union, Agnes, who was a teacher in the Polk county schools for a time; Hilma, Phillip, Ralph and Arthur. Mr. Solberg is a member of the United Lutheran church and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

JOSEPH TAGLEY.

Joseph Tagley, cashier of the First State bank of Mentor and vice president of the State bank of Gully, has been associated for many years with the business interests of this section. He is a native of Wisconsin, born in St. Croix county, October 26, 1867, the youngest of five brothers and one sister, children of John J. and Bertha Tagley. The family, after fourteen years residence in Jackson county, Minnesota, came to Polk county in 1883 and John J. Tagley became a homesteader in Woodside township about four miles southeast of the present village of Mentor. In the same year, in partnership with his father, Joseph Tagley engaged upon his initial venture in the business world with a small store at Rothsay, Minnesota, and three years later transferred his operations to Polk county, opening a store at the location of the Woodside post-office, in section twenty-two, the first store and for a few years the only one in Woodside township. Under the able direction of the young merchant, this proved a most successful enterprise, he bought out his father’s interest and rapidly advanced from his modest start with a three hundred dollar capital to a two thousand dollar stock of general merchandise. In 1892 he sold the building and removed his goods to Mentor, seven miles distant, where he opened a general store with a marked increase on his former activities, putting in a six thousand dollar stock. Although he was not able to entirely finance his operations during the first few months, this ambitious endeavor was made possible through the confident cooperation of the wholesale firms and one of the flourishing mercantile enterprises of the county was auspiciously started on its career. Mr. Tagley continued his prosperous relations with this business until 1900 and in the later years was conducting an annual business of $30,000. He then sold the store to O. Moreau & Son but continues to be the owner of the building in which it is located. Upon retiring from the mercantile field, his interest turned to other financial activities and in 1901, in company with A. D. Stephens, he opened the Bank of Mentor and has since given his attention to the direction of its affairs. In 1908 it was incorporated as the First State bank of Mentor, with a capital of $10,000. Mr. Stephens became president; Mrs. Tagley, vice president; and Mr. Tagley, cashier; in which capacity he has become well known in financial circles through the substantial results of his management. A more exhaustive comment on the merit and activity of this institution is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. Tagley also has extensive land interests in the state, owning some two sections in Polk, Clearwater, and Rosseau counties, over one-half of which is in Polk county. All of his Polk county land is being operated by Mr. Tagley through tenants. His agricultural interests have been mainly centered on grain and stock farming and he has given much attention to the improvement of stock, keeping a high grade and breeding Holstein cattle. He has further been identified with the business interest of the community in his association with A. D. Stephens, in the establishment of a creamery in 1900. Under the management of Mr. E. Axelton, this proved a valuable enterprise to the farmers of the territory. This led to the organization of a new company upon a co-operative basis which has now ninety stockholders, of whom Mr. Tagley is one. The importance and success of Mr. Tagley’s interests have inevitably contributed with the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens to make him a forceful factor in public affairs. In official capacity he has served as township clerk, village president, and in other local positions...