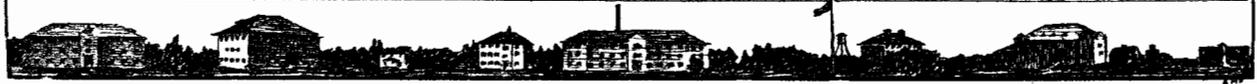


THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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NO. 4.

Many Will Attend Junior Short Course

Final arrangements have been made for the Seventeenth Annual Boys' and Girls' Short Course, which will be held at the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, during the week of March 26 to 30, inclusive. The program, as announced by district club leader, H. A. Pflughoeft, has been carefully planned and should appeal especially to 4-H club members. These four days offer an unusual opportunity for club members to secure first hand information of a practical and useful nature. Members of the Northwest School staff will give instruction in all the livestock and crops projects, including dairy calf, beef, sheep, pig poultry, horse, potato, corn, garden vegetables, and flowers. The girls will study problems dealing with cooking, sewing, and canning.

Contests will again be featured in all lines of work. 4-H club members who participate in the livestock judging will be given intensive training during the week. Judging demonstrations will also be put on each day.

The two hundred and thirty-five boys and girls who attended the short course last year know that the class room schedule will be interspersed with plenty of fun. There will be movies, community singing, games and stunts.

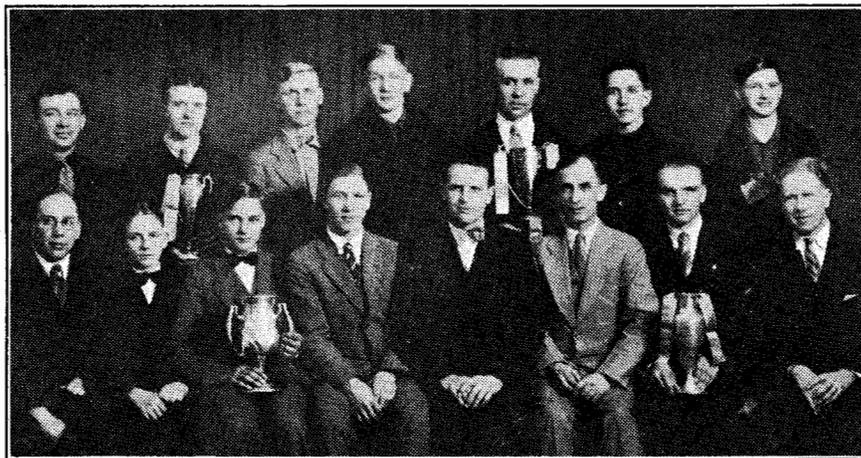
A leadership class under the direction of H. A. Pflughoeft will be conducted each day during the week for the older club members and others who may wish to attend. The adult leaders' conference has been scheduled for Thursday, March 29, with State Club Leader T. A. Erickson and Edna Brown of the club department, in charge.

Club members will room in the school dormitories, eat at the school dining hall, and be under proper supervision throughout the week. The total cost of board, room and enter-

tainment will be \$3.00. All who plan to attend the short course should write the Northwest School, Crookston, so that suitable arrangements can be made.

COW TESTERS' SHORT COURSE

The third annual Cow Testers' Short Course will be held at the Northwest School during the week of March 26 to 30. The course is designed to prepare students for cow testing association work. They will be given instruction in (1) organization of testing associations, (2) keeping necessary records, (3) use of the Babcock tester, (4) dairy cattle feeding, and (5) herd management.



(Reprinted by courtesy of "The Farmer," St. Paul.)

WINNING LIVESTOCK AND CROPS JUDGING TEAMS—NORTHWEST SCHOOL FARMERS' WEEK AND R. R. V. WINTER SHOWS, CROOKSTON, FEBRUARY 6, 1928.

Professor E. A. Hanson, University Farm, St. Paul, will have direct charge of the work for the week. He will offer many practical suggestions that will be of special value to those interested in this important phase of dairy production.

Board and room may be secured at the Northwest School at the regular school rate of \$5.25 per week. One dollar will be required as a deposit to cover breakage. Those desiring rooms in the dormitory are required to bring necessary bedding.

All interested in this course should write immediately to the Superintendent of the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston.

Station Seed Goes to Germany

Pure seed samples of twenty-eight leading varieties of Minnesota field crops have been shipped from the Northwest Experiment Station to be used in trials at the South German Agricultural College at Hohenheim, Germany. The request for the Minnesota seed came through Otto Wagershauser of Wuerttemberg, who, in company with a party of German students, including Dr. Kurt Schneider and Ernst Strom of the Landwirtschaft High School, Ronn, Germany, visited the school last July. Among the varieties furnished were Mindum and Ceres wheat, Velvet barley, Gopher and Anthony oats, and Chippewa and plans to try out these varieties on his own farm in South Germany, as well as at the Hohenheim College.

"After visiting your station," writes Mr. Wagershauser, "we traveled thru the western states and visited many of the state experiment stations, completing our trip in California. I was impressed with the work of the Minnesota schools of agriculture, which we visited at St. Paul, Grand Rapids, and Crookston. While we have splendid

school systems in Germany, we have no agricultural schools linked up with rural communities as is the case in Minnesota, where the schools are brought in direct contact with the farm and the home thru home project and extension work."

DEBATE WORK IMPORTANT

Debate, at the Northwest School, is a part of the regular English course and is given the same rating as public speaking. It is required of all Freshman and Junior students, with classes of instruction held once a week. The work in debate, according to E. W. Avery, Debate Coach, differs from
(Continued on Page 4.)



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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.

Twentieth Annual COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

March 18-22, 1928

Commencement Sermon
Sunday, March Eighteenth
First M. E. Church, 7:30 O'Clock.

Declamatory Contest
Monday, March Nineteenth
Auditorium, 7:30 O'Clock

Reception to Graduating Class
Tuesday Evening, March Twentieth
Superintendent and Mrs. A. A. Dowell
at their Home.

Concert Recital
Wednesday, March Twenty-one
Auditorium, 7:30 O'Clock

School and Alumni Luncheon
Thursday, March Twenty-two
Dining Hall, 12:30 O'Clock

Senior Class Exercises
Thursday, March Twenty-two
Auditorium, 3:00 O'Clock

Commencement Exercises
Thursday, March Twenty-two
Auditorium, 8:00 O'Clock

BASKET BALL TEAM

WINS FROM MORRIS

The Northwest School basketball squad defeated the Morris Aggies in two hotly contested games, February 24 and 25. By a decision of the Northwest School, the first game was played on a neutral floor, the Crookston Armory, and the second game in the Northwest School gymnasium. Both teams were primed for these contests and fought with a determination to win. From the standpoint of the spectators, the teams were evenly matched, and exhibited a fine brand of basketball and good sportsmanship. The local team won the first game by a score of 16 to 12, and the second by a score of 21-20, in an overtime period, after being tied 19-19 at the close of the first half. Coach Heine had a team of well balanced players with Captain Oscarson, left guard; Karels, right guard; Hein, center; Ogdahl and Halvorson, forwards. For Crookston Captain Stenborg and Ostlie played guards; Cain, center, while Elton, Odland, Confer and Hamrick alternated at the forwards position. L. Lee of the University of North Dakota officiated.

JUNIOR-SENIOR BANQUET A SUCCESS

One of the pleasantest social affairs of the year was held March 5 when the Juniors, with their class advisers, Miss Retta Bede and H. C. Rutt, were hosts to the Seniors in the school dining hall. The tables were beautifully decorated in the Junior class colors, lavender and yellow, and the tables arranged in the form of letters J and S. The freshman boys and girls, wearing the senior colors, assisted in the preparation of the table decorations and in the serving. The theme of the toast program, which followed the well planned banquet, centered around the "flower garden," the Red River Valley being referred to as the garden, the faculty as the gardeners, new students as the seed, and the Juniors as dainty roses, and the Seniors as sturdy hollyhocks. Harvey Johnson, Rollag, was toastmaster, and responses were made by Evelyn Bain, Baudette; Teddy Carlson, Hallock; Estelle Fillipi, Angus; Harold Cordes, Henning; E. W. Avery and Superintendent A. A. Dowell. Music consisted of community singing directed by Miss Helen Brown, a violin duet by Harvey Evenson, Climax, and Oscar Norbom, Clearbrook; vocal solos by Lowell Ryden, Hallock, and selections by the Junior quartette, composed of Iris and Esther Gibbons, Crookston, Lowell Ryden and Harvey Johnson. Following the banquet the guests adjourned to the gymnasium for the final part of the evening program. Old time music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Torgerson, Fosston, and their son, Orin, who is a student at the Northwest School.

COMING EVENTS

- Commencement Week, March 18-22.
- Graduation Day, March 22.
- Boys' and Girls' Short Course, March 26-30.
- Cow Testers' Short Course, March 26-31.
- One Day Boys' and Girls' Club Camps, June 11-16.
- Third Annual Women's Camp, June 18-21.
- Livestock Feeders' Day, June 22.
- Alumni Reunion, June 29.
- Annal Crops and Soils Day, July 16.

HOLSTEIN SALE

DREW LARGE CROWD

Thirty-nine head of Holsteins consigned to the Red River Valley Mid-winter Sale on Thursday, brought a total of \$5242.50, or an average of \$132.42 per head. The top price was \$250 paid for the 7-year-old daughter of Sir Pietertje Ormsby Mercedes 41st, consigned by Lake Park Orphans' Home, Lake Park, and purchased by Harold Tobalt, Moorhead. Ben Sholl paid \$200 for a yearling bull from the Glantz Brothers from Park Rapids.

ALUMNI MID-WINTER REUNION

Following a custom of long standing, a number of alumni and former students met at the Northwest School February 10, for the annual Mid-winter reunion held in connection with the Northwest School Farmers' week. Many former students are members of the Northwestern Minnesota Singers' association, which presented the afternoon and evening programs at the armory during the day. In the afternoon, former basketball players met the Northwest School second team, the latter winning by a score of 28-9. In the evening a party was held in the gymnasium with the Advanced class in charge of arrangements. All who were present mentioned that they were planning on attending the summer reunion, which has now become an annual affair, attracting an increasingly large number of former students each year. The date for the 1928 reunion is June 29.

HOME MANAGEMENT

WORK PRACTICAL

One of the many practical courses offered in Home Economics at the Northwest School of Agriculture, is the work in Home Management, under the direction of Miss Fanny B. Lippitt. To supplement the classroom and laboratory work, educational trips to manufacturing plants and private homes are scheduled from time to time during the year.

During the early fall the class visited the sugar beet factory at East Grand Forks. This factory is new and modern in every respect, all machinery being run by electricity. This gave the students an excellent opportunity to observe the various steps in the manufacture of beet sugar. The factory starts operations at the beginning of the harvest season in the fall and runs day and night until the supply of beets is exhausted. The output last year was said to be around two million hundred-pound bags. Two members of the class gave this subject further study and presented the results of their work in their senior thesis.

In connection with the study of milk and milk products, the class visited the Bridgeman-Russell and Kiel Products Creameries, Crookston. The schedule of trips includes a visit to the Crookston Flour Mill and the Cheese Factory at Gentilly.

While studying the care and training of children, the class visited a number of private homes and heard many interesting discussions by practical home-makers. In one of the homes visited, the mother was a trained nurse. She stressed the importance of regular habits in children from infancy. Proper training from the beginning made it much easier for the mother, and was the first step toward a healthy, happy baby.

In another home the mother emphasized the importance of having each member of the family responsible for some definite task about the house.

It was her belief that the family should not only learn to work but play together.

Emphasis on a happy home was the keynote of another visit. One rule in that household is for each member of the family to "Try to see something beautiful, learn something beautiful, and do something to help others each day." The mother explained how important it is that the little trials of life be met in the right spirit; that the truly happy home is the one where love prevails, and where each one lives for the others and all live for God.

The fine art of homemaking cannot be mastered entirely from a textbook. Much has to be learned by the actual doing, and the best place to learn is in the home.

These visits offered an excellent opportunity for the class to visit in three different homes where trained household engineers were in charge, where the every-day home problems were being met in a practical way, and where the homemakers were not only trying to see that those in their homes received the right food, clothing and bodily care, but where the spirit of the home was considered important and the character building of the children given careful consideration. There are but twenty-four hours in the day, but by budgeting her time the mother can give more thought to the soul of the home and to the special needs of each one in her care.

During the Christmas vacation each member of the class applied in her own home the things that had been taught in class. Meals were planned, cooked and served and other home problems met. The mothers helped with advice and suggestions and cooperated by giving reports on their daughter's work.

The daily contact in the home, between mother and daughter, is the first step towards a knowledge of home management. According to Miss Lippitt this is the proper foundation for later special training designed to fit young women for future home makers.

GRADUATES MAKE RECORDS

Among the important educational features of the Northwest School Farmers' week, February 6-10, were the discussions of methods followed by winners of the 300 bushel per acre potato contest. First and second honors in this contest were awarded former graduates of the school, Ole Flaata and Anchor Wurden, Fisher. Ole produced 457 bushels per acre and Anchor 418 bushels. The third highest yield was reported by Roy Quaintance of Crookston.

Mr. Flaata's Story

"My land is clay loam. Two years ago I raised a truck crop. The land was then plowed six inches deep. Last year the land was not plowed, but was thoroughly cultivated and planted to beans. This spring it was spring-toothed deeply and thoroughly. I used my own improved seed strain, which was treated with a commercial

solution known as Semesan Bel, for controlling diseases. The seed was cut as nearly as possible into 2 oz. pieces and planting was done June 10, using a tractor planter which placed the seed about 2½ inches below the surface. I gave the land four cultivations 7 inches deep before planting and the potatoes were cultivated four times after planting. We sprayed twice with a high pressure sprayer using Bordeaux mixture and Paris Green. We rogued the field twice and harvested with a team digger.

Mr. Wurden's Method

"We used a heavy black loam soil. Two years before it had been seeded to sweet clover and pastured for one year. The year preceding a heavy coat of barnyard manure was applied. We then plowed about six inches deep in late September, cross-dragging the field as soon as the frost went out in the spring. We spring-toothed thoroughly on the 20th of May, both crosswise and lengthwise, then smoothing it with the harrow. This provided a mellow seed bed. Our seed was hand selected Irish Cobblers grown by ourselves. We treated the seed with hot formaldehyde before using. Twenty bushels of cut seed were planted per acre, 11 inches be-

tween plants, and 34 inches between rows. We used a two-row planter with fertilizer attachment. Three hundred pounds of AA 20% acid phosphate was used. A week after planting we went over the field with an 8-shovel cultivator. The next operation I think was the most important of all. When the sprouts showed about an inch long the whole field was cross-dragged. This was done to kill the weeds that grow in the hill and often kill the plant. One must be very careful that the sprouts are not grown too long or they will be broken off by the dragging or will expose the plant to the sun and kill it in either case. We used the weeder three times, cultivating lengthwise until the potatoes were about 4 inches high, then shallow cultivated twice, then hilled. When the potatoes were from 6 to 8 inches high, we began spraying the Bordeaux mixture. We did this three times at ten-day intervals to protect them from the leaf hopper and flea beetle. We used a power sprayer under 300 pounds pressure. The roguing was done at this time. The diseased plants were taken off the field and the tubers dug and carried away also. This reduced one's disease problem to the minimum. After the vines were thoroughly dry, the potatoes were dug



(Courtesy Grand Forks Herald)
OLE A. FLAATA, WINNER OF SWEEPSTAKES AWARD IN POTATOES AT THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL FARMERS' WEEK AND RED RIVER VALLEY WINTER SHOWS, FEBRUARY 6-10, 1928.

with a horse digger, using an engine attachment. This reduced the damage to the potatoes and they came out much cleaner. It also allows us to get on the field when it is too wet for ordinary digging."

PLUMS FOR THE RED RIVER VALLEY

The great multitude of varieties of plums sold by nurserymen makes the matter of variety selection a difficult one for the average farm and home owner. According to T. M. McCall, Horticulturist, many of the old standard varieties of plums and many of the newer sorts are not adapted to northwestern Minnesota, not because they lack in hardiness, but because they do not ripen their fruit in season. For example, varieties like DeSota and Wyant escape fall frosts not more than three years out of five.

The home plum orchard should contain varieties differing in quality of fruit, in the date of blooming, and date of fruit maturity. Varieties of the plum and sand cherry hybrids are desirable for planting, in that most all of them fruit while young and ripen their fruit for the most part in August. Most of the sand cherry hybrid trees succeed best when low headed with their branches close to the ground.

The Compass cherry is a desirable early ripening plum-sand cherry hybrid. Other desirable sorts that ripen later are Opata, a green-fleshed variety, and Sapa, a red-juiced sort. Two other excellent varieties are the Zumbra cherry and the St. Anthony. The Hanska, a firm fleshed, round red plum of good keeping qualities is desirable for variety. The Waneta and Underwood are plums of excellent quality and good size. The Wolf, Assiniboine, Winnipeg, and Eliot are American plums of merit and should find a place in every orchard. Then there is a long list of new unnamed plums that give promise of succeeding in favored locations. Thorough spraying of the plum trees with Bordeaux mixture before the petals open and after the bloom falls is good crop insurance.

BANANA PROSPECTS GOOD

While winter grips the central states, bananas are blooming in the Red River Valley. The banana is not being generally grown at present, but according to T. M. McCall, horticulturist at the Northwest Station, bananas have succeeded wherever he has planted them. Mr. McCall would recommend, however, that all prospective banana growers limit their plantings to locations where an average temperature of 70° F. can be maintained throughout the year, and provision also be made to supply generous amounts of steam heat during the winter months to create the required balminess necessary for the plant.

Olaf Stenborg, a husky football player and advanced student, has been appointed guardian of the two fruiting

banana plants at the Northwest Station greenhouses. According to Olaf, the greatest hazard in growing bananas is that of keeping visitors from tasting the forbidden fruit.

DEBATE WORK IMPORTANT

(Continued from Page 1)
public speaking in that the debater delivers an original production instead of using a selection prepared by someone else.

The whole purpose of the work in debate is to train students to think clearly and talk freely before an audience. This training is intended to fit them for effective community service in later life.

In addition to the regular class work the debaters have many opportunities for practice in the literary societies, assembly programs, and, most important of all, if they are considered good enough to make the teams, in the Inter-School Debate. This latter event



(Courtesy The Minneapolis Journal)

Lawrence Harstad, Crookston, winner of sweepstakes in the corn division in the recent Northwest School Farmers' Week and Red River Valley Winter Shows.

has been the annual debate with Morris and Fargo, and is one of the big events of the year.

From the time the students are organized into classes they are encouraged to think about public speech and public speakers. They are encouraged to analyze the more important assembly lectures and to decide what particular features make them so interesting and instructive.

It goes without saying that when these students first come into class they are more or less bashful and confused, except for the occasional glib beginner. As they become more ac-

customed to the work, however, their diffidence leaves them, and if they have made careful preparation, are soon making talks that would be a credit to older people.

At the beginning of the term a question for study and discussion is chosen. The question is always one of immediate public interest. This year two questions were selected: (1) Resolved, that installment buying is an evil, and (2) Resolved, that the attitude of the U. S. toward Nicaragua is correct. The first question is one that most of them know something about from experience. The second is more difficult, but with considerable material available in our library, the students were soon able to advance strong arguments on either side of the question.

As soon as the question is selected, students are given instruction in locating material. They are first introduced to the "Reader's Guide." After they have reviewed the available literature, articles are analysed in class and the students are tested as to their ability to pick out the more important points of argument on either side. At the beginning this is rather laborious work, but it is surprising how rapidly they learn to locate the strong arguments for their own side.

After a few weeks' instruction and practice the classes are organized as debating clubs. Three speakers are appointed on a side and a member of the class is chosen to preside. It is the duty of this person to read the question, call the speakers in their proper order, appoint the judges and announce their decision. This program is carried on throughout the term, each student being given an opportunity to speak several times, and to learn how to organize and conduct debates.

This brief sketch will give parents some idea of the efforts made at the Northwest School to train their children in a very useful phase of their preparation for life after they leave the school and go out "on their own."

PERSONALS

Harry Sandbeck, who attended in 1923-25, is now salesman for the Simmons Auto Company, Grand Forks.

Leonard and Walter Welte are both enjoying their work as buttermakers in Northwestern Minnesota creameries. Walter graduated in 1922 and is now in a creamery north of Oklee. Leonard, who attended school in 1921-22, is located at Gully.

Caroline Hruska, '26, visited friends at the Northwest School on her way to Bemidji, where she is attending the Teachers College.

Early in January a boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Darragh Geddes, of East Grand Forks. Darragh is a graduate of the class of 1914, while Mrs. Geddes was Ella Fossbakken, of the class of 1918.

Announcements have been received of the marriage of Myrtle Erickson, '21, of Goodridge, to Swan H. Jacobson, of Bemidji. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson will live in Bemidji.