

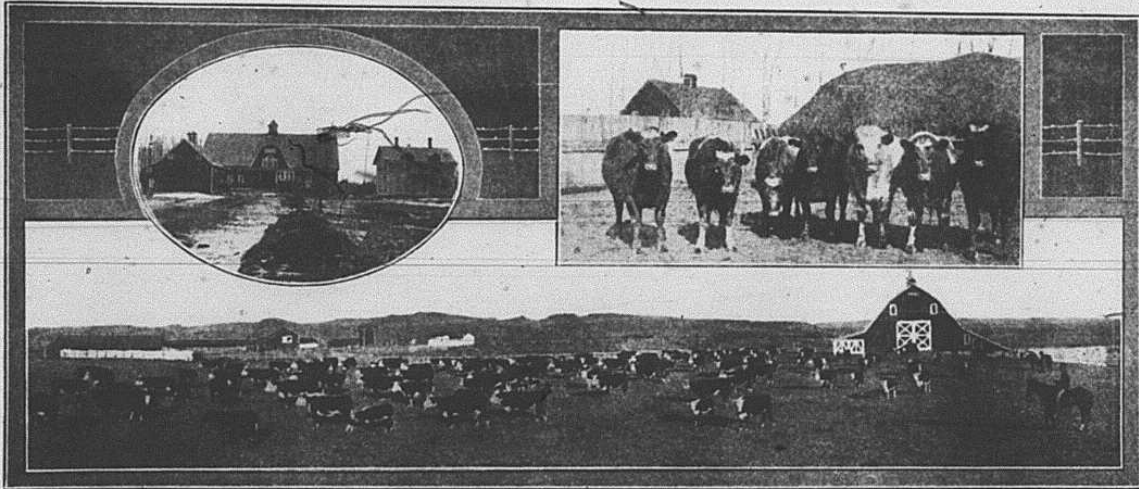
THE COURTENAY GAZETTE

eries in the state at this writing. The value of the dairy and creamery interests in the state (1904) was \$14,000,000; number of milch cows, 295,168, worth \$30 dollars each. North Dakota sold \$367,870.28 worth of butter and eggs last year. The country west of the Missouri river is the stockman's paradise, but the farmers are rapidly making inroads upon their precincts.

The first railroad to strike the state was the Northern Pacific—in 1872, 33 years ago—at Fargo. Now three transcontinental lines span the state and a weft of branches reaching every settlement, affording quick and convenient transportation to either coast, the gulf and intermediate points. There are now over 4,000 miles of railroad in oper-

artistic, aggressive and progressive and has exerted a powerful influence in promoting the state. It boasts of 266 newspapers and periodicals, eight of which are dailies. They have doubled in number in the last five years and more are coming with accelerated pace, bright, newsy, cosmopolitan.

Prohibition is gradually gaining ground in the state. There is no prospect of a change to high or low license. Under the state constitution any effort to that end must run the gauntlet of two legislatures and be twice approved by the people of the state at the polls. The manufacture of intoxicants in the state ceased the moment the constitution was adopted and bootlegging is becoming a



A Scene at One of the Numerous Thoroughbred Cattle Ranches in North Dakota

ation in the state, 500 of which have been constructed this year—all overwhelmed with business this fall. They have promoted settlement, built towns, developed the state and have been reciprocally profitable to themselves and the people. President Hill, of the Great Northern road, recently said: "I have lived forty-nine years in Minnesota. That state has more timber, more fresh water and more people than North Dakota but there are only about fifteen cities in Minnesota where the railroad companies do a business of more than \$1,000,000 a year, while in North Dakota there are thirty-eight towns doing that business." This utterance is significant and furnishes to those interested food for reflection and pride, especially when we remember that Minnesota was admitted into the union of states in 1858, and North Dakota in 1889—the former forty-seven years old—North Dakota sixteen.

The state press is fully abreast of the times—alert

dangerous business—sooner or later to the careless and adventurous in many parts of the state. Five convicts of that profession are laboring for the state in the penitentiary at Bismarck and the county jails make a much larger showing.

There have been fifty-eight new towns established during the last six months—thirty-two on the new railroad branches. Seven hundred and seventy-eight persons have engaged in business in the state during the same time. The state is not trembling under the incubus of a bubbly boom but its growth is healthful and legitimate.

The educational fabric of this young and progressive state has been constructed on the sure and broad foundation of experience and into its fiber is woven wool and warp of the best of the erudition of the older states of the union—of the world for that matter, for long ago America's eminent educators sifted out and appropriated to their