acres, is located three miles and a half northeast of Fertile, and is now under cultivation to the extent of ninety-five acres. He bought it in 1892 at $16 an acre. Fifty acres were then in a partial state of cultivation, but the land had on it no buildings fit to use. He built a log house, of logs cut in his own timber mainly, and chose an excellent location for it on an elevation thirty-five feet above Lake Arthur, an expanse of 200 acres, which it overlooks, and in the midst of a beautiful grove. The other improvements on the farm are also of good quality.

Mr. Christianson raises grain, hay and mixed live stock, one of his specialties being white Chester hogs. He keeps ten cows for milk for the Co-operative Creamery company at Fertile, in which he is a stockholder. He served as road overseer for a number of years and as a member of the school board for a long time. His first venture in land in this county was on a homestead in Onstad township, and his brother Ole took up the present farm as a homestead for himself. Later John O. sold his homestead in Onstad township and bought his brother Ole's, on which he is now living. Ole is in the real estate and insurance business in Crookston.

In 1889 Mr. Christianson was united in marriage with Miss Carrie Nesseth, a sister of the late Thomas H. Nesseth, a sketch of whose life will be found in this volume. Ten children have been born of the union, and nine of them are living. Henry O. has been operating a threshing outfit for six years. Albert M. has a homestead in Canada on which he lives. William T., Clifford I., George N. and John are living at home and helping to operate the farm. Mabel S. is the teacher of the school near the family home. She is a graduate of the high school at Fertile and of a course of training at the Moorhead Normal school. Clara and Lillie are living at home with their parents. All the members of the family belong to the Little Norway United Lutheran church. Mr. Christianson's father donated three acres of ground for the church site and the cemetery belonging to it.

F. GUY STEARNS.

As proprietor of the Climax Roller Mills, which make 100 barrels of flour a day for merchant and custom trade, supplying a large local and an extensive Eastern market, F. Guy Stearns is carrying on a very useful industry and ministering in a substantial way to the comfort and general welfare of his fellow men as well as to the industrial and commercial consequence of his home township, county and state. The mills were built in 1898 by Brasseth Bros. at a cost of nearly $20,000. They have five double stands of rollers and a feed roll, and are operated by water and steam power. In 1909 the mills were bought by Messrs. Nelson & Gilbertson, and in 1913 Mr. Stearns purchased them and has made many improvements in them, having installed modern machinery throughout. He is now installing an electric light plant to supply the mills and the village of Climax with light. The plant will be one of thirty horse-power and the current of 220 volt D. C. strength. It should be stated that Mr. Stearns manufactures in his mills a cream of wheat food and also Graham flour in addition to the large quantities of wheat flour he turns out.

Mr. Stearns was born in Webster City, Hamilton county, Iowa, in 1879, and learned his trade as a miller and all the details of the flour-making industry under the instruction of his father, who was in charge of a large mill in Webster City, where the father and son had built the Stearns mill. The son spent eleven years as owner and manager of the Webster City mills. He then sold them and in 1910 went to North Dakota, where for three years he was manager of a flour mill, grain elevator and electric light plant at Walhalla, North Dakota, until he bought the mill at Climax and became a resident of Polk county, Minnesota, in 1913. He served as a justice of the peace in North Dakota and has served as a member of the village council of