The Bismarck Tribune.

Gas Works.

It will be remembered that the city council, in April last, passed an ordinance giving Henry A. True the exclusive privilege to put in gas works at Bismarck. Mr. True went east immediately and very little has been heard of him since until Friday, when Mr. McKenzie received a letter from Mr. Taylor, townsite agent of the Northern Pacific, stating that he had just received a letter from Mr. True, in which he orders a contract made out to him for the land required by the river siding and next to the platted portion of the town, and says if the rules of the company require cash payment for a certain block wanted, he will remit. This looks as if Mr. True means business. He is now temporarily in Mexico and will probably soon return and push the construction of the buildings. Last spring Mr. True said he hoped to get his buildings completed this fall, and it is still possible that they may be.

Ordinance granting Mr. True the privilege of putting in gas works contains the following provisions:

First—He is granted the exclusive right of way for thirty years.

Second—He has a right to sell and dispose of as he may deem proper, coke, coal tar, naphtha and other products of the manufacture of gas.

Third—The terms upon which the exclusive privileges are granted are: Shall enter into a contract with the city within thirty days from the time of passage of the ordinance (April 18, 1884), promising, covenanting and agreeing to and with said city of Bismarck, as follows, to-wit: That the said Henry A. True will not charge the said city or any persons, bodies or corporations therein more than $4 per thousand cubic feet of illuminating or fuel gas, that within six months from this date, he will commence actual operations within the corporate limits of the city of Bismarck for the construction of the necessary works for the purpose of manufacturing, distributing and selling gas. That on or before the first day of November, A. D. 1885, he will have three-fourths of a mile or more of distributing main pipe laid in the said city ready for use, from the place of location where said gas is manufactured, and be ready to furnish such gas along he line of said gas main pipe to the city, and all persons, bodies and corporations desiring to purchase and use said gas.

The other sections of the ordinance stipulate the number of street lamps the city shall take and the price to be charged, fines imposed upon persons destroying any property belonging to the gas company, etc., etc. The last section reads as follows: "That if the said Henry A. True shall fail to perform any part or portion of his promises, covenants and agreements embraced in his contract with the said city of Bismarck, as contemplated by this ordinance, and in any substantial manner fail to comply with the provisions of said ordinance, then and in that event the said Henry A. True shall forfeit and surrender any and all rights, privileges and franchises conferred or granted by this ordinance."

Dignitaries at Glendive.

W. C. Andrew, who represents the Bradner, Smith paper house, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, came in Friday morning on the first through train from the west since the storm in the Little Missouri country that washed out several miles of track. While the track was being repaired, the trains from the west halted at Glendive, which caused a congregation of noted men such as that town has never before seen. There was Mr. Blaine, a brother of Hon. James G. Blaine, who lives near Salem, Oregon; Mr. Sherman, attorney in the celebrated Beecher-Tilton trial; United States Senator McMillan, of Minnesota; Rev. Dr. George M. Stone, chaplain of the state legislature of Connecticut; Mr. Bennett, a prominent prohibition journalist of Kansas, who says Blaine will carry that state by 40,000 majority, and G. W. Williams, of the Warren Packing company of Portland, Oregon, a firm that has put up 84,000 cans of salmon this season. Mr. Williams gives a very interesting account of how salmon are caught in the Columbia river. The fishing season is during the four months of April, May, June and July, when the fish in large numbers are going up stream to spawn. Mr. Williams says the run of chinook salmon is increasing yearly, and unless the demand for this kind of canned goods increases, the time will come when the Columbia will be literally packed with fish. The old fish, after spawning, never return to salt water, but die. The young hatch out in thirty days and live in the small streams the first year, then gradually work their way to the sea, where they grow to weigh from fifteen to seventy-five pounds. Mr. Williams says it is a curious fact, not generally known, that Europe consumes over three times as much salmon as the United States. Mr. Williams is en route east, stopping off at all important towns to introduce his brand of fish.

The Telephone System.

A radical change has taken place in the service of the Bismarck and Mandan telephone exchange since Manager Davis took charge. A new list of subscribers is now being printed, showing twenty or more additions since the last list was published in July. A new and improved system of ringing up the subscribers and answering calls has also been adopted. Each subscriber has been given a number and after September 1, the following rules will be in force:

Call central offie with one ring. place the receiver to the ear and listen for response from operator. Never wait for return ring. Give number and name of party wanted

When connected, proceed and give the correct number of rings which will be repeated at the option of the party calling.

Three complete and successive revolutions of the crank should constitute one ring and the rings should be repeated by an interval of three seconds.

When through, the party first calling will "ring off," by giving one ring, which will notify the central office to disconnect. In answering calls do not ring back once as heretofore, but repeat your own call which can be heard in the receiver held by the listening party.

In hanging up the receiver be sure the card does not prevent it from lowering the lever.

If you desire prompt service do your part by answering promptly.

For example, supposing the Bismarck TRIBUNE wants to talk with register of deeds.

TRIBUNE rings once, which calls central office, and at the same time places the receiver to his ear.

Central office will ask, "What is it?"

TRIBUNE will say, "Give me register of deeds, No. 41."

"Central office will make connection and Tribune will make two rings for the register Tribune will place receiver to its ear and wait for register of deeds to make two rings which can be heard distinctly through the receiver.

When through talking Tribune will ring once, which advises central office that it is through talking.

By this means it will be seen the central office has only to make the connection and the parties wanting to communicate do their own calling, thus giving the central office time to make other connections and facilitate matters.

Another feature is the establishment of telephone stations where non-subscibers can go and by paying the fee communicate with whom they choose. Regular subscribers are not allowed to permit non-subscribers to use their instrument.

The stations in Bismarck will be at Peterson & Veedeers' drug store, Merchants hotel, Frisby's drug store, and at Marcelais & Co.'s fruit store. At Mandan the stations are Clark's drug store and at Bingenheimer & Taylor's drug store. The telepone office at Bismarck is now open day and night and is becoming almost indispensable to all business houses, as well as convenient to residences, especially in stormy weather, when anything may be ordered from the store without leaving the house.

Mr. Davis is entitled to much credit for the manner in which he has improved the service, and that it will be appreciated will be proven by the increase in the number of subscribers from time to time.

The Grading of Wheat.

The Minneapolis chamber of commerce inspection committee has prepared the following new rules for wheat inspection at Minneapolis:

No. 1 hard spring wheat shall be composed of not less than 85 per cent of Scotch fife wheat, which must be sound, plump, dry, well cleaned, and weigh not less than 58 lbs. to the measured bushel.

No. 2 hard spring wheat shall be composed of not less than 80 per cent of Scotch fife wheat which must be sound, dry, reasonably plumb and reasonably clear and weigh not less than 56 lbs. to the measured bushel.

No. 1 spring wheat shall be composed of sound, dry, plumb, well cleaned spring wheat and weigh not less than 58 lbs. to the measured bushel.

No. 1 northern shall be composed of sound, dry, well cleaned, spring wheat, weighing not less than 58 lbs. to the measured bushel, and to consist of not less than 50 per cent of Scotch fife wheat.

No. 2 spring wheat shall be composed of sound, dry, reasonably plumb and reasonably clear spring wheat, and weigh not less than 56 lbs. to the measured bushel.

No. 2 northern shall be composed of sound, dry, reasonably clear and reasonably plumb spring wheat, weighing not less than 56 lbs. to the measured bushel, and consist of not less than 40 per cent of Scotch fife wheat. The grades of No. 4 and Extra No. 1 were stricken from the rules, and the dockage system as now practiced was ordered abolished at the end of the present crop year.

DULUTH INSPECTION RULES.

The Duluth inspection rules for this season will be of interest to the farmers in this vicinity. Following is the substance:

No. 1 hard spring wheat—Must be sound, well cleaned and weigh not less than 58 pounds to the measured bushel, and be composed mostly of Scotch fife wheat.

No. 1 northern spring—Be sound, well cleaned, weighing not less than 58 pounds to the bushel and be composed of hard and soft varieties.

No. 1 spring—Be sound, well cleaned and weigh 58 pounds to the bushel.

No 2 hard spring—Be sound and reasonably clean, composed mostly of Scotch fife wheat and weigh 56 pounds to the bushel.

No. 2 northern spring—Be sound, reasonably clean and weigh not less than 56 pounds to the bushel and be composed of hard and soft varieties of wheat.

No. 2 spring—Be sound and reasonably clean and weigh 56 pounds to the bushel.

No. 3 spring—Comprises all wheat fit for warehousing and not good enough for No. 2, weighing not less than 52 pounds to the bushel.

Rejected spring—Comprises all wheat fit for warehousing. but too low in weight or otherwise for No. 3. All wheat slightly damp will be reported as "no grade," with inspector's notations as to quality and condition, or too damp to be considered safe for warehousing, or has any considerable admixture of foreign grain or seeds or badly bin-burnt, whatever grade it might otherwise be, is pronounced "condemned," with inspectors' notes as to quality and condition. Rice wheat will in no case be inspected higher than rejected. Wheat containing any mixture, however light, of rice wheat (sometimes termed goose wheat, or "California"), shall be graded rejected however high it might otherwise grade. No. 1 and No. 2 northern spring are new grades here. No. 1 and No. 2 hard rules are closer drawn than before. There is no change in winter wheat rules.

An Important Land Decision.

It will be remembered by many in Bismarck that when the road reached as far west as the Little Missouri country, there was a scramble for the land where Glendive now stands. In fact it had been covered by different parties with various kinds of script, even before the road had penetrated the country beyond Bismarck. When the road reached the point in question Gen. Lewis Merrill made arrangements with the railroad whereby the company received half the townsite, which was platted and sold. Soon after other parties appeared on the scene, among them E. T. Winston and W. B. Shaw, claiming the validity of their title to the land. The matter has been before the local land officers at Miles City, and the Miles City Journal of the 23rd gives the following as the decision in the case:

A decision in this celebrated case was reached yesterday by Messrs Kreidler and Gould, register and receiver of the local land office. This contest must take place with the most important of its kind, involving as it did so many diverse interests, claiming under half breed script locations, and pre-emption and homestead filings, and having for the bone of contention the major portion of the residence district of Glendive. The contestants were Lewis Merrill, U. S. A.; E. T. Winston, of Bismarck; Joseph W. Allen, Michael H. Brown and Thomas Kean, of Glendive, each party representing a separate and adverse interest. The decision as rendered is too lengthy to give in detail, but may be summarized as follows:

To Sophia Huot, Sioux half-breed claimant in the interest of E. T. Winston, is awarded lot 5, section 26, township 16, range 55; 19.77 acres.

To Joseph Brown, Sioux half-breed claimant in the interest of Lewis Merrill, is awarded lot 9, of section 26, township 16, range 55; 52.50 acres.

To Mary B. Young, Sioux half-breed claimant in the interest of Lewis Merrill, is awarded the northwest ¼ of northwest ¼, section 36, township 16, range 55; 40 acres.

To Lewis Carron, Sioux half-breed claimant in the interest of Lewis Merrill, is awarded the southwest ¼ of northwest ¼, section 36, township 16, range 55; 40 acres.

To Thomas Kean, pre-emption filing, is awarded the east ½ section 36, township 16, range 55; 80 acres, and the following filings and locations are held for cancellation: Joseph W. Allen and Michael Brown, homestead filings, on lots 5 and 9 above noted; Sophia Huot, script location on lot 9; Joseph Brown, script location on lot 5. Mary B. Young, script location on northeast ¼ northwest ¼, section 36. By this decision the Merrill interest gets 132.50 acres, the Winston interest 19.77 acres and the Kean interest 80 acres—and the claimants, Allen and Brown, get left. A hearing in this case was first ordered in September last, but it was not until March 29, 1884, after several adjournments that the case was opened; from that date until April 11 it occupied the whole time of the land office and was the subject of most exhaustive enquiry by the distinguished counsel engaged in the conduct of the various interests. The testimony was reduced to writing and comprises nearly 500 pages. In the case Strevell & Garlock appeared for Gen. Merrill; J. C. Hollemback of Bismarck for Winston; Joseph W. Allen for himself and Kean, their interests not conflicting, and A. H. O'Connor for Brown.

The Miles City Record comments on the decision as follows:

The land office has rendered a decision in the Glendive townsite contest. In the fall of 1880, General Louis Merrill, major of the Seventh United States cavalry, representing a party of army and railroad capitalists, filed in the Miles City office a quantity of Sioux half-breed scrip representing something near 800 acres and covering the whole site of the present town of Glendive. A claim was interposed by Mr. E. T. Winston, of Bismarck, to a portion of this tract which he had located prior to the Merrill location and had filed scrip upon in the Helena land office before that in Miles City had been established. As the Winston claim represented a strip of land between the railroad depot and the Yellowstone, extending close to the Merrill hotel, the military speculators have opposed it tooth and nail, and the dispute culminated in a contest which was heard in Miles City last April. Other adverse claimants in the meantime had interjected themselves, professing to have settled on portions of the tract involved before the filing of script thereon and under the privileges of the public land laws. The hearing was peculiar in the fact that there was five sets of rival claimants participating in it simultaneously and the array of attorneys equalled that in attendance on a term of the district court. The testimony covered upwards of 500 pages of legal cap. This mass of evidence, as variously illuminated or otherwise by the arguments of the several attorneys, the district officers have had to wade through and digest, and it is little wonder their decision has not been sooner rendered. They award to Mr. Winston about nineteen acres which he claimed, allow a preemption claim of eighty acres to Thomas Kean, and concede the balance to the Merrill townsite company. Two of the original claimants are left wholly out in the cold. The case will doubtless now be carried on appeal by the dissatisfied claimants to Washington.

Stevens County.

J. L. Colton and wife, of Stevens county, north of Bismarck, arrived in the city Monday. Mr. Colton says that the Mouse river region is settling up rapidly and that in Stevens county alone there are now over three hundred settlers. Mr. Colton has a town laid out where he lives, called Burlington, and is engaged in general merchandise. The government land surveys have now been extended to within five miles of Burlington, but further extension is needed. Mr. Colton is on his way to Lisbon, in the Red River valley.

The Dance.

The benefit ball Friday evening was in every way a success. There were 105 tickets sold and 75 couples on the floor. The Garfield Light Guard, in honor of the event, turned out last evening on parade, headed by the band, for whose benefit the ball was given. It requires money to pay for instruction, and that Bismarck, rather than see the organization go to pieces, would turn out royally, and they did. It was a very enjoyable affair, and through the enterprise of Bogue & Kihm, those who desired were treated to fresh oysters, the first of the season.

Trial of New Machinery.

The trial of the new machinery at the Bismarck mills took place Monday. The new engine put in by the Buckeye company is a model piece of mechanism and gave good satisfaction. The mill will start in earnest next Monday. The capacity of the mill is 150 barrels per day.

New Wheat.

Business is rushing at the Bismarck elevator. They have handled 4,000 bushels of wheat this season, 2,500 bushels of which has been shipped to Duluth. The grain came in so fast Monday that most of the teams were kept waiting.

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IMPERFECT PAGE