laborious development of new land and engaged in farming in the State for a number of years and reared a family of two sons and four daughters. Both parents are now living and reside in Seattle, Washington. Charles Skoug assisted his father on the homestead for several years and at the age of sixteen, embarked upon his commercial career as a salesman of farm machinery, his enterprise and natural ability winning him ready success and he continued in this occupation for seventeen years, traveling over all the western states and building up a prosperous trade. In 1907 he located in Crookston, where he is one of the influential and progressive citizens. He has become widely known over the state through his prominent services in the political field and in 1896 gave conspicuous service as the leader of the Democratic campaign, his work evincing marked executive ability and a natural political sense. He has also represented the county in a number of conventions. In June, 1913, he was appointed postmaster and has discharged the duties of his position with competency and satisfaction to the patrons. In fraternal circles, he is a well known and popular member of the Masonic order, the Elks and the United Commercial Travelers. His marriage to Anna M. Nordie, a resident of Minnesota, was solemnized June 20, 1895. She died in Crookston, April 19, 1914, leaving three children, Kenneth M., Vivian and Viola A. Mr. Skoug was married a second time on August 21, 1915, to Mrs. Elizabeth (Lindsay) Lundberg, the widow of Magnus Lundberg. Mrs. Skoug was born in Missouri but spent her early life in St. Paul. They make their home in Crookston.

PETER M. RINGDAL

Peter M. Ringdal, of Crookston, prominent business man and distinguished citizen, is a native of Minnesota, born in Goodhue county in 1861. He was reared on a farm where he remained until he was nineteen years of age. He then entered the railroad and express business and continued in this occupation until 1890. During this time, steady application to his work and intelligent study of its different phases, eminently fitted him for responsible positions later and enabled him to render valuable service to the state. He located in Crookston in 1888. In 1894 he entered public service as state senator, elected on the Populist party ticket. Since that time he has continued to be actively identified with public affairs and has accomplished much toward securing better and more efficient legislation. As senator, he spent a busy term and his principal efforts were directed toward better control of common carriers and the reduction of transportation rates, although this was some years before the attention of the general public had been aroused to the encroachments of corporations. He also originated and pushed to a successful conclusion, the movement which resulted in the establishment, in 1896, of the State Experiment station at Crookston. This station has since been converted into a state agricultural school. He favored more efficacious methods in the State Labor bureau and was instrumental in reorganizing the department to that purpose. In 1898 he received a unanimous renomination for state senator but withdrew from the legislative ticket to accept an unanimous nomination for congress by the Peoples and Democratic parties, but was defeated in the election. In 1899 he was appointed a member of State Railroad and Warehouse commission and worked with this commission for two years, during which time considerable progress was made in reducing and equalizing railroad rates and removing discriminations. He was made a member of the State Board of Control in January, 1907, and continued to serve in this office for a term of six years. Mr. Ringdal is the present register of the United States land office at Crookston, having been appointed to this position in January, 1914. In 1912 he was honored by the Democratic citizens of