

Dakota; and Anna, the wife of our subject, who has now resided on the same place since 1853. Mr. and Mrs. Luross left Norway on March 25, 1839, and arrived in Milwaukee on September 16th of the same year, coming via the Erie canal and by ox teams to the interior. Horses were scarce and high priced at the time and he therefore went to Michigan, where he bought a team. One of the horses died, however, before he started on his overland tour, which was a heavy loss to him. He endured other hardships while pioneering in Wisconsin, losing his house by fire and having to begin all over again. The father often made mention of the fact that it cost a dollar to send a letter to his old home in Norway. He was a true pioneer of the early days, and the present prosperous conditions of the middle west were largely brought about by men of his stamp, who went out into the prairie and built homes where the timid dared not venture. By her marriage to John Maland, who died in 1873, Mrs. Severson was the mother of six children, one of whom died in infancy. The others were: Austin, who is a neighbor of our subject; Halver, of Thief River Falls, Minnesota; Mary, of Canton, Minnesota; Elizabeth, also of that city; and Torger, who died at the age of nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Severson became the parents of seven children, of whom two passed away in infancy. Those now living are: John, of Edmore, North Dakota; Theoline, who married Olaf Garden, of Lankin, North Dakota; Ida, the wife of Dr. H. E. Nelson, of Crookston, Minnesota; and Oscar and Clara, at home.

Mr. Severson is a devout member of the Big Canoe Lutheran church, in the work of which he takes an active and helpful interest. He gives his allegiance to the republican party, staunchly upholding its candidates. Although he is interested in all public matters and keeps intelligently informed upon all vital subjects that affect the government, he has never cared to accept public office, preferring to devote his whole time to his agricultural pursuits. Although he is nearing his seventy-first birthday, he is still active in the work on the farm and brings to all of life's questions a deep and understanding interest.

BUD L. DAVIS.

Bud L. Davis, a progressive and practical agriculturist of Winneshiek county, was born in Freeport, June 1, 1870, and is a son of William and Delia (Meadows) Davis, the former a native of Wisconsin and the latter of Winneshiek county. The father came to Iowa in the early '60s and resided here until he moved to Kansas, where he now makes his home. He and his wife became the parents of six children: John, who resides in Minnesota; Frank, of Kansas; Bud L., of this review; Leslie and Lester, twins, who reside in California; and Allie, the wife of Thomas Reed, of Kansas.

When Bud L. Davis was five years of age he was adopted by Howard A. Kinney and with him has made his home almost continuously since that time. When he was twenty-one years of age he went to Minnesota and after one year there moved to Dakota, where he spent four years. At the end of that time, however, he returned to Mr. Kinney's farm in Winneshiek county and after assisting in its operation for a similar period of time moved into Cresco, where