died, and soon afterward the father and son moved to Polk county, where Mr. Christiansen bought railroad land. They settled here in the year 1878. The country at that time was new and unimproved; there were few settlers, but the land was soon taken up. The farm is on the Red Lake river, and is part timber land and part meadow bottom and upland, and the latter is devoted to growing grain and hay.

Mr. Christiansen continued to manage his farm until his death. He erected most of the buildings now on it and improved it into a fine farm and an attractive country home. He served in township offices nearly all the years of his life in Polk county, being a member of the township board, supervisor, clerk and assessor at different times. He was married in this county to Miss Anna Olson, who died within one year after his demise. They had five children, all of whom are living. Carl and Alfred have the real estate. Christiana is the wife of Martin Gulseth. Lorena is the wife of Otto Nelson, of Polk county and Alice is unmarried.

Alfred is now cultivating the farm. He was born on it May 4, 1882, and when he was thirty-one was married, in Denmark, March 18, 1914, to Miss Catherine Marie Christensen. They have one child, their daughter Anna Harriet. Mr. Christiansen keeps an average of twenty-five head of dairy and beef cattle, his milch cows numbering five to twelve according to circumstances. He was elected to his first public office, that of township clerk, in 1915, and he is giving its duties devoted attention and gives the residents of the township good satisfaction in his performance of them, as it was expected he would when they elected him.

Carl Christiansen was married to Miss Olga Eklund, November 4, 1915. He also was born on his father's farm in Lowell township. He succeeded his father in the office of school treasurer and served in it several years. He now owns and operates a threshing outfit, and also lives on the farm, and, in partnership with his brother Alfred is also operating a feed mill, and a saw mill on the home farm on the bank of Red Lake river, the output of the mill being 40,000 to 100,000 feet of lumber every winter.

OLAUS BENSON.

One of the pushing, thriving, up-to-date and successful farmers of Polk county, Minnesota, is Olaus Benson, who lives in Section 1, Hubbard township, owns 320 acres of land in addition to the farm on which he lives and is a member of the firm of Benson Bros., general merchants, at Neillsville. He was born in Houston county, Minnesota, April 3, 1868, and is the son of Bendieck and Gunhild Breiland, his surname being formed by the addition of the suffix "son" to part of his father's given name, according to the Norwegian custom. The mother died in Houston county, in 1871, leaving five children, of which two still live, Annie and Olaus. The former is living near Gonvick, in Clearwater county, this state.

The father was married twice afterward. His second wife had one son, Halvor Benson, who is in partnership with Olaus in the store at Neillsville. A few months after the family located in Polk county the second wife died. The third wife had two children, Andrew, who is living on his father's homestead near Trail, in Polk county, Minnesota, and Geline, who is married and has her home at Duluth. The family came to this county in 1880, and the father lived here until 1887, when he took up a homestead near Trail, where he died in 1910.

Olaus Benson began to work out for wages early in life and gave part of his earnings to his parents. But by the time he reached the age of twenty-one he had $300 saved. He then rented a farm belonging to Tollof Tollofson, an uncle of Olaus' half brother, Halvor, whom Tollofson reared. Olaus married Mr. Tollofson's only child, Turin, and when her father died she inherited his farm of 185 acres. Mr. Tollofson was born in Norway and came to the United States before the Civil