church and he has been for some years secretary of the congregation. He is unmarried. In addition to his holdings in Polk county, Minnesota, he owns 285 acres of land in Traill county, North Dakota, three miles west of Neillsville, which he has farmed by a tenant.

THEODORE M. BOYER.

Theodore M. Boyer, who is now one of the leading merchants at Beltrami, was born in Wisconsin, July 31, 1870, and was brought by his parents to Becker county, Minnesota, the next year. His parents, Peter O. and Barbro Boyer, are still living in Becker county, where the son was reared to the age of eighteen on the home farm. He began his education in the district schools and completed the academic part of it at a college in St. Paul and the State Normal school in Moorhead. He also pursued a special course of training for business at a commercial school in St. Paul.

After leaving school Mr. Boyer clerked in a general store in Steele county, North Dakota, for a year and a half and after that in a store in Becker county, this state, for two years. On March 9, 1897, he came to Polk county, and for a short time clerked in a store at Climax. He was then appointed postmaster at Eldred, receiving the appointment in May. By June he had completed the second building and the first store house in the new village and opened the first store there. He had about $1,500 to start the store with, including the building, and he kept the store until the spring of 1912, a period of fifteen years.

In 1903, in partnership with his brothers, M. P. and C. A. Boyer, he opened his present store at Beltrami under the firm name of Boyer Bros. & Co. M. P. Boyer had been associated with him in conducting the store at Eldred, but in 1903 he took charge of the Beltrami store, and later he returned to Eldred, where he died January 3, 1912. The other brother, C. A. Boyer, was in charge of the Beltrami store one year. After that Theodore took charge of it, and he has since been its sole proprietor. He handles all kinds of farm produce, uses $8,000 to $10,000 in his business and employs two clerks. His trade has grown from the start and is steadily increasing all the time.

Mr. Boyer served as treasurer of Roome township two years while living there. He was married at Eldred on June 1st in 1890 to Miss Angeline Arness, a daughter of Alexander P. and Randine Arness, who are now residents of Fisher, in this county. Mrs. Boyer was born in Norway but brought by her parents to Polk county, Minnesota, when she was eight years old. She and her husband are the parents of five children, Percival, Alexander, Theobald, Ruth and Lucille. Mr. Boyer, in fraternal relations, belongs to the Order of Woodmen and takes an active interest in its welfare, and of which he was venerable consul for one year and clerk for five years. After moving to Beltrami he has served on the village board as councilman for six years.

JOHN O. CHRISTIANSON.

John O. Christianson, who owns and lives on a fine farm in Section 10, Garfield township, on which he located in 1892, is one of the enterprising, progressive and successful farmers of Polk county and enjoys the respect and confidence of all who know him. He was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, October 14, 1864, his parents having located there just prior to the Civil war and his father’s brother three or four years earlier. They both took up government land, and in 1880, the parents of John O., who were Ole and Anna Christianson, moved to this county and took up a homestead in Garfield township, which is now owned and occupied by their son Otto.

John O. Christianson’s farm, which comprises 160