tor of the store Mr. Bolstad remained in his employ and continued to clerk for him seven years longer. At the end of that period he became a clerk in the clothing store of Leo Baer, with whom he was associated in that capacity for eight years. In 1907 he bought the business of Mr. Baer, and he has conducted it himself ever since.

Throughout his manhood Mr. Bolstad has taken an earnest interest and an active part in the civil affairs of his community, and has been very helpful to it. He has served as village assessor, and in that office he gave the people service so entirely satisfactory that in the spring of 1915 he was elected mayor of the village. As the chief village executive he is performing his duties with the same zeal, intelligence and fidelity that he exhibited in the office of assessor and has always shown in the management of his private business and personal affairs.

In religious affiliation Mr. Bolstad is connected with the Synod Lutheran church, and in fraternal relations he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. On August 31, 1895, he was united in marriage with Miss Tina Westad, the marriage being solemnized in Crookston, this county. They have one child, their daughter Edith Thelma. Mrs. Bolstad is a Norwegian by nativity but has been a resident of this state and county for many years.

LEWIS M. HESSELDahl.

While he has sought nothing of renown or spectacular display in his life to the present time, but has been content to live as a plain, industrious, frugal, upright and useful citizen, Lewis M. Hesseldahl, a retired farmer now residing at Fertile, this county, has, nevertheless, had some exciting experiences in the service of his adopted country and seen the other side of the world from here while rendering that service. He was a United States soldier in the Spanish-American war and as such was assigned to duty in the Philippines during that short but decisive contest.

Mr. Hesseldahl is a native of Denmark, where his life began February 24, 1874. When he was but one year and a half old his parents brought him to this country and took up their residence in Kendall county, Illinois. Some time afterward they moved to Minnesota and located in Faribault county, and there their son Lewis remained until 1901, when he came to Polk county and located on a farm near Fertile. His farm is in Garfield township and contains 240 acres. It is well improved and by his skill and industry in cultivating it he has brought it to a high state of productiveness. A few years ago he gave up active work on the farm and moved to Fertile, where he has since had his home, but he has continued to superintend the operations of his farm industry.

On March 4, 1905, Mr. Hesseldahl was united in marriage with Mrs. Anna (Frandahl) Underdahl, formerly the wife of Reginald Underdahl, who was born in Norway. They also moved from Faribault county, Minnesota, to Polk county in 1901, and settled on a farm in Garfield township. Mrs. Hesseldahl was born near Madison, Wisconsin, November 28, 1856, and was married to Mr. Underdahl in Faribault county. She has six children living, the fruits of her first marriage. They are: John, Julius, Ole, Christina, Ada and Eddie.

JOSEPH MELAAS.

While he has been a resident of Fertile but five years Joseph Melas, manager of the Monarch Elevator company, has made his mark on the business activities of the village and established a reputation for good judgment, enterprise and determined persistency in whatever he undertakes and has risen to