smaller body of water. Mr. Mitchell has given active cooperation in all matters of public moment; has given able service in official capacity as township supervisor and clerk and has been prominent in the business progress of the farming community as organizer and president of the Mentor Co-operative Creamery Association, which was organized in 1914 and has some eighty shareholders. He is also a member and a director in the cooperative store. He was married in 1874, in Rush City, Minnesota, to Melvinia Hickerson, who is a native of Wisconsin and removed in her early childhood to Chisago county, Minnesota. They have a family of eight children, Guy, living on a homestead at Dora Lake, Itasca county, Minnesota; Rufus, a farmer near Big Forks, Minnesota; Laura, the wife of A. G. Cayler, of Crookston; Ida, who married Walter F. McLaughlin of Mentor; Roy, on the home farm; Etta, a teacher in the Polk county schools; Grace, also a teacher in the local schools and Ruth. Roy Mitchell is the present township clerk, being his father's successor after the twenty years of able service by the latter.

ALEXANDER G. SPOKELY.

A brief account of the history of the Spokely family will be found in a sketch of the parents of this enterprising, progressive and successful farmer of Hubbard township, Polk county. They are Gunleik and Gunvor (Hagen) Spokely, also residents of Hubbard township, where they settled in 1871, among the pioneers of the township. Their son Alexander was born on the parental homestead in that township August 30, 1879, and remained at home assisting his father on the farm until he reached the age of twenty-one. He then joined his brother Adolph in keeping a saloon at Climax, with which he was connected about five years.

Farming presented more attractions to Mr. Spokely as an occupation for life than merchandising of any kind, and at the end of the period mentioned above he returned to it. In the fall of 1910 he took up his residence on the tract of 160 acres which he now owns and occupies in Section 28, Hubbard township, on which he has good buildings and other improvements, making it one of the comfortable and attractive homes in the township, and which he has brought to a high state of productiveness by his industry and intelligence as a farmer. He is wide-awake and progressive, and makes his attributes in these respects tell to his advantage in conducting his business. He is also an active participant in local public affairs, aiding in promoting the welfare of his township by his public spirit and breadth of view.

On October 30, 1900, Mr. Spokely was married in North Dakota to Miss Nellie Myrland, a native of that state. They have three children, their daughter Grace B. and their sons Glenn E. and Lowell D. A. The parents are held in high esteem for their sturdy and sterling citizenship and the helpful interest they take in everything designed to promote the welfare of the township.

AVLE P. BRANDVOLD.

Avle P. Brandvold, a farmer of Knute township, is a native of Minnesota, born in Goodhue county, January 17, 1869. A cousin of Mr. Brandvold was one of the pioneers of eastern Polk county and in his honor the family name was conferred upon one of the townships in the Thirteen Towns. The parents of Avle P. Brandvold came to Minnesota prior to the Civil war and located in Goodhue county. The father was a native of Norway and worked in the lumber woods in Wisconsin for some years after coming to America. He became a prominent farmer in Goodhue county, where he owned a half section of land and also owned