

# THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY

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VOL. I.

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No. 1

## DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION DINNER

Representative Citizens From Minnesota and North Dakota Hold Conference.

On October 9, a meeting was held at the Northwest School of Agriculture in the interests of drainage and weed control. One hundred eighty, including one hundred out-of-town guests, sat down to a dinner served in the school dining hall by the students of the school. The meeting was called by the Red River Valley Development Association, and the guests were entertained by the Crookston Commercial Club.

The school dining room was beautifully decorated under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Sewall of the school faculty, ably assisted by other members of the faculty, and students.

A thoro discussion of drainage problems and flood water control occupied the time until nearly eleven o'clock, after which an hour was spent in considering the weed problem in the valley. Resolutions were adopted favoring a survey of Northwestern Minnesota flood water control problems and a state commission to take charge of noxious weed control measures.

President Leslie Welter, Moorhead, of the Development Association, presided. From expressions heard during the evening and from newspaper comment, the opinion prevailed that this meeting was one of the most important ever held in this section of the state. In addition, Breckenridge, Fargo, and Grand Forks were represented by strong delegations. State Drainage Engineer E. V. Willard and U. S. War Department Engineer Dugan were present. A great many expressed their ideas as to the necessary action which must be taken in the matters under discussion. The Northwest School of Agriculture welcomes meetings and conferences of this nature. Through united action upon problems affecting all, important results will be attained.

## NORTHWEST EXPERIMENT STATION REPORT

All Phases of Experimental Work Discussed; Valuable Data Regarding Agricultural Practices.

A report of the work of the Northwest Experiment Station covering the past five years, 1911-1916, with a resume of work since its organization in 1895, is nearly completed, and will be sent to the printer by November

15th. Superintendent Selvig and the station corps have been busy compiling the data secured and feel gratified that the work is nearing completion. Besides the brief historical review of the Station, the report will include weather and temperature records, a complete record of the tile drainage system installed here, co-operative work with farmers, cultural methods with farm crops, rotation systems, varietal testing of farm grains and grasses, weed eradication, corn breeding, fertilizer tests, potato culture, small and bush fruits, tree plantings, garden vegetable investigations, root crops, animal and dairy projects, and poultry work. The report contains special articles by Professors Dietrich, Kennard, McCall and Brown of the Experiment Station corps. This report will be sent to farmers of Northwestern Minnesota. Names may be sent in at any time to be included in the Station mailing list.

## COLT SHOWS IN THE RED RIVER VALLEY

Interesting Events Held Each Year in Several Counties.

To Lake Park belongs the credit of holding the first colt show in Northwestern Minnesota. Crookston held its first show in 1915, and, with four others, held another this year. Great interest is being shown in these exhibits. Perhaps no other event does so much to encourage the breeding of good colts and, what is of even greater importance, to care for them during the first year of their lives. The Minnesota and Red River Valley Live Stock Breeders' Associations are actively co-operating in holding colt shows, contributing fifteen dollars in prizes to one show in each county. The 1916 shows in this part of the state include Thief River Falls, (Calf Show), October 15; Argyle, October 26; Glyndon, October 27; Crookston, October 28; and Lake Park, November 4.

The premium list included prizes for spring colts, yearlings shown in 1915, as well as for mare and produce, and stallion and get. Many unique entertainment features were scheduled for the Crookston Colt Show. A Colt Judging Contest was held in which both students and farmers tried their skill in selecting the best animal in each class. Peter Ness, '17, won the prize in the student class, and G. H. Shuck, near Crookston, in the class of farmers.

## HOW I MADE \$150.00 ON MY SUMMER PRACTICUM

Walter Peterson

As a student of the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, Minnesota, I was required to take some summer practicum work and I chose the potato project. I received instructions for carrying out the project and determined to do the best I could with the work.

The acre I measured off was a sandy loam soil in a good state of fertility, which had been plowed during the summer of 1915 about the 15th of July and again about the 15th of October. I added no fertilizer whatever. More than half the field was badly infested with quack grass.

The seed potatoes, Early Ohios, were soaked in a corrosive sublimate solution (2 oz. to 30 gallons of water) for two hours, cut with a machine, and planted immediately. The acre required nine and one-half bushels of seed.

The seed was planted on the sixth of June, but the plants were slow in making an appearance and did not come up until the twenty-sixth. The field was blind cultivated with a two-horse cultivator on the eighth and again on the thirteenth. They were again cultivated on the fourteenth of July and then two weeks later, but were not hilled up at any of these cultivations.

They were sprayed with Paris Green twice, once on the first of July and again on the eighteenth. These sprayings took care of the bugs very well, and more sprayings were not necessary. We did not do any more with them until they were dug, as the other farm work was very pressing. We dug the potatoes on the 27th of September, and I found it easy work picking them as they were my first crop. We picked one hundred eighty-five bushels of saleable potatoes and twenty-five bushels of small and knobby potatoes off the acre, making a total of two hundred ten bushels in all. My brother and I dug and picked while father hauled them to the village of Lancaster two miles away. They were sold for seventy-five cents a bushel which I think was a very good price. I was a mighty happy boy, let me tell you, when I received a check for one hundred fifty dollars payable to myself. As my father did not charge me anything for the work he did on my first crop, I have one hundred fifty dollars with which to pay my expenses at the Crookston School of Agriculture. Here's hoping that every young fellow may have the same opportunity and success that I had.

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who makes the most progress in the Live Stock courses during the year 1916-1917.

#### The Farm Management Scholarship.

Mr. S. A. Wallace, of Crookston, offers a scholarship of \$125.00 to be awarded the student who is most diligent in his efforts and who makes the most progress in Farm Crops and Farm Management courses during the year 1916-1917.

#### The Ruettell Scholarship in Public Speaking and Debate.

Ruettell Clothing Company, of Crookston, offers a scholarship of \$125.00 to be awarded the student who is the most diligent in his efforts and who makes the most progress in Debating and Public Speaking during the year 1916-1917.

#### The Home Economics Scholarship.

Mr. W. T. Carlisle, of Crookston, offers a scholarship of \$125.00 to be awarded the student who is most diligent in her efforts and who makes the most progress in Domestic Art and Science courses during the year 1916-1917.

#### Entrance Scholarship.

The following scholarships will be awarded to the boys or girls who make the highest records in the state industrial contests hereinafter specifically enumerated. They must be used to defray expenses in accordance with Rule 2 on page six.

#### Corn Growing Contest Scholarship.

This scholarship is the gift of the Crookston State Bank. The amount is \$125.00. It will be awarded to the young man who receives a leading place in the 1917 Acre Corn Growing Contest.

#### The Girls' Bread Making Contest Scholarship.

The scholarship is a gift of the Crookston Milling Company. The amount is \$125.00. It will be awarded to the girl who receives a leading place in the 1917 Girls' Bread Making Contest.

#### The Boys' Pig Raising Contest Scholarship.

This scholarship is a gift of Mr. Charles E. Kiewel of Crookston. The amount is \$125.00. It will be awarded to the young man who receives a leading place in the 1917 Boys' Pig Raising Contest.

#### The Potato Growing Contest Scholarship.

This scholarship is a gift of Mr. J. W. Wheeler, of St. Paul. The amount is \$125.00. It will be awarded to the young man who receives a leading place in the 1917 Potato Growing Contest.

Full information regarding the awarding of the scholarships may be secured upon addressing the school.

### STUDENT LOAN FUNDS

#### The Gilfillan Trust Fund.

This fund of \$50,000 is the gift of the Hon. John B. Gilfillan, of Minneapolis, in trust to the University of Minnesota, the annual income from which shall be at the disposal of the Executive Committee of its Board of Regents either as a gift or a temporary loan to worthy students of the University who are residents of Minnesota. The annual income from the fund is \$2,000 which is loaned to students on their

notes in amounts not exceeding \$200 to any one person in one year, at the rate of five per cent per annum.

This fund may be used by students of the Northwest School of Agriculture in accordance with the action of the Board of Regents taken September 26, 1916. The regulations governing the administration of the income from the fund may be learned by addressing the Superintendent of the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, Minnesota.

#### Northwest School Loan Fund.

Through the efforts of a committee of Crookston citizen, a students loan fund has been provided for the use of students at the Northwest School of Agriculture to supplement the above mentioned fund. This committee is composed of Charles Loring, chairman; A. D. Stephens; L. D. Foskett; H. L. Marsh; C. E. Kiewel; R. T. Buckler, and Elias Steenerson. This committee will provide money for loans as needed. This money will be loaned to students at six per cent interest as a temporary loan. For information regarding this loan fund, address the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, Minnesota.

#### Stephens Loan Fund.

If the School Fund is not sufficient A. D. Stephens has agreed to make loans at the same rate. The granting of the loans is to be based on the moral standing of the applicant rather than his financial ability. If a minor, note to be signed by parent or guardian.

#### PRIZES.

Three prizes of \$10.00 each will be awarded for essays not to exceed 3000 words on the subjects given below. The prizes will be awarded on Commencement Day, 1917.

Subject—"The Advantages of Country Life in the Red River Valley." Open to students of the Northwest School of Agriculture. Given by W. A. Marin, Crookston.

Subject—"The Advantages of an Agricultural Education." Open only to boys regularly enrolled in a one or two-room rural school during the term of 1916-1917. Offered by friends of the Northwest School of Agriculture.

Subject—"The Advantages of Securing School Training in Home Making." Open only to girls regularly enrolled in a one or two-room rural school during 1916-1917. Provided by A. A. Miller, of Crookston.

### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Under this heading will appear brief notices regarding events of interest to our readers in various parts of the Red River Valley. Farmers' Clubs are especially invited to send in items as information regarding every movement to improve agricultural and home conditions is desired.

#### 13th Annual Convention of Red River Valley Dairymen's Association.

This important gathering will be held at Thief River Falls on December 6 and 7. Addresses will be given by Hon. J. J. Farrell, State Dairy and Food Commissioner; Prof. W. A. McKerrow; G. P. Grout; Prof. H. H. Kildee, recently appointed Chief of Di-

vision of Dairy Husbandry, Minnesota Agricultural College; M. P. A. Sondergaard and A. O. Storvick of Washington, D. C.; Hon. A. E. Greenwood, Dairy Commissioner of North Dakota; F. W. Merrill; and F. B. McLeran. The usual butter contest, dairymen's contests, and butter scoring contests will be held. In addition, there will be a dairy stock exhibit. A dairy cow judging demonstration will be given by Prof. Kildee, followed by a judging contest between buttermakers and actual dairy farmers. On the evening of December 5, the members of Pennington County Live Stock Breeders' Association will give a banquet at which prominent live stock specialists, bankers, and farmers will be present. Last year's meeting was held at Fergus Falls. This meeting established a new record in attendance, and interest which the Thief River Falls meeting will attempt to break. The citizens and farmers of Thief River Falls and vicinity are making extensive preparations for the meeting and invite all interested in this important work to come.

#### JOINT MEETING OF FARMERS' CLUBS AND RED RIVER VALLEY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AT ROSEAU.

December 12 and 13.

At this meeting will be discussed problems of drainage, live stock farming, and weed eradication. It is held under the auspices of Roseau Commercial Club and Roseau County Farmers' Clubs. It will be largely attended by farmers in the northwestern counties who are vitally concerned with the problems to be discussed. Prof. Andrew Boss will be present from the Minnesota Agricultural College, and Prof. Wm. Dietrich and Superintendent C. G. Selvig from the Northwest Station.

#### Tri-State Flood Control Congress.

At the meeting of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development Association held at the Agricultural School on October 9, it was decided to hold another meeting to discuss flood control measures affecting Minnesota, North and South Dakota. This meeting was held in Fargo on November 13th and 14th, and was well attended. Action by this meeting will have much influence in shaping the policy which is to be pursued in the solution of this much vexed problem.

#### Minnesota Farmers' Week.

This annual event at the University Farm, St. Paul, will be held January 1 to 6. A large number of organizations interested in various phases of farming will meet at the same time. Farmers' Week has become one of the most important organizations in Minnesota agriculture.

#### WINTER MEETING OF THE ALL-MINNESOTA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION.

This meeting will be held at the Old Capitol St. Paul, during the second week of January. Various matters of importance to the entire state will be discussed, including drainage and

flood control, Junior high schools, community purchases of live stock, taxation of improvements and others. Superintendent C. G. Selvig is vice president of this organization, and was present at a meeting of the program committee at St. Paul the first week in November.

#### Sixth Annual Farm Crops Show.

This meeting will be held in Crookston the week of February 5th. A stock exhibit is being planned for the first time this year. The executive committee has been appointed to have charge of the program and exhibits. Secretary C. H. Zealand of the Red River Valley Development Association is actively at work making the preliminary plans which are necessary. The program will contain topics of most vital interest which will be discussed by men and women of national prominence. Readers of the Northwest Monthly are requested to send in suggestions as to topics that should be discussed during this annual meeting of Northwestern Minnesota people.

#### EXPERIMENT STATION NOTES.

A new 35 H. P. electric motor has been installed at the Experiment Station to furnish power for threshing and silage cutting. This motor has proved itself a cheap and efficient source of power.

An experimental plot of winter wheat yielded thirty-two bushels per acre and graded No. 1 hard. This yield was the high wheat record of the farm for 1916.

Many of the fruits in the Horticultural plots are now coming into bearing in addition to the seedling plums that have been fruiting for a number of years. Several varieties of each of the following fruits yielded crops this year, crab apples, plums, grapes, raspberries, gooseberries, currants and strawberries.

A valuable addition to the Shorthorn herd of the Station has just been made in the purchase of eight head of pure bred heifers and cows from C. J. Gullekson of Beltrami.

J. P. Bengtson, C. E. Brown and T. M. McCall assisted in the educational work in the Farm Boys' Camp at the Minnesota State Fair, September 2 to 9. The representatives were quite enthusiastic over the success of the camp this year.

Prof. Wm. Dietrich addressed the Deer River Farmers' Institute on the topic of Dairying. Prof. Dietrich was very much impressed with the interest and enthusiasm shown in dairying in that section of the state.

Professors Kennard, Brown and McCall acted as judges at the Itasca County Fair at Grand Rapids on September 14 to 15th. A strong showing was reported in addition to many high class entries in the stock and poultry departments.

Prof. C. E. Brown acted as judge of poultry at the Beltrami County fair at Bemidji on September 15th. The large poultry exhibit is one of the features of the Beltrami County Fair.

The annual Market and Colt Show Day of Mentor, Polk County, was held on September 21. Supt. C. G. Selvig and Prof. Dietrich acted as judges of farm produce and live stock while

Mrs. C. G. Selvig and Mrs. Wm. Dietrich acted as judges of the Woman's Department. A good showing in all classes was reported.

Mrs. T. R. Sewall, Wm Dietrich and C. E. Brown acted as judges at the Wadena County Fair at Wadena, September 22nd.

Wm. Dietrich addressed a meeting of the farmers of Twin Valley on September 23, at which time a Cooperative Live Stock Shippers Association was formed. The success of this association is insured by the enthusiasm and loyalty that was shown in its organization.

Prof. F. L. Kennard acted as judge of grains at the Montana State Fair at Helena, September 25th to 30th. Mr. Kennard reported that Montana puts up a strong class of entries in small grains and also that the 1916 showing of grains was better than the display of 1915.

Mr. T. R. Sewall, Mr. C. E. Brown, and A. E. Enerson acted as judges at the Becker County Fair held at Detroit, October 4 and 5th. A good showing in all classes was reported by those present.

T. M. McCall addressed a meeting of the members of the boys and girls industrial clubs of Northwestern Marshall County at the High School in Stephen on October 7th.

Supt. C. G. Selvig, Mr. J. P. Bengtson and Miss Grace B. Sherwood attended the sessions of the Minnesota Educational Association at St. Paul, November 1 to 4. Supt. Selvig is treasurer of the association. Miss Sherwood delivered an address on "Problems of the Ungraded School."

Wm. Dietrich judged the live stock of the Clearwater County Fair at Bagley on September 27th. Mr. Dietrich reports good improvements in the quality of Clearwater County stock.

Supt. C. G. Selvig and Attorney A. A. Miller, of Crookston, journeyed to the meeting of the Boxville Farmers' Club, October 6th. An interesting program was rendered which was enjoyed by all.

A splendid meeting of the Live Stock Breeders of Thief River Falls and vicinity was held in the fine new barn of Hans Anton near Thief River Falls. Prof. Wm. Dietrich was one of the many speakers at the meeting.

The Mallory Farmers' Club met October 17th. It was attended by Supt. Selvig who addressed the club on Weed Control and Drainage. A. A. Miller, of Crookston, spoke on agricultural and home education afforded by the Northwest School of Agriculture.

#### ANIMAL HUSBANDRY NOTES.

The work of live stock judging is entered into this year with considerable enthusiasm and promise of being more than ordinarily successful. The first work of the term for the Junior and Senior classes is with swine. The station herd for this year consists of more and better individuals than ever before. There are one hundred thirty head of swine in the herd that are available for this work. There are many high class specimens from the breeding standpoint; and from the market standpoint, they are making as high as three pounds of gain per head daily.

On October 16th the Senior class in stock judging took a trip by automobile to the farm of Mr. Palmer, about fourteen miles north of the station farm. After a thorough inspection of this most interesting farm with its various kinds of livestock and up-to-date methods of handling the same, the boys were given several classes of milking Shorthorns to judge. Here some very fine specimens of the breed came under observation. The trip was indeed a fine one, and of value to the class.

#### POULTRY NEWS.

The "B" poultry class spent Tuesday, October 9th, visiting several practical plants near the Northwest School of Agriculture.

The "A" poultry class "jitneyed" to the Model Poultry Plant near Crookston October 20th. A very profitable time was spent judging Barred Rocks, S. S. Hamburgs, Brown Leghorns, White Leghorns and Bantams.

#### FARMERS' CLUB NOTES.

Information giving the names of officers and the dates of regular meetings has been received from the farmers' clubs in Northwestern Minnesota listed below. This information is requested from every club in this section of the state. Each club will be placed upon the mailing list to receive the NORTHWEST MONTHLY as soon as these addresses are received.

This department aims to be of service to the clubs in reporting their activities and meetings. Send your notes to the NORTHWEST MONTHLY, Crookston, Minnesota.

The following farmers clubs have sent in the information desired:

Rosewood Farmers' Club, Rosewood; Dover Farmers' Club, Clearbrook; Thompson Farmers' Club, Hallock; Cannon Farmers' Club, Bronson; Happy Corner Farmers' Club, Stephen; Key West Farmers' Club, Euclid; Progressive Farmers' Club, Hendrum; Binville Farmers' Club, Grygla; Park Farm Club, Mentor; Sunrise Farmers' Club, Roland; Spruce Farmers' Club, Roseau; McCrea Farmers' Club, Warren; Tansen Farmers' Club, Pelican Rapids; Men's Club of Glyndon, Glyndon; Hardscrabble, Bagley; Fairfax-Andover Social Circle, Crookston; Viking Farmers' Club, Viking; Oak Mound, Moorhead; Mallory Farmers' Club, Mallory; West Side Euclid Farmers' Club, Euclid; The Progressive Farmers' Club of Foldahl, Argyle; The Farmers' Club of Hitterdal, Hitterdal; and the Clay County Federation of Farmers' Clubs, Moorhead.

#### ALUMNI NOTES

Among the Alumni who have already visited school this fall are the following: Selma Nyquist, '16; Sophie Monson, '16; Selma Anderson, '12; Grace Walker, '15; Andrew Landby, '16; Lenus Landby, '12; Martin Landby, '13; Paul Engelstad, '16; Dorr Wurden, '12; and Anchor Wurden, '12.