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Schools in Griggs from Record, March 1898 ✓

There are in Griggs county eighteen organized school districts, one graded school in Cooperstown of five departments, and forty-three county schools ungraded, of all forty-eight departments. The children of school age in 1890 were 649; in 1892, 747; in 1894, 935; in 1897, 1087. The teachers in the county number forty-one; the average wages per month, \$36.00; the average number of months each school was taught six. Cash received from State Tuition Fund, 1896, \$4,807.38. Cash received from taxes levied by School Boards, \$16,817.00. Total for support of schools, \$21,624.38.

{Also from Record, March 1898} ✓

The wheat crops on the Cooper ranch, as it is called, from 1880 to 1897 inclusive, have averaged 17 bushels to the acre, and in 1891-95 they exceeded 30 bushels per acre. One hundred and seventy-five horses are used on the ranch.

(From Record--July 1895) ✓

Pierre Bottineau

Pierre Bottineau, who lies dying at Red Lake Falls, has an interesting biography, one in which the early history of Minnesota is interwoven. He is a native of Dakota born about 12 miles west of Grand Forks. He is the son of Charles and Margaret (Clear Sky) Bottineau. About the time of his birth Lord Selkirk formed a settlement of Swedes and Scotchmen near Ft. Garry, and after the death of Lord Selkirk they commenced an exodus. Although Pierre Bottineau was yet a boy, he was well skilled as a guide, and he acted as such to a great many families. In a great many early expeditions he was employed as a scout and guide by the government, as for instance by the noted Sibley Expedition across the plains. He is well acquainted with all of Dakota, Minnesota and Montana, and his services as a guide are invaluable. In 1841 he took a claim where St. Paul now stands, but later sold it for a horse and cow. He then bought a claim where St. Anthony Falls is located and by the dishonesty of purchasers, lost it. These properties are worth today many millions. He has had 23 children, of whom 8 have died.

The Record by C.A.Lounsberry, March, 1898

Oscar D. Purinton--Clerk of Dist. Court. ✓

Oscar D. Purinton was elected clerk of the district court at the first state election in 1889 and still holds the position though in no sense a politician and not an aspirant for political favor.

Mr. Purinton was born in Courtland county, New York in 1843, and educated at Courtland Academy. He served nearly three years in the war of the rebellion, mostly in West Virginia and Maryland. He was ordained to the ministry in the Baptist church at Courtland, New York, and came to Dakota in 1882 in search of health, and was for a time pastor of the Baptist church at Page, Cass County, and came to Cooperstown in 1886 to accept the pastorate in that village, which he vacated in 1888, but

has continued to reside in Cooperstown. Although an officer in the county, Mr. Purinton has not given up his work in the ministry, but has continuously labored in the county and is pastor at Hannaford, where a prosperous church has been organized as a result of his labors.

C.H. Johnson, County Judge

Mr. Johnson is one of the old settlers, having come to the state in 1876. He was located by H.S. Back on the Elm river and broke the first land in that locality for the Dalrymples. He filed a soldier's declaratory statement on land, but did not prove up. In 1883 he located in Willow township in Griggs county, where he run a farm and store. He was elected county judge in 1894 and re-elected in 1896. He is an accommodating official and always ready to issue papers necessary to make young as well as old folks happy.

Mr. Johnson is a native of Maine, and served during the late war with the 31st Maine Regiment of Voluntary Infantry.

Andrew Sinclair

Andrew Sinclair is one of the youngest county superintendent of schools in the state. He is a native of Ontario Canada and was born 1866. Came to North Dakota with his father's family and located in Griggs county in 1883. Mr. Sinclair attended high schools of Ontario, and the Agricultural college at Fargo, the sessions of 1891-2. Has taught school since 1885, and elected county superintendent in June, 1894, re-elected in 1896, and gives general satisfaction. The Record is under obligation to him for statistics relating to the schools of Griggs county.

County Treasurer.

Iver Udgard, county treasurer of Griggs county, is a native of Norway. Came to the United States in 1881, and first located in Pope county, Mo., and in 1883 came to Griggs county. Was elected county treasurer in 1894 and re-elected in 1896.

George N. Stork

Mr. Stork is a native of Hudson, Wisconsin, born March 18, 1847. Was educated at Lake Geneva High School and served as Union Soldier. He served one term as sheriff of Buchanan Co. Iowa and since settling in this State has been engaged in farming and dealer in grain.

Hans O. Lien

Hans O. Lien, register of deeds of Griggs county is a native of Suldbrandsdalen, Norway and came to United States in 1876, first locating in Vernon county, Wisc. and in 1883 came to N. Dak. and filed on a homestead twenty miles southwest of Cooperstown.

David Bartlett

David Bartlett was a graduate of law department of University of Michigan in 1876 and a native of Maine. He practised law in Boulder, Colorado from 1881 to 1887, where he held the official position of city and deputy district attorney. In 1887 he located at Cooperstown. Mr.

Bartlett was a member of State constitutional convention in 1889, and was on the first board of railway commissioners. He was elected States attorney for Griggs county in 1892 and has since held that position. He has always taken an active interest in the temperance movement and in his official capacity has closed all the "blind pigs" of Griggs county.

The choir of the church is presided over by Mrs. David Bartlett, who previous to making her home in Cooperstown was a teacher of music and organist in Boston for 10 years.

Rev. Edwin S. Shaw

Rev. Edwin S. Shaw was born in Monroe county, Michigan, Sept. 8, 1863. Attended public school of Ypsilanti and college at Ann Harbor, Michigan and graduated from the Oberon Theological Seminary in 1890. He was pastor of the Benzonia church and field secretary of the Benzonia college, Michigan, from 1890 to 1895, when he accepted the pastorate of the Cooperstown church.

Dr. Theodore F. Kerr

Dr. Kerr is one of the prosperous professional men of Griggs county, and one of the old settlers.

Born in Caguga county, N.Y., May 29, 1848, his early life was spent in Michigan, and in 1874 he graduated from the medical department of Columbia University, N.Y. He located in Cooperstown in 1881 where he has since practiced his profession. Was appointed the first county superintendent of schools in 1882, and held the position until 1894. He has also been the county physician since the organization of the county.

The doctor relates that the winter of 1888 he was called to see a sick man, a bachelor, by the name of Thos. Rindahl, who died in a sod house, 30 miles north of Cooperstown, in Nelson county. He arrived in the evening, found his patient past relief who died soon after. During the night a howling blizzard come up and it blowed for two days and nights, and there being but one bed and one room in the house he and the hired man slept on the floor, and cooked their meals in the room containing the corpse. The third day broke clear and with great difficulty he wended his way home.

Nicolai Swenson

Born in Gergen, Norway, Dec. 31, 1854, settled in Wisconsin on coming to United States. Graduated at Madison business college. Came to North Dakota in 1878, settling in Traill county; moved to Griggs county in 1881, was elected county treasurer in 1892 and to House as a ~~representative~~ ^{representative} in 1894.

(Biography of Legislature) March 1897 Nicolai Swenson

Honorable Nicolai Swenson, Dazey, representative from Griggs county was born in Hardanger Norway, Dec. 31, 1854 and came to United States in 1875. He was educated at River Falls, Wisconsin and Northwestern Business College, Madison, Wisconsin. He settled in Traill county in 1879. In 1881 he went to Griggs county where he has a farm of 960 acres under cultivation. He was the first settler in T. 144, R. 60. There was no neighbor within 6 miles.