

THE COURTENAY GAZETTE

age of \$150,000 on deposit. During the years of 1901 and 1902, there was in the neighborhood of \$110,000 spent for building improvements alone in the town. This was probably the greatest amount spent during the same length of time but each year has seen added improvements and there are few towns in the state that show more thrift and enterprise than the town of Courtenay.

Situated, as it is, in the center of one of the richest and most fertile portions of the state, with a reputation for producing the finest quality and largest yields of No. 1 hard spring wheat, the cattle and sheep industry being rapidly and easily developed, with an enterprising and happy people for her citizens, Courtenay naturally lays claim to possessing advantages not possessed by any other town of its size in the state. It is the shipping center for a large territory which embraces a portion of the adjoining counties of Barnes, Foster and Griggs, and immense quantities of wheat and flax are shipped from this point every season. Considerable attention is being paid to diversified farming and many of the farmers are surrounding themselves with full-blood regis-

tered stock. Considerable corn is being raised, although the prevailing idea in the east is that corn cannot be raised in this latitude. Alfalfa is also being successfully raised and it is only a matter of time when these two crops will be raised as successfully here as elsewhere, and cattle, sheep and hogs will be raised in large numbers.

The soil in the territory tributary to Courtenay is a rich black loam, ranging in depth from eighteen inches to two feet, with a clay sub-soil, and is almost free from rock. The northeast corner of Stutsman county and that portion of Griggs, Foster and Barnes counties tributary to Courtenay is known throughout the northwest as one of the most fertile and productive localities in North Dakota. The principal reason for this is that just between the black loam and the clay is a strata of marl or lime sub-soil, which at all seasons of the

year contains a sufficient amount of moisture to mature the crops and thus insure an abundant harvest. An abundance of good water can be found at an average depth of thirty-five feet below the surface. There is a large quantity of good grazing land and the natural grass is so nutritious that stock fattens quickly on it. The fields are level and all that is necessary is to start the plow.

The educational interests of the village are properly looked after and it will be seen by reference to another page of this magazine, that the schools have made a remarkable growth and we now have one of the best equipped and most up-to-date schools to be found in any village the size of

Courtenay in the state. The schools are taught by an able corps of instructors who take rank with any to be found anywhere. The religious interests of the village are also in a flourishing condition and we can boast of one of the most attractive and comfortable church properties in the entire state. Rev. M. S. Riddle is in charge of the work in the Presbyterian church and during the short time that he has been here much interest has been manifested, evidencing the



One of the Many Modern Residences in Courtenay, N. D.

fact that the people appreciate the excellent service rendered by Mr. Riddle. The church is fully alive to its duties and responsibilities and during the past year expended in the neighborhood of seven hundred dollars for repairs on the church and manse. Rev. H. J. Stinson, of Kensal, holds Methodist services in the opera house in Courtenay during the summer months. The Norwegian Lutherans will also erect a new church building here during the coming summer and have a pastor to hold services regularly.

Courtenay has a large and well furnished opera house which is one of the most modern places of amusement in this section of the state. It is fitted with a fine stage and the manager, Mr. L. O. Larson, is securing amusements of a high order.

A summary of the present business concerns of the village may serve to give some conception of