

dent of the "One Hundred Thousand Club," and president of the Commercial Club. He is on the board of trade of Superior and is president of the Peerless Mining Co., which is developing some rich silver mines near Austin, Nev. In politics he is a Republican in principle, but has never been a seeker of official honors.

Mr. Smith's wife, to whom he was married Oct. 13, 1886, was Miss May A. Stone, daughter of Charles W. and Alice E. (Williams) Stone. Mrs. Smith was born in Marshalltown, Iowa. She is a graduate of the Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and has given much time to the study of music, being considered one of the finest soprano singers at the Head of the Lakes. For several years she was engaged as chorister of Pilgrim Congregational church, West Superior, with which both she and her husband are connected. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one daughter, Florence Adelaide, and two sons, Clayton and Wilton. The family take a prominent part in the social life of the city. Mr. Smith is a fraternity man, belonging to Cornell Chapter, Alpha Delta Phi.

JOHN GAMPER, one of the progressive men of Taylor county, Wis., residing on a farm in the town of Browning, was born in Chur, Switzerland, Feb. 11, 1860, a son of William Gamper and his wife, Notina (Dannuser) Gamper, the latter of whom is still living and makes her home in Switzerland. William Gamper was engaged in the mercantile business at Chur for a time and his wife conducted a hospital there for some years. John Dannuser, father of Mrs. Notina Gamper, was a farmer.

John Gamper received his education in the excellent school of his native village and in Zurich University, where he pursued a classical course. In 1883 he came to the United States, and after spending a short time in Chicago, went to Sauk county, Wis., and worked on a farm. Finding this occupation congenial to his taste, in the fall he went to Medford, Wis., and purchased a piece of land which he improved according to his

ability. He has also given a great deal of time to a real estate business and to abstracting. His excellent education and his active interest in public affairs soon made him a potent factor in matters of general interest. He served as school clerk and also as town clerk. In 1892 he became clerk of the court and served two terms. He held a position under the sheriff for two years, and was then elected register of deeds, an office he held two terms. In the spring of 1904 Mr. Gamper was made chairman of the town of Browning. His political faith is that of the Democratic party, but he is not strictly partisan in local affairs.

On May 2, 1888, Mr. Gamper was married to Louise Lindow, who has borne him six children, Alma, Clara, Lena, Ida, Alvinna and Minna. Mr. Gamper enjoys the respect and esteem of the best people of Taylor county, and his family are popular socially.

C. S. NELSON, a successful merchant and banker of Spooner, Washburn county, is a native of Denmark, where he was born Nov. 8, 1863, and where he passed the first few years of his life. He came to America in 1871 with his parents, S. C. and Anna Nelson, who settled with their eight children on land bought by Mr. Nelson, and on which he still lives, near St. Croix Falls.

C. S. Nelson remained on the farm until he was fourteen years of age, his only schooling consisting of two short winter terms. At fourteen he began working for himself, doing whatever work he could find. In 1888 or 1889 he came to Spooner and opened a meat market, which he carried on for several years, and then went into a general merchandise business, carrying a large stock of goods. He now occupies a double store and keeps the two floors well stocked with seasonable goods, also doing a general banking business, having established a bank in the spring of 1901. In politics he is a Republican. He served several years as treasurer of the town of Spooner, as chairman of the town one year, and was elected chairman of the county board in the spring