

Ada Andrews (1852-1941)

When she arrived as a doctor at Mapleton in 1880 with her husband Albion, who was also a physician, records indicate that she became the first female doctor to practice her profession in what is now North Dakota. Orphaned at the age of seven, Ada's accomplishments were significant. She is the mother of Mark Andrews Sr.

Harriet Beckert (1887-1978)

According to her popular biography she was a Chicago opera singer who gave up her career to become a rancher in western North Dakota. Although the book contained many inaccuracies, nevertheless, she was a noted North Dakota cattle breeder. Her dog, Arno, appeared in a number of motion pictures.

Verne Booth (1898-1979)

In 1923, he was "the nation's best long-distance runner," and in 1924, Booth became the first person born in North Dakota to compete in the Olympics. He later became a college science professor as well as a noted author of school textbooks. He was born and raised in southeastern Ward County.

Dale Brown (1935-)

A hall of fame college basketball coach, Brown coached Louisiana State University for 25 years, and in over half of those seasons, his teams were awarded NCAA tournament invitations. He was born and raised in Minot and was a star basketball player in both high school and college. His most famous player was Shaquille O'Neal.

Alexander Budge (1891-1980)

The son of William Budge left Grand Forks and became the world's largest distributor of pineapples, bananas, and macadamia nuts. Budge was president and board chairman of the company that acquired controlling interest of Dole and Hawaiian Pineapple and steered the company through the difficult years of World War II.

Tom Clifford (1921-2009)

Except for time out to serve with valor during World War II, Clifford was associated with UND from 1938 until his death over 70 years later. He started at the university as a student, then as an instructor, professor, dean, vice-president, president, chancellor, and after his retirement in 1992 as a president emeritus.

Arthur Crane (1877-1955)

Years prior to becoming governor of Wyoming, Crane was one of the leading educators in North Dakota. He had served as school superintendent at Minto and Jamestown and was the first president of what is now Minot State University. He also served as president of the North Dakota Education Association and the North Dakota High School Activities Association.

Clarence Crockard (1884-1957)

During the second decade of the 20th century, he started six newspapers in North Dakota. He also co-founded and published *Jim Jam Jems*, a magazine that had a national following. When he released an issue that contained the story about a prominent doctor who performed a botched abortion, he was convicted of sending obscene literature through the mail. When the article proved to be accurate, he was acquitted.

Gary Dahl (1936-2015)

The man who began the "pet rock" craze of the mid-1970s was born in Bottineau. By taking a novel idea and using genius marketing strategy, Dahl was able to sell over one million rocks, an item most people had in their own back yard. His promotional ideas are often taught in college marketing classes.

James M. DeWolf (1843-1876)

A descendent of the largest slave-trading family in America, he became a dedicated and determined Union soldier during the Civil War. As a physician during the Battle of the Little Big Horn, DeWolf put duty over self by assisting a wounded soldier during the height of battle, and that decision likely cost him his life.

Charles Farnsworth (1862-1955) As a brilliant military strategist he was appointed Chief of Infantry after organizing the infantry school at Fort Benning. Earlier, he served at Fort Buford and then utilized his tactical skills in organizing and coaching the NDAC/NDSU football team.

Bill Fitch (1934-2022)

A successful coach at the college and professional level, he became most noted for turning around struggling teams and building them into winners. He led UND to three NCC conference championships with Phil Jackson as his star player. He was a head coach in the NBA for 25 years, leading the Cleveland Cavaliers, Boston Celtics, Houston Rockets, New Jersey Nets, and Los Angeles Clippers to the playoffs.

Sally Fraser (1932-2019)

Known for her talent and beauty this Williston born actress began appearing on nationally televised dramas and westerns at the age of 19. One of her first movies was a science-fiction monster film, and she was so convincing as the frightened heroine that she became typecast as a "scream queen." Because of this, her career suffered and she retired from show business at a young age.

Gudmundur Grimson (1878-1965)

Grimson was a North Dakota Supreme Court Justice who also negotiated a treaty between the U.S. and Iceland that allowed U.S. passenger and commercial airplanes to land and refuel in Iceland on their way to Europe. He received national headlines when

he charged that Florida officials were responsible for the death of a North Dakota young man by whipping him to death.

Edmund Hackett (1832-1905)

Bismarck's first mayor was not elected to that office, but instead, a bill was passed in the 1874 Dakota Territorial legislative session that appointed Hackett as mayor. He was later involved in the chartering of several railroads and also received a number of patents for his inventions.

Kenneth Hance (1894-1969)

In 1917, five years before cofounding North Dakota's first commercial radio station, Hance was a war hero. During World War I, he located the German radio transmitter in Mexico that was disseminating anti-American propaganda in North America. He later became general manager of station KSTP in Minneapolis where he promoted the careers of Peggy Lee and Lawrence Welk.

Willet Hayes (1859-1927) Considered one of the best friends of farmers in the upper Midwest, Hayes discovered superior varieties of almost all of the cereal grains raised in the Great Plains. He also alerted farmers to better farming methods to increase their yields. At NDAC/NDSU he established the experiment station's first field crop test plots.

William Hazen (1830-1887)

He was called, "the best hated man in the military" and was the commanding officer at Fort Buford from 1872 to 1880. Since Fort Buford was considered remote, he was sent there as a form of punishment because he fought to end corruption at Indian agencies. Hazen publicly accused General Sheridan of lying, General Sherman of barbarism, and General Grant of inefficiency.

Martin Johnson (1850-1909)

He was one of the first Norwegians in America to become actively involved in partisan politics and was the first to run for the office of U.S. Senate. Johnson was the second Norwegian-American to be elected to that office. Because he was opposed by the McKenzie machine, his efforts were thwarted for 20 years. Johnson owned and operated a large farm west of Larimore.

Jesse Langdon (1881-1975)

He was the only Rough Rider born and raised in what is now North Dakota. Langdon was the son of a veterinarian in Fargo who got to know Theodore Roosevelt when he traveled to the Black Hills to visit Roosevelt's Elkhorn ranch. He also became a member of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and was a prolific inventor holding 189 patents.

Jacob Lowell (1843-1924)

He is credited with being "the first settler in Fargo." At the North Dakota Constitutional Convention in 1889 he also became the first person to push to have an agricultural

college established in Fargo. In Lowell's obituary the following statement was published, "No man has been more directly associated with the growth and development of Fargo."

Rudy Luther (1914-1997)

After one year at NDAC/NDSU he began selling cars in Fargo, his hometown. Twenty years later, in 1933, he began building one of the largest groups of automobile dealerships in the upper Midwest. He also became a principal partner in the purchase of Dairy Queen and helped make it one of the top five fast food franchises in America.

Roger Maris (1934-1985)

He will always be remembered as the man who broke Babe Ruth's "unbreakable record" of 60 home runs in a single season. Maris grew up in Grand Forks and Fargo where he was best known for his exploits on the football field. In the major leagues he was twice voted the most valuable player.

Bob McCarney (1912-1988)

He made the cover of Time magazine after gaining the reputation as the nation's "referendum king." He was a semi-pro baseball player in Bismarck who later built a thriving car dealership. He failed in his many bids to obtain a state elective office, but was very successful in getting rid of tax increases.

Porter J. McCumber (1858-1933)

This Wahpeton lawyer forced the U.S. government to pay for land that they tried to seize from the Chippewa Indians. In 1898, McCumber was elected to the U.S. Senate where he served for 24 years.

Webster Merrifield (1852-1916)

While serving as president of UND from 1891 to 1912, he was able to save the university when the state governor cut 90% of the college's funding. Because of his work in developing curricular standards and graduation requirements, he is often called "the father of secondary schools in North Dakota."

Tom Mix (1880-1940)

Before becoming Hollywood's first cowboy megastar, Mix was a well-liked and dependable ranch hand in western North Dakota. While working on a ranch near Medora, he fell in love and got married. In his movie career, he appeared in over 300 motion pictures and he also directed and/or wrote the scripts for many films.

Dee Moore (1914-1997)

While playing professional baseball, he could do it all. As a pitcher, he threw a no-hitter and consistently had a low earned run average. He could play every position on the field and could hit, both for average and with power. Moore showed great promise in the major leagues, but "bad habits" limited his progress. He made Williston his permanent home.

William Moorhead (1832-1897)

When Pembina was re-created as a county in 1867, he became the first sheriff in what is now North Dakota. He first came to Pembina as a carpenter and built many of the structures there, and at Walhalla. Moorhead was a good friend of the Indians who lived in the area.

Ragnvold Nestos (1877-1942)

In 1921, he became the first person in the U.S. to be elected governor in a recall election. He was the only one to hold that distinction until 2003. Nestos was born in Norway and arrived in North Dakota penniless and unable to speak the English language. He quickly learned the language, becoming a school teacher and then a lawyer.

Arthur Packard (1860-1931)

Hailed as one of best pitchers of all-time for the University of Michigan, he shepherded the early career of the first African-American to play major league baseball. Instead of going into professional baseball, Packard went west and established the first newspaper in Medora. and was also the president of the Medora to Deadwood stagecoach line.

John Patterson (1843-1920)

An Army officer during the Civil War, he received the Medal of Honor for his heroic action during the Battle of the Wilderness. While in Dakota Territory, Patterson was an officer at forts Totten, Abercrombie, and Seward. Because of his compassion for the Indians, he also served as an Indian agent.

Hazen Pingree (1840-1901)

After building a successful shoe and boot factory in Detroit, he decided to establish a "potato plantation" in north-central Stutsman County. When that became less profitable than he anticipated, Pingree returned to Detroit where he served four terms as mayor. He also served two terms as governor of Michigan.

Henry Porter (1848-1903)

Of the three physicians who were actively involved in the Battle of the Little Bighorn, Porter was the only one to survive. He then had the huge task of tending to all of the wounded soldiers aboard the steamboat that made its way back to Fort Abraham Lincoln. Porter later set up his medical practice in Bismarck.

Pat Purcell (1900-1966)

Very few people have been as deeply involved in as many different sports than this athlete who was born and raised in Grand Forks. Purcell excelled in hockey as a player and then coached the NDAC/NDSU hockey team. He also had been a professional boxer, representative of the Minneapolis Lakers, chairman of the Florida football hall of fame, and vice president of NASCAR.

Chester Reiten (1923-2013)

A pioneer of the television industry in western North Dakota, he also created and developed the internationally acclaimed Norsk Høstfest. Reiten was heavily involved in politics, serving as Minot's mayor for 14 years and as a state legislator for 16 years. He grew up on a farm in Barnes County.

Pierre Salinger (1925-2004)

During the 1960s, he was press secretary for both President Kennedy and President Johnson. Salinger was a child prodigy on the piano who gave up a promising career in music to become a journalist. During World War II, he enlisted in the Navy and was sent to Dickinson for officer's training school. While there, he also taught history at the high school.

John Sanford (1806-1857)

From 1826 to 1834 he was the government agent for the Mandan village along the Missouri River. Sanford later became very wealthy and started to accumulate slaves. One of his slaves was Dred Scott who legally sued Sanford for his freedom. The U.S. Supreme Court incorrectly ruled that Sanford was to retain the ownership of Scott in a landmark court case.

George Scherger (1920-2011)

"The smartest baseball mind in baseball" is what he was called by Pete Rose. Scherger, who was born and raised in Dickinson, tutored some of the best major league baseball managers in the past 40 years. Prior to joining the Cincinnati Reds as a coach, he had been a player and manager in the Dodgers organization for 25 years.

Arthur G. Sorlie (1874-1928)

Because the KKK worked tirelessly to get him elected as governor in 1926, many people believed that Sorlie, a wealthy Grand Forks businessman, had been a member of the Klan. Perhaps, because of the stress of trying to refute these claims, he died in office in 1928. The bridge linking Grand Forks to East Grand Forks is named in his honor.

Dorothy Stickney (1896-1998)

She was one of America's most acclaimed actresses and was born and raised in Dickinson. Stickney, and her husband Howard Lindsay had the lead roles in the play *Life With Father*. The play ran on Broadway from 1939 to 1947, establishing a record of 3,224 performances. She was also a major actress in motion pictures.

Victor Stickney (1855-1927)

Dorothy's father was one of the first medical doctors west of the Missouri River in Dakota Territory. He was a good friend of Theodore Roosevelt and he first met the future President when Roosevelt needed his feet treated after walking 40 miles in pursuit of outlaws who had stolen his boat. Roosevelt was a deputy sheriff.

Walter Stockwell (1868-1950)

He was the co-founder of the largest distributorship of school supplies west of Minneapolis. He served as the state's superintendent of public instruction for eight years. Because of his work with the Masons on a trip to Europe in 1936, Hitler had his name put on a list of Third Reich enemies. He was one of North Dakota's greatest educators.

Martin Tabert (1899-1922)

After being whipped to death at a Florida work farm, the parents of this Munich, North Dakota farm boy sought justice. Tabert's alleged crime was hitching a ride on a freight train. The evidence of malfeasance pointed to corruption of Florida criminal justice officials and led to judicial reforms.

Oscar Towner (1842-1897)

He has both a town and county in North Dakota named in his honor and he also was one of the founders of Larimore. Initially, Towner made a fortune as the supervisor of a bonanza farm, but he lost it all through a series of bad investments and illegal schemes. After being involved in a shady scheme, he died, a broken man.

Kenneth Veth (1911-1988)

He was in charge of all the river and swamp action in Vietnam during the heaviest U.S. action in that country. Born and raised in Minot, Veth coordinated the mining action of the waters through-out Southeast Asia during World War II. His actions severely crippled Japan's ability to navigate in that region.

Dana Wright (1878-1964)

Wright had many interests evidenced by the number of different positions and occupations he held. He was a railroad fireman and engineer, teacher, state legislator, county sheriff, customs agent, historian, career National Guardsman, and park commissioner. It was in this latter position that he identified and authorized the preservation of state parks and historic sites.

George Yates (1843-1876)

Having lived in the same town as Colonel George Custer, this former Civil War officer became one of the closest friends of his commander at Fort Abraham Lincoln. Yates was the commander of companies E and F at the Battle of the Little Big Horn where the soldiers were all killed. Fort Yates is named in his honor.

