

THE COURTENAY GAZETTE

pioneers ever since North Dakota first began to be settled up and have been in every new town bearing the brunt of the battle of existence which falls to the lot of the pioneer communities.

There are now printed and circulated in the state 267 regular publications, including nine daily papers, 245 weekly publications and 13 monthly magazines, six of the latter being published by students at the several educational institutions of the state. These papers which are constantly growing in number, in circulation and influence, are read every week by more than half a million readers, not only in North Dakota but in every state in the union and all over the globe. Their annual aggregate circulation is in the neighborhood of fourteen or fifteen million copies and they generally reflect the enterprise of the communities from which they emanate.

The credit of starting the first paper in the state belongs to Col. C. A. Lounsberry. In the spring of 1873 he was in the employ of the Minneapolis Tribune. The Northern Pacific was building its line across North Dakota and there was great excitement over the settling up of the new territory. Col. Lounsberry was sent to Fargo by the Tribune to find out what was going on and report it for the paper. He was evidently much impressed with what he saw for he immediately returned to Minneapolis, resigned his position with the Tribune and purchased a complete printing outfit and started for North Dakota again. He concluded that where the railroad crossed the Missouri river was bound to be an important town and there he decided to locate and establish a newspaper. He went as far as he could by rail and then hired a team and hauled his outfit across the prairie to Bismarck, landing there on May 11th, 1873. He took a claim, erected a building and on the 6th day of July issued the first number of the Bismarck Tribune, North Dakota's first newspaper. The paper has continued since that time under different managements and for a good many years past has been in the hands of H. M. Jewell.

Among the leading papers in the state are the Tribune, already mentioned, the Grand Forks Herald and the Fargo Forum.

The Grand Forks Herald was established twenty-six years ago last June by its present owner, Mr. George B. Winship. He arrived at the settlement of Grand Forks in a freight wagon with a hand printing press and a few cases of old type and on the 26th of June, 1879, the new venture was launched. Mr. Winship evidently appreciated

something, even at this early date, of the future possibilities of Grand Forks and North Dakota, for he had deliberately transplanted his newspaper establishment from Caledonia, Minnesota, where for the two years previous he had successfully conducted a weekly paper, to Grand Forks, already favored with an exponent of its advantages in the weekly Plaindealer. The Herald had a small beginning and the first building from which it was issued was erected at a cost not to exceed \$150. Mr. Winship was the editor, typographer, pressman, circulation manager, advertising solicitor, reporter and collector. The paper was an unpretentious sheet of four pages, but it prospered from the start and soon additions to the force were a necessity. The building had also soon to be enlarged and every year since that time has seen the paper continue to grow until it is now occupying the fine pressed brick building shown in connection with this article. The equipment of the office has been added to in the same measure as the building has been enlarged and improved and they now have one of the largest and most up to date newspaper and job printing plants in the Northwest. From the small handful of type and material in the office at the time the first paper was issued has grown the large plant that makes the Herald the excellent publication that it is. They are now running three Mergenthaler linotype machines and the paper is printed on a Cox Duplex perfecting press that is capable of turning out 4,000 finished papers, pasted, folded and counted, every hour. The circulation of the Herald has kept pace with the enlarged facilities and is now in the neighborhood of 6,000.

The Fargo Forum was established by Major Edwards and H. C. Plumley in 1891. Major Edwards is one of the veteran newspaper men of the state and established the Republican at Fargo in 1878. In 1879 Mr. Edwards severed his connection with the Republican and established the Fargo Daily Argus and was the editor of that paper for a number of years until it passed into the ownership of J. J. Hill. When the Forum was established it absorbed the Republican and the paper is now conducted under the name of the Fargo Forum and Daily Republican. H. C. Plumley is the managing editor of the Forum and is one of the brightest and most competent newspaper men in the state. The Forum is up to date in every particular and has a large, appreciative circulation and we believe the paper goes to every postoffice in the state. When anyone visits the Forum office they are sure of a hearty greeting and every attention is shown them and their visit made as pleasant as possible.