

THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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VOL. XI.

CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA, JULY, 1927.

NO. 8.

WOMEN'S CAMP WAS WELL ATTENDED

A total of 129 women attended the second annual women's camp which was held at the Northwest School June 20-23. Of this number, 89 lived in the dormitories.

The week was spent in rest, recreation, and practical demonstrations. The Northwest School faculty on the program were Superintendent A. A. Dowell, Miss Fanny Lippitt, Miss Retta Bede, A. H. Larson, T. M. McCall, and A. M. Pilkey. They were assisted by Miss Julia O. Newton, State Demonstration leader, Extension Division of the University of Minnesota, Miss Helen Christine Finlayson, head of Home Economics Education for North Dakota, North Dakota State College, Fargo, and Mrs. Margaret Baker, of the extension di-

LIVESTOCK FEEDERS' DAY A SUCCESS

Over 200 livestock producers of the Red River Valley were at the Northwest Experiment Station, Friday, June 24, for the Fourth Annual Livestock Feeders' Day. The weather conditions were ideal; the program was one of timely livestock discussion; and the general interest manifested, all contributed to the success of the day.

The livestock industry of the Red River Valley is one for general development in all phases of livestock production. For that reason the program was devoted to discussion and demonstration on swine, dairying, sheep and beef production. The program began at 9:30 with a discussion on dairying given by H. R. Searles, Dairy Extension Specialist. For this

CROPS & SOILS DAY JULY 18

NEW EXPERIMENT TO BE EXPLAINED.

Professor Andrew Boss Will Speak

Monday, July 18, has been set for the annual summer meeting of the Red River Valley Crops and Soils association at the Northwest School. The annual business meeting, with election of officers will be held at 11 o'clock. The afternoon will be devoted to program and inspection of the experimental plots.

Prof. Andrew Boss will thoroughly discuss the results of the farm management route maintained around Crookston last year. Mr. C. V. Kightlinger, who discovered the ef-

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CROPS AND SOILS DAY

MORNING

10:30 Business Meeting and Election of Officers.
12:00 Dinner at Dining Hall.

AFTERNOON

Emil Wagner, presiding

1:00 Address of Welcome—Supt. A. A. Dowell.
1:15 New Flax Varieties—R. F. Crim, Extension Agronomist, University Farm, St. Paul.
1:45 Farm Management Problems—Andrew Boss, Chief Division of Agronomy and Farm Management, University Farm, St. Paul.
2:30 Sulphur Dusting for Rust Control—C. V. Kightlinger, Niagara Sprayer Co.
2:45 Inspection of Plots—R. S. Dunham, E. R. Clark, T. M. McCall.

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vision of the Russell-Miller Milling company, Minneapolis.

The "Thought for the Day" was given by Mrs. John Brendal, Hallock, Mrs. E. E. Green, Crookston, and Mrs. John Roholdt, Beltrami. The "Surprise" on Tuesday was by Mrs. Frank Davis, Crookston, speaking on "The Value of Little Things." On Wednesday Mrs. E. H. Cooley, of the Grand Forks Herald, Grand Forks, gave a number of readings.

Recreation Program Enjoyed.

The recreation program included the reception Monday evening, given by Superintendent and Mrs. A. A. Dowell, the picnic on Tuesday night, and the movie party in Crookston the last night. The Federated Clubs of Crookston assisted as hostesses for the picnic and took the ladies for an auto ride before supper and stayed

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part of the program several livestock men from a distance left home early in the morning in order to hear this discussion. The talk given by J. W. Haw, Agricultural Development Agent of the Northern Pacific on "Selecting Breeding Ewes and Feeder Lambs from Western Ranges," presented facts about this branch of the sheep business that can only be received first hand from men familiar with western sheep range conditions. A hurried inspection of the station herds and flocks, gave visitors some idea of the kind of stock maintained by the station. The closing part of the forenoon program was a guessing contest. Suitable prizes donated by business men of Crookston were awarded to those guessing nearest the weight of a hog, a baby beef, a sheep, and the milk and butterfat production of two dairy cows.

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fect of applying sulphur dust on wheat to control black stem rust will discuss results and make demonstrations. Several new experiments have been started this year, in addition to many new and interesting varieties of crops. A complete tour of the plots will be made.

Soilvita, a preparation now being advertised in the Valley, is being tried out on wheat, oats, barley, corn, potatoes, sugar beets, beans, and lawn grass. The claim is made by the manufacturers that Soilvita "obtains essential bacteria in culture which act on the elements of the soil to set them free from the various combinations, converting them into plant food."

The problem of what crop to plant on sugar beet land is being investigated. Marquis and Ruby Wheat, Gopher oats, Trebi barley, flax and corn

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THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY

Issued Monthly by
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF
AGRICULTURE

A. A. DOWELL, Superintendent

OFFICE
Northwest Experiment Station,
Crookston, Minnesota.

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

NORTHWEST SCHOOL CREDITS

So many letters are received each summer regarding credits at the Northwest School that a brief statement covering this will be of interest to all who are planning to enter this fall.

The Northwest School is a part of the University of Minnesota for boys and girls who have finished the common school or are at least 16 years of age. Credits received in other schools are applied on the Northwest School courses and the same is true when Northwest School students enter other institutions.

Students who complete the three-year course are given the school diploma. This would not be sufficient work to cover the entrance requirements of higher institutions. For those who wish to attend the University, Teachers Colleges or other Colleges of the state, a fourth year is offered. Graduates of this class may enroll as first year students in the above schools without examination or further study.

The School catalog is now ready for distribution and will contain the outlines of courses offered.

WOMEN'S CAMP WAS WELL ATTENDED

(Continued from Page 1)

through the evening and presented a number of stunts on the stunt program. Play periods were held each forenoon and the search each morning for the "Golden Horseshoe" provided considerable recreation. This was found the first morning by Mrs. G. L. Short, Tabor, the second morning by Mrs. J. W. Champion, Angus, and Mrs. Paul Hansen and Mrs. Ellen H. Torkelson, Crookston, tied for the honors the final morning. Certificates of promotion to the third annual camp, June 18-21, 1928, were presented at the close of the session. Other items of the fun the ladies had might include the impromptu programs in the dormitories, the banister sliding contest, the trapeze performances and jokes on fellow campers, all of which will serve as pleasant memories until next year's camp.

Much of the success of the camp was due to the cooperation given by officers and members of Federated Clubs, among whom were Mrs. Willard Bayliss, Chisholm, state president; Mrs. G. E. Davis, Warren,

ninth district president; Mrs. E. E. Green, Crookston, and Mrs. H. W. Froehlich, Thief River Falls, chairmen of the district and state committees on community service.

VISITATIONS WELL ATTENDED

Hundreds of farmers, business men and their wives will have visited the Northwest School and Station this summer in the series of visitations by communities that will continue thru July 22. The tours are a combination of an outing and an opportunity to observe and study the work being done at the Station. That the members on the tours feel the trips worth while was shown in June, when good delegations were present even when picnics and other entertaining events were being held near their locality. Judging from the questions asked the members of the faculty who act as guides, the visitations are among the most important educational courses given at the Northwest School. The tours this year are also attended by larger numbers from each community. Rains on a few days in June caused the postponement of four visitations. Many of these will make the trip in connection with Crops and Soils Day July 18.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT WRITES BOOK

The Northwest School library is indebted to Eddy E. Billberg, Roseau, county superintendent of schools for Roseau county, for a copy of his new book, "In the Land of the Chippewa." This is told from the personal observations of Mr. Billberg during the pioneer days of Minnesota. Mr. Billberg was in the Chippewa country during the uprisings and writes from first hand information. The book is in story form, interesting and full of authoritative data of Minnesota's early days, the first settlements and the conflicts with the Indians. The book is published by the Syndicate Printing company, of Minneapolis.

HORSE HITCH DEMONSTRATION WAS WELL ATTENDED

A crowd of over 125 interested farmers and business men attended the Horse Hitch demonstration at the Northwest School and Station on June fifteenth. This demonstration was under the immediate supervision of Lafe Young, representing the Horse Association of America, assisted by Clarence Turner of Ames, Iowa, Wm. E. Morris of the Agricultural Extension Division of the University of Minnesota, County Agent G. U. Kappel, and members of the staff of the Northwest School.

These demonstrations are not only timely, but of real significance to the farmers of the Red River Valley.

Their immediate importance rests in the fact that through these equalized hitches, farmers are able to get greater efficiency out of the horses now in use, reduce man labor and thus lower operating costs.

From a long time point of view, they will serve to renew interest in horse breeding. This industry has been passing through the most severe and prolonged depression in the history of the business. As a result, very few colts are being raised on the farms of this state, in fact, less than half enough to replace the old horses that are wearing out each year. We are thus facing an acute horse shortage in the years just ahead. It is a most opportune time, not only to think about future horse replacement, but to start action with a view to raising at least enough colts to take the place of the older horses on the farm.

CROPS AND SOILS DAY JULY 18TH

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have been planted on land in beets last year. At the same time any residual effect from fertilizer applied to the beets is being determined.

Dusting wheat with sulphur to control black stem rust is being continued, both in plots and in the field.

The effect on germination of applying phosphate fertilizer in the row is being determined. With some crops and some fertilizers, injury has resulted from this practice, as found by the Michigan Experiment Station.

New Varieties

In the rod rows approximately 900 varieties, hybrids, and strains of wheat have been planted. Of chief importance in this work is the behavior of these wheats toward black stem rust. In the regular wheat variety plots, 25 varieties are under test. Some new ones are Garnet, Axminster, Reliance, Akrona, and Black Chaff Durum.

New varieties of oats include Anthony, a rust-resistant variety, and Markton, a smut-immune variety. The Enoch Ewenson twenty-dollar-a-bushel variety is also on trial. The new varieties of barley are Colseess and Peatland.

Several new varieties of flax, a comprehensive trial of annual hays, and a number of new alfalfa varieties may be seen.

Everyone is invited, whether a member of the association or not. The entire family and neighbors are welcome. An interesting afternoon will be provided for all. Picnic lunches may be eaten on the campus, and coffee, cream, and sugar will be furnished free.

Anyone wishing to buy dinner at the dining hall must notify the School in advance.

FOR SALE

200 trap-nested White Leghorn 1926 Pullets, egg production 150 to 200 eggs, at \$1.00 each. Northwest School, Crookston.

SPECIAL TRAIN BRINGS STUDENTS FROM NORTH DAKOTA

Cavalier County, in North Dakota, charts a special train each summer and the farmers and their wives make trips which combine recreation with school work. This year the train of 12 Pullmans went to Duluth over the Great Northern for their pleasure trip and stopped at the Northwest School for the "School Day" of the trip.

The tour arranged by W. L. Johns, county agent, reached the school at 7:30, and remained until after luncheon. After being welcomed by Superintendent A. A. Dowell, Congressman C. G. Selvig, Dr. O. E. Locken and W. R. Low of Crookston, class work began, with the members of the Northwest School faculty in charge. The men studied livestock, agronomy and horticultural problems while the ladies were given work in poultry problems, home beautification and home economics. The work in home economics was given by Mrs. Margaret Baker of the Russell-Miller company, who remained over from the Women's Camp to assist in the program for the special train.

This tour was the fifth annual trip the North Dakota county has taken. They have proved the value and advisability of visiting points outside their county and as one speaker said, "It is a new and unique method in education."

FIRST ANNUAL CLUB CAMPS ARE POPULAR

Boys' and Girls' Club members from four counties were present at the One Day Camps held for the first time at the Northwest School, Crookston, June 13 to 15. The counties with delegations were: Kittson, Marshall, Polk, and Norman, with a total of 228 in all.

A picnic supper around the campfire, followed with games and stunts occupied most of the first evening. A candle service entitled "The Spirit of Club Work" was an added feature that impressed all present. Movies concluded the evening program.

The rising bugle sounded at 6:30 the next morning. Setting up exercises were the first in order, followed by the raising of the flag. The Northwest faculty was on hand during the forenoon to give instruction in the various projects. The afternoon was devoted to playing of games. It is needless to say that all voted to make this an annual event.

A three-day club camp was held in both West and East Ottertail county, with a total attendance of 270.

The object of these camps for 4-H club folks as given by H. A. Pflughoeft, district club leader, are: To help folks appreciate country life by showing some of its opportunities for recreation; to teach boys and girls how to play; to give definite instruction in club projects; to make new friends; and to help build character.

SEED CERTIFICATION TO BEGIN SOON

Field inspections for seed certification will begin in the southern counties of the Valley during the next few days, and must be completed before the crops are harvested. Numerous inquiries regarding this work indicate that a large number of growers expect to have fields inspected. Ceres and Mindum wheat, Velvet barley, and Gopher oats will be the principal varieties listed in this season's applications, though many requests for certification of flax and corn have been received. Owing to the peculiar seasonal conditions it will be necessary to rush this work this year and applications must be filed with the secretary before the inspector has made his round of inspections in the community where fields are located.

Any pure variety of wheat, oats, barley, rye, flax, corn, alfalfa, or sweet clover may be certified without regard to whether certified seed was sown. Fields must show purity of type, however, and in the case of varieties, such as Grimm alfalfa, which cannot be identified positively in the field, the origin and history of the seed must be traceable. Two inspections are necessary: a field inspection before the crop is harvested, and an inspection of the threshed and re-cleaned seed.

The Certification work is carried on by the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, and is in charge of A. D. Haedecke, Assistant Secretary, University Farm, St. Paul, to whom applications should be sent. By cooperation with the Northwest Station, field inspections in the northwestern section of the state are made by members of the station staff. Blanks for making applications and information regarding the work may be obtained from E. R. Clark, pure seed specialist, Northwest Station, Crookston.

Fees for certification work are two dollars for field inspection and two dollars for bin inspection. These fees cover inspection of all seed crops (except potatoes) on one farm, regardless of acreage. Applicant also must pay fee of one dollar for one year's membership in the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, if dues have not been paid since January 1, 1927.

LIVESTOCK FEEDERS' DAY A SUCCESS

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At the noon hour all visitors enjoyed a good roast beef dinner in the school dining hall. The after dinner address by Dean W. C. Coffey on "Our Changing Agriculture" was one to dispel all pessimism. Dean Coffey gave a contrast of the past and present in agriculture, presenting the great opportunities in present day agriculture when intelligently managed.

The leading feature of the day's program was the inspection of the baby beeves and a review of the results secured in the feeding experiment. A brief summary of the baby beef feeding trial is given elsewhere in this paper.

Beef cattle men were much inter-

ested in the address given by Prof. H. W. Vaughan, University Farm, on "Fattening Cattle for Market." Professor Vaughan discussed some of the beef problems and briefly presented some experimental data secured in cattle feeding. Professor W. H. Peters, chief of Division of Animal Husbandry, University Farm, closed the day's program with a brief review of some results in past beef cattle feeding work conducted at this station. Professor Peters also briefly discussed the subject of "Raising Hogs without Corn."

The appreciative interest shown by everyone throughout the day was very encouraging to the Northwest Station Staff. The Northwest School and Station has a part in the agricultural development of this region. The June 24 program is one of the means the school will continue to take to bring to Red River Valley farmers the best of agricultural information.

FORMER STUDENTS BRAVE WEATHER TO ATTEND REUNION

In spite of the annual rain of home coming day, 150 former students returned June 30 and enjoyed the day in associations with members from every class since the school was started.

Two members said they were stuck six times coming to the event. John Gronner, '22, Underwood, and Melvin Hole, '27, Dalton, came over 175 miles, and Howard Balk, '24, was present from Bismarck, North Dakota. Mrs. G. E. Olson, Beltrami, represented the first class of 1909, but the classes from 1919-28 sent the largest delegation. Outside of Polk county, Clearwater county had the largest number present. In all cases it was found that some fine work had been done by county chairmen in organizing counties and this was especially true of Clearwater county, where Robert Davids, '24, and Alma Lindgren, '21, were on the committee. Other county committee members present were Ebenhard Gandrud, '24, Ray Magnuson, '26, Mrs. J. B. Grothe (Luella Hansen), '21, Mrs. Darragh Geddes (Ella Fosbakken) '19, and Walter Turgeon, '25.

Dr. Harry Hedin, '11, president of the alumni association, presided at the meetings, and addresses were made by Congressman C. G. Selvig and A. A. Dowell. Community singing was directed by A. H. Larson and in the evening the quartette of 1924 sang. The members were Walter Luchau, Gary, Walter Turgeon, Brooks, Robert Davids, Bagley, and Howard Balk, Bismarck. A ball game between Elmer Hedstrand's team from East Grand Forks and the alumni, and the dance in the evening were enjoyed. John Gronner, Underwood, was elected secretary, and Mrs. Walter Anderson (Gladys Christopherson), '23, Clearbrook, was elected vice-president. June 22, 1928, was selected as the tentative date for the next summer reunion. The reunion this fall will be October 29.

POLK COUNTY PLANS

HEALTH CAMP

Twenty Boys Eligible

The Polk County Health association will conduct a camp for three weeks at the Northwest School about July 15, for twenty underweight boys of the county, according to Dr. O. E. Locken, Crookston, who is arranging the plans.

The only requirement for entering the camp will be that the boys be underweight and are not afflicted with any disease. They will board and room at the Northwest School, under very careful supervision. A man trained in supervising boys' camps will be in charge. Recreation will be provided by F. J. Lipovetz, playground supervisor in Crookston, and the swimming lessons will be given by the instructor at the city pool. Careful exercises, games, special diet to increase weight, together with regular hours for rest and sleep will be arranged.

Boys should be between the ages of 12 and 14. All expenses will be paid by the Polk County Health Association. Applications should be sent to J. C. Kelly, Crookston. This is such an unusual opportunity for the boys of the county to take an ideal vacation of play and health building that it is expected a large list of applicants will be secured.

FATTENING BABY BEEVES AT THE NORTHWEST STATION

The beef market for good cattle during the past months has been the best since 1920, and the prospects for good prices are favorable for some time to come. This fact, more than anything else, will stimulate interest for beef production in the Red River Valley.

For the past five years beef feeding trials have been conducted at the Northwest Station. The primary purpose of these trials is to enable the station to gather facts about this branch of livestock production and to more intelligently present such facts to the inquiring Red River Valley beef producer.

Two years of experimental work has been conducted in fattening baby calves for market. The objects of the experiment just concluded has been as follows: 1. To determine the practicability of fattening baby beeves under Red River Valley conditions; 2. To make a comparison of the following grain rations: (a) ground barley and ground corn; (b) protein supplements: Linseed meal and gluten feed; (c) feeding grain with and without a protein supplement.

In this trial just completed thirty-two calves were fed in four lots of eight calves each. All lots were fed as much alfalfa hay and corn silage that would be cleaned up twice daily. The lots were fed grain as follows: Lot I—ground barley and oilmeal; Lot II—ground corn and oil meal; Lot III—ground barley and gluten feed; Lot IV—ground barley.

The calves were started on the feeding trial November 9, 1926, and fed for a period of 217 days. The initial weight for all lots November 9 was 374 pounds. During the trial the following average daily gain was made for each lot: Lot I—2.21 pounds; Lot II—2.34 pounds; Lot III—2.08 pounds; Lot IV—1.91 pounds.

A market valuation was placed on the calves June 17, based on South St. Paul price on that day. Lots I and III were valued at \$11.00 cwt.; Lot II—\$11.75 cwt; and Lot IV—\$10.75 cwt. With this valuation the margin per head over feed costs was as follows: Lot I—10.79; Lot II—\$9.02; Lot III—\$4.84; Lot IV—\$9.22. The calves were sold on the South St. Paul market Monday, June 27, for an average increase of 11.40 per cwt., making an average increase of \$4.38 per head greater margin of profit than stated above.

A brief summary of this experiment is as follows:

In this baby beef feeding trial, ground barley was just as efficient, pound for pound, as ground shelled corn.

Oilmeal proved to be a more economical protein supplement than gluten feed.

Profits were increased by the addition of oilmeal to a ration of ground barley, alfalfa hay, and corn silage.

Steer calves made greater average daily gains than heifers.

Anyone interested in a detailed report of this experiment may receive the same by addressing the Northwest School and Station.

FACTS ABOUT THE WEATHER

The total precipitation for April, May and June at the N. W. Station was 11.32 inches. For the same period in 1926, it was 5.73 inches and as an average of the last 10 years, it was 7.33 inches.

There were 23 clear days during the same three months this year, and 33 days of rain or snow. Last year there were 52 clear days and 20 with rain or snow.

POLK COUNTY RURAL GRADUATION JULY 8

The Rural School graduation for Polk county will be held at the Northwest School, Friday, July 8, at 10:00 o'clock, according to I. S. Hov, county superintendent.

The address to the graduates will be given by Superintendent A. A. Dowell and special music has been provided. The invocation and benediction will be given by the Rev. R. M. Vordale, Crookston. The presentation of diplomas will be made by Superintendent I. S. Hov.

A declamatory contest will also be held at the same time, and the awarding of prizes will be made by Mrs. N. A. Thorson, Crookston. In division A the contestants will be James Robinson, district 52, Warren, and Loyd Hauger, District 275, Winger. In Division B the contestants are Florence Geldaker, District 275, Win-

ger, and Edith Ruthenberg, District 6, Climax.

Parents and friends are asked to bring a picnic dinner with them and remain a while in the afternoon. Games and sports will be arranged for the graduates by A. H. Larson of the Northwest School.

DAYS TO RIPEN FLAX

As an average of the last four years, Chippewa flax planted in May at the Northwest Experiment Station required 95 days to ripen. The dates of planting and ripening are as follows:

1923—Planted May 31, ripened August 24.

1924—Planted May 18, ripened August 9.

1925—Planted May 1, ripened August 20.

1926—Planted May 6, ripened August 17.

Later plantings, however, required a shorter period of growth. Planted June 1, Chippewa flax ripened in 85 days. Planted June 10, it ripened in 86 days.

The average date of the first killing frost in the fall for the past thirty years is Sept. 22. Frosts have varied from August 26 to October 26.

PERSONALS

Emil Hallgren, '18, has purchased the Bronson Budget and is now publishing the paper.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Moses (Marie Larson) '21, Pelican Rapids, have a son, born in April. They have one of the fine Jersey farms of the county.

Egon Nelson, '12, is working in the Nash Bros. Shops at Kenosha, Wisconsin.

June was a record month for weddings among the Northwest School folks. Carl Narveson, '20, and Sophie Krbechek, '21, were married June 5, at Two Harbors. They will live at Borup, where Carl is superintendent of schools. Clifford Lerud, a former student, was married to Mildred Erickson, June 2, at Havre, Montana, where they will make their home.

Clarissa Friday, '23, was married June 1, at Hawley, to Fred Zimmerman, of Ashtabula, Ohio. Johanna Nabben, '23, Thief River Falls, acted as bridesmaid. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman will live at Ashtabula, where Mr. Zimmerman is connected with a rubber manufacturing concern. Selma Hamre, '25, was married June 1 at McIntosh, to Elmer A. Hamre. They will live on Mr. Hamre's farm west of Fertile. Myrtle Marmorine, '22, was married to Milton William Carlson, June 11, in Minneapolis. Harold Walters, '26, was married June 25, to Miss Cora Hanson, Maplebay. Esther Sandem, '22, was married June 25th, to John C. Johnson. They will live at Melville, Montana. Marion Johnson, '17, was married June 26 to Mildred Erickson, of Alexandria. Marion has a dairy farm near the city. The newlyweds visited at the Northwest School June 29, on their auto trip through Northern Minnesota.