farm and obtained a limited education at a country school. At the age of twenty-two he was married to Miss Bertha Lunos, who was then twenty, the daughter of Halvor Lunos, who located in Roome township in 1879. He and his wife later joined the Bella Coola colony in British Columbia, and their two sons went with them. The father died in that colony in 1913, and the mother is still living in it with her sons. The family was successful and prosperous in the colony.

Mr. Gilbert farmed rented ground for three years after his marriage and then bought his father-in-law's farm of 160 acres. He made many improvements on this farm and conducted its operations until 1901, then sold it at a good profit, having accumulated $2,800 in nine years with nothing to start on. He invested in a new hardware store at Berthold, North Dakota, and also filed on land near the village. He was its first merchant, the first treasurer of the township in which it is located and a member of its first village council after he helped to organize it as a village. He also served on its school board, which, under his influence, built a good schoolhouse at a cost of $7,000. The village had a population of 300 when he left it after residing in it and doing business there four years.

Mr. Gilbert's trade at Berthold grew large and his experience in it was very satisfactory. But in 1905 he sold the store and moved to Crookston, where he bought a $9,000 stock of hardware and an old stand. He carried on this business three years, then sold it and moved to Eldred in 1908. Since then he has been engaged in well drilling on a large scale, running two rigs and drilling wells 200 to 300 feet deep. He has also been active in all movements for the improvement of the village and township, and is now serving his fourth year as president of the school board. He also helped to organize and has aided liberally in supporting the Lutheran church at Eldred.

One of the achievements for which Mr. Gilbert is entitled to special credit is the establishment of the consolidated school at Eldred, which was formed by consolidating four districts. Mr. Gilbert, T. E. Johnson and H. P. Boukin were the principal backers of this enterprise, and they had to work hard to carry it to success, but now the consolidated district has a fine four-room school house, which is one of the best of the kind in Polk county. When he came to Eldred Mr. Gilbert found that the schools showed little improvement from the time when he was a pupil in them, and he began to agitate for a better arrangement, with the result as stated above.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert have five daughters and one son. Cora, the oldest child, had a course of special training at the Crookston business college and is now a stenographer. Emma is a student in the high school, and Mary, Carroll, Helen and Andrea are at home and attending the union school.

OLE O. ESTENSON.

Ole O. Estenson and his parents, Ole and Ingre (Peterson) Estenson, were all born in Norway, where the son's life began October 28, 1848. In 1857 the family, consisting of the parents and seven children, the youngest born on the railroad train near Chicago, arrived in Green county, Wisconsin, and there found a new home near the village of Argyle, which is just over the line in Lafayette county. After the birth of her child on the train the mother was obliged to lie on the floor of a waiting room in the Chicago railroad station because of the lack of other accommodations. The child died soon after the arrival of the family in Wisconsin.

Ole Estenson, the father, was a day laborer in Norway, and when he left that country he had only enough money to pay the way of the family as far as Milwaukee, and was obliged to leave his trunks in bond in that city for the fare to Argyle. He had to send $20 to Milwaukee to get his trunks, and this he earned chopping wood and doing other work at thirty-