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RICH COAL DEPOSITS

BILLIONS OF TONS OF LIGNITE UNDERLIE LANDS OF STATE.

Can Supply Its Own Fuel Needs for Hundreds of Years to Come.

That the western part of North Dakota is heavily underlain with beds of lignite coal of a high grade has been a matter of common knowledge for many years, but any systematic development of these vast resources has been a matter of only comparatively recent years.

Governmental surveys disclose that at least 32,000 square miles are underlain with deposits of this splendid fuel, the available quantity being estimated at five hundred billion tons. Mining of this fuel was begun at first in a small way, but each year now sees a vast increase in the output until the average now reaches 750,000 tons and is steadily increasing. This product is used as fuel by all the state institutions and is furnished to a large and ever-increasing number of domestic and industrial consumers.

A Valuable Fuel.

As a fuel lignite is thoroughly recognized to be of great value. Recent experiments have been successful in producing a briquette, stable and weatherproof, of about the same specific gravity as anthracite coal, equal to the latter in heating power and deliverable outside the door of the consumer at a price below that of any eastern coal. This cost is figured without taking into consideration the value of by-products procured during the process of manufacture which would still further reduce the price at which it could be profitably sold. Several plants now exist for the manufacture of these briquettes and more are in contemplation.

For production of fuel and illuminating gas this coal possesses a value superior to almost any other variety, and when the vast deposits underlying thousands of square miles in western North Dakota are recalled, some conception may be formed of the vast wealth now lying beneath the surface awaiting development.

FUTURE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Diversification of Farming Industries Will Give Farmer His Greatest Profits.

By THOMAS COOPER, Director North Dakota Experiment Station.

North Dakota has been noted for leadership in the production of spring wheat. Our farmers have become expert in its production at a minimum cost. The state's leadership in this is passing as she comes in competition with the new lands of the Canadian Northwest. Consequently, the future of North Dakota's agriculture lies not in the production of wheat but in the diversification of her farming industries in which wheat shall be one of the leading products.

One does not require the spirit of prophecy to see that only through the reduction of the wheat acreage and the increased production of feed grains, corn, alfalfa and pastures will the North Dakota farmer be enabled to make his greatest profits. Diversification is particularly necessary in this state. Methods of agriculture in the less humid areas must be such as will produce some classes of feed each year. In these areas the farmer must learn to depend largely upon live stock and upon live-stock products.

The production of small grains for sale shall be an incident in the agricultural operations rather than the main purpose of operating the farm. In all sections of the state sufficient live stock must be maintained upon the farm to utilize the roughage and to consume the coarse grains. The production of forage, especially of alfalfa and corn, will be materially increased.

In consequence, this means a reduced wheat acreage, but a larger production of wheat to the acre. It means fewer burning straw stacks and more silos, and stacks of alfalfa hay in place of the prairie grass. In the section of the state devoted to large farms, as well as in the rougher lands, there is a splendid opportunity for further development of the beef industry. This enterprise will fit in well in the conditions which prevail there. In the areas of smaller farms, where more labor is available, the dairy cow is proving of value and importance. Horses may be produced not only to advantage but to a high degree of excellence in practically every section of the state. While the production of swine fits in well in farms where an excess of feed grains can be produced.

North Dakota should become noted as a producer of high-class horses, beef cattle and dairy stock. Every investigation that has been carried on in this state shows that we have distinct advantages along this line as compared with many of the other states. In a few words, the problem of the North Dakota farmer is to so organize the farm that a considerable percentage of his income will be obtained from live stock and live-stock products. This, I believe, is the type of agriculture that we must develop in this state, and the one which will bring about the greatest agricultural advancement. It is the basis of most of our present agricultural problems.

It may be said that the seasons in North Dakota are shorter than the seasons farther south. But if the seasons are shorter the days are longer.

Saying Farewell to the Pet



There is a dawning in the sky
Which doth a world of fate imply,
And on each casual passing face
A look expectant you may trace.
The signs the veteran turkey sees
And with a deep and mournful sigh
He calls his numerous family nigh
And murmurs, pointing to the trees,
"Roost high, my little ones, roost high."
—Eugene Field.

Gratitude



I AM thankful that I have the power to feel the glorious sunshine or the gray rain. My heart fills with joy that I can see the leaves and the sky and hear the music of the brook. Grateful am I that I can appreciate the height of the mountain or steeples and the depth of the shadows, and I am glad that I can be uncomfortable in the intense heat or cold, for that means a joyous sense of relief when it comes.

Which one of us is not glad of the power to judge? From the many recurrent cases we can induce a rule, a law, a generality. And from this we can make applications to specific instances. Is it not wonderful, and are you not glad?

For my power to decide for myself I am thankful. My freedom of will is a precious jewel that I pray I may duly treasure. No one can say what I shall think, for that is my heritage. My thoughts concerning life, death and the hereafter, are mine, and I am glad.

Then there is this country in which I live. I am grateful that it is here, with water around it, and other lands on the east and west. The lure of the distant country will prevent us from a narrow insularity. I am glad that we can govern ourselves in matters that affect ourselves. I am filled with joy that men are born free and equal and can keep on living that way.

For the position of woman in this country may I ever be thankful. She is not the draft animal of the fields in some countries beyond. She is not the chattel of the middle ages. She is not the spineless creature that was a well-trained echo of another. A woman is the equal of man now, except at the polls. For small favors I am deeply grateful.

A number of institutions of learning are letting us in at the front doors. If I wish to study sociology or medicine or the languages, I am not beaten into a pulp by scornful deans. If I wish to write a book, I need not be ashamed and hide it under a sampler if I hear anyone coming. Thanks, awfully!

Glad am I that I can earn money to clothe, feed and shelter myself. Father and mother should not support an adult woman until another man offers to take up the burden. I am not a hanger-on in the political economy march, and I give thanks.

A power of self-expression let me never be forgetful. Let me be glad that I can sing when I feel like it, cry when I am inclined to, walk when I want to get away, play when I forget how old I am and write or draw or

carve when the great impulse toward beauty stirs in my soul.

I AM thankful that at some times I can be extremely miserable. Psychologists tell us that that implies a power to be intensely happy. Think it over.

Especially glad am I for the year 1911. It is so much better than 1911. I am glad that I am living now. The heritage of the past is here. The greatness of science and art is too good to miss.

And oh, how thankful I am that I can laugh! How much does a sense of humor ease the way! The happy phrase, the clever story, the quick parry and thrust—all are necessary to balance the heavy parts in the life play.

I AM grateful for the bumps that I have had in this life. The retort courteous, the cut direct, the infamous lie, the cruel knock—all have done something. The world is a great teacher.

For my friends, let my heart be always grateful. One can't help relatives; a mere accident placed a great aunt in the same family, but friends are chosen. I am glad that I have dear, congenial souls on my visiting list.

Memory, my constant companion, makes me grateful. Whether it be a little verse of sunshine, a book, a play or some past joy or sorrow, I must give thanks for the gift of remembering. It doubles life.

And I am glad that today I am not fearful of the Great Beyond.

BARBARA LEE.

To the Harvest Lord.

Heap high the board with plenteous cheer and gather to the feast,
And toast the sturdy Pilgrim band whose courage never ceases;
Give praise to that All-Gracious One by whom their steps were led,
And thanks unto the Harvest Lord who sends our daily bread.
—Alice Williams Brotherton.

Fortunate Americans.

When the American citizen looks abroad he feels inclined to give thanks for the possession of a system of government which, despite partisan differences, commands universal respect and confidence. The exceptionally high standard of intelligence which here prevails is a guaranty against sudden movements in opposition to the established order. The vast majority of the American people are capable of analyzing conditions. They keep in close touch with the affairs of the world and with the circumstances of their own land. They are growing steadily in political acumen and are becoming more and more efficiently independent in their determinations. With every peaceful political revolution they strengthen the national foundations by providing outlets for sentiments and dissatisfactions.

Mistake Too Many Make.

If, on this Thanksgiving season, you feel a great melancholy, a lack, a sense of loss or of life's injustices, take this to heart: The cure for every loss and lack is in your own power. The great mistake of the whole world is the belief that some supernatural happiness comes with the money to buy and to do certain things. A year is a short time, but set out if you please, today, with the definite intention of finding by next November the secret of happiness.

NORTH DAKOTA'S RESOURCES

A little pamphlet recently came to the Times-Record desk containing pyramids of facts and figures pertaining to North Dakota—The Land of Plenty. It contains carefully compiled statistics and informational matter. It strikes the writer as being worthy to pass on to our readers in full. It follows:

North Dakota Has—

690 rural free mail routes.
An area of 44,736,477 acres.
Numerous canning factories.
90,509 acres artificial forest.
An estimated population of 886,312.
An assessed valuation of \$313,286,198.00.

Not a saloon or booze sign in the state.
Fifty-two counties; no unorganized territory.

The best public school system in the United States.

69,765 farms; cultivated acreage 45,409,191.

2,467 acres of berries; 111,221 bearing fruit trees.

Population increase of 27 per cent in four years.

An actual property valuation of \$1,253,144,792.00.

Expended more than \$6,000,000 on its schools in 1914.

A per capita wealth larger than any other state in the union.

Sixty-four flour mills with a daily capacity of 9,833 barrels.

42,499,653 acres tillable land of farms averaging 310 acres.

Eighty-six creameries with products valued at \$4,237,160 in 1913.

More than 6,184 miles of railroad, with 600 miles of new lines proposed. During 1914 North Dakota had 155 clear days; 100 partly cloudy and 100 cloudy.

Enormous cement deposits; finest clay for manufacture of pressed brick, pottery, etc.

Has more daylight hours during the growing season than any other state in the union.

479 telephone companies with 55,903 miles of rural telephone line and 35,718 telephone stations.

630 state banks; 149 national banks with deposits and assets aggregating \$106,931,516.68.

1,472 line elevators and 285 farmers' elevators with a total capacity of 35,213,390 bushels.

School and institutional land grant worth \$64,700,000.00, 172,227 school children, 6,943 school departments, 2,960 school libraries.

More coal than any other state in the union; 330,000 acres underlain with lignite coal; 116 regularly operated mines with production of 543,845 long tons in 1913.

Farm, Stock and Crop Statistics
Alfalfa is one of the most profitable crops.

Average value of unbroken tillable land from \$12 to \$30 per acre.

Average sale value of improved farms about \$30 to \$60 per acre.

Killing frosts come on an average on Sept. 22, covering a period of 20 years. In most localities good water can be secured at a depth of from 15 to 30 feet.

18,952 acres of clover were planted in 1914, an increase from 4,963 in 1913.

North Dakota produces one-third of the flax grown in the United States each year.

606,430 acres sown to corn in 1914, an increase of 202,266 over the previous year.

Average wages paid farm labor; male \$30 per month; female from \$12 to \$18 per month.

About 72,500 sheep were clipped during the past season, yielding 493,750 pounds of wool.

Produced more than 17,000,000 bushels of corn in 1914, having a value of 64 cents per bushel on the farm.

Estimated 90,000 acres of alfalfa during the year 1914, an enormous increase over the previous year.

Weather conditions are especially suitable for live stock, stock thriving for a greater part of the winter in the open.

Number of hogs on North Dakota farms March 1, 1915, 250,000, an increase of more than 90 per cent since Jan. 1, 1914.

During the past 12 years North Dakota has produced from 33 to 60 per cent of the entire flax production of the United States.

North Dakota produced more than 147,000,000 bushels of wheat in 1912—more than any other state or province on the American continent.

North Dakota brick is used in the best buildings erected during the past seven years in Winnipeg, Vancouver, Seattle, Minneapolis and Spokane.

More than \$10,000,000.00 worth of live stock from North Dakota was marketed at South St. Paul during 1914. Write superintendent stock yards for information.

The value of the 1914 crop is estimated to have been 160 million dollars,

which means a production of, for every man, woman and child, over two thousand dollars.

On Jan. 1, 1915, there were estimated to be 339,000 milch cows an increase of 111 per cent over the number on Jan. 1, 1914, having an average value of \$61.50 each.

More than 1,500 silos are now on North Dakota farms. The lumber and implement dealers all sell them now. One firm sold more than 200 at Fargo last year—many orders for more this spring. Silos are going up rapidly in all sections of the state.

More than 320,000 hogs were shipped to South St. Paul during the year 1914. Large shipments are also made to the stock yards at Chicago, Sioux City and Sioux Falls. Write the superintendent of either of the stock yards for information as to the value, quality and general condition of the North Dakota product. They'll be pleased to give you the information.

For the year 1913 and 1914 North Dakota corn yields averaged higher than any other state from the Canadian border to Texas. Only the states of Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin and Indiana exceeded North Dakota and then by only about six bushels per acre. See Farmers' Bulletin, Department of Agriculture, Washington, No. 615.

Increased Corn Production

In 1910 North Dakota produced 8,000,000 bushels of corn; in 1911 9,000,000; in 1912 11,000,000; in 1913 about 12,000,000 bushels and in 1914 over 17,000,000.

Family Treasures.

"What's the trouble in the house hold?"

"Mother gave away all of father's old clothes. And he retaliated."

"How?"

"By throwing away all her old medical bottles."—Baltimore American.

Incongruous.

Jones—That seedy looking individual is Professor Ragtag. He is working on a scheme that will make him rich if he can perfect it. Smith—What is the scheme? Jones—A plan to enable outsiders to make money in Wall street.—Puck.

Do not allow idleness to deceive you, for while you give him today he steals tomorrow from you.—Old Saying.

If you desire more information about Barnes County, write any man or firm whose names appear in this issue. They will be pleased to answer you.