

HISTORY OF
Goodhue County
MINNESOTA

ILLUSTRATED

EDITOR IN CHIEF

FRANKLYN CURTISS-WEDGE

ASSISTED BY

W. M. Sweney, M. D.; Jens K. Grondahl; C. A. Rasmussen; Julius
Boraas, M. L.; F. W. Kalfahs; Edward W. Schmidt, M. A.;
Mrs. Julia B. Nelson; E. Norelius, D. D.; George C.
Wellner, M. D.; John C. Applegate; Ralph W.
Holmes; Dwight C. Pierce; Henry Hal-
vorson; Rev. James H. Gaughan;
Henry R. Cobb; Edgar F.
Davis and many others

CHICAGO
H. C. COOPER, JR., & CO.

1909

his father and later purchased the farm, where he has since made improvements and carries on general farming and stock raising. He was married in 1876 to Mary McDermott, daughter of Michael and Ann (Brennen) McDermott, the father being one of the oldest settlers in the state. He came in 1849 and settled in Dakota county where he farmed until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Brennen were blessed with nine children: Mary, Anna, Teressa, Ellen, Jane, Loretta, Seraphine, Thomas and Florence. Mr. Brennen is Democratic in his political views and has been a member of the town board for the past ten years, also clerk, treasurer and director of school district No. 114 for two terms.

John M. Olson was born in Welch township, where he still resides, November 22, 1881, son of Andrew and Hannah Olson, natives of Sweden who came to the United States in the early days, and settled in Vasa township, where they purchased land and remained until the late seventies, when they bought 160 acres in section 29 and engaged in farming until the death of the father in 1899. The mother still lives at home. After the death of the father, the sons took charge of the farm and have carried on general farming, and also selling considerable cream to the Welch creamery in which they are stock holders. J. M. and his brother made all the improvements on the farm and buildings. There were six children in the Olson home: Charles, now of South Dakota; Oscar of Cannon Falls; Anton; Victor, a civil engineer; Luther of Kansas City, employed by the Armour packing plant as assistant meat inspector; and J. M., the subject of this sketch.

Charles Black, was born in Welch township, where he still resides, July 21, 1869, son of Archibald and Elizabeth (Mulholland) Black, natives of Ireland. They lived in Scotland until they came to this country, in 1868, when they located in Welch township and bought land which they improved and carried on general farming until the death of the father in 1889. The mother died in 1906. They had a family of nine children: Archibald, Charles, Mary, James, Elizabeth, William, Richard, Annie and Sarah. Charles received his education in the public schools of the township, and since 1900 has farmed on the home place of 160 acres with his brothers and sisters. He also buys and ships all kinds of live stock. He was married in 1907, to Hattie May Gipford, daughter of Julius and Hattie Teichman Gipford, of Red Wing. They have one son, Donald Mulholland. Mr. Black is a Republican in politics and has held the office of supervisor of Welch township for the past five years.

Frank Boothroyd was born on the farm where he now resides in Welch township, on October 8, 1866, son of William and Mary (Bever) Boothroyd, natives of England, who came to the United

States in 1852. Frank was educated in the common schools and worked with his father on the farm. June 27, 1894, he was married to Emma Tillman, daughter of Erick and Nellie (Person) Tillman, natives of Sweden. Mr. Tillman came to this country in 1865 and settled in Afton, Minn., where he remained six years, after which he came to Welch township, bought a farm, and engaged in farming. The mother died March 23, 1906, and the father August 29, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Boothroyd have one child, Myrtle, who attends the high school at Red Wing. Mr. Boothroyd has a fine farm of 270 acres, all under cultivation, and carries on general and diversified farming, and dairying, also stock raising. He has been justice of the peace eight years and is at present town clerk, which office he has held for eleven years. He belongs to the M. W. A. of Welch, of which he has been clerk for nine years. He is also director and secretary of the Welch Co-Operative Creamery Company, and director and treasurer of Goodhue County Co-Operative Mercantile Company. In politics he is Republican.

John Berg, of Welch township, was born in Sweden, July 16, 1846, son of Nels and Marie Berg, also natives of Sweden. John Berg received his education in the schools of Sweden, and in 1868 came to this country, and located in Red Wing, remaining for two years. Then he went to Minneapolis, where he worked at brick making for a while, and later went into the business of brick making for himself. In March, 1885, he came to Welch township, and bought a farm of 120 acres of improved land. This he continued to improve and has remodeled the house and outbuildings. He now has a fine farm, with a large grove of soft maple, birch and butternut trees. He has made a success of general farming and has taken a great interest in bees, owning thirty-two hives. Mr. Berg was married January 21, 1875, to Clara Anderson, who is now deceased. They had a family of eight children: Emil C., Aleda E., Oscar T., Edward J., William E., Edgar E., Albin N. and Fred L. Mr. Berg is at present town treasurer, which office he has held for the past twenty years, and is also treasurer of the school district No. 5. In his politics he is a Republican.

Peter Jefferson, a business man of Welch, was born in Sweden October 9, 1849, son of Jefferson and Annie (Anderson) Larson, natives of Sweden where the father died. Peter received his education in Sweden, and came to America in 1873 locating in Red Wing where he worked at various labor until 1877, when he purchased a team and wagon, went to Yellow Medicine county, and bought 160 acres of land two miles south of Granite Falls, the county seat. This land he improved, carrying on general farming for fourteen years. His wife, however, was in poor