

In December, 1896, Mr. Lomen was united in marriage to Miss Anna G. Eide, a daughter of Gudmund and Ingeborg Eide, natives of Norway, where the father engaged in farming. He died in his native country in 1907 and his wife survives him. Mr. and Mrs. Lomen became the parents of two children: Olena, aged sixteen; and Emma, aged fourteen.

Politically Mr. Lomen gives his allegiance to the republican party and his religious views are in accord with the doctrines of the Lutheran church. He is one of Winneshiek county's most active and progressive native sons and holds a high place in the respect and esteem of the community where his entire life has been spent.

MARTIN WOLDUM.

The steps in the orderly progression of Martin Woldum are easily discernible. He has worked his way steadily upward, wisely using his time and opportunities, and the success which he has achieved is the direct result of earnest, persistent and indefatigable effort. Like many of the leading and valuable citizens of Winneshiek county he is a native of Norway, born July 11, 1870, his parents being Halvor and Ranvai (Gram) Woldum. It was in 1885 that the family left Norway, crossed the Atlantic and made their way direct to Glenwood township, Winneshiek county, Iowa. The parents resided upon a farm until three years ago, when in 1910 they took up their abode in Decorah, where they now reside. The father was a prominent horse buyer and shipper in the old country and was the owner of two good farms there, but lost all and sought to retrieve his fortunes in the United States. Here he engaged in farming and his earnest labor at length brought him a measure of success that now enables him to live retired. Unto him and his wife were born seven children: Mary, the wife of Fred Sanden, of Seattle, Washington; Christie, the wife of H. Nasset, of Alberta, Canada; Ole, also living in Alberta; Martin, of this review; Nels, likewise a resident of Alberta; John, of Decorah; and Halvor H., who is in partnership with his brother Martin under the name of the Woldum Produce Company, and they also own a produce business at Preston, Minnesota.

Martin Woldum's start in life was a humble one. He first worked by the month as a farm hand and then spent a year and a half in railroading. While thus engaged he carefully saved his earnings and on the expiration of that period he joined his elder brother in the establishment of a mercantile business at Don-nan Junction, Fayette county, Iowa. After two years he sold out to his partner and came to Nasset, where he established a general mercantile enterprise in 1891. Later he admitted his brother-in-law⁷, James Ramsey, to a partnership under the firm name of Woldum & Ramsey, the association being maintained for seven years, when Mr. Ramsey sold out to Halvor Woldum and the present firm of Woldum Brothers was thus formed. Six years ago the brothers embarked in the produce business and in the spring of 1913 established a branch at Preston, Minnesota. In 1912 they shipped sixty-four carloads of eggs and eight carloads of poultry from Decorah. They are also agents for the Ford automobile, and they have a forty-five horse power truck that they use to haul their goods, this taking