson school, No. 68, in 1883, he first learned of the organization of two school districts in the Thirteen Towns, No. 120 and No. 122, which had not been supplied with instructors, and having been previously acquainted with John Flesch, an influential settler of Rosebud township, determined to apply for the latter position, which was the Fosston school. The Fosston post-office and store were then located on the Flesch farm, five miles southwest of the present site of the town, and with no definite direction for reaching his destination, Mr. Stowe began his cross-country journey on foot and after many miles of weary travel through the January snow, he met the Indian, Bolieu, mail carrier to the postoffices of King and Fosston and obtained the first intelligible explanation in English of his route. He was directed to the home of John D. Knudson, the clerk of District No. 120, and as Fosston was some miles further, he decided to end his journey here and made his application for this school, and his services were accepted by the director, K. N. Newton, with a monthly salary of thirty dollars. He taught in this school for two years, meanwhile boarding in the Newton home, where his acquaintance with a daughter of the house soon culminated into a happy union. The first term was of but six weeks’ duration and had an enrollment of over thirty pupils, who ranged from children of five years to studious men of thirty-seven. Ole Hoven, a well-known farmer of King township, and Fred Hanson were among the older students. During the winter term of the next year C. K. Hoffard, the vice president of the First National bank, was one of his pupils. In this year John A. Newton taught the school at Fosston and much interest centered about the educational interests of the neighboring communities. Mr. Stowe organized a spelling school which proved a most popular form of entertainment, and closed the term with a school exhibition which was attended by a large and appreciative audience. He was married March 17, 1885, to Anna Newton. They immediately made their home on the claim near Melvin and for the ensuing seventeen years Mr. Stowe devoted his attention to the development of his farm. After selling that property, he purchased a farm on section 31 of Hill River township, five miles northeast of McIntosh. This land had been improved and put under cultivation by his brother-in-law, Bennie Newton, and Mr. Stowe successfully conducted his farming operations here for several years. On being appointed deputy sheriff under Louis Gonyea, he removed to Crookston, but in Mr. Gonyea’s second term resigned to become the buyer at McIntosh for the Minneapolis & Northern Elevator company. During the five years of his association with this company he handled some two hundred thousand bushels of Polk county grain. He left that position to establish an independent trade as a dealer in grain and hay and has been prosperously identified with this business. He makes extensive shipments of hay, buying the greater part of the large crops of the prairie section of the county and shipping to the Iron Range towns. Throughout the many years of his activities as farmer, business man and citizen Mr. Stowe has won the esteem of all his associates for his able attainments and many services and has been elected to various offices of public trust in the localities in which he has resided, serving as assessor in King and Hill River townships and as census enumerator in 1900 for the latter and in 1910 for King township and the town of McIntosh. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Modern Brotherhood of America. Mr. Stowe and wife are faithful and active supporters of the Congregational church, in which he is a trustee. Mrs. Stowe is a native of Waseca county, Minnesota, and