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# Lux et Lex: Volume 13, Number 1

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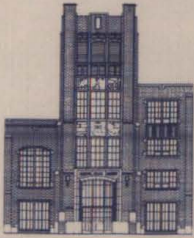
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# Lux et Lex

*"By the light of Knowledge we read the laws of life"*

Volume 13 Number 1

Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota

Spring 2007

## NORTH DAKOTA NEWSPAPERS

The Chester Fritz Library maintains perhaps the largest collection of North Dakota newspapers outside of the State Historical Society. Its collection spans from 1870 to the present, and includes all regions of the state. Library holdings also include foreign language newspapers in Danish, German, Norwegian, Swedish, and the Dano-Norwegian dialect, and several student newspapers from area colleges. UND's *Dakota Student* exists from 1888 to the present.

The Library's historical state newspaper collection is held almost entirely on microfilm and is available at the Periodicals desk. Most newspapers are listed in the online catalog (ODIN), and a printed finding aid may be obtained from the Library's Reference & Research Services desk.

### The "Golden Age" of North Dakota Newspapers

Newspaper publishing thrived during North Dakota's homesteading period and early statehood days. Dakota Territory afforded a productive environment for newspapers to flourish, beginning with the earliest recorded territorial newspaper, *The Frontier Scout* (not held by UND). The *Scout* was published from June to October 1865, at Fort Union near Williston and then Fort Rice, just south of Bismarck.

A mitigating factor in the success of many early Great Plains newspapers was the signing of the Homestead Act into law in 1862. One feature of this Act required homesteaders to "prove up" their land claims and run "proof notices" in a local newspaper. The great rush of homesteaders after the Civil War guaranteed a boost to even very small town newspapers. As Paul Schmidt writes in his article "The Press in North Dakota,"

Whatever else these eager land seekers may have lacked, they did not want for local newspapers. And the newspapers, at least during the period when most homesteaders were "proving up" their claims, did not lack for revenue. Publication of the "proof notice" ran for five consecutive weeks and cost the homesteader from \$5 to \$10.

(*North Dakota History*. vol. 31, no. 4. Oct. 1964. p. 218)



### The Rocky Road to Statehood

*"The Dakota delegates at Washington are doing nothing besides making consummate asses of themselves."*

*The Bad Lands Cow Boy* (Feb. 21, 1884, page 1)

Politics and journalism were apparently full-contact sports back on the 19<sup>th</sup> century prairie. The *Bad Lands Cow Boy* was published for only two years during the mid 1880s in Little Missouri, a frontier town just west of present-day Medora. Its page one article by an unnamed correspondent (or perhaps the newspaper's editor, A. T. Packard) suggests nefarious plots and schemes in our nation's capital meant to work against the then hoped-for admission to statehood. The *Cow Boy* hints, "We very much suspect that

it is a deep-laid Democratic scheme to help along this discord as much as possible so that a Republican State may be kept out of the Union as long as possible." The delegates are offered this bit of advice:

*It is disgraceful to Dakota that the delegates are all so pig-headed that they cannot reconcile minor differences and agree on at least one point. Come back home and hide your diminished heads in shame.*

### Plain Spoken

A. T. Packard was hardly the only newspaper editor who knew how to express his opinions on the printed page. Shelby Smith, publisher of the *Lidgerwood Broadaxe*, clearly lived by his masthead motto: "Hew to the Line, Let the Chips Fall Where They May." He candidly wrote on the front page of the paper's March 1, 1888, edition about certain questionable statements published in some lesser Wahpeton chronicle,

*The windbag that furnishes the Brandenburg items for the Wahpeton Times writes three columns of rot endeavoring to get back at the Broadaxe for showing up his glaring errors and falsehoods two or three weeks ago. By reading his effusion over two or three times we find there is some little good even in his cant.*

Smith, evidently having the good fortune to have printed his critique long before libel and slander statutes had either existence or force in the new state, goes on at some length condemning the "windbag's" assessment of pauper aid administered to a farm family in Lidgerwood who endured great calamity the previous winter. The family had suffered multiple cases of diphtheria, apparently killing four of the children. The county stepped in and arranged for a physician to care for the remainder of the family, paid for funeral expenses, and ordered merchants to contribute goods to help the family through the harsh winter. "And for this humane action the windbag loosens its puckering string and omits a blast calculated to give the impression that the affairs of the county are going to the damnation bow-wows at lightning speed." Opinions about welfare and social justice on the prairie were clearly contentious.

### News of a Sort Comes of Age

Eventually newspapers would focus nearly as much attention on news as their editorials. The question of what constituted news would become clearer, although publishers and readers alike would continue to maintain persistent ideas about what was really newsworthy.

The September 12, 1901, front page of the *Ward County Reporter*, published in Minot, carried a report on the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, the return of Misses Georgie and Larrain Walthen "to their respective schools, after visiting their parents and enjoying a pleasant outing here [in Berthold]," as well as a typical array of ads touting the latest watches, blackberry "cordials" to relieve bowel troubles, and the like.

Inside on page three of that issue are stories about seemingly less critical events around the nation and world—such as the assassination (still then an unsuccessful attempt) of President William McKinley. An "Anarchist's Foul Deed" describes the shooting by deranged anarchist, Leon Czolgosz, who put two bullets in the

President on September 6 while McKinley was attending a reception in the Temple of Music at the Buffalo Pan American Exposition. His condition, considered front page news today, was still serious as of the newspaper's account on the 12th. His care unfortunately proved beyond the ability of turn-of-the-century medical procedures and techniques. The second bullet could not be located and it would be decades later, following Alexander Fleming's discovery of penicillin in 1928, that medicines would be developed that could fight off bacterial infections. President McKinley died during the early morning hours of September 14th.

Anyone familiar with the socialist heritage that runs throughout North Dakota history will not find it surprising that, less than ten years after the events recounted about McKinley's assassination, no less a figure than Emma Goldman would find herself invited to give a talk at Maennercher Hall in Bismarck on June 8, 1910. While Goldman was questioned about events surrounding McKinley's assassination, she was never implicated in any way.

#### Medical Progress on the Prairie

Whether it was "One School Girl's Battle" or a "Suddenly Prostrated" woman, it seemed no one was left without recourse to the wonders of the latest pharmaceutical advances. Advertisements and newspaper articles hailed the latest colored pill or syrup guaranteed to offer the user all manner of relief from their suffering and numerous physical and mental discomforts.

While ads such as those quoted above would continue for some time, a report produced by the Carnegie Foundation in 1910 would take states, and western colleges in particular, to task for their poor training and licensing of medical professionals.

The "Flexner Report," as it later came to be known, was a call to college officials and the American Medical Association to strengthen the rigor of medical education and apply greater resources and funds to the institutions which trained physicians. Dr. Henry Pritchard, President of the Carnegie Foundation, contributed an introduction to Abraham Flexner's report and "severely scored and condemned the western medical colleges for the number of unqualified graduate[s] turned out every year." A front page article on the June 6, 1910, *Minot Daily Reporter* agreed, suggesting that there were "Too Many Incompetent Doctors." However quickly medical schools responded, newspapers of the day made clear that the critique was heard and taken very seriously.

#### Newspaper Research at the Chester Fritz Library

As indicated above, most of the Library's newspaper holdings are listed in its online catalog (ODIN). A quick way to locate newspapers if you do not have a newspaper's name is simply to do a keyword search and add the word "newspaper" to the town or county name, for instance, "Mountrail newspaper" or "Bismarck newspaper." Researchers may also check the newspaper webpage for the North Dakota State Historical Society, at <http://www.state.nd.us/hist/newshome.htm>, which offers listings by city and county, as well as links to current daily and weekly newspapers. The North Dakota Newspaper Association lists currently published state newspapers, <http://www.ndnewspapers.com>. Two printed inventories are also available: *North Dakota Newspapers, 1864-1976: A Union List*, compiled by Carol Koehmstedt Kolar (REF. PN 4897 .N9 K64) and *The North Dakota Newspaper Inventory*, by the State Historical Society (REF. Z 6945 .N67 1992) in the Library's reference collection. In addition, a searchable subject/date index to the *Dakota Student* from its inception may be found at <http://www.library.und.edu/Collections/searchDakotaStu.jsp>

Victor Lieberman, Reference and Research Services

Experts suggest that knowledge is exploding and doubling every 6 months to 20 years depending upon the field of study. This explosion of information is a challenge for university libraries whose goal is to provide the most recent and best scholarly publications to students, faculty and staff. Successful teaching and research require access to the work of scholars from around the world. The University of North Dakota Library continually strives to identify and provide access to quality sources of scholarly information in over 190 fields of study, while supporting the University's mission.

With the advent of computers and global networks, gaining access to scholarly information is constantly and rapidly changing. Students and faculty once walked to the Library to discover the world of knowledge as it was available on campus. While faculty were more than familiar with sources available elsewhere, they tended to formulate their assignments around those publications held locally. Today, high performance computers, worldwide networks, and powerful search engines access the latest and sometimes remotely located information, and manipulate research data. The Library is no longer the only source of information. Some pundits have suggested that the library's role is less important in the new information discovery and delivery paradigm. After all, one is able to retrieve large quantities of information without ever entering a library building. However, the breadth, scope and volume of information actually makes the Library that much more important to the University.

The wealth of information available today can be overwhelming to the university student. It has become much more difficult to discover relevant information and ascertain the validity of sources while one attempts to plow through the quagmire of facts and figures accessible via the Internet. The Library continues to be a critical partner in the scholarly communications process. Working with faculty, information vendors and publishers, the Library identifies quality sources of information, then organizes and makes them available using both traditional print and digital media. Peer-reviewed publications recognized within the academic community are the mainstay of information transfer, but in these changing times, databases leading students to research information and contacts are becoming increasingly important. Today's librarians face the huge task of keeping abreast of new sources of scholarly information and the changing dynamics of research. Through their close association with University faculty and their knowledge of the publishing world and information vendors, librarians are able to develop systems that assist researchers to navigate through the world of scholarly information, which in turn leads to better teaching and research programs.

The Library faces the daunting task of acquiring scholarly information while managing its escalating costs. Most of the critically reviewed information needed for academic pursuits, including writing research grants and developing new inventions and processes, is not freely available on the Internet, nor will academic journals be found at your local newsstand. These are not high volume popular publications and there are significant costs associated in acquiring them. Publications in science, technology and medicine are particularly costly and journals and databases associated with these heavily funded fields carry high subscription rates. Because there is not a large market for some of this information and because for-profit companies control a great deal of existing quality information, there are few options open to faculty and libraries.

Most universities recognize the importance of scholarly information in their teaching and research mission, but there are few, if any, that can support total access to all the scholarly resources needed across the disciplines. The Library finds it must contain costs and utilizes many different strategies to do so, which include collaborating with other libraries to either purchase or share scholarly resources, negotiating favorable licenses to gain access to information, and preserving and distributing knowledge created locally at its university. In the end, the Library in partnership with the faculty, selects the best scholarly resources available for their teaching and research programs within the restraints of its budget. It is a continuing challenge...

Wilbur Stolt, Director of Libraries

## DIGITIZATION PROJECTS IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

It is not an understatement that the World Wide Web has revolutionized the means by which archive repositories offer access to and publicize their holdings and materials. In the past, archives primarily relied on the distribution of printed guides, which provided very brief introductions to manuscript collections, often no more than several paragraphs. Archives also relied on word of mouth recommendations and public outreach presentations.

Today, the Web allows archives to disseminate much more

detailed collection information than was previously possible. The Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections has been placing the finding aids and inventories to its archival collections on the Web since 1999 and continues to add to the 540 presently available, including the extensive inventories to the papers of three North Dakota U.S. Senators. This access allows researchers from across the globe to view the contents of a given collection, although it does not permit the examination of the materials themselves. The Department also has created several Oracle databases which allow for easy access to detailed and complex information.

The next logical step in this progression of ever greater access to original sources is the placement of archival materials themselves on the Web. The Chester Fritz Library certainly has not been immune to this movement and has eagerly joined it. In 2005, the Library recognized the need and opportunity to begin digitizing its collections. Before undertaking such an ambitious project, it was understood as it was in 1999, that a great deal of planning would be required to launch a new initiative, and that to be successful, the project would be a truly collaborative one, requiring several library departments to share responsibilities.

The Department of Special Collections identified two collections that were ideal first projects. Both were free of copyright concerns, and both projects were visual in nature. The first project involved scanning and describing the political cartoons of Stuart McDonald, a Sunday editorial cartoonist for the *Grand Forks Herald* from 1961 to 1967. During that time, McDonald was the only regularly published cartoonist from the Dakotas, and his drawings examined a myriad of local, state, national, and international issues. In 1976, he donated to UND Special Collections approximately 270 of his original cartoons. When McDonald heard about the project, he gifted to the Department six three ring binders containing newspaper clippings of all of his published cartoons, including clippings for those original cartoons he had given to various family and friends. Thus the project was able to depict every single McDonald cartoon, even if the library did not have access to the original.

The second project involved the early history of UND, its first twenty-five years. It was thought that as the University approached its 125th Anniversary in 2008, having a wide array of historical materials searchable and retrievable on-line would be valuable. Over 220 photographs of university buildings, presidents, faculty, students, classrooms, and athletic teams were scanned, as were a variety of documents. The text of the first UND catalog, the first issue of *The Student*, and selections from the first issue of the *Dacotah* annual will be available as full-text searchable documents.

After selecting these two projects, the planning process began. Responsibilities were delineated, library personnel attended several digitization workshops and seminars, and the merits of various hardware components and software digitization programs were analyzed. Special Collections would provide and scan the materials, and create metadata for each image. The Library's Cataloging Department would expand upon

the metadata created by Special Collections, adding Library of Congress subject headings, while Library Systems and Services would provide the required server side administration. Library Administration fully supported the project, including hardware and software, and professional graphic design to create an attractive "front end" for the database.

Following two separate trials, the Library chose CONTENTdm software. This particular program is affiliated with OCLC, a computer library consortium and research organization with which the Library has been involved for decades. The software trials revealed this program to be both exceptionally easy to learn and customizable. The software was ready to go "out of the box," which allowed the Library to hit the ground running. Hardware included a state of the art flat bed scanner and one server. UND

Information Technology Systems and Services agreed to house and maintain this server, adding further to the collaborative aspect of the project.

Early in the planning process, Library staff in the Cataloging Department offered advice regarding the choice of metadata standards, which would be followed in describing each scanned image or document. The Library chose the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set, an internationally recognized scheme. Dublin Core provides a standardized set of conventions for describing images and documents for retrieval on-line. The title of each image or document, a detailed but succinct description, and a keyword listing of the significant items depicted were created. Other information about the original document was also noted, such as size and date. Metadata about the digital image itself, the most important of which was the date of scanning, was also recorded. The latter will allow for ease of future migration and refreshment of all the digital images.

The experiences provided by these first two projects have laid the groundwork for other digitization projects. Special Collections has scanned almost 1,000 photographs which depict the entire 125 year history of the University. Metadata entry for these photographs will begin soon. In addition, the first three bound volumes of the minutes of meetings of the University Board of Regents have been scanned and will be made available, although because of their hand-written nature, they will not be full-text searchable. Dating from 1883 to 1893, these volumes present a detailed picture of the struggles and successes of the early University.

Another project involves the columns of *Grand Forks Herald* editor and columnist W.P. Davies. From 1930 until his death in 1944, Davies wrote a daily column for the newspaper entitled "That Reminds Me." He would often reflect on the early history of Grand Forks and the Red River Valley, but also offered his views on current events. The text of each of his columns, which were snipped from the newspaper and pasted onto small notebook pages, is being scanned and will be full-text searchable. While this project is approximately fifty percent complete, when finished it will allow researchers a unique view of the history of Grand Forks from its founding to the height of World War II.

Everyone involved in this highly collaborative project is enthusiastic and eager to utilize these digitization tools to expand the role of the Library in preserving and making available historic documents and images housed in Special Collections. With digitization, the Library expands its mission beyond preservation and local access to the materials. Researchers can view digital collections anywhere there is access to the Internet. They can use computer search engines to identify relevant texts and images within the collections. In a real sense, the Library has become a publisher producing digital resources for researchers throughout the world. These digital projects are exciting additions to the Library's mission in support of teaching and research: <http://www.library.und.edu/digital/index.htm>

Curt Hanson, Assistant Archivist, Special Collections



McDonald's First Cartoon, July 30, 1961

### FIND IT @ UND

Students and faculty using the Library's e-resources now have another tool to help them locate articles and books. A new service, called *FindIt@UND*, quickly helps the user track down research material and can reduce the time spent doing research by making it easier to find journals. *FindIt@UND* quickly leads a user to the online full text of an article or, if not available online, to the library catalog to check for print holdings, or to an interlibrary loan form to request a photocopy. **How does it work?**

The library purchases many different online packages and bundled journal subscriptions that contain thousands of online journals. *FindIt@UND* contains information about all of the library's electronic journal holdings. It uses that information to present a list of all the full text options available to the user. Clicking on the *FindIt@UND* button creates a menu of services relevant to the particular article beginning with any full text options.

If no full text sources are available, *FindIt@UND* provides a number of alternatives to locate a copy of the article or book. The user may select the library catalog option to find a print copy of the journal in the Library. The library catalog holdings option links to the library catalog. If the Library does not have a copy of the item, one may choose interlibrary loan to obtain a photocopy or borrow the item from another library. The interlibrary loan option in *FindIt@UND* is very easy to use. *FindIt@UND* automatically fills in the interlibrary loan form with the necessary citation information. *FindIt@UND* has several other useful tools. There is a link for importing citations into reference management software like EndNote and Reference Manager. The capture citation tool can be useful also for developing a reading list.

The *FindIt@UND* link appears in select databases including Scopus, Current Contents, Academic Search Premier, PsycINFO, Business Source Premier, ERIC, and Compendex to name a few. The *FindIt@UND* link also appears in the Google Scholar database. When searching Google Scholar look for the text *FindIt@UND* immediately following the title. This means the full text article is available from the UND Libraries.

*FindIt@UND* is available in all campus libraries and can be used from home when connecting through the library web site. *FindIt@UND* is available in these online databases. If you don't see a database listed, please ask a reference librarian about it.

#### Online Databases with *FindIt@UND*

- Academic Search Premier
- Aerospace & High Technology
- America History & Life
- Applied Science Full Text
- Art Full Text
- Art Index Retrospective
- ATLA Religion
- Biological Abstracts
- Business Source Premier
- Compendex
- Criminal Justice Abstracts

- Current Contents
- Elsevier Science Direct
- Google Scholar
- Historical Abstracts
- Institute of Physics Electronic Journals
- LegalTrac
- Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts
- MLA Bibliography
- MasterFILE Premier
- MathSciNet
- Meteorological & Geostrophysical Abstracts
- Music Index
- Philosopher's Index
- PsycINFO
- RILM Abstracts of Music Literature
- Scopus
- Social Work Abstracts
- Sociological Abstracts
- SPORT Discus
- Ulrich's Periodical Directory

#### *FindIt@UND* link in the Scopus database:

Ontogenic delays in effects of nitrite exposure on tiger salamanders (*Ambystoma tigrinum tigrinum*) and wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*) [Griffis-Kyle, F.L.](#)

2005 *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 24 (6), pp. 1523-1527

#### *FindIt@UND* in Academic Search Premier:

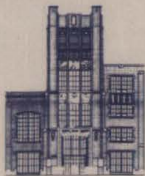
Conservation Planning for Amphibian Species with Complex Habitat Requirements: A Case Study Using Movements and Habitat Selection of the Wood Frog *Rana sylvatica*. By: Baldwin, Robert F., Calhoun, Aram J. K., Demaynadier, Phillip C. *Journal of Herpetology*, Dec2006, Vol. 40 Issue 4, p442-453, 12p, 1 chart, 1 diagram, 1 graph, (AN 23933249)

[FindIt@UND](#)

Randy Pederson, Library Systems and Services

*Lux et Lex*

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