

# THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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Nos. 7 and 8

## SUMMER TRAINING SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS OPENED AT NORTHWEST SCHOOL JUNE 23

The summer school for the training of teachers conducted at the school under the auspices of the State Department of Education was opened June 23. A fairly large enrollment in spite of the limitations placed on the granting of credits in favor of the state normals, indicates the interest on the part of the people of this section in the school of agriculture and the general belief that it has certain advantages in the training of teachers for the rural schools of this section.

### The Faculty.

Among the new members of the faculty are Miss Mabel Ahlstrom of St. Paul, who has charge of the work in grammar, composition, and playground methods; Superintendent H. E. Wolfe, after an absence of some years, is back in charge of the work in civics and history. Jennie Paulsberg, Pine River, who last year assisted in the model school, has charge of music and construction work. Grace B. Sherwood teaches geography and reading. J. P. Bengtson of the regular faculty teaches arithmetic and physics. Hazel Rockwood also of the regular faculty teaches physiology and rural sanitation. Superintendent G. H. Sanberg of Crookston is assistant conductor and has charge of the work in geometry and algebra.

## PLANS FOR EDUCATION OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO ALL

Decide to Enter Some School This Fall.

SCHOOL IS OUT but boys and girls, and parents, who have an appreciation of present day conditions and a vision for future developments, are thinking seriously on the problem of education. The war has revealed the importance of education as a training for citizenship. More than ever before there is a call for practical vocational training and liberal instruction in community, state, and national civics and business English.

Parents who must send their boys and girls away for their schooling are considering the advantages of dormitory institutions where the boys and girls are under constant and careful supervision, where study hours can be

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## LIVE STOCK EXHIBIT TO BE ENLARGED RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION CAMPAIGN IS ON

\$20,000 Additional to be Raised.

At a recent meeting of the Red River Valley Live Stock association reports of the show and sale held in February were read and approved. The financial report showed that there was still \$6,000.00 to be subscribed for the livestock pavilion and barn which have already been built. It was voted to secure the subscriptions to cover this deficit at once. There

### The American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a Government of the people, by the people, and for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

—William Tyler Page

was a unanimous agreement regarding enlarging the buildings to provide room for a much larger show and sales next February. The building committee was instructed to acquire additional land and to construct additional buildings in accordance with plans that were presented at this meeting. This work is now under way. It is hoped that there will be a committee in each township in the northwestern counties to take up this matter of securing the \$20,000.00 required for these additions.

### Campaign to Begin at Once.

With the completion of the additions proposed, the Red River Valley Live Stock association will have buildings and land worth \$40,000.00 lo-

cated in the heart of the city of Crookston. It can be safely assumed that this property will not decrease in value but will be a substantial investment for the stockholders. Through the construction of these additional quarters the Red River Valley Live Stock association is assured of having the largest winter show in this section of the country. That it will grow and become a factor of great

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## VISITING DAY IS PLANNED JULY 17 IS DATE SELECTED

### Farm Bureau Picnic at Same Time

Interesting Program Prepared, Plan To Come.

Thursday, July 17, has been decided upon as the annual visiting day at the Northwest Experiment Station. The annual picnic of Polk county farm bureau will be held at the school campus on the same day. Elaborate plans are being made for a large attendance. A joint committee representing the Northwest School and Station and Polk County Farm Bureau is at work preparing a program for the day. The members of the board of regents of the University of Minnesota will be at Crookston July 17 on their annual trip of inspection to the University sub-stations and branch schools of agriculture. Addresses will be given by members of the board of regents and by Dean R. W. Thatcher of the department of agriculture. Miss M. Lucille Holliday will have charge of community singing.

Another feature of the day's program will be the Polk county rural school graduating exercises which will be held at the Northwest school on the forenoon of July 17. County Superintendent N. A. Thorson will have charge of this program. It is expected that the address to the graduates will be given by one of the visiting members of the board of regents or of the University faculty.

An invitation is extended to all in Northwestern Minnesota and eastern North Dakota to visit the Northwest Experiment Station on this day. Trips of inspection will be made to the fields, garden, livestock and poultry. In addition, a program of sports will be carried out. From present indications it is expected that the event will be very successful in every respect.

## Northwest School Activities of the Month

Happenings on Campus and Among the Alumni. Period of Busy Planning for Opening of New School Year

### NEW INSTRUCTORS SECURED English and Music Vacancies Filled

Miss Margaret F. Burns has accepted the position as teacher of English at the Northwest School of Agriculture to begin in October. Miss Burns is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and has had successful experience in school work, having taught both in Minnesota and North Dakota. She will be associated with Mr. Bengtson and Mr. Larson in carrying on the work of English, public speaking, and debate at the Northwest School the coming year.

Miss Louise Pederson of Forest City, Iowa, has accepted the position as instructor in music. Miss Pederson has been instructor in Valley City, North Dakota, and Stillwater, Minnesota, where she was unusually successful. The Northwest School is proud of its music record and looks forward to its continued success under Miss Pederson's direction.

### NEW ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET TO BE ISSUED SOON

A new school booklet is being issued to take the place of the booklet, *Around the Campus*. It will be entitled *The School of Service* and will show the different ways in which the Northwest School and Experiment Station is trying to render service to the farmers of the Northwest. Each department is represented. Included in the booklet, also, is a great deal of useful information for farmers in this section of the state. The school buildings and school activities occupy a section of the booklet which gives an idea of the work done during the school year. This little booklet will soon be ready for distribution. If you do not receive a copy soon let us know and we will be pleased to mail it to you.

### RED RIVER AGGIE LAGS

The 1919 Red River Aggie is just being completed. There has been an unfortunate delay on the part of the firm which had the contract for printing, due to the shortage of skilled typesetters. As soon as the annual is completed, copies will be mailed to those who have ordered them. It is expected that they will be ready for distribution by July 20.

### ONE HUNDRED FOURTEEN HOME PROJECT STUDENTS DOING FINE WORK

#### Splendid Reports for June

The first seasonal reports which are

practically all in and the regular monthly reports indicate that the home project work is progressing nicely with much interest both on the part of the students and their parents. There has been a general disposition on the part of the students to enlarge the scope of the projects upon which they keep records and report. One boy said he had decided to report on forty acres instead of one. Miss Rockwood has already received some specimens of sewing from girls which have been sent in for inspection and criticism.

Bad roads have greatly handicapped the school in its work of visitation but it is hoped that in the next few days every project will have been visited.

### JUNIOR R. O. T. C. FOR THE CROOKSTON SCHOOL

#### Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps to be Organized when School opens in October.

The school expects to organize a unit of the R. O. T. C. when school begins this fall. The Reserve Officers' Training Corps is a peace time measure provided for by the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916. Its object is to give students the benefit of a thorough standardized physical training, respect for all lawful authority and training in military training and leadership. This will be the usual military training which we have always had but emphasis will be placed on physical training, gymnastics and care of the body.

The Government will send a regular army officer detailed as professor of military science and tactics. Each student enrolled in the unit will receive free uniform and equipment valued at \$42.00.

### NORMAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT CLOSES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Fifteen students have completed the work of the Normal Training Department. They will teach in the rural schools of this section of the state. A number have already secured very attractive positions.

The model school of the department which enrolls fifteen children from the campus and neighboring farms gave a very interesting program at the close of the year's work. It was in the nature of a spring pageant ingeniously conceived and beautifully executed. It began with crowning of the Queen. The Queen arrived in a beautiful chariot drawn by four couriers and attended by a grand

retinue. After she was seated on her throne she was entertained by songs, drill, stories, and folk games, all put together in a fanciful story telling the coming of spring. The children all appeared in splendid costumes representing birds, flowers, fairies, gods and goddesses and other characters of the story of spring.

Supt. Selvig gave the closing address, speaking with enthusiasm about the work of the normal training department. He said that the department in its organization is unique. Being located in an agricultural school, continually surrounded with an atmosphere of interest in country life, and having a model ungraded school with teaching under actual school conditions, it is peculiarly adapted to train teachers for rural schools. Much credit for the success of the department is due Miss Grace B. Sherwood who has had charge of the department since its establishment six years ago. Her experience as a successful teacher in Duluth and Minneapolis followed by a long term as county superintendent of Mower county together with her strong personality and recognized ability combined have made the department stand high in the state. He pointed to the success of the sixty graduates of the department who are teaching in the consolidated and other rural schools as the most substantial endorsement of the work of the department. He paid fine tribute to the present class for its energy and devotion to their work.

In closing, he presented Miss Sherwood, in behalf of the Normal Training students, and the school faculty with a solid gold wrist watch.

Miss Sherwood will leave the school at the close of the summer session to become head of the normal training department of the girls' vocational school in Minneapolis.

### CAMPUS EVENTS

A reception was held May 23 at the home of Superintendent and Mrs. Selvig in honor of Miss Sherwood and Miss Kimberly. Miss Sherwood has accepted a position in the normal department of one of the schools in Minneapolis. Miss Kimberly will have charge of piano teaching at the summer session at Northwestern University.

On June 13 Miss Mae Kimberly entertained the campus people by giving a musical recital. The program was divided into two parts. One part consisted of selections from such famous composers as Schubert, Verdi and Scarlotte. The other part consisted of selections from American composers. A melodrama with the

piano entitled Hiawatha's Wooing by Possette Cole was especially well given.

On June 25 a reception was given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Westley. Mr Westley has accepted a position as agronomist at the Agricultural College at Pullman, Washington

Mr. and Mrs. W. Haenke and daughter, Florence, of Eveleth, visited the school June 26. Mr. Haenke has purchased a farm near Hallock and may move there in a short time.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wiger, of Ulen, visited the school June 26.

Miss Cora Paulsberg spent her month's vacation at Pine River, returning June 15.

Ray and Ruby Knutson, accompanied by their mother, brother and sister, spent a short time at the school June 25. They were returning from a trip by auto through western North Dakota.

Mrs. Lou F. Quesnell, superintendent of schools of Red Lake county, and Mrs. M. E. Millard visited the school June 20.

Aron Danielson and Mr Olaf Holdahl, of Roseau, visited the school June 28. Aron was returning from a two weeks' trip to Minneapolis.

Thorval Tunheim is working for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in connection with the white pine blister rust campaign.

#### ALUMNI WEDDINGS

While Mars has been especially occupied the last few years, Cupid has by no means been idle either. His little darts evidently have gone true. The sea of matrimony has never appeared more smooth or more inviting to the alumni than during the month of June, as is evidenced by the number of weddings that have taken place. While we have not had an opportunity to throw our old shoes, still we wish to extend our heartiest congratulations and best wishes for a happy future to the following:

William Espe '16, and Miss Nellie Kerns; Oscar Tunheim '18 and Miss Amanda Johnson; Elmer Satterstrom '12 and Miss Dora Wurden '12; Alfred Wiger '18 and Miss Sirjord; Jay Wilder '12 and Miss Bessie Shaw.

#### MANY MEETINGS ATTENDED

June is a month of farm club meetings and picnics. This is reflected in the calls made upon the Northwest School and Station staff for addresses. These gatherings are always worth while as they create neighborliness and cooperation and furnish enjoyment annually to thousands.

The extension schedule for June gives twenty-two events at which speakers from the school were present.

Included in the list of appointments are Goodridge and Twin Valley, school graduation; Bagley, seed survey; Thief River Falls, county fair building plans; Climax, school graduation; Roseau county, pure seed work; Wanger and Lessor townships, school sur-

vey; Orleans, farm club picnic; Moorhead, Holstein sale; Plummer, farm club picnic; Roseau county farm boys' camp; Queen township, Polk county, farm club picnic; Boxville, Oklee, Lengby (Columbia club), Winger (Rindal club), and Oslo, farm club picnics; Park River, school graduation; Cass Lake, Northern Development association; Twin Valley, old settlers' picnic; and Red Lake county farm bureau picnic.

This represents a full month of events that mean much to this section of the state. Nothing creates a better understanding among neighbors than these meetings where the spirit of good fellowship prevails.

#### VISIT THE SCHOOL

A large number of people pass through the school and station grounds each day. The grounds are beautiful. The experimental plots offer valuable information. A drive around the campus is an interesting one in every way. Occasionally farmers coming from a distance eat their lunches in the shade of the trees. Just inside the north entrance is a brick stove, where coffee may be cooked and food prepared. Water may be secured at the dining hall.

Everyone driving to or through Crookston during the summer should be sure to make this drive around the campus. If you have time, plan to stop at the Klehle building where you will find someone who will show you through the buildings and explain the work of the school.

#### PROGRESS ON PAVING

The new roadway between the city of Crookston and the campus of the Northwest School of Agriculture has been completed. Early in 1918 an additional rod of right-of-way was purchased from the residents along the west side of the road making five rods wide instead of four. The top of the grade is 24 feet wide. It is from two to three feet higher than the surrounding land which will provide a roadway free from snow during the winter.

The legislature voted funds for paving this roadway in cooperation with the city of Crookston, Polk county and the state highway department which has charge of the disposition of the federal funds for road purposes. The city of Crookston promptly voted to pave Sixth Street from Broadway to the road leading to the agricultural school. Contract will be let for that within a few days. The Polk county board of county com-

missioners voted to apply for federal aid to pave the road from its intersection with Sixth street to the school. The legislature appropriated money to pay the school's half of the cost of paving the school lands. The contract for this paving has not been let up to the present time as it is desired to have the present grading settle during the few weeks before the paving is done.

The Northwest School greatly appreciates the action taken by the city council of Crookston and by the commissioners of Polk county as well as the decision of the state highway commission to furnish federal aid for one-half of the cost of the paving. The improvement will be of great value in upbuilding the Northwest School and increasing its ability to serve the people of this section of the state.

#### MAKE PLANS FOR SCHOOL

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maintained regularly and where a good wholesome home atmosphere may be provided for recreation as well as work hours.

The importance of scientific methods in modern farming is beginning to be appreciated more fully and young people who plan on making their homes in the country are realizing that success will depend more and more on special training.

#### Many Courses at Agricultural Schools

The state schools of agriculture provide practical courses for the farm and home. Their courses are so planned that young people may be at home during the busy season to learn by helping and in school during the slack season to learn by study and laboratory practice under scientific instruction. The regular course opens in October and closes in March. The state schools have extensive equipment and well trained and practical men and women on the faculty who understand and are interested in country life. The state schools also are dormitory institutions with systematic plans to emphasize physical and moral development as well as the purely mental and vocational training.

Parents of boys and girls who are interested in the question of school for the coming year would do well to write to the Northwest School of Agriculture for full particulars about its work.

#### LIVE STOCK BUILDING

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importance is confidently expected by all.

The main thing now is to secure the additional funds required to pay for the present buildings and for the additional room needed. There are 550 members of the Association at the present time. If each one will dispose of four or five shares of stock this work can be done within a week without any appreciable effort at all. Let's do it in the characteristic Red River Valley way where our motto is "It can be done".

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.



EDUCATION FOR COUNTRY LIFE

Many country people desire to give their young people something more than a common school education. They want them to be mentally trained to compete with the best minds of these strenuous times.

The agricultural colleges, as conducted some years ago, often seemed to educate the young people away from the farm. Rarely did their graduates return to till the paternal acres.

The agricultural schools now understand that it is their business to show how rural life can be put on a sound economic basis.

Many girls are taking agricultural school courses. They are there taught to love rural life, to desire to spend their lives amid its satisfaction, and to build it up.

Thus they become economically independent of city life. The more young people take these courses, the sounder the foundations of rural life become.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The legislature of this year has recognized the soundness of the claims of the Board of Regents of the University and has granted practically all of the requests of that board. It has provided liberally for the maintenance of the entire institution in all of its branches on a more satisfactory basis that has existed hitherto.

This is sound business on the part of the legislature. A state with constantly increasing demands for leadership, like Minnesota, must provide the means of training its own leaders; of taking young men already loyal to the state's interests and giving them such mental and physical equipment as will enable them to become safe guides in handling the affairs of the state, whether officially or in private life.

The confidence of the legislature in the University as an agency for the promotion of public welfare should be carefully guarded. It places great responsibility on the University as a whole and upon every individual member of the University staff. This means that the legislature having done its part in providing for the maintenance and growth of the University, those who do the work of the University must do their part in making the provisions of the legislature effective to the last degree.—(Minnesota Farm Review).

EDUCATION MEANS DOLLARS AND CENTS

From a study of a large number of actual cases compiled by the Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C., it has been found that at 25 years of age the boy who remained in school until he was 18 had received \$2,000 more salary than the boy who left school at 14, and that the better educated youth was then receiving more than \$900 a year more in pay.

"This is equivalent to an investment of \$18,000 at 5 per cent," the statement said, "Can a boy increase his capital as fast in any other way?"

"From this time on the salary of the better educated boy will rise still more rapidly, while the earnings of the boy who left school at 14 will increase but little."

While wages have increased with the war, the proportions shown in a table of weekly earnings still hold true the statement said.

"Many boys when they leave school find work that offers a high wage for a beginner. But these wages seldom grow because the work

requires no training."

"A position with a future and steadily increasing wages requires school training."

"Does it pay to continue your studies? Education means a successful and useful life; it pays the individual. Education means efficient workers; it pays the nation. Show this to your parents and ask them what they think about it. Stay in school."

FLOOD CONTROL.

The recent heavy rains have again forcibly called attention to the need of providing larger outlet for many areas in northwestern Minnesota. How much longer we shall have to wait will depend upon the willingness of the people to perfect a district flood control organization under Chapter 442, Laws of 1917, commonly known as the Cliff Act.

A committee has been appointed to organize this district. Supt. C. G. Selvig is chairman and will have associated with him men from all of the districts in the Valley.

If this is not to be merely a paper committee each community is urged to cooperate in every way. Something must be done and done quickly.

SCHOOL MEMORIAL

The time has come to consider what the Northwest School wishes to do in regard to a memorial for the fallen heroes who went out from this institution in the great war. Many suggestions have been received which include a memorial tablet bearing the names of all who were in the service, a memorial picture, a memorial scholarship, a building and others. All are agreed that steps should be taken to bring this matter before the alumni, former students and friends of the school.

It is planned to have a meeting of the men who were in service soon. It will probably be held some time early in October, as there are several men who are still overseas that it is desired to have present on this occasion. In the meantime any suggestions or plans that come to mind among the alumni, former students and students of the school should be communicated to the Superintendent in order that an organization may be perfected to decide on a suitable memorial and to raise the necessary funds that will be required.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION WILL COOPERATE WITH RED RIVER VALLEY SHOW

When attention was called to Mr. F. W. Harding, secretary of the American Shorthorn Breeders' association, by W. V. Gousseff, secretary of the things that the Red River Valley Live Stock Association is trying to do in encouraging more live stock for the Valley he complimented the asso-

## Red River Valley Live Stock Association Plans Enlarged Winter Show and Sales Building

Live Stock Improvement Clearly in Evidence Secretary Gousseff Tells of Progress Being Made

claration on this great work. Further than that, he offered to add additional money to the premium list for Shorthorn cattle and has promised that the National Shorthorn Breeders' association will give \$1.00 additional for every \$2.00 that the Valley association offers for Shorthorn cattle. This will make it possible to offer very large premiums for Shorthorn cattle and every Shorthorn man in the Valley should take it upon himself to win some of this money.

### PLANS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR ENLARGING LIVE STOCK BUILDING

Each Community will be asked to Help

#### Shorthorn Association Aids

In accordance with the instructions received at the meeting of the board of directors and stockholders of the Red River Valley Live Stock association, plans are under way for the opening of a campaign to raise \$20,000 for the building of additional room for the live stock pavilion. Representatives from practically all the counties in northwestern Minnesota expressed confidence that each of the counties will raise additional funds for this purpose. Apportionments are being made for the various counties and local committees will soon be at work to see that everyone interested in the development of more and better live stock in the valley will have an opportunity to help promote this great project which is doing so much to create an enthusiasm for live stock which means a system of diversified farming in the Valley. The completed buildings will make room for 600 head of stock, also provide room for a good sized tractor exhibit and also adequate room for the farm crops exhibit. Under this plan the entire armory can be used for meetings of various kinds, including free motion picture shows.

#### Interest Begins For 1920 Show

That the Red River Valley Live Stock show is a permanent show is already demonstrated by the letters that are coming into the office, asking for plans of the 1920 show. In many cases these letters contain good suggestions for the 1920 show which are gladly received. Men are beginning at this early date to prepare for the 1920 show by selecting their stock and feeding accordingly. All indications point that even the additional buildings, which will hold a total of 600 head, may be taxed to their utmost

capacity if all will show that are manifesting an interest at this time. It seems to be a common expression among those that are talking about the show that the outstanding feature of the 1920 show will be quality. In other words, the breeders seem to be of the opinion that, if they would show the Red River Valley stock to its best advantage, work should be done beforehand in preparing it.

#### Fifty Boys And Girls Enter Calves

Fifty boys and girls have entered calves for the baby beef calf contest at the winter show. These entries include a large number of calves from Polk county and several head from each of the other counties. It is expected that this contest will be one of the features of the 1920 show and \$400 in premiums is being offered by the association and other organizations interested in encouraging boys and girls in raising live stock.

#### SWINE MEN ARE ON THE JOB

The winter show is already assured of at least one hundred fifty head of swine of the Chester White, Poland China, and Duroc Jersey breeds. Everyone of these breeds will hold a futurity contest in connection with the show the futurity contests are financed, not only by the local show and breeders, but the national associations think enough of them that they put up at least \$50 towards financing them. It is very seldom that any show outside of a state fair can stage more than one futurity contest at a time, but the enthusiasm of the breeders in the Valley is such that they are not satisfied with simply one breed conducting a futurity contest.

At the state fairs and international shows, more interest is displayed in the futurity awards than any other classes and the same can be said for this show.

#### VALLEY BULL BRINGS \$65,000

Again the Red River Valley receives first honors. At the Minnesota Holstein advertising sale Sir Pieterje Ormsby Mercedes 41st, a bull owned by M. L. Enright, of East Grand Forks, brought \$65,000. This is the highest price paid in the middle west for a Holstein sire. The interesting feature of the sale is that this bull was raised and developed in the Red River Valley.

Not only that, but in no other place in the United States will there be found as much Holstein stock related to this animal as can be found in this

section. The C. L. Spaulding farm at Warren owns a brother to this animal. Mr. M. L. Enright, of East Grand Forks, owns a number of daughters. Mr. N. P. Hanson, of Westbury, in whose herd this animal was kept for some time, owns some daughters, and the Northwest School has, at the head of its herd, an exceptional animal, whose sire is a \$20,000 brother to the \$65,000 bull. There are numerous other herds in the Valley that contain the same lines of breeding. Special effort is going to be made at the winter show and sale to offer for sale as many animals as can possibly be found that are closely related to these lines of breeding which are most prominent in Holstein circles.

### RED LAKE COUNTY BUYING PURE BREDS

Red Lake county is determined to get its share of pure bred herds. Just recently F. Derosier and O. Robillard have purchased a Holstein calf which gives promise of becoming a great herd sire. This calf, bought from the Spaulding farm at Warren, is sired by King Piebe Ormsby Mercedes who carries a double cross of the famous Sir Pieterje Ormsby Mercedes who has 11 daughters with records from 30 to 42-31 lbs. and whose 4 daughters and 2 sons sold for \$117,000 in the Moorhead sale.

These men also purchased a herd Holstein bull from the Sundberg herd at Hallock.

Together with the Holstein herd they are developing a Chester White swine herd. This winter they purchased from one of the leading Chester White herds in the United States a bred sow which now has a litter of ten pigs. They already have turned down offers of \$100.00 for a boar pig from this litter and indications point that they have a thousand dollar litter of Chester Whites.

The Jeffers Cattle Company has recently purchased from the Northwest School, Clay Demonstrator, an outstanding milking Shorthorn sire and several head of milking Shorthorns. They have also purchased an exceptional bunch of Scotch bred Shorthorns from Manitoba. Among these cattle are some that the Brandon show people were very anxious to have shown and sold at their winter show and their breeding represents the leading bulls of Canada, among which are some never defeated in the show ring.

Assistance was given in these purchases by W. V. Gousseff, of the Northwest School, W. V. Longley and C. C. Lake, county agents.

## IMPORTANCE OF FIGHTING WEEDS SHOWN

### Red River Valley's Foremost Farm Management Problem

#### Community Action Necessary. Delay is Costly.

The success attained in Clay county during the season of 1918 by the weed inspector engaged by the Board of County Commissioners in cooperation with the University of Minnesota is of importance to all the residents of northwestern Minnesota. The fact that Clay county has re-engaged the same man, Mr. A. H. Larson, for the second season is evidence that his services were of value and that the plan of campaign succeeded.

A survey recently made indicates that in all of the thirteen counties comprising the northwestern Minnesota district, there is the liveliest interest in weed control and eradication. Special emphasis is given to the sow thistle, which it is recognized presents problems somewhat different and more difficult than common weed seeds, due to the spreading of the sow thistle seeds long distances by the wind.

Primarily, the problem is recognized as belonging to the farm management group, involving more livestock, a definite rotation system, and including cultivated crops and more meadows. This is the foundation upon which any program should be built. Whether work along that line will produce results as quickly as desirable remains an open question. Educational campaigns are carried on in all of the counties but it is only in Clay county that there is a full recognition of the necessity of carrying on a more intensive campaign.

#### Results Secured in Manitoba

In this connection, the results secured in the weed eradication work in Manitoba are of interest. It is generally admitted that the sow thistle was spread to the Red River Valley originally from the province directly north of the boundary. For a number of years the provincial authorities sought to carry on a campaign against the weed in a general way, but without creating a special department to be in charge of the work, conditions did not improve under this plan. The land primarily used for grain growing grew to be more and more weedy. A system of bare fallow was inaugurated which was effective, but because it was not carried on by all, it did not succeed in checking the weed. Agitation for a better system continued however, with the result that about four years ago a provincial weed commission was created and an able farm management expert placed in charge as weed inspector.

The Canadian program of weed control centers on a unified program in each community looking toward better cultural methods, growing of cultivated crops, increasing the livestock holdings, and carrying on a clean fallow—not by individuals only, but by communities as a whole. It has suc-

## Grasshopper Control

### Poisoned Bran Mash Used

Grasshoppers are proving to be somewhat of a menace in many parts of the Red River Valley this year, judging from the reports that have been received at the Experiment Station. There are over 100 different species of grasshoppers found in the northwestern states but only five or six of these ever become abundant enough to do much damage. These few are so closely allied in their habits that they can be treated in the same general way.

The grasshoppers lay their eggs in the fall along ditches, roadsides and in vacant land. The eggs are laid in clusters or pods of about 50 eggs. These eggs are creamy white in color, being about a quarter of an inch in length, tapering towards each end, and somewhat curved. These eggs are hatched in the late spring during May and June. The young grasshopper is hard to see and becomes noticeable as it increases in size. It takes about two months to complete its full growth, when it acquires wings.

Adults begin mating in early fall, when eggs are laid by the females. The early frosts then kill off the adults.

The best and easiest way to prevent injury from grasshoppers is to destroy the eggs in the fall by plowing the soil where eggs are found or stirring the soil by use of the harrow or disc in such a way as to break open the pods and expose the eggs to the weather. Inasmuch as a large part of the land in this district is not under cultivation this method does not destroy the eggs laid on vacant lands and in pastures. When unable to destroy the eggs we have to control the grasshopper itself and this best done by the use of a poisoned bran mash.

The poisoned bran mash has proved the most effective way to control both the adult and young grasshopper. Acid can be used on any kind of land and in any crop. It should be applied at the rate of 5 or 6 pounds to the acre depending upon the number of insects found. This mixture should be broadcasted over the land by hand, spreading it lightly so as not to have any lumps fall which may be eaten by chicks or stock as the mixture is poisonous.

The following is the formula for the poisoned bran mash:

25 pounds bran  
1 pound paris green or white arsenic.

ceeded beyond the hopes of the sponsors of the movement.

This is practically what was done in Clay county last year, excepting that the townships were used as units, the township boards being the organiza-

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2 quarts black strap or cheap molasses.

6 lemons or oranges.

1 pound salt.

Enough water to make crumbly mass.

First mix the bran and paris green together thoroughly, getting the paris green scattered throughout the mass, add the salt and mix again. The entire lemons or oranges should be ground up, preferably in a meat chopper, getting it as fine as possible. These should then be added and then the syrup. When this mass is stirred add a little water gradually, being careful not to get the mass too wet. It should be stirred continually and when a mass is placed in the hand no water should be squeezed out. It should crumble into flakes.

A galvanized tub is a good mixing vat for small amounts and for larger portions, a wagon box, floor or canvas will prove satisfactory, using shovels and rakes for mixing and stirring the ingredients. Care must be taken to mix the mash in a place where stock cannot reach it as it will prove disastrous.

In spreading the mash use a wagon and throw lightly out of the end of the wagon. Apply at the rate of 5 to 10 pounds per acre depending upon the number of grasshoppers. The best time to distribute is from sun-up until about 9 o'clock as the grasshoppers do most of their feeding at that time.

Where grasshoppers are found over large areas or districts the entire community should be organized under the county agent or some other capable person in order to reach all the infested areas. Supplies should be purchased in large quantities in order to take advantage of reduced prices. The poison should then be spread over all lands and the cost assessed or divided between all the people. The cost will vary from 25 to 50c per acre. There are no laws to compel people to pay these assessments but everyone who wants to save his crop and prevent a recurrence of this pest in another year will gladly participate in a community grasshopper control movement.

It takes 24 hours before the grasshoppers stop eating, after having taken the poison, so too quick results should not be looked for. They may even move around for several days. Those that die on the ground will crawl into cracks or move to damp places. The effectiveness of the campaign should be judged by the number remaining alive after a few days rather than by the number of dead.

It may be necessary to spread the poison a second time and when this is done a much lighter application can be given.

## Of Interest to Farm and Home

### Poultry Pointers and Suggestions Regarding Canning

#### CHICKEN MITES

At this season of the year when the young stock is all hatched and the poultryman is having a 'breathing spell' after the busy season of incubation and brooding, he is apt to grow lax in his attention to his flocks. Where this is the case the mites are very likely to be forgotten until they have reached the stage where they are so numerous that the coops are literally overrun with them. Many promising chicks are either killed or their vitality is so seriously affected that they are rendered useless for layers or breeding stock. If there is one thing that the poultry keeper must keep constantly in mind during the summer months, it is the matter of being constantly on the lookout for mites. Unless they are kept in check it is a physical impossibility for the fowls to do their best.

Mites may properly be called miniature bed bugs from their habits and modes of living. During the day they live in cracks and crevices about the roosts and walls of the coop and when the fowls go to roost they sally forth to feed on the blood of the chickens. If the poultry house or coop is kept well whitewashed and the roosts well kerosened there should be little or no trouble holding them in check.

The plan followed at the Northwest Station for a good many years for the control of mites is as follows: Just as soon as warm weather appears in the spring we brush or spray all the roosts and nests in the laying houses whether we discover mites or not. After an interval of four or five days we repeat the operations so as to destroy any young mites which may have hatched in the meantime. Then during the remainder of the season we continue to apply kerosene once every ten days. If the supports where the roosts rest are greased with axle grease once a year it will be found to be a great help in controlling the pest. Once a year, usually in the fall, we whitewash the interior of the coops and nests. The saying of an old poultryman of our acquaintance "Keep everlastingly after the mites during warm weather" is well worth keeping in mind.

#### PRESERVE SOME EGGS FOR WINTER USE.

The thoughtful housewife will not neglect to pack some eggs this month for winter use. If she has never done so before she should do so at once. Even if it be only a trial lot, we feel sure she will be pleased in the end.

After testing at the Northwest Station various methods advocated by

different authorities for the preservation of eggs, the conclusion has been reached that water glass (sodium silicate) gives best results. Tests have also been made of different solutions of the preservative and it is found that a 10 per cent solution or 1 part water glass to 9 parts water is the most satisfactory. With regard to containers for this purpose it was found that earthenware jars gave slightly best results but lard pails and pickle or syrup barrels give very satisfactory results. As a rule one quart of water glass will be found sufficient for 15 dozen eggs.

#### CANNING HINTS

Now is the time for our homemakers to begin the canning of the fruits and vegetables for the winter. Let us have for our slogan "At least one kind of home canned fruit and one kind of home canned vegetable for every day throughout the entire winter." The one period cold pack method is simple and easy for everyone to understand. It is true that carrots, beets and certain other vegetables may be stored in cool cellars but they are often woody and not so palatable as they are earlier in the season. Vegetables should be crisp and fresh when canned. The material to be canned should be properly prepared and washed then blanched in boiling water and immediately cooled in cold water. The heat shrinks the material and the cold dip sets the color and makes the product easier to handle. It is then packed in jars while cold. Hence the name cold pack. One teaspoonful of salt is then added to each quart of vegetables and the jar filled with boiling water. The best quality of rubbers should be used. The covers are screwed onto the can as tightly as is possible, using the thumb and little finger and the jars are then immersed in a boiler of water and heated. The length of time for heating varies with the different vegetables. Details of this method may be secured free upon request for farmers' bulletin 839 at the Division of Publications, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Points to remember in successful canning are:

1. To clean glass jars, lids, spoons and other utensils used, wash in warm water and rinse thoroughly.
2. Wash new rubbers in warm soda water—proportion, one teaspoonful soda to one pint water. Be sure that rubbers will spring back to place when stretched well.
3. Test jars and lids by placing

water in jars, screw on covers with rubbers and invert.

4. Do not rub the tops of the jars or the lids with a dish cloth after cleaning.

5. Observe cleanliness in room, utensils, clothing, hands and nails.

6. Do not attempt to can over-ripe fruit.

7. Avoid a draft of air upon the hot jars.

8. As soon as jars are cold store them in a cool, dark, dry place.

Canning is not only an economy to the home maker but is the best means of furnishing a variety for the table as well as preserving the health of the family.

#### MINNESOTA RED RIVER VALLEY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION MEETING

The business meeting of the Red River Valley Development Association which was to have been held at the Northwest School of Agriculture was held at the quarters of the Crookston Asso. of Public Affairs on account of the heavy rain. Not a very large crowd was present, but all including representatives from Polk, Clay, Norman, Red Lake, Marshall and Pennington counties, were there for business and closely followed the talks given.

Due to being detained in Southern Minnesota by floods, E. A. Mills, who was to have talked on Flood Prevention, was not present. E. V. Williard, Commissioner of Minnesota Drainage and Water Control talked on past steps in flood control endeavors and strongly commended the work of the Federal Department of Agriculture in making the survey now in progress.

Directors were elected as follows: Becker county, C. C. Williams, Detroit; Mahnomen, A. L. Thompson, Mahnomen; Marshall, A. E. Pfiffner, Argyle; Polk, N. J. Nelson, East Grand Forks; Pennington, John Bratrud, Thief River Falls. These directors were elected to serve a two year term. Clearwater county was also admitted to the Association and steps taken to provide for the admission of Ottertail and Wilkin counties when applications are ready to be placed by these two. The election for a director for Clearwater county is to be left to the county board of that county.

Officers were elected as follows: S. M. Sivertson, president, Crookston.

R. C. Mathwig, first vice president, Warren.

S. E. Hunt, second vice president, Red Lake Falls.

M. E. Dahl, Twin Valley, treasurer.

C. H. Zealand, secretary, Crookston.

## APRIL WITH THE FARM BUREAUS

The April summary of the north-west district county agent reports which came to our hands recently, if it could have been read some years ago by men and women who had visions for rural advancement and who were struggling hard against popular prejudice and inertia for organization, cooperation and scientific methods in farming, would have seemed like a dream come true. Everywhere through out the length and breadth of the Valley, farmers were meeting to be instructed by experts in the selection of good seed and its treatment. Meetings were held to organize community effort for such enterprises as cooperative potato warehouses and grain elevators, agricultural fairs, and community clubs. County agents made trips with farmers to distant parts to help them in the selection and purchase of pure bred livestock. The farm bureau offices published exchange lists to bring "demand" and "supply" together. Plans were made to establish demonstration plots in various communities to investigate local problems of seed variety and soil fertility. Leaders met to lay plans for the organization of boys' and girls' club work. In short, it portrayed a rural life awakened to its opportunities through organization and cooperation.

Much attention was paid to potato seed selection and treatment. Communities cooperated in selecting standard varieties to be grown. Bichloride of mercury was bought cooperatively with considerable saving. Many communities arranged to build warehouses to handle the crop.

Smut was another objective of a well organized campaign. One county agent reports that every bit of formaldehyde in his county was sold out. Many were induced to treat who never had before.

## RED RIVER VALLEY GUERNSEY BREEDERS ISSUE EXCHANGE LIST

That the recently organized Red River Valley Guernsey Breeders Association is made up of live and enterprising men is evidenced by the attractive little folder that they have just issued. Part of it is devoted to an exchange list, which, by the number of fine animals offered, indicates that the Red River Valley has many excellent Guernsey herds. A portion of the folder is devoted to a discussion of the merits of this particular breed. "Twelve Reasons why the Guernseys Excel for the Dairy", and "Guernseys Make More Money" are the titles of interesting articles. Anyone who is interested in this breed will do well to write to any of the officers of the Association. They are:

President—Harry Woolson, Thief River Falls.

Vice President—L. Jensen, Clearbrook.

Secretary—Leonard Houske, Haistad.

Treasurer—F. B. Conklin, Thief River Falls.

### Directors

E. Gilmour—Fisher.

P. Engelstad,—Thief River Falls.

Nels Palm,—Alvarado.

Steward McLeod,—Goodridge.

Their motto is "More and Better Guernseys."

## IMPORTANCE OF FIGHTING WEEDS

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tions thru which the work was done.

### Educational Work needed

The idea that drastic action regarding weed eradication follows the appointment of a county weed inspector is a mistaken one. The principal work of an inspector and the chief object of a farm bureau farm management project looking toward cleaning up the farm from weeds which are detrimental to crop production are entirely educational. Organization is needed to secure community effort. The experience in Canada and Clay county is that concentrated effort along proper lines is welcomed by all. It is only an intensive campaign to better a particular farming practice and that is all. More livestock, more silos, more crops to use for feeding animals, better cultural work, practiced generally, carried on by all under enthusiastic leadership, and the weed problem would become but a memory within a very few years.

### All Counties Interested

The real interest displayed in this movement in every county of the district indicates that the farmers and the farm bureaus are alive to the pressing needs of carrying on such an educational campaign and of organizing more closely and definitely to accomplish the results desired.

According to advices received at the Northwest Experiment Farm, the county agents of the northwestern Minnesota district are all alive to this problem. In cooperation with the district leader, Mr. W. E. Morris, definite attention is being given it in all the counties.

Norman county reports that while a county weed inspector would be considered of great help, the campaign for livestock, more silos, and cultivated crops is aimed indirectly at the weed problem. In Wilkin county a sow thistle eradication campaign has been organized but they have not considered hiring a weed inspector. In Marshall county nothing has been done to secure a weed inspector altho there would be enough to do for an assistant in the farm management project under which this work of weed control is organized. Included in this project are crop rotation, more livestock and especially sheep, and community co-

operation with respect to weeds.

In Clearwater county sow thistle clubs have been organized in seven townships. No inspector will be secured as all the work can be done thru the farm bureau organization. In Becker county efforts to create public sentiment for eradication of sow thistle will be continued. The support of all the northwestern counties in making a strong district campaign is urged by Mahnomon county as it is considered a district and not merely a county problem. A vigorous educational campaign is being carried on there.

In Kittson county progress is reported along lines of increasing interest in sheep raising, in the growing of clover, alfalfa, cultivated crops, and in carrying on a definite rotation system and clean fallow. The county weed inspector would be a necessity where the sow thistle is just coming in according to views held in that county. In Roseau county a greater campaign will be carried on this season thru the farm bureau.

Pennington county has made a definite move to secure a weed inspector. Mr. A. H. Larson is in Clay county, already at work. In Ottertail county there are no plans yet made for special work. Reports are lacking from Polk and Red Lake counties.

### Community Action Needed

Great interest is being taken in this work in all of the counties. It is safe to say that the season of 1919 will see more community groups engaged in solving this problem than ever before. Thru the cooperation of the farm bureau organizations results are expected that will prove the value of concerted action on the part of the farmers. When the entire farming population of the Red River Valley seeks livestock farming and practices the methods that are successful under that plan we may expect a wonderful transformation to take place resulting finally in a condition where weeds will no longer be a problem but will be mere incidents.

This is the object of the weed agitation. Something should be done on every farm. The beginning should be made in 1919. One cow is better than none. One pig in 1919 or one sheep is a beginning. A plan for a rotation system begun in 1919 will lead to success. The Red River Valley must live up to its heritage. It cannot attain it unless the best of farming methods are put into practice not by ten per cent, but by one hundred per cent of its farming population. This, too can be done and it will be done.