

# THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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## FALL TERM OPENS OCTOBER 6 RECORD PRELIMINARY ENROLLMENT

The Northwest School opens its fifteenth year on Wednesday, October 6. The largest Senior and Junior classes in the history of the school will assemble at that time. An exceptionally large number of first year students have already registered which will make the school's enrollment unusually heavy.

Everything is in readiness for registration on October 6. Most of the students will come on October 5 in order to attend the dedication exercises scheduled for that day. Parents and friends will be present on October 5 in large numbers if the event is favored with good weather and roads.

The trains will be met on October 5 and several days following. Students are urged to enter on the first day of the term. Many discouragements in class work may be avoided by starting in at the beginning.

The Northwest School has served this section of the state fourteen years. About 1500 students have completed or partially completed courses within its doors. This refers to the regular school course extending over a period of three years. Many hundreds in addition have attended teachers' training summer sessions, short courses and the Farmers' Week. There are still, however, many communities in this section of the state where apparently no one knows anything about the school. This is the writer's personal observation corroborated by members of the faculty of the school. Entire townships have no students here. On the other hand, many townships have as many as six to ten each.

This issue of the Northwest Monthly will reach many new readers. Among them will be many township officers. It is one aim of the Monthly to acquaint the people of this section with the training for citizenship and for life that the Northwest School affords. Our readers will perform a valuable service if they will write us about the school, especially its short comings, give us the names of young men and women who may become interested in coming here, and other suggestions and ideas. It is our purpose to serve.

## Dedication Program to be Held on October 5th ELABORATE PLANS BEING MADE

Plans for a Valley wide celebration to be held at the Northwest School of Agriculture on Tuesday, October 5 are being made. Seven committees have been appointed in addition to the committee of alumni and students of the school to have charge of the event. The festivities will center on dedication exercises for the new dining hall, the soldiers' and sailors' memorial, and the opening of the paved roadway from the campus to Crookston.

Prominent speakers have been secured including President Coffman of the University of Minnesota and others. The Crookston Association is actively in charge of the event which promises to be one of the most important of any ever held in the Valley.

A feature of the day's program is the parade that is being planned. The parade committee plans to have at least a dozen arches built each one symbolizing some event in the history of the Valley or some certain county or community. Details have not as yet been worked out but the personnel of the decorations and parade committees is an assurance that this will be an outstanding event.

A request has been made of the War Department to detail Major Martinus Stenseth, Northwest School graduate, 1916, who is Minnesota's highest ace, to make an exhibition flight over the campus on October 5 and to drop flowers on the memorial during the unveiling ceremony. Other fliers will help make the occasion one long to be remembered.

The entertainment committee will open the day's festivities at ten o'clock with an hour of interest to all. This will be followed by the formal opening of the new paved road, the first in the Red River Valley. The pros and cons of good roads will be ably presented upon this occasion. The picnic lunch, which follows will be furnished by the refreshment committee to all out of town guests. Preparation will be made for a large number.

After the lunch is served the parade will take place followed by the formal dedication of the new dining hall and that in turn by the unveiling and dedication of the Northwest School Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial. These impressive exercises will be participated in by thousands of people if the weather and roads do not interfere.

Later in the afternoon and during the evening festivities will reign supreme.

An appropriate souvenir is being prepared to serve as a reminder of the occasion. That the Northwest School has won a place in the affections of the people of the Red River Valley will be attested to by the spirit of those who assemble to do homage to its eight boys, who not only answered the call to the colors, but who answered the final summons in the performance of their duty. Since then one other young soldier has gone to his reward. The Northwest School reveres the memory of these brave souls. Its faculty and student body believe that the people in this section of the state do, too, and that one day, October 5, will be willingly and gladly spent at the Northwest School campus.

"Let us make it a real Red River Valley Day."

## NORTHWEST SCHOOL PLANS MEETINGS SEPT. 19

Much interest is being taken in the eight county gatherings of alumni, former and present students of the Northwest School of Agriculture that are to be held on the afternoon of September 19. A member of the faculty of the Northwest School will be present at each of these gatherings.

The afternoon will be given over particularly to the interests of education and community development. The faculty member who attends will have an interesting message. Opportunity will be afforded to meet the members of the various classes from 1906 to 1920. Parents and friends of  
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Issued Monthly by  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF  
AGRICULTURE

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OFFICE  
Northwest Experiment Station,  
Crookston, Minnesota

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



## A SEPTEMBER GREETING!

The Northwest Monthly succumbed temporarily to the assaults of the High-Cost-Of-Paper but has now so far recovered that it is able to resume its monthly visits. Since the last issue many important events have taken place in Northwestern Minnesota. An attempt to catch up will be made in this issue followed in succeeding months by the customary notes and articles that relate to agricultural and home activities in the Red River Valley.

Taking the Valley as a whole, including in the term Valley the tributaries of the Red River of the North, the season of 1920 was favorable. Seeding was late on account of excessive rainfall in the spring but this was followed by an extremely favorable growing period. Black rust and extreme dryness in many sections greatly reduced yields. As a whole, oats is the best crop. The potato crop is still an uncertain factor. Undoubtedly the lack of rainfall during July and August will greatly diminish the yield.

The labor situation was more favorable than in any year since 1918. Threshing will soon be out of the way leaving a good long period for fall plowing. This the Valley needs.

The car shortage is being felt although every possible influence to remedy it has been put forth. The outlook is not bright for securing either enough cars for grain or enough coal. Many persons who are in the habit of looking into the future are wondering why the Red River Valley people should fear an annual fuel famine, or suffer from a car shortage. There is unharnessed power enough in Red Lake River from High-landing to Fisher to light and heat all the Valley homes, provide heat for cooking and power for industry. The time is coming when the people of the Red River Valley will decide to harness this giant that is so willing to work. Cars can then be used to haul grain instead of hauling coal.

The season of 1920 brought an abundance of fruit of all kinds. For-

tunately sugar dropped somewhat so that this crop was used to the best advantage.

The summer has been featured with an increased number of picnics and community gatherings. Good will and general contentment characterized these occasions. In spite of the short comings of popular government our country is and will be the best place on earth. The people of the Red River Valley as a whole believe this and will do their part in making it come true.

In November it will be 300 years since the Pilgrim Fathers reached our shores. They were seekers after better things. They wanted freer lives. America was fashioned in accordance with their ideals. We are today enjoying the fruits of their wisdom and foresight. They last of all would say there is no further room for progress. That is not their message to us today. They left us a heritage, a free constitutional government that we highly prize and cherish; they opened a way for millions to enjoy the gifts that a bounteous Nature bestows.

We all have the opportunity of making the best possible use of our own opportunities. We have also the great privilege of making this part of the State the best section on earth. This gives us something worthy to do. The job is big enough for anyone.

## SEPTEMBER 19 MEETINGS

(Continued from Page 1)

the students are invited and it is hoped there will be a large attendance.

The time for preparation is short but this event will be made a success backed up as it is by the characteristic force and vigor that all the Northwest School students possess.

One of the suggestions is that basket lunches be brought for a picnic supper. Local arrangements can easily be made to provide coffee and cream. If the gathering meets not later than 2 p. m., there will be ample time for the program preceding the picnic supper.

Besides having a member of the Northwest School faculty present, local speakers will be invited to attend. Make plans to join the nearest group on September 19. You will miss an enjoyable occasion if you don't go.

The following places have been selected for these meetings:

Roseau Park at Roseau for Roseau County, Valhalla Hall located near Engelstad's farm 4 miles S. E. from Thief River Falls and 6 miles N. E. from St. Hilaire for Red Lake and Pennington counties. M. L. Warner's Farm located 6 miles northwest from Warren for Marshall and Kittson counties, Lake Sarah at J. L. Anderson's place located 2½ miles south and ½ mile west from Erskine for eastern Polk, Grundysen's Grove in Bygland Township for western Polk, Heiberg Park at Heiberg for eastern Norman, Mahnomen and Becker, Hen-

drum Park at Hendrum for western Norman and Clay and at L. Jensen's farm near Clearbrook for Clearwater and northwestern Polk Counties.

Kindly invite your friends and neighbors to come.

## ADDITIONS TO THE FACULTY

When school opens for its 1920 fall term, there will be a number of new faces in the faculty.

John Husby of McIntosh, Minnesota, formerly county agent in Marshall county and in North Dakota, assumed on July 15 the livestock position formerly held by W. V. Gousseff. Mr. Husby comes well prepared for this work. He is a graduate of Minnesota agricultural college and has had successful farming as well as teaching experience. His family is located in one of the campus residences.

Elmer R. Clarke of Okee, Wisconsin, succeeds A. M. Christensen as pure seed specialist and home project worker. He is a graduate of the college of agriculture of Wisconsin and has had successful experience in agricultural work. He assumed his duties on July 1st. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke are expecting to occupy one of the apartments in the four-family residence that is under construction at the Northwest School.

Reuben H. Mueller, a graduate of Northwestern College, Wisconsin, is the new registrar and the preceptor of Senior Hall, where he and Mrs. Mueller are now located. He assumed the work formerly done by A. H. Larson at the Northwest School on July 1. Mr. Mueller has already had time to become familiar with the intricacies of the registrar department. Assisted by Mrs. Mueller, the new library room has been made into a very attractive place with all the books re-catalogued and the bulletins and magazines made easily available to the students.

There will be two new teachers in the domestic science department, Miss Lottie Ward taking the place of Miss Hazel Rockwood and Miss Bernice B. Nolan taking the position held last year by Miss Cassie Ball. Miss Ward is a graduate of the home economics department of Iowa State College of Ames. She assumed her work on September 1 by taking charge of the group of sixteen Northwest School girls who went to the state fair assisting with the Farm Boys' Camp. Miss Nolan comes from Grand Meadow, Minnesota, after having taught at Preston. She will have charge of sewing and textiles in which work she has specialized. She will assume her duties on October 1.

There is one change in the office force, Miss Edith Hansen assuming the position of the superintendent's secretary in place of Miss Esther Kroog who has resigned to enter the University of Minnesota as a student. Miss Alvina Hanson has charge of Miss Hansen's work. Miss Corcella Oftedahl is a new addition to the office clerical force.

## The Sow Thistle Again

The Northwest Experiment Station issued a sow thistle bulletin a few years ago. In it the farmers were warned against the weed and told how it could be combated. An illustrated poster was distributed. Additional legislation was earnestly advocated in order to prevent the spread of the sow thistle to new sections that were not then infested. There is no question but that many read of it and hundreds of others learned that the thistle was a serious enemy.

This is the year 1920. The sow thistle has moved up in the Red River Valley and has even reached the Minnesota valley. Legislators who scoffed at the control and eradication plan proposed in 1916 are now beginning to see that perhaps after all the Canadian laws were necessary and helpful. It begins to look as if the time will be ripe in 1921 to secure the necessary legislation without which the fight against the sow thistle cannot be successfully made.

Will the farmers practice the farm management plan and demand legislation that will give them a chance to combat the sow thistle?

If the farmers demand that something be done it will be done. The sow thistle is unique in that its seeds are distributed broadcast by the wind. Its eradication lies in community as well as individual action. Community action under centralized leadership properly financed can come only thru legislation. The case against the sow thistle demands a 100 per cent attack. Scattering fire is worse than useless in that it costs as much and accomplishes nothing.

Presumably at least eight to twelve thousand people read the Northwest Monthly. Do you believe something ought to be done to secure a real sow thistle law? If you do, say so. Tell your neighbor. Tell your county agent. Have the county farm bureau take the matter up in earnest and agree on a plan that will work. Committees from the various counties can meet later to formulate a Valley plan. A legislative committee can be appointed to draft suitable legislation and present it to the legislature. There is sentiment for a law even in southern Minnesota now.

The fair name of the Red River Valley is being flaunted because the sow thistle is here and nothing much is being done about it. The County Weed inspection law is of no avail. County commissioners have not seen fit to appoint county weed inspectors. The law says they "may" and they haven't felt the call. More concerted action is necessary. It rests with the farmers themselves.

The Manitoba farmers approve the law they are working under. They are accomplishing results under their law. Greater and better results can be secured here. The Valley farms are smaller. The number of live stock

is increasing steadily. It is only the determination to make a concerted attack that is lacking.

Shall we say, "This can't be done" or shall we unite and make really true the Valley slogan, "IT CAN BE DONE."



John Huseby, N. W. School and Station  
Live Stock Specialist

### 1920 CROP RESULTS AT NORTHWEST STATION

The 1920 growing season was adverse in some respects and favorable in others, according to R. R. Smith, station agronomist. The planting dates were a little late yet moisture and weather conditions were very favorable immediately after seeding. For the entire growing season from April 1st to August 1st, a total of 5.86 inches of moisture fell as compared with 10.25 inches for the past ten year average. Five-sixths of the moisture this year fell during the first half of the season. The dry season coming just at filling and ripening time caused a general decrease in yield but the heavy soil of the experiment farm kept up the crops very well with the exception of corn and potatoes which need moisture at this writing.

The rust epidemic in its general sweep through the Valley did not spare the bread wheats in the least, causing a very decided decrease in yield to the Marquis, Blue Stem and Preston in general. The several varieties of Durum such as Mindum No. 470, Kurbanka and Arnautka were rusted to some extent. Nevertheless, the yields were not lowered very appreciably by the disease. On the small one-fortieth acre variety test plots, as well as the large fifteen to thirty acre fields, the Macaroni out-yielded the bread wheats

where a fair stand was secured. In some cases, the Preston and Marquis gave yields as high as twenty bushels per acre while the Mindum reached thirty-one bushels in one case on a small plot. The general average run of the Blue Stem, Marquis and Preston was about twelve to fifteen bushels as compared with eighteen to twenty bushels by the Mindum.

A word may be said in connection with the wheat varieties at this time in regard to some new Canadian importations known as New Ruby, Kitchner and Red Bob's. The three varieties mentioned have given good success in Canada but as yet have not been sufficiently tried at the Northwest Experiment Station. During the past season they have shown less than nine bushels per acre and although they are about five days earlier than the Marquis they seem to be very susceptible to rust and adverse weather conditions.

The oat and barley yields averaged fair to high. The Manchuria six row barley gave the highest average yield with a general range of from 28 to 40 bushels per acre. Svanhals and Swansota, two row barley varieties, gave average yields as good as the six rows but not surpassing them to any extent.

The oat yield for this year can probably be put down as our bumper crop. On some of the well prepared five and seven year rotation plots a yield of 90 bushels of Minnesota No. 281 oats was secured. The average yield of this variety which was the largest acreage grown, can be put at 58 to 65 bushels. The early varieties of oats did not yield as high as the late varieties as was the case the past few years which was probably due to the fact that the late varieties did not suffer from the wet weather during the latter part of the growing season as was the case the past few years. Early varieties such as Minnesota No. 261 commonly called 60-day oats, Iowa No. 103, Iowa No. 105, Iowa and the Kherson gave average yields of 30 to 40 bushels per acre and the late varieties such as Lincoln, American Banner, Gold Rain, Irish Victor, Swedish Select and its several selections gave averages of about ten bushels higher per acre.

From a strictly varietal standpoint no outstanding results can be claimed over and above those of other years. Nevertheless, the Manchuria Barley, Minnesota No. 281 oats and Mindum wheat continue to show very good promise. The old rule continues to hold true as it has during the history of Red River Valley farming that more and better cultivation to put the seed bed in better condition and eradicate the weeds is sure to increase the yield.

## NEW DINING HALL IS NEARING COMPLETION

### School's Greatest Need Realized

Students and alumni of the Northwest School will be pleased to learn that the new dining hall which has existed for so many years only in our dreams will at last be a reality. A beautiful new structure devoted entirely to dining hall purposes will greet the students this year as they enroll on the first day of school. The site for the building between Stephens Hall and the Hill building was well chosen. The reddish tan brick with its pink Kasota stone trim forms a very pleasant contrast with the green foliage of the surrounding elms.

The building has two large inviting entrances on the front which lead to commodious waiting rooms both on the ground floor and on the second floor. The ground floor is given over to the cafeteria along the entire front between the two stairways and space for the two bowling alleys. Behind these is the kitchen with its batteries of steam cookers, ranges, dumb waiters, potato peelers, ice cream freezers, —in fact everything which goes to make an up to date sanitary place to prepare food. Adjoining the kitchen are the refrigerator room, store rooms, bake shop and fuel room.

The second floor contains the feature room of the entire building, namely the main dining room. It is 65 feet in length and 50 feet wide without a post or pillar to support the beautiful beamed ceiling 20 feet overhead. Seven huge arched windows insure ample light and sunshine for the large room. The walls are wainscoted with a two color glazed tile three and one half feet up from the floor. On one end in the center is a massive fire place faced with tile to match the wainscoting. Opposite the fireplace on the other end is a large built in buffet. All radiators in this room are artistically hidden from view under each of the large windows.

In the center of the rear of the main dining room are two doors leading to the sewing rooms. Here we find the steam table dish warmers, dish washers and pantry. The remainder of the second floor and also the entire third floor of the rear wing are devoted to sleeping quarters, office, bath rooms and parlor for the matron, cooks and kitchen help. The floors on the ground floor are of cement. The main dining room and all bed rooms have maple floors. The kitchen, serving rooms and all bathrooms have white ceramic tile floors. All the interior woodwork is of birch stained a walnut shade. The building is well lighted electrically and has ample fire protection throughout.

The old dining room in Stephens Hall with its myriads of posts and radiator rods is no more and all that now remains are memories of pleasant hours which were spent there. This space has been converted into twenty dormitory rooms, the nurse's

quarters, an office suite for the preceptor, and a large parlor with a fireplace. It is a building that adds materially to the dignity of the campus and to the comfort and convenience of the student body.

## MEMORIAL FUND GROWS

The campaign for the Northwest School Memorial Fund is progressing slowly but steadily. At the present time nearly \$1700 has been subscribed and one-half of that amount has been paid in. A statement was prepared showing the percentage of subscribers in the different classes beginning with 1909. The class of 1920 leads with 100 per cent of its members enrolled as subscribers to the fund. The following is the record of the other classes: 1918, 65%; 1916, 59%; 1919, 58%; 1909, 70%; 1917, 52%; 1915, 48%; 1914, 75%; 1913, 30%; 1912, 24%; 1910, 12%; 1911, 6%. The memorial fund committee of the Northwest School Alumni association will put on an active campaign during the last two weeks of September to secure the balance necessary for the beautiful memorial that will be erected at the entrance of the Northwest School campus in honor of the brave boys who participated in the great war. There should not be any difficulty in securing the balance needed.

The stone for the memorial has been received and will be placed as soon as possible. It will be 10' 6" in length, 4' 7" in width and 7' 10" in height. It is made of Rockville granite cut in very dignified and imposing lines.

There will be four bronze plates giving the names of all of the boys in service, the University of Minnesota and Northwest School seals and a plate bearing a suitable inscription for the memorial. Final plans for the unveiling of the memorial are in the course of preparation. The unveiling ceremony and the dedication will take place in connection with the opening of the paved roadway from Crookston to the campus and the new dining hall. It is expected that the American Legion posts in the Red River Valley will be represented upon this occasion and that there will be a large attendance of persons interested in the educational activities of this part of the state.

## SHORTHORN SALE

There will be a sale of registered Shorthorns held at the Red River Valley Livestock pavilion at Crookston at 1:30 p. m. on September 28 when C. O. Carlson of Erskine will dispose of 40 head of registered Shorthorns, 38 of the 40 head are females. 23 of the females are bred to his herd bull, Baron Butterfly. 16 of the cows have calves at foot. There will be only two bulls in the sale. The auctioneers will be Messrs. Burdick, Hitchcock and Hill. The sale will be held in Red River Valley Live Stock Pavilion Annex No. 1 which will be suitably arranged for the occasion.

## PAVILION DRIVE NETS \$12,000

The May-June Campaign for the Red River Valley Live Stock Pavilion netted \$11,950.00. Frequent showers seriously interfered with the drive so that it was not quite completed by the time the busy season of harvest arrived. The county quotas that remain to be secured are as follows. Polk, \$5,000; Marshall, \$2,250; Kittson, \$150; Roseau, \$750; Pennington, \$750; Red Lake, 1,250; Norman, \$1,100; Becker, \$750; Clearwater, \$750.

At a meeting of the association directors held on August 30 it was decided to resume the drive October 1—15. It is probable that some counties will complete their campaign before that time as plans have been made to do so.

In the June drive Polk county raised two-thirds of its quota of \$15,000, Norman county one-half of its quota of \$2,250, Kittson county two-thirds of its remaining quota of \$500, and Mahnomen county two-thirds of its quota of \$750.

Annex 2 is completed. On account of the shortage of cement, the floors in the basement of the pavilion in Annex 1 have not yet been laid. It is hoped that a sufficient supply of cement will be secured to do this work.

Additional space amounting to 6400 square feet will be provided by covering the alley space between the pavilion building and annexes 1 and 2. This will give 55,000 square feet of floor space for the 1921 Winter Show and Sales.

The remarkable growth of this organization has been made possible by the loyal financial support and work of over 1500 men and women who are share owners in the Red River Valley Live Stock association. The 1921 Shows and Sales will be bigger and better than ever.

This association has a place in the live stock development of the Valley. It still needs an extra lick of two of work before the present buildings are paid for. Quotas totalling \$14,000 remain to be raised. Here is another instance of the desirability and value of team work. Last year an early snow storm drove the live stock army indoors. This year the drive must not drag along. The amount needed is not large. It should be secured in every county by October first.

## FOR SALE

**For Sale:** Three registered well bred Holstein bulls of serviceable age. Prices reasonable. Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston.

**For Sale:** S. C. W. Leghorns and Barred Plymouth Rock Cocks. 1, \$1.25; 2, \$2.25; 4, \$4.00. Jacob Stennes, Hendrum, Minnesota.

**Public Sale:** 40 registered Shorthorns at Live Stock Pavilion, Crookston, 1.30 p. m., September 28. C. O. Carlson, Erskine, Minn.