

their son, E. F. Bakken, the father being eighty-five years of age and the mother seventy-one.

Gustav E. Bakken was reared and educated in Madison township, attending district school and afterward Breckenridge Institute at Decorah. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-eight years of age and then rented a farm from his father, a property which he has operated since that time. In 1903 the father deeded to him this tract of land which contained two hundred acres lying on section 11, Madison township. From time to time Mr. Bakken has added to this property until he owns today six hundred and eighty acres, one of the finest farms in this part of Winneshiek county. Modern buildings have been erected upon it, labor-saving machinery has been installed to facilitate the work of the fields and nothing has been neglected which will add to the attractive appearance or value of the place. Mr. Bakken raises only thoroughbred stock and has been unusually successful also in his general farming operations, the extent of his interests and the success which has steadily attended his labors placing him among the representative agriculturists of this locality.

On the 12th of October, 1894, Mr. Bakken married Miss Helena Melaas, a daughter of Hans and Marn (Knutson) Melaas, natives of Norway. The father came to America and located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming, operating his property here until 1905, when he retired. He is now making his home in Ridgeway, having survived his wife since 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Bakken became the parents of two children: Ida Maria, aged seventeen; and Ole Henry, aged twelve. Mrs. Bakken passed away on the 6th of December, 1911, after an illness of about three years.

Mr. Bakken is a member of the Lutheran church and gives his political allegiance to the republican party, being now in the ninth term of his able service as township trustee. A public-spirited and progressive citizen, he takes a commendable and intelligent interest in public affairs and does everything in his power to promote the permanent interests of the community.

SAMUEL F. KUNTZ.

Samuel F. Kuntz, whose activity-in the development of his fine farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 11, Lincoln township, has contributed not only to his own advancement but to the general development of this locality, was born near Batesville, Indiana, February 1, 1868. He is a son of Andrew and Barbara (Butz) Kuntz, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Germany. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, came to Winneshiek county in 1890 and located near Ridgeway, where he lived until the time of his death, which occurred August 28, 1912. His wife had passed away a few weeks before, dying on July 3d of that year. To their union were born ten children: William, who resides in Lincoln township; Edward, who makes his home in Cresco; John, of Luck; Samuel F., of this review; Emma, deceased; Charles, who resides on the old homestead; Wesley, living in Wisconsin; Carrie, who married John Reinhardt, of Lincoln township; Albert, a teacher in Iowa City; and Frank, of Lincoln township.