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Williston Graphic

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FOR A GREATER WILLISTON

Beautiful and progressive Williston, the metropolis of northwestern North Dakota. It is the county seat of Williams County and beautifully situated on the Missouri river and main line of the Great Northern Railway. This company has a round house and well equipped shops located here and the monthly pay roll of permanent residents of Williston in its employ amounts to upwards of 40,000 dollars.

WHY BUSY WILLISTON LEADS ALL OTHERS

Less than ten years old, Williston, through the enterprise of its merchants and citizens, takes the lead in North Dakota

This city is to Northwestern North Dakota what the twin cities are to Minnesota, and it will soon be a byword that Williston made North Dakota famous. With all the advantages it enjoys and the fact that the business men and citizens generally are thoroly alive to the opportunity that other cities lack, can result only one thing, prosperity, and the fact that the advantages are here would mean nothing unless they are grasped and made the most of, and it is just this one thing that Williston's citizens excell and make possible a future that no other city in the state can expect. The seat of Williams county, this city, has been the means of advancing the entire county. Farm lands were never so valuable as they are today, and they are increasing in value. Land in Williams county is always in demand and prices are advancing rapidly, as the country becomes more thickly populated. There are openings here for enterprises that cannot be found anywhere else in the state and but few places in the Northwest, and it will not be long before other industries are established in Williston and Williams County. Williston was incorporated in 1905 and since that time, it has forged to the front, in a way that has far out-stripped many other older cities, and thru its enterprise and the remarkable unanimity of its citizens, it is now recognized as perhaps the most promising city in North Dakota.

A Metropolitan City.

Williston is known today as the city of Homes, schools and churches. It has a fine climate, excellent schools and bank accommodations, splendid water, fine light and water systems and it is has good hotels, progressive business houses and excellent telephone facilities. We have every reason to believe that the next few years will see a rapid growth in the development of Williston and Williams county, and rich in deed will be the reward of those who are in any way interested in the district.

Our Retail Trade.

A visit to Williston, which is composed of great "emporiums of trade" of every description and line of commercial endeavor, would soon convince the visitor that Williston is a mercantile center of no mean importance. We can justly claim that few cities can be found so complete and excellent in business compliment, or that contain a greater variety of goods from all parts of the civilized globe. That trade is brisk and constantly increasing in volume is evident by the frequency with which new institutions are established and the rapidity with which they expand and grow.

Our Banking and Financial Institutions.

Our banks are bulwarks of integrity and resources, and are backed by men whose records as financiers have spread over the entire Northwest and whose resources are practically unlimited. They have long since been instrumental in producing and maintaining a feeling of confidence and the encouragment of economy and thrift among our laboring classes, which, in its practical and potent effect on our advancement and prosperity cannot be over-estimated.

Our Real Estate Interests.

In many states the rise of real estate is not indicative of increased prosperity, but merely of somewhat greater inflation. This is not the case with Williams County where values rise and fall according to the legitimate demands, and these consequently present a true index to the conditions prevailing at the moment. Everything is grounded upon a sound basis and purchasers and investors outside the state buy and sell thru reliable agents here with the facility as if personally conducting their operations. In this regard we would note however, the real estate men whose

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WILLIAMS COUNTY AND NORTH DAKOTA SOILS.

Soils Adapted to all Kinds of Grains. Fine Dark Loam Adapted to Farming—Promises Great Agricultural Future for Williams County.

Williams county has a wide variety of both upland and alluvial soils and the texture of these soils is adapted to every crop that may be grown in this latitude. With the exception of comparatively narrow strips along the stream courses, the county is covered by the upland soil. These soils are wholly of glacial origin, having been formed by the deposits of the great ice sheets or of re-worked material from the same source. The prevailing upland soil is a dark brown loam, containing sufficient sand to break up under the plow into excellent physical condition. The dark color of this type as well as its great fertility, is due to its large quantity of humus, which is sufficient under proper cultivation to last for generations. The sub-soil, is a light colored clay loam, admirably suited to retain moisture and when the ground is plowed to a sufficient depth to save the rail fall the upland soils of Williams county, should be able to withstand long peiods of drouth without injury to the growing crops. Another type of soil is found in limited acres thruout the upland. It occurs in small depressions where lakes have been filled in by wash from the surrounding hills This soil, is a heavy black clay which large crops of native hay and is so wel adapted for hay meadows, that it will probably never be used for any other purpose.

The alluvial lands, occur as flood plains and terraces along the Missouri river and its small tributaries. They embrace a wide range in texture from coarse sandy loams to the heaviest clays. All of these different types of soil are adapted to particular crops and this fact will be appreciated when agriculture has been more fully developed. The sandy loams occupying as a rule the higher terraces are well drained and hence adapted to all kinds of truck and early crops as well as oats and durum wheats. The fine sandy loams that occur in the bends of the Missouri and along some of the smaller creeks, are especially adapted to alfalfa and when these lands are brought under irrigation, this will no doubt be the most important and the most profitable crop. The heavy clay and clay loams are suited to the production of grasses, wheat and all sorts of short rooted crops, while some of the clay loams are well adapted to sugar beets. With soils of such possibilities and an intelligent farming population capable of adopting the best methods of agriculture, it is inevitable that Williams county will take rank among the best farming communities of the country.

WILLISTON COMMERCIAL CLUB

Williston's Commercial Club, tho of recent origin has demonstrated its efficiency in the advancements of our business interests. The organization is but a few weeks old and has already been instrumental in having United States Senator Hansbrough come here for the purpose of discussing and putting into execution ways and means towards advancing the county's interests, which will in the very near future be second to none in the state and that the Senator was enthused to a degree of action was amply attested by the hearty support he pledged to the orgaization in their every undertaking. Another enterprise of great importance to Williston and Williams county that is receiving the undivided support of our Commercial club, is the promotion of the Government Irrigation project which is now well under way and which is already attracting the attention of home and investment seekers from all parts of the country. With Fred D. West as president and Aaron A. Besse secretary of the club and about one hundred members in all, Williston's Commercial club is made up of our ablest business and professional men who have experience and foresight and who are capable of representing the city's and county's best interests. The club stands ready to assist any one who desires to start any enterprise of a commercial nature, such as manufacturing or in any other way.

PROSPEROUS WILLISTON DOES A GREAT BUSINESS.

The prosperity adjacent to Williston is evidenced by the heavy banking business transacted in the city. The Citizens National bank with a capital of $50,000.00 owned and controlled by local financiers is a U. S. depository. The First National Bank capitalized at $25,000.00 and the Williams County Bank, with the same capital, operates on conservative and successful banking lines. All three banks are carrying exceptionally heavy deposits. A Scandinavian business bank is undergoing organization.

The Bruegger Mercantile company carrying a stock of some $100,000 worth of goods and the G. M. Hedderick & Co., with a $50,000.00 stock, are the largest concerns in mercantile business. Supplying the extensive territory they do, both these establishments do an immense volume of business. Two general stores, two groceries, two furnishing houses, three drug stores, two hardware stores, two jewelry shops, two bakeries, four pool and billiard parlors, two tailoring establishments, two meat markets, three confectioners, two millinery shops, three blacksmith shops, three barber shops, several restaurants, a music house, furniture store, harness shop, bowling alley and public gallery complete the list of business houses. Three excellent newspapers are well supported on their respective merit. Three hotels are constantly over-crowded. Three immense livery stables and one exclusive sales barn are taxed to their utmost in supplying their patrons' wants. A wholesale ice cream factory is operated with great success supplying Williston with 1,500 gallons of ice cream and shipping to Montana points during the summer. Two elevators with a capacity of 100,000 bushels of grain will not be able to handle this season's crop. A well equipped bottling works has been erected this season in order to supply the demand for Missouri river water beverages.

IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN WILLIAMS COUNTY

Williams County has Three Projects---The Buford-Trenton Project ---Williston Project--Nesson Project Cover About 80,000 Acres.

President Roosevelt stated to a party of North Dakotans who were at Washington last winter in the interest of irrigation that he considered the Reclamation Act the most beneficial act of natianal legislation (with the one exception of the homestead bill) and that the signing of the act was the crowning effort of his administration. The Reclamation Act, as passed by Congress June 17th, 1902, provides among other things, that all moneys derived from the sales of Government lands in sixteen of our western states shall be expended in the state from which it is derived, in the reclamation of arid or semr-arid lands. The reports of the Reclamation Service, on projects already completed or under construction, read like the tales of Jules Verne. Tremendous dams of stone and concrete have been built hundreds of feet wide, hundreds of feet high and hundreds of feet thick at the base. Enormous lakes have been created and from them the water has been taken hundreds of miles through winding canals, thence to be turned upon the parched fields and make two blades grow where grew but one. Until North Dakota's share of the reclamation fund grew to such proportions— some $4,000,000.00 — none but gravity projects had been considered in this state. After thorough investigation had been made it was found that gravity projects were not to be had in this state unless a dam be constructed across the Missouri river. While an engineering possibility, such an undertaking is in a class with the Panama canal and not to be considered under the present status of the Reclamation fund of $30,000,000.00. But nature has been good to us in North Dakota, especially in Williams County. Not only has she given up beautiful valleys and flats, with soils of unexcelled fertility, but she has placed the grand Missouri River at their feet, with an unlimited supply of the purest water to be found on earth. As a last stroke of beneficience, Nature has filled our hills with the finest quality of lignite coal yet mined in the United States. Here was the land, the water and the power and it has only remained for Uncle Sam to furnish the money and his engineers to supply the brains to combine the four into a successful irrigation project. It was never held—and it is not now held that irrigation is necessary in order to grow a paying crop in North Dakota, but it is held and upheld by all authorities on the subject that an adequate system of government irrigation will not only double the outcrop yield, but will insure it from year to year.

Three feasible projects were found in Williams county. The Buford-Trenton Projects, comprises some 35,000 acres and extends from Buford, near the Montana line, along the Missouri river east to within a few miles of Williston. Those grand, gently sloping flats, in the vicinty of Eight-Mile Creek and Trenton, will be watered from the canals in this project and no more ideal spot for the culture of alfalfa, grain, sugar beets, corn and fruits such as apples, crabs, plums, cherries, grapes melons and berries of varieties can be found. As the Great Northern main line is not more than two and one half miles from any of the channels under this project and as the Missouri River is the same distance, shipping facilities cannot be improved upon.

The Williston Project comprises some 40,000 acres of the famous Little Muddy Valley, extending from a west of the city, thence 20 miles north up the valley and return to the valley again three and one half miles south east of Williston. As this valley is now one of great natural beauty, it is predicted on all sides that five years of government irrigation will make it the one "pre-eminent garden spot" of North Dakota.

The Nesson Valley Project includes 28,000 acres in the Nesson Valley, 30 miles east of Williston, along the banks of the Missouri River. The first farms established in Williams county were taken up at Nesson in 1876. Since that time wonderful progress has been made, until today the valley is one of the most prosperous section of North Dakota. Imagine 30,000 acres of the finest section of the Red River Valley placed along the banks of a beautiful stream, heavily timbered, winding in and out among hills and rolling prairies and you have a picture of Nesson Valley. Practically level, but with just sufficient slope from the hills to the river, the U. S. Engineers have been free to say that the Valley presents an ideal irrigation proposition and one which they look forward to with a confidence that it will produce unexcelled results.

While it may appear to the layman a tremendous task to pump water 100 feet high and irrigate a tract of 40,000 acres, the Reclamation Service finds not a single difficult engineering problem in any of the three projects in Williams county. The main power plant for the Williston project is now under construction. It is located about three miles north of the city adjacent to a 12 foot vein of coal, which, when mined and under the boilers, will cost not to exceed $1.00 per ton. Electrical power will be transmitted by wire from the main power house to the pumps located on barges in the river.

Here the water will be pumped into huge settling vats, where the river sediment will be allowed to deposit. From the settling vats the water will be pumped into the main canals, from which laterals and cross-ditches will carry it to the lands to be irrigated. The Williston power house will also supply power for the Buford-Trenton project, transmitting it by wire 22 miles.

The actual cost of these projects is paid back to the Reclamation fund in ten annual installments and no interest whatever is charged on deferred payments. If, for some cause or other, the farmer is not well prepared to make his payment after the

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$150,000 IN BUILDING DURING YEAR 1906

Over 50 residences have been built this season--others starting. Many new business blocks being built.

As regards building operations Williston has far surpassed that of any other year during the past summer. Over fifty residence houses have been erected the greater part of them being large, modern up-to-date houses as good as are found in any of the cities. We have endeavored to get a list of all the new dwellings but we have no doubt missed a number for others are being started every day and it is simply impossible to keep them all checked up. Besides the residence portion of our city there has been great activity in the building of business blocks and about $70,000 has been used for this purpose. The moneys expended upon the number of residence houses listed here amounts to about $80,000.

The activity of a city is shown by the amount of building which is going on and Williston is active indeed for which ever way you turn the song "of the hammer" is heard. A grand total of $150,000 would not cover the improvements made in buildings alone here this year and we predict greater activity in this line during the coming year. This is but a start and in a few years our city will be the best in the state. Best in size, best in sanitary conditions, best in business, best in location, best in EVERYTHING.

Among the finer residences built are the ones owned by John Grogan, John Heffernan, E. N. Atterberry, E. G. Greenup, D. A. Powell, John Pynson, and Fred West. These houses are fitted out with heating plants electric light, water works, and all modern improvements.

A list of the residence houses and business blocks, including the new ones and those upon which improvements have been made, is given below with the cost of the same:

Residence Houses

W. H. Smith	$1,200
E. G. Greenup	3,000
E. G. Greenup	800
Myrtle McLeod	700
M. G. Milne	1,200
E. R. Brownson	1,200
E. K. Ellefson	600
Wm. Wadham	1,200
Grimes	800
Oscar Hansen	850
L. Bradley	700
L. V. Coulter	600
A. Vohs	1,800
Wm. Adams	1,200
Wm. Adams	1,200
A. Stone	800
S. Brownell	1,200
G. W. Wilbur	1,200
Wm. Hughes	600
John Crouch	900
M. E. Parsonage	3,100
John Peynson	3,200
Fred West	3,500
Nick Hayes	1,600
Brohaw	2,000
H. Shafer	1,500
E. N. Atterberry	4,200
Hans Hanson	1,100
Hans Hanon	1,100
Hans Hanson	1,100
J. Monda	2,000
Joe Wegley	900
John Grogan	5,200
Joe Wegley	900
John Heffernan	4,500
J. Bruegger	1,000
Jamison	500
E. Link	500
Gahan	1,600
E. T. Tooley	600
George W. Jones	1,200
Mrs. Woodward	900
T. King	600
W. D. Atterberry	650
G. M. Thomas	900
D. A. Powell	3,500
Other improvements and additions	10,000
Total	$79,700

Business Blocks.

G. N. Hotel	$ 6,000
Bruegger Mer. Co.	1,000
Telephone building	2,500
Williams County bank	4,000
Monda Staths	1,400
G. W. Jones livery stable	2,700
West & Rawson	4,000
John Heffernan, livery stable	1,100

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CROPS OF WILLIAMS COUNTY

During Twenty Years a Complete Failure Has Never Been Experienced.—Wheat From 26 to 45 Bushels Per Acre. Oats From 70 to 106 Bushels.

Farming operations have been carried on in certain localities of Williams county for the past twenty-one years, during which period a complete failure, has never been experienced. For the past five years, all sections of the county have been extensively farmed and each successive year has seen a betterment in the crop yield over the preceding year. In the famous Nesson valley bordering the Missouri river, two pioneers, Halvor Thorson and H. A. Nelson, have farmed with wonderful success, for twenty-one years, using what is known as the spring flood system of irrigation. Enormous yields of grain have been taken from their two thousand acre farm which is perhaps, the grandest farm in the entire state of North Dakota today. 1905 brought them from many acres, 53 bushels of blue stem wheat, 106 bushels of white Russian oats and 22 bushels of splendid flax. From 320 acres of wheat 42 bushels per acre have been threshed this season. Apples, crabs and all varieties of small fruits and berries are most successfully grown on this farm. In many sections of the county, yields of 26, 28, 32 and 34 bushels of blue stem and macaroni wheat are reported this season. Oats are going from 40 to as high as 94 bushels. Flax has been very largely grown in this county and produces from 10 bushels on the green sod to 22 bushels on old land. The acreage of barley and speltz is annually increasing. Their adaptibility to all conditions having been fully demonstrated and winter rye is rapidly being taken up. After several years tests and experiments with corn, as high as 62 bushels per acre were gathered in 1905. Many varieties are being grown and while those best adapted for successful culture are not as yet fully determined, it is proven beyond a doubt, that Dent corn attaining in instances a height of 10 feet, can be grown and matured in Williams county. Three cuttings of alfalfa have been made on many farms, especially those along the creek and river bottoms. Timothy and Red Clover, as well as broom grass and all varieties of millet are remunerative crops grown for stock food and fodder. The fame of Williams county potatoes is far spread. And many times has Williams county come to the rescue of potato hungry Red River valley and Minnesota. Watermelons, musk melons, cantaloupes, pumpkins, all varieties of vegetables and root crops thrive beyond expectations, and a good quality of tobacco has been cultured on a small scale. It has been said, and truthfully so, by many eastern farmers, that successful farming in Williams county, North Dakota, depends 60 per cent upon the farmer himself, and 40 per cent upon the land.

PATRONIZE YOUR HOME MERCHANTS

With this special number of the Graphic appear write ups of our business houses, banking institutions, manufacturers and professions of Williston. We are glad to do this in order to bring our business houses before our readers. The columns o fthe Graphic contain representations of practically all lines of industry in the county, and we urge that these houses and home people be patronized instead of sending money out to out of town concerns. No benefit comes from the foreign merchant. Outside concerns pay nothing toward the support of our schools or the building of roads and bridges, neither do they contribute anything to the maintenance of state, county or municipal government. On what page of their catalog is their offer to contribute money to the support of the church? What amount of credit will they extend to you when thru illness or misfortune you are unable to pay cash for your groceries, clothing, etc? Where is their offer to contribute to your entertainment next fourth of July? What did they do last Fourth?

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