of German parentage. She is prominently associated with the social life of the community and takes an active interest in the affairs of the church and club circles. They have one son, Max, aged eleven years.

Mrs. Hogenson is the bonded substitute for her husband on the mail route and has ably served as such for the past two years.

HON. HALVOR STEENEerson.

A strong man, verily, is Halvor Steenerson—strong in physique, strong in mental power, strong in moral force and strong in the influence he wields in public life. For a member of the National Congress is he, and, as such, has rendered such valiant service that he has been re-elected by his constituents no less than six consecutive times, having thus been a member of the 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd and 64th Congresses.

As his name would indicate, the Honorable Halvor Steenerson is of sturdy Norwegian stock. His father, Steen Knudson, was an educator of no mean ability. A biographical sketch of him appears elsewhere in the volume.

Halvor, when about seventeen years of age, was entered as a student at Rushford High school, and after attending that institution for two years was licensed to teach. By teaching and doing farm work he was enabled to pay his way at school for another year, and he then entered a law office as a clerk and law student. In 1878 he went to Chicago and entered the Union College of Law where he pursued his legal studies for two terms. He then essayed the bar examination, passed with distinction and was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of Illinois in June, 1878. Returning to Minnesota, he was admitted to practice there, opened an office at Lanesboro, Minnesota, in which city he remained till spring, 1880, when he moved to Crookston, Minnesota, which is still his home.

Such was the native ability and thoroughness of the work of Mr. Steenerson that, within six months after locating in Crookston, he was elected County Attorney. As a prosecutor he was markedly successful and he began to be at once recognized as a rising lawyer of ability. Two years later he was elected State Senator, being the youngest member of that body. He served on the Judiciary Committee and helped to frame the law creating the Board of Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners of 1885. This was the first attempt at railroad and warehouse regulation in Minnesota, and was two years before the Congress of the United States passed the Interstate Commerce Act. He served four years, his term ending in January, 1887. He then, for fifteen years, devoted himself to general practice, his reputation extended throughout the Northwest, and he took part in some of the most noted trials of those days. Before his election to Congress he was twice sent as a Delegate to the Republican National Conventions (1884-1888). His success as a lawyer may be said to be due to natural talent and great industry, his tact and skill in the management of his case, and his ability to command the respect and confidence of court and jury. Though not unskilled in the arts of advocacy, he rarely resorted to appeals to the emotions, but mainly relied on the logic and reason of his position. These traits have also marked him as a political speaker and debater.

In 1893, Mr. Steenerson brought a proceeding under the laws of the state of Minnesota to force a reduction in the transportation rates on grain. This important litigation he conducted, refusing all compensation therefor, and, through his masterly presentation of the facts carried to a successful conclusion, the "Steenerson Grain Rate Case," as it is known, which has since been cited in nearly every important case involving the regulation of the charges of public utilities.