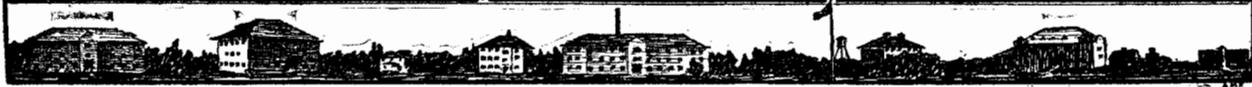


THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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

VOL. XV.

CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA, AUGUST, 1931.

NO. 9.

New Equipment Ready for Opening of Fall Term

Upon their return to the Campus this fall, students will find that many improvements have been made and new equipment added during the vacation period.

Three hundred and twenty steel lockers have been installed in the new Physical Education Building, thus fully equipping the main dressing rooms provided for both boys and girls.

Bleachers Installed

Permanent seating accommodation for over one thousand visitors has just been installed in the main basketball floor. Seven rows of combination steel and wooden bleachers now run full length of the room, facing the playing court. For the first time in the history of the school, faculty, students and guests can view a basketball game or gymnasium class from a convenient, comfortable seat.

Other improvements include a modern tennis court installed just east of the new Physical Education building, and completion of the new football and baseball field to the south of the main Campus.

Additional Equipment

New theatre seats have been ordered for the school auditorium so that the main room can be used to capacity this year. Two hundred and forty-seven new seats will be installed in the center section, while seats now on hand will fill the sections to either side, thus accommodating 550 people in the main floor. Space for an additional two hundred people is available in the gallery, when the additional room is needed.

LEADING PURE SEED PRODUCERS ATTEND CROPS AND SOILS DAY

About one hundred pure seed growers from northwestern Minnesota and North Dakota attended the Annual Crops and Soils day program at the Northwest Experiment Station on July 20. As the usual North Dakota field crops day had been cancelled due to unfavorable crops over much of the state, a special delegation, headed by Dr. E. G. Booth, extension agronomist of the North Dakota Agricultural college, joined our Minnesota pure seed producers in the day's activities. Representatives from the Manitoba Agricultural college were also present. Dr.

Campus Beautified During Summer

Students and friends of the Northwest School will be pleased to learn that progress has been made this season in working toward the completion of the Campus beautification project. New grade lines have been established on the Campus area south of the pavement, extending east from the main entrance to the new Physical Education Building and on east to the poultry house. Cottonwood trees at the entrance have been removed and permanent plantings of evergreens made to frame in the entrance drive.

A rock garden has been laid out in one of the vistas through the trees south of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial. According to Professor T. M. McCall, the rock garden in composition typifies the glacial till such as is found in the glacial moraines surrounding the Red River Valley. A rock-lined pool is one of the features of the rock garden and the flow of water from a



1931 AGGIE BOARD

Many students have already reserved rooms for the new school year, which opens Sept. 28

H. K. Hayes, chief in agronomy, and Dr. H. K. Wilson, Dr. LeRoy Power, and E. R. Auseumus of University Farm, assisted in the tour of the experimental plots, while H. R. Sumner, secretary of the Northwest Crop Improvement association, gave the main address of the day.

At a business meeting of the Red River Valley Crops and Soils association, the following officers and directors were elected for the ensuing year: President, Herman Skyberg, Fisher; Vice President, Arthur Norum, Hallock; Treasurer, S. M. Sivertson, Crookston; Secretary, R. S. Dunham, Northwest
(Continued on Page 3.)

bubbling spring is regulated from a concealed faucet. The plants used for planting in and about the rock garden include commonly recommended plants, but special emphasis is being placed on those that are native and typical to the Red River Valley region.

Evergreens were used mainly for the border planting and for background plantings around the new gymnasium. Cotoneaster, Ninebark spirea and flowering currant shrubs were used for the foundation planting around the gymnasium. These shrubs were supplemented with Bridal Wreath, Spirea Arguta, Mock Orange, and French li
(Continued on Page 4)



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.

STATION HERDS

NOW ACCREDITED

Word has just been received from the Office of the Minnesota State Live Stock Sanitary Board, that the beef and dairy herds maintained by the Station are now eligible for a Bang Abortion Free Accredited Certificate, as no reactors were disclosed in the last three tests.

The Station herds, totalling 72 head of purebred beef and dairy cattle, are also free from tuberculosis, as indicated by an Accredited Herd Certificate recently issued through the Office of Dr. Charles E. Cotton, Secretary and Executive officer of the Minnesota State Live Stock Sanitary Board. The certificate is also signed by Dr. J. R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Dr. W. J. Fritz, Inspector in charge.

MANY EXPERIMENTS

CONDUCTED BY AGRONOMY DIVISION

Nearly 800 plots and over 2000 rod rows were included in the experimental work in Agronomy at the Northwest Station during the past season. As stated by R. S. Dunham, Agronomist, the object of these experiments is three-fold: first, many trials are made to answer local questions and attack regional problems; second, other experiments are undertaken to obtain information of a purely scientific character whereby this station may contribute something to the general fund of agricultural knowledge; and finally, the results of all experimental work and material from the plots are used in the classroom.

The purpose of the experimental work is to make new discoveries. This is accomplished by comparative trials. Each plot or rod row represents a trial of some cultural method, some variety, or some fertilizer. By comparison, the best method, variety or fertilizer is determined.

The detailed methods employed in plot farming are not to be copied for field farming, but the results obtained by such plot trials are applicable to the farm. In order to answer the question as to the best variety of oats, all plots must be uniform as to soil types, drainage and soil fertility. Uniformity of conditions cannot be easily maintained over a large acreage. Thus, if one wants to compare 25 varieties of

wheat, it is necessary that each plot be small so that soil variation will not be so great, so that all varieties may be planted on the same day, and so that each one may be harvested at its proper stage of maturity.

Experimental work involves much detail. The individual farmer has neither the time nor means to carry out trials that will answer his questions. The Experiment station is established for that purpose.

VALLEY DAIRYMEN

OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS

Much interest is being shown by 4-H dairy calf club members in Northwestern Minnesota in the special awards recently announced by C. M. Pesek, Secretary of the Red River Valley Dairymen's Association. The awards are for advanced 4-H dairy calf club work, dairy demonstrations and dairy judging.

In the advanced dairy calf contest, the boys and girls will be required to keep production records, weighing the milk daily and testing it for butterfat once a month. Feed records will also be required. Economy of production will be an important factor in this contest. Records should be started as soon after freshening as possible and not later than December 31, 1931. Two scholarships, one of \$50 and another, \$30, will be awarded, which may be used at an agricultural school or college. Gold medals will also be awarded to the next ten highest in the contest.

In the 4-H dairy demonstration work, the Red River Valley Dairymen's association will pay the railroad fare and expenses of eight teams to the Winter Shows, Crookston. The topics for demonstrations will deal with the consumption of dairy products, the production of high quality milk and cream, and feeding for economic production. Eight judging teams, consisting of three members each, will have their railroad fare and expenses paid to the Winter Shows. The association is also awarding a very fine trophy in this contest.

H. A. Pflughoeft, district club agent, reports that practically every county in the Red River Valley will take part in one or more of these contests.

STATION MAINTAINS

STRONG POULTRY DEPT.

Investigational work now being carried on by the Department of Poultry Husbandry includes (1) a comparison of common farm grains fed singly and in various combinations for egg production; (2) various methods of feeding and management of baby chicks; (3) the position of the egg during incubation; (4) studies of embryonic mortality in the fowl; (5) a comparison of general purpose and egg breeds from the standpoint of cost of production; (6) and egg production records of one, two and three-year-old White Leghorn and Rhode Island Red hens.

In addition to the investigational work, intensive trap nesting pedigree work has been under way since 1922. Last year the Station White Leghorn

flock averaged 241.6 eggs per hen with a maximum record of 321 eggs in 365 days. One hen has a two-year record of 539 eggs.

A. M. Pilkey, Poultryman, is in charge of all poultry experimental and classroom work carried on at the Northwest School and Station.

PRELIMINARY WEATHER REPORT

In commenting on the Station Weather report for the year, R. S. Dunham, Agronomist, states that the weather this year apparently set out to establish a number of new records. The snowfall of last winter (0.83 inch of melted snow) was the lightest ever recorded at the Northwest Experiment Station. January was the warmest in 22 years, and with the exception of 1915, it was also the driest. February, likewise, was the warmest on record. March was warmer than average, but set no record. April was the driest on record, with only .05 of an inch of rainfall for the entire month. May was slightly cooler than average, but June was the warmest since 1923. July was also warm, but no warmer than the same month last year.

Although June was very warm, the maximum temperature of 96 was exceeded in June, 1921, 1913, and 1910. The maximum temperature in July was 101, which fell far short of the record of 103 in July, 1917. The total rainfall for April, May, June and July was 8.78 inches in 1930, and 8.59 inches in 1931.

GERMAN SCIENTISTS

VISIT STATION

Visitors at the Northwest School and Experiment Station during the month of August included Professor C. H. Th. Dencker, and Dr. Nordahl L. Wallem, who have been studying agricultural methods in the United States as representatives of the German government.

Following an extended trip across the Continent, Professor Dencker stated that conditions in the Red River Valley are more nearly like his native land than any other section of the United States he has visited. The German investigators were quite at home among such crops as small grains, corn, potatoes, and sugar beets.

WHEAT AS A FEED FOR

FATTENING CATTLE

What is the value of wheat as a feed for fattening cattle? This question has been asked by many Northwest Minnesota farmers and livestock feeders since the recent decline in the market value of wheat. How combinations of wheat with barley or wheat with oats compare in results secured with wheat or barley fed alone, is of interest in determining the best method of feeding wheat. This cattle feeding trial conducted at the Northwest Experiment Station during the winter of 1930-31 was planned to answer these questions.

Thirty-two steer calves were pur-

chased on the South St. Paul market in October, 1930, and fattened in four groups of eight calves each.

The different lots were fed as follows:

Lot 1—Ground barley, full fed. Linseed meal, 1.5 lbs. per head daily. Sweet clover hay, full fed.

Lot 2—Ground wheat, full fed. Linseed meal, 1.5 lbs. per head daily. Sweet clover hay, full fed.

Lot 3—Ground wheat, 50%; ground barley, 50%, full fed. Linseed meal, 1.5 lbs. per head daily. Sweet clover hay, full fed.

Lot 4—Ground wheat 50%, ground oats 50%, full fed. Linseed meal, 1.5 lbs. per head daily. Sweet clover hay, full fed.

The selected steer calves used in this experiment were of high grade Hereford breeding, dropped on the Montana range in the spring of 1930.

Results as reported on Livestock Feeders' Day by George D. Wight and R. J. Christgau of the Northwest Station, and W. H. Peters, Chief of the Animal Husbandry division, University Farm, St. Paul, are summarized as follows:

Barley Compared With Wheat

In this feeding trial, the ration fed Lot 2, consisting of ground wheat, linseed meal, and sweet clover hay, proved to be more efficient in promoting gains than the ration fed Lot 1, in which barley was the grain fed. The Lot 2 calves ate nearly a pound less grain per head daily, but gained slightly faster and were fatter at the end of the trial, selling for 25c per 100 pounds more than the Lot 1 steers. The wheat-fed steers also required considerably less feed per 100 pounds gain, but the higher price of the grain made the gains of the Lot 2 animals more costly, and at the prices charged for the two grains, the barley ration proved to be the more economical.

Wheat vs. Wheat and Barley

The ration of ground wheat and ground barley (fifty per cent each), linseed meal, and sweet clover hay received by Lot 3 failed in all respects to equal the ration of ground wheat alone, linseed meal, and sweet clover hay fed to Lot 2. The steers in Lot 2 ate approximately the same amount of grain and .16 of a pound more hay per head daily than those in Lot 3; however, they gained .21 of a pound more, required considerably less feed per pound of gain, and made their gains at a lower cost. They were fatter at the end of the trial and were valued at 75c per 100 pounds more than the steers in the lot fed wheat and barley mixed.

Wheat vs. Wheat and Oats

When oats and wheat were combined fifty per cent each in a ration with linseed meal and sweet clover hay as in Lot 4, the calves ate .9 of a pound more grain per head daily, and gained .11 of a pound more than the Lot 2 calves receiving wheat alone. They required more feed per 100 pounds of gain however, and were not as fat as the Lot 2 calves at the close of the

trial, being valued at 10c per hundred weight less. Judging by the gains made and the appearance of the calves in the two lots, it seems that oats in the ration with wheat tended to produce more rapid growth, but slower fattening than when wheat was fed as the only grain.

The average daily gain ranged from 1.95 pounds to 2.26 pounds per calf per day, with the wheat fed calves gaining somewhat more rapidly than the barley fed group. Due to the prevailing low price of wheat, it is expected that large quantities of this grain will be fed this year, not only to fattening cattle, but to hogs and lambs as well.

Cattle Top Market

That wheat and barley will produce market topping baby beef was demonstrated when these 32 head of baby beeves sold at \$8.35 per hundred weight on July 6, this being the top price paid on the South St. Paul market for many weeks.

LEADING PURE SEED PRODUCERS ATTEND CROPS AND SOILS DAY

(Continued from Page 1.)

Station; Directors: Kittson county, Chas. Younggren, Northcote; Roseau county, John Dynes, Roseau; Marshall county, A. C. Knudson, Warren; Pennington Co., Henry Hanson, Thief River Falls; Red Lake county, George H. Orr, Red Lake Falls; Polk county, Alfred Lindem, Fisher, and Melvin Flaskerud, Fosston; Norman county, Wm. Fredrickson, Perley; Becker county, C. C. Williams, Detroit Lakes; Clay county, Theo. Schrie, Glyndon; Wilkin county, Wm. Fredericks, Foxhome; Ottertail county, Arthur Hansel, Dalton, and Henry Cordes, Henning; Clearwater county, J. Albert Anderson, Golvick.

It was also decided to repeat the offer of \$100 in prizes to Red River Valley farmers, whose crop samples place at the International Hay and Grain show in Chicago next fall. Last year Carl G. Ash, St. Vincent; Arthur Norum, Hallock, and Emil Wagner, Ada, won these special awards offered by the Crops and Soils association.

Afternoon Program

The business meeting and program were presided over by Arthur Norum, President of the Valley Crops and Soils Association. Superintendent A. A. Dowell of the Northwest School and Station pointed out in his address of welcome that the object of the experimental work was to save farmers the time and expense of carrying on those trials on their individual farms. The information resulting from such experimental work is available to all who ask for it.

H. R. Sumner, Secretary of the Northwest Crop Improvement association, delivered the address of the day, his subject being "Market Requirements for Cereal Crops." Mr. Sumner

emphasized two main points in his message; first, that the grain farmers should learn to know the true value of his crop; and second, that there are many viewpoints by which the value of a crop may be judged. As to the former, he suggested that every producer should be able to answer the following three questions: (1) When does durum grade amber durum and when durum? (2) When does wheat grade mixed? (3) How many smut balls can there be in a handful of wheat before it is graded smutty?

With regard to the difference in viewpoint, the farmer wants yield; the elevator man wants a kind he can sell to advantage; the miller wants good baking flour, and the consumer wants good bread. All of these viewpoints must be considered in raising wheat for market.

The tour of the experimental plots under the direction of R. S. Dunham, station agronomist, completed the afternoon program. Discussions on wheat, oats and barley varieties were led by the specialists from University Farm.

Points of especial interest on the trip were the wheat nursery, where 130 strains and varieties are under test, many of them showing promise of being superior to any varieties now in distribution; the oats variety plots where oats immune to smut are on trial; flax planted April 22 superior to any planted later; twelve varieties and species of sweet clover, some of which are as leafy as alfalfa; pasture trials including five varieties of sweet clover; a wilt-sick plot on which flax sent in by farmers is being tested for wilt resistance; a comparison of rotations in which the rotation containing sweet clover is definitely superior for weed control to one without sweet clover, even when a cultivated crop is grown, and trials of superphosphate applied in the row with wheat as compared to broadcasting the fertilizer.

CAMPUS VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. King announce the arrival of twins born on the Northwest School Campus the last week in July. Mother and youngsters, though making excellent progress, have been somewhat disturbed by the heavy traffic on Highways No. 6 and No. 8, which has been temporarily routed through the Campus, due to road work in front of the main entrance.

Many names have been suggested for the tiny twins, but as yet no final decision has been reached. Vixen has been proposed, but seems to be too suggestive of a troubled life. Prancer, too, smacks of a frivolous career. The names, Dunder and Blitzen, may prove to be the solution to the problem that has tried the patience of parents down through the centuries. The twins' father is named King, while their mother answers to the call of Sally. They will continue to make their home in the Northwest School deer park.

CAMPUS BEAUTIFIED DURING SUMMER

(Continued from Page 1.)

lac.

The four species of pines used in Campus planting include the following: Scotch, Norway, Western Yellow, and Dwarf or Mugho. The Black Hills spruce and white spruce were used extensively for border line plantings, and the Colorado Blue spruce was used for specimen tree planting in the demonstration flower garden. Liberal use was made of the dwarf and prostrate junipers and the pyramidal and Siberian arborvitae in the sunken and rock gardens.

The evergreens used in the Campus beautification, though but from three feet to four feet tall, have made a showing this year and should through the years add variety and beauty to the "Campus Beautiful."

PERSONALS

Miss Hilma Ahlm, '29, and Mr. Albin Peterson were married Tuesday, July 7, at the Ahlm home at Argyle. The attendants were Miss Anna Ahlm and Mr. Nels Palm, '14. Mrs. Peterson has been employed as assistant in the Accountant's office at the Northwest School during the past year. The couple are now at home on their farm near Alvarado.

Murray Hales, '16, is located at Sheridan, Manitoba, Canada.

Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Peterson (LaVern '22) of North Loup, Nebraska, send greetings to Northwest School friends from Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, where they have been vacationing for two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Mattson (Hannah Martinson, '22) are the parents of a baby boy born July 26 at the Hallock Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. William F. Henry (Theresa Aakre, '24) of 1129 Magnolia Avenue, Chico, California, announce the birth of a daughter, Elaine Mary, on April 25.

Carl Hogenson, '28, is President of the Garden Community club at Winger.

Lloyd Mylerberg, '28, is employed as a lintotype operator at Hackensack, Minnesota.

Mr. Erick Stephenson, of Gary, father of Hazel Stephenson, '29, died Friday morning, July 24.

Halbert Johnson, '30, is the reporter for the Underwood 4-H Club.

Miss Kate Bedard, North-School Accountant, is spending a couple of months at the home of her mother, 623 Broadway, Fergus Falls, where she is enjoying a much needed rest.

Lester KenKnight, '26, has been appointed instructor in the Clearbrook High School for the coming year. Lester will teach Latin and Public Speaking, as well as direct the school band.

Kenneth Monson, '21, Superintendent of Elmwood Farms, Deerfield, Illinois, writes in part: "As the years pass, the days I spent at the Northwest School become dearer in my memory, and it is often I regret I shall never have these days to live over again. The Northwest School is doing a great piece of work for the Red River Valley, both educationally and socially. It is a service that most students never fully appreciate while attending, and it is not until you have completed a course there and are out struggling in the world that these days become most dear to you. I regret very much that it was not possible to attend the Alumni Reunion this year."

Iva C. Dobbdal, '22, writes from San Antonio, Texas, that she has entered the Army Nurse Corps in a large Government Hospital at Fort Sam Houston. This is Iva's second year in the South and she says that the weather has been almost ideal.

Helma Hall (1924) has written to have the Northwest Monthly forwarded to her new address. She is now Mrs. J. H. Tangen of Erskine.

Agnes Forsness, '25, is employed in a doctor's office, Bell Block, Fergus Falls, instead of Fargo, as mentioned in the July Personals.

Kenneth Halvorson, '25, of Gary, Minnesota, is a member of the Concordia College Male quartet, who are touring North Dakota and Minnesota this summer.

At the annual meeting of the Lessor Country Club, McIntosh, which was held June 26, Alfred Voxland, '24, was elected vice president, and Arthur Ramse, '26, editor.

Miss Ruth Olson and Mr. Ralph Hamrick, '27, were married at Crookston Saturday evening, July 25. Mr. and Mrs. Hamrick will make their home near Angus.

Lawrence Spears, '27, is now located at Kelliher, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Randall (Mabel Fletcher, 1926-28) of Ebro, Minnesota, announce the birth of a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, on Friday, July 17.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. (Andy) Anderson, announce the birth of a son, Wayne Elwood, at the Bethesda Hospital, Crookston, on Friday, July 31.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fontaine are the parents of a daughter, Mona Lou, born at Crookston Friday, July 31.

Superintendent and Mrs. A. A. Dowell and daughters spent the early part of August at Burnside Lake, Ely, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Foker, Helen and Robert, have been vacationing at Strawberry Point, Cass Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. T. M. McCall and children enjoyed a few days outing at Itasca Park during July.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Pflughoeft spent a part of their vacation at Strawberry Point Cass Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Dunham, of Chicago, parents of Mr. R. S. Dunham, have been spending the summer on the Northwest School Campus.

Miss Cynthia Weinberger was enrolled for the summer session at the University of Minnesota.

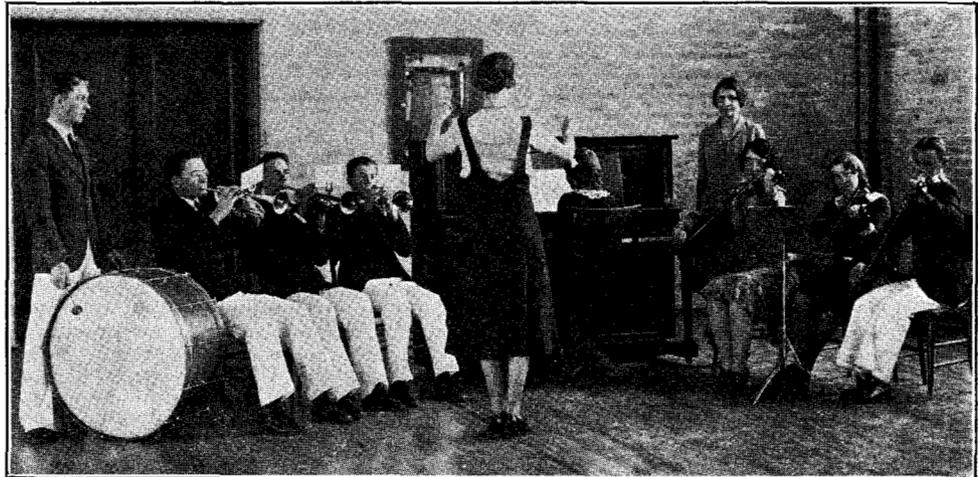
Congressman and Mrs. C. G. Selvig returned early in July from an extended tour of leading European countries and the British Isles. The Selvigs reported a most pleasant and profitable trip.

Mr. George Wight recently motored to Winterset, Iowa, and returned to the Campus with Mrs. Wight and children. Mrs. Wight, Gwen and Jean, have been visiting with relatives in Iowa for the past month.

Professor W. H. Peters, Chief of the Animal Husbandry Division, University Farm, St. Paul, was a Campus visitor during the first week of August.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Powers and son, of Ames, Iowa, have been visiting at the John Perry home at Crookston. Mr. and Mrs. Powers were former members of the Northwest School faculty, Mrs. Powers (Theresa Woodruff) having taught domestic science during 1908-10, and Mr. Powers, horticulturist from 1909-11.

Mr. J. W. Mlinar is visiting with relatives and friends in the Twin Cities for a couple of weeks.



The Northwest School maintains a strong Music Department, including private lessons in voice, piano, violin, together with orchestra, glee clubs and chorus groups