



GEORGE ALLISON MACKENZIE.

The ancestry of George A. MacKenzie, of Gaylord, Minnesota, were Scotchmen as far back as the line can be traced, for he comes of that old highland Scotch family of MacKenzies which numbers among its members many notable characters. Prominent in the family have been a long line of Earls of Seaforth; Sir Alexander MacKenzie, who discovered the great river in North America, which bears his name; Sir George MacKenzie, the famous Scotch lawyer; Henry MacKenzie, the Scotch author, and Sir Morrell MacKenzie, the noted physician, and many others. Mr. MacKenzie's father, Malcolm MacKenzie, was born in the Isle of Skye, in 1834, and emigrated to Prince Edward Island. When ten years old he came to the United States, and later settled in Chicago, where he engaged in business for a number of years. In 1868 he came to Minnesota, settling in LeSueur County, which county he represented in the Minnesota legislature of 1877. His wife was Miss Annie Kerr, a daughter of Charles Kerr, one of the early settlers of northern Illinois, and, like Mr. MacKenzie, was of an old Scotch family. George A. MacKenzie was born at Roscoe, Illinois, on March 14, 1857. He came with the family to Minnesota in 1868, and lived at and

near Rochester, where he attended school. Moving to LeSueur County, he taught school for seven years, and at the same time commenced reading law. For a time he was under the instruction of M. R. Everet, of Waterville, Minnesota. On June 8, 1886, he was admitted to the bar at Owatonna, before the Hon. Thomas Buckham, Judge of the Fifth Judicial District, and was complimented for the excellent examination which he passed. During his ten years' practice Mr. MacKenzie has been attorney in a number of important cases, one of which settled the important question of law in this state relative to the validity of the incorporation of villages attempted under the law of 1883. (This is known as the case of State of Minnesota vs. Spaude). He has been admitted to practice in the state courts of Minnesota, Montana and Washington, and in several of the United States District Circuit Courts. Since he moved to Gaylord, Mr. MacKenzie has been for five years corporation attorney for the village and a bright public speaker. He has been much in demand during the political campaigns for the past ten years, and has done much speaking in behalf of the Republican party. During this time he has attended as a delegate nearly every Republican state convention held in Minnesota. Mr. MacKenzie is an enthusiastic sportsman, and has hunted big game in nearly all parts of the northwest. For the past five years he has been secretary of the "M. C. K. Hunting Club," an organization of over forty members. It controls some of the best shooting posts in Southern Minnesota. During one of Mr. MacKenzie's hunting trips he was the guest of the famous Marquis De Mores, at Medora, on the Little Missouri river. On January 10, 1879, Mr. MacKenzie was married at Waterville, Minnesota, to Miss Mattie Oblinger. They have three children, Ethlyn Genevieve, now fifteen years of age; Claud Hillel, and George, Jr., aged respectively thirteen and seven years. Mr. MacKenzie is now and has been for about six years, a member of the school board of Gaylord. For several years he has been engaged with others in an attempt to move the county seat of Sibley County to his town, and he still expects to be successful in this project.

*House Majority leader, 1911*