

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.

VOLUME VIII.

CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA, SEPTEMBER, 1924.

NUMBER 10.

Information for New Students School Opens October 1 Heavy Preliminary Registration

School opens for registration Wednesday, October 1. All students should arrive that day to arrange their schedules. The registrar's office will be open in the evening to care for those who reach Crookston on the evening trains. Students are advised not to come before Wednesday.

All trains on Wednesday will be met by committees who will direct students to the school. The school bus will be at the railway station to take students directly to the school. If you have your room reserved, give baggage check to members of the committees, and all baggage will soon be delivered at the school. Those who do not have rooms will present their baggage checks when they arrive at the school.

Upon arrival at the school go directly to the library, which is located in the Kiehle building, where registration will take place.

Classes will begin at 8:15 Thursday, October 2. The first sessions in all classes are among the most important of the year and it is of decided advantage to the student to be present at that time.

GET ACQUAINTED IN OCTOBER

Although students at the Northwest School come from almost every community in Northwestern Minnesota and other parts of the state, it does not take them long to become well acquainted with each other. School opens on October 1, and on the first Saturday evening the first social event takes place. This is the reception to new students. During the following week the boys will have their "Pow-Wow" and the girls their "Frolic." These are especially happy occasions. Next comes the outdoor festival, at which time everyone cooks and eats supper out of doors. A number of stunts and contests follow the supper, closing with a large bonfire which has been prepared by the freshman boys. The first lecture course number of the year is planned for October. The assembly periods during October will be given over to a number of prominent speakers and several music number will also be given. After a few days every student will feel that he has always known the Northwest School and the many young men and women who attend.

ENROLLMENT PROSPECTS

The incoming tide of prosperity in this section of the state is strikingly illustrated by the increased preliminary enrollment at the Northwest School of Agriculture. Good crops, reinforced by higher prices has resulted in bringing this preliminary registration enrollment up to a figure never before reached in the history of the institution. The list includes students from every county of the district and in addition an unusually large number from north central Minnesota.

Another item of interest is the increased enrollment for the advanced or fourth year's work, indicating a desire on the part of the graduates of the three-year course to secure further training in preparation for college work or for teaching.

Especially gratifying is the large number of new students who have registered. This number will be augmented by others between now and the opening of the school term, which is October first, as the average number of new registrations now is about five per day.

The past three years have been particularly difficult for farmers in this section of the state, due to poor yields of grain, low prices, and almost no market for potatoes. A similar combination of circumstances can hardly come in the future. That we have passed the low stage and are now gradually attaining a higher income level is an assured fact. Scores of young people on northwestern Minnesota farms rejoice in the brighter prospects which now prevail.

STRONG FACULTY AT NORTHWEST SCHOOL

The Northwest School begins its nineteenth year with an able corps of teachers in charge of instructional work. They are all able men and women who are greatly interested in their work and who have a deep sympathy with rural life. Backed by technical training in their respective departments and successful experience they are in a position to give a great deal to the young men and women who will come to their classes.

Superintendent C. G. Selvig will teach classes in Farm Marketing and Comparative Agriculture; T. M. McCall will have charge of all classes in
(Continued on Page 2)

GIRLS ENJOY STATE FAIR

"We'll never forget this week," was the comment made by the 16 girls of the Northwest School who attended the state fair. The girls acted as waitresses at the Farm Boys camp and were chaperoned by Mrs. C. G. Selvig and Miss Fanny B. Lippett, head of the domestic science department. The duties at the camp did not prevent the girls from taking several sight-seeing trips about the cities. Included in the excursions were visits to the capitol, department stores, art galleries, Minnehaha Falls, parks, flour mills and state university. The girls also had an opportunity to observe the many demonstrations in boys' and girls' club work and secure ideas for their own demonstrations for the coming year. The trip to the fair was given as an award for good scholarship last year and was made up largely of last year's juniors. Girls who enter the Northwest School this fall will be eligible for the trip to the 1926 state fair, when 16 girls from the Northwest School will again be selected.

Those who made the trip this year were Anna Flekke, Thief River Falls; Anna Hoper, Stephen; Stella Sorenson, Plummer; Gladys Gunutson and Mildred Oswald, Fertile; Mildred Dunn, Northcote; Agnes Forsness, Greenbush; Ellen Lervold, Halstad; Cora Thompson, McIntosh; Della Strommer, Clearbrook; Amy Onneland, East Grand Forks; Kate Osterloh, Angus; Emma Nelson, Gatzke; Elizabeth Jones, Lancaster, and Selma Hamre, McIntosh.

WIN TRIP TO CHICAGO

Two students of the Northwest School made an excellent showing at the State Fair in the advanced bread-making contest. Helen Gibbons, Crookston, and Cora Walters, Beltrami, of Polk county, represented the Northwestern Minnesota district at the Fair. Helen and Cora won third place. The Buhl team won first and the Excelsior team second. As a result Helen and Cora will receive a free trip to Chicago in December, when the International Live Stock Show is held there.

Miss Mildred Schenck of the home economics department, who coached the girls, is planning on having a number of teams from the Northwest School in various contests next spring. The Junior girls who attended the state fair this year had an excellent opportunity to study the various demonstrations given at the fair this year, which will help them in their contests next spring.

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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.

A FINE RECORD

Northwestern Minnesota boys and girls won signal honors this year at the Minnesota State Fair in the junior club department exhibitions and demonstrations. Boys' and girls' club work ranks among our most important educational activities. It calls for initiative on the part of our boys and girls, perseverance, careful planning, study to learn the latest and best procedure to follow, and business judgment.

In demonstrating a project, team play is essential and practice in presenting the data to the public is secured. That so many winning teams and individuals came from this section is a matter of much interest to every person here who recognizes in club work one of our most interesting and inspiring methods of educational activity.

Mr. A. J. Kittleson, assistant state leader of boys' and girls' club work, located at the Northwest School of Agriculture, his assistants and the local club leaders deserve much credit for their part in making this splendid record. And the boys and girls themselves, 3,000 of them, who are club members, to them we all pay homage for good work well done.

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STRONG FACULTY AT NORTHWEST SCHOOL

Agricultural Botany and Horticultural subjects; R. S. Dunham and E. R. Clark will have charge of classes in Farm Crops, Soils and Farm Management. Mr. Clark will also teach Civics. O. M. Kiser and D. H. LaVoi will teach livestock classes. In addition, Mr. LaVoi will act as physical director and teach rural Sociology and Agricultural Economics.

A. H. Larson, registrar and preceptor, will teach advanced academic subjects. E. W. Avery will have charge of farm arithmetic, debating, and one business subject. A. M. Pilkey will have charge of instruction in Poultry.

A. M. Foker, Sturges L. Victor and Severin O. Rishovd will teach subjects offered in the farm engineering department, including Mechanical Drawing, Carpentry, Blacksmithing, Farm Motors, and Farm Mechanics.

Miss Fanny B. Lippitt, Mildred Schenck and Bernice Nolan will teach home economics subjects. Miss Anne Simley and Helen Rupert will have charge of the work in English. Miss Alva Sherwood and Olga E. Nettum will teach business subjects, including

typewriting and stenography. Miss Ann Thiel, school nurse, will have classes in home nursing.

Miss Agnes Bothne and Reefa G. Tordoff will have charge of the music department, with Miss Alva Sherwood assisting in the violin department. There will also be some one in charge of the school orchestra which will be organized the first week of school.

EXTENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS AT NORTHWEST SCHOOL

Since last fall there have been several improvements completed at the Northwest School. The new beef cattle barn was completed early in February, followed shortly afterwards by the completion of the Animal Products building, which provides quarters for livestock judging and dairying.

Early this spring the Board of Regents made provision for remodeling the old dairy barn, which was constructed at the Northwest Experiment Station about 30 years ago. Following plans prepared by A. M. Foker, a crew of workers have rebuilt the rotted out walls and sills and have transformed the old structure into a modern barn, with the necessary equipment needed.

A new boiler has been installed in the heating plant, giving additional capacity for the school heating plant.

Another improvement that has been begun is that of carrying out a more comprehensive plan of landscaping on the campus. This work has been in charge of Prof. T. M. McCall, assisted by E. W. Avery. Minor improvements have been made in the Hill Building, which will facilitate class work there and prove of greater convenience to the students. The school is entering upon its 19th year, with everything in readiness for carrying on efficient work.

IMPROVEMENTS IN LIBRARY

The Northwest School will have a still better library the coming year as a result of a new classification of bulletins being made. Miss Dorothy Sewall, assistant librarian, University Farm, St. Paul, is arranging the material according to the plan which has proved the most successful in other agricultural schools.

The library receives a mass of material from experiment stations in every state in the union and also from the various government departments. Bulletins and information are available on almost every subject in which a farmer is interested. Much of this material is loaned to farmers and to farmers clubs, and is a service which is greatly appreciated.

A large number of reference books have been added to the library the past summer. A good selection of fiction has also been selected and will be on the shelves when school begins. The school library is open to the students until nine o'clock each evening and the reading room is a popular place for all those who attend.

NORTHWEST SCHOOL ZOO IS INCREASED

On Sunday morning, August 17, a baby fawn was born at the Northwest

School zoological park. He is a fine wide-awake youngster that spends most of his day gamboling around the deer paddock. One of the early events scheduled for the incoming school year will be the ceremony of giving a name to this young buck. With his older brother, Don II, and his parents, Hazel Beauty Eyes and Don Rabino Strutskill, the flock of deer in the school zoo now number four. They have excited considerable interest during the past year, as hundreds of persons have come to see them.

FOOTBALL PROSPECTS

Football promises many exciting moments at the Northwest School during the month of October, according to present plans. The season will open with a game to be played on the campus October 4, when Red Lake Falls journeys to Crookston. On October 8 a return game with the Ada high school will be played at Ada, and on October 11 the Stephen high school comes to Crookston. On October 18 the West Central School, Morris, team comes to Crookston. This game will be followed by games with Crookston, Warren and Thief River Falls high schools on October 22, 25, and November 1, respectively.

Coach LaVoi and his football squad face a heavy schedule that includes teams having many experienced football players. The good account that the Northwest School team gave of themselves last year, however, is a point in favor of the 1924 team, and a good record is expected.

It is important that all men who expect to play in the 1924 football team should be on hand when school opens on October first. In case a sufficient number are here on September 30, the first preliminary practice will be held on the afternoon of that day.

New uniforms complete for the entire football squad have been ordered and will be here when school opens.

DAIRY BOOSTERS VISIT STATE FAIR

About twenty-five cars autoed to the Minnesota State Fair to attend the second annual Northwest Dairy Exposition on September first. These cars came from practically all the counties in northwestern Minnesota, with the exception of Pennington and Ottertail. The delegation from Pennington county went by train.

The delegates were royally entertained at St. Cloud and at the State Fair. They were escorted through the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, headed by the Austin Boy Scout band and according to the spectators made a very interesting and attractive appearance.

Two floats, representing Red River Valley progress in dairying had prominent places in the parade. The first float carried out some of the ideas presented in the Red River Valley Dairymen's pageant, which was given at Crookston last fall. Miss Prosperity and Miss Red River Valley were the principal figures in this float. These parts were taken by Anna Flekke and

Cora Walters, seniors at the Northwest School.

The second float gave representative statistics regarding the increase in farm values and in the production of various crops that have taken place in the Red River Valley since 1880.

Mr. D. H. LaVol, who was associated with the Northwest Dairy Exposition, worked hard to make this tour a success. He was ably seconded by O. M. Kiser, of the Northwest School and by various committee men in the different counties. R. A. Rossberg, of Crookston, was marshal of the parade.

HOLSTEIN SALE OCTOBER 1ST

A sale of registered and grade Holstein cattle will be held at Thief River Falls on October first, sponsored by the Pennington County Holstein Breeders' Association. Thief River Falls is in the center of an extensive dairying district. Successful sales of both Holsteins and Guernseys are held there annually, which stimulate the dairying industry and assist in distributing high quality dairy cattle. Farmers interested in securing good Holsteins will not be disappointed if they attend the sale at Thief River Falls on October first.

SIR JOHN RUSSELL AT FARGO

A rare treat was afforded members of the Northwest Experiment Station staff when they recently attended a lecture given by Sir John Russell. The distinguished director of the oldest experiment station in the world, at Rothamsted, England, passed thru Fargo on his way to the Pacific coast, where he will deliver a series of lectures. At Fargo, Sir Russell gave two illustrated lectures to an audience of experiment station workers, made a tour of the Fargo college experimental plots, and conducted a round table discussion of many interesting agricultural topics.

The first lecture, entitled, "The Story of British Agriculture," was a brief summary of the periods of British agriculture beginning some 500 years before Christ. The first period of about 1000 years was one to which many of our present nursery rhymes allude. The story of "Jack and Jill" who went up the hill "to fetch a pail of water," is based upon the historical practice of collecting water in dew ponds at the top of hills in those bygone days. This period was one of grain and fallow, with very little livestock. The second period included cultivated crops in place of the fallow and more feed crops, and the present period includes also the legumes and an attempt to find the most profitable farming by adopting the best adapted type of farming for the soil and climate of each locality.

The story of British agriculture revealed many problems and many discouragements for which we can find true counterparts in our own agriculture.

The second lecture was devoted to the famous Broadbalk Field, a set of plots from which the 83rd crop is now being harvested. It was upon this field that experimental evidence was furnished as to the principles and their application of crop rotation and min-

eral fertilizers. The data furnished by these famous plots revolutionized agriculture. The story is an old one now but Sir Russell stated that they are continuing to reveal new secrets of agricultural science as more enlightened study of their records is made.

In discussing the trend of agricultural science Sir Russell mentioned that we are advancing from the period where soil fertility was of supreme import to one in which science is endeavoring to so mold the plant as to better adapt it to its environment, to investigate the hidden secrets of soil culture quite aside from fertilizers, and to intelligently control the effects of climate and plant pests. In other words, it is the day of the plant breeder, the plant physiologist, the soil physicist and biologist, and the plant pathologist all in cooperative effort with the still essential chemist.

THE SEED CORN SITUATION.

The season of 1923 will go down as an unfavorable year in corn history. Killing frosts in practically every



NORMA HELEN RUPERT
Assistant in English

locality of Northwestern Minnesota have stopped the growth of corn and destroyed all hope that mature seed

FOR SALE

Heavy laying strain White Leghorn hens, also White Leghorn, Barred Rock and Single Comb Rhode Island Red cockerels. N. W. Experiment Station, Crookston.

HOLSTEINS FOR SALE

Three yearling Holstein bulls, registered, out of high producing dams and a son of the world's record four-year-old cow. Fine, growthy animals, priced low. N. W. Experiment Station, Crookston.

SHROPSHIRE RAMS

Three yearling rams. High quality. Pedigreed. Will be taken by someone soon. N. W. Experiment Station, Crookston.

will be obtained this season. The bulk of next year's crop will be grown from southern seed. Even this undoubtedly will be scarce and difficult to obtain.

A severe blow to the corn growing industry of the Northwest may result from the extinction of many excellent strains of adapted varieties, unless an extraordinary effort is made to preserve enough home grown seed to continue these lines, and years of work may be lost. A few fortunate seed corn growers have reserved sufficient seed of the 1923 crop to plant at least a portion of their own acreage next spring. A few others may be able to select some viable seed from corn carried over for feeding purposes. Some may be fortunate enough to secure home grown seed from reserve stock of their neighbors or local dealers. All others who have well adapted strains of northern varieties are urged to select and cure enough seed from their own fields, even if immature, to plant a seed plot next season. Numerous tests have proved that well-developed kernels which have reached the "roasting-ear" stage when their natural ripening process is prevented by early frost will germinate and produce healthy plants if the seed has been properly cured. Hence the grower whose field has been injured by frost should be able, by selecting the earliest ears available, to get enough seed of his own raising to plant at least a seed plot next spring. Thus his well-adapted strain may be preserved.

The earliest ears may be selected either in the field before cutting the stalks, or from the shocks before hard freezing weather sets in. The earlier date is preferable, as it gives more time for thorough curing of the seed before extreme cold weather comes. These ears should be hung up in a warm, well ventilated room. Some means of artificial heat is recommended to hasten the drying process. Considerable shrinkage will result, with shriveling of the kernel, but seed corn cured in this way may be expected to show a fair percentage of germination, even though it has been picked when very immature.

One hundred ears selected in this way will be sufficient to plant a seed plot of several acres next year. By this means the work of years of selection for earliness will not be lost through the necessary introduction of seed of poorly adapted strains.

It should be understood that this recommendation applies only to growers who have improved their corn by several years of selection for earliness. If purchasing new seed each year has been the practice, it may be more economical to purchase next year's seed if it can be obtained.

EXPERIMENT STATION NOTES

Alfalfa

Grimm outyielded Cossack by 120 pounds per acre in two cuttings in 1924. As a 2-year average, Cossack outyielded Grimm by 364 pounds.

In dates of planting trials, the July 1st date gave the greatest yield. Plantings from June 15 to July 15, gave

larger yields than either earlier or later plantings.

In three separate trials, phosphate fertilizer increased the yields from eight-tenths of a ton to 1.08 tons per acre over unfertilized. Manure increased the yields by eight-tenths of a ton and manure and phosphate increased yields by 1.74 tons.

Sweet Clover

Larger yields were obtained from sweet clover planted with a nurse crop than without and barley proved slightly better than wheat as a nurse crop.

Corn

May 1st planting of Northwestern Dent was fully silked August 3; June 1st planting silked 8 days later. Home-grown Minn. No. 13 silked August 16; seed from Detroit, August 20; seed from St. Cloud, August 22; seed from St. Paul, August 24; seed from Chatfield, August 26, and seed from Albert LeLa, August 30. All were planted May 26.

Wheat

Percentages of rust on the wheat varieties were as follows: Marquis 95, Ruby 90, Quality 60, Kota 35, Kubanka 15, Mindum 10 and Emmer 0.

About 50 per cent of the Kota lodged, 22 per cent of Mindum, and 30 per cent of Kubank.

Oats

The most badly rusted varieties were Victory, 75 per cent., and Swedish Select 65 per cent. Very little lodging occurred in any.

FRUIT GROWING AT NORTHWEST STATION

An excellent crop of fruit was harvested from the orchard plots at the Northwest Station this year. Thirty bushels of the Transcendent, an early strawberry variety of crab apples, have been harvested to date. The Virginia, Red Arctic and Siberian crabapples will be gathered later.

Hibernal, Duchess and Malinda seedling apples fruited this year and much more is to be expected from these trees in the years to come. Progress is being made in topgrafting the crabapple trees to apple varieties. It will require two to three years to get the less desirable varieties of crabapples topgrafted to desirable apple varieties.

Standard varieties of plums will hardly ripen before killing frosts this year. Compass cherry and early plum which normally ripen in mid-August is just ripening now, September 10.

PURE SEED GROWERS ACTIVE

Interest in seed certification has more than trebled this year, according to the report of E. R. Clark, seed specialist, who has completed the field inspection work in eleven northwestern counties of Minnesota. Field inspections were made for 95 growers and 148 fields were examined. Last season the number of growers applying for inspections was 29.

Forty-four alfalfa seed growers were visited, representing approximately

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600 acres. Since certification rules for certified Grimm require that the history of each field be traced directly to the original Grimm fields of Carver county, Minnesota, many otherwise excellent fields were rejected because records could not be obtained. However, in each case the history of the seed was investigated fully and a good proportion of the fields inspected were established as foundation sources of genuine Grimm. Admixtures of red clover, sweet clover, and Canada thistles were causes for rejection in a few cases.

Chippewa flax fields from seed of the new wilt-resistant variety distributed from the Northwest Station last spring, were inspected for 30 growers. Altho admixtures of mustard species proved troublesome in some fields, several hundred acres of this flax were inspected and registered, insuring a good supply of pure seed for next season's seeding. In four instances Chippewa was found producing a good yield on "flax-sick" soil where common flax was badly affected by wilt.

Excellent crops of Marquis wheat were found in practically every county, and many fields showed a high degree of purity. These should be used as sources of pure Marquis by growers whose wheat has become mixed. Hundreds of acres of Mindum and Kota wheat, Minnesota No. 184 Barley and Minota and Victory oats were inspected and passed for certification. Wisconsin Black soybeans, although seriously damaged by the early frost in most cases, have matured seed for a few growers and a very limited supply of home grown seed will be available for next year.

Among the growers whose seed fields were inspected are more than a score of Northwest School alumni and students who are adding to the income of their home farms by producing one or more crops on a pure seed basis.

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