

Eventually he rented the home farm and operated it for six years, at the end of which time he bought one hundred and fifty acres on section 29, Decorah township, turning his attention to its improvement and development. His well directed efforts have brought him a substantial degree of success and he is now in control of one of the finest properties in this section of the state. He has recently sold seventy acres of his holdings and now owns seventy-nine acres, all under a high state of cultivation, and everything about the place is in excellent condition. Substantial improvements have been made and buildings erected, and the property today reflects the owner's careful supervision and practical methods.

On the 13th of November, 1895, Air. Fretthem was united in marriage to Miss Emma Theilich, a daughter of John and Lydia (Helm) Theilich, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Canada. Her father came as a pioneer to Winneshiek county and took up as a government claim the land now owned by the subject of this review. He died upon this property, January 1, 1901, and was survived by his wife until 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Fretthem have an adopted son, Virgil, who is fourteen years of age.

Mr. Fretthem is a member of the Lutheran church and he gives his political allegiance to the republican party, taking an active and helpful interest in public affairs. His life has been such as to give him high standing in the eyes of the community and he is generally recognized as a man whose earnest labor in this township have not only contributed to his own prosperity but have also been a benefit to the community at large.

KNUT E. HAUGEN.

In the middle of the nineteenth century Winneshiek county and this section of Iowa was colonized by Norwegian settlers and their descendants in the second generation are now taking an active part in the further development and upbuilding of this district. Possessing the sterling characteristics of his Norwegian forefathers Knut E. Haugen occupies a place among the representative farmers of the community, his home place comprising the southeast quarter of section 32, Glenwood township.

He was born upon this farm, July 15, 1864, his parents being Andrew G. and Guri (Estrem) Haugen, both of whom were natives of Norway, whence both came to America about 1850. Following their marriage they took up their abode in Glenwood township, Winneshiek county, Iowa, upon the farm which is now the home of their son Knut and which continued to be their place of residence. They were young people when they crossed the Atlantic and were married in this county, where the mother still resides. The father, however, passed away in 1904 at the age of eighty years. In their family were seven children : Alary, the wife of the Rev. G. H. Bakken, of Wautoma, Wisconsin; Gilbert, residing in Decorah; Knut E.; Christopher, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; Andrew, who passed away at the age of forty years, leaving a family; Lena, the wife of Louis Skow, of Soldier, Iowa; and Edwin, of Sioux Rapids.