

and there married Kari Larson. They came to America in 1869, located in Carver county, this state, and there lived for a little over a year. In the fall of 1869, Hendrick Anderson came to Renville county, and located a homestead of eighty acres in section 2, Hawk Creek township. He built a shack and made preparation for the future. Then he returned to his family in Carver county. In the fall of 1870 the family moved here. They at once began improving and developing the farm, undergoing many hardships and privations. The grasshoppers ruined the crops for several seasons, the trips to Willmar after provisions were long and tiresome, money was scarce and the food was of the simplest. But by hard work and frugality, together with good judgment and untiring energy, Hendrick Anderson became a prosperous citizen and won for himself a place as one of the leading men in the community. To his original tract he added 120 acres of railroad land in section 11, and on this tract of 200 acres he carried on general farming for many years. After a dozen or so years the original shack was replaced with a log house. A few years later this gave place to a splendid frame house. Good barns and substantial outbuildings were also erected. This he continued until his death, Feb. 27, 1908. His good wife died a week earlier. In the family there were ten children. Five boys and one girl are dead. Henry lives in Sacred Heart village. Kari is Mrs. John Farnhof, of Santa Rosa, California. Andrew H. lives in Sacred Heart. Mary is now the wife of Andrew Dahlgren and they live on the old homestead in Hawk Creek township.

Ole T. Ramsland, one of the leading and influential citizens of Renville county is the oldest merchant in Sacred Heart village, and for nearly a half a century has been actively identified with the progress and growth of the western part of the county. He was born in Norway, Oct. 16, 1853, the son of Tonnes and Torborg Ramsland, and descended from a long line of sturdy Scandinavian ancestry. When he was seventeen years of age he asked his father if he could go to America. His father answered, "I have blamed myself many times for not going to America when I was a young man and if you really wish to go I will not say no." So in 1871 he came alone to America and located in Houston county, Minn. After working on a farm in Houston county for a year and a half he worked in lumber camps of northern Wisconsin two winters and one summer. Next he went to Eau Claire, Wis., attended school seven weeks, and then clerked in a store for Ingraham, Kennedy & Mason of that city for two years. In 1876 he settled in Renville county and purchased eighty acres of land in Wang township. He also rented eighty acres near by. He planted all his broken land in wheat, but the grasshoppers came and he realized only 185 bushels. He at-

tended the public school in Granite Falls the following winter, and in the spring of 1877 accepted a position as clerk in the general store of Neste Bros. in that place. With the exception of three months, spent at the Folsom Business College in Minneapolis during the winter of 1878, he remained with this firm until June, 1880. Since June 8, 1880, Mr. Ramsland has been engaged in the general mercantile business in Sacred Heart. When he came here he bought the interest of Christian Evenson in the store of Evenson & Stenson. Later he bought out Henry Stenson and has since continued in business alone on practically the same site. He has built up a large trade, carries a good stock, and enjoys the confidence and respect of the people for miles around, his honesty and fair dealing being widely known. He has taken an active part in public life, and has assisted in the development of Renville county and the village of Sacred Heart in particular. Although born and educated in a foreign country his sentiment is "America for me and my posterity," and it is only fair to say that he has done and is doing more than any other man in his community to Americanize the Scandinavian people and make them see the necessity of using the American language and customs in schools and churches. He has for many years served on the village council of Sacred Heart and he is now president of the school board, in which capacity he has served for many years. In 1904 he was elected on the Democratic ticket to the legislature and served one term. He also helped to organize the American church of Sacred Heart, he and his wife and two daughters being four of the original seven members. Mr. Ramsland was married in November, 1879, to Julia Thompson, born in Houston county, this state, March 4, 1861, daughter of Martin and Gurina (Iverson) Thompson. She died April 20, 1896, leaving seven children, Tyler, Magnus, Gertrude, Lenora, Rudolph, Odin and Mabel. Tyler married Birdie O'Connor and lives in Lemmon, South Dakota. Magnus married Sarah McEwen and lives in Kamsack, Canada. Gertrude is the wife of Dr. Henry Schealaben of Seward, Alaska. Lenora is the wife of Dr. T. H. Titus of Ontario, California. Rudolph married Miss Russell and lives in Kamsack, Canada. Odin married Ida Sailes and lives in Faith, South Dakota. Mabel is the wife of Olie Skjje of Madison, Minn. Mr. Ramsland was married May 15, 1898, to Lenora Arestead, who was born in Norway, October, 1870, daughter of Christ and Dorothe Arestad, who brought her to America when six months of age. They located in Houston county, Minn., and moved to Cooperstown, North Dakota when she was ten years of age. Mrs. Ramsland is one of the three first graduates of the Valley City State Normal school, Valley City, North Dakota. She is the mother of two children: Clement, born Oct. 3, 1905, and Dorothe, born Oct. 2, 1906.