bought land in Vineland township. He put up buildings on this farm and farmed there two years. In 1900 he sold this farm for a good price and bought an improved farm in Andover township. This he sold in 1902 and then bought his present home farm. He bought one hundred and sixty acres more four years ago, making it one-half section of well improved land he owns to date. Mr. Letnes has all his land under cultivation, and devoted to raising grain. His crops in 1915 amounted to 8,000 bushels of oats, wheat and barley, oats being the leader. He keeps his farm well stocked with graded stock. The buildings on his farm are of good dimensions, most of them being erected by himself, and the land is of superior fertility and fibre and very productive. It is well drained and skillfully cultivated. His methods of farming are altogether modern and progressive.

He plows with a gas tractor, and all his other appliances for his work are strictly up-to-date, and in addition to carrying on with vigor and energy the cultivation of the land, he operates his own threshing outfit. The public affairs of the township have always enlisted the active interest of this progressive citizen, and he has taken a helpful part in administering them. He is at present a member of the board of township supervisors and its chairman. In 1894 he was married to Miss Margaret Ousby of Climax, but a native of Norway. They have nine children, Lawrence, Thomas, Pauline, Anna, Lars, John, Magnus, Daniel and Isabelle. Lawrence is a gas engineer, Thomas is a student at the Crookston Business College and Pauline is a student at the Northwest School of Agriculture at Crookston.

FRED HANSON.

Fred Hanson, a farmer of King township, has been a resident of Polk county since the opening of the section of the Thirteen Towns in 1883. He was born in Norway, April 16, 1857, and came to the United States at seventeen years of age, with his parents and three sisters. A brother, J. B. Hanson, had preceded them to this country and the family joined him in Vernon county, Wisconsin. For seven years, Fred Hanson was employed in farm work at that place and then spent some time in Dakota. In the spring of 1883, accompanied by his brother, J. B. Hanson, he came to Polk county and located in the Thirteen Towns some months previous to its opening for settlement in August, when he filed his preemption claim on the land in section five, King township, where he has since made his home. The death of his father had occurred in Wisconsin and his mother lived with him in the house which he erected on the claim. J. B. Hanson also settled in King township and lived here for some twelve years before removing to a homestead near Berndtli, Minnesota. He was the pioneer blacksmith in the Thirteen Towns and the shop which he operated on his farm received the patronage of a wide territory. The two brothers shared in the ownership of their first yoke of oxen and during the first years worked at the clearing of the land under this partnership before securing teams, individually. At that time work horses were rarely used in that section and Mr. Hanson accomplished the greater part of the labor of clearing and breaking his land, which was covered with small timber, with the oxen, which were his only farm team for a number of years. In addition to the usual tasks of the settlers, he installed ditches which have developed some fine meadow land. During the years of his residence he has ably contributed his share to the industry and enterprise which has brought the conveniences and prosperity of the modern farming community, rapidly advancing the country's development from the days when Crookston, forty miles distant and a four days journey in an ox cart was the trading point and the nearest wheat depot was thirty miles away. He was active in the first township election in which the name of the well known pioneer, Mr. King, became permanently