

# THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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## NORTHWEST SCHOOL

### VISITING DAYS

Seeing is believing!

Forty-one farmers' clubs spent a day of recreation and education at the Northwest Experiment Station last summer. Several clubs came on the same day, which proved a disadvantage in some ways, as the crowd was too large to give each club the attention desired. This year thirty-one clubs came on different days, with the exception of two. The visits began on June 11 and closed on August 3.

The organizations that made visits this year include Big Woods Community Club, Oslo; Roone Community Club, Warren; Holt Community Club, Holt; Warrenton Farm Club, Warren; Brandt-Helgeland Farmers Club and Angus Commercial and Community Club, Angus; Winsor Farmers' Club, Gonvick; Radium Community Club, Radium; Fairfax-Andover Social Club, Crookston; North Star Creamery Association, McIntosh; Mallory Farmers' Club, East Grand Forks; West Prairie and Donnelly Clubs, Stephen; Bloomer Farmers' Club, Argyle; Averill Farmers' Club, Glyndon; Tabor Community Club, Angus; Winger Citizens' Club, Winger; Boxville Club, Warren; McCrea Farmers' Club, Warren; Eldred Community Club, Eldred; Maple Leaf Club, Crookston; Booster Club, Beltrami; Thief River Falls Club, Thief River Falls; Kittson County Farmers' Club, Hallock; Gary Community, Gary; Crops and Soils Association.

The visitors saw over two thousand field plots including 520 acres that are devoted to investigations in field crops, soils, fruit, flowers, and vegetables; one hundred head of dairy cattle, hogs, and sheep and a poultry flock of 1000 birds used for investigations in livestock feeding, care and management.

They learned that agricultural facts are determined through actual trials over a period of years; that data furnished by the station are not theories, and that the Northwest Station is operated to determine and disseminate facts for Red River Valley farmers.

## TEN THOUSAND EGGS HATCHED

A new form of service has been rendered by the poultry department of the Northwest School in the form of custom hatching. Farmers and breeders in the district served by the school took advantage of the increased incubator capacity installed early last spring at the school and had their eggs hatched for them or bought eggs from the school and had them hatched there. A summary of the results shows that 10,226 eggs were incubated this last spring, and 7,186 of these were for the farmers of the Valley, and that 4,985 eggs were distributed for hatching purposes.

## NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

Miss Bernice I. Nolan will return as domestic art instructor at the Northwest School this fall. Since she left Crookston, Miss Nolan has completed her work for a degree at the University of Minnesota. She is looking forward to the resumption of her work here with the keenest anticipation.

Miss Helen M. Rupert, graduate of University of Minnesota, will be assistant in the English department, taking the position formerly held by DeEtte Cenfield, who is teaching in the Philippines. Miss Rupert is spe-



## HOME ECONOMICS CLUB

Top Row—Miller, Strommer, Walters, Sorenson, Hoper, Forsness, H. Flekke.

Second Row—Peloski, Rice, Eklund, Paulson, Woods, Hoppe, Walhaug.

Third Row—Hamrick, Strickler, Dunn, Miss Simley, Miss Cenfield, Hamre, Thompson, J. Rude.

Fourth Row—Peterson, Strickler, Applequist, A. Flekke, Miss Schenck, Miss Dokken, Gibbons, Pulkrabek, Lundin.

## FLAAT MAKES ENVIABLE RECORD

Ole A. Flaata, '16, Bygland, is making a record in growing certified seed potatoes and registered Guerneseys. In a column story which appears in a recent issue of the Grand Forks Herald, his achievements are set forth in a very interesting manner. A perfect field of Cobblers in full bloom attracted the attention of the editor of the Herald, who stopped to ask the owner what about it and how he did it. The field includes sixty acres which looked like a well kept flower garden with its countless rows of vigorous green plants with pretty lavender blooms. There was not a weed to be seen and the visitor walking through the rows saw only one potato bug.

"Vigor, purity and health, and free-

(Continued on Page 2)

cially trained in dramatics and has done outstandingly successful work in that department.

Miss Alva Sherwood, of Minneapolis, will take charge of the business training department, which was formerly carried on by A. K. Pierce, who is attending the University of Minnesota. Miss Sherwood is highly recommended for this position. She is also a competent musician and will give instruction in violin to students interested.

Miss Reefa G. Tordoff will give instruction in piano, succeeding Lucille M. Dokken, who was recently married.

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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.

## PROSPECTS BRIGHT

A large number of advance registrations have been received at the Northwest School indicating that the enrollment during the ensuing year will far exceed that of the previous two years. The good crop prospects, both in regard to grain and potatoes, and the higher price level now prevailing, account to a large degree for the prospective increase in enrollment.

At the present time there are very few rooms left in Robertson Hall, the girls' dormitory. Senior Hall is nearly filled and a large proportion of the rooms in Stephens Hall have been reserved.

## PROF. SCOTT PRAISES

### MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Prof. Carlyle Scott, head of the University Department of Music, has written a note regarding the qualifications of Miss Reefa Tordoff, who will have charge of the work in piano instruction at the Northwest School this fall. He states that she has the unusual distinction of being a Phi Beta Kappa student. She is an excellent player and accompanist and an experienced organist. He considers the Northwest School very fortunate in having on its faculty a young woman possessing so many fine qualities and sound musicianship.

In Miss Agnes Bothne and Miss Tordoff, Prof. Scott says the University of Minnesota is sending two of its outstanding graduates.

## MARSHALL COUNTY FARMER

### BUYS PURE BRED SIRE

Carl A. Johnson, a progressive farmer living in Warrenton township, near Warren, has recently purchased a pure bred Holstein bull from the herd owned by the Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston.

This bull was born October 5, 1923. He is a son of Pietertje Mamsell Ormsby 358846, the Northwest Station herd sire, and is out of a very promising dam now making a very creditable record.

The Northwest Station herd sire is a grandson of Sir Pietertje Ormsby Mercedes 44931, one of the most outstanding bulls of the breed. His dam is Mamsell Johanna 390124, owned by the Spaulding Farm at Warren. This cow holds the world's record for a junior four year old with a 365 day record of 31515 pounds of milk and 1317 pounds of butter.

(Continued from Page 1)  
dom from disease were distinguishing features of this field as one examined it more closely," says the Herald writer.

Ole shipped approximately nine cars of potatoes last year. He is also growing improved No. 184 barley from seed stock obtained at the Northwest Station, and Victory oats obtained there as well.

Ole has gone into raising purebred Guernseys and is a member of the Bygland Guernsey Cattle Club.

The Northwest Monthly is very much interested in printing this account of his success and hopes to hear from many other communities where Northwest School graduates and former students are achieving success.

to him and other members. He brought out, among other things, that he considered the personal service rendered by Mr. Clark of the Northwest Experiment station in his visits of inspection to be of the greatest help.

Mr. H. E. Brewbaker, of the Plant Breeding division, University farm, demonstrated in the most able and interesting manner the actual methods employed in making new varieties of crops by cross-pollination.

Mr. A. D. Haedecke, secretary of the Minnesota Crop Improvement association, explained the important work of that organization in disseminating seed of new varieties, certifying, and advertising pure seed. Mr. J. J. Christenson of the Plant Pathology di-



## SENIOR OCTETTE

Top Row—W. Luchau, Solem, Turgeon, Davids.  
Bottom Row—Balk, Eidsmoe, Hanson, W. Miller.

## CROPS AND SOILS ASSN. HAS BIG DAY AT N. W. EXPERIMENT STATION

In spite of a rain the night before which made many roads impassable, about 250 farmers and their wives attended the summer meeting of the Red River Valley Crops and Soils association at the Northwest Experiment Station on July 29. The afternoon was crowded full with an intensely interesting program and at the close many enthusiastically suggested that the meeting be made an annual occurrence.

Realizing that the farmers who came were sacrificing valuable time from their own work, Mr. Dunham, secretary of the association, arranged a program that filled every minute, and Mr. Selvig, who presided, kept things moving on scheduled time by holding a watch on the speakers.

### An Interesting Program Arranged

Everyone present received a souvenir memorandum book in which he could make notes of the various facts brought out during the afternoon. Mr. Emil Wagner, of Ada, president, made a very inspiring talk on the benefits of memberships in such an association. A farmer himself, he mentioned many concrete ways in which the association was of service

vision, University Farm, gathered specimens of various plant diseases and explained their identification and control. Mr. Ralph Crim, extension agronomist, described in detail the plans and organization of the new Grimm Alfalfa Growers' association, and later in the afternoon secured the approval and backing of representative growers from various counties in the Valley for this association.

Following the speakers, a demonstration of cleaning pigeon grass out of flax, separating wheat and flax, separating barley from durum wheat, cleaning out wild oats, and grading corn was put on by the Experiment Station. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to examination of the experimental plots, where many interesting discussions arose.

### How Many Beans in the Bottle?

A feature of the day that provided a large amount of interest and fun was the guessing contest. Everyone was invited to guess the number of soybeans in a bottle. A prize of \$2.00 was awarded W. E. Slocum, of Crookston, who guessed 2740, the correct number being 2725. Mr. Slocum is a grocer as well as a farm-owner and from his ability to guess, it seems unnecessary for him to use a scale.

## Information Regarding Northwest School. Varied Courses Offered.

### Domestic Science

Domestic Science is the training of women and girls in foods, nutrition, and in the management of homes.

This is the aim of the work offered at the Northwest School of Agriculture. Every girl who attends this school and takes up domestic science finds her work interesting because it is practical as well as instructive.

The first year is devoted to the study of foods, their classification, how to prepare them for table use, how to serve them, and menu making.

Cooking is taken up during the fall term of the second year. The problem of canning is taken up in detail, and pickles, tomatoes, and other vegetables are canned in large quantities for the Dining Hall. Meals are prepared and served by this class so that the students get a chance to make out market orders, prepare the meals, serve them and pay for the supplies. They also figure the caloric value of each dish prepared.

The study of home management is taken up during the senior year. The girls are taught how to buy wisely, what to buy and when to buy food. They learn to make out menus for all types of people. During the second term the girls live in the practice house for a certain period, preparing the meals, caring for the house, ordering supplies and living on a specified income.

### Domestic Art

The term Clothing is a broad term and covers a broader field, including Garment-Making, Drawing and Design, Dress-making, Costume Design, Textiles, Laundry, Modelling Clothing, Construction, and Art and Needlework.

The freshmen girls, in Garment-Making, learn the qualities and uses of cotton materials suitable for underwear, dresses, aprons and middies, and are taught the construction of these garments. The principles of color are also taught.

The junior girls are trained in the choice and use of silk and wool materials in Dress-Making. Machine attachments are emphasized and an infant's layette is made. In Textiles the manufacture, tests for adulteration, weave and wearing qualities of wool, cotton, linen and silk fabrics are studied.

Costume Design trains the girls in the use of vertical, horizontal and curved lines and brings out the best points of the figure; trains them to choose colors according to the coloring of the individual. In addition the girls learn how to care for the different fabrics and garments.

Art and Needlework trains the girls in the use of and proper place for decoration. They learn how to remodel, embroider designs, learn decorative stitches and their uses and have one problem in craft work, e. g., basketry.

In Modelling and Clothing Construction the girls model on these dress forms, thus receiving a foundation for the day when they have no pattern available. Their graduation dresses—a lingerie type of dress—are made in this course as a fitting close of their senior year.

### Horticulture

The course in horticulture includes plant life, dealing with plants of interest to the Northern Minnesota farmer, seeds and plants of the common weeds and methods of weed eradication.

In plant breeding the factors which cause plants to vary are studied, as well as are the fundamental principles underlying the breeding and development of plants. Practice work in crossing plants is given in the experiment station greenhouse.

Floriculture, fruit growing and vegetable gardening are taught, including the preparation of the ground and selection of plants and seeds, tillage, rotation, transplanting, preparation and care, and insects dangerous to these plants.

Potato growing is emphasized. It includes a study of potato soils, seed selection, growing the crop, harvesting, storing, marketing, diseases and their control.

Farm forestry includes why, how, when, and where to plant windbreaks and wood lots, characteristics and adaptability of common trees; methods of propagation and conservation of planted and natural forests.

### Agronomy

Instruction in agronomy includes farm crops divided as follows:

1. Grain Crops.  
Small grain and corn varieties for Northwestern Minnesota. Preparation of seed bed. Relations of soil and weather. Plant diseases and their control. Grain judging.
2. Forage Crops.  
Grasses, alfalfa, clovers, and root crops grown from seed. Identification of plants and seeds. How to grow crops for feed.

Soil problems are studied, including:

1. Soil Fertility.  
Elements in soils. Chemistry of soils and fertilizers. Use of fertilizers. Laboratory and field tests of soils.
2. Soil Management.  
How soils are formed. Classification. Soil moisture, pore space, organic matter, tillage, drainage, crop rotations. Laboratory experiments with soils from the students' farms.

Farm Management is given much emphasis, and includes:

1. Farm Accounts.  
Records of farm receipts and expenditures. Inventory of farm property. Profits and losses from departments. Financial state-

ments. Income tax returns. Milk and feeding records.

### 2. Farm Management.

Systems of farming. Selection of farms. Planning rotations suitable to the students' home farm. Cropping systems. Business methods applied to the farm.

### Farm Mechanics

Farm mechanics at the Northwest School includes carpentry, blacksmithing, babbiting, soldering, rope and belt work and pipe fitting.

In each of these courses the aim is to give the pupil a practical working understanding of each subject so that he might be able to operate his farm more economically.

In carpentry the boys are taught the use and care of all the ordinary carpenter tools. Special attention is paid to building construction. The steel square and its application to rafter cutting is taken up.

In blacksmithing the boys are taught to shape iron into various forms so that they can successfully meet all kinds of emergency repairs on the farm.

The mechanics course takes up rope hitches, knots and splices; various forms of belt lacings; the care and use of the soldering coppers in elementary tinsmithing; and the babbiting and scraping of bearings.

### Gas Engineering

The Elementary Gas Engineering work includes:

- A. Study of stationary engines—timing, ignition, care and operation, and trouble work.
- B. Carburetors—meaning of carburetion, study of parts, care, adjustment, etc.
- C. Timing of multiple cylinder engines.
- D. High tension ignition—study of theory of different kinds, trouble work, care, etc.
- E. The storage battery—construction and care.
- F. Cooling systems—kinds and their advantages.
- G. Lubrication—kinds of oils and their uses; lubrication systems and their uses.
- H. Study of clutches—kinds, care, advantages and disadvantages of different kinds.
- I. Transmissions—purpose, kinds, etc.
- J. Universal joints—use, kinds, care, etc.
- K. Differentials—use, care, and operation.
- L. Rear axle types.
- M. Front axles.
- N. Steering gears.
- O. Springs and radius rods.
- P. Study of tractor specifications—which means getting acquainted with the good and poor points of different kinds of tractors.

In Advanced Gas Engineering work the students do actual overhauling

work on automobiles and tractors, putting into practice the things that were learned in the elementary course. During the semester each student gets a chance to do every different kind of common overhauling job there is.

#### Academic Subjects

The course at the Northwest School includes the following academic subjects:

1. Four years of English.
2. Mathematics, including arithmetic, algebra, and geometry
3. History, including ancient, modern and English.
4. Industrial geography.
5. Physics and chemistry.
6. Business training, including shorthand, typewriting, law and book-keeping.
7. Public speaking and music.
8. Economics and sociology.

Graduates of the Northwest School can prepare themselves for entrance to higher schools, such as teachers' colleges, the university and other colleges.

#### Athletic and Physical Training at the Northwest School

The Northwest School encourages athletics and physical training among both boys and girls for several definite reasons.

1. Provide for proper development of the body.
2. Teach care of body and value of health.
3. Show need of good habits.
4. Teach value of good sportsmanship.
5. Coordination of mind and body.

The school has adequate facilities for this work, including gymnasium with full equipment of apparatus. Athletic coaches and instructors qualified to carry on this work are employed. Physical examinations are given all students.

In addition to school teams in basketball and football, class teams are organized in these sports also.

The gymnasium and school grounds are so arranged that other games and sports are possible, including volley ball, hand ball, baseball, and tennis.

The Northwest School teams enter competitions in athletics with high schools and teachers' colleges.

The other courses were outlined in the July issue of The Northwest Monthly.

#### FROM NEAR AND FAR

'16—Herman Skyberg, Fisher, was appointed president of the Farmers' Cooperative Marketing association of East Grand Forks, at the organization meeting held July 23.

'18—Guy Spokely, who is employed with the Ford Motor Company, Minneapolis, visited the school on August 5.

'19—Tarjie Steenerson, who will locate at Wilkinson, Indiana, as doctor of veterinary medicine, this fall, visited at the school on July 12. He asked to have the N. W. Monthly reach him at his new address.

'22—Halvor Nornes and Ida Onsgaard were married on July 24. They will be at home at Winger, where Hal-

vor is employed at the Winger Creamery.

'22—Iva Dobbald and her mother are planning to spend the winter at Blue Earth, Minnesota, where Iva will take her fourth year's work in high school.

'22—Walter Anderson, who farms near Gonvick, was a visitor on July 21.

'22—Harold Erikson, first private, John Nakken, '23, first private, and William Johnson, '22, top sergeant, were at Camp Custer, Michigan, during July as members of the 125 Field Artillery Battery. Harold writes that they were members of the smallest and snappiest battery in the camp. Harold writes interestingly regarding reforestation work being done on his home farm, stating that they planted a half acre of Norway pines, which are growing nicely. Their community club has had a number of very good programs, including the presentation of the play, "Back to The Farm," which went off with great success. Average attendance has been between four and six hundred.

'23—Archie Lee has moved from Salol to Roseau, where he is employed in the Sjoberg Hardware store.

'24—Martin Harstad was elected president at the annual meeting on July 27 of the Young People's society at Rindahl. Eva Harstad, '23, was elected secretary, and Gladys Gunufson, '24, treasurer.

'24—Oliver Howard, Highland, visited the campus on July 15.

'24—Allen Gandrud, Detroit, expects to return to take up the advanced work. His younger brother, Karrol, will join the Junior class.

Harold Walland, who attended the N. W. S. A. in 1911, visited at the school on July 19. He is working for the Crookston Milling Company, with headquarters at Rugby, North Dakota.

Benjamin Hurner narrowly escaped losing his life recently when a small piece of iron penetrated his chest just below his third rib and lodged in his lung, after narrowly missing his heart. Benjamin, who was the popular president of last year's freshman class, was working in the farm blacksmith shop when the accident occurred. He is at a hospital in Moorhead at the present time, from which he expects to leave in about two weeks. His friends hope for his early and complete recovery.

Lucille M. Dokken and Elmer F. Uggren were married at the home of Mrs. Helga H. Dokken, the bride's mother, in Minneapolis, on July 28. Both were members of the Northwest School faculty in the music department. Miss Dokken had charge of piano instruction and Mr. Uggren of violin and orchestra. They will make their future home at 4147 Snelling Avenue, Minneapolis. The Northwest Monthly joins with their host of friends in tendering congratulations and best wishes.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Larson are spending the month of August in Chicago, where Mr. Larson is attending the sessions of the Community Recreation School. He expects to get

some very helpful suggestions and plans from the community and recreation leaders there, which will be "tried out" next winter at the Northwest School. Mr. Larson is greatly interested in community singing. Perhaps he'll lead the community song leaders in a "sing" during the Chicago sessions. That would be a real "song-fest," done in true Northwestern Minnesota style.

D. H. LaVoi is spending two months with the Northwest Dairy show management as organizer of auto tours to the Minnesota State Fair. A caravan of 150 cars will go from the Red River Valley, and a similar number is expected from west central Minnesota. Mr. LaVoi will return to the Northwest School during the latter part of September to get all in readiness for his second year at the school as instructor, preceptor in Stephens Hall, and physical training director. The members of the football team are doing their daily dozen in the harvest fields and with threshing crews at present, tossing bundles that in fancy are footballs, preparing for another great football year at the Aggie School.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Philip Constans announce the arrival on July 31 of Barbara Janet, the new commander-in-chief of the Constans family. She is full-lunged, showing wonderful aptitude for speaking, whether it be in public or in private. The many friends of the Constans family send their best wishes for Barbara's good health and future.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Dunham and family are enjoying a visit by Mr. Dunham's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Dunham, of Chicago, who autoed to the Red River Valley early in August. They were very favorably impressed with the crop prospects that they saw on their journey here.

C. H. Zealand, formerly secretary of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development association and the Crookston Association of Public Affairs, is now assistant secretary of the newly organized American Council of Agriculture, with headquarters in Chicago. Nearly 100 National or state farm organizations have joined in an attempt to secure legislative equality for agriculture through this organization.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Bengtson and daughter, Ruth, were guests at the campus the week of June 16. They were enroute to St. Paul from Lake Park, where they visited at Mr. Bengtson's parental home. Mr. Bengtson was in attendance at several picnics while here and renewed many acquaintances in the Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Robertson and four children visited at the campus on June 26. Mr. Robertson is a son of former Supt. Wm. Robertson and lived at the school between 1906 and 1910. He has a responsible position now with Purdue University, of Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Robertson and his family were enroute to Roseau County, where he was looking after real estate interests.