him the lumber for his first home and he entered upon a career marked with the creditable achievement of the man who rises through his own efforts to success and affluence. He added steadily to his property and now owns eight hundred acres which is operated as one farm, is one of the largest estates in the western part of the county and equipped with good buildings and modern efficient methods for stock and grain farming is also one of the most profitable farms in the region. Aside from this enterprise, Mr. Nelson is associated with various important business interests, being one of the original directors and stockholders of the First National bank, a stockholder and director in the Arneson Mercantile company and was formerly a stockholder in a boat operating on Red river. Since 1905 he has resided in East Grand Forks, where of late years, ill health has confined him to his home and necessitated his retirement from business activities. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Zion Lutheran church and was actively influential in the organization of the Grand Marias Lutheran church. He has been three times married. The first marriage was contracted in Duluth and six children were born to that union, three of whom are now living. Edward, who is engaged in the grocery business at Centennial, Wyoming, Annie, the wife of Oscar Ulve, a farmer of Sullivan township, and Carl who operates a part of his father's estate. To the second union, with Martha Brandon, of Grand Forks, two children were born, William, with the Arneson Mercantile company and a director in the company, and John, employed in the offices of the Great Northern railroad, at East Grand Forks. On October 17, 1905, Mr. Nelson was married to Annie Peterson Anderson, the widow of Nels Anderson, of Grand Forks. Mrs. Nelson has two children by her former marriage, Oscar Anderson, who lives at St. Paul and Lillian Anderson, who makes her home with her mother.

L. S. KOLDEN.

As a merchant, banker and farmer L. S. Kolden, cashier of the State Bank of Neilsville and president of the State Bank of Leonard, Minnesota, has had a busy and productive life to the present time (1916), and one that has been of great service to the communities in which he has operated. He was born in Norway August 28, 1857, and became a resident of the United States in 1873. After his arrival in this country he lived eight years in Wisconsin and devoted seven of them to clerking in a drug store at Sparta in that state, during which he exhibited fine business ability.

In 1881 he moved to Ada, Norman county, Minnesota, and for two years clerked in a general store there, then started a general store of his own at Neilsville, which he conducted with great success for nine years. He began his business on a capital of $1,000 and sold it at a handsome profit in 1891, having built it up to large proportions and made the store widely popular and its trade very extensive and active. When the railroad was built through Neilsville he started a lumber yard, which he continued to operate continuously for three years. During almost the whole of his residence at Neilsville until 1911 he was also engaged in cultivating his fine farm of 290 acres, which lies close to the village and is one of the most valuable and attractive in Hubbard township. Since 1911 tenants have farmed it.

In July, 1911, Mr. Kolden was elected cashier of the State Bank of Neilsville, and he has held that position ever since greatly to the advantage of the bank and its patrons. He is treasurer of Hubbard township and has been all of the last fifteen years, and has served as school treasurer or clerk continuously for twenty-two years. He is also treasurer of St. Peter's Lutheran church at Neilsville.

Mr. Kolden was married in 1883 to Miss Mary Christianson, who was also a resident of Wisconsin while he was living in that state. They have one child, their daughter Lucy Clara, who is now the wife of