

# THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



Published Monthly by the Northwest School of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Entered as second class matter December 2, 1916, at the Post Office at Crookston, Minnesota, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

VOL. VII.

CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA, JUNE, 1923.

NO. 7.

## SUNDBERG NAMED REGENT

Appointed to Board of Regents for Six Year Period. Is First Appointee Under New Act Passed by Legislature.

J. E. Sundberg, of Kennedy, is the new ninth district appointee to the Board of Regents.

He is the first member of the Board appointed under the act passed by the last session of the legislature. Under the provisions of this act, one member of the Board must be selected from each of the ten Congressional districts in the state.

Mr. Sundberg is a well known resident of Kittson county, and has practiced law there for a number of years. He is a farmer owning and operating 1300 acres of land. His father, the late Senator B. E. Sundberg, one of the pioneers of the Red River Valley, was very well known throughout the entire state.

Mr. Sundberg will meet with the Board of Regents for the first time on June 19. His training, experience and character combine to make him a well-equipped person for the important position he assumes.

The appointment has been well received in this section of the state, which is the first district recognized under the law recently passed. Mr. Sundberg has always taken a keen interest in Valley affairs and is thoroughly familiar with its problems and conditions, as well as of the entire state. He was born in Kennedy.

## SCHOOL PROSPECTS BRIGHT

From all indications, this fall will see a record enrollment at the Northwest School. Rooms are being reserved by last year's students and new students. Since school closed in March, Mr. Clark, Mr. Kiser and Mr. Larson have been calling on students taking home projects, have attended short courses, and with other members of the faculty have taken part in community club programs and picnics. The reports brought back by them as a result of conversations with alumni, former students and prospective students indicate an increased interest in school affairs. The indications are that the school will be filled to capacity on the opening day, October 1.

Prospective students appear to be greatly interested in the opportunities which will be offered in the music department. The fact that it is possible to take private music lessons in connection with the regular school course and at the same time receive

credit towards graduation is interesting a great many. Girls interested in nursing or business training will also be able to specialize in such work and at the same time complete the required subjects for graduation. Engineering, shop work, stock judging and academic subjects meet the requirements for most of the boys who attend. The advanced class will be larger than it has been for some time. This will include graduates from the three years' course as well as students from other schools who wish to prepare for college entrance.

## CLUBS VISIT STATION

With two organizations holding meetings here in May, seven already scheduled for June and a large number that are planning to come during July, it is safe to state that the Northwest School and Station will have as visitors before fall, thousands of men and women living in different communities in this section of the state.

To date the list includes Boxville Farmers Club, Warren Commercial Club, Averill (Clay county) farm club, Radium, Warrenton and West Prairie (near Stephen) farm clubs, Fisher, Beltrami and Gary Community clubs, and Bloomer (near Argyle) farm club. In addition the farm club and township units of Kittson counties are coming to the Northwest School and Station on July 22. It is expected that this list will be greatly increased during the next two or three weeks.

All who have visited the Northwest School state that it is an ideal place for such gatherings. Those who come have the opportunity to see at first hand the work of the school and station. During the months of June and July the experiments being carried on can be viewed to the best advantage. Very few places can equal the school-grounds for beauty and just to spend a few hours among such surroundings is in itself worth the trip. The station has facilities to assist the various groups in planning a picnic that is enjoyed by all.

## NINTH DISTRICT BANKERS BANQUET AT N. W. SCHOOL

The ninth district bankers' association held its annual dinner meeting at the Northwest School on May 25, with an attendance of 197 at the dinner, which was served in the school dining hall. T. M. Alexander, Fergus Falls, president of the association, acted as toastmaster. Addresses were made by Superintendent Selvig; C. A. Chapman, Rochester, vice president of the Minnesota Bankers' Association; Sen-

ator C. L. Hansen, Thief River Falls, and A. E. Pfflner, Argyle, who was elected president of the ninth district group. A. H. Larson led in community singing, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The ninth district bankers adopted a resolution favoring diversified farming and cooperative commodity banking.

## ALUMNI PROJECTS.

Much interest is being taken by the alumni and former students of the Northwest School of Agriculture in connection with the alumni home project work, which was organized some time ago. A large number of the alumni and former students have sent in the blanks which were forwarded to them. As a result there will be before the season is over, two or three hundred who are definitely engaged in agricultural or related activities in cooperation with each other and the Northwest School and Station. This is a new idea in carrying education to the men and women on the farms which bids fair to prove a success.

## BREAD AND CAKE MAKING

### TEAMS SELECTED

The team demonstration contests in bread and cake making for the Northwest District to determine which teams are to represent this district at the State Fair next September, closed with the Polk County Contest, June 1.

Miss Schenck, who judged these contests, announces the following teams as winner: Class "A" Bread, Wadena County Team, Wadena: Alice Boyer, Gladys Lawson and Alton Humboldt; Class "B" Bread, Beltrami County Team, Puposky: Gladys Morberg, Audrey Coffin and Helen Coffin; Cake-Team Demonstration, Kittson County Team, Hallock: Stella Carlson and Frances Lindahl; Individual Cake Demonstration, Kittson County, Humboldt: Florence Reese.

Frances Lindahl and Stella Carlson, of Kittson County, won first place in the District cake making demonstration held in May. In addition to having the honor of being the winners among the contestants of 16 counties, they will receive a free trip to the Minnesota State Fair, where they will compete with similar teams from other district. The winners at the State Fair will receive a free trip to Chicago this fall. Frances will be a senior at the Northwest School next year, while Stella will be a junior. Both girls, therefore, have received training in the domestic science classes for one or more years.

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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.

### WHEAT GROWERS ORGANIZE

Much progress is being made by the wheat growers in perfecting their commodity cooperative organization. There are several affiliated organizations based on the Sapiro or California commodity marketing plan that are signing up growers in a five year contract. Those who are following the work that is being done along the lines of cooperative commodity marketing know that within a few years there will be a complete change in the methods followed by farmers in marketing their products. That this will have a very large influence on prices received by the farmers goes without saying. In place of marketing agencies that are interested in as wide a spread as possible between what the producer gets and what the consumer pays, the cooperative marketing idea is based on having as narrow a spread as possible, that is, giving the producer as much as possible and having the consumer pay as little as possible. Northwestern Minnesota farmers are actively taking up this new commodity marketing idea.

### COOPERATIVE POTATO MARKETING ORGANIZATIONS GROWING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS

With S. G. Rubinow as general manager of the Minnesota Potato Growers' Exchange and potato growers over the entire state signing up five year contracts to sell their potatoes to this exchange, potato marketing is taking on a new aspect in so far as the future is concerned. Meetings have already been held in many of the potato producing counties. During the latter part of June and during July the organization forces will come to the Red River Valley. There is no doubt as to the outcome which seeks to pool at least 60% of the 1924 potato crop. The potato marketing plan is based on the California commodity marketing system, which has proved successful in that state during the last 18 years. Over a quarter of a billion dollars' worth of farm products were marketed under cooperative commodity marketing agencies in 1922.

### PERSONALS AND NEWS ITEMS FROM FAR AND NEAR

'17—Maja Peterson writes that she is not a nurse as reported in the Alumni Directory, as her health would not permit. She is at present staying home with her parents at Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

'16—Herman Skyberg greeted friends at the school on April 26, and bought some seed grain for his farm near Fisher.

'16—Mrs. H. Schumacher, (Selma Nyquist), of Niagara, N. D., announces the arrival of Victoria Marie at their home in April.

'16—Ole Flaata announces the arrival of a son, Odney Vernon, on March 5.

W. E. Morris, state leader of county agents, visited at the school on April 26.

Miss Alice Glise, who has been matron at the Northwest School Dining Hall for the past eight years, left on April 25 for her home in Decorah, Iowa, where she will live with her parents. Her friends on the campus entertained for her on the evening of the 25th, and presented her with a beautiful vase.

Announcement has been received of the marriage of Mabel Engelstad, Nielsville, to Bennie Aukland on April 18.

Florence Daugherty and Roy H. Melick, '21, were married some time ago. Mr. and Mrs. Melick visited the Northwest School and Station early in June. They are living at Strathcona. Their school mates and friends send greetings and best wishes.

Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Berge (nee Naime Nansen, '22) announce the arrival of a son. Congratulations!

Earl K. Johnston writes from 917 22nd St., Sioux City, Iowa, that he is planning to continue his school work possibly at the University of Iowa. He also informed us that he has a ten months old son.

Martin C. Anderson, '21, is herdsman for O. J. Grover, Glyndon. Martin plans to enroll at the Minnesota Agricultural College this fall.

Fred Fredrickson, '13, writes that he enjoys the N. W. Monthly, as it keeps him in touch with the school's activities and his classmates. Fred is instructor at the Roosevelt Junior High School, Fargo.

Norris M. Johnson, '14, and Minn. Ag. '22, is plot man at the N. C. Experiment Station, Grand Rapids.

Myrtle K. Erickson, '21, 1281 Sherburne Avenue, St. Paul, is employed in a clerical position with Montgomery Ward & Co. She writes that she follows the N. W. School's activities thru the N. W. Monthly, with keen enjoyment.

Lulu M. Casselman, '12, is taking post graduate work at the General hospital, Minneapolis.

Thorval Tunheim, '16, has changed his address to 1035 13th Avenue S. E., Minneapolis.

The Crookston Times for June 8 contains the information that Walter Latta, '14, was married on June 6 to Sara Allen, of Fairfax township. They left by automobile for a trip to Forman N. D., the former home of the bride, and will make their home on the farm

of Mr. Latta's father, near Crookston, upon their return.

Osmond Jensen, '22, took his fourth year work at Thief River Falls high school and graduated in June.

Theodore Peterson, '19, is connected with a bank at Cass Lake.

Nels Engen, '15, superintendent of schools of Marshall county, has been carrying on a very successful program of athletics throughout his rural schools. District play days were held during May to select the contestants for the county play day held at Warren on June 9. Only a few counties have started in this activity. The success of the Marshall county programs has received considerable comment from other counties.

Ruth Solem, is taking nurse's training at the Physician's hospital, Thief River Falls.

Carl A. Berg, '12, Warroad, visited at the school on June 9. He attended a Delco Light convention in Crookston on the 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Gunnufson, of Fertile, accompanied by their son and daughter, visited at the Northwest School recently. Their daughter, Gladys will return as a senior next year and continue the excellent record she has made in vocal music.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Swain, 1105 6th Street, S. E., Minneapolis, announce the arrival of Robert Lewis, on May 26. Mrs. Swain will be remembered as Miss M. Lucille Holliday, instructor in music, who won a large and enthusiastic following through her success as community song leader.

A. K. Pierce visited friends at the school on June 2, when he returned for his car. He left immediately for the University, where he is studying at present.

Hector Hanson, Fertile, accompanied by his father and mother, and brother, Norman, visited the school late in May. Norman will enroll as a freshman on October 1 and Hector will finish his senior year next year.

### IN MEMORIAM

Arthur Christianson, '15-'17, Crookston, age 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Christianson, of Crookston, died at a hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on May 17. Death came very suddenly, following an operation. He was buried at Crookston on May 22. He is survived by his parents, three brothers and one sister. Arthur will be remembered for his happy disposition and ever-ready smile.

### HOLSTEIN BULLS FOR SALE

The Northwest Experiment Station offers for sale: Sir Pietertje Tritoma Ormsby 2nd, 352994, born Feb. 12, 1921. He is the grandson of 41st on the sire's side. The average of his two nearest dams for seven days is 32.45 pounds of butter.

King Watson Pontiac Korndyke. Harold Dunton, '15, Bagley, offers this bull for sale. He is out of Queen Korndyke Pontiac Lass and Star Watson Pontiac Segis. Weight about 1800 pounds. Price, \$110.00.

## Sweet Clover Hay for Beef Cattle

(By W. H. Peters and O. M. Kiser, Division of Animal Husbandry, University of Minnesota, Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston.)

For several years there has been considerable interest in the growing of sweet clover in Minnesota. The crop has been tried in small acreages throughout the state. It seems to have met with the greatest favor with farmers in the northwest quarter of the state where it is particularly well adapted to conditions, and where a better pasture and hay crop is most needed. During the past two years the acreage of sweet clover has increased very rapidly in the Red River Valley district.

Among the chief advantages claimed for sweet clover as a farm crop are, first that it is a legume crop and grows with a long tap root. It is a crop that enriches the soil by collecting nitrogen from the air while it is growing and stores up some of this nitrogen in its root system. When a subsequent non-leguminous crop is grown on the sweet clover soil, this stored nitrogen becomes available to that crop and stimulates greater growth and yield. The heavy root growth also has a tendency to loosen up the subsoil, thus improving the physical condition of the soil.

Second, sweet clover grows rapidly in the spring and is effective in keeping down the growth of noxious weeds.

Third, sweet clover has been a successful, profitable crop when grown for seed production.

Fourth, sweet clover has been successfully as pasture for livestock and when pastured by cattle and sheep it will pasture more animals successfully on a given acreage than any other pasture crop that is used in northern Minnesota at least.

Fifth, sweet clover has been used some as a hay for winter feeding of cattle and sheep, and has proven successful for this purpose when good sound sweet clover hay has been used and especially when supplemented with some other feed of some kind such as corn silage, prairie hay or grain.

### Utilization of Clover Hay.

It is safe to say that all of the above named advantages claimed for the sweet clover plant have been thoroughly established except its use as hay. Several problems have been associated with attempts to use sweet clover as hay. One is the difficulty of harvesting, handling and curing the first cutting of the crop and making a good quality of hay out of it. Another is the occasional outbreak of a disease that has been commonly termed "sweet clover sickness" resulting from the feeding of sweet clover hay to cattle.

So far as we are aware, the exact nature and cause of this sickness has

not been completely established. It has been our experience however, and it seems to be pretty well substantiated by others that there is little danger of trouble from this source when a sound well-cured quality of sweet clover hay is fed along with some other feed of most any type.

### The Feeding Trial.

It is true that Red clover, Alsike clover and alfalfa, all legume crops and all thoroughly established as first class hay crops can be grown and are grown to some extent in the Red River Valley. All of them especially alfalfa, could be grown much more extensively to augment the winter hay supply. If this were done the need of sweet clover as a hay crop would be doubtful. It is true, however, that on some soils and for some men, sweet clover seems to grow more readily than does alfalfa. These men can well be interested in the possible utilization of sweet clover as a hay crop.

With this in view, a feeding trial was conducted at the Northwest Experiment Station at Crookston, during the winter of 1922-1923, with the object in view of giving sweet clover hay a trial as a winter roughage for wintering growing, yearling beef cattle.

Each lot of cattle was housed in a section of the feeding shed that was provided with large sliding doors opening to the south. An exercising yard about 100 ft. long by 20 ft wide extended out from the south side of the shed for each lot. In each case the cattle had their hay and straw before them at all times in racks, the hay inside the shed and the straw out in the exercising lots. Corn silage was fed morning and evening, the aim being to feed 15 pounds of silage per head per day to the three lots receiving silage.

Salt and water were before the cattle at all times except during about six weeks of the coldest winter weather when freezing of the tanks made watering twice a day necessary. The water tanks were located inside the shed, were packed with horse manure around the outside and covered at night, but were not artificially heated.

First cutting alfalfa hay grading No. 2 was used. The sweet clover hay used was the yellow flowering variety about one-third of the amount used being first cutting and two-thirds second cutting. All of it was sound and clean, no mold being noticed in it at any time. The silage was of a fair quality, showed an average amount of corn in it and was well preserved. The oat straw and sweet clover straw were clean and free from foreign plants such as grasses or weeds.

### Results.

The steers in lot 2 receiving sweet clover hay, corn silage and oat straw made a noticeably larger gain than the steers in lot 1 receiving alfalfa hay, corn silage and oat straw. In considering this fact it must be kept in mind that this is a report of only one trial with a comparatively small number of steers and cannot be considered as conclusive until further experimental work comparing the two feeds has been done. The significant thing about the gains made by these two lots of steers is the fact that the cattle receiving the sweet clover hay did winter successfully, made a creditable gain and compared favorably with the cattle receiving the alfalfa hay.

A study of the figures given for lot 3 shows that the steers in this lot receiving sweet clover hay and oat straw without the corn silage made an average daily gain of .645 pounds, while those in Lot 2 receiving corn silage in addition to the sweet clover hay and oat straw made an average daily gain of 1.16 pounds. It will be noticed further that with corn silage at \$4.25 per ton, sweet clover at \$8.00 and oat straw at \$1.50 per ton the cost per pound gain in lot 3, was \$0.1018, thus showing a reduction of a little over \$0.03 in the cost per pound of gain due to the addition of silage to the ration.

It could be said of the eighteen steers in Lots 1, 2, and 3 at the close of the trial, that they had all wintered successfully as stock steers and were in good, healthy, thrifty condition suitable to going on pasture and looked ready to start right out making good gains. None of them were fleshy enough to class as butcher steers. It was difficult to detect any difference at all in appearance as to flesh covering or thrift between lots 1 and 2 though the steers in lot 3 hardly looked up to the equal in condition of those in lots 1 and 2.

The steers in lot 4 were fed on a ration of approximately fifteen pounds of corn silage per head per day, all the threshed sweet clover straw and all the oat straw they cared to eat. It was the purpose of this ration to determine whether or not the threshed sweet clover straw had any value as feed in the form in which it comes from the threshing machine. Because the steers in this lot became so thin in condition and were doing so poorly about the middle of the winter, some ground oats was fed until the weather began to warm up in the spring. The steers in this lot gained only 27.22 pounds each during the entire winter period of 176 days and that by charging sweet clover straw at \$1.50, per ton, oat straw at \$1.50 per ton, ground oats at \$20.00 per ton and corn silage at \$4.25 per

ton, they showed a feed cost of \$0.355 per pound of gain. The fact that these cattle ate so little of the sweet clover straw, were in a very thin, depleted looking condition, and showed such a high cost per pound of gain is considered sufficient reason for concluding that the average sweet clover straw, as it comes from the threshing machine, cannot be considered a useful feed for cattle.

#### Conclusions

1. The two lots of steers receiving sweet clover hay in their ration wintered successfully, no animal being off feed or sick at any time, and compared favorably in every way with the lot receiving alfalfa hay in their ration.
2. Sweet clover straw proved to be a failure as a cattle feed.
3. The addition of corn silage to the ration of sweet clover hay and oat straw increased the gains by .515 pounds per head per day, and decreased the cost of gains by \$0.03 per lb.
4. Further experimental feeding trials must be conducted before the comparative feeding value of alfalfa and sweet clover hay can be considered established.
5. When considering the cost of production and difficulty of handling and curing sweet clover hay as compared to alfalfa, it may be advisable to limit the use of sweet clover to pasture purposes and grow alfalfa for hay, in feeding beef cattle. Sweet clover hay, on the other hand, has given sufficiently satisfactory results in this trial to warrant further experimental feeding work with it.

#### THE MINNESOTA RED RIVER VALLEY DEVELOPMENT ASSN.

C. H. Zealand, Secretary

To many the name "Development Association" indicates only an organization devoted to the work of land selling; as applied to the Minnesota Red River Valley's organization, however, nothing could be further from the facts.

While recognizing the business of land selling as one entitled to encouragement the same as any other while conducted along legitimate and consistent lines, a definite distinction lies between that and the work of the Development Association. Land settlement it considers a fundamental of development. Increased settlement of any community affords opportunity for improvement of home, school, church, business and many other facilities that go to make the business of living the more convenient and agreeable. The Minnesota Red River Valley, while it now has thousands of fine farms and many good towns, is a considerable ways yet from that proportion of settlement which can afford the most advantages.

For that reason the Development Association gives attention to the matter of securing favorable publicity to the Valley's resources and opportunities, to the end that those seeking new home locations may be attracted to it. To an equal extent it endeavors to discourage the giving of incorrect publicity; whether it be in the form of exaggeration for the sake of attractive

effect, or of reports of floods, storms, fires, etc., beyond the warrant of facts.

Work is now under way by the association to secure the production of a booklet which will tell of the Valley's wonderful richness of soil, its progress along lines of improved agricultural production, and the unusual extent to which the people of the Valley counties work together. For use in this booklet, the association would like to secure photographs of farm homes, farming scenes, live stock herds, scenic spots, etc., and will be appreciative of any assistance in this direction.

The Development Association is interested in the creation of state parks at various points throughout the valley. These will serve two purposes in particular—the marking of points of historical interest which will become of more and more consequence as the Valley settlement attains historic age; and the preservation of natural beauty throughout the Valley.

The highest aim of the Development Association is that it may serve in the development of the Minnesota Red River Valley in the truest sense of the word. As endeavor in that direction it has assisted in the fullest possible measure the promotion of the Red River Valley Winter Shows. These have now become famous the country over for size, broadness of scope, and high calibre of program. Since it has grown to such huge proportions, the Development Association now has direct supervision of the grain and potato sections only in the Winter Shows and invites the cooperation of all in exhibiting the Valley best production in these two lines each year. Here recognition is due—and is gladly given—to the fact that it has been through the

wonderful work of the Northwest School of Agriculture—coupled with the fine support of the people of the ten counties of northwestern Minnesota—that the Winter Shows have gained such prominence and worth.

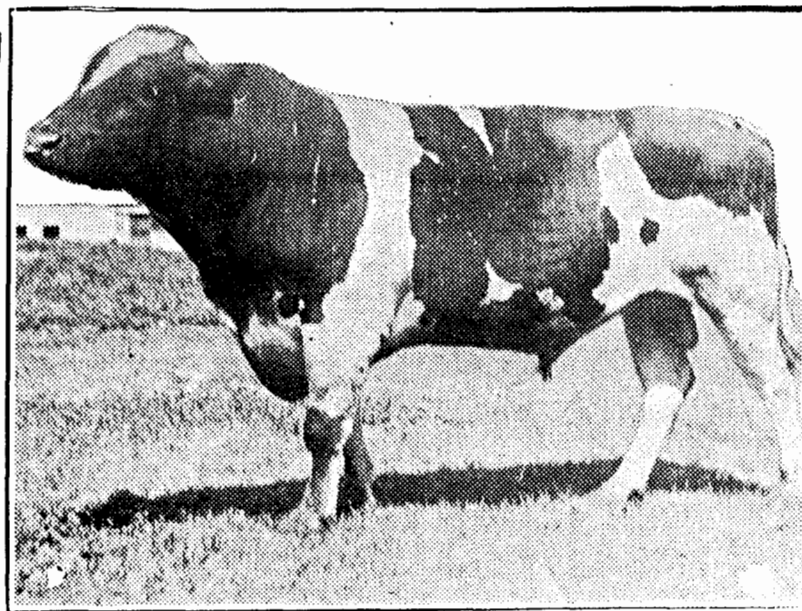
Highway improvement, drainage, transportation facilities, soil preservation, water conservation, are among other features of development in which the association is interested. The directorate of the organization is about equally divided between people of town and country interests. In its work it has had in the past the cooperation of men and women of broad views and comprehensive vision, to whom acknowledgement is hereby tendered; and the continuation in a larger measure, and upon the part of a greater number, cordially invited.

On behalf of the officers and directors of the Development Association, appreciation is expressed to the Northwest Monthly of this opportunity of extending its message to the people of Northwestern Minnesota and the famous "Red River Valley."

#### GOOD CHANCE TO SECURE REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE

The Red River Valley Livestock Association is in a position to give someone a start in the purebred Shropshire business at a very low cost. Six superior purebred sheep donated by Arthur Marsden & Son, Hendrum, to the association are offered for sale. The six include the two three-year-old ewes, two yearling ewes and two spring lambs.

The sheep can be seen on the Walter Columbus farm. Write to C. G. Selvig, Crookston, for further information.



#### HEADS DOLLAR FARM HERD

Edenvale Sir Catrina Pietertje, No. 224927, which heads the herd at the Dollar Farm, at Mentor, Minn., is a son of Sir Pietertje Ormsby Mercedes, 41st, whose breeding represents the blood of two of the greatest foundation animals in the world, Sir iPetertje Ormsby Mercedes (sire of 15 1,000-pound daughters), and Spring Brook Bess Burke, held to be the greatest mother of the breed.

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