

THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY

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VOL. I.

CROOKSTON, MINN., APRIL, 1917

No. 5

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL JUNIOR SHORT COURSE.

The Junior Short Course this year held from April 2nd to 7th was a great success. The attendance did not reach the high mark established last year, but lack of numbers was made up for by great interest and enthusiasm. Polk, Norman and Marshall counties had the largest representations in the order named. There were boys and girls also from Ottertail, Becker, Kittson, Pennington and Red Lake. One boy came all the way from Devils Lake, N. D. To Climax goes the honor of sending a larger delegation than any other one town. Seventeen gave this town as their address. The honors of sending the largest delegation from any one school were divided between district 25, Norman county (Miss Adair Ash, teacher) and district No. 281, Polk county (Miss Grace Schaeffer, teacher). Each of these districts sent six pupils. This year more students came from the Crookston-Fargo Great Northern line than any other road leading in to Crookston.

A great deal of interest was manifested in the instruction given in "Corn," "Potatoes," "The Calf," "The Pig," "Bread Making" and "Sewing". Many of the pupils are members of boys' and girls' clubs, and took this work to prepare them for entering the state industrial contests. Great interest was taken in the various judging contests, and some very high scores were made. Following is a list of the prize winners:

Corn Judging Contest.

- 1st, Hjalmer Brundin, East Grand Forks, Dist. 3.
- 2nd, Harold Grove, Climax, Dist. 41.
- 3rd, Herbert Renick, Mentor, Dist. 36.

Potato Judging Contest.

- 1st, Lawrence Grove, Climax, Dist. 41.
- 2nd, Robert Sparks, Eldred, Dist. 48.
- 3rd, John Young, Perley, Dist. 25.

Stock Judging Contest.

- 1st, Elmer Bredlie, Eldred, Dist. 281.
- 2nd, Hjalmar Brundin, East Grand Forks, Dist. 3.
- 3rd, Herman Probst, Warren, Dist. 49.

Sewing.

Class A. (Former Junior Short Course students).

- 1st, Ida Bruun, Climax, Dist. 6.
- 2nd, Sophie Krbechek, Erie.

Class B. (First year Junior Short Course students).

- 1st, Mary Rarick, Climax, Dist. 245.
- 2nd, Pauline Strommen, Climax, Dist. 6.

Very favorable weather made the two afternoon excursions to Crookston

most pleasant events, and the boys and girls greatly enjoyed every minute of the outing, visiting industrial establishments and public buildings.

The evening programs were greatly enjoyed. The school was especially fortunate in being able to provide moving picture films of a high class. "Sunshine and Shadow," "The Shine Lady," and "Bobby Bear" were stories especially adapted to young boys and girls and were greatly enjoyed. Such other films of educational interest as "Athletic Movements," "Pathe Weekly News," "State Fair" and "The U. C. T. Convention at Crookston" were also greatly appreciated. Two evenings of the week were devoted to illustrated lectures on poultry by Mr. C. E. Brown and on live stock by Mr. William Dietrich. A very enjoyable feature of each evening meeting was the community singing under the direction of M. Lucille Holliday, head of the department of music.

COUNTY FEDERATION OF FARMERS' CLUBS.

Great progress has been made during the year in the organization of farmers' clubs throughout the Red River Valley. The clubs of two counties, Marshall and Polk, have been federated.

Polk County.

The Polk County Federation of Farmers' Clubs was organized at a big meeting in Erskine on the 16th of March. The meeting was well attended and the interest and enthusiasm was genuine. W. W. Hall of the Park Farmers' Club, Mentor, was elected president. The other officers were: Vice President, E. E. Green, Fairfax-Andover, Crookston; Secretary, C. L. McNelly, McIntosh Club, McIntosh; Treasurer, N. G. Malin, Crookston-Parnell Club, Crookston. The first board of directors consists of O. J. Brustad, Lengby; John Clementson, Erskine; Mrs. W. B. Ferguson, Mallory; John H. Boyd and John Perry of Crookston.

The sessions lasted throughout the day and much interest was manifest in this movement, which will give the farmers a good strong central body to spread the gospel of better agriculture.

A county wide campaign to increase the production of alfalfa, and a big get-together farmers picnic during the summer were two things definitely decided upon at this meeting. Clubs represented in person at the Erskine meeting were the Columbia, Lengby, the Mallory Club, the Crookston Parnell Club, the Park Club, Mentor; the Fairfax-Andover Club, the Erskine Club and the McIntosh Club. A num-

ber of other organizations not represented had previously signified their intention of joining the federation.

Marshall County.

The Federated Farmers' Clubs of Marshall county effected their organization on December 14th, 1916, in a big meeting at Argyle. Following is a list of its officers: President, M. L. Warner, McCrear Farmers' Club, Warren; Vice President, Ernest Mack; Treasurer, Fred Peterson, Boxville Club, Warren; Secretary, Theo. Willer, Foldahl, Progressive Club, Argyle.

The Federation held a large get-together meeting at Crookston during the week of Farm Crops Show. The delegates, numbering forty, met at the Hotel Crookston and partook of a banquet while discussing matters pertaining to better farming, transportation and stock raising problems. President M. L. Warner, acting as toastmaster, presided during the evening. Mr. S. M. Sivertson, president of the Crookston Commercial Club; Supt. G. H. Sanberg, of the Crookston City Schools; Supt. C. G. Selvig, Northwest School of Agriculture; Prof. H. H. Kildee and Prof. W. A. McKerrow of the University; and Mr. Joseph Ball of Crookston responded to toasts. The meeting then listened to the report of J. T. Imsdahl and J. S. Hilleboe, who were delegates to the meeting of the State Federation of Farmers' Clubs at St. Paul, January 2nd to 4th. They reported the action of the State Federation in resolving to promote the loaning of permanent school funds on farm lands, incorporation of a state rural loan and state rural credit association, road improvements, improved drainage legislation, and new laws improving grain and live stock marketing, and other things of great interest to the Minnesota farmer. Mr. Hilleboe said that the meeting urged harmony at home, as a keynote of success. It urged a closer co-operation between the farmer and business man.

At ten o'clock the meeting adjourned to the Commercial Club rooms where it was continued until a late hour with a consideration of many subjects of interest to the farmers of Marshall county. Arrangements were planned for a picnic to be held some time during June a suitable place on the Middle River near Argyle. An invitation was extended to the clubs of Roseau county to join as guests at this celebration. Discussion also followed on the subject of proposed legislation in regard to a state soil survey, appropriation for the Live Stock Breeders Association, tax reforms and wide runners on sleighs.

THE Northwest Monthly

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NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF
AGRICULTURE

C. G. SELVIG, Superintendent

OFFICE

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agricultural education and home training for
Northwestern Minnesota.

APPRECIATION.

BEFORE ANOTHER ISSUE OF THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY REACHES ITS READERS THE 1917 LEGISLATIVE SESSION WILL HAVE CLOSED, AND THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL'S BUDGET FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS WILL BE KNOWN. MUCH INTEREST HAS BEEN MANIFESTED IN ALL PARTS OF THE VALLEY REGARDING THE NEW DINING HALL AND THE IMPROVED ROADWAY GREATLY NEEDED BY THE SCHOOL. THE SCHOOL APPRECIATES THIS LIVELY INTEREST IN ITS WELFARE AND EXTENDS THIS WORD OF CORDIAL APPRECIATION TO ALL.

C. G. SELVIG.

COMMENCEMENT WEEK.

Once more the Northwest School of Agriculture has sent forth a class of graduates who will take their places in the farming communities throughout the Red River Valley. The Eleventh Annual Commencement will long be remembered, as one prophesying a new era, an era full of civic responsibilities not only for each community but for the nation at large. As this commencement was taking place, all were mindful of the fact that our nation is engaged in solving a mighty issue. The developments of the past few years have tended to instill in very true American the feeling of personal obligations to the nation. Throughout the eleventh commencement a feeling of seriousness was the undercurrent of all the school's activities. The banquet toasts spoke of one's relation to others, the Senior Theses urged efficiency and thrift to meet the ever growing demands upon the farmer. The addresses by various commencement speakers emphasized the fact that we can no longer live unto ourselves alone. Under the influence of such an atmosphere, thirty-seven young men and women graduated from the school.

The week of commencement was full of those events which mean so much to the school and students. Everything connected with the various exercises was well planned and was appropriate for the times and the occasion.

Junior-Senior Banquet.

The activities of the 11th commencement began Monday evening, March 19th, with the Junior-Senior banquet.

Each year this banquet takes its place as the great occasion of the year. This year's Junior Class did themselves full justice, in decorating the dining hall and in the menu prepared. At this banquet both "the humorous and the serious" were given full sway.

Morris Debate.

On Friday evening, March 23, was held the annual dual debate with Morris. This debate with Morris holds a very important place in the activities of the two schools. This year's contest was of a high standard along the various phases of debating. Although the teams from Crookston lost to Morris, it is conceded that it was defeat with honor. The affirmative team debating in Crookston consisted of Walter Peterson, Ole Flaot and Thorval Tunheim. The negative team, which journeyed to Morris, was made up of Magnus Spjut, Peter Ness and Walter Sheridan. The school is proud of the work of this year's teams.

Inter-Class Field Meet.

Another interesting event of commencement will always be the inter-class field meet. The school is fortunate in having excellent gymnasium facilities and equipment. This year Miss Holliday, physical director for the women, and Mr. Stenseth, physical director for the men, staged one of the best meets ever held at the school. Good sportsmanship prevailed and unusual intenseness of interest characterized the whole evening's program. It was indeed a most fitting close for the work of the physical training department. The first part of the program was an exhibition of tumbling, pyramid building and bag-punching. The inter-class contest consisted of wrestling, rope climbing, racing, chin-ning, basket shooting and other events.

The Freshmen carried away the honors for the boys, with 28 points. The Seniors came next with 24½ points and the Juniors last with 19½ points. Clarence MelTae proved a high point winner for the Freshmen. Newell Lee and Leander Laliberte for the Juniors, and Rasmus Heiberg and Oscar Tunheim for the Seniors.

In the girls' events, the Seniors won first place with 21 points, Juniors second with 15, while the Freshmen followed closely with a score of 14. The interest shown, along with the keen competition, will make this year's meet one long to be remembered.

Baccalaureate Services.

The baccalaureate services were held in the Auditorium Sunday afternoon. The services were very inspiring and fittingly adapted to this year.

The program of the afternoon was as follows:

- Processional March - - - - -
- Agricultural School Orchestra
- Hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers" - - - - - School
- Reading of Scripture - - - - - Superintendent Selvig
- Response - - - - - School
- Vocal Duet, "Hark, Hark, My Soul" - - - - - Miss Holliday and Mr. Tunheim
- Anthem, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" - - - - - First Congregational Church Choir
- Crookston
- Baccalaureate Address, "The Problem of Life" - - - - - Rev. R. C. Bailey
- Anthem, "Praise Ye the Father" - - - - - School Mixed Chorus

Prayer - - - - - Rev. R. C. Bailey
Recital.

On Monday afternoon and evening, recitals were given by music students of the school. This year there has been increased interest shown along musical lines. The results of this interest have been so marked, that it was necessary to have two recitals in order to give everyone an opportunity to take part. The programs for the two recitals were very much diversified, consisting of vocal numbers, piano, violin and other instrumental selections.

Inter-Society Debate.

Wednesday evening, March 28th, was given over to the Inter-Society Debate and the Senior Class Play. The Lincoln and Pioneer Debating societies, debated the question, "Resolved, that the State of Minnesota should own and operate its terminal elevators." Charles Auburg, James Porten and Oscar Samuelson debated for the Lincoln Society, upholding the affirmative. Rasmus Heiberg, Palmer Erickson and Herbert Anderson upheld the negative for the Pioneers. The judges decided in favor of the negative. The winning society is entitled to possess the silver trophy for another year.

Class Play.

Immediately after the debate the class play was given. This year's play was "The Court Scene from 'The Merchant of Venice.'" The parts were well rendered, and the costumed players very fittingly portrayed the Italian life of early times. Raymond Anderson, in a very dignified manner, took the part of the Duke of Venice. Albert Bjorsness ably represented Shylock, while Martin Soberg took the part of Antonio. King Scherfenberg was Bassanio, while Oscar Tunheim was Gratiano. Johnanna Monson played the part of Portia and Florence Haenke acted as Nerissa.

Commencement Exercises.

Thursday, March 29th, was the day of commencement. Long before 9:30, the appointed hour for the exercises, the auditorium was filled with parents, alumni and other invited guests. The excellent weather had enabled a large number to attend and, as a result, the large auditorium was filled to its full capacity. The morning's program was as follows:

- Song, "America" - - - - - School
 - Reading of Scripture - Martin Soberg
 - Response - - - - - The School
 - The Class of 1917 - Magnus Spjut, '17
 - Greeting - - - - - Prof. T. M. McCall
 - Demonstration, "Bee Keeping" - - - - - Charles Auburg
 - Class Song - - - - - Senior Class
 - Demonstration, "Home Laundering" - - - - - Josephine Imsdahl, '17
 - Program by Demonstration School
 - Pupils of Teachers' Training Department.
 - Demonstration, "Potato Culture" - - - - - Birger Hagglund, '17
 - Address - - - - - Prof. T. R. Sewall
 - Class Counselor
 - Song, "Minnesota" - - - - - Audience
- The excellent program of the morning was only a beginning of many good things that were to follow. Immediately after the morning's program, everyone assembled in the dining hall where dinner was served, and the exercises continued. This annual dinner at commencement time is a social, democratic, educational community gather-

ing. It is here that parents meet students, neighbors, and faculty. It is here, that an insight of the workings of the school are portrayed. Immediately following the dinner, Mr. Selvig presides, and an hour or so is spent in toasts by various people. It has also become the custom to make announcements of the awards of various kinds. This year Mr. Selvig called on Prof. Dietrich to announce the prizes in stock judging. Mr. Dietrich in a very fitting manner explained the interest in stock judging, and dwelt on the enthusiasm shown. He then explained the inter-class contest which is held every year. In conclusion, Mr. Dietrich awarded the silver cup to the Junior class team. The following individual awards were made:

Stanley Arneson, highest score, silver medal; Newell Lee; Olof Boness; and Carl Isaacson for the Junior class.

Miss Sherwood awarded the prize for the spelling contest. The medal was given to Orvan Gilbertson, class of '19.

Mr. Bengtson was then called upon to make known the winner of the essay contest. Second place went to Edwin Hammer, while Charles Auburg received the first prize of \$10, provided by Mr. W. A. Marin for the best essay on the subject, "Advantages of Rural Life in the Red River Valley."

The girls of the cooking class next presented to the school a cocoa pitcher and sandwich tray, provided by this year's Senior girls boarding club. Miss Nyquist of the Junior class responded by saying that she hoped the Seniors for next year would be able to use them to serve better cocoa and sandwiches than the present Seniors ever did. After toasts by alumni and guests, Mr. R. E. Denfeld, of Duluth, spoke briefly. He said that he had always held the school in high esteem, and now after hearing and seeing the school and its work, he knew that he was justified in his opinion.

Commencement Program.

The commencement exercises proper began at 2 o'clock with music by the Agricultural School band. Invocation was pronounced by Rev. Moen, of Crookston. Maja Peterson, '17, gave a demonstration in "Home Nursing." Herbert Anderson, '17, gave an extension talk on "Cow Testing Associations," based on his personal experiences as an official tester the last summer. Miss M. Lucille Holliday, sang two solos. She was followed by R. E. Denfeld, of Duluth, whose address on "Citizenship and Education" was one of the strongest appeals to patriotism ever given in Crookston. He showed the rise of our country, its dangers as well as sources of strength and closed with an eloquent appeal to the young men and women of the class of 1917 not only to advance Minnesota agriculturally, but to be patriotic citizens. The Girls' Glee Club furnished music.

Superintendent C. G. Selvig presented the diplomas. In summarizing the year's work, Mr. Selvig pointed out that alumni of the school now numbered two hundred forty-one, located mainly in the twelve northwestern counties of Minnesota. About eighty-five per cent of these young people were on the farm. Although the school is only eleven years old, he cited illustrations of how these young men and women, and former students, who

did not graduate, were making a splendid record in solving the agricultural problems of the Red River Valley.

Communities Thanked.

In conclusion he thanked the communities of the Red River Valley for the loyal support in all phases of school and station work and the citizens of Crookston for the special interest shown this year in the scholarships provided for the students.

Miller Announces Honors.

Following the presentation of diplomas, A. A. Miller, of Crookston, as chairman, representing the scholarship committee of Crookston citizens, made the awards. This committee includes the following: H. W. Misner, S. M. Sivertson, S. A. Wallace, W. A. Marin, R. C. Ruettell, E. O. Hagen, and C. G. Selvig, secretary. They took it upon themselves last September to secure a number of scholarship to be awarded to students who make the most progress and show the most ability along the various lines. Mr. Miller, in his presentation address, complimented the students for the spirit shown, and prophesied a great field of usefulness for the graduates and for the school. He then presented the following report, giving the awards of the scholarships for 1916-1917:

Scholarships Given.

These scholarships provided by Crookston citizens and firms are awarded to students selected by a special committee of the Northwest School faculty. They took into consideration diligence and degree of progress in conformity with the plan of the scholarships.

Four names were selected for each scholarship. The first receives \$75.00, the second \$50.00 and the last two receive honorable mention. The last two are to be substituted in the order named for those named first and second in case those ranking first and second fail to take advantage of the scholarships during the school year 1917-1918.

The Scandia American Bank of Crookston scholarship to the students who showed greatest general diligence and progress in all the school work:

1. Newell Lee, Junior Class, Halma, \$75.00 in cash.
2. Emil Hallgren, Junior Class, Bronson, \$50.00 in cash.
3. Fred Rubert, Junior Class, Orleans, honorable mention.
4. Cora Lindfors, Freshman Class, Fosston, honorable mention.

The Live Stock Scholarship—Provided by a well-wisher of the school and students, for diligence in and greatest progress in live stock subjects:

1. Peter Ness, Senior Class, Cass Lake, \$75.00 in cash.
2. Martin Saugen, Junior Class, Newfolden, \$50 in cash.
3. Oscar Samuelson, Junior Class, Crookston, honorable mention.
4. Stanley Arneson, Junior Class, Shelly, honorable mention.

The Farm Management Scholarship—Provided by Mr. S. A. Wallace, of Crookston, for diligence in and greatest progress in farm management subjects:

1. Alfred Wiger, Junior Class, Ulen, \$75.00 in cash.
2. Clarence Lee, Junior Class, Pencer, \$50.00 in cash.

3. Arthur Skonovd, Junior Class, Viking, honorable mention.

4. Marion Johnson, Senior Class, Felton, honorable mention.

The Public Speaking and Debate Scholarship—Provided by Ruettell Clothing Company, Crookston, for diligence and greatest progress in public speaking and debating:

1. Walter Sheridan, Senior Class, Crookston, \$75.00 in cash.
2. Henry Nobben, Freshman Class, Thief River Falls, \$50.00 in cash.
3. Walter Peterson, Senior class, Lancaster, honorable mention.
4. Albin Johnson, Freshman Class, Fertile, honorable mention.

The Home Economics Scholarship—Provided by Mr. W. T. Carlisle, Crookston, for diligence in and greatest progress in home training work:

1. Olga Tunheim, Junior Class, Newfolden, \$75.00 in cash.
2. Leah Stewart, Freshman class, Hallock, \$50.00 in cash.
3. Emma Peterson, Freshman Class, East Grand Forks, honorable mention.
4. Gerda Kulle, Junior Class, Alvarado, honorable mention.

Provided by the Crookston Water Works, Power and Light Company, the Flax and Hemp Fibre Culture Scholarship will be awarded about October 1, 1917.

At that time the following scholarships will also be awarded:

The Corn Growing Contest Scholarship, provided by the Crookston State bank for the young man who receives a leading place in the 1917 Acre Corn Growing Contest.

The Girls' Bread Making Contest Scholarship, provided by the Crookston Milling Company for the girl who receives a leading place in the 1917 Girls' Bread-making contest.

The Boys' Pig Raising Contest Scholarship, provided by Mr. Charles E. Kiewel for the young man who receives a leading place in the 1917 Boys' Pig Raising contest.

The Potato Growing Contest Scholarship, provided by Mr. J. W. Wheeler, of St. Paul, for the young man who receives a leading place in the 1917 Potato Growing contest.

After the last announcement had been made by Mr. Miller, the audience united in singing "Minnesota."

Alumni Doings.

The enthusiasm of Thursday was again emphasized when the Alumni of the school met for their annual get-together on Friday. The forenoon was spent in receiving the class of '17 into the organization and transacting business connected with the association. In the afternoon the alumni met again, to discuss plans for a better form of organization and plans to promote the interests of the association and the school. It was at this meeting that the real spirit of the alumni manifested itself. After hearing from various alumni and feeling some of their enthusiasm and earnestness, every one present could feel that here indeed is a loyal group of graduates. They are men and women who are doing things and are upholding the good name of the N. W. S. of Agriculture. The school is proud of its alumni association, and the faculty feels that their work is not in vain, when they see the results of their efforts.

The officers for the coming year will be:

Conrad Clementson, '15, president.
M. Lionel Skibness, '13, secretary.

Alumni Banquet.

At 8 o'clock the alumni and faculty met at the Crookston Hotel for the annual alumni banquet. Mr. M. L. Skibness, '13, acted as toastmaster and called on Oscar B. Lovas, '15, who welcomed the class of '17. Magnus Spjut, '17, responded for the class of '17. Mr. J. P. Bengtson spoke on "The Past"; Mrs. A. F. Haig on "The Present"; Mr. Walter H. Sheridan, '17, on "The Future"; while Supt. C. G. Selvig briefly reviewed the work of the school, emphasizing its aims for the future.

The good feeling of the alumni was manifested throughout the evening, and each and everyone felt that it was good to be a member of the alumni association of the N. W. School.

The following alumni were present: Birger Hagglund, '17, Alvarado; H. B. Schuck, '15, Crookston; Walter Peterson, '17, Lancaster; Florence Haenke, '17, Eveleth; Earle Mills, '15, Crookston; Lester Garceau, '16, Red Lake Falls; Rasmus Heiberg, '17, Heiberg; Chloe Starr, '16, Naytahwaush; Herman F. Skyberg, '16, Fisher; C. R. Stow, '16, Cumberland, Wis.; Alma N. Femrite, '16, Crookston; Conrad Clementson, '15, Erskine; Dora Wurden, '12, Fisher; Martin Landby, '13, Swift; Hannah Hedin, '14, Twin Valley; Mathilda Ofstedal, '14, Fertile; Syvert Dahl, '13, Bagley; Ed. Hammer, '16, Twin Valley; Ethel Westburg, '17, Cottonwood Lake, N. D.; Oscar Tunheim, '17, Newfolden; Cora Peterson, '16, Grygla; James H. Porten, '17, Alvarado; Josie Imsdahl, '17, Oslo; Chas. Auburg, '17, Bagley; Johanna Monson, '17, Drayton, N. D.; King Scherfenberg, '17, St. Cloud; Gertie Osterloh, '15, Angus; Walter H. Sheridan, '17, Crookston; Albert Bjorsness, '17, Newfolden; Maja Peterson, '17, Mentor; Nellie Anderson, '17, Ortonville; Ruby McDonald, '16, Fisher; Martin Soberg, '17, Fertile; Alfred Hannah, '14, Fisher; Mrs. C. G. Eklund (Winnie McDonald), '11, Minot, N. D.; Oscar Giggstad, '17, St. Hilaire; Peter Pearson, '16, Warroad; Christian Hagen, '15, Hendrum; Minnie McDonald, '14, Fisher; Wilfred Brunelle, '16, Crookston; Julius Sather, '16, Halstad; Ole A. Flaot, '16, Fisher; Anchor Wurden, '14, Fisher; Bertha Bjoim, '12, Crookston; Helen Sontag, '16, Crookston; Wm. Espe, '16, Crookston; Randolph Saugstad, '16, Crookston; Darragh Geddes, '14, East Grand Forks; Anna L. Evenson, '14, Climax; Marie M. Mariner, '14, Eldred; Robert Rutherford, '14, Euclid; Lenus Landby, '12, Swift; Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Harrington, '13, Orleans; Mrs. J. E. Clover, '12, Angus; Iver J. Westad, '13, Flaming; Wm. Thorkelson, '13, Trall; Thorval Tunheim, '16, Newfolden; Fred Johnson, '17, Argyle; Magnus Spjut, '17, Karistad; Oscar B. Lovas, '15, Plummer; M. Lionel Skibness, '13, Grand Forks, N. Dak.; Peter Ness, '17, Cass Lake; Herbert Anderson, '17, Clearbrook; Sam Anderson, '17, Alvarado; Olof Nelson, '09, St. Hilaire.

Faculty: Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Selvig, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Bengtson, Grace B. Sherwood, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Sewall, Anna F. Haig, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. McCall, M. Lucille Holliday, Mrs. A. H.

Larson, Mr. A. H. Larson, Cora Paulsberg, Martinus Stensteth, Ethel Kadlec.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE COUNTY FEDERATION OF FARMERS CLUBS.

In the course of the evolution of farmers' organizations we have tried many schemes. One organization says that legislation will remedy all our ills; another that all we need is co-operative marketing; a third element demands greater production; yet another cries that the farmer is so narrow and suspicious-minded that no farmers' organization can be permanently successful. Out of the melting-pot of divergent opinion the farmers' club has come. It is yet in its infancy. Very little has, as yet, been accomplished. One farmers' club is a literary society, another a social club. Others are community agricultural schools, political groups or co-operative business enterprises; the best clubs are a combination of all. The work of each club depending upon the characteristics of the individual leadership and the special needs of the different communities.

When the up-to-date farmers' club undertakes its full work, it must study local problems and as far as possible bring about their solution. The problems have to do with farming practice, farm marketing, rural credits, farm laws, social conditions, and others.

The fact remains that the successful farmers' club has evolved through the need of working together to solve community problems. The farmers themselves have furnished the leadership. There were no promoters on fat salaries. Where the farmers' club has not found the problem or where the members were not big enough to work together the clubs have failed.

The County Federation of Farmers' Clubs is likewise an evolutionary step arising out of the need for adjusting larger farm problems and to more efficiently solve the smaller ones, in other words to do the work of the local farmers' club on a larger scale.

We believe that the time has come for the mobilization of the farm forces of Polk county for greater efficiency. It was for this purpose that the Federation was organized.

To start with we should study the farming situation as it is. We should determine the actual status of farm development in all its aspects so that we may know our own limitations and needs before attempting any radical change.

We want to study the work of the different farm clubs already established to the end that the best of each may be used by the others. In order that the movement may be on a larger scale we wish to encourage the formation of new clubs, and then to weld all together for greater strength and efficiency.

We want to help spread the gospel of better farming so that we may ultimately have better homes and a better living. The problems of rural credits must be worked out. We aim to encourage co-operative enterprises at last as far as necessity suggests and expediency deems wise.

We believe in the slogan, "Get acquainted with your neighbor. You might like him" and would enlarge its

scope to get acquainted with neighboring farmers' clubs, you might like them.

Along this line we are planning county farmers' club picnic for coming summer which we hope will be the greatest gathering of farmers and their families ever held in Polk county. This in itself should be a big step in acquaintanceship and good fellowship campaign.

New problems are constantly arising and many old ones not mentioned to be studied.

We are no longer citizens of a little community alone; we are citizens of our county and state, even of the world as has been ably said. As we have new duties to perform, in order that we may not fail in the performance of the work outlined for us we must get the broader viewpoint, the bigger aim; the larger vision that goes with our present day position in the state's affairs.

C. L. McNELLY,

Sec'y. Polk Co. Federation of Farmers' Clubs.

MOVEMENT LAUNCHED TO INCREASE FOOD SUPPLY

Representatives From Valley Will Gather at Crookston April 17 and 18.

The husbanding and conserving of the resources of the Red River Valley by a more intensive and wide-spread cultivation of the soil, to the end that the food supply of the nation be increased, was the key-note of a meeting held at Hotel Crookston on April 10th and attended by representatives from various parts of the valley.

Development Assn. Fathers Movement

The meeting was called by the officers of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development Association, for the purpose of outlining plans for the mid-summer meeting of that association, to be held at Red Lake Falls on June 27th and 28th. In the discussion it early became apparent that if the great bread and butter section of the nation would do its bit during the war, it could not do it more effectively than by a combined movement for more and better farming, thereby increasing the rapidly diminishing food supply of the nation.

To Start Big Movement.

Carrying out this idea, it was decided to hold a meeting in Crookston starting on the evening of April 17th and continuing during April 18th, and copies of a letter will be sent out to farmers and business men throughout the Red River Valley counties, asking them to attend the meeting and help organize a comprehensive movement along the lines suggested.

The meeting on April 10th was preceded by a dinner served at the Crookston and besides the officers of the Development Association and a number of local business men, there were men present from other parts of the valley who attended and took part in the discussion.