the state with the nomination for governor. In public service and in the commercial world, his integrity and the power to accomplish that which is based on his earnest convictions, have won the respect of all men. He has always been a radical democrat and faithful supporter of the principles of democracy, favoring all measures aimed at the equalizing of opportunity and the destruction of monopoly and special privilege. He is prominently associated with the business interests of the city as president of the Crookston Granite company and of the Polk County State bank, a sketch of which is found in this work. Mr. Ringdal was married in 1885 to Mary J. Shirley.

JAMES P. O'CONNELL.

James P. O'Connell, receiver at the United States land office at Crookston, is a native of Minnesota, born in Wright county, July 18, 1873, the son of William and Mary (Haley) O'Connell, pioneer settlers of the state. They were natives of Ireland and were married in New York, after coming to this country. In 1858 they came to Minnesota and William O'Connell located on a government claim in Wright county where he engaged in the constructive work of the frontier farmer, clearing the wild land and continuing the improvement of it until his death, March 13, 1874. The death of his wife occurred in 1908 and they are survived by seven children; the six sons of the family all residing in the State. James P. O'Connell, born in the early days of the development of the country, has witnessed the many stages of its progress and has taken a keen interest in the observation of the forces which have so rapidly forced the evolution of the primitive wilderness into a populated and productive agricultural region. He remained on the homestead in Wright county until nineteen years of age, meanwhile attending the public schools and then became a telegraph operator on the Great Northern railroad. After three years of able service in this position, he was appointed station agent for the road at Warren, Minnesota, and continued in this capacity for sixteen years. In 1914 he was made receiver at the government land office at Crookston, a position for which his efficient and satisfactory service has proven him eminently fitted. Mr. O'Connell has always given his active interests to the affairs of the Democratic party and in fraternal circles, is a well known member of the Elk lodge. His marriage to Louise Flannigan was solemnized at Waverly, in 1900. She, like her husband, is a native of Minnesota, born at Watertown. They have three children, James, Sydnie Georgiana and Paul J. Mr. O'Connell and his family are members of the Catholic church.

GUNDER STENERSON.

Gunder Stenerson, of Erskine, a prominent lumberman of the northwest, is identified with two well-known lumber companies, as manager of the company of Stenerson Brothers, lumber dealers and contractors, and president of Stenerson Lumber corporation. He is a native of Norway, born August 1, 1864, and came to this country, accompanied by his brother, Sven Stenerson, in 1886. They worked during one winter in the pineries of Michigan and then went to Dane county, Wisconsin, where they were employed in the lumber camps and at farm labor. In 1887 they were joined by the third brother, Knute Stenerson, and in the following year the three brothers removed to Minnesota. Being acquainted with the locality of Pelican Rapids through friends and relatives, who resided there, they bought eighty acres of timber land near that place. The land was covered with hardwood and with an expenditure of about four hundred dol-