from his business activities he takes an active interest in civic affairs and has given six years of able service as alderman and is also a valued member of the board of education. He is a member of the Republican party. Mr. Nelson was married in 1894 to Bertha S. Langford, of Dodge Center, Minnesota, and they have two children, Walter L. and Winifred. Mrs. Nelson is well known in the club and church circles of the city and is a member of the Baptist church. Not only is Mr. Nelson the cashier of one of Polk county's most substantial financial institutions but he was the organizer as well and has thoroughly worked into its character his theory of cooperative benefit which makes it one of the strongest banks in the county today. The bank is located in a fine building with every modern facility, which stands as a credit to civic pride as well as to the enterprise of the directors of the institution.

THOMAS NISBET (Deceased).

Thomas Nisbet, whose death occurred at his city home in Grand Forks on the 18th of August, 1914, was one of the worthy makers of Polk county having come to it when it was practically all a wilderness, with a choice of where he should secure a home.

He was born in Sherbrook, County Lanark, Ontario, December 24, 1843, and was the fourth of several brothers to come to Polk county, of whom David was the first. James, of whom further mention is made elsewhere, followed, Robert and Thomas coming in turn. Of these David died about 1880, a bachelor, in middle life, and was buried in Nisbet Cemetery, which was named in his honor. Their mother Christena also died here at an advanced age. One daughter Christena was the wife of James Lee, and another, Margaret, married James Gilmore, both now being deceased.

Thomas Nisbet was married in Winona county, Minnesota, December 30, 1871, to Miss Janet Robertson, cousin of James Robertson of Huntsville township. She was also born in County Lanark and as a child was brought to Winona county, where her parents remained till death. One of her brothers, Joseph Robertson was for several years a resident of Huntsville, dying some twenty-four years since.

Mr. Nisbet was a blacksmith by trade, working as such about eight years before marriage in Winona county, and so continued at Mallory finally operating a shop on his farm, his preference being to work at the forge rather than on the farm.

He secured railroad land at $7 per acre, securing the usual rebate for that part put into cultivation. He became the owner of 400 acres which comprises the present fine home of James Cummings, and which was drained by the Marais, making it a very desirable tract, especially when natural drainage was depended upon. When Joseph Robertson died, his farm was also purchased by Mr. Nisbet making 640 acres of which he was proprietor, even after selling the original home.

Leaving the farm, he operated a shop in Mallory, two miles distant, for twelve years, when he retired to Grand Forks, although he continued to supervise the operation of his lands.

He was chosen township treasurer for several years and was a member of the Town Board. He was a stanch Republican and was once candidate for county commissioner.

Mr. Nisbet was an enthusiastic Mason, having been made one by Tom Morriss, ex-mayor of Crookston. He took practically all the work of the fraternity including both lines—the York and the Scottish Rite, being one of very few in Polk county who were advanced to the thirty-second degree. He frequently attended the National Conclaves, and attained a great local reputation as a lodge worker, being specially well fitted by temperament and physique to carry the work of the third degree, the character of Jubal Um being one that he appeared in almost to perfection.

His family are four—Ada E., at home; William G.,