

THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY

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The Northwest School - Trains for Service *Agriculture - Home Economics - Business Training - Music* Fall Term Opens September 28

The fall term of the Northwest School will open for registration Monday, September 28, and the winter term will close the last week in March. This has been found to be the most convenient time for farm boys and girls to attend, for they are thus available for work on the farm and in the farm home throughout the crop growing season. Furthermore, experience has shown this to be a most effective type of educational training: six months intensive class and laboratory instruction, followed by six months of practical work. During the summer months, students are required to carry on definite home projects at home under the supervision of members of the Northwest School staff. Thus little demonstration centers are established throughout the fourteen counties served by the Northwest School and Experiment Station.

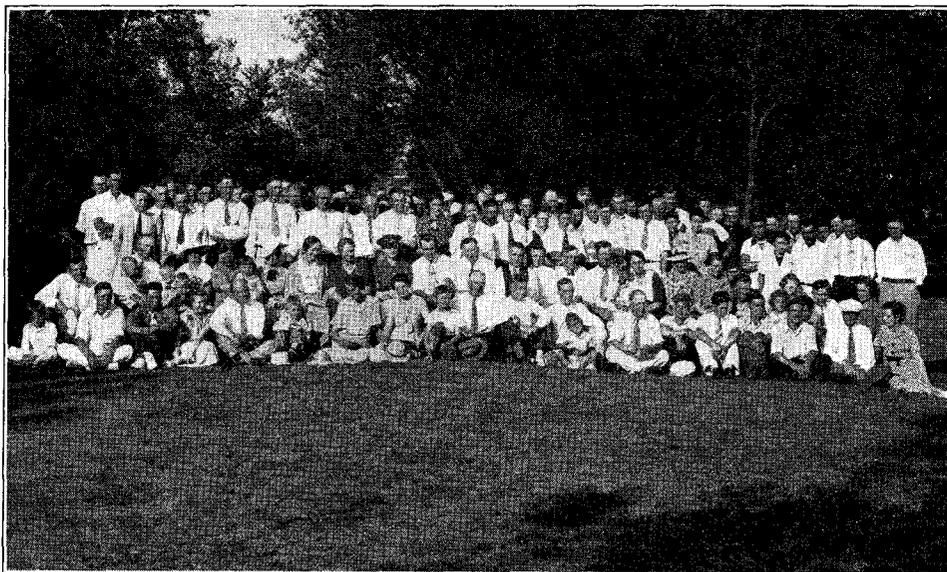
The Northwest School is a vocational school offering unusual opportunities to the young men and women of Northwestern Minnesota. All who have completed the eighth grade are eligible to attend. Those who have not completed the eighth grade may attend only if they are sixteen years of age or over. A diploma is given upon the successful completion of three years work together with the home project assignments. Students who wish to continue their educational training may return for a fourth or college preparatory year, following which they are eligible to enter any college or uni-

versity in the state. Students who lack only a few credits for college entrance may attend the Northwest School to earn the necessary credits and take special work in the various departments.

Many high school graduates attend each year for special training in agriculture, home economics, business training, and music.

State Aid for Rural Students

During the spring of 1935, the State Legislature amended the state aid law



Over four hundred alumni returned for the Annual Summer Reunion which was held on the Campus June 27.

so that any boy or girl under 21 years of age, who has completed the eighth grade, and who comes from an organized rural school district that does not offer accredited high school instruction may attend the Northwest School with all necessary tuition and laboratory and equipment fees paid from state funds. This new law was greatly appreciated by a large number of students and parents last year when about 280 students qualified. The only expense to those who qualify for state aid is the cost of board and room.

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MODERN LUNCH ROOM INSTALLED

Upon returning to the campus this fall, students will find a modern fully-equipped lunch room which has been installed in the ground floor of the school dining hall. New terrazzo floors have been laid in the entrance halls, cafeteria and lunch counter rooms, and the ceiling of the cafeteria room has been acoustically treated to eliminate

the noise and confusion of former years.

At the rear of the cafeteria, arched openings have been made, leading to the lunch counter room. This room has been equipped with a lunch counter, serving table, display case, sink and electrical stove and toaster in addition to the ice cream mixing machine, ice cream cooler, and electric fountain, the latter having been installed during the past year.

The modern lunch room will fill a long felt need on the part of resident students and faculty, and provide ample accommodation for the increasing number of off-campus students.

The removal of the temporary lunch room equipment from the main hall to the new room at the rear will allow more space for the regular school parties, while the new floors and acoustically treated ceiling will add much to the pleasure of these meetings.

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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.

SCHOOL PURCHASES

DIESEL TRACTOR

The Northwest School and Experiment Station has purchased a 35 H.P. Diesel caterpillar tractor to supplement the laboratory work in gas motors and tractors. Beginning with the fall term, practical work with the Diesel motor will be offered students specializing in agricultural engineering.



A. M. Foker

mechanical drawing.

Work in gas motors will include principles of construction and handling of stationary and traction gasoline and Diesel engines including timing, ignition, starting and lighting systems, carburetion, cooling and lubrication. Practical work will also be given in overhauling and repairing automobiles and tractors. Work in soldering, pipe fitting, babbiting and bearing scraping, together with rope work, belt lacing and harness repairing will be given in the course in Farm Mechanics.



W. D. Rusk

Students in blacksmithing will be required to familiarize themselves with operations necessary for blacksmith repair work on the farm. Carpentry work includes training in the construction of the foundation framing, stair and rafter cutting, and selection of materials and concrete work.



W. Promersberger

A. M. Foker will direct the work in blacksmithing, carpentry, and mechanical drawing, while W. D. Rusk, a graduate of the University of Illinois, and W. J. Promersberger, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, will have

charge of the work in motors, gas engines, field machinery, and farm mechanics.

CROPS DAY WELL ATTENDED

The annual Crops and Soils Day at the Northwest Experiment Station was held under the auspices of the Red River Valley Crops and Soils association Monday, July 13. In spite of temperatures over 100 degrees, about 175 farmers and their families attended. At a business meeting of the Crops and Soils association, Melvin Flaskerud of Fosston was elected president to succeed Herman Skyberg, Fisher, who had served three years. Theodore Mellum, Ulen, was re-elected vice president and S. M. Sivertson, Crookston, and R. S. Dunham, Northwest Station, were re-elected treasurer and secretary respectively. Directors from each of the thirteen northwestern counties elected for the ensuing year are as follows: Kittson, Lawrence Ward, St. Vincent; Roseau, Lenus Landby, Swift; Pennington, Simon Breiland, Hazel; Marshall, Alfred Hvidsten, Stephen; Red Lake, Maurice Lillo, Oklee; Clearwater, J. A. Anderson, Gonvick; West Polk, Herman Skyberg, Fisher; East Polk, Wm. H. Moll, McIntosh; Norman, Wm. Frederickson, Perley; Becker, Fordyce Larson, Ulen; Clay, Hans Johnson, Rollag; Wilkin,

COMING EVENTS

September 28—Fall term opens.
September 29—Classes begin.
October 24—Home coming.
October 31—Parents day.
November 26—Thanksgiving day.
December 18—Fall term closes.

Wm. Fredericks, Foxhome; West Ottertail, Theo. Thompson, Fergus Falls; East Ottertail, W. H. Frey, Perham.

Following an address of welcome by Dr. A. A. Dowell, the men made a tour of the experimental plots and the women were shown the flowers, poultry, and home economics equipment by T. M. McCall, A. M. Pilkey and Retta Bede. On the tour of the plots, horticultural work and potatoes were explained by T. M. McCall. The agronomy work was presented by R. S. Dunham, agronomist, and E. R. Clark, pure seed specialist. Dr. F. J. Alway, chief of the division of soils, and Dr. J. J. Christensen and Professor M. Moore of the Plant Pathology division, University Farm, assisted in the discussion, and Professor Wong, a plant pathologist from China, was a distinguished visitor.

Among the agronomy plots, greatest interest centered in the comprehensive trials of sweet clover as a soil improvement crop. Professor Dunham explained that this investigation was begun in 1931 with a preliminary study of the effect of methods of sowing on the yield and root and top development of sweet clover and has been greatly enlarged in its scope since that time. The plots this year show the marked effects of complete and partial fallow in a year of deficient moisture. Wheat, oats, barley and flax following a season of complete fallow are in best condition at this time and where fol-

lowing sweet clover that was plowed under in June last year and fallowed subsequently they look almost as good. Those crops following two years of wheat look worst. Corn has not conserved moisture or controlled weeds as well as the complete fallow or the partial fallow following sweet clover plowed under.

Trials of various forage crops showed best stands of sweet clover, alfalfa, brome and meadow fescue. Poor stands of crested wheat, slender wheat, red top and timothy resulted from sowings in 1935. Perennial rye grass and orchard grass winter killed almost completely. As an average of 7 years, 1.89 tons of hay from soybeans has been harvested.

The crop has frequently been frosted before ready for hay and is a poor weed fighter even when cultivated. Of the annual forage crops, the large yield of digestible nutrients per acre was furnished last year by sorghum, the next by Siberian millet and the least by soybeans. Oats has proved the most dependable and yielded two tons to the acre in 1935.

In the varietal trials, the remarkable behavior of Thatcher in this year of drought and heat was of general interest. Likewise with considerable loose smut present, Thatcher has none. Mindum durum is also withstanding the extreme heat. A small increase field of Thatcher free from bearded heads and of Mindum free from bread wheat and barley were of interest to pure seed growers. Also the new South Dakota hull-less oat looks very promising because of its yield, its freedom from smut, and its hull-less character.

Potato producers were much interested in the new varieties produced by the Minnesota station, such as Warba, Red Warba and Selection 35-26, and in the increase fields of Chippewa and Katahdin, new varieties from the United States Department of Agriculture.

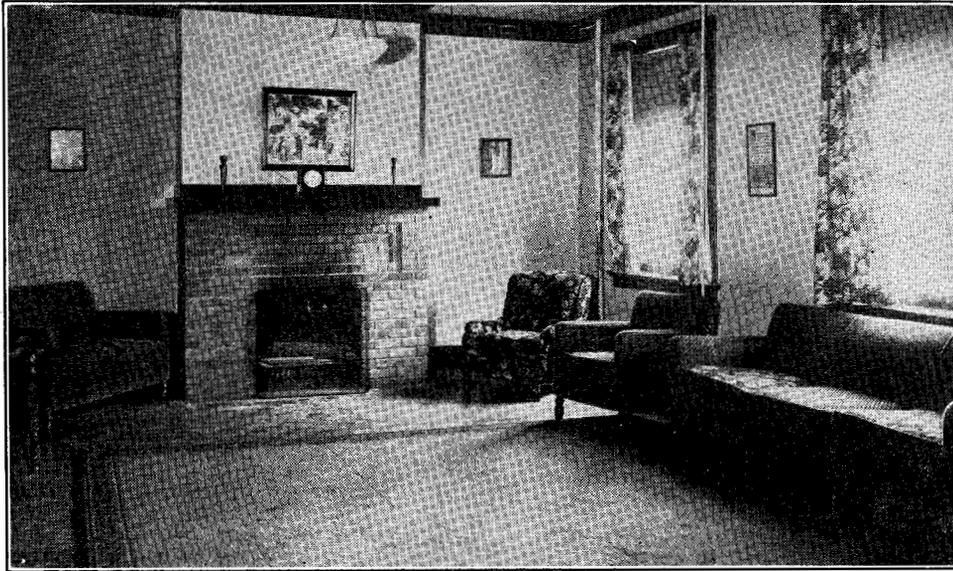
Plots showing whole versus cut seed planted at different spacings, treated versus untreated seed planted at different depths, dust versus wet sprays for insect and disease control, commercial fertilizing trials and disease transmission and control were also on display during the day.

WINTER SHOWS

BUILDING REPAIRED

Work on the Red River Valley Livestock association building, which was badly damaged by fire at the opening of the Winter Shows last February, is rapidly nearing completion, according to O. M. Kiser, secretary of the association. The fire gutted the main livestock barn, thus necessitating the construction of new partitions, floor, roof, windows and doors. It was also necessary to replace the electrical equipment throughout.

The repair work is being done by Otto Eickhof, contractor, under the supervision of a committee representing the Livestock association. This committee is composed of J. H. Sargent, director; P. M. Finkenbinder, member of the Advisory Board, and O. M. Kiser.



Parlor in girls' dormitory. Parents appreciate the homelike environment on the school campus.

1936 WEATHER OBSERVATIONS

Although only the first seven months have passed, 1936 has already broken all records at Crookston for cold, heat and drouth. R. S. Dunham, agronomist and weather observer at the Northwest Experiment Station, points out the following facts in his summary of weather conditions since January 1:

The lowest temperature recorded in 36 years of weather observation occurred February 15, 1936, when the thermometer dropped to 51 degrees below zero. January was the coldest January ever recorded and February was the coldest month ever recorded. For 38 consecutive days, January 15 to February 22, the maximum temperature did not rise to zero. For 45 consecutive days, January 10 to February 24, the lowest temperature remained below zero. The snowfall was nearly twice the average and the largest since 1922.

The highest temperature recorded at the Northwest Station is 108 degrees, which occurred July 28, 1917. However, July, 1936, was the hottest month on record. The maximum temperature of the month was 105 degrees, which was maintained for three consecutive days. On 10 days, the mercury reached 100 or more, and on 21 days it reached 90 or higher. The average of the highest temperature for July is 92.5 degrees, and of the lowest temperatures, 64.9 degrees. The mean temperature for the month is 78.7 degrees, 4.5 degrees above the highest mean recorded for any month in 26 years of observations.

July, 1936, has been the driest July ever recorded. The rainfall for the month was 0.52 inch. The total rainfall since April 1 has been

4.01 inches, which is 6.36 inches below the average for that period and is the least for any year except 1917. In 1917 there were only 3.65 inches for the same period. The total precipitation since January 1 is 6.83 inches and the average for the same period is 12.17 inches.

HOME ECONOMICS WORK STRESSED

A wide variety of courses in Home Economics will be offered at the Northwest School during the coming school year under the direction of four specialists in cooking, sewing, household art, nutrition and home nursing.

Miss Retta Bede, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, will have charge of the work in elementary and advanced cooking, house planning and furnishing, and home management, while the work in household art will

be given by Miss Fanny Lip-pitt, dining hall matron.

Miss Elsie Mae Kingston, a graduate of the Home Economics department at the Iowa State college, will supervise the work in elementary and advanced dress-making, textiles and art needlework. Physiology, home nursing and public health will be offered by Miss Lydia Dahlen, a graduate of the University of Minnesota nurses' training department.

THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL—TRAINS FOR SERVICE

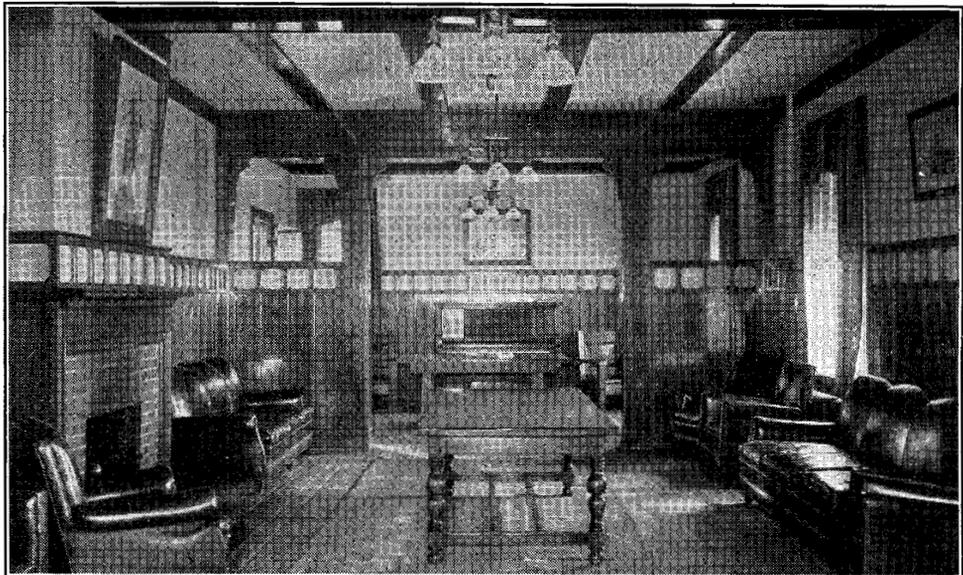
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or \$111.00 for the full six months school year. All students are, of course, required to make the usual \$5 breakage deposit at the time of registering, but this is refunded at the end of the year providing there has been no loss of books or damage to school property.

The school maintains two dormitories for boys and one for girls. Members of the faculty live in the dormitories and serve as student advisors. Parents have always been most appreciative of the homelike environment in the dormitories and about the campus. Lasting friendship and training in citizenship are important by-products of the dormitory life. Each dormitory has a fireplace, piano, and suitable furniture, and many pleasant memories result from the get-togethers that are held during the year.

All students who live on the campus board in the school dining hall which is equipped to accommodate 350 persons. As the seating list is rotated weekly, each student has an opportunity to meet every other student at the family table.

Members of the faculty live in the dormitories or in private residences on



Parlor in Senior boys' dormitory. Lasting friendships are made during the school year.

THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL TRAINS FOR SERVICE

(Continued from Page 3)

the campus. Thus they are available at all times for assistance and advice. This close relationship between faculty and students leads to a real community life; hence, the school has often been called the "Northwest School Family."

The fall term opens for registration Monday, September 28, with the first classes scheduled for the following morning. All who are interested should write for a copy of the school bulletin and booklet of views. Rooms may be reserved by paying a deposit of \$2.00 which will apply on the room rent at the opening of the term.

FACULTY ASSIST WITH MANY MEETINGS

Members of the Northwest School and Station faculty have assisted with a wide variety of meetings during the spring and summer months. Superintendent A. A. Dowell addressed the following groups: March 31, Beta Gamma Sigma Honorary School of Commerce fraternity, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks; April 3, Farmers' Institute, Fertile; April 10, Midwest Economics association conference Des Moines Iowa; May 20, Farm Bureau district conference, Bemidji; May 21, Farm Bureau district conference, Warren; May 28, district county agent conference, Northwest School, Crookston; May 28, commencement address, Clearbrook high school, Clearbrook; June 14, Marshall County Cooperative Creamery annual picnic; July 12, Lake of the Woods County Farm Bureau picnic; July 26, Iowa-Illinois picnic, Crookston. Professor R. S. Dunham addressed the Farmers' Institute, Fertile, April 2; served as one of the judges of the inter-fraternity song contest at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks; judge of the Marshall county 4-H one-act play and music contest, Warren, May 18, and the West Polk 4-H one-act play contest held at the Northwest School May 15. Professor T. M. McCall addressed the Riverside 4-H club, at East Grand Forks, May 2, the Kittson 4-H club, Crookston, May 5; on May 8 landscaped the Cooperative Creamery grounds at Clearbrook; addressed the Lake of the Woods creamery picnic June 14, and West Ottertail Farm Bureau picnic June 17, and the Leon Farm Bureau, Clearbrook, June 19. Professor E. R. Clark served as judge of the North Central Minnesota Crops contest held at Grand Rapids March 23; May 4, assisted with the district 4-H crops judging, Northwest School; May 6, addressed the Marsh Creek Farm Bureau unit, Waubun; May 7, the Farmers'

Club, Perham, and addressed the district weed meeting, Northwest School, Crookston, June 25. Coach R. J. Christgau assisted with the athletic events at the Norman county 4-H club play day at Ada, May 24, and the West Ottertail 4-H summer camp June 15-17. Miss Retta Bede and Registrar J. W. Mlinar served as judges at the Marshall county 4-H club one-act play and music contest held at Warren, May 18, the West Polk county 4-H one-act play contest, Northwest School, May 15, and assisted with the Norman county 4-H club play day, Ada, May 24. Miss Retta Bede also assisted with the Red Lake county 4-H club rally day at Plummer, May 15; the West Ottertail 4-H summer camp, June 15-17; Home Economics Achievement Day, West Polk, July 15; judged the West Polk 4-H club demonstration contest, July 28; and the Home Economics Achievement Day events at Argyle, July 31. Mr. H. A. Pflughoeft has attended many 4-H club meetings throughout the valley counties in the interest of the district 4-H club work. He also attended the inter-state 4-H club conference held in St. Louis county during the week of July 20.

Members of the staff have also served as judges at the Clay county, Marshall county, North Dakota State Fair, Kittson county, Polk county, Roseau, Pennington and Mahnomen fairs. Assistance will likewise be given at other fairs to be held during the late summer months. Superintendent Dowell is also scheduled to judge the Hereford and Aberdeen Angus classes at the Minnesota State Fair, September 5-12.

BOARD OF REGENTS VISIT CANCELLED

The visit of the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, which was scheduled to take place Friday,

July 10, was cancelled due to the severe heat wave that blanketed the entire northwest during the first three weeks of July. According to present plans, the Regents will visit the School and Station some time during the fall.

ROSEAU ALUMNI PLAN PICNIC

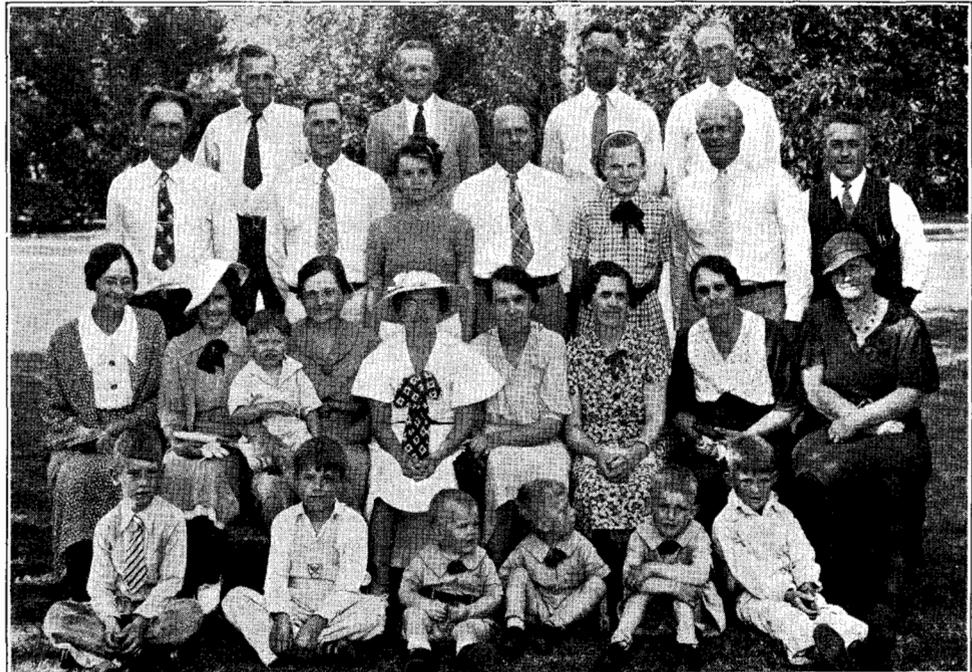
The Roseau County Alumni organization has made plans to hold a picnic in the Warroad Park on Sunday, August 23, according to Ann Brandli, Warroad, '31. All Roseau alumni are invited to attend. Several members of the Northwest School faculty will also be present.

PERSONALS

Professor and Mrs. D. H. LaVoi of East Lansing, Michigan, visited friends and former associates on the campus July 25. Mr. LaVoi was assistant animal husbandman and athletic coach from 1923-29. He is now employed as livestock extension specialist at the Michigan State College.

Melvin Soderberg '30, Kennedy, and Miss Beulah Homstad were married at Bronson on Tuesday, June 30. They will make their home near Hallock.

Northwest School and Station visitors during the month of July included: Chester Johnson '25; John Stanko '36; Helen Carlson '34; Ed Trandem '28; Edwin Widseth '32; Rodney Lindstrom '33; Evelyn Bierbaum '29; Margaret Moe '36; Elmer Moe 1935-36; Patricia Durbahn 1935-36; Marian Hamre '36; S. H. Rutford, State Rural Rehabilitation Director, and Dr. E. C. Johnson, Professor H. J. Sloan, Dr. F. J. Alway, Prof. W. H. Peters, P. A. Anderson, F. J. Brown and C. N. McNelly, all of University Farm, St. Paul.



The fifteen members of the Class of '16 who returned for the Summer Reunion enjoyed the day renewing school-day friendships and discussing "early days" on the Aggie Campus.