

## GREAT IS MINOT

### Hundreds of Good Points About the Most Progressive City in the West—Practically All Done in Four Years.

Looking backward and reviewing Minot as it was four years ago, one cannot realize it as being the same town. At that time it was a small village of 1000 people, today it has about 6000. Four years ago, it had three general stores, two drug stores and a small hotel. The railroad depots were mere shacks. We had one small school house and a lot of unpainted houses. The south hill, the swell residence portion of Minot today, was a barren table land. At that time there was not a delivery wagon or transfer company or bus of any kind in town. The hotel did not make the trains. If a stranger came to town he found his way, as best he could, to the hotel. If a man from Minot went out of town and registered from Minot he would put the full address after his name—"Minot, Ward Co., N. Dak.," and if perchance the hotel man knew where it was, he would usually say, "You are from the cowboy Indian town." What a vast difference today! Now you register "Minot" and it makes little difference in what part of the United States you are. Minot is as well known as New York City and one rather feels proud of the fact that he does live in Minot.

How have we improved in four years? Let us review. We have two of the best hotels in the state. We have as good school buildings as any town in the state—two ward schools and the finest high school building. We have a dozen churches, and all well attended. We have the most modern railroad depot in the state. We have the best train services for business and commercial men in the state. It is the headquarters for as many commercial men as any town in the state. We have the most enthusiastic Order of the Commercial Travelers in the state. We have four wholesale houses, all crowded with business. We have three first-class up-to-date banks and Minot is the clearance house of the banks in this part of the state. We are western distributors of the International Harvester Co. We have two cement stone factories and brick yards. A well-run creamery. We have as fine retail houses as there are in the state—too numerous to mention. Our professional men are among the finest in the state. We have an up-to-date Commercial Club. All secret societies are represented, except the Elks and they will soon organize. The Masons are about to build one of the finest temples in the state. We have an up-to-date opera house. Our Eagle band is the best in the state. Our High school band is the best in the state. We have as good a race track and fair ground as there is in the state. Our postoffice is up-to-date. We have a Hospital second to none. Our new court house and county jail are among the finest in the state. The Judge's chambers of the new Eighth Judicial District are located in Minot. One division of the United States district will soon be located in Minot. Minot is the county seat of Imperial Ward County which is equal to being the Capital of some whole states. Minot has the United States Land Office which does more business than any land office in the United States. Minot will erect a new sewer and water works system and will have an up-to-date fire department. Minot has two daily papers and several weeklies. We have a good Commercial college. We have one of the best flour mills in the state with a daily capacity of 200 barrels. Minot is the division point of the Great Northern railway with general superintendent and train dispatcher located here. Between thirty and forty trains arrive and leave Minot daily. Minot has just elected a new mayor backed by twelve up-to-date aldermen. From the number of beautiful homes being erected in Minot now it is destined to be one of the most beautiful cities in the state. Minot is fortunate in be-

ing surrounded by a community of diversified farmers and farms. Coal we have in abundance at a low price. Minot is fortunate in having good drinking water. Minot may congratulate herself on her advancement in four years. A gas franchise has just been granted, and it is rumored that eastern capitalists are about to ask for a street car franchise which would be a good proposition on account of the cheap fuel to be had around Minot. We already have the best Electric Light and Telephone system in the state, besides we are headquarters for the Northern Long Distance Telephone Co. There will be more building in Minot this year than in any town in the state. New streets are to be graded so as to connect the south hill with the business portion of the town, there having been a great demand for such improvements as many people wish to build on the south hill this summer.

### WOULD DIVIDE WARD AND McLEAN COUNTIES

Into Six Empires—Douglas Correspondent Tells of Three Lines of Railroads Surveyed Thru that Country.

The world is moving from day to day. Snow is slowly settling but sleighing is yet good, and the settlers are hustling in machinery to be in readiness for the appearance of the first robin.

Hardly any actual settler now, but the sight of a new disc, harrow, in many instances a bran new drill, oftentimes a new wagon, greet the travelers as they pass along out well beaten roads. An enterprising man by the name of E. C. Erb, is bringing in a full line of farm implements to be sold at Ryder, 21 miles ahead of the new town of Garrison. I lately saw twelve loads of goods passing by:

In conversation with our good people, I am led to think that there will be as much new breaking by June 10th, as is now under cultivation in Douglas for the crop of 1906, nearly all being ready to start the teams as soon as the snow will let them. So you may look for something doing in Douglas this year. Among the large crops to be expected will be at least 250 acres at the Parmer homes. The Fishers, Mr. Harlan, Mr. Pollock, Weatherbee, Louis R. Allen, Moffat, the two Kline boys, Curtis Drake, Sutton, Whitcomb, are all numbered among those who will make the dirt fly in a way that might make even the badger, in digging his burrow, look wise.

During the winter there has been but little sickness, but now I regret to state that John Moffat, only nineteen years old, is very low with typhoid fever. The old must go, and the young may. Mrs. Sheeley, a trained nurse from Blue Hill township, has been in attendance.

Sorry to say that the arrival of youngsters among us this winter, is not up to the North Dakota standard in adjoining townships. It is reported that the Misses Cochrane will be on their claims early in April, and the Misses Fingerson and Sorenson later. All are coming this time to stay which probably means that they will not try it alone. It is rumored that every young lady who comes to Douglas this year, will not be allowed to leave, unless she takes a partner with her. Douglas always means just what it says.

Our coal bins have been supplied largely this winter from mines Sec. 16-149-85. Andrew Witz opened a mine there early in the winter. We were surprised a short time ago to learn that Herman Benson and Mr. Schilling, who had been digging the coal, were unable to get their pay, and the mine has been closed by the boys levying on all the personal property available. The boys stated that they were unable to get enough money to

supply them with shoes, although probably 2,000 tons of coal had been disposed of. It appears that the old man attempted to get away and drop the boys.

News has just reached me that John Searight from near Ryder in returning from Garrison had a leg broken, along the trail near Douglas creek. He is laid up at the home of James Hanlon. Wonder if it is the result of too much Garrison booze.

While in Garrison recently, I learned that the Soo road have a surveying outfit located in tents there, and are actively engaged in locating an extension of the Soo to connect with their main line, probably at Voltaire, and also to tap our fertile prairies in Douglas township and extend to Ryder and Bye. So that the near future will see the bituminous breath of the locomotives at our very doors and the fire of the same creatures, starting a blaze in our grass. The section boss at Garrison, has been instructed to be in readiness to unload ties on short notice, so we will see something doing on this side of the hills bye and bye.

The Northern Pacific people are actively engaged in setting guide stakes and 149-85 will see its day with the coming of spring, and the N. P. line from Crrington which will be the main line, of the N. P. will also be beside us. Bismarek is to be side tracked.

To my surprise, I learn that the Great Northern also have a party of surveyors surveying a line for here. I was unable to learn its starting point, on the main line, but of course it is to Minot. This year will see Douglas to township, connected directly by railroads from coast to coast by the N. P. and from coast to coast by the way of the Canadian Soo, and east and west by Minot, on the G. N. I found myself pondering over the millions of foot steps soon to people of the Northwest, and the extension of so many lines of railroads.

Again I will call to mind, the fact that Ward and McLean counties are too large, and in remembering this, remember also that when the day of dissolution comes, in the near future, we need the two southern tiers of townships of Ward county, west of the Berthold reserve. And then divide McLean at the eastern point of the Missouri on or near the 11th meridian, and then divide Ward county into four counties. We will then have six republics instead of two. We can then be in easy reach of our county capitals. All will be made better, none will be made worse. The above are my ideas. I presume some people will be so indiscreet as to think differently. —Edgar Weatherbee.

### Farmers Elect Officers.

The organization of the Minot Farmers' Grain Association was perfected at the court house Thursday afternoon when the nine directors met and elected the following officers:

John Wallin, Pres.  
Nels Saugstad, Vice-Pres.  
Guy N. Rowe, Secy.

It was decided that at once an effort should be made to secure the sale of more stock, it being the desire to sell \$7000 worth of stock altogether. No farmer can purchase more than \$200 worth of stock, and only farmers can own stock at all. The stock is selling very rapidly and it will be but the matter of a week or so, until that amount will be disposed of.

John Wallin was appointed a committee of one to select a site, while A. V. Swanson was appointed a committee on incorporation. Anyone having a good elevator site for sale, should confer with Mr. Wallin.

The success of this committee is assured. Some of the best farmers in this vicinity are interested in the proposition, and a larger selection of directors and officers could not have been made.

### Coal and Diamonds.

McOy had a beautiful display of diamonds in his show window one day last week. The display represented \$3000—enough to buy a good quarter section of land. Just the same composition as so many pieces of coal, only formed in a little different manner. Quite a difference in price however. McOy aims to sell just as good diamonds and as cheap, as any jeweler dares to, in larger cities.

### CLAIMS FULLER WAS A BIGAMIST

Mysterious Woman From Omaha Neb., Claims Property Left by Big South Prairie Farmer.

Was Fred Fuller, the big south prairie farmer, who died recently a bigamist?

According to a letter received by the County Judge from a woman residing in Omaha, Neb., he was, and this woman has retained the services of State's Attorney McGee, to secure her share of the property left by Fuller. Fuller had been farming on quite a large scale and it was reported back in his old home, Omaha, Neb., that he had grown very wealthy. It seems however that he was not so very well fixed, for he was involved in a number of debts which leave his widow but \$1000 worth of property.

The mysterious woman who lays claim to the property was expected to reach Minot on March 19, but did not appear. It is known that Fuller was married once before, but it was reported that his wife had died. It was known that he had a daughter living in Nebraska.

The present Mrs. Fuller, is grief stricken over the report and many believe that the mysterious woman is only an adventuress, which we trust will prove to be the case.

### Lecture by Erling Bjornson.

Erling Bjornson, son of the celebrated Norwegian poet and author, Bjornstjerne Bjornson, will appear in Minot in the near future. Mr. Bjornson came to America primarily for the purpose of studying American institutions and more particularly to look into our methods of handling a subject in which he is deeply interested, but he has also in response to demands been delivering lectures in places where his country men are num-



erous. He has inherited his oratorical powers of his father, and wherever he has appeared he has been received with the greatest of enthusiasm. In fact in many places like Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago, so many have turned out to hear him that the halls could not anywhere near accommodate the crowds. He spoke in the Norwegian language and the lecture is illustrated by over one hundred stereopticon views, including Norwegian scenery, leading events and pictures of some of the great men. His lecture at Minot will be given at the open house on Saturday evening, April 14th and reserved seats can be obtained at the usual place.

### The Hand of Providence.

Did the business men of Minot ever stop to consider that a good chemical engine and other up-to-date fire fighting apparatus would reduce the cost of insurance to such an extent that we would soon more than make up for the cost of the same? Insurance companies have their eye on all the fire traps of a city. They have careful maps prepared showing where wooden buildings and other fire traps are, and always charge a high enough rate to cover any danger from fire. Just why Minot has not been entirely burned up several times over is more than we can account for, and it must be the all wise Ruler above that has our growing city under His care. But unless something is done, sooner or later, we will be burned out at a cost of millions of dollars.

## SHIRT WAIST SETS

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Brooch style—with joint catch and pin—avoids making button-holes and sewing on buttons.

Sets in plain polished, Roman and rose finishes.

Various shapes—round, oval, square, oblong and fancy patterns.

PRICES: 50c, 75c, \$1.00 TO \$1.50 THE SET.

See display of NEW JEWELRY in our window.

**W. H. REIGHART**  
The Minot Jeweler

TIME INSPECTOR GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

### Strike Would Help Ward County

David Lloyd, Geo. McClure, J. S. Wallace and a score or more of the other coal barons of Ward county, are not exactly sorry to see the state of affairs among the coal miners of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and other eastern states, for if a strike is not already on, it is imminent. The price of Ward county lignite may yet soar away up into the dizzy heights, and at any rate, its likely to find a good market in the east.

It will be remembered that when the anthracite coal miners' strike was on a few years ago, Roosevelt took a hand in the game and gave the men a certain time to get together, or he threatened to seize the mines and place over them an army and mine for the general good of the country. The mine owners said that had he done so, he would have been impeached, but Teddy was willing to abide by the consequences. Providing this strike gets on in full blast, and the industries of the country are crippled, he will again likely take a hand in the fight, so far as to get the mines to working. He would mine the coal at a fair profit, and save the profits for the mine owners until such time as they would be willing to accept it.

### Knight Printing Co. Successful.

The County Commissioners have hired John Shervald to act as janitor at the court-house for one year.

Walker Bros. & Hardy, thru The Art Metal Construction Co. was awarded the contract for furnishing the steel furniture for the new vaults for \$1050. The bid of the Knight Printing Co. was \$1469.40 and the Grand Forks Herald \$1170.

The Board opened bids for the furnishing of blanks and books for the county which were as follows:

Walker Bros. & Hardy, from 25 per cent to 75 per cent from the schedule price. Grand Forks Herald 26 1/2 per cent from schedule price, and Times Publishing Co. 26 per cent from schedule. The bid was awarded to Knight Printing Co.

### Another Grocery Store.

Mr. Fred Trumble has leased the White Front Store for a term of years and about April 15th will open up a first class grocery store under the name of the Sterling Cash Grocery. Mr. Trumble has employed one of the highest priced St. Paul buyers to act as buyer and manager of his new business and Minot people will be able to trade at as fine a store as the Twin Cities can boast.

### Will Farm 2000 Acres.

J. C. Taylor, a Grelland farmer, will put 2000 acres into flax this season. He was in this city Saturday making arrangements to begin work. He will run a large engine which will pull six plows, and besides will plow with thirty-two head of horses. Mr. Taylor is undertaking quite a feat and the result will be watched with much interest.

### Farmers, Attention!

Any farmer desiring to purchase stock in the Minot Farmers' Grain Association can do so by applying to M. M. Samuelson, who may be found at Dr. Ekrem's office, Minot. —John Wallin.

### They All Come Back.

F. F. Frank and family from Pennsylvania, arrived to reside on G. O. Frank's big ranch out on Shell Creek. Mr. Frank has 250 head of cattle and 30 head of horses on the ranch and will break 400 acres this year. F. F. Frank was a resident of Ward county about the time the Soo road was built into Minot.

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