

A History of Ward County

by Brynhild Haugland

Table Of Contents

Explorers, Fur Traders, And Missionaries

The Fur Trade

Native Animals

The Indians

The Pioneers And What They Did

How The Pioneers Got Their Land

How The First Settlers Lived

How The First Settlers Traveled

What The Pioneer Women Worked With

What The Pioneer Men Worked With

Peculiar Pioneer Industry

Historic Spots Which Should Be Preserved

The Pioneer School

Pioneer Narratives

Battles With Indians

Dangers And Hardships Of Pioneer Life

Monuments

Railroads

Cities And Villages: Townships

History Of Minot

Military Record

Industrial Development Of Our County

Our County Today

The picture used as a background for this page was taken by Mr. Calvin Grinnell.



Brynhild Haugland

ELECTED TO 26 TERMS (52 YEARS) AS A REPRESENTATIVE
IN THE NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE
1938 - 1990

Miss Brynhild Haugland, the longest serving state legislator in the United States, has donated her personal papers from 52 years of public service to Minot State University. They will benefit future research of North Dakota's legislative process and history.

An exhibit on the main level of the Gordon B. Olson Library honors Miss Haugland, who was born on a farm near Minot where she now lives in retirement after a lifetime of service to the people of North Dakota.

The exhibit highlights the school years of Brynhild Haugland who entered Minot Model School on its opening day, September 30, 1913, and completed her Elementary Certificate at Minot State Normal School in 1924. She has been a board member of MSU's Alumni Association since the 1940s.

In 1938 her long career in the Legislature began. She would successfully work for progress in the Human Services and Public Health Departments, adequate funding for education at all levels, economic and industrial development, agriculture and the dairy industry, cooperatives, transportation, zoning, environmental concerns, the State Water Program, clean air, the North Dakota Extension Service, the UND Medical School, the State Prison Farm, accessibility for the handicapped to all public buildings, and state parks and tourism.

Miss Haugland has been a steady supporter of MSU. She worked in the Legislature for 10 new buildings on the campus from Memorial Library (1958), McCulloch Hall (1960), Crane Hall (1960), Student Union (1966), Cook Hall (1966), Hartnett Hall (1974-1976), the Dome (1978), Campus Heights (1984), Lura Manor (1986), to the Gordon B. Olson Library (1989-1992).

Named Minot's Woman of the Year three times, in 1956, 1971, and 1989, Brynhild Haugland holds a special place in the heart of Northwestern North Dakota. She has worked to "... serve the best interests of all people ..." with caring and patience as stated in her oft repeated motto:

*"Most any good thing can be accomplished eventually
if you are not particular who gets the credit."*

A HISTORY OF WARD COUNTY

by

Brynhild Haugland

LIBRARY, STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA

Term Report

1927

A HISTORY OF WARD COUNTY

by

Brynhild Haugland

Topics	Page
Explorers, fur traders and missionaries	1
The fur trade	4
Native animals	5
The Indians	8
The pioneers and what they did	12
How the pioneers got their land	17
How the first settlers lived	19
How the first settlers traveled	21
What the pioneer women worked with	23
What the pioneer men worked with	24
Peculiar pioneer industry	25
The pioneer school	27
Pioneer narratives	28
Battles with Indians	31
Dangers and hardships of pioneer life	32
Monuments	37
Railroads	38
Cities and villages; townships	40
History of Minot	43
Military record	46
Industrial development of our country	47
Our country today	48
Historic spots which should be preserved	49

1-11-49

42610

Pioneer

Author

EXPLORERS, FUR TRADERS AND MISSIONARIES

Pierre Gualtier de Verennes Sieur de la Verendrye was the first white man to enter the state of North Dakota. He was born in Canada in 1685. He was given an education and sent to France to serve time in the Army. 1708-1710. He was wounded in Flanders and was sent back to Canada to recuperate. He worked hard as a subordinate in a fur company's office in Montreal. In 1726 he was made commandant of the North West. This position gave him authority, men and money. He began an extension of territory westward. In 1728 he negotiated with the Crees living north of Lake Superior. They told him of a people different from Indians who lived on a river that flowed to the West. Verendrye tried for ten years to find the Westward flowing River. It was thought that this river would make possible a water route to China or France. Verendrye secured a grant for the region to be explored. Then he began building a line of forts across the Continent. This trail was the first "Transcontinental Line". He chose the mouth of the Pigeon River on the north shore of Lake Superior as a starting point. This was called Grand Portage. He proceeded to build four forts, one on Rainy Lake, Ft. Charles on Lake of the Woods, Ft. Rouge at present location of Winnipeg at the junction of the Assiniboine and Red River and a Fort on a chain of lakes between Lake of the Woods and Winnipeg. In 1736 Verendrye lost his oldest son who was conducting a party of Frenchmen back to Montreal. While resting on an Island in the Lake of the Woods Region the whole party was massacred by a band of Dakota Indians. Verendrye refused to lead a war party against the Dakotas. In 1738 Verendrye went

on an expedition to find the westward flowing river. He left Grand Portage and came to Ft. Rouge and found a trail leading north and south upward to Hudson Bay and down to the Turtle Mountains. He built a Fort at Portage La Prairie. The Indians then told him that he had to go South west to Pimbina, and then West to Turtle Mountains. He had to detour to find a village of Assiniboine Indians. Verendrye eventually found the Mantannes or Mantanea in 1738. Verendrye took the latitude of the place where he remained while his sons went on the "village on the water". The latitude was $48^{\circ}12'$ or the latitude of Minot. This is of special interest to the people of Minot and Ward County. The "Village on the River" was Sanish. The Indians said other Indians lived on the River also. The sons went on to another village December 6. At Crow Hi Butte the river apparently flows to the Southwest. The village visited was a Hidatsa village. Sanish is a day's journey from Verendrye's lost village which has never been located. It is probably south of Palermo. Verendrye was quite ill during January. He recovered and was taken back to the Assiniboine Village. They had six villages of their own, five on the water have been located bu the inland village has not been located. In 1742 Verendrye sent his sons over the same route to cross the river at Sanish and seek the westward flowing river. They went south west through the Bad Lands, and probably as far as the Big Horn Mountains. They turned South East and reached a river which they called the Missouri but we think it is the Platte. They came to a Spanish trading territory. Verendrye buried a lead plate which was found in 1913 in the

bluffs near Pierre, South Dakota. They went back as they had come. The report of the sons convinced Verendrye that the Western Sea could not be found in that direction.

THE PIONEER SCHOOL

The first school building in Ward County was built by Joseph L. Colton of Burlington in 1883. It was a frame structure 18 x 24 feet and had four windows and one door. The desks were made by a carpenter.

Sadie Weber was the first County Supt. of Schools. She entered this position in 1890. J.L. Beckford served as Superintendent from 1901-1905. B.G. Warren was Superintendent in the years from 1905-1915. The County was divided in 1908 but was not effective until 1910.

	1901	1902	1905
Pupils enrolled-----	1,642	3,212	10,089
Organized Districts-----	40	61	91

There were many schools taught in sod shanties and tarpaper shacks.

The first signed report made to the County Superintendent by a Minot teacher was made by Ida Clarke in 1889-1890. Miss Clark taught in a frame building near where the Central school now stands. The Central School building was built in 1890 at a cost of \$12,000. Judge Murray was President of the school board at this time. He wanted an eight room building. The others wanted four rooms. All the eight rooms were needed, even before the building was completed. McKinley school was built in 1904 and added to in 1910. C.A. Johnson was the first Superintendent from 1900-1915. The first class graduated from the Minot High School had six members. The graduation was in 1904

THE FUR TRADE

The first white men to enter the forests and prairies of the Northwest were French fur traders. They were sturdy and reckless. They loved adventure and prided themselves in their ability to meet with and endure hardships. The traders came from Canada either the Hudson Bay Company or the Northwest Fur Company. Most of them were French, some were Scotch. The early fur traders paddled their way along the streams. They traded guns and knives to the Indians for peltries of beaver and otter. With the fur traders often came the Jesuit missionaries who suffered many hardships to establish missions among the Indians. As the fur trade grew it developed into a system. Rich men employed large crews of men who made regular trips for fur out into the Northwest. The labor of these men was specialized. Some did nothing but paddle canoes. Others carried the canoes and packs of provision. A pack weighed about 90 lbs. The food of the traders consisted largely of wild rice and hominy and game such as pike, duck or deer. Camp was pitched for the night late in the evening and struck long before daylight in the morning.

PIONEER NARRATIVES

Probably one of the narratives of pioneer days told most frequently is the one about the Horse Thieves who were captured near Burlington in 1884. There was hardly a public gathering held but that the song written by John Barton "The Burlington Bard" was sung. It was as follows:

It was on the 4th of November,
In the year '84 we were overtaken
By eighteen cowboys
Indeed it was to late
The thieves that they were after,
Were Ravenwood and Baites

Chorus

Young men acruising
I will have you to beware
To leave off horse stealing,
And live upon the square
The marshal he is ready
And the cowboys they are nigh
They will run you off from Burlington
To hang you up to dry.

It was on the morning of the fifth
Just as the dawn of day
Ravenwood went to the barn,
And saddled up the gray
He rode down to the camp
Where the boys did stay,
And there he talked in French,
'Til he gave himself away

On the 15th of November
At the Dogdens they did stay
Raven ood wrote McDonald
And thus to him did say:
Take charge of all my letters
For I m agoing away
I fear I shall not read them
Until the Judgement Day.

"Oh dear", said Mother Benson
In a sad and gloomy mood
To h_____ with old man Benson
I will go with Ravenwood.
They say he is a horse thief,
But the d_____ a care do I
I will follow up the cowboys
And with them hang up and dry."

In April 1884 John Baites and Ravenwood drifted into the Mouse River country with some 20 head of horses. They camped north of Burlington near John Bonholzer's place and made that place their headquarters. Gardepee was a half-breed who drifted in and made his headquarters at Villiard in McHenry County. Ravenwood and Baites were French Canadians and gave every indication of being pioneers. About the same time Charles Wright, better known as "Dutch Charlie" arrived with horses. He had visited the Mouse River Country in 1883 and had a few horses but when he returned the following year he had 450 horses. With him was James Rutherford, who served as Wright's secretary. The Burlington Regulators were organized in 1884 with John Bonholzer as captain. On July 4, 1884 four horses were stolen: Osborne Benson lost two; L.S. Foote lost one and Amos Tracy lost one. Ravenwood and Baites served as Regulators also. They recovered Benson's horses in payment of Whiskey bills. On November 4, 1884 Burlington was stirred by the arrival of 18 cowboys who had rifles and plenty of ammunition. They camped back of Jim Johnson's place. Johnson and Ravenwood went over to the cowboys and talked horse trading. The cowboys seemed willing. Ravenwood went to

get some of his horses and as soon as the cowboys saw the horses he was placed under arrest. Four cowboys tried to get Bailes. They found him saddling his horse getting ready to escape. The cowboys made white flannel hats for Ravenwood and Bailes to distinguish them from the rest of the party. Inquiries were made for Charles Wright but he had left for parts unknown. Gardepee was found in the Dogden Buttes. They also looked for the Peabody Brothers but it is not known if they were found or not. No one ever learned what became of Gardepee, Bailes or Ravenwood. Charles Wright returned to the Mouse River Country and went to the Jack Manning place near where Antler in Bottineau County is now located. He was the next horse thief to be taken out. James Connelly, a deputy Sheriff from Miles City, Montana, came to Burlington April 21, 1885. He was looking for Wright who was wanted for the murder of a widow's son also for "Club Foot Smith". John Bonholzer was deputized as Connelly's assistant and he drove the covered wagon. Wright was captured. Smith escaped into Canada and was never heard from since. Wright was taken to Miles City but was not convicted.

The first public dance was held in the hall over Colton's store at Burlington as a part of a Christmas celebration in 1884. It was advertised all through the Mouse River country by means of the newspaper. It was a mighty gathering. The music was furnished by a violin and an accordian. Fifteen people came from McHenry County in a covered sleigh which was heated with a stove.

of the city. Elmer Francis, his wife and three children drove to the Mouse River country from Sauk Center, Minn. and settled a half mile from Olson's land.

Mr. Joseph L. Colton and son-in-law, James Johnson, came to Mouse River Country in 1883. Mrs. Colton, her daughter, Mrs. Johnson and son, Leslie, were left at Lisbon while Messrs. Johnson and Colton and a man named J.J. Rogers from New York whom they had met at Lisbon started across the Plains toward Northwestern North Dakota with a team of horses and tools enough to start the construction of a log house. James Johnson had found an old map of Dakota Territory showing the junction of the Des Lacs and Mouse Rivers. He was sure that if ever a railroad passed through the territory it would be near that point. Johnson, Colton and Rogers landed at the Forks (Burlington) April 30, 1883. The first evening they discovered lignite coal. Colton squatted on the land where Burlington now stands, Johnson located on land east of Colton and Rogers south of Colton. Each secured 160 acres. After this Johnson took Colton and Rogers to Ft. Stephenson where this Rogers remained. Colton went on to Lisbon to get his family. Johnson returned to his land and built his cabin.

The first building erected where Minot now stands was built by Erik Ramstad and his brother Peter Ramstad in 1883. Peter Ramstad located on land where the Soo Roundhouse is now while Erik Ramstad located on the original townsite of Minot. They came to this section from Grafton. Mr. and Mrs. E. Ramstad traveled across the plains from Grafton with three oxen, a breaking plow

get some of his horses and as soon as the cowboys saw the horses he was placed under arrest. Four cowboys tried to get Bailes. They found him saddling his horse getting ready to escape. The cowboys made white flannel hats for Ravenwood and Bailes to distinguish them from the rest of the party. Inquiries were made for Charles Wright but he had left for parts unknown. Gardepee was found in the Dogden Buttes. They also looked for the Peabody Brothers but it is not known if they were found or not. No one ever learned what became of Gardepee, Bailes or Ravenwood. Charles Wright returned to the Mouse River Country and went to the Jack Manning place near where Antler in Bottineau County is now located. He was the next horse thief to be taken out. James Connelly, a deputy Sheriff from Miles City, Montana, came to Burlington April 21, 1885. He was looking for Wright who was wanted for the murder of a widow's son also for "Club Foot Smith". John Bonholzer was deputized as Connelly's assistant and he drove the covered wagon. Wright was captured. Smith escaped into Canada and was never heard from since. Wright was taken to Miles City but was not convicted.

The first public dance was held in the hall over Colton's store at Burlington as a part of a Christmas celebration in 1884. It was advertised all through the Mouse River country by means of the newspaper. It was a mighty gathering. The music was furnished by a violin and an accordian. Fifteen people came from McHenry County in a covered sleigh which was heated with a stove.

NATIVE ANIMALS OF THE COUNTY

The animals valuable for their fur or hide which inhabited the county before the coming of the white men were buffalo or bison, beaver, otter, coyotes, wolves, muskrat, deer and antelope.

The American buffalo is not a buffalo according to zoologists. A buffalo has thirteen ribs and an American bison has fourteen ribs. The shoulders, head and neck of the American buffalo or bison are much heavier than those of buffaloes found in other parts of the world. The buffalo is a dark, reddish brown color and the head, neck and shoulders of the male are covered with a thick growth of coarse hair which in some instances is almost black. The hair forms a great beard on the throat and chin. The head is very large and is carried low. A full grown buffalo is about six feet high and when in good flesh would weigh about two thousand pounds. Indians used their flesh for food and their skin for clothing. The buffalo existed in very large numbers. This can be seen by the fact that in the Pembina Hunt of 1840 the camp took back with them 1,089,000 pounds of meat. It is often said that the western movement of civilization was the cause of the destruction of the vast herds of buffaloes that once roamed over these plains. Buffaloes could not live in a country occupied by white men and yet stories of early travelers prove that it was the wholesale slaughter by the Indians that led to their extermination, though often the savages were encouraged by white profiteers. Many white men killed the buffalo also. The number of buffalo killed by the Indians not limited to the need

of the tribe for food but herds were slaughtered for the mere sport of killing them.

The life and habits of the Beaver:

The favorite haunts of beavers are forest bordered rivers, lakes and streams. They usually live in colonies. Their homes are substantially built structures made of branches of trees plastered with mud, grasses and other materials. The dwellings are always built in or on the water's edge and are called beaver lodges. The lodges are usually about seven feet across and three feet high. There are two rooms and always two entrances leading into the water. The lower room is used for storage of food. The upper room is used as a living room. The upper room is day, air being supplied through an opening in the top. This opening is concealed by a mass of sticks carefully arranged. If the stream is not deep a dam is built to insure continuous entrance through water in summer's drought and winter's ice and snow.

The first step in the building of a beaver lodge is choosing the site. Then the young and old beavers set to work to fell the trees. After the tree is felled the branches and twigs are removed. The trunk is then cut to a desired length and the logs are dragged to the water. When the homes are completed the beaver spends a carefree summer living on twigs and bark and roots of water plants. In the autumn they repair the dam if necessary and gather their winter store of poplar, birch and alder bark. The young beavers remain with their parents two years. Beavers have a remarkable instinct for working in colonies. They are valued for furs.

The Otter

The limbs of the otter are short, the toes webbed, the claws small, curved and blunt. The fur is close, thick and glossy. It lives in rocky caverns, hollow logs, cavities under the roots of trees overhanging a river or dense swamp thickets. It wanders widely in winter. Otters are readily tamed and attach themselves to their masters like a dog but are inclined to be surly and snappish. The otter is extinct in North Dakota at the present time.

BATTLES WITH INDIANS

Late in 1883, Fort Stevenson where soldiers had been stationed since 1867 to protect early settlers from Indian raids was abandoned and the soldiers withdrawn. The government thought it unnecessary to keep soldiers there longer since the whites were coming to Dakota Territory in such large numbers.

The last instance, recorded in this section of the county when Indians bothered the white men was shortly after the departure of the soldiers when James Johnson and Olie T. Spoklie, then engaged in hauling lumber from Ft. Stevenson were confronted with a bunch of Indians numbering about 75 who came riding over a hill yelling and waving their guns. The two white men were somewhat frightened but stood their ground, and Johnson who was clad in an army overcoat advanced on foot toward the Indians and inquired their business. They said they were looking for some stolen horses but it was later found they had stolen Spoklie's provisions.

In 1891 the county board appealed to the Governor of the state for and against a threatened uprising of tribesman. Many of the pioneers have no recollection of the occurrence and it is probable that the Resolution was not a matter of public knowledge. The board was composed of Joseph Tennis, John Wallin, F.E. Kinklie, Martin Jacobson and John Ehr, chairman.

THE INDIANS

About 1700 Ward County was inhabited by the Hidatsa Indians. The Mandans called them "Minetares" which means, "They crossed the water" and the French fur traders called them Gros Ventres. It is not known where the Hidatsas came from but is thought that they were probably a branch of the Crows from whom they had separated. The Hidatsa had joined with the Mandan for mutual protection against the Sioux. They kept moving up the Missouri River and finally made their homes near the mouth of the Knife River. Each village was circular in form. Around the village was a high barricade of posts, set deeply in the ground for defensive purposes, inside of which was a ditch deep enough to protect the bodies of the defenders who stood in the ditch and shot their arrows through the cracks in the barricade. There were no yards.. The Indians enjoyed sitting on the roofs of their lodges. Their lodges were circular, varying in diameter from thirty to fifty feet and resembled an inverted kettle. A firm floor was formed by digging down to the heavy subsoil. Around the edge of the floor was a row of posts about six feet high which were supported on the outside by a bank of dirt. From the top of each post a rafter extended to the center, together forming a gently sloping roof. This framework was covered with a thick mat of willows, which in turn was covered with grass and clay to a depth of two or three feet. In the center of the roof was a circular hole about three feet in diameter which served as a chimney and as a sky light. This made a substantial home and provided room enough for several families and their many dogs. Each family cultivated from twelve to fifteen acres. They moved

to new land when the soil ceased to be productive. Their principal crop was corn but they also raised beans, squashes, sunflowers and tobacco. The women heeded the grain with large hoes made by fastening the shoulder blade of a buffalo to a heavy handle. The green corn season was a continuous feast. The Indians stored their food in caches. In a grassy place where the earth was firm and dry a circular piece of turf about two feet or less in diameter was carefully removed. A hole the size of the opening was dug gradually widening as it became deeper until the form of a teakettle about six feet deep. This was the way in which a cache was made. They hunted game within convenient distance from their villages but did not go on long hunting trips like the Sioux. Buffalo, deer, antelope, bighorn sheep, elk, beaver, rabbits, ducks, and geese were considered game. The only furniture the Indians had were beds and mats. Their household utensils were pots and kettles of clay. These were black but turned to a yellowish red when heated in the fire. Some of the kettles were large enough to hold five gallons. Spoons and ladels were made from the horns of mountain sheep and buffalo. They had wicker baskets. The colors used in dying or painting were obtained from buffalo berries which made red; yellow from moss and black from sunflowers or charcoal. The Hidatsa and Mandan tribes were not warlike but fought only in defence of their homes. Leaders of war parties had to win their position by their ability and experience.

The Hidatsa had a Corn Dance. When the corn was ready for harvest the medicine men sent runners thruout the village to in-

vite people to the corn festival. At the proper time, four medicine men opened the ceremony by dancing about a kettle of boiling corn, as they chanted a song to the Great Spirit. In a larger circle the warriors performed a similar dance. At the proper time the corn was taken from the kettle and hung on a small scaffold. When the scaffold and corn had been consumed by the flames the ashes and coals were buried and a new fire started. After this all the Indians feasted on corn.

The cemetery or "Village of the Dead" was near the village. Here were scores of scaffolds about twelve feet high where the bodies of the dead were placed. Beside the body was placed provisions for several days, bow and quiver, shield pipe and tobacco, knife, flint and steel. It was the custom that when the scaffold fell down to bury all the bones but the skull.

INDIAN REMAINS

Indian Remains or relics seem to be very rare in Ward County. It is said that about six miles north of Ryder there are tepee Rings about twenty feet in diameter

DANGERS AND HARDSHIPS OF PIONEER LIFE

There were many things which the early settlers feared but most of all they dreaded the prairie fires. The prairie fires swept unchecked over the plains because there were very few plowed fields or roads. There is an interesting story told of Olaf Olson and his experiences with the prairie fires. He raised an unusually good crop one year and was hauling his grain to market-- Washburn--with a team of young oxen. He saw an approaching prairie fire and attempted to burn off a piece of land where he would be safe. The oxen went wild and took him down into a coulee where the grass was long. He was badly burned about his face and hands and it is fortunate that he escaped with his life.

The snow storms were terrible for there were no guiding fences in those days. The story is told that a man and his son perished in a blizzard right near where the State Teachers College is now located.

The people living on the banks of the Mouse River found it rather annoying in times of floods. Mr. Iver Watne, a settler in 1883 always had to move his cattle and belongings upon the hillside. The chickens had to be taken to dry land by means of a boat.

The hardships of pioneer life were not only confined to blizzards, floods and prairie fires but to the important problem of making a living. It was a "God-send" as the pioneers expressed it that there were so many buffalo bones on the prairies. This gave the early settlers cash which they needed badly. Peter

33
Fugelso tells of when he lived at Foxholm and how he had to gather buffalo bones when provisions ran low. The young men who came to Dakota later on and filed on homesteads had the same problem. Many of them returned to the central states, Iowa and Illinois and worked for farmers there, during the winter months. They returned to their claims in the spring on a "Home-seekers" ticket which cost five dollars. Each summer they tried to clear the land of rocks and break a few more acres of sod.

At this time the government gave "tree claims." One hundred and sixty acres were given beside the regular homestead to anyone who would promise to plant and cultivate ten acres of trees. It was very difficult to do this because of the Prairie fires that passed over the country and the dry weather. The best examples of a "Tree claim" near Minot is a farm owned by Mrs. T.P. Kulaas about four miles south of Minot.

Huldah Lucile Winsted was born in Sweden. She received part of her early education in Sweden and while still a child traveled in the Scandinavian countries, Germany and the British Isles. She came to the United States at the age of thirteen. She graduated from the University of Minnesota receiving her Masters degree in 1902. She has taught for sixteen years, three at Valley City and thirteen years at the Minot State Teachers College. Miss Winsted has written many poems describing North Dakota. Her poems have been published in magazines and newspapers in many of the eastern states.

Roy Foote was born near Burlington. He father, L.S. Foote was one of the early settlers who came here in 1883. He received his early education at Burlington and later graduated from the Minot High School in 1904. He graduated from the University of North Dakota. He served overseas in the World War. He has been attorney general of Montana for several years.

Howard Houston was born in Missouri. He moved with his parents to Deering, North Dakota. He attended Minot High School and graduated in 1910. He graduated from the University of North Dakota. He served overseas in the World War and was reported as killed once. While in Europe he met a young woman from Scotland and they were later married. He is employed as a secretary with the League of Nations and makes his home in Switzerland. Three years ago Houston in company with Nanson, the Norwegian explorer, visited Minot.

Nora Fauchald Morgan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Fauchald, pioneer residents of Minot. She was born in Oslo, Norway, the only one of seven children, who was not born in this country. She graduated from the Minot High School. Later she studied music at the Walter Damroch School of Music in New York City. She received a scholarship while there for two years of further study at that school. She has appeared in most of the large cities of the United States as a soloist with Sousa's Band. Her husband is an instructor of Music at the Taft School of Music at Watertown, Connecticut.

R.A. Nestos was born in Voss, Norway April 12, 1877. He came to the United States in 1893. He became a naturalized citizen as soon as the required length of time was up. He first lived at Buxton, North Dakota with an uncle. In 1900 he was graduated from the Mayville, Normal School. He received his Ph.B. from the University of Wisconsin in 1902 and completed his law course at the North Dakota University in 1904. The same year he became a part of the law firm of Johnson and Nestos. He was a member of the House of Representatives from 1911-1912. He was States Attorney of Ward County 1913-1916. He was the Rep. candidate for U.S. Senator in 1916 but was defeated. He was elected governor in a recall election in 1921 for the term ending Jan. 2 1923. He was reelected governor and served from 1923-24. He is a member of the North Dakota Bar Association. He is a member of the Phi Delta Theta and Delta Sigma Rho. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is an active church worker.

36

J. H. Sinclair was born at St. Mary's Ontario in 1871. He came to the United States at the age of six. He graduated from the Mayville Normal School. In 1908 he married Miss Laura Ritzstaff of Cooperstown, North Dakota. He is at present a senator in Congress. He is a Republican.

THE PIONEERS AND WHAT THEY DID

The first settlers in the Mouse River Valley were Olaf A. Olson, Olie T. Spoklie, Henry Gasman, Elmer Francis and James Wilson, who came early in the summer of 1882. J.F. Booth and Edward Booth built a house near where Sawyer is now located the same year but they went out for the winter. They cut wood for the government near Fort Stephenson. Edward Booth was a taxidermist. J.F. Booth was married in 1886 to Miss Mary Wilson.

Olaf Olson, with his wife and children on coming from Sweden had settled in Michigan but Mr. Olson heard of the Northwest and decided to move westward. He left his wife and children in Iowa and came to Bismarck via the Northern Pacific Ry. and in Bismarck purchased a yoke of oxen wagon and supplies. He reached the Mouse River country in May and settled on what was later known as the Waldreth farm near where Sawyer is now located. He built a log house and late in the summer drove back to Bismarck where he met Mrs. Olson and the children. They brought back with them sufficient supplies for the winter.

Olie T. Spoklie, his wife and children were in Moorehead in the spring of 1882 and met Henry Gasman and his wife who came west from Wisconsin. Equipped with a yoke of oxen and a covered wagon each, the two men and their families drove from Moorehead to Stevens County (Spoklie settling a mile west of Minot is now located and Gasman settling in the mouth of the coulee west of

of the city. Elmer Francis, his wife and three children drove to the Mouse River country from Sauk Center, Minn. and settled a half mile from Olson's land.

Mr. Joseph L. Colton and son-in-law, James Johnson, came to Mouse River Country in 1883. Mrs. Colton, her daughter, Mrs. Johnson and son, Leslie, were left at Lisbon while Messrs. Johnson and Colton and a man named J.J. Rogers from New York whom they had met at Lisbon started across the Plains toward Northwestern North Dakota with a team of horses and tools enough to start the construction of a log house. James Johnson had found an old map of Dakota Territory showing the junction of the Des Lacs and Mouse Rivers. He was sure that if ever a railroad passed through the territory it would be near that point. Johnson, Colton and Rogers landed at the Forks (Burlington) April 30, 1883. The first evening they discovered lignite coal. Colton squatted on the land where Burlington now stands, Johnson located on land east of Colton and Rogers south of Colton. Each secured 160 acres. After this Johnson took Colton and Rogers to Ft. Stephenson where this Rogers remained. Colton went on to Lisbon to get his family. Johnson returned to his land and built his cabin.

The first building erected where Minot now stands was built by Erik Ramstad and his brother Peter Ramstad in 1883. Peter Ramstad located on land where the Soo Roundhouse is now while Erik Ramstad located on the original townsite of Minot. They came to this section from Grafton. Mr. and Mrs. E. Ramstad traveled across the plains from Grafton with three oxen, a breaking plow

and tools with which to build a log house. There was plenty of hard work, long hours and much loneliness the first summer.

John Wallen came in the summer of 1883 settling about five miles west of the present site of Minot. He still lives on this farm. Iver Watne came the same summer. He came from Ft. Stephenson with the Colton Party. L.S. Foote and Michael Muir arrived from Sauk Center, Minn. and settled in the same neighborhood.

The first Store was erected at the Forks (Burlington) by Joseph L. Colton in 1883. The lumber was hauled from Ft. Stephenson with Leslie Colton and James Johnson in charge of the transportation. They had five teams on the road most of the time. The building constructed was a two story frame structure 32 x 32 feet in size. It had a wing 20 x 22. Colton sent to Lisbon for Percy M. Cole now of Kenmare to come and help in the building work. The building was soon completed. Part of it was used as a hotel known as "Colton House" later "Burlington House."

The first Church to be organized was the First Luthern Church in 1884. (December 28) An organization meeting was held at the home of Erik Ramstad when 32 souls were listed as members of the Norwegian Lutheran Church. Rev. T.S. Rushus was the first resident pastor. He preached his first sermon, July 4, 1886 in the home of Peter Ramstad. Extended from Des Lacs to Towner the extent of the Parish. The parsonage was a homestead of logs situated about four miles east of Minot across the river from and just a little beyond Ed. Nelson's farm home. The Ladies Aid was organized July 7, 1877 with ten members. As early as 1888 building plans were discussed but years of drouth caused

postponement of the plans. In 1892 the Red Brick church was built on "North Side."

The first school house was built at Burlington in 1883. It was a frame building. The lumber was hauled from Fort Stephenson. Some of the material came from Bismarck.

The first newspaper was the "Burlington Reporter" which was printed by Colton of Burlington. The Publishing of this paper was begun in 1884. The materials for the press were hauled by ox teams from Bismarck. This paper is the real beginning of the "Minot Daily News."

The first schools(continued) This school was started and financed by Joseph L. Colton. A Miss Walcott who was employed by Mr. Colton as governess for his daughter, Sarah Colton, was the first teacher. Later Miss Myrtle Robinson, now Mrs. LaDue of Williston also taught in this private school as did Miss Jane L. Millar who taught for eight months. Miss Millar is now Mrs. Percy M. Cole. Mr. Colton invited other settlers of that district to send their children to school and some 10 to 14 attended. The school was a small building 18 x 24 feet in size with four windows and one door. The desks were made by a carpenter. The private school was discontinued in 1886. Miss Annie Kinklie, later Mrs. Michael King of Donneybrook, was the first public school teacher at Burlington. She was 17 years old when the new school opened in May 1877. The school continued for two months and then closed for the summer vacation. It is also reported that funds were scarce and that is why the vacation was declared.

16

Miss Kinklie roomed and boarded at O. Kittleson three miles west of Burlington. She walked the three miles to and from school each day. At the first term there were seven children in attendance. They were Clara Hunnewell, Maude Hunnewell (now Mrs. John Shipton) Delos and Thomas Hunnewell, Sarah Colton, Evelyn Benson and Emmerette Benson.

MONUMENTS

The statue of Theodore Roosevelt was given to Minot by Dr. Ralph Waldo Coe of Portland, Oregon. It was dedicated to the school children of North Dakota. The dedication took place Sept. 11, 1924. A Pageant was given at this time and a Round-up was also staged. This statue is at the entrance of Roosevelt Park. It stands on a base of yellow and red stone, which makes its base resemble the Bad Lands a great deal.

Theodore Roosevelt was born in New York in 1858 of Dutch parentage. He was a sickly child but was a great lover of the outdoors and natural history. He came to the Bad Lands, (Medora) in June 1883. He came to hunt buffalo. While here he purchased the "Chimney Butte Ranch". He went east in July 1884 and persuaded two friends, Dow and Seward to return west with him. He then purchased the "Elkhorn Ranch" where he wrote a great deal. He later became governor of New York, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Vice President of the U.S. and finally president upon the death of William McKinley. He advertised N. Dak. to the east. N. Dak. gave him physical strength, gave him new faith in man, made him a keen judge of men's characters and prepared him for his exploration trips in other parts of the World.

HOW THE PIONEERS GOT THEIR LAND

The early pioneers who came to this region before the land was surveyed by the government got their land by "squattting." The government recognized the rights of a squatter. By squattting was meant that the settler chose his land approximately 160 acres. He wrote his name and the date on a stake and drove it into the ground. The government recognized this as a claim as long as one continued to live on the land and make it their home. When Johnson, Colton, Wallin and the many early settlers arrived in 1882 and 1882 there was no land surveyed for a hundred miles around. All this time the government was rather "hard-up" financially. If the settlers could describe the boundaries of their township accurately the government would send out a surveyor if the settlers advanced the money. They were later repaid. The Homestead Law went into effect in 1862 but could not be used until the land was surveyed. Minot and Burlington were surveyed in the years 1884 and 1885. In the same years the Burlington Regulators' were organized. Leslie Colton, John Wallin, and James Johnson were responsible for the organization. The purpose of the organization was to protect the early settlers from horse thieves and claim jumpers. In those days land was held by squatter's rights and claim jumping was profitable business and not a difficult task if the settler was a weakling or other settlers did not interfere. A story is told of an old Gentleman from Virginia who came to the Mouse River country and settled on what is now the Peter Ehr farm near Logan. In 1884

a man drifted in known as "Montana Fred" and he decided to locate on the old Virginians' Land. People told him the Burlington Regulators would interfere with his plans. He said he could shoot around a square corner but when the Regulators did arrive on the scene he seemed to have forgotten all about his shooting and quietly consented to move off the land. The Regulators bent his rifle before they left.

RAILROADS

In Sept. 1886, Solomon G. Comstock (afterwards Congressman from Minnesota and now a resident of Moorehead) and A.A. White (now a resident of St. Paul) came to this section and secured a government script for the 40 acres south of Central Avenue. Erik Ramstad relinquished his claim to 40 acres north of the Railroad and this became the townsite. The railroad was constructed from Devils Lake to the east end of the high bridge during the summer of 1886.

The railroad station in Minot was a box car where the Gt. Northern freight sheds now stand. Patrick Kelly was the first station agent. Some of the settlers who came to Minot when the railroads came are: William H. Parker, Clarence H. Parker, John and Peter Ehr, John Lynch, G.O. Frank, Martin Jacobson, E.D. Skinner, A.C. Nedrud, Erik Hustad and Daniel Kimball.

The Soo Railway came to Minot in 1893. The Soo Railway came very near missing Minot entirely and if Joseph L. Colton, James Johnson, Erik R. Ramstad, William Hope and a few others of the pioneers had not taken a hand in the affairs this section would have but one railroad instead of two. When survey men representing the Soo started out the road from Valley City to the Canadian border they planned to cross the Mouse River some distance east of Minot and then cut Northwest missing both Minot and Burlington. Few railroads have ever received a warmer welcome than did the ^{Soo} Sioux in the Mouse River Country. The entire right away from Portal to McHenry County was furnished free. In practically every instance it was donated by the owner. The Soo placed its depot

where Armour's Creamery now stands. In 1908 the Soo line built its freight depot on Central Avenue and in 1912 the passenger depot was built. The railroad extending west to the Berthold Indian reservation from Max, was completed in 1906. The line from Max to Bismarck had been built, the Washburn and Bismarck were connected in 1900.

HOW THE FIRST SETTLERS LIVED

Some of the very first settlers lived for a short time in dug outs along the river banks. Olie Spoklies first home was a dug out west of Minot. These dugouts were not very comfortable and were soon abandoned either for sod houses or log houses. The people along the Mouse River built houses of log because the trees were near at hand. These log homes were very warm and comfortable. They placed the rafters on the roof then the bark peeled from trees and on on top of this sod. This made the roof tight and it very seldom leaked if it had been built properly. Many of the homes had earth floors. Olaf Olson was the first settler to have a wooden floor. For interior decoration of walls newspapers were used.

The sod house was used more in the localities where logs could not be obtained. The pioneer picked out a piece of land where the sod was firm, usually in a low place. Then he plowed or broke the sod in strips 14 or 16 inches wide. The strips were broken into two feet lengths. Then they proceeded to build their houses much as brick houses. The roofs were covered with turf. Some of the houses were plastered with lime. Many of them had earth floors. My father distinctly remembers visiting a family who lived in a sod house. He was much surprised and amused to see the children digging up the floor and playing with the earth much as if it were a sandtable. When the sod houses were well built they were very comfortable, much warmer than the tarpaper shacks which the later homesteaders built.

The tarpaper shacks varied in size, the average size being about 10 x 12. Two kinds of roofs were used, the rounded roof made of a half inch board called "resaw" which bends readily and the other roof was a shed roof. The shed roof was probably the most common. The shacks were single boarded and covered with tarpaper. They were as a rule, very cold in winter.

CITIES AND VILLAGES

Minot- - - - - Named for Henry D. Minot, a friend of Roosevelt.
Kenmare- - - - - Named by Soo Railroad
Berthold - - - - - Once a part of Berthold Indian Reservation
Burlington - - - - - For Burlington, Iowa
Surrey - - - - -
Makoti - - - - -
Ryder- - - - - In honor of Mr. Ryder, first Postmaster
Douglas- - - - -
Lone Tree- - - - - It is said that there was only one tree on this
townsite.
Des Lacs - - - - - French word meaning "River"
Hartland - - - - -
Aurelia- - - - -
Kenaston - - - - -
Niobe- - - - -
Carpio - - - - -
Walseth- - - - -
Drady- - - - -
Baden- - - - - Named by Soo Railroad
Donneybrook- - - - - John Powers named it for "Donnybrook, Fair of
Ireland"
Foxholm- - - - - "Home of the Fox"
Logan- - - - - W. R. Davis named it for Black Jack or Gen. Logan

TOWNSHIPS

Denmark--A group of people from Denmark settled this township
Elmdale--

Kenmare--

Sauk Prairie--The people who settled here were from Sauk Center,
Minnesota.

Spencer--

Boden--

Greenbush--

Carbondale--

Ree--

Carpio--

Mayland--

St. Marys--The people who settled this township were nearly all
Catholics

Waterford--

Tatman--

Margaret--

Passport--

Berthold--

Foxholm--

Kinklie--Kinklie was named for an old settler by that name.

Eureka--

McKinley--named for President McKinley

Maryland--

Evergree--

Mandan--

Des Lacs--Received its name from the River.

Burlington--Received its name from the town.

Harrison--Named after President Harrison

Nedrose--

Surrey--

Shealy--

Tolgen--

Rolling Gree--

Burt--

Afton--

Sundre--

New Prairie--

Lund--

Linton--

Vang--

Torning--

Freedom--

Willis--

Sawyer--

Orlien--

Anna--

Rice Lake--Named for Rice Lake

Hilton--

Gasman--

Newman--

Brilliant--

Hiddenwood

Ryder--
Cameron--
Spring Lake--
Rushville--
Iota Flat--
Greely--

HOW THE FIRST SETTLERS TRAVELED

The earliest pioneer came into our country on foot or if he was fortunate he rode a horse. The Indians hauled their freight on travois poles placed over the back of a pony. The pioneer did not use this method because it was too slow. The pioneer soon began to use the Red River Cart. The frame was large and strong enough for from eight hundred to one thousand pounds of freight. It is said that some of the early pioneer brides took their honeymoon trips to the Twin Cities in Red River Carts. The rate of travel was only two or three miles per hour.

The Red River cart was made all of wood. A tough skin of a buffalo was wound around the wooden tire of the wheel. Under ordinary conditions that tire of buskin would last about a year, according to James Johnson.

Dog sledges were used in the winter. This was common in the Red River valley but it is doubtful that it was ever used by pioneers in Ward County. The pioneers of Ward County used lumber wagons just like the wagons we have today. They had the same makes of wagons also. The "Studebaker", "Old Hickory" and "Mandt" wagons were all used and are still popular. They had a covering of Canvas and many of the boxes were used as boats when crossing a small stream.

The journeys these pioneers made across the plains of North Dakota to this section were but incidents in their frontier struggles, yet they furnish additional evidence of the courage and hardness of the early settlers. With all their early possessions packed in a covered wagon the pioneers drove across the

plains behind their faithful oxen at the rate of about twenty miles per day. The wagon boxes were so constructed so that they could be used as boats in case streams were encountered which were too deep to be forded. When deep streams such as the Mouse or the Sheyenne were encountered the wagon box would be removed and poled across the stream to the other bank. The wheels would be pulled across by the use of a long rope and the cattle would follow.

THE HISTORY OF MINOT

The city of Minot was named for Henry D. Minot who was a director member of the executive committee and also second vice-president of the Great Northern Railway when the road reached Minot in 1886. His position brought him in contact with Comstock and White who were connected with James J. Hill, president of the Road. When they made arrangements for the town site with Eric Ramstad they conferred with Mr. Hill and decided to name the town Minot. The town was not recognized until June 28, 1887. The school district No. 8 was organized by an election held Feb. 15, 1887 at which Dr. E.H. Bilyea was elected director, John McDevitt Treasurer and P.H. McNamara, clerk. A short time later Arnold and McCabe contractors began the construction of Minots first school house. The building was a frame structure and its dimensions were 16 x 24 feet. It stood on the land where the High School Buildings now stand. The first school term started in the fall of 1887 with Ida Clark as teacher. Miss Clarke taught for many years in Minot and moved farther west later on. In 1890, the city of Minot became a school district with a full board of five members. W.E. Mansfield was president, Rev. F.C. Hawke, pastor of Vincent Methodist church was clerk and John McJanet was treasurer. C.A. Johnson was secured by the board to become the first principal of the Minot schools. Mr. Johnson assumed charge of the schools in 1890 and had as his assistants Miss Stella Happer, now Mrs. W.J. Carrol of Minot and Miss Jean McNaughton now Mrs. Jean McNaughton Stevens of Towner. Miss Clarke was not

teaching in Minot while Mr. Johnson was in charge as Principal. She became affiliated with the schools again at a later date. Miss Webber was county superintendent on severing her connections with Minot schools in 1890.

Between 1200 and 1500 people reached the city during the winter of 1886-1887. In 1886 Minot was the terminus of the Gt. Northern Railway so immense amounts of materials were shipped to and unloaded at Minot. During the first winter Minot was the headquarters for hundreds of workmen and the winter was a wild one without a doubt. There were 35 or 40 saloons also dance halls. There were no churches, no schools. The town had a few children and no old people. It was typically western and gambling was the chief amusement. In 1887 the city had a creditable business district. Mr. Aurland had a store where Minot Plumbing and Heating is now located. Other business men were George McKay, Hope brothers, Lincoln and Wakefield Davis. The first Post Office was located in Roarke's shack on the First International Bank Corner. P.H. McNamara was the first postmaster.

The first Bank:

Mr. E. Ashley Mears came to Minot in 1887 and organized the Bank of Minot. Ashley E. Mears, his son, was also interested in it. Shortly after its organization, James Johnson became interested in it. The bank was in the old James Johnson Block. That corner was set aside by the townsites men, Comstock and White, as a Bank Corner, when they laid out the city in 1886. A year after the organization of the Bank of Minot, the First National Bank of Minot was organized by the two Mears men and Mr. Johnson.

Churches:

There were six churches organized in Minot before 1890. They were First Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist, Bethany Lutheran Baptist and Catholic. The First Lutheran was organized in 1884. The Methodists organized in 1887. The Bethany Lutheran was organized in March 1887. In April 1888, the Baptist Church was organized. The Catholic priests came to the Mouse River country as early as 1884. The first mass was celebrated in a room over Eugene Coleman's livery barn in April 1887.

WHAT THE PIONEER WOMEN WORKED WITH

The sod house or log house was always heated with a stove. All pioneers brought a stove with them in their covered wagon. They made their bedsteads of lumber from along the river banks. The tables, benches and chairs were also homemade. Bed springs were made of rope. Ropes were placed about six inches apart lengthwise and then cross wise. Mattresses were made of straw usually. A two or three gallon jar with a wooden lid served as a dash churn. The pioneers did not aim to bring a great deal of household goods with them. When they were settled on their land and had a home built their husbands bought the articles as they were needed at Ft. Stephenson, Bismarck or Washburn. A few Scandinavian women brought spinning wheels with them but they were not used much. Materials for dresses were purchased at the trading posts such as Bismarck or Devils Lake. Their wells were of the "old oaken bucket" type. Some people got their water from springs. When neighbors gathered for a party or a visit the spring seat of the wagon was always taken into the house and used as a seat. If anyone was fortunate enough to own a buggy, the cushion was always taken into the house also.

MILITARY RECORD

Ward county had two companies in the World War. Company A and Company D. The officers of Company D were Captain Otto Gross, First Lieutenant A.E. Whitney, Second Lieutenant Stanton A. Hayes. The officers of Company A were: Captain N.C. Lawson, First Lieutenant William C. O'Leary, Second Lieutenant J.C. Blaisdell, Jr. Both regiments were sent to Camp Green in North Carolina. There they were consolidated and made into one regiment. It was then called the 164th Regiment of the 41st Division. They went to France, April 15, 1917. Minot has a Militia Company D of the 164th Infantry. They also have a medical corps organized in 1917 by Major Frank A. Wheelon. Company D of the 1st Infantry was at the Mexican border in 1915. They remained there fifteen months.

WHAT THE PIONEER MEN WORKED WITH

Nearly every pioneer brought with him a walking plow with which he broke up the sod. The fields were rather small the first few years. Olaf Olson raised five hundred bushels of wheat and that was considered enormous. The drags or harrows were homemade and were triangular in shape. White ash branches about one inch in diameter were used as drag teeth. These proved to be quite satisfactory. The grain was cut with a scythe to which a large bow was attached which caused the grain to fall in a certain way. After that the cradle was used. Later the reaper was introduced and now the binder is used. The reaper was used from about 1895-1900. Mr. Johnson states that his first reaper was called a "Dewey Harvester". He shipped this machine from Minnesota to Bismarck and then hauled it overland to Burlington. The threshing was done with a flail. The flail was a large wide paddle attached to a handle by means of a swivel. The grain was beaten with the flail. Many of the pioneers were familiar with this method of threshing because this was the method used in the Scandinavian countries. The grain was thrown against the wind to separate it from the chaff. Later when the first threshing rigs were introduced men had to stack the straw in the straw pile because the separators were not equipped with blowers as they are now. The barns were either made of log or sod depending on the location of the land and the nearness to timber. The barns were often called "hovels". Many of the old barns are still standing.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTY

Ward County has had a wonderful Industrial development. It is a county of many fine farms, farms of all types. The big grain, dairy farm, and the raising of beef cattle are various types of farming carried on. A large amount of potatoes are raised each year at Berthold and these potatoes are sold in our eastern and southern cities. A great many fine dairy herds are to be found in the vicinity of Roseglen near Ryder. Diversified farming is practiced and it pays well. A great deal of lignite coal is mined near Burlington. None of this coal is shipped out of the State. A briquetting plant is located in Minot which uses the lignite coal. A large oil refining company is to be built in Minot. Minot boasts of the largest and best equipped Green Houses between Minneapolis and the West Coast. Minot is the center of an immense trade territory. Over 70,000 persons attended the N.W. Fair last year. Minot has five wholesale grocery houses, two automotive wholesale houses, two great implement branches, two flour mills, headquarters for two chains of eighty lumber yards and banks with an aggregate deposit of \$6,000,000. Someone has said that the single greatest asset of Minot is the Great Northern Railway. The main division point is located here with 800 employees living here and a monthly payroll of \$250,000.

PECULIAR PIONEER INDUSTRY

The picking and selling of buffalo bones was at one time the biggest business in this section of the state. To the pioneers who had staked all on a yoke of oxen and a plow, buffalo bones were a God-send. The pioneer had to find a way of financing himself. Some solved the problem by going back to the lumber camps of Michigan, Wisconsin or Minnesota in the winter. Some worked on railroads. To a great number the buffalo bones furnished the "grub stake". The bones of the buffalo were strewn all over the plains of the west and when the railroad entered the Mouse River Country, buyers of the bones arrived. The years 1887-1888 were the big buffalo bone years in Minot. Womner and Stolz were the leading buyers. The prices paid ranged from \$6.50 to \$18 and \$20 a ton. Skulls were used to make a framework on top of the wagon box so that two and one half or three tons could be hauled in at one time. In 1887 a pile of buffalo bones at Minot was examined and it was found that one pile represented over 7,000 buffalo. It has been estimated that the bones gathered in N. Dak. represented more than 2,000,000 animals. The bones were carefully picked over by the settlers and any perfectly preserved horns were kept as souvenirs. The bones were divided into three classes. The best were used for making knife handles, trinkets, etc. The second class were utilized in making sugar while the inferior quality was manufactured into fertilizer.

Another Pioneer Industry was the making of bricks. Colton established a brick yard in Burlington in 1894. Davis establish-

LIBRARY, STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA

26
ed a brick yard in 1896. This gave employment to many young men when they were not busy on their homesteads. The Davis brick-yard has been repaired the last year and is again in operation.

OUR COUNTY TODAY

North of Minot the land is quite level. The soil found in Ward County is glacial soil. It is very fertile. The one thing often lacking is moisture but with plenty of moisture the soil will produce wonderful crops. The industries are farming, dairying and mining. There is a narrow valley extending from Minot to Kenmare. It is wider toward Minot and gets a great deal narrower when it reaches Kenmare. The principal crops raised are wheat, oats, rye, barley, speltz, flax, potatoes and corn. Most of the corn is used as forage for cattle. Ranching is carried on in the southern part of the county in the hills around Ryder. Minot has but one state Institution and that is the State Teachers College of which it is very proud. It has two well equipped Hospitals to which many patients come from all over the Northwest. Minot is said to have over twenty churches. Among the larger churches are the Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Congregational and six Lutheran Churches. Minot has a fine system of parks, the best in the state. Minot has wide awake business men who know how to work together and boost Minot. It has good banking organizations also. The first National Bank is the oldest bank in Minot and in Ward County.

HISTORIC SPOTS WHICH SHOULD BE PRESERVED

The Log cabin of Olie T. Spoklie about a mile west of Minot should be preserved as well as the buildings built by Hans Aageson on the McIntyre farm west of Minot. There seems to be no important Indian remains or forts in Ward County. Peter Ramstad's cabin is in the Tourist Camp in Minot.