his Royal Arch Chapter, his Commandery of Knights Templar and the Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the Order of Elks. On December 18, 1884, he was married to Miss Mary Elizabeth Ross, the daughter of John Ross, for many years janitor of the courthouse and the high school. They have had eight children, seven of whom are living, Edward W., Harry Frank, Lillie, Ross Owen, Helen, Allen and Grace. A daughter named Isabel died when she was twelve years old. Lillie is now the wife of Thomas Mortenson, of Crookston, and Harry married Miss Blanche McDonald. Mr. Schmidt and his son Harry are members of a hunting club which has had a deer camp twenty miles from Hibbing for twelve years. The club has an outing at the camp every year, and they usually get a bountiful supply of venison while the outing is in progress.

NELS CLEMENTSEN.

In many ways this enterprising and progressive farmer and bank president has shown his capacity to advance his own interests and aid materially in promoting the welfare and advancement of the region around him. He was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, June 30, 1859, the son of Knut Clementsen who came to this country and located in Illinois in 1855 and moved to Goodhue county, this state, in 1858. He took up government land there and converted it into a fine farm and is now living retired at Zumbrota. At one time he owned two tracts of land in Polk county, one in Liberty township and the other partly in Russia and partly in Onstad township.

His son Nels, whose home is in Section 15, Liberty township, five miles and a half west of the village of Fertile, remained at home until he reached the age of twenty-seven, farming his father's land as a tenant for some years. On May 20, 1887, he came to Polk county and bought a quarter-section of land adjoining his father's. He then took charge of both places and now owns both, his home farm comprising 580 acres, his first purchase having cost him $3 an acre. He has 200 acres of the home place in grain and raises beef and milch cattle, keeping generally about fifteen milch cows. He also owns timber lands, some in St. Louis and some in Cook county, which he is holding as investments. When he came to this county in 1887 he had no cash but owned four horses, a wagon, a plow and some other farm implements.

Mr. Clementsen's first dwelling on his farm was a one-room shack 14 by 16 feet in size. His present residence is a fine modern structure built in 1903, and he has a first class barn 40 by 72 feet with a T 40 by 42 feet in dimensions, which was built in 1908 and gives him stabling for all his live stock. He is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery company of Fertile and also in the Farmers Elevator company, which he helped to organize in 1894, and which he has served for about ten years as president. He was also one of the organizers of the Mutual Fire Insurance company and has been its president for eight or ten years. When he saw that the hour was ripe for the enterprise he helped to organize the Farmers State Bank of Fertile and of this he has been president from its organization.

The public affairs of the township have always interested Mr. Clementsen in a leading way and he has taken an active part in them. He served as township clerk five years and twelve as chairman of the township board, and he is at present (1916) township treasurer. In politics he is a Republican, but in local affairs he is never a partisan but always eager to promote the best interests of his township. In religious connection he is affiliated with the Varness United Lutheran church, which is one mile north of his home, and for some time has been secretary of the congregation.

Mr. Clementsen was married in 1896 to Miss Jennie Landsverk, a native of Norway. They have seven children, all of whom are living at home with their