

THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY

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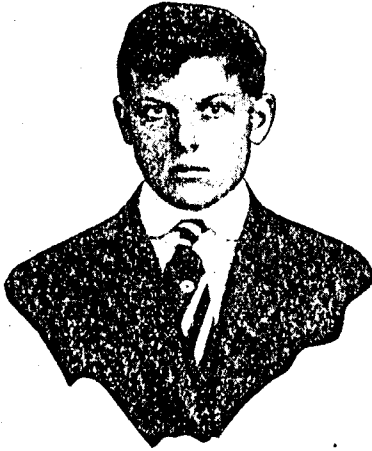
CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA, JULY, 1918.

No. 8

IN MEMORIAM

Our service flag has its first golden star. It commemorates the service of Gilbert Kittelson, the first of our heroic students to pay the supreme sacrifice. He died before he reached the front, but nevertheless in service of his country and the cause of democracy. He gave his all.

He enlisted two weeks after leaving school at the close of the winter term, and was sent to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri. While there he contracted



GILBERT KITTELSON

pneumonia and later died from the effects of an operation. He was buried at Albert Lea, the home of his grandparents and surviving brothers and sisters.

His fellow students and the faculty of the Northwest School of Agriculture are grieved with the news of his untimely death. Among them all he is remembered as big hearted, clean minded, and conscientious fellow. He always took an active part in all student activities and was very popular.

Northwest Experiment Farm Annual Visiting Day

Wednesday, July 17, 1918

PROGRAM

Devoted to inspection of fields and the experiments that are being carried on at the Crookston station. Come, bring your family, and plan to stay all day. Bring your picnic lunch. Lemonade, coffee, and cream furnished.

ADDRESSES

Talks by visiting experts and by Northwest Station men will be made. Professors Boss and Alway and Assistant State Leader of County Agents, W. E. Morris are expected to attend. There will be some one to give a special talk to the women also. The addresses will begin at 1:30 p. m.

MOVING PICTURES

Two moving picture films will be shown: (1) WARREN PATRIOTIC PARADE, taken June 21 at Red River Development association meeting. (2) INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT BURTON AT UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, June 14, showing Presidents Folwell, Northrop, Vincent, and Burton, and imposing Inaugural Parade.

Every facility will be afforded visitors to become familiar with the work of the Northwest Experiment Station and Agricultural School. All are invited.

THE Northwest Monthly

Issued Monthly by
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF
AGRICULTURE
C. G. SELVIG, Superintendent

OFFICE

Northwest Experiment Station,
Crookston, Minnesota

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

SERVICE.

"This is a time when the thought uppermost in the mind of everyone is how we can best serve our country in this hour of national peril. Many School of Agriculture men have answered the call by going with the colors, and are already in France. We recognize that this is the highest service that we can render to our country. All of us cannot enter this branch of service, but every day and every hour we have great opportunity to serve our country most effectively. The nation and our Allies are looking to the northwest for a great production of wheat and food supplies. That this will be forthcoming now depends only on weather conditions. The large number of School of Agriculture students who have had special training in this business of farm production should and will be a big factor in their communities, to see that the greatest crop possible is raised and saved this year. Plans must now be laid for next year's production. We have only started to produce, and the farms of western Minnesota farmed with patriotic intelligence can greatly increase their present production."—West Central School News.

SUMMER MEETING OF LIVE STOCK BREEDERS' AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATIONS.

The summer meeting of the Red River Valley Live Stock Breeders' association which was held at Warren on June 20 had a good attendance including the leading live stock men living in this part of Minnesota. Addresses were given by Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, Alberta, Canada; Hon. J. D. McGregor, President of the Winter Live Stock Show, Brandon, Manitoba; and Professor W. A. McKerrow secretary of the Minnesota Live Stock Breeders' association. These addresses emphasized the importance of the live stock industry and pointed out particularly the duty of Northwestern Minnesota farmers in increasing the quality of their live stock and in increasing the food supply of the nation through the utilization of roughage, silage, and pasture in feeding live stock.

In the evening a patriotic meeting was held with addresses on the theme "Helping to Win the War." This was discussed from the standpoint of "Increased Production of Food Products" by Superintendent Selvig; of "Increased Live Stock" by Mr. McGregor; and of "Our Will to Win" by Mr. Marshall.

LETTERS FROM OUR BOYS

Clarence A. Lee, Class of 1918.

Clarence Lee has been transferred from Camp Dodge to Camp Custer, Michigan, and expects within five weeks to be transferred east and to be sent across. He speaks highly of the training he is receiving in camp, the breathing exercises especially being valuable. He says he can almost use his chest for a balloon now. He says, "we who have a chance to be in this army are lucky in more ways than one. In the first place, it is a great satisfaction to know that we are able to fight for the rights of the country in which we live. Second, it gives us a clear idea of what great things a body of people can do when properly organized. This will be of great value to us when we get back to civil life. When we are offered a chance to join a good organization, we ought to know enough from our experience in the army to grasp the opportunities placed before us. If the people of the United States can unite and do all the other big things hereafter like they are doing in the present crisis, United States will be a paradise in which to live."

Norris Johnson, Class of 1914.

Camp Dodge, Iowa.

"I have enjoyed my service very much so far, although I feel that there would be more fun going on nearer the firing line.

To my mind there is no means by which the students of the N. W. S. A. can so conveniently keep in touch with each other and with the school as by making use of this school paper. It has helped me to find several of our school men in this camp and I am sure that it has served a similar purpose for many of our school men.

I came to this camp from Rochester, Minnesota, on September 18, 1917, and was assigned to the 163rd Depot Brigade. I still belong to the same brigade but I have changed companies. I now belong to Co. F, 2nd Battalion.

My experience in the service has been a very pleasant one. I have been very fortunate on the whole, although I cannot boast of having seen very active service as yet. My work thus far has been mostly with the new men. I became a corporal after a very short period of service, and since that time I have been promoted again, so now I am a sergeant.

I must admit that I do not like the climate as well here in Iowa as I do in Minnesota. The weather is fine, except that we frequently have sand and dust storms. I have seen times here when it would rain in the morning and the dust would fill the air in the afternoon.

It is now getting late so I will close. I hope to gain much information about our school men who are in the service. Here are best wishes for the continued success of the Northwest School and a hearty greeting to all its members."

Magnus Spjut, Class of 1917.

He writes that the trip to Pittsburg was interesting, although all the land he saw along the journey looked like pretty "slim pickins" for farmers. He states that, although he has not seen all the good places in the United States, he is convinced there is no place like Minnesota. "The training we get, both school work and drill, is very interesting but they surely do give us the hurry up." He is at the Pittsburg Training School which, he prophesies, will play an important part in training for specialized work in the army. He says the good people of Pittsburg are doing much to make their stay pleasant.

Walton C. Ferris, Class of 1914.

Cadet Walton C. Ferris, with the School of Military Aeronautics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, writes very interestingly of his work there. He confesses that he never studied so hard as he has since he entered that school. His experience at the Northwest School of Agriculture made motors, construction, repair, blacksmithing and shop work comparatively easy for him but when it came to the regular infantry drill, army regulation, guard duty and so forth, those subjects made him hump. He writes of the enjoyable times spent on Saturdays and Sundays visiting points of interest in Massachusetts and speaks highly of the Boston people who have invited the boys to their homes for dinner or for auto rides. Walton expects soon to get into active service and to be sent to some flying field in this country for training before going across.

Helge Krogseng.

"After over a year of disappointments of being continually 'turned down' by recruiting officers, I was made very happy indeed when, a little over a month ago, I was accepted in the 'Tank Corps.' I served one month at Columbus Barracks in an organization called 'The Qualification of Personnel Staff'. The work consisted of interviewing each draftee and recording on a card his age, weight, height, color, education, his occupation or occupations and past military experience, if any. It is obvious that these records are a great help to officers in organizing new companies as men can be put to work with which they are familiar, at least as far as service in the army is concerned.

I am now at Camp Colt, located on the famous battle field of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The barracks I am in are only about forty rods from the field where Pickett made his last famous charge, and only a short distance from the spot where Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg address. Surely the very atmosphere should be conducive to making us good fighters in the battle 'to give the world a new birth of freedom.'"

HONOR ROLL.

To you, our classmates true—our school boys, whom we know and love,

To you, we dedicate this flag in your honor,

To every several one a star—

Additions to list in June issue of Northwest Monthly and changes in addresses reported.

Austin, William R, Company H, 123 Infantry, American Expeditionary Force, via New York.

Bjornness, Albert, '17, enlisted.

Borge, Harold, 16 Ambulance Company, Regular Army, 2nd Division American Expeditionary Force, France.

Davids, George A., '17, Co. L, 3 Gg. Engineers, Camp A. A. Humphrey, Va.

Davids, Thomas H., Co. 5, Puget Sound, Navy Yard, Bremerton, Wash.

Dahl, Severt, '13, Co. A, 42 Engineers, American Expeditionary Force, via New York.

Ecklund, Herman, 139 Infantry, Headquarters Company, American Expeditionary Force, via New York.

Eidsmo, Otto, in France.

Espe, William, '16.

Ferris, Walton, '14, Junior Officer's House, 2 West 53 Street, New York City.

Hagelle, Bernt, M. G. Co. 59 Infantry, 4 Division, American Expeditionary Force.

Jorgenson, Carl, Public Works, 12 Reg. Camp Perry, Great Lakes, Illinois.

Peterson, Walter, '17, Paduillac, Gronde, France, U. S. Naval Aviation Force, care Postmaster, New York.

Schuck, Lieut. Harold H., '15, Richfield, Waco, Texas.

Street, William, Aviation Section, Camp Perry.

Scherfenberg, King, '17, enlisted.

Spjut, Magnus, '17, Medical Supply Depot, Camp Stuart, New Port News, Virginia.

Tangjerd, Harold R., 5th Company Recruit Detachment Ft. Caswell, N. C.

We are very anxious to keep our honor roll up to date and will be glad to hear from any of the readers of the Northwest Monthly who can give information regarding any our students in the United States service.

SECOND ANNUAL VISITING DAY.

Wednesday, July 17, has been designated as the date for holding the second annual Northwest Experiment Station visiting day. Last year's affair was a success in every respect, farmers coming from a great many communities of northwestern Minnesota. It is expected that by July 17 all grain fields will be headed out which will enable the visitors to ascertain the effect of the different soil treatments, field methods, seed varieties, fertilizer applications, and other projects being carried on at the Northwest Station.

The heads of the various departments will be on hand to explain various projects being carried on in each of the divisions and in addition addresses will be given by Professor Andrew Boss of University Farm, St. Paul; Dr. J. J. Alway, Chief of the Division of Soils, Minnesota Agricultural College; W. E. Morris, assistant state leader of county agents; and a woman of prominence to speak on food conservation topics.

An interesting feature of the after-

noon will be the showing of two moving picture films which are of more than local interest to the people of this section of Minnesota. One is the film taken of the Red River Valley patriotic parade at Warren on June 21 during the summer meeting of the Red River Valley Development association. It has also a number of views of the Northwest Agricultural School. The other film shows the inaugural ceremony at the University, June 14, when Dr. Marion LeRoy Burton was installed as president of the University.

SUMMER SCHOOL NOTES.

A larger number than was expected is in attendance at summer school this year.

Miss Cora Bigelow of Preston, who for a number of years has had charge of the model school and work in primary methods, is again in charge of this work assisted by Miss Jennie Paulsberg of the Pine River public schools.

Miss Mollie Remshart of Red Wing, another new member of the faculty, has charge of the work in reading, language, and composition.

An excellent program of lectures and entertainments has been provided for the summer session. Two very enjoyable musical events have already taken place.

On June 25, Prof. Hamilton Nason of Grand Forks, North Dakota, gave a farewell recital before leaving for France to devote his services to Y. M. C. A. work. Prof. Nason was in excellent voice and sang a long program of well selected songs in his usual splendid style with most perfect ease in the most difficult passages.

On July 2 Mrs. Alberta Fischer Ruettell of Minneapolis, and Prof. Chas. Pflöck of Crookston, accompanied by Miss Mildred Coe of the summer school faculty, gave an excellent program of vocal and instrumental numbers.

Mrs. Ruettell sang with rare charm, her voice at all times clear and brilliant but always keenly responsive to the demands of the more sombre type of song. Her enviable interpretation of the program bore testimony to her ability vocally and to her standard artistically.

Mr. Pflöck played with the technical skill and accuracy his hearers have learned to expect from him, and in all of his numbers there was that deep feeling accompanying them which goes to make up the sum of artistic ability.

On June 20 the Summer School took a day off and went to Warren in body to attend the meeting of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development association. The students and faculty marched in the parade and made a fine showing. They were cheered lustily by the crowds in appreciation of their patriotic songs as they marched along behind an enormous United States flag.

The following day the "movie man" with the rest of his unused film "took in" the school and station. It was a novel experience to "look pleasant" and "act natural," and later to see one's self in "reel life." The picture is very interesting and will doubtless be greatly enjoyed by former students and friends of the school throughout the valley where it will be shown.

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION MEETING.

The outstanding feature of the Development association meeting was the wonderful parade which took place during the forenoon. Space forbids extended mention of this event. The organizations that took part included Red Cross, Liberty Loan, Boy Scouts, Girl Hikers, Consolidated Schools, Northwest School of Agriculture, machinery firms, and others. A moving picture film was taken of this parade which will be of interest to the thousands of people who will see it.

In the afternoon addresses were given by Dr. F. Osten-Saken, A. D. Wilson, Duncan Marshall, and Mrs. Sheldon, followed by a business meeting of the Development association. This closed the most successful meetings ever held under the auspices of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development association.

S. M. Sivertson of Crookston was re-elected president of the association; F. A. Green of Stephen, first vice president; R. C. Mathwig, Warren, second vice president; and M. E. Dahl, Twin Valley, treasurer. Leslie Welter, Moorhead, C. G. Selvig, Crookston, and J. S. Hilleboe, Warren, were re-elected directors at large. Mike Holm of Roseau and W. W. Pritchard, Sr., of Thief River Falls were elected directors. In addition the following directors were elected for a two-year term to represent their respective counties: A. H. Costain of Clay county; P. B. Gaass of Red Lake county; Martin Nelson of Roseau county; T. M. George, Kittson county; and E. J. Herringer, Norman county.

LIVESTOCK EXHIBIT BUILDING

A meeting recently held at the Crookston Association of Public Affairs rooms to discuss the matter of a permanent livestock building to be built at Crookston, was attended by representatives of the Red River Valley Livestock Breeders' association, the Northern Minnesota Poultry association, Red River Valley Development association, the county farm bureau, and by representatives of the local club. After a full discussion of the need of a permanent livestock building, various plans were discussed regarding ways and means of raising funds, the location of the building, the size, and so forth. L. Lamberson of Warren and F. A. Green of Stephen were enthusiastic in their statements regarding the possibilities of this movement. Frank Jeffers of Red Lake Falls, County Agent C. C. Lake and others spoke in the same vein.

A committee was appointed to ascertain the cost of land and to secure definite plans of a suitable building.

Mr. S. M. Sivertson of this committee presented a report at the summer meeting of the Livestock Breeders' association and Development association held at Warren on June 20, at which time the matter was brought to the attention of the representatives of all organizations in the valley. Favorable action was taken and plans made for putting on this campaign. The other members of this committee are: Frank Jeffers, Red Lake Falls, and C. G. Selvig, Crookston, representing the Livestock Breeders' association, and C. C.

Strander, president of the Crookston Association of Public Affairs.

There is probably nothing that has been done in the Red River Valley for a long time that promises to be of greater importance than this movement, inaugurated during the past few weeks. The Red River Valley is destined to be a great livestock producing section, and this movement will do much towards producing such a result.

THE SOW THISTLE.

In reply to numerous inquiries regarding the eradication of the perennial sow thistle, Superintendent Selvig of the Crookston Experiment Station emphasizes the fact that the work to be successful must follow a community plan. It is a work that can best be done under the leadership in each county of the township farm bureau organizations and county agent. In Clay county a county weed inspector was appointed last spring to look after this work. Reports coming from there show that good progress is being made.

This plan to be successful requires that a group of farmers whose lands adjoin pledge their undivided efforts to get rid of this weed. The work to be done on each farm will depend upon the prevalence of sow thistle in that particular community. The main feature is that all in the neighborhood will work out this problem at the same time. This will prevent what has happened so often in the past the spreading of the weed from a single field surrounded by clean land.

The group of farmers should be as large as possible including as large an area of adjoining lands as can be secured. If it happens that all land in a certain district excepting one farm is included the sow thistle law passed at the last session of the legislature contains a provision to compel the owner of that land to follow the same plan as the owners of adjoining lands.

In Clay county where the sow thistle is in the "small patches" stage the plan is to have all of these destroyed and seeds prevented from spreading. Where the sow thistle infests entire fields or even farms a definite system of field rotation must be followed. In such communities it will take longer to accomplish complete eradication, but gradual results will be seen each year. Sheep are invaluable in this campaign, but the work can hardly await raising a sufficient number of sheep on each infested farm. In Canada remarkable progress has been made by Provincial Weed Commissioner S. A. Bedford. They use there a combination of bare summer fallow and crop rotation, taking care in all cases not to allow the sow thistle to go to seed and thereby to scatter the pest to new areas or to reseed cleaned up fields.

The chief emphasis must be laid on a group or community plan and action. It is especially important that farmers whose lands adjoin assume this work cooperatively. In Bygland township, Polk county, good results were secured through such action last year and other communities have had the same experience. It is not possible for a farmer here and another there to do this work effectively. It must be done by all the farmers of a community in as many localities as possible with the re-

sult that eventually all the tillable land will be included in a county wide plan. With all working together the sow thistle can be made to go—the harder the fight the shorter the time it will remain in our midst. The Northwest Experiment Station has published a bulletin on sow thistle which is free to all upon application. Additional copies of this item may also be secured by addressing the Station.

SCHOOL POSTER DESIGN SELECTED.

To draw attention to the work of the three University Schools of Agriculture an attractive poster will soon be issued by these schools. It is hoped to secure the cooperation of all alumni, former students, county agents, farm bureau officials, county superintendents, teachers, and all others interested in placing these posters where they will assist in extending agricultural and home training education still more widely among the people of the state. At no time has there been so great a need of trained farmers on the farms and trained workers in the homes. We have boasted of our school system in the United States, and still there are over 5½ millions above ten years of age who can neither read nor write in any language. The number who drop out of school at the age of 14 or 15 is also appalling.

We need to exert ourselves this year and succeeding years in instilling the necessity of giving our young men and women more schooling, more and better training.

The University of Minnesota extends to the people of Northwestern Minnesota the opportunity to use the Agricultural School at Crookston in giving the young men and women an all-round education that will be worth while. Agriculture and Home Training are emphasized in the subject matter presented but character, citizenship, general culture, music, social standards, are placed in front, for living is the greatest art whether one lives in the country or in town. Use your influence to interest young people in attending the Northwest School of Agriculture.

CANNING.

Is the canning of fruits and vegetables occupying an important place in the program of every housekeeper's daily tasks this summer? Let us remember that canning is beneficial for at least three important reasons, first—it is the most efficient means of food conservation and is, therefore, our patriotic duty. Second, it preserves the health of the family and gives variety to the dinner table. Third, it is means of saving money. Last year a beginning was made, especially in the canning of vegetables, and it is hoped that the experience gained at that time will be of great aid toward a much greater interest along the same lines this summer. By the one-period cold-pack method it has been found to be a relatively simple matter to can practically any food product in the home with ordinary kitchen equipment and with the expenditure of comparatively little labor.

Miss Hazel Rockwood, head of our Home Economics department, will be

available for conducting community canning demonstrations in the Red River Valley during August, and will be glad to arrange for public meetings under the auspices of women's clubs, farmer's clubs or other agencies that may desire her services.

CLAY COUNTY HAS WEED INSPECTOR.

On a recent visit to several farmers clubs in Clay county, Superintendent Selvig met county weed inspector A. H. Larson of that county who has been appointed under the provisions of the sow thistle control act introduced by Representative Cummings of Polk county and passed at the last session of the legislature. The farmers of Clay county are anxious to stop the further encroachment of the sow thistle on their farms, and will use every means at their disposal in making this fight.

The plan which will be carried on in Clay county is one that has been used in various communities in the Red River Valley. It provides for the organization of voluntary group of farmers whose lands adjoin, these farmers pledging themselves to keep the sow thistle on their farms from going to seed and thereby spreading and in the second place to inaugurate concerted measures for the complete eradication of the weed. It is necessary to have a block of land included in an organization as a single infested field within the block would spread the seed to the land surrounding. The greater the number of farmers who join in the voluntary organizations of this kind the larger would be the area where sow thistle would be kept from going to seed and the land cleaned up. Mr. Larson has already organized a large number of groups and hopes eventually to have the entire county freed from this menace.

The law provides that a man may be ordered to cut the sow thistle before going to seed. This will be advantageous in case the owner of a piece of land refuses to join in this cooperative work with his neighbors.

County Agent H. A. Nelson held a series of meetings in Becker county during the first week in June at which Professor T. M. McCall of the Northwest Experiment Station and Mr. Nelson were present to speak on sow thistle eradication.

Considerable interest is being taken in this work in all the other counties of the valley. At a recent meeting of the Ninth District Bankers association held at Fergus Falls on May 23, Superintendent Selvig was called on to outline what was being done in the counties where there is sow thistle. He spoke of this cooperative plan which has been a success in several communities and urged all farmers, farm bureau members, county agents, and bankers to make every effort to check the spread of this weed.