Mr. Quirk was married three years after coming to this county to Miss Lizzie Lealos, also a native of Ireland but residing at Red Lake at the time of her marriage. Their offspring numbered eight, three sons and five daughters. Of the sons Edward is living on a farm near that of his father. John is a resident of Bygland township, and Matthew is cultivating the home place. Only four of the daughters are living, the oldest, Maggie, having died in early life. Annie is the wife of John Gannaw of Grand Forks. Lizzie and Mamie are living at home, and Delia is the wife of Patrick Quigley, the nearest neighbor of the home family. Mr. Quirk is a Democrat in political faith and allegiance and all the members of his family belong to the Catholic church at Fisher.

ODIN J. BJORNSTAD.

Although he is one of the younger farmers of Polk county and also one of the youngest of the public officials of his township, Odin J. Bjornstad, who lives on Section 24, Hubbard township, one mile west of Neillsville, is one of the most aggressive grapplers with problems involving advanced agriculture for the welfare of his locality and public interests for the good of the whole county now residing in this part of the state of Minnesota. And he has already made a record for progressiveness and breadth of view that would be creditable to a man much more advanced in years and experience.

Mr. Bjornstad was born on the farm on which he is now living October 15, 1886, the son of J. J. and Karen Bjornstad, natives of Norway, who came to the United States and direct to Polk county in 1875 and at once took up a homestead which is a part of the present family home. They had only $1 when they arrived here, and Mrs. Bjornstad went to Grand Forks to get employment for her support, while her husband lived in a dugout and did his own cooking until they got a start in the New World. A little later he built a little log cabin on his land, but still worked out for his living, being employed by his brother-in-law, Nels Paulsrud.

Times have mended for the family since then, and in the course of a few years Mr. Bjornstad, the elder, bought an additional quarter-section from the estate of his brother Hans, who took it up as a homestead on which he died. J. J. Bjornstad cultivated the whole half-section until 1909, when his son Odin took charge of it, and the father has since lived retired from active pursuits but maintained his home on the farm. He and his wife became the parents of seven children, five of whom are living. Mary has her home with her parents. Eliza is the wife of George Burd, of Hubbard township. Odin J. has charge of the home farm. Nettie has taught in the schools of Ottertail county in this state and during the last five years in those of North Dakota. She is now teaching in the high school at Hillsboro in that state. Hans is living on the farm with his parents.

Odin J. Bjornstad completed his academic education at Concordia College, in Moorhead, from which he was graduated in 1907, in the classical course. Since assuming control of the farm he has made a specialty of raising potatoes, devoting about seventy acres to this one product annually. He is a partner with T. A. Thompson in the ownership and operation of the potato warehouse at Neillsville and has a one-half interest in it. They store about 18,000 bushels of potatoes in this warehouse and they are all held for seed, the Red River Ohio being the favorite species, and the most of their stock is shipped to Kansas City, Missouri, more than 300 carloads being sent from Neillsville to that mart for seed in 1914.

Mr. Bjornstad has also taken a warm and helpful interest in the public affairs of his locality and is at present (1916) chairman of the township board and in the third year of his service as such. He is independent in political affairs. Like the other members of his family he belongs to St. Peter's United Lutheran