with his parents in his boyhood. The family located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, for a few years and in 1881 moved to Norman county, where the father took up a homestead and passed the remainder of his days.

When Gustav was eighteen he obtained employment on the Harriot farm near Beltrami and worked on it two years. In 1885 he filed a homestead claim on part of the land now owned by his sons Alfred and Benjamin, and that fall he put up his first dwelling on the farm, the one that is now used as a chicken house. On November 15, 1885, he was married on the Harriot farm to Miss Anguina Anderson, then twenty-one years old, who came to the United States at the age of two with her mother, Guria Anderson, who was her brother Olous' housekeeper.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Christianson made their home on a farm they rented for a year and then moved to their homestead. They had a couple of cows and a few chickens, but only one chair and one stove, and what little more they had of household goods Gustav made himself. He continued to work for other farmers off and on for three years, during which time he purchased a colt and a young yoke of oxen, which he used to cultivate and improve his own place, and this he continued to do for twenty-two years, until he sold his Polk county land to his two oldest sons and moved to his present home in Norman county.

Before he left this county, however, the father added another 160 acres to his Scandia township farm, making it a half-section, and this also he owned and cultivated for a number of years. In addition he bought another tract of eighty acres and gave each of his sons Alfred and Benjamin half of it. He was chairman of the township board some years, and filled the office of township clerk when he left the county. He helped to start the Lutheran church near the homestead, raised a good deal of shorthorn stock for the purpose of supplying cream to the co-operative creamery, produced large quantities of grain on his farm, and erected all the buildings now standing on the land.

In 1909 Alfred and Benjamin Christianson bought the farm from their father, which he priced to them at $80 an acre. They are in partnership in all their industries, raise grain and live stock, keep forty head of cattle, milk fifteen cows and raise annually a large number of hogs. They have added eighty acres to the farm in recent years, making it 480 in all, and put in enough small grain to raise some 5,000 bushels a year and have forty to fifty acres in corn besides. The roads in and around the farm are all ditched, the outlet being the big swamp to the west of them.

Alfred Christianson was born on the farm adjoining his present home October 24, 1886, and was married November 15, 1913, to Miss Alice Mary Carlson, of Norman county. They have one child, their son George. Alfred is chairman of the township board now (1916) and in his fourth year of service as such. He succeeded his father as township clerk. Benjamin Christianson was born in Shelly township, Norman county, Minnesota, September 12, 1888. He was married July 6, 1912, to Miss Nellie Boen, of near Rindal, Norman county. They have two children, Alma Katharine and Orville Gilman.

JOHN STROMSTAD.

Overtaking good fortune after it had fled from him for a number of years, John Stromstad, one of the leading farmers and live stock men of Scandia township, he and his son Theodore owning and cultivating all of Section 34, has kept a firm grip on his opportunities and made the most of them ever since. His fine farm and pleasant country home is twenty miles south of Crookston and seven miles southwest of Beltrami. He was born in Norway October 5, 1850, and came to the United States alone in 1871 and located in Houston county, Minnesota. He had a little money left when he reached his new home, but did not invest