

FINLAY GRANT

Editor of The North Dakotan Dead.

Fargo Argus:

At 7 o'clock Sunday morning Finlay Grant died at his home on First avenue south. He has been identified with the journalism of the state for the past ten years, and of Fargo for the past six years, as editor, publisher and proprietor of several papers, the Edgely Mail, the Commonwealth, the North Dakota Independent and the North Dakotan. He had thorough knowledge of the technical part of newspaper work, but both by inclination and from the urgent entreaty of a host of friends he was led to use the press almost purely as an engine to advance political reforms, for it was as a political writer that his genius, his active interest, and his training preeminently fitted him and in that field he has not in this state been excelled. The populist party in North Dakota has for years relied upon him as its spokesman and has been assured that having him in the area of debate its interests would be defended. He leaves a wife and one child, Arlo, a boy of five years. His parents and three brothers reside in the old home at New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

There are few men in the community whose loss could be so deeply felt as Finlay Grant's, and few for whom the general sum of affection had so sure a basis in universal respect and esteem. This is saying much for one who had been in the thickest of the fray where enmities are commonly engendered and animosities aroused. The city and the state feel the deprivation of his presence and their keen sympathy is with the family that is bereft.

Finlay Grant was born at Sunny Brae, Nova Scotia, Aug. 12th, 1862; he was educated at New Glasgow, N. S. He married Bertha York in Boston, Mass., 1885, and the following year came to Fargo, establishing the Commonwealth newspaper. During the years '93 and '94 he was the secretary of the state railway commission, carrying in addition to the duties of that office a heavy burden of editorial work on the North Dakota Independent. In 1895 he established the job printing house in the partnership of Grant & Cook, and during the '96 campaign founded the North Dakotan for the discussion of state and national politics. His final illness covered the past eight weeks, and was typhoid in character at first with a complication of a more dangerous kind raising after the fever was abating. He was a member of the Foresters and the A. O. U. W. He has been especially active in the encouragement of younger writers through the National Amateur Press Association, of which he was in earlier years president. He was a member of the State Press Association and secretary of the Populist State Central Committee.