

often entertain their many friends, who delight to gather at their hospitable fireside. A man of unflagging industry, undoubted ability and unshakable honesty, Mr. Curtin has risen to one of the foremost positions in the life of Decorah, where he has become a forceful element in commercial and financial circles and is highly honored and respected for what he has achieved and for those qualities of his character which have made possible his success.

EDWIN NORDHEIM.

Among the most active and successful farmers of Pleasant township and among the most deservedly esteemed and respected of Winneshiek county's native sons is numbered Edwin Nordheim, who owns and operates a fine tract of two hundred acres on section 15. This property is located one and one half miles from where he was born on the 18th of September, 1875, his parents being Knut G. and Martha (Bidne) Nordheim, natives of Norway, the former born September 30, 1835, and the latter, June 20, 1837. About the year 1854 the parents came separately to America and were married in this country, afterward settling in Winneshiek county and spending the remainder of their lives on a farm in Pleasant township. The father was numbered among the earliest pioneers in this section. He was very poor when he located here, his energy, industry and ability, however, bringing him well deserved prosperity. He accumulated extensive landed holdings, owning one farm of one hundred and sixty-two acres and another of two hundred acres, both of which formed portions of his estate when he passed away. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and a republican in his political beliefs, holding various township offices and rendering the community excellent and faithful service. In his family were six children. Albert is operating the home farm. Josephine is the wife of Holsten Stoen, of Highland township. William passed away in California on the 25th of October, 1907. Previous to removing to that state he was agent for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company in Winneshiek county and was well known in public life in this section, serving as deputy treasurer and later as county treasurer. He is survived by a wife and four children. Caroline became the wife of Peter Gavle, of Madison township. Edwin is the subject of this review. Anna Marie, who completes the family, was for some time a teacher of shorthand and penmanship at the Breckenridge Institute in Decorah. She married Professor William McDaniels, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Edwin Nordheim was reared upon the homestead and acquired his education in the district schools of Pleasant township. When not engaged with his books he aided his father with the operation of the farm, becoming thus thoroughly familiar with the best agricultural methods. This knowledge and experience has been invaluable to him in later life, for when he began his independent career he naturally turned his attention to the occupation to which he had been reared and agricultural pursuits have engaged his energies since that time. He now owns two hundred acres of land lying on section 15, Pleasant township, a tract which formed a portion of his father's estate, and he has improved and