

OSCAR GREENLAND

*From Compendium of N.D.*

Oscar Greenland, cashier of the First National Bank of Binford, Griggs county, was born on the 18th of July, 1873, in Fillmore county Minnesota, and is the oldest in a family of six children, four of whom are still living. His parents, Frithiof and Nathalia (Evenrud) Greenland, were born, reared and married in Norway, whence they came to the United States in 1871 and located in Minnesota, making their home there until their removal to Griggs county, North Dakota, in 1881. Here the father took up a homestead and a tree claim, upon which he continued to reside until 1902, when he left the farm to the operation of his youngest son and removed to Cooperstown, where he has since engaged in the machine business. He has taken a very prominent and influential part in public affairs and has been called upon to fill positions of honor and trust. He was elected county assessor, in which capacity he served two years, and was then elected sheriff of Griggs county. So acceptably did he fill that position that he was reelected, serving four years.

Oscar Greenland was about eight years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to North Dakota. He obtained his education in the district schools and in 1892 began his business career as a clerk in the hardware store of Peter E. Nelson at Cooperstown, where he remained for four years. He was next with the firm of Berg Brothers & Company until 1899, when he formed a partnership with his employers and started a hardware and general mercantile business at Binford, which town had just been established, theirs being the second store to open there. Mr. Greenland is still interested in that business, which is now conducted under the style of Greenland-Pritz & Company, Inc. In 1906 he was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Binford and has since been a member of its board of directors. They immediately erected a good substantial building, well equipped for its purpose, and from the first have received a liberal share of the public patronage. The bank has a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars and a surplus of ten thousand dollars, while its deposits at the present time amount to one hundred and seventy thousand dollars. In 1908 Mr. Greenland became cashier of the bank, in which capacity he is still serving, the other officers being Lewis Berg, president; Joseph Buchheit, vice president; and N. E. Greenland, assistant cashier.

On the 19th of April, 1900, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Greenland and Miss Bertha Lier, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Mathias C. Lier, who was born in Norway and brought his family to North Dakota in 1899. To this union have been born the following children; Inez Caroline, Florence Mercedes, Blanche Ovidia, Thelma, Beatrice Marjory and Bernic Muriel.

Mr. Greenland is president of the local lodge of Sons of Norway and is a democrat in politics. He is one of the leading representatives of his party in his district and has twice been a candidate for the state legislature but was defeated as the republican party is in the majority there. He takes a commendable interest in public affairs and is a liberal supporter of all enterprises calculated to benefit his town, county or state.