

parents being Herbrand and Engric (Kapson) Ansten, natives of Norway. The father came to America and after remaining for a short time in Wisconsin, where he first located, came to Winneshiek county, Iowa. He bought a tract of timber land in Madison township and with characteristic energy turned his attention to clearing and developing this property, making it before his death, in 1890, a well improved and valuable farm. His wife survived him some years, dying in 1900.

T. H. Ansten was reared and educated in Madison township and before his father's death bought the homestead, which he has since developed and improved. It contains one hundred and ninety-five acres of valuable land on sections 2, 11 and 14, Madison township, and upon it he has made substantial improvements, erecting modern barns and outbuildings and installing the necessary equipment. Mr. Ansten is a stockholder in the Farmers Creamery Company and the Farmers Hog Buying Company of Decorah, and his ability is widely recognized in business circles.

In October, 1886, Mr. Ansten was united in marriage to Mary Jacobson Skare, a daughter of Jacob and Aase Skare, natives of Norway, who never came to America. Mr. and Mrs. Ansten have a son, Henry I., who was born January 3, 1889.

Mr. Ansten is a devout member of the Lutheran church and he guides his honorable and upright life by its doctrines. A staunch republican, he has never sought to figure prominently in public life, preferring to concentrate his energies upon his business affairs, and as the years have passed he has won a creditable measure of success, his diligence constituting an important element in his prosperity.

JOHANNES B. WIST.

Johannes B. Wist has a wide acquaintance, especially in the middle west, as an editor of Norwegian-American papers, and since 1906 has been Norwegian vice consul for the state of Iowa. He is now editor-in-chief of the Decorah Posten and is likewise one of the publishers and editors of the Symra, a Norwegian-American magazine. He was born April 6, 1864, in the district of Trondhjem, Norway, his parents being Benjamin and Magdalene Wist, the former a country merchant. He acquired a good education in high schools and academies of his native country and for two years was a private tutor in the district of Osterdalen, this covering the years 1882 and 1883. While there he began writing for newspapers and became correspondent to a number of publications. He also acted as reporter at many political meetings in those stormy days of Norwegian politics. In 1884 he came to the United States and throughout the intervening period to the present has been connected with the publication of Norwegian-American papers in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Glenwood and Granite Falls, Minnesota, and at Madison, Wisconsin. He entered upon active connection with the Decorah Posten in 1900 and since 1901 has been its chief editor. It is a newsy, entertaining paper of national importance and with forty thousand subscribers and devoted to the interests of the Norwegian-American population