

tourist who had lived here for more than a half century. His widow, who makes her home with our subject, is now eighty-four years of age. Their family numbered thirteen children, nine of whom are living.

Olaus Viste was reared and educated in this county, first attending the district schools and subsequently continuing his studies in Decorah. After putting aside his text-books he assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until 1895 and in that year purchased the property, which now embraces two hundred acres of valuable land. He has been successfully engaged in its cultivation to the present time and has enhanced its value by many substantial improvements. In connection with the production of cereals he has also devoted considerable attention to stock-raising, meeting with good results in both branches of his business.

On the 22d of October, 1902, Mr. Viste was united in marriage to Miss Ella Soland, a daughter of Gilbert and Magdalene (Egge) Soland, both of whom were natives of Winneshiek county, Iowa. The mother passed away in 1885, but the father survives and follows farming in Springfield township. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Viste have been born two children, namely: Sigrid Bertha Magdalene, whose birth occurred on the 9th of September, 1903; and Olga Ragnhild Gunhilde, who was born on the 4th of December, 1908, and passed away on the 18th of the same month.

In his political views Mr. Viste is a republican and at present is ably serving as one of the trustees of Decorah township. In religious faith he is a Lutheran. Both he and his wife have spent their entire lives in Winneshiek county and have an extensive circle of warm friends here.

JOHN N. BRAGESTAD.

John N. Bragestad, one of the worthy native sons of Winneshiek county, has devoted his attention to general agricultural pursuits throughout his entire business career and is the owner of a well improved and productive farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 35, Decorah township. He was born on that place on the 6th of December, 1863, and it has always remained his home. His parents, Nels and Gunvor (Naglestad) Bragestad, were both natives of Norway. The father, who emigrated to the United States in the '50s, located first in Wisconsin but subsequently came to Iowa and purchased land in Decorah township, this county. In the cultivation and improvement of that property he was busily engaged throughout the remainder of his life, passing away in 1885. The mother was called to her final rest in 1894. They enjoyed an extensive acquaintance throughout the community and well merited the respect and esteem which were uniformly accorded them.

John N. Bragestad was here reared and educated, attending the district schools and also pursuing a course of study in Breckenridge Institute of Decorah. He had early become acquainted with the best methods of tilling the soil and caring for crops under the able direction of his father, whom he assisted in the work of the home farm until the latter's death, when the property came into his possession. It comprises one hundred and twenty acres of rich and pro