

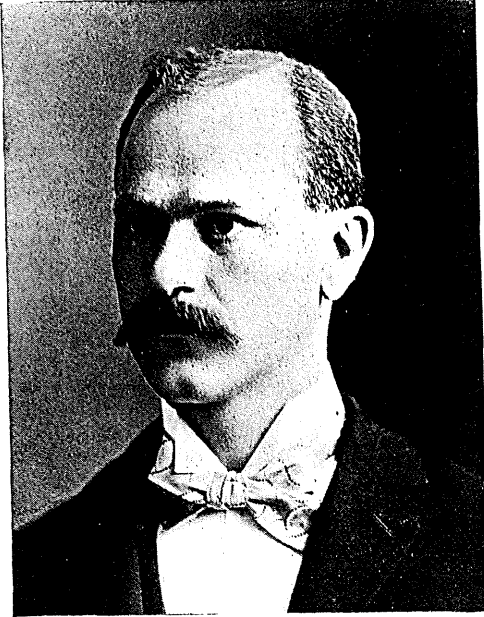


having had a careful training along this line in the mother country. He is a member of the Swedish Mission Covenant Church, and is unmarried. It was in the campaign of 1892 that Mr. Theden first made himself felt in politics. He was engaged by the Republican State Central Committee to make a number of speeches in the Swedish tongue at various points over the state. Having studied law with a marked degree of success, and having many of the arts and graces of the public speaker, he made a reputation in that campaign which two years later secured him the nomination as a candidate for the state senate from one of the Minneapolis districts. He was elected by a large majority, and his term of office will not expire until the first of January, 1899. During his first term as member of the state senate he became known as the champion of measures designed to benefit labor, notably the lien law, which owes its present efficiency in this state in large part to his efforts. He was also back of legislation intended to give voice to the demand for additional safeguards to be thrown around the liquor traffic. His chief work as a temperance reformer is embodied in a bill nullifying an ordinance of the city of Minneapolis providing that only members of the police depart-

ment should be qualified to swear out warrants for a violation of the Sunday closing law, so-called. At the opening of the present session of the legislature (in January, 1897), he became the champion of that large and growing class of citizens who believe that the modern department stores are against public policy. He moved the committee of investigation that was busy for a large part of the session sifting out the facts connected with that system, and was made its chairman. Mr. Theden is a striking representative of the successful young man in politics, and his career so far has been an honorable one. He enjoys the confidence of a rapidly widening circle of acquaintances and friends, and his future is very promising.

LORAN CHARLES STEVENSON.

The subject of this sketch is a lawyer practicing his profession in Minneapolis. He was born in Oakland County, Michigan, August 20, 1861, the son of John W. Stevenson and Frances A. Bird (Stevenson). John Stevenson was a farmer and followed that occupation until recently, when he moved into a small village near Detroit. He is of Scotch descent, his grandparents having both been born in Scotland. Mr. Stevenson's descent on his mother's side is from the Wentworth family, quite numerous in New York. The grandparents of Loran, both on his mothers' and father's side, settled in Michigan in the early days. Loran began his education in a country school about a mile and a half from his father's home, to which he was obliged to walk every day. Later he attended the Michigan state normal school for about three years, and after that spent one year at the state university at Ann Arbor, but did not complete the course of study or graduate from any institution of that kind. In 1883 he located in Minnesota. He was then engaged as a commercial traveler and made his headquarters in Mankato. He followed this business for about three years, and while a resident of Mankato, was married, November 8, 1887, to Miss Jenne Lettys. The following day he came to Minneapolis to live, and soon afterwards



Anna Christiansen (Anderson.) Mr. Anderson enjoyed the educational advantages afforded by the elementary schools of his native town, after which he attended the University of Lund, where he was graduated in 1865. His diploma for that institution gave him admission as an officer in the internal royal department at Stockholm. He was naturally of a scientific bent, and subsequently pursued the study of natural science in Berlin and Dresden, Germany, for two years. He came to America in 1880 and located in Minnesota. He was a gentleman of fine attainments in letters and the sciences, and was employed as associate editor of "The Minnesota Stats Tidning," at Minneapolis. Subsequently he became one of the stock company which purchased this paper, and afterwards started a Swedish paper, "Skaffaren," of which he was made editor-in-chief. He has held that position during the last twelve years, and at the head of that successful journal has exerted a wide influence, especially among his fellow countrymen.

commenced the study of law with C. J. Bartleson. July 12, 1889, he was admitted to the bar and has been engaged in the practice of law ever since. His business has gradually increased and is now satisfactory in its results. Mr. Stevenson is a Republican and a member of the Union League. He is also a member of the Commercial Club and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Improved Order of Red Men. Mr. Stevenson was not favored by fortune in his early life, and enjoyed only such advantages as come to the son of a farmer in moderate circumstances, compelled to rely mainly upon himself for whatever advancement he could obtain. After completing his studies at the normal school and at the University of Michigan he spent some time in the occupation of teacher, but his business and professional experience has been mainly in the profession of law. He has no children.

BERNDT ANDERSON.

Berndt Anderson is dairy commissioner of the state of Minnesota. Mr. Anderson is a native of Sweden, having been born at Lund, August 2, 1840, the son of Lars Anderson and



He has always taken an active interest in politics, and was a delegate to the Republican state convention which nominated W. R. Merriam for governor. In January, 1893, he was appointed by