

The Pride of the Whole Northwest

FARGO

The Gateway to the Great Northwest

The History of Fargo

Cities are like men when they reach the glow of the limelight...

green was a man plowing with a team of mules. History. Yes he was from Indiana...

winter an when the land was surveyed, filed the claims with the proper authorities...

The Reason

We, the Overlanders, after a 2,500 mile tour of the state, wish to give the people of the state what we find in Fargo...

LET US BOOST!

buildings were on the site of the present court house. The corner stone for the Masonic temple...

The First Car Line

The first car line was laid in 1882. This was a horse car line, and operated only about Broadway and a short way up a couple of the cross streets...

The Big Fire

In the afternoon of June 7, 1883, a blaze was discovered in the store of Mrs. R. Hovman on Front street. The wind was blowing a gale...

Fargo, the City Beautiful

Where is there anything any more genuine American than North Dakota? And yet the American enjoys the reputation of sacrificing anything for a dollar...

City Beautiful Con.

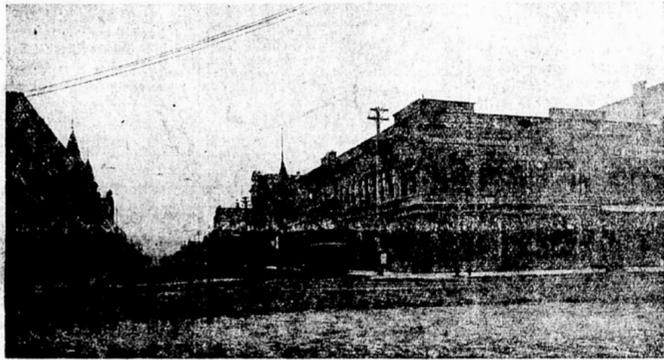
This plot is small but a great many trees are started here which saves the city considerable money. Not far off is a plot of shrubbery taken from the Bad Lands...

Throughout the entire park there are broad walks, and benches which, in the spring and fall, are filled with students.

Darling Drive.

To the south of Island park the driveway leads through a beautiful grove along the river for some two miles out of town. This is graded into a fine shape and dragged until it is perfectly smooth...

This drive is one of the most beautiful roads in Eastern Dakota, and motoring is certainly a pleasure when one can glide around the river bends in the cool shade after melting under the intense heat of the prairie sun.



COMMERCIAL CLUB AT CORNER OF N. P. AVENUE AND BROADWAY

long the Red river of the North in this state, the best known were Fort Peabody, located at the mouth of the Pembina river, Grand Forks...

Where, Oh Where, Will Fargo Be? When Congress made it's famous land grant to the Northern Pacific railroad the world discovered the Red river valley...

The Lucky Three: Jacob Lowell, Jr., Henry S. Back, and Andrew McHench, decided to find out. Beginning the early part of April 1871 they retraced the river on horseback...

Farmer Brown. One afternoon towards the last of June Lowell rounded the timber bordering Bird's Island, there pulled up beside the trail was a covered wagon...

to guess the right claim as the country was not yet surveyed and they did not know which was to be the one, or even section.

General Rosser's Camps. Late in the fall of 1871 General Rosser who had charge of the construction of this section of the Northern Pacific moved his camp across the river and settled down in true army style to spend the winter of 1871-2...

Centralia. Mr. G. J. Keeney, one of the earliest settlers on the town at the crossing of the Northern Pacific over the Red river of the north, became very active in the promotion of this city...

Uncle Sam Says Move.

One morning in the middle of the winter the citizens of Centralia and Fargo in the timber woke up to find a soldier stationed at every door in the town. The people were informed that they must move and the land they were settled on was part of the Sisseton and Wahpeton and Sioux Indian reservation...

same old story over again, the Indian, the buffalo, the trader, and the adventurer. This vast wheat realm's individuality was born when Farmer Brown of the Puget Sound Land company blundered and whispered that the great transcontinental railroad system would cross the Red River of the North where Fargo now holds sway...

The Hudson Bay company for a period of over fifty years prior to the coming of the Northern Pacific railroad, operated on the river and each season this company's men ventured from the forts which were located at various intervals along the river in to the wilderness on both sides of the trade with the Indian. The season's trappings were transferred to the east by way of Winnipeg, where the main post for this district was located.

Up to 1866 there was no house of worship in the vicinity. Father Gerry and preacher at different places between here and Duluth, but in 1867 he established the first mission house. An Episcopal church was built in 1872.

First Court House.

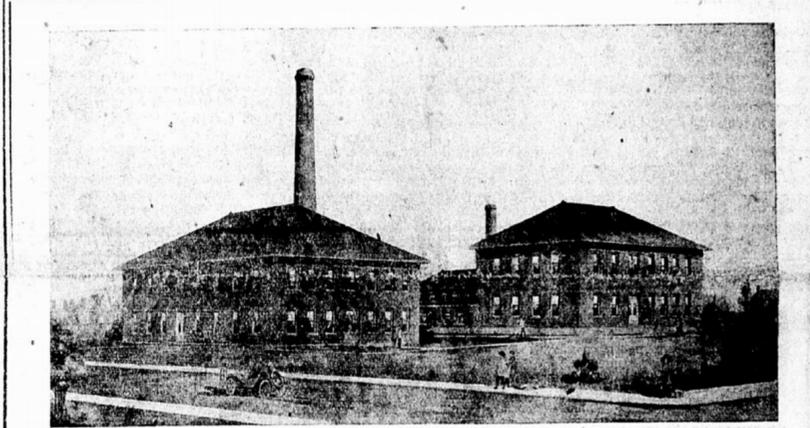
The first court house that Fargo ever had is still serving a worthy purpose, although changed of course. After being sold and moved several times it has now come to be known as the Birchell Flats. The second building burned in the fire of 1893. Both

A Place for the Lawless. In Jan. of 1872 a log jail was constructed and surrounded by a high palisade. This was a crude place and most generally occupied, except when the guards got drunk and the prisoners escape, although many escapes were otherwise made during the years of '73 and '74, and notably, in the last of these years.

Religious Activities. Up to 1866 there was no house of worship in the vicinity. Father Gerry and preacher at different places between here and Duluth, but in 1867 he established the first mission house. An Episcopal church was built in 1872.

James Hill Takes Part.

In 1870 James Hill, the railroad magnate, became interested in the Red River navigation. At this time he



FILTRATION PLANT

how well they carried out their... The loss and damage done at this time is variously estimated. The best figure, however, is that between \$50,000 and \$75,000 worth of property was destroyed.

Steamboat Age. In the summer of 1857 the steamer 'Northron' came up the Mississippi river and the Crow Wing river where the railroad crossed. Here her engines and machinery were recovered, the boat knocked down, and put on wagons, then ferried across country toward the Red river. The party had no guide and got lost in the timber lands of Minnesota...

Her beautiful white way glistening with clusters of lights along Broadway and the cross streets makes the city look like a metropolis of the east. Her big broad streets in the residence district are fringed with beautiful lawns while the houses are set back from a side walk and surrounded with a grove of trees.

Due to the efforts of the Commercial Club and the Builder's Exchange, most of the buildings fit in fine accord with their surroundings, and the plans are laid mostly by a landscape architect.

A Beauty Spot—Island Park.

At the southern end of Broadway, the business section meets the river, is Island park. This is a tract of about 40 acres situated on the Ox Bow loop of the Red river. It is the beauty spot of North Dakota. Completely encircling the park is a broad speed way. Along the river follows the sidewalk and a bicycle path. These join at Broadway and form a huge larial.

As one enters from Broadway and strolls up the cement walk he comes to a high fountain. The water boils from an outlet in the center and falls upon piles of stones artistically arranged, depositing just enough alkali to turn them to a milk white. There are similar fountains but none so large. At the west entrance stands the statue of Henrik Wergeland, the lyric poet and father of Norwegian literature a present from Norway to the countrymen of Fargo.

At the east entrance stands the old pumping station that has been converted into an office for the park superintendent. At this point the drive follows the river, and here also a dam has been made across the river which makes a pond for a fine boat yard. Launches, row boats, and canoes are found here in great abundance.

Along the southeast corner of this park lies the St. John hospital, which has in connection, a private park, smaller, but much on the order of island park.

For Those Who Enjoy Tennis.

Below the east entrance may be found the cluster of tennis courts said to be the finest in the vicinity. They have only recently been constructed at large expense, and a yearly fee of five dollars is charged for the use of them.

Home Grown Shrubbery.

South of the tennis courts is a small nursery. Here are required a few of the necessary trees and shrubs planted throughout the park.

The construction of this thoroughfare was undertaken early in the spring but it was not completed until well into the season. Negotiations are now under way and it is hoped will soon be completed whereby this and the island park drive will be connected. Some of the connecting streets are already paved making this a very easy matter.

In It's Natural State.

The second of Fargo's enticing spots is called Oak Grove. This park borders on the river at the north of the city. The idea here carried out is to preserve a tract near the city in as near the natural state as possible. To this end all the efforts of the park commission have been directed with the result that is surprising. One plot is heavily wooded, covered with a dense underbrush and vines. Stots in the clearing bloom with wild flowers. Another plot is in meadow form. The wild grass that grows here is cut and put up in the form of hay. The third plot is a large grove with benches for picnickers and merry-makers. Tables and benches invite one to an open dinner. A stone arch for cooking over has been put up by the park patrolman and everything is the handiest.

This then is Oak Grove—a resting place for the weary out from the noise of the city, yet free from the heat of the prairie sun, an ideal place for picnic dinners, a delight for Sunday strollers, a nature garden almost with in the city—and the people of Fargo are glad to tell you that their money has made this park possible but it's pleasures are free.

Some quaint Furniture.

Due to the suggestions and ideas of Superintendent Miller the park is well provided with a line of rustic benches, chairs, etc., many of which are very attractive because of their originality. Trees that have blown over are neatly trimmed and carved into small tables. Stumps have been fitted with comfortable chairs. Log bridges have been fitted with rustic banisters. Vines twine over seats that are made of branches until everything is completely hidden. Oak Grove is a place that Fargo may well be proud of.

For The Children's Use.

Due to the foresight of the park commission a large playground of several acres has been obtained at the west end of the city near the N. P. railroad yards. This is the part of town that is to develop into the manufacturing district. It is the

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ENTRANCE TO A. C. COLLEGE GROUNDS