Peter, Minnesota, from which he graduated in 1900. In the fall of the same year he entered Gustavus Adolphus College at that place from which institution he graduated and received the degree of A. B. in 1904.

During the spring of his graduating year, he was chosen by his college to take part in a state oratorical contest in which he later won the right to represent the state in the interstate contest at Springfield, Illinois, the same summer. Upon his return he attended the summer session at the Mankato Normal School.

The same fall he was engaged to teach at Crookston and during his connection with the high school at that place for four years he taught principally the sciences and mathematics. He attended the University of Minnesota during the summer of 1905 and the following year was a member of a group of teachers who enrolled for the first summer training course at the St. Anthony School of Agriculture. He built and operated the first wireless telegraphy outfit witnessed in Crookston. He also served as athletic director of the high school and together with other school authorities in the Valley labored to place athletics among the schools on a high standard. In the fall of 1908 he taught for a short time under Supt. Wm. Robertson at the Crookston School of Agriculture. The same year Mr. Thorson entered the race for county superintendent of schools of Polk county and has now served his constituents seven years. During this time he has tried to systematize the work of the common schools and has always stood for progressiveness in educational work. He has given his support to industrial movements in the county by inducing the pupils in the schools to engage in practical home and school projects.

Mr. Thorson has served on the State Teachers' Reading Circle Board for a number of years and is at present secretary of this organization. He is also a member of several musical organizations, including the English Lutheran Church Quartet, the Viking Chorus and the Citizens' Band of Crookston.

In 1913 he was married to Miss Sarah Rollefson of Montevideo, Minnesota, and their marriage has been blessed with two children, Sue and Paul.

ANDREW M. MALMBERG.

Among those who came to Polk county, while it was still in its primitive condition, is he whose name heads this article, and who is looked upon by those who know him as one whose efforts did much toward the making of the county. After many years of industry, during which he became financially independent, he is now living in retirement in Crookston, the operation of his large farm being in the hands of his sons.

Mr. Malmberg was born in Sweden March 8, 1842, and came to America in 1866, securing work in the harvest field near Davenport, Iowa. That fall he came to Red Wing, Minnesota, and the following spring began work on the grade of the Hastings & Dakota Railroad, when it was first started at Hastings. The next four years were spent in farm labor near St. Paul, and in 1870 he assisted in the construction of the Northern Pacific road west from Brainerd so continuing till the road was built through to Moorhead.

While working at Glyndon he was induced to take a preemption on a tract of land close to that village, which, being the junction point was thought would become quite an important place.

In the spring of 1872 in company with others he came to the Red Lake River country, it being said to surpass in fertility other sections of the country. He was pleased with it and at once secured a homestead some eight miles west of Crookston along the Red Lake River two miles southeast of Fisher. He also secured similar tracts for his brother and for a friend, Olof Erickson. But two or three others were there before him, so that he thus had his choice, and selected lands along the small creeks, which were lined with valuable timber.