

# THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY

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VOL. II.

CROOKSTON, MINN., DECEMBER, 1917.

No. 1

## ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET ISSUED BY NORTHWEST SCHOOL.

A booklet, which bears the name "Around the Campus" has been published by the Northwest School of Agriculture, and is now ready for distribution to all interested in seeing it. The outside cover design represents a view of the campus which is familiar to all alumni and students. The booklet contains fifty-seven illustrations of views of the school and station buildings, of class activities, school organizations, laboratory exercises, field work, and live stock. It is packed full of useful information, including charts showing rainfall at the Northwest Experiment Station the past twenty years, the range of the latest killing frost in spring and the earliest killing frost in the fall, and the length of the growing season. In addition there is a list of recommended varieties of vegetables, fruits, shrubs, and trees, and various tables of interest to farmers. For women there are a dozen or more conservation recipes which are eagerly sought at the present time. Former students and persons who have attended the Northwestern Minnesota Farmers' Week meetings will be interested in the songs that are included in the booklet.

The booklet is attractive, and it is also valuable because of the fund of information it contains.

## FIRST PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM.

The first public speaking program of the school year 1917-18 was held Monday evening, November 12, in the school auditorium. The program was given by the seniors on the subject of Loyalty. The numbers were most effectively given, and the program was a success in every particular. Miss Adelia Westphalen presided. Miss Olga Tunheim gave a discussion of women's work during war time, followed by a reading on "Our Soldiers" by Miss Hilda Nyquist. Mr. Newell Lee recited James Whitcomb Riley's poem, "The Soldier." Mr. Oscar Samuelson gave a paper on the subject of using our resources for the war which Harold Morris supplemented by outlining a personal program for each student of the Northwest School of Agriculture to follow during the war. Misses Holliday and Paulsberg sang two charming duets. The editors of the school paper were Miss Gerda Kulle and Frank H. Jones. At the conclusion of the program, Mr. Selvig was asked to say a few words regarding the value of public speaking work to the students.

These programs will be given regularly on Monday evenings until each student shall have had opportunity to

appear in public two or three times during the school year.

## ROLL OF HONOR.

Anderson, Herbert, '17, navy, Mare Island, California.  
Anderson, Raymond, '17, Hitterdal, draft.  
Clementson, Conrad, '17, Erskine, draft.  
Fossbakken, Chr., '09, Fosston, draft.  
Johnson, Norris, '14, Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Johnston, Harold, '14, Camp Kelly, 49 Aero Squadron, San Antonio, Texas.  
Johnston, Willard, '15, Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Lee, Clarence, '18, Pencer, draft.  
Loveik, Stephen, 1st Company, Fort Prickens, Pensacola, Florida.  
Lund, Oscar, '16, Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Rud, Henry, '16, Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Sheridan, Walter, '17, Duluth.  
Stenseth, Martinus, '16, Aviation Corps, France.  
Stow, Ray, '16, Aviation Corps, Duluth.  
If any names are omitted, notify us at once.

## DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION MEETING.

A special meeting of the Red River Valley development association was called at Crookston on November sixth, at which sixty-five members from Polk and the surrounding counties were present. President S. M. Sivertson opened the meeting by calling attention to the excellent way in which the valley people had responded to the appeal of the association last spring in organizing to promote increased crop acreage, the conservation of food, and the providing of labor. The president stated that the purpose of the meeting was to make plans by which the work of 1917 could be continued and enlarged to meet the new problems that demand attention.

Mr. W. W. Pritchard, Sr., of Thief River Falls, led the discussion on the topic of Immigration versus Emigration. This discussion was participated in by representatives from all of the counties present. The consensus of opinion was that greater encouragement should be given farmers to remain on farms; that this was a community problem and could be solved by a more intimate co-operation with the farmers of each community.

The discussion of the problem of supplying farm labor was led by Mr. P. B. Gaass of Red Lake Falls, who emphasized the great need of specialized farm labor. Mr. Martin O'Brien of Crookston, a member of the District

Exemption board, was present and when called on to speak gave a stirring address on patriotism and the workings of the selective conscription law. Mr. O'Brien stated that no class discrimination could be made in the interpretation of the law, but that in the case of farmers if all of the men of the family were drawn, enough should be exempted to manage or oversee the farm work. It was pointed out that with the new classification no undue hardship should be experienced in the carrying out of the draft law.

A spirit of optimism pervaded the meeting in regard to the labor situation for another year, as it was felt that there would be enough men and boys in the cities and towns who could be mobilized to harvest the crops.

Superintendent C. G. Selvig of Crookston, and Mr. R. C. Mathwig of Warren, presented phases of work for the association for 1918. Superintendent Selvig emphasized the need for more intensive crop production and stated that this could be best stimulated by putting a county agent in each of the Red River Valley counties. Other problems demanding immediate attention were mentioned, including sow thistle control, farm credit, and the organization of farmers for co-operative enterprises.

Since the necessity for another meeting was apparent to all, it was decided that the association should call another meeting in the near future to formulate more definitely the plans for the new year.

## FARM CROPS AND LIVE STOCK PROBLEMS TO BE DISCUSSED DEC. 11 AND 12.

On the evening of December 11 and on the day following, a meeting will be held at Crookston for the purpose of discussing 1918 crop production plans. A similar meeting was held at Crookston on April 17 and 18 at which time the counties were organized to further the efforts of the state and nation with respect to food production. Great interest was taken in this movement throughout the Red River Valley counties. The meeting to be held December 11 and 12 will be attended by representative farmers, business men and officials of Northwestern Minnesota counties. The officers and directors of the Red River Valley Development Association are actively promoting the meeting, and it has the co-operation and support also of the Northwest Experiment Station and School of Agriculture. Superintendent Selvig is a member of a committee formulating plans for this gathering which promises to be one of the most important ever held in Northwestern Minnesota.

## THE Northwest Monthly

Issued Monthly by  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF  
AGRICULTURE

C. G. SELVIC, Superintendent

### OFFICE

Northwest Experiment Station,  
Crookston, Minnesota

A monthly publication in the interest of  
agricultural education and home training for  
Northwestern Minnesota.

## Greeting

Volume one of THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY is completed. With this issue begins volume two. On account of having additional material and the desirability of giving space to announcements regarding the winter term of THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE eight pages are used instead of four.

It is hoped, more and more, to have this publication reflect the progress made in advancing northwestern Minnesota's home and agricultural interests. To this end it is earnestly desired to secure accounts of notable events which will prove of value and be an inspiration to other communities. The accounts of work that is being done in Kittson county, at Haug, and in other counties, as given in this issue, are illustrations of reports we hope to receive.

May Christmas joys come in large measure to all our readers!

### NORTHWESTERN MINNESOTA FARMERS' WEEK.

The dates have been definitely fixed for the annual Farm Crops Show and Northwestern Minnesota Farmers' week meetings. They are February 11-15, 1918. The officers of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development association are actively engaged in making up premium lists for the farm crops and live stock exhibits. The Northern Minnesota Poultry association is preparing to hold its annual poultry show at Crookston during the same week.

There will be unusual interest in the meetings this year on account of the importance of agricultural production during war time. The program of the meetings will be dictated largely by these demands. Speakers of national prominence have promised to attend, including Premier T. C. Norris, of Manitoba, on February 13; President Marion L. Burton, of the University of Minnesota, on February 14; and Governor J. A. A. Burnquist, on February 15. Dean R. W. Thatcher will be present on February 15, and Food Administrator A. D. Wilson on February 13.

Plans for the maximum production of crops and for the greatest advancement possible in live stock work will be emphasized at all meetings. Secre-

tary William Dietrich of the Red River Live Stock Breeders' association is co-operating by mapping out a program for three days to be devoted to live stock interests.

The annual Red River Valley spelling contest will take place on the evening of February 12 with Miss Grace B. Sherwood in charge. On the evening of Monday, February 11, the successful winners in the local declamatory contests will compete in the final contest. Last year the preliminary trials were entered by 35 schools, and the final trial by six.

The farmers' clubs stock judging teams will engage in the annual stock judging events on Monday, and it is expected that high school teams will again participate in the annual high school stock, corn, and potato judging events.

The women's meetings will be broadened to include every activity of service participated in by the women during the war. The district and county Red Cross Chapters, the district food conservation chairmen, the home economics departments will co-operate in making the women's week notable in the service it shall render in organizing this work. The various committees which will have charge of the different departments of the farm crops exhibit and of the live stock will be announced later at a meeting of the directors of the Red River Valley development association to be held in December. These matters will be discussed more fully in order that a complete organization may be perfected.

### 1918 JUNIOR SHORT COURSE.

The 1918 Junior short course will be held at the Northwest School of Agriculture the first week of April, 1918. Extensive preparations are being made to make this week the largest and most successful Junior short course ever held at this institution. Mr. O. M. Kiser, field man of the Northwest School of Agriculture, will confer with county superintendents in regard to the nature of the course, and will acquaint them with the conditions that need to be met and with the program of work done. Last year there were ninety-two boys and girls present.

### Y. M. C. A. AT THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE.

The Northwest School of Agriculture is fortunate in maintaining a live Young Men's Christian Association. This association has been made possible because of the interest shown by the young men attending the school. The favorable growth of the association speaks well for the christian homes represented and proves that the religious influence of the home and the training of childhood leave lasting impressions.

The association attempts to be of real service to the young men. The work has been planned with the central idea of the organizations in mind that of developing well-rounded character. Each Sunday morning the young men meet for a period of bible study. This work is under the supervision of a number of the men of the faculty. The co-operation of the students has made these morning sessions very helpful. One evening of the week

is devoted to the personal problems of the young men. At this time one of the students presides. Questions dealing with the young man's obligation to himself, to his fellow-men, and to his God are discussed. The Y. M. C. A. also co-operates with the Y. W. C. A. in holding Sunday evening meetings. Recently a library has been organized which will help the leaders and others to secure material for the discussions in which all take part.

The Y. M. C. A. students help in welcoming the new students and aiding all students in becoming better acquainted with each other. Trains are met at the opening of each term; receptions and entertainments are held with this idea in mind. Thus the Y. M. C. A. plays an important part in the work of the school and helps to furnish wholesome surroundings for the boy when he is away from home influences.

### THE VALUE OF RED RIVER VALLEY SWINE.

Prof. R. C. Ashby of the University Farm recently made his first visit to the Red River Valley. He was very much impressed with the swine produced in this region. After examining the Duroc Jersey pigs at the Northwest Experiment Station he wanted to see the ancestry back of them. The nearest that could be shown him was a sister to the sire of these pigs. This sow was owned by C. C. Heath of Beltrami. Professor Ashby was so impressed with her that he purchased her together with Mr. Heath's aged boar, for the sum of \$250.00. These two animals were considered by him to be the best in the state, and are to be foundation breeding stock for the University Farm. The Northwest Experiment Station has promise next year of the choice boar pig from this mating for a herd boar.

### ARGYLE GRAIN SHOW.

The Second Annual Farm Crops Show and Industrial Contest held at Argyle during the week of October 22-27 was a notable success and speaks well for the progressive community spirit of the business men and farmers of Argyle and vicinity. In spite of unfavorable weather and bad roads, large and enthusiastic crowds were in attendance and all departments of the show were well filled with exhibits. The town hall, most artistically decorated, served as the exhibit hall and was filled to capacity with exhibits of grains, vegetables, and articles of cooking, baking, sewing and other handiwork.

The competition between the wide-awake farmers' clubs of that section resulted in club exhibits which for beauty, variety, and quality compared favorably with county exhibits at the State Fair. An adjoining building housed the poultry show which was also excellent.

A series of patriotic meetings with notable speakers was held during the week, and the spirit of patriotism ran high. In short, the high standard set by the beautiful premium list was maintained throughout the show, and the truth of its slogan "Leave it to Argyle to do things up brown" was proved.

The following members of the station staff were in attendance during

the week as judges and speakers on the various programs: Superintendent C. G. Selvig, T. M. McCall, C. E. Brown, and J. P. Bengtson.

#### GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGES POULTRY RAISING.

On August 10, congress appropriated \$400,000 for the encouragement of the growing of more live stock in the country. Out of this sum 50% was allotted to poultry. As a result the federal poultry department has divided the country into districts, each of which is to be toured by a field agent. Mr. Benjamin, whose office is with the extension division of the University farm, is the agent for Minnesota. He and Prof. N. E. Chapman are planning poultry drives for Minnesota. Any farmers' club or poultry organization in the state which is interested in this work and would like to secure the services of these experts should write Mr. Benjamin at University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota.

#### THE 1917 NORTHWESTERN MINNESOTA EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION CONVENTION.

The Thief River Falls convention was characterized by a wonderful spirit of patriotism. The discussions were marked by an attempt to formulate practical plans for meeting the particular needs of the present time—the greatest crisis in the history of the world. Every speaker emphasized two things: efficient citizenship and conservation. Efficient citizenship, which is so necessary today, will be far more necessary in the future—in the time of reconstruction after the war. Then we shall need, as we never needed before, educated and efficient American citizens. It is the duty of every teacher and every student to see that he is fitting himself for that time. It is the duty of every instructor to be teaching practical knowledge that will make the student an efficient alert American citizen. It is the duty of every student to learn just as much as he can to make himself skillful and intelligent for the difficult times ahead.

President Brown of St. Cloud Normal gave a splendid talk on the theme, "New occasions bring new duties and time makes ancient good uncount." He said that we must now be alert to meet new demands and new obligations. We are in a time of change. We must increase our efficiency, and we must conserve American intellect and skill in as great a degree as that in which we are trying to conserve food. The schools must make democracy safe for the world by educating those people who are to make the world safe for democracy. The greatest blunder we could now make would be to scrimp in education, for by so doing we should be mortgaging the leadership and intellect of the next generation when trained skill will be at a greater premium than ever before.

Professor Webster, the assistant superintendent of the Minneapolis schools, in each of his masterly addresses emphasized practical education. He made a wonderful appeal for war relief work in his talk "Our Next Bit," in which he told of the arrival of Pershing and his soldiers in France. Pershing upon his arrival, went straight to the little

cemetery which contains the grave of Lafayette. He laid his wreath upon the modest slab that marks the grave of Lafayette, saying, "Nens voila—we are here—Lafayette." The audience was especially moved at his account of the impression our soldiers made in France; their noticeably fine teeth standing for health, cleanliness, and morality; their first letters which were almost without exception written to their mothers; and their stopping by the roadside to play with the little French children who flocked around them. Such soldiers are worth every aid we can offer them.

Mrs. Winter, the chairman of Women's Auxiliary, gave one of the finest addresses. Her subject was, "Women's Service in the War." She brought out the three needs of the war: a united people; money; and food. The women of the United States are especially responsible for the care of the soldiers at the front and the protection of women and children in industry, as well as for the conservation of food. Mrs. Winter said that the women of this country must learn to sacrifice and to continue in well-doing without weariness; they must be worth dying for if our soldiers are to win this war.

Every one who attended this convention was inspired with the thrilling message of patriotism which permeated every meeting. The association was fortunate in securing such notable speakers, and such a profitable program of discussions, every one of which was instructive and valuable.

#### INTERESTING EVENT AT HAUG IN ROSEAU COUNTY.

The Haug consolidated school is the type of country school that is of a real service to the community. This school is located nine miles northwest of Badger in Roseau county. This section of the state is not thickly settled, but the school that is there speaks for the progressive spirit of the farmers of the community.

The school is a modern four-room building. A well equipped kitchen provides ample facilities for teaching domestic science and for serving hot lunches at noon. Agriculture and manual training are a part of the regular course of study. Three teachers are employed. Miss Teresa Trainor is principal; Miss Olga Sathier has charge of the intermediate department and domestic science; and Miss Louise Kroll has the primary work and the music. The children of the district are brought to and from the school in three large busses which are comfortably heated during cold weather. The school is in session eight months.

Last spring a boys' and girls' club was organized. The club held its first exhibit Friday, November 9. The potato, garden, canning, cooking, and sewing exhibits showed very clearly the kind of service that this school is giving to the young people and to the community in general. The day of the exhibit was made a community day for the entire district. Parents and friends were there to see the kind of work that the boys and girls were doing. An excellent program was continued during the afternoon by the pupils of the school. County Supt. Berget Billberg

addressed the audience on Army Y. M. C. A. work and Supt. G. H. Kreimberg of the Badger school spoke briefly on general community matters.

The garden exhibits were judged by Mr. O. M. Kiser of the Northwest School of Agriculture, who afterwards spoke to the parents regarding the value of industrial work in the school and its relation to the everyday activities of the younger people. He also spoke to the members of the boys' and girls' club regarding club work for 1918, pointing out many ways of improving the selection of exhibits and the kind of products grown.

"This is the first birthday of the newer work that is being done by our school," was the view expressed by one patron. It was evident that the school was first in importance in the affairs of the community. It is well that it should be. This is a school that reaches the boys and girls in their every-day lives on the farm and in the home. It is productive of great results when viewed as a measure of future influence on farm life in this particular community. Such a school is the means of cultivating the proper kind of community spirit which is best developed by the boys' and girls' taking an interest in the work of the home farms. A great deal of credit is due to the patrons of this school in the efforts they have put forth to maintain it. When more communities adopt their principles, the farm and the home will naturally grow more attractive to a large percentage of young people who today are drawn into other lines of occupation.

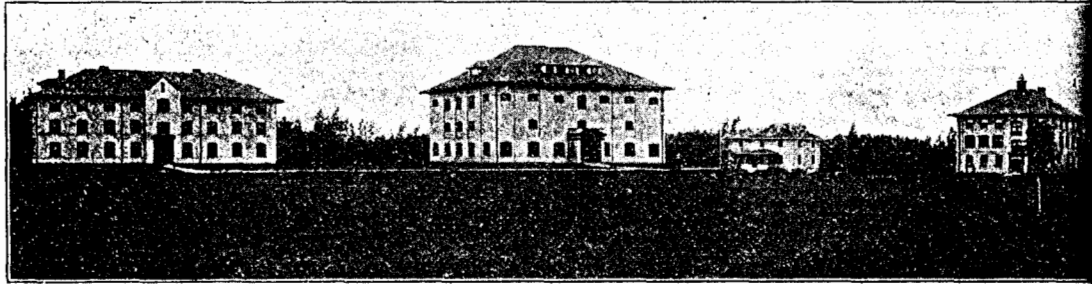
#### KITTSOON COUNTY FARM BUREAU ASSOCIATION.

Organizing for a better agriculture and a greater county development, the Kittson Farm Bureau association was incorporated on the 4th of August, 1917. 434 members had been obtained in a two weeks' campaign in the county. The executive comprises fifteen members made up a president, five vice-presidents, secretary-treasurer, and eight members representing different organizations or interests. They are as follows: W. H. Johnson, president; Wm. Ash, Ludwig Peterson, Hans Lindberg, Dave Dagen, Ed. Peterson, vice-presidents; Martin Boraas, secretary-treasurer; J. E. Sundberg, representative for co-operative elevators and seed; B. P. Thorosell, creameries; D. A. Horton, farmers' clubs; Victor Holmquist, Live Stock Shipping associations; John Lohr, stock; G. C. Lee, schools; C. J. Forsberg, commercial clubs; and J. D. Henry, county public safety commission. The County Agricultural council, an advisory body, is made up of one representative from each township and one from each village.

A definite program of work has been planned. Some of the projects to be emphasized during the coming year are potato disease control, hog pasture demonstrations, farm tractor cost, keeping of farm accounts, testing of cows for milk and butter-fat production, crop rotation, better soil management, weed control, and improvement and increase of live stock.

In order to get in touch with all parts of the county a series of meet-

(Continued on page 6.)



VIEW



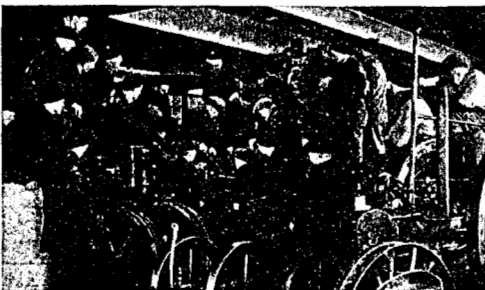
SCHOOL BAND.

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CHAMPION BASKET BALL.

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ENGINEERING.

# Opportunities at the Northwest

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The school offers a notable chance for war time service. Practical courses of great variety have been arranged for men and women. The physical, mental and moral sides of education have all been considered in planning a course of training to develop useful, efficient, high-minded and patriotic citizens.

There are several classes of students to whom the school can render a real and vital service; (1). The school serves a large number of students who, for one reason or another, have not finished regular common school or high school courses; (2). Those desiring special courses which cannot be obtained well at local schools; (3). Older students desiring elementary courses in reading, arithmetic, spelling, business correspondence and accounts; (4). Graduates of agricultural departments of high schools who wish to take subjects not covered by the curricula of high school courses, or who wish to take advantage of the extensive equipment of the Northwest Station; (5). Those farm boys and girls who have finished the eighth grade and wish to become better farmers and better home makers.

### Admission Requirements.

Students must be 16 years of age, or have finished the eighth grade. Students more than 16 years of age are admitted and given opportunities to register in courses which supply the preparatory work which they have missed by not having completed the eighth grade.

### Special Advantages.

1. The expense of attendance is very low, no tuition being required, and board and room being furnished on a cost basis.
2. The school is near home.
3. The term from October to April takes only the season when boys and girls can best be spared from the farm, and the longer vacations affords the student an opportunity to work his own way through school. Courses are so arranged that a student attending the second term of three months after the holidays, may register in beginning courses which he can complete before the close of the year.
4. The instruction is practical, and is efficiently applied in actual practice in well equipped laboratories.
5. The home life on the campus is wholesome.
6. By registering for summer prac-

tics, a student may do home work under school direction so that with three years or six months each, and one year of nine months he may earn enough credits for college.

7. A strong music department offers students an opportunity to get special training in voice, piano, and violin. A band, an orchestra, glee clubs, and choruses afford splendid choice in musical training.

### SPECIAL COURSES.

#### Engineering.

Among the courses beginning after the holidays, gas engineering is a special feature. The course has been offered to meet an increasing demand for trained men for efficient operation, care, and repair of stationary and traction gas engines and automobiles. The student works with actual engines and learns repairing, wiring, and setting valves from real practice. Extensive equipment affords abundant practice.

In addition to the regular course in gasoline engines, opportunity is given the students to take any of the following work:

#### Rope and Belt Work.

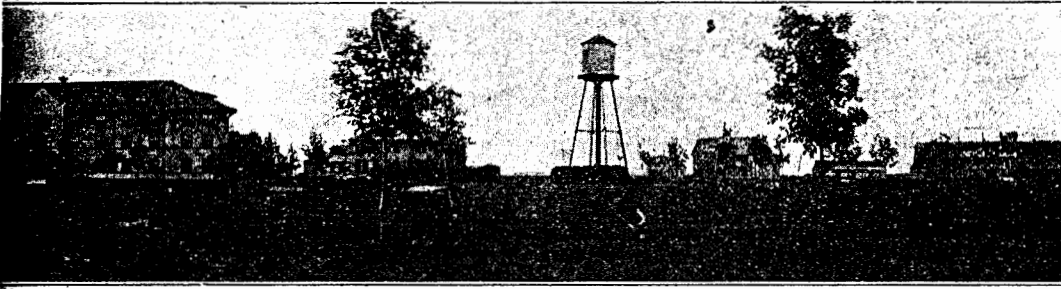
Splices of different kinds; knots on rope ends; hitches; halters; care and lacing of belts.

#### Cement Work.

Selecting materials and figuring proportions for concrete in different constructions; actual work in making ce-



ONE OF THE MAIN



# West School of Agriculture

ment stock tanks, sidewalks, and floors.

### Carpentry.

The school has a large well lighted, fully equipped carpentry shop, in which the students are taught the proper use of all the ordinary wood working tools. They are taught the making of single and double trees, eveners, wagon jacks, hammer handles, and other useful articles. The construction of farm buildings is taken up by those who wish it, actual work being done by the students in framing, rafter cutting, making door and window frames, and cornice work.

### Drawing.

Students do the actual planning of farm buildings. They make working drawings and estimate their cost.

### Farm Blacksmithing.

In the blacksmith shop the boys learn how to weld iron; how to make single tree irons and chains; how to repair farm machinery and to do many little jobs that would otherwise have to be taken to the nearest shop.

### Farm Water Supply and Plumbing.

Opportunity will be given those who want it, to take a course in pipe fitting, the use of tools, farm plumbing, water supply, and sewage disposal. Actual work will be done by the student in the shop.

### Animal Husbandry.

The Northwest School offers a live stock course during the three winter months. For the first year the course

consists in lectures and laboratory work, supplemented with books and notes when necessary. The following topics are considered: breeds of farm animals, including horses, cattle, sheep, and swine; elementary stock judging; live stock feeding. The student learns to make intelligent selection of breeds for his own farm, and to select proper animals as a foundation upon which to build up the herd. He becomes familiar with different feeds, and the needs of the different farm animals in their various stages of development that he may feed them economically and successfully.

### Horticultural Subjects.

Special course emphasize the essentials of successful work in potato growing, weed eradication, gardening, crop pests, fruit growing, and tree planting.

### Business Side of Agriculture.

The production of larger and better crops is one important problem for the progressive farmer, but it is not the only factor to be considered in increasing the profits on the farm. The farmer may increase his profits materially by marketing his crops advantageously. He must therefore study the business side of agriculture as well as the productive side. The Northwest School will this year offer training in business subjects. Though the course will be designed especially for the farmer, it will, in a general way, serve as a fundamental training for any business man. It will afford a thorough training in business English, bookkeeping, business forms, farm and commercial arithmetic, farm and commercial law, spelling and penmanship, and the principles of farming.

The daily schedule will be so planned, that a student may register for any of the special courses, and still enroll for work in English, arithmetic, farm accounts, spelling and penmanship.

### Advantages for Girls.

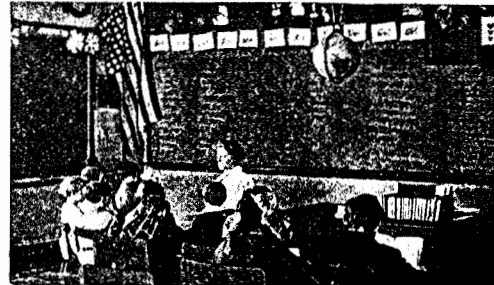
The Northwest School of Agriculture offers a wide field of training for young women. A two year course of six months each is planned to give intensive training in domestic science, and home arts subjects. This course includes practical work in sewing, home management, home nursing, and such general subjects as English, civics, music, and art. A longer course of

(Continued on page 6.)



SEWING.

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MODEL SCHOOL.

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HOME NURSING.



THE CAMPUS.

## OPPORTUNITIES AT THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE.

(Continued from page 5.)

four years of nine months each is offered for those who wish to prepare for college entrance or for teaching in consolidated schools. The four year course includes the same complete home economics' content as the shorter course, but in addition it offers practical academic training in English, mathematics, science, and history. A normal training department with a fully equipped demonstration school affords special advantages for professional training during the fourth year, for those who plan to become teachers. This department has been in operation for four years, and already graduated a number of students who are holding well paid positions in public school work.

Besides these regular courses the school offers shorter special courses for those who cannot attend long enough to complete a regular course. These courses during the past years have become very popular and have been taken by many students who have enrolled after the holidays, at the beginning of the second term.

### Dress Making.

First among these special courses is dress making, in charge of a competent instructor and a practical dress maker who has had years of successful experience. The work given is elementary or advanced according to the student's needs. The aim is for rapid advancement in all the steps of the course and for practical working knowledge in the art of dressmaking upon the completion of the course. There are carefully graded lessons in the following branches: designing, drafting, cutting, fitting, making and trimming of garments.

This course has the distinction of giving the students an opportunity to cut, fit, and sew real garments for real people, so that every girl who has any natural ability for sewing can at the end of three months, do the work of a seamstress or dressmaker.

### Housekeepers' Course.

The school offers a special housekeepers' course in practical cooking and home management. The aim of this work is to teach the preparation of appetizing and wholesome meals with due regard to expenditure of time and money, and to teach efficient management of the home in general. All cooking is taught in the Home Economics building under conditions most favorable for efficient, practical work. The kitchen is large, light, and airy, and is well equipped with utensils for individual work; a well furnished dining room gives splendid opportunity for practical experience in the setting of table and the serving of meals. The course is particularly helpful to beginners, but it is welcomed as well by those who have had experience and who desire to perfect themselves in modern methods of cooking. Besides much practical work in cooking, subjects of practical interest are taken up, such as kitchen work; making the best of old kitchens; labor, fuel, time-saving devices; cleaning and laundry; marketing for the home; household accounts and business methods; house decoration and furnishing; home

nursing, and the care of children. The subjects are taught by thoroughly competent instructors.

### Student Activities.

The home life for the students is very interesting and pleasant. Students' rooms in commodious dormitories are attractively decorated, well lighted, and comfortably heated by steam. Each dormitory is in charge of a faculty person who lives with the students for their inspiration and guidance and for making their dormitory life as homelike as possible. Literary societies, debating societies, and a Home Economics club afford pleasant diversion, and valuable training. Social functions on Saturday nights and literary programs on Monday evenings, together with moving picture entertainments and lectures, furnish pleasant variety from the regular routine. Athletics and physical training give wholesome recreation. Thriving organizations of Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. form the basis of inspirational moral training.

## KITTSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from page 3.)

ings was held in the county November 16-27. Ten towns and two farmers' clubs were listed for meetings. C. E. Brown of Elk River and Forest Henry of Dover were secured through the extension division for this work: Women's meetings were held at eight places under the direction of Miss Charlotte Hallgrim and Miss May Secrest, extension division workers in the state, and specialists from the U. S. Department of Agriculture in work on food conservation.

There never was a time when the efficient organization of the agricultural interests of the county was so much needed as at present, in order that all may do their best in the production of food for the carrying the war to a successful close. Kittson county by thus organizing is putting her forces in better co-ordination in order that we may do our part as a farming county in this great conflict.

## PENNINGTON COUNTY POTATO CONTESTS.

The first Pennington county potato contest occurred in the Auditorium building at Thief River Falls on Saturday, November 17.

Approximately one hundred bushel samples of standard varieties of tubers were entered in competition, for which various cash and merchandise prizes amounting to \$175 were offered by local business men and farm clubs. Ross P. White, the agriculturist in the local high school, had worked indefatigably for several weeks to secure the exhibits and the necessary prizes. He succeeded in securing both and, in addition, the attendance of a large crowd of farmers.

The high quality of the samples was the striking feature of the contest, and this was the more remarkable as the early fall climatic conditions had not promised a superior quality of stock. Professor McCall of the Crookston School of Agriculture did the judging in a satisfactory manner and also delivered a valuable address on the cor-

rect growing of potatoes. He advocated the establishment of a county organization for the promotion of potato culture, particularly of two or three standard varieties. This was accomplished later in the day, when a county organization was perfected with Hans Anton as president and Ross P. White as secretary. A suitable set of by-laws and a constitution were adopted, and the organization was started on its way.

Congressman Steenerson contributed to the event by delivering a patriotic address to the assemblage of farmers.

Potato culture in the county received its initial commercial start in 1915 when T. A. Hoverstad of the Soo railway and Supt. J. H. Hay of the Thief River Falls schools held a series of seventeen potato meetings in the county and secured pledges from farmers that they would begin the cultivation of an acre or more of potatoes. These efforts resulted in a remarkable increase in the acreage and also in the establishment of two potato warehouses in Thief River Falls for the handling of potatoes for market in large quantities. Where only one car of potatoes was shipped out of the city in 1915, approximately 85 cars were handled in 1916. The potato proposition is now firmly established here on a commercial scale, and hereafter this county will prove to be a heavy shipper of tubers.

## NEWS FROM NORTHWESTERN COUNTIES.

### Clearwater County.

A large acreage of winter rye has been seeded in Clearwater county, and extensive preparations have been made to grow more clover. A number of farmers, who have made a success of alfalfa are planning to sow more of this crop next year. Great progress is reported in clearing and breaking new land. The 1917 wheat crop is of the very best quality, and the yield is fair. A great deal of hay has been put up in the northern part of Clearwater county. In the southern portion the shortage of hay is due to the dry season. Potato growing has increased. Too much stock has been marketed, so that several years' work in that direction will be needed again.

### Marshall County.

The Marshall County Federation of Farmers' clubs held their annual picnic at Argyle, October 24. Seventeen clubs have joined the federation, but on account of the bad roads, all were not able to send representatives to the picnic. Frank E. Balmer of the University Farm, St. Paul, was present to explain the work of the county agents. It was decided at this picnic to have representatives of the clubs appear before the board of county commissioners at their first meeting to request an appropriation for a county agent. The following officers were elected: M. L. Warner, president; Ernest Mack, vice president; Theodore Willer, secretary, and F. G. Peterson, treasurer.

The resolutions adopted commend the development of live stock farming; state that the present road laws of Minnesota are satisfactory; endorse the work done by the Minnesota Red River Valley development association; recommend the appointment of a county agent; and suggest changes in

the present federal grain grading system.

**Clay County.**

The Clay County Farm Bureau News is published monthly. Mr. A. C. O'Banion, Moorhead, county agent, is managing editor. The October issue gives an interesting account of "Farmer Bill's" experiences in Clay county, including a statement regarding his returns during the years 1913 to 1916. The News gives also an account of the boys' and girls' club work movement in Clay county. County Agent O'Banion is planning a series of feeding demonstrations on the farms of co-operating farmers within the next few weeks. The idea is to bring out the best methods of feeding and the care of live stock.

**BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK IN RED LAKE COUNTY.**

The value of boys' and girls' club work is well illustrated by the work done in Red Lake county during the past two years. The club work of the county is under the direction of Dallas L. Keck, agricultural instructor at Red Lake Falls. A brief review of the work will be of value to those interested in boys' and girls' club work.

The work has grown rapidly during the past two years. In 1916 twelve were enrolled in the garden contest. This number was increased to one hundred-seventy in 1917. In 1916 there were no pig contestants, no potato contestants, only two corn contestants, and only three bread contestants. During the past year, ten enrolled in the pig contest, nine boys in the corn growing contest, eleven in the potato contest, and eight girls in the bread contest.

The total area of the garden contestants was three and one-half acres, making the average size of the garden three and three-tenths square rods. The highest return from any garden was \$26.25. The size of this garden was thirteen square rods. This means an average profit of \$2.06 per square rod. On this same basis the total returns from the gardens amount to \$1153.60.

The result from the pig contest will add sixty-eight pigs to the pure bred stock of the county. Some of the boys in the pig contest made more than \$100.00 profit on the pigs this year. The season of 1917 was a poor corn year, because very little corn ripened, but a yield of 62½ bushels, partly of soft corn, was obtained by one of the contestants.

The eleven boys in the potato contest proved that the potato was a profitable crop for Red Lake county.

On October 13, the garden fair was held. At this time the children exhibited their summer's work. \$28.75 was given in prize money, the prizes ranging from \$.25 to \$5.00. The future value of each club work cannot be expressed in money value, as the training obtained by the boys and girls in Red Lake county through club projects will have a far reaching influence on future farming.

The club work in the county is thoroughly supervised. Mr. Keck tries to visit each boy and girl enrolled in the various contests two or three times during the summer season. Each contestant is required to fill out reports

of his work. These reports put the contest on a thoroughly practical basis. The success of the work must in a large measure be attributed to the supervision that is given.

**BEMIDJI HOLDS BIG SHOW.**

The Beltrami County Poultry and Potato Show held at Bemidji is an annual affair. The marked improvement in number and quality of products shown each year is evidence that "Show Spirit," a factor so vital to any organization of this kind, is not lacking in this community.

The potato exhibit was excellent in spite of the very unfavorable growing season of the past year. There were several hundred samples exhibited, comprising all of the eight varieties recommended by the University Extension Division.

The potatoes as a whole were of excellent type and size, but were not so free from disease as in former years. However, the majority of prize winning lots showed no disease, and indicated that the growers were careful in the selection and treatment of their seed at planting time. The sweepstakes prize was won by a country school girl on her peck of Russet Burbanks, while old experienced growers had to retire to secondary places in honors.

The poultry exhibit was the best ever held in Beltrami county. More than three hundred birds were on exhibition. Plymouth Rocks, White Leghorns, and Rhode Island Reds were the breeds most in evidence. Individual specimens scored as high as 94 points, a score indicating quality fit for any show. The boys' and girls' pens were in many instances superior to those in the open class.

Lectures were given on poultry topics during the exhibition by Professor N. E. Chapman of the University Extension Department, Mr. Benjamin, Federal Agent for Minnesota, and Mr. C. E. Brown, who officiated as judge.

**PROF. McGUIRE BOOSTS AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.**

Prof. A. J. McGuire is a graduate of the Central School at St. Anthony Park. He writes interestingly in a recent issue of "The Farmer" regarding the work of that school. The Northwest Monthly believes its readers will be interested in knowing what the School of Agriculture meant to Mr. McGuire. He said in part:

"It is to those who have never been to the school, perhaps have never heard of it, to whom I would speak. If you have been raised on a farm, attend the School of Agriculture, if it is possible for you to do so. If you have been raised on the farm, you have learned a trade, a very important one. Your hand is trained in the most vital work of this world, but you lack the finishing touches of a tradesman. You have grown up in the work, but probably without knowing how or why. Your father might have been your best teacher, but he also has probably not had that important training that makes the tradesman.

"But you may say, 'I do not care to remain a farmer.' I said that same thing 23 years ago, but a kind fate guided my way to the School of Agri-

culture, and there I learned the most important lesson that any farm boy can learn, and that was that I did not know all there was to know about farming. Neither did I know its importance or dignity or the splendid fellows who were engaged in farming, or of the success that may be gained in agriculture. You never realize what there is to learn until you are there for a year.

"That you cannot afford to go away to school is not a good reason either for not attending the School of Agriculture. When I went there 23 years ago I was able to pay my way there by milking ten cows a day or by earning 40 cents a day. I was paid four cents per cow a day for milking. The boys of the school cannot get cows to milk there now, but you can get board almost as cheaply as I did over 20 years ago, thanks to the splendid management of that institution.

"I read a statement the other day to the effect that 'what in all education is best worth learning is to think and feel.' Farm work as a rule gives a fellow plenty of opportunity to think, but does not require it. A farmer may think or not just as he wishes. The course of study at the School of Agriculture gives new thoughts about the work on the farm, and it gives a new feeling about farm life and about your neighbors. The man I mentioned at the beginning of this article said, 'before I went to the School of Agriculture I called some boys Dutch and others Irish and others Swedes and Norwegians, but when I got up to the school I found them all men.' And so will you, and when you get back home you will feel better toward the whole world."

**THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL AND STATION.**

(Continued from November Issue.)

**Its Extension Work.**

As the station work has grown, so has the demand for extension work developed. The following summary of appointments for the past year gives an idea of the extent of this work and the constituency reached:

Farmers' club meetings.....	80
Agricultural fairs .....	40
Teachers' institutes .....	7
Farmers' institutes .....	48
Short courses .....	20
Miscellaneous .....	36
Total meetings and appointments .....	231

The live stock and sow thistle problems, especially, now confront northwestern Minnesota and engage the attention of the institution. Much valuable work is also being done along horticultural lines in the matter of wind-break planting, fruit growing and potato culture. The engineering department has frequent calls for assistance in laying out drainage systems and planning farm buildings. The student body of the school has also contributed materially to the programs of larger farmers' club meetings by the presentation of rural plays, such as "Back to the Farm," and "Kindling the Hearth Fire," and debates of civic and agricultural questions. In this connection, the music department has also extended its influence by encouraging and aiding community singing. A num-

ber of rural bands have been organized by students who became interested through playing in the school band.

A great deal of assistance is given individuals through correspondence. Every mail bring inquiries on technical agricultural questions which are handled by the specialists of the faculty. In addition, news articles are sent to the Red River Valley papers, and circulars and bulletins issued frequently. A school and station paper, the Northwest Monthly, is published nine times a year, dealing with vital problems of the home, farm and community, and problems of the valley as a whole.

#### Its Work as an Organization Center.

Through its fostering influence over various organizations, the Northwest school and station is promoting rural progress in the valley. Its farmers' week, which has become famous under the name of farm crops and live stock week, has come to be the annual meeting time of numerous valley organizations. The Minnesota Red River Valley Development association, organized some years ago by the farmers in attendance at this short course, now annually conducts the exhibit of grains, corn, potatoes and live stock of the week which had its modest beginning at the school in 1910. This week is of the greatest importance to northwestern Minnesota. Live stock judging, corn and potato judging, farmers' club stock judging, rural school spelling and high school declamatory contests, participated in by farmers, high school and rural school students from ten counties, are conducted during this week. Through district elimination contests for the selection of teams for these final contests, interest in this work is very widespread throughout all parts of the territory covered by the development association. The programs which include addresses and practical demonstrations, covering all farm and home topics, are the strongest feature of the week, and have been productive of much good. This year over 2,600 people were in attendance, special trains bringing large delegations from every town in the valley. Other thriving and active organizations receive assistance from the institution.

The Red River Valley Dairymen's association, now thirteen years old, was organized by the Northwest station, and the superintendent is now serving his fourth term as its president. Its present membership is four hundred.

The Red River Valley Live Stock Breeders' association was organized in 1915, with a membership of 92. The head of the dairy and animal husbandry department is its present secretary.

The Northern Minnesota Poultry association has for its president and adviser the station poultryman.

The Pure Seed association looks to the station for its secretary in the person of the station agronomist.

The Red River Valley Horticultural society, which is doing a great work in promoting wind-break and ornamental tree-planting and fruit production, has the station horticulturist as its secretary.

Northwest school and station workers also take an active interest in the Northwest Minnesota Educational association. In this connection they work with an organization of sixteen high school departments which hold

annual conferences for planning cooperative work. The station is also promoting county live stock breeders' associations of which four have already been organized. Eighty-five farmers' clubs in northwestern Minnesota and a great number of boys' and girls' clubs throughout the territory make frequent calls on the station for its services.

#### Its Work as a School.

The school has grown from thirty-one to two hundred and eight in ten years. A summer school for teachers was organized in 1911. Short courses enrolled last year in the farmers' course, 476; in the junior short course, 81; counting the summer school, the total enrollment for the year was 980.

The reason for this growth is that the Northwest school of agriculture has sought to adapt itself to the needs of young men and women in the work, the business, and the social life of the farm, the home, and the community. It trains young men in the mastery of the greatest of all natural resources, the soil—in the business of marketing, and in the enjoyment of social relations. It trains girls for the part which nature has peculiarly fitted them to play in a life based upon the development and use of such resources. Its equipment is complete and up-to-date, its faculty well trained and experienced, and its instruction practical and efficient.

The regular course for boys is a three-year course of six months each embracing technical agricultural subjects, shop, farm engineering, English, public speaking and farm accounts. During the summer vacations, first-year and second-year students are given summer practicums for home work, whereby under the supervision of an extension worker they carry on projects to make practical application of class instruction. It is a source of gratification to those who plan this work for rural advancement that more than 82 per cent of students go back to the farm and are taking an active interest in its community activities. A number of boys, while taking the regular course, develop ambition for further training by a course in the agricultural college. In order to prepare them for college entrance, an advanced course has been organized including the necessary English, history and mathematics subjects.

The University of Minnesota  
Northwest School of Agriculture

## Northwestern Minnesota Farmers' Week Meeting

FEB. 11-18, 1918

ARMORY  
CROOKSTON

Bulletin with complete program  
will be issued soon.

The regular home makers' course for girls is a two-year course of six months each, embracing intensely practical instruction in sewing, cooking, home management and home nursing and sanitation, together with work in English, accounts and civics. For those who wish to prepare for college or for teaching, a four-year course of nine months has lately been added. A teachers' training course prepares teachers for consolidated and other rural schools.

To provide an opportunity for students desiring special work, who for one reason or another cannot take the whole two or three year-course, subjects are so arranged that students may attend for shorter periods and specialize along such lines as gasoline and farm engineering, potato growing, weed eradication, gardening, tree planting, live stock, music, dressmaking and cooking.

At the close of the regular course each year, a week's short course is given for boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18 years.

During the summer the extensive equipment of the school and station is used for the teachers' training course organized under the auspices of the department of education.

#### Personal Work With Students.

Being a dormitory institution with practically all of its students living on the campus, the faculty, through its intimate relation with the student body, has a peculiar opportunity to give personal instruction such as is not ordinarily included in regular curricula. Through this opportunity there is really a well-defined fifth line of work within the greater one of the school as a whole. One of the greatest steps in advancement that has come during the past year is an investigation by the faculty of possibilities along this line. As a result, there are now definitely formulated standards of instruction in such things as health, dress, etiquette and social usage. An investigation of laboratory work in all the agricultural and home economics subjects, has resulted in an inclusive list of exercises which will insure an ability on the part of the students to apply the theoretical knowledge gained, in a practical way in their everyday work. A plan for following up the graduate in his work after leaving school has also been considered. The whole teaching problem has been so thoroughly studied that the aims of the school are more clearly understood than ever before.

Numerous student organizations are promoted to give moral instruction and trained leaders for rural communities. Among these are the young men's christian association, the young women's christian association, the home economics club, and two debating clubs. Glee clubs and class stock judging teams are student activities supplementing regular school work in an interesting way.

In its region the Northwest school and station is doing what the central school and station at St. Anthony Park and the west central school and station are doing in theirs. All three are co-operating to advance agriculture and rural welfare throughout the state.