

# THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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No. 3

## ENTIRE VALLEY INTERESTED IN ANNUAL FARMERS' MEETINGS AND WINTER SHOWS

### PROGRAM FOR FEB. 7-11 COMPLETED RAILROADS GRANT REDUCED RATES

The program for the eleventh annual Red River Valley Farmer's meetings is given in this issue of the Northwest Monthly. In addition the other events which are scheduled will bring an unusually large number of visitors. The farm crops show, the live stock show, the six pure bred live stock sales, the different breed association meetings, the comprehensive machinery and industrial exhibit and the poultry exhibit will interest thousands.

The program includes leaders who have messages that are of particular significance at this time. On February 10th and 11th particular attention will be given to farm marketing and rural credit.

Read the program through very carefully. Remember to secure a certificate when you buy your railway ticket. You will need it in order to secure a reduced rate (half-fare) for return trip.

### WOMEN'S MEETINGS WILL BE HELD

February 8th to 11th.

The program of the women's meetings to be held during the Winter Show and the Northwest School Farmer's Week will be of unusual interest and attractiveness. These meetings will be held in the gymnasium of the Armory this year. A committee of Crookston women are cooperating with the members of the Home Economics department of the Northwest School in making the arrangements for four fine afternoon meetings.

Miss Julia O. Newton, state leader of home demonstration workers in Minnesota University Farm, St. Paul will be present February 9th and 10th. Miss Alba Bales, head of the home economics department of North Dakota Agricultural College will be here on February 11th. Miss Ferris, Miss Clow and others are also coming.

### ALUMNI MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Northwest School Alumni Association will be held on Friday, February 11th at

4:30 o'clock in the Crookston Association rooms. The annual banquet will follow the meeting. It will be held at the same place. Immediately following President's Coffman's address to be given at the Armory, the alumni and their invited guests will hold their annual reception and ball. Full particulars regarding the time and place of this event will be announced at the alumni meeting.

The secretary expects to return to her home in Ada after February 26th. Lula M. Casselman, Sec'y.

### HOUSE PASSES RED LAKE DRAINAGE BILL.

Favorable action is expected shortly by the United States Senate following the passage on January 17th in the national House of Representatives of the Steenerson Red Lake Drainage bill. (H. R. 14311). This bill provides for the cooperation by the Interior and War Departments in lowering and improving Red Lake and Clearwater River channels. The work of the undertaking is in charge of the Red Lake Drainage and Conservancy Board organized on January 29, 1920. This project will affect hundreds of farmers in this section of the state.

## Attractive Program for Women's Meetings

### Dates are February 8-11

The program for the women's meetings during Northwest School Week promises to be very interesting and valuable. These meetings will be held on the afternoons of February 8 to 11. Singing led by Mrs. Lucille Holiday Swain will come at the beginning of each session. There will be a special musical number each afternoon.

**Tuesday, February 8.** Style Show. Dairy Products as Food, W. A. McKerrow. Food for the Growing Child, Misses Ward and Turner. Address by Dr. Henry Clark.

**Wednesday, February 9.** Style Show. Aid to Home Dressmaker Demonstration, Miss Esther Ferris. Training for the Profession of Home Making, Miss Julia O. Newton. Address by member of legislature.

**Thursday, February 10.** Style Show. Farm Bureau's Relation to the Farm Home, Miss Newton. Address by Hon. L. E. Potter, president Minnesota Farm Bureau and by speaker to be secured for the evening address. Demonstration of Home Decoration Plans, Miss Clow.

**Friday, February 11.** Style Show. Some Health Suggestions, Dr. J. E. Sundwall. Business Methods Applied to Housekeeping, Miss Alba Bales. Home Furnishings, Miss Clow. Address by President Coffman.

The Style shows will be different each day. There are special features each day for those who attend the women's meetings. Each topic is of much importance. The speakers are well known women and men with a message of interest and value. The detailed program will be ready in a few days but it will not vary much from the outline given above.



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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.

#### EDITORS MEET AT NORTHWEST SCHOOL.

More than one hundred members of the Northern Minnesota Editorial Association were in attendance at their annual convention held in Crookston. On January 21 they met at the Northwest School for the session which was filled brimful of interesting happenings.

Following a trip of inspection thru the class rooms and experiment station buildings the editors met in the auditorium for the school's assembly exercises. Extra editions of the Northwest monthly had already announced that the Spirit of the Valley wirelessly the message that she would appear to welcome the editors and also have some of her children present to tell of their part in building up the Red River Valley.

Red River Valley wheat told his story of the great wheat crop amounting to 26,000,000 bushels annually in all the Valley. Early Ohio rolled his eyes and began the story of the Red River Valley potatoes. Red River Valley Live Stock was in his prime. His only trouble was he is growing so fast that he can't keep still. Other characters in this pageant represented a Valley Boy, A Valley Girl and the Red River Valley Farm School.

The parts were well taken by the following students. Spirit of the Valley, Esther Landby; Wheat, Eldred Lindahl; Potatoes, Amos Kasberg; Stock, Ray Knudson; Boy, Arthur Rud; Girl, Neva Gibbons, and Farm School, Percy Hanson.

Preceding the exercises Mr. Selvig gave the address of welcome which was responded to by Mr. H. Z. Mitchell, of Bemidji, president of the editorial association. The combined chorus sang three contest songs very effectively.

At the luncheon that followed the editors had an opportunity to enjoy a meal in our beautiful new dining hall which they all appreciated.

As on dedication day the weather was perfect. All enjoyed themselves. Certainly the school was glad to have the editors come. The Northwest Monthly expresses the hope that they'll wander over this way again. The Valley Spirit liked them so well that she may be persuaded again to appear to do homage to the Wielders of the Pen.

# Program Northwest to be held at

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

### Evening Session, Armory

G. H. Sanberg, Presiding.

- 7:30 Crookston High School Orchestra.  
Crookston High School Chorus, Ruth Cliff, director.
- 8:00 Seventh annual high school declamatory contest.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

### Farm Crops Section Meeting, Armory.

- 9:30 Corn and Grain Varieties for Northwestern Minnesota, R. R. Smith.
- 10:15 Cooperative Work with Farmers in Growing Pure Seed, E. R. Clark.
- 11:00 Progress in the Barberry Eradication Campaign, T. M. McCall.
- 1:30 The Maintenance of Pastures in the Red River Valley, C. P. Bull.
- 2:15 Crop Rotation Suggestions for Northwestern Minnesota, O. I. Bergh.
- 3:00 Sweet Clover, J. G. Haney.  
General Discussion.

### Live Stock Section Meeting, Live Stock Pavilion.

- 9:00 Judging Champions and Groups, Beef Cattle, J. S. Montgomery,  
Judging Champions and Groups, Dairy Cattle, W. A. McKerrow.
- 11:15 The Live Stock Outlook, W. A. McKerrow.
- 1:30 Meeting of Shorthorn Breeders and Shorthorn Sale.
- 3:30 How to Overcome Some of the Problems in Improving Our Live Stock, W. H. Peters.
- 4:15 Address .....J. S. Montgomery
- 8:00 Meeting of Holstein Breeders, Crookston Association Rooms.

### Farm Engineering Section Meeting, Armory.

- 9:00 Construction, Operation, and Care of Stationary Gasoline and Kerosene Engines, M. Peck.
- 10:00 Names and Functions of Principal Parts of Farm Tractors, R. Cowan.
- 11:00 Exercises in Belt Lacing, Rope Splicing and Soldering.

### Evening Session, Armory.

J. F. Ingersoll, Presiding.

- 7:30 Crookston Band, H. L. Smith, director.
- 8:00 Community Singing, led by Mrs. Lucille Holliday Swain.
- 8:20 Northwest School Chorus, Louise Pedersen, director.
- 8:30 Address, "Play Ball" .....Dr. Henry Clark

# Northwest School Farmers' Week Meetings

## Armory, Crookston, February 7-11, 1921

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

#### Farm Engineering Section Meeting, Armory.

- 9:00 Fuel Lubrication and Cooling Systems and their Care, R. Cowan.  
 10:00 Storage Batteries, J. E. Schraeder.  
 11:00 Exercises in Rope Splicing, Belt Lacing and Soldering.

#### Poultry Husbandry Section Meeting, Armory.

Program to be arranged, C. E. Brown, leader.

#### Live Stock Section Meeting, Live Stock Pavilion.

- 10:00 Addresses by N. J. Holmberg, D. D. Aitkin and others.  
 10:45 The Live Stock Marketing Situation, W. A. McKerrow.  
 11:15 Live Stock Parade of Red River Valley Live Stock Show Prize Winners.  
 1:30 Holstein Sale.  
 Immediately following the sale the annual meeting of the Red River Valley Live Stock Association will be held.  
 5:00 Meeting of the Red River Valley Guernsey Breeders' Association, Armory.  
 6:00 Annual banquet of the Red River Valley Live Stock Association, Elk's Hall. Secure tickets in advance.

#### EVENING SESSION, ARMORY.

T. M. McCall, presiding

- 7:30 Crookston High School Orchestra.  
 8:00 Community Singing, led by Mrs. Lucille Holliday Swain.  
 8:30 Crookston High School Chorus, Ruth Cliff, director.  
 8:30 The New Social Consciousness, Mrs. Peter Olesen, Cloquet.  
 Northwest School Chorus, Louise Pedersen, director..

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

#### Farm Engineering Section Meeting, Armory.

- 9:00 How Magnetos Work and How to Care for Them, M. Peck.  
 10:00 Construction and Care of Carburetors, R. Cowan.  
 11:00 Exercises in Rope Splicing, Belt Lacing and Soldering.

#### Horticultural Section Meeting, Gymnasium in Armory.

- 9:30 Potato Tuber Diseases, their Identification and Treatment, T. M. McCall.  
 10:15 Potato Seed Certification Law in Operation, A. G. Tolaas.  
 11:00 Minnesota Potato Exchange, A. W. Aamodt.  
 1:30 Meeting of Red River Valley Certified Seed Association. Place to be announced.  
 3:30 District Meeting Minnesota Potato Exchange.

#### Farm Marketing Conference, Armory.

- 9:30 Meeting of county representatives to organize conference and arrange farm marketing program. Addresses will be given by G. E. Prater, Manager Minnesota Potato Exchange. N. J. Holmberg, State Commissioner of Agriculture, L. E. Potter, President Minnesota

Farm Bureau Federation, Chas. E. Gunnels, Ass't Sec. National Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago. Afternoon session—Addresses by H. N. Owen; a representative of the Canadian Grain Growers' Association and others.

#### Live Stock Section Meeting, Live Stock Pavilion.

- 10:00 Hereford Meeting and Sale.  
 10:30 Chester White Breeders' meeting and Sale.  
 11:30 Poland China Breeders' Meeting and Sale.  
 1:30 Duroc Jersey Breeders' Meeting and Sale.  
 The Minnesota Red River Valley Development Association annual winter meeting will be held in the Crookston Association rooms at 6:00 o'clock.

#### Evening Session, Armory.

S. M. Sivertson, presiding.

- 7:00 Crookston Band, H. L. Smith, director.  
 8:00 Community Singing, led by Mrs. Lucille Holliday Swain.  
 8:20 Crookston High School Chorus, Ruth Cliff, director.  
 8:30 Address.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11.

#### Farm Engineering Section Meeting, Armory.

- 9:00 Care and Operation of Farm Tractors, M. Peck.  
 10:00 Questions on Tractors and Automobiles Answered, S. Rishovd.  
 11:00 Exercises in Rope Splicing, Belt Lacing and Soldering.

#### Farm Management Section Meeting, Gymnasium, Armory.

- 9:30 Sow Thistle Eradication and Control.  
 (a) The Problem Stated.  
 (b) Crop Rotation as a Factor.  
 (c) Live Stock as a Factor.  
 (d) Is Legislation needed?  
 11:00 General Discussion.

#### Farm Marketing and Rural Credit Conference, Armory.

(Continued from preceding day)

- 9:30 Meetings of County Groups to consider plans. Speakers for the forenoon session will be announced later.  
 1:00 Farm Credit Needs, E. G. Quamme.  
 2:15 Address, Rural Health Needs, Dr. J. E. Sundwall.  
 3:00 Report of Resolutions Committee.  
 The Northwest School Alumni Association will meet at 4:30 o'clock in the Crookston Association rooms. Banquet at 6:00 o'clock.

#### Evening Session, Armory.

C. G. Selvig, Presiding.

- 7:00 Crookston Band, H. L. Smith, Director.  
 7:30 Seventh Annual Red River Valley Rural School Spelling Contest, C. H. Geise in charge.  
 8:00 Community Singing, led by Mrs. Lucille Holliday Swain.  
 8:20 Northwest School Chorus, Louise Pedersen, director.  
 8:30 Address, Dr. Lotus D. Coffman, University of Minnesota.

## Northwest Station Issues Report For 1920

Many Projects Under Way  
Extensive Report Will Be Ready  
Next Month

### Few Changes In Staff

There have been very few changes in the Northwest Experiment Station staff during the present year. C. E. Brown was in charge of poultry work; T. M. McCall of work in horticulture and R. R. Smith in agronomy. John Husby was appointed to the live stock position beginning in July and E. R. Clark to the position of pure seed specialist and as home project assistant, A. J. Kittleson with his office in the Northwest Station continues as leader of boys' and girls' club work in the northwestern part of the state. J. P. Bengtson gave considerable time to home project visitation work. C. G. Selvig is the superintendent.

### AGRONOMY PROJECTS,

R. R. Smith, Agronomist.

In the 1920 agronomy department investigations the following results were recorded.

Rates of seeding found to be the most desirable were Durum wheat (Mindum No. 470) 5 to 6 pecks per acre; large late oats 10 pecks; six row barley 8 pecks and two row barley about 9 pecks per acre.

Varietal tests with farm crops further fortified the value of the following varieties of grains for this section of the state, namely, Mindum No. 470, a durum wheat; Manchuria, a six row barley; Minnesota No. 281. Victory or English Newmarket oats for late oat varieties and Minnesota No. 261 as an early variety of oats. The corn varieties such as Northwestern Dent, Minnesota No. 23 and an early selection of Minnesota No. 13 gave very good results in 1920. Pearl flint was the most outstanding in the flint class.

Rotations making use of a grass crop after grain with a cultivated crop following the grass, continue to give best results. Thorough cultivations and control of noxious weeds are the two most important factors.

Fertilizers and soil fertility tests continue to give average results only, with no special benefit due to commercial fertilizers over barnyard manure.

### HORTICULTURAL PROJECTS,

T. M. McCall, Horticulturist.

The long frost free period of the past season compensated somewhat for the drought of mid to late summer. The planting season for the early field planted crops opened about ten days late, due to the spring floods. The most variable results were obtained from the garden crops in the variety tests.

The mid-season horticultural crops such as cucumbers, squash, peas and

cabbage suffered greatly from the drought, while the warm season crops such as sweet corn, tomatoes and beans together with the root crops made average to high yields. One unusual type of sweet corn, (Early Pickini) produced roasting ears in sixty-two days from planting, ranking first in earliness in a test of eighteen varieties. Several new varieties of sweet corn were in test this year. The Earliana variety of tomato yielded at the rate of 686.4 bu. per acre. The Queen, a yellow variety, made the poorest yield of the ten varieties in test, yielding only 153 bu. per acre.

The long season favored the late varieties of potatoes in that they derived benefit from the late summer rains. One hundred and five test plots were used in the potato investigations project during the past year. Three varieties, in seed plots of one acre each, were certified. The varieties gave the following yields: Early Ohio, 105.8 bu.; Irish Cobbler, 127.26 bu., and Green Mountain, 135.7 bu.

Good crops were harvested from the seedlings in the plum orchard. Many of these seedlings are equal and some superior to many of the standard sorts. Gooseberries and currants yielded good crops. The Transcendent Virginia, Ea. Strawberry and Arctic crab apples produced scattering fruits the past season. Fair to good yields were obtained from the Beta grape and from the Minnesota seedling strawberry varieties. Trees, bush and cane fruits made satisfactory growth during the past year and are going into winter in good condition.

### LIVE STOCK WORK,

John Husby, Animal Husbandman

The 1920 live stock work was carried on much as before. The breeding herds of Holsteins, Guernseys and Shorthorns numbering about 60 head are improving in quality. Many fine calves were dropped during the year materially enhancing the value of the herd. The breeding herd of Duroc Jersey swine and flock of Shropshire sheep also showed great improvement during the year.

The station live stock work centered in the maintenance of the stock, in teaching work during the school year and in judging live stock at fairs, in addition to the general work involved in conferring with farmers regarding their live stock problems.

As secretary of the Red River Valley Live Stock association considerable work was done for the shows and sales conducted by that association.

### POULTRY WORK,

C. E. Brown, Poultryman.

During the past year the egg yield was up to the average although early hatching eggs were low in fertility. After the 15th of April fertility ran as high as 83% for incubator hatches and 97% for hen hatches.

In the investigation of hens and pullets for profitable egg production it was found that the pullets showed

a profit of 17 cents each more than the hens during 1920. In comparing the cost of operating hard coal brooders and kerosene brooders it was found in the 1920 season that the hard coal system was cheaper, costing \$1.08 to brood 100 chicks six weeks with the coal brooder as against \$2.87 per 100 chicks with the kerosene brooder. In another test as to the value of turning eggs while holding them for batching, the results were so nearly identical that there appears to be no advantage in turning. None of these results should be considered conclusive as investigations of this kind require a longer time to establish definite conclusions.

### PURE SEED DISTRIBUTION,

E. R. Clark, Pure Seed Specialist.

One hundred and ten representative farmers in eleven counties of Northwestern Minnesota grew pure seed grains in cooperation with the Northwest Station in 1920. Thirty-one farmers were furnished small amounts of Mindum (Minnesota No. 470) wheat, a high yielding variety of durum, which because of its resistance to rust damage and its adaptability to our conditions has given excellent result in every section of the Valley. Nineteen growers made trials with barley, sowing the Oderbrucker, Manchuria, and Svanhals varieties, while twenty-three others sowed select strains of Swedish Select oats, namely, Minnesota Nos. 281 and 295 and the strain known as English Newmarket.

Interesting trials with Northwestern Dent corn were carried on by twenty-three co-operators, representing a wide range of soil and moisture conditions. The excellent silage-making qualities of this variety, combined with its maturity, are making it very popular with many growers, and excellent results were obtained this season, especially in Kittson and Red Lake counties.

### EXTENSION WORK.

The year just passed has been one of the most fruitful on record in the extension work done in cooperation with farm bureaus, the various agricultural organizations in the Red River Valley and with many community and farm clubs. The number of appointments filled by members of the staff has been limited to the number of persons available for and time that could be given to extension work. As heretofore, C. E. Brown, poultry specialist, devoted one-half of his time to outside work under the direction of the Agricultural Extension Division, while A. J. Kittleson of the State Boys' and Girls' club department gave full time to this important work. John Husby, T. M. McCall, R. R. Smith and E. R. Clark covered their respective lines of work in meetings, fairs and organization work and in addition Miss Lottie Ward, J. P. Bengtson and Superintendent C. G. Selvig gave addresses at a large number of meetings. In all 243 appointments were filled.