

Wisconsin, where he followed his vocation for two years, at the end of which period he returned to Norway, there remaining two years. In 1873, however, he returned to America, seeking the large opportunities held out by the middle west, and located in Decorah, where he entered the employ of a Mr. Isberg, with whom he remained for four years, his employer selling his interests to the Lutheran Publishing Company in 1877 and Mr. Larson remaining with the new-concern. For thirty-six years he has faithfully fulfilled his various duties and has gradually risen to the position of foreman of the large bookbinding department of this important publishing house, having charge of a large number of employees and directing the many operations of the department.

In August, 1867, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Pederson, a daughter of Lucas and Anna Pederson, both natives of Norway, where they spent their entire lives. Mr. and Mrs. Larson were the parents of ten children: Frank; Louis; William; Hjalmar; Sophia, the wife of William B. Ingvoldstad, of whom more extended mention is made in another part of this work; Carl; Herman; and three, who died in infancy. Mrs. Larson passed away in 1887 and in 1891 Mr. Larson wedded again, his second union being with Miss Paulina Pederson, a sister of his first wife. She also passed away in 1910.

Politically Mr. Larson is a republican and his religious adherence is given to the Lutheran church. At one time he owned residential property in Decorah, but of late has disposed of his holding and now makes his home with his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ingvoldstad. He is well known and popular in Decorah, where he has made his home for many years, and where he is highly esteemed and respected for his sterling traits of character.

OLE O. HOVE.

One of Winneshiek county's most able, progressive and successful farmers is Ole O. Hove, whose fine property of three hundred and twenty acres lies on sections 26 and 27, Madison township, and is one of the best improved and best managed farms in this vicinity. Mr. Hove was born in Norway, on the 17th of March, 1853, and is a son of Ole and Barbara (Hedalen) Hove, also natives of that country. The parents came to America in June, 1866, and located at once in Winneshiek county, Iowa, the father purchasing land in Madison township. To the development and improvement of this property he turned his attention, but he was unfortunate enough to take up his residence here at the time of the great failure of the wheat crops and he was forced to abandon his farming operations. Afterward he made his home with his children until his death, which occurred in the fall of 1892. He had long survived his wife, who passed away in 1869.

Ole O. Hove was thirteen years of age when he came to America and he had practically completed his education in the public schools of Norway, having attended district school in Winneshiek county only five days. He afterward went out to work as a farm hand for three years, and he worked in the employ of others and for his father and brothers until he was twenty-four years of age, when he rented land and turned his attention to its operation. For a number of