

THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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NUMBER 8.

School Term Opens October 2

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL FORECAST

With advance room reservations to date equaling last year's high record, a full enrollment is expected by the opening date of school on October second. Parents and students alike are finding that costs of attending the Northwest School are extremely low and that the school year, October second to March twenty-eight fits admirably into the farm program. With tuition aid granted to all rural school graduates the costs for the majority of students are confined principally to board and room charges.

Many students are finding that summer wages made during the vacation months are adequate to defray school costs for the entire year. Part time employment will again be available for a limited number of boys and girls who will need assistance to attend school. Work applications will be given consideration and work positions will be assigned by the faculty committee during August.

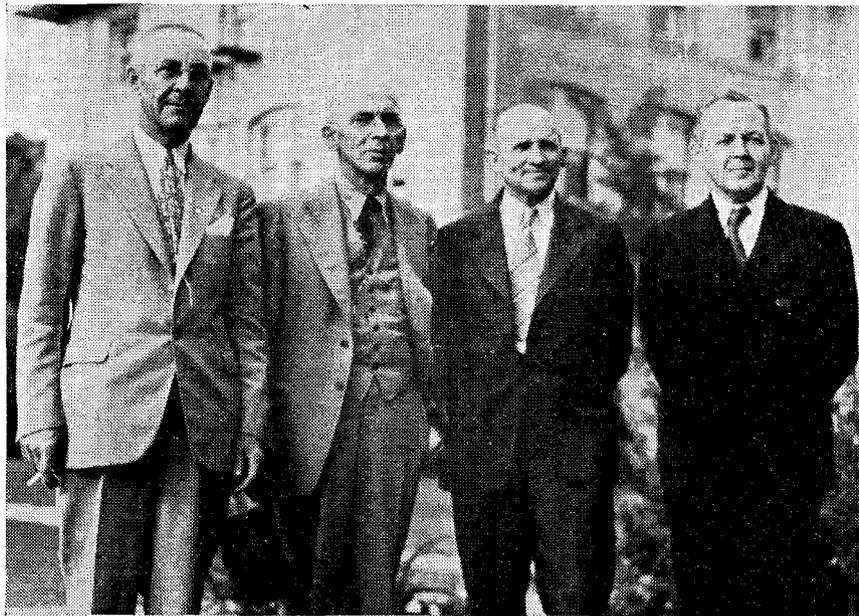
A full staff of instructors will be on hand to greet the students on October second. Confirmation of all new appointments will be announced in the August Northwest Monthly. A resident band instructor for the school is now assured, which means that added opportunity for band instruction will be given.

An increasing number of high school graduates are attending each year to secure special work in farm engineering, livestock, crops, and business training. Boys and girls with one year

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PRESIDENT FORD VISITS CAMPUS

A committee of University of Minnesota officials, headed by President Guy Stanton Ford, arrived late Tuesday, July 18 at the Northwest School for a tour of inspection of University property. President Ford was accompanied by Comptroller W. T. Middlebrook, Supervising Engineer W. F. Holman, and J. C. Poucher, director of Service Enterprises. The University men were dinner guests of Superinten-



W. F. Holman, Pres, G. S. Ford, J. C. Poucher, W. S. Middlebrook.

dent and Mrs. T. M. McCall.

The committee made a thorough inspection of the buildings and physical equipment of the school and noted the progress made in the remodeling of Owen Hall. A careful study of the dormitory needs of the school was made by the president's committee. The tour of inspection of experimental plots and seed increase fields concluded the inspection of the Experiment Station. The president's party left early July 19th for an inspection of the Forestry and Biological Station at Itasca Park.

T. A. HOVERSTAD VISITS STATION

Honorable T. A. Hoverstad, first Superintendent of the Northwest Experiment Station on July 31 returned to the School and Station for a visit with Superintendent and Mrs. T. M. McCall. Mr. Hoverstad's visit was coincidental with the date 34 years ago when he left his position to enter the field of Agricultural Extension Work.

Mr. Hoverstad, who has now retired from active agricultural extension work, has ever been a progressive agricultural leader and has always taken an active interest in the welfare of the Northwest School.

After leaving Crookston, Mr. Hoverstad was director of Farmers' Institute in North Dakota until 1913 at which time he entered railroad work as Agricultural Commissioner for the Soo Line railroad. After five years with the Soo Line, Mr. Hoverstad became Agricultural Commissioner for the Great Western Railway, and continued with that company until his retirement last year.

In addition to laying out experimental projects in farm crops, livestock, and poultry production, Mr. Hoverstad found time to lay out and develop a comprehensive windbreak plan of many windbreak tree combinations, which today make up a large part of shelter belt around the campus.

Mr. Hoverstad was prevailed upon to contribute the following article for readers of the Northwest Monthly.

"It is thirty four years today since I left the Northwest Experiment Station.

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Issued Monthly by
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF
AGRICULTURE,

T. M. McCALL, Superintendent
OFFICE
Northwest Experiment Station,
Crookston, Minnesota

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

R. E. Nylund

New Horticulturist

Mr. Robert E. Nylund of Virginia, Minnesota, a graduate in Horticulture from the University of Minnesota, was appointed horticulturist at the Northwest School and Station to succeed A. C. Vogele, who resigned June 1.

Mr. Nylund has an excellent background of technical training for his position, having graduated from Virginia Junior College and "with distinction" from Minnesota in 1938. Mr. Nylund has finished in course work for his Master of Science degree, and will complete his thesis for that degree during the summer of 1940.

In addition to his experience as Assistant Florist in the Park Department at Virginia, Mr. Nylund has been assistant and research assistant in the Department of Horticulture at University Farm. Mr. Nylund spent the summer season of 1938 as fieldman in charge of the raspberry irrigation project at the Northeast Experiment Station at Duluth.

Mr. Nylund took up the active duties of the department on July 1.

Painted Grasshoppers Liberated

Mr. Al Buzicky, field man from the office of the State Entomologist, has liberated some twenty thousand marked grasshoppers to trace, if possible, the extent of grasshopper migrations. The first release of grasshoppers was sprayed with an aluminum or silver colored spray. This batch of hoppers was released about four miles north-east of the Experiment Station on July 14th.

Reports from points in North Dakota 100 miles distant from Crookston have come in to the Station indicating that silver grasshoppers have been found; however, reports are not considered authentic unless the grasshoppers are sent in for the identification of the spray.

A second release of grasshoppers (15,000) which were sprayed with a gilt spray, was made the third week in July from a point near Angus.

Northwest School students are urged to observe grasshoppers and collect painted specimens for identification. Silver or gold sprayed grasshoppers that are collected should be mailed immediately to the Northwest School.

Agricultural Leaders Hold Meeting July 17

County agents and agricultural instructors from the Smith-Hughes High Schools of the Red River Valley counties met at the Northwest School on July 17. The morning program consisted of a tour of the agronomy and horticultural plots under the direction of Professors R. S. Dunham, E. R. Clark, and R. E. Nylund. A tour of the barns was made in the afternoon at which time Professor O. M. Kiser explained the progress made in the Regional Swine and Sheep Breeding projects.

C. L. McNelly, district leader of county agents, presided at the afternoon business session, while W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman of University Farm, St. Paul outlined the sheep breeding and feeding program for the year.

Another feature of the afternoon meeting of agricultural leaders was the round table discussion of current agricultural problems with Superintendent T. M. McCall as chairman.

Dr. C. H. Bailey, Vice Director of the Minnesota Experiment Stations, discussed the scope of experimental projects under way at the Central and branch Stations. Dr. E. C. Stakman led the discussion on progress made in developing disease resistance in cereal breeding. Dr. H. K. Hayes discussed plant breeding techniques in getting a new and desired variety of cereals.

Alumni Have Get-Together

Northwest School graduates who are now residing in the Twin Cities and many of whom are enrolled in the University of Minnesota held their annual Crookston alumni party on Feb. 12 in St. Paul. During the course of the evening, a picture of the entire group was taken and was forwarded to the Northwest School along with greetings to the faculty and entire student body. The picture and letter were posted on the bulletin board along with the signatures of the various graduates. Students and faculty appreciated the thoughtful gestures of those graduates and desire to extend to them their congratulations and sincerest appreciation.

LARGE ATTENDANCE

AT SCHOOL FORECAST

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of shorthand, typing, and bookkeeping can in one year of six months get added training whereby they can accept positions requiring business training.

New furniture and equipment will be installed in the boys' dormitories before the opening of school.

The remodeling of Owen Hall is now practically complete. New farm engineering equipment will be installed in time for the opening of school. Three new commodious class rooms in Owen Hall will be used for the business training department. Class rooms formerly occupied by the business training department in Hill Building will be used for classes in academic subjects.

New Rust Resistant Spring Wheats

At a meeting of the Station workers from the various experiment stations in Minnesota, held at University Farm, January 27 and 28, the results obtained in experimental trials on a number of new rust-resisting spring wheats now available for commercial production were discussed. Since Thatcher is the most commonly grown and has been accepted by the trade, the value of the newer varieties was compared with it. Thatcher is favorably known to producers for its stem-rust resistance, yielding ability, and strong straw, especially when grown on the heavier soils. Its milling and baking properties have been extensively investigated, both in laboratory and large-scale commercial tests in the United States and abroad and has received universal acceptance as a high-quality wheat.

Thatcher is susceptible to leaf rust and scab, has a relatively low test weight and a tendency to a dull or "off color" appearance, even when harvested under ideal conditions.

New Rust Resistant Varieties

Renown (tested 3 years at 4 stations)

Renown is resistant to stem rust with more resistance to leaf rust than Thatcher. Ordinarily it yields less than Thatcher but under conditions of heavy leaf rust it has yielded higher. It is higher in bushel weight, of better kernel appearance, but has a lower loaf volume and more yellow color when milled than Thatcher. The variety was developed from a cross of H-44 x Reward by the Canadian Rust Research Laboratory.

Apex (tested 3 years at 4 stations)

Apex is stem rust resistant but low in yield and moderately susceptible to leaf rust. It is not as satisfactory in milling and baking characteristics as Thatcher. It was developed from a cross of (Double Cross x H-44) x Marquis at Saskatoon.

Pilot (tested 4 years at 4 stations)

Pilot yields slightly less than Thatcher, is resistant to stem rust, and moderately resistant to leaf rust. Its milling and baking characteristics are about equal to those of Thatcher. Pilot has very weak straw. It is a selection from a Hope x Ceres cross, made by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Nordhaugen

(tested 2 years at Crookston only)

Nordhaugen is resistant to stem rust but susceptible to leaf rust. It yields about as well as Thatcher but is lower in bushel weight. While it has a high flour yielding capacity, it produces a softer flour of lower loaf volume than a normal hard spring wheat. It was developed by Mr. Nordhaugen, a farmer of Leeds, North Dakota. Its origin is unknown.

Coronation

(tested at Crookston in 1938)

Coronation is resistant to stem rust and leaf rust, but it was not satisfactory in baking qualities, as it was low in loaf volume and in color, grain and texture of loaf. It is the result of a

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Rainfall Below Normal

A study of rainfall, soil moisture and temperature records made by R. S. Dunham, Agronomist at the Northwest School of Agriculture at Crookston, reveals the main causes of the light to medium crops produced in the central part of the Red River Valley this year.

Rainfall conditions have been spotted with heavy rains of almost cloudburst proportions falling in small areas when only light showers were reported on nearby farms. Aside from hail and grasshopper damage in small localities, drought and high temperatures have been responsible more than other factors in keeping down the yields of hay and small grain. Potatoes, corn, and sugar beets with abundant late summer rains may make good recovery.

Professor Dunham, in giving a summary report of weather conditions for the current year says—"A study of weather records over a period of 40 years shows that a year with average weather has never occurred. The average is a figure between some years that are below and others that are above. Thus the average precipitation for 40 years is 19.38 inches but never has there been a year with that amount. Some seasons closely approach the average but the present season has departed rather widely in some respects.

"Beginning with last fall, the rainfall for September and October was nearly 2 inches less than average. The winter, however, was one of much snow, the largest snowfall since 1921. Unusual, too, was the lack of run-off in the spring. The snow melted gradually and nearly all water was absorbed by the soil. In spite of these facts the soil at the station contained less moisture at seeding time than any spring for at least the last five years. The average percentage of moisture in a three foot layer of soil for the past five years is 22 and this spring there was 18.8 percent. Rainfall for April was .75 inch below average; for May, 2.17 inches below; for June, 1.03 inches above; and for July at present date (July 26) .53 below.

"Since April the rainfall has been below average by a total of 2.42 inches. For eleven successive years the precipitation has been below the 40 year average of 19.38 inches and it is possible that 1939 will make the twelfth. At

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Alumni Enjoyed Reunion

More than four hundred alumni, former students, and students were in attendance at the Alumni Reunion held at the Northwest School on Saturday, June 24. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Odland of Storrs, Connecticut, travelled 1900 miles to attend the reunion and visit relatives and friends in Crookston. Mr. Odland, a member of the class of 1929, is now Professor in Horticulture at the Connecticut State University and Experiment Station.

The Alumni guest book reveals the fact that graduates came from a radius of approximately 300 miles. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Johnson, representing the class of 1930, came from Beaver Creek in the southwest corner of the state. Earl Lindberg ('35) represented the students attending the Agricultural College in St. Paul. Miss Viola Lohi, school nurse during the past year, represented the staff from Minneapolis.

1939 Women's Camp Officers



—Courtesy of Minneapolis Star.

The women above were elected officers of the 1939 annual Women's Camp at the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, Minn. Front, Mrs. E. M. Evans, Middle River, treasurer; Mrs. E. S. Janssen, Bejou, president; Mrs. H. A. Stevens, Crookston, vice president. Back, Mrs. G. E. Lamberson, Warren, secretary; Mrs. George Page, Beltrami, sergeant-at-arms.

Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson (Bill, class of '24) represented Duluth with Irene Tasa ('35) of International Falls completing the circle in Minnesota outside of the geographical area of the School.

The program of sports included a baseball game between alumni and resident students, and a kittenball game between faculty and alumni. The resident students won the baseball game by a score of 21 to 6. The alumni won in kittenball against the faculty by a score of 18 to 11.

Each of the five-year reunion classes beginning with the class of 1909 was represented with one or more members. Mr. G. S. Olson of Beltrami and Mr. Ole Olson of Seattle, Washington, represented the class of 1909. Four

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Large Crowd Attends Crops And Soils Day Program

A large group of more than four hundred and fifty farm men and women attended the field plot day at the Northwest School on July 18th.

The morning sessions were confined to the annual business meeting of the Red River Valley Crops and Soils Association, and tours of the sheep and swine barns. Professor O. M. Kiser was in charge of the livestock tours and pointed out the progress in the swine and sheep breeding projects.

Melvin Flaskerud of Fosston, president of the Crops and Soils Association, presided at the business session. The following officers and directors were elected for the year of 1939-40: President—Theodore Mellum, Ulen; vice president—Wm. Frederickson, Perley; secretary—R. S. Dunham, Crookston; treasurer—S. M. Sivertson, Crookston; Directors: J. E. Sundberg,

Kennedy; Gust Kveen, Roseau; Simon Breiland, Hazel; Forest Yetter, Stephen; Maurice Lillo, Oklee; Ingvald Sveum, Bagley; Albert Kopecky, Angus; Melvin Flaskerud, Fosston; D. J. Nichol, Hendrum; Oscar J. Olson, Lake Park; Oscar Reitan, Comstock; Theodore Peet, Wolverton; Theodore Thompson, Fergus Falls; W. H. Frey, Perham.

The main speaking program for the day was held in the School auditorium with Superintendent T. M. McCallin in charge. Vice director of the Experiment Stations Dr. C. H. Bailey, discussed the subject "What the Experiment Station is doing in Crop Improvement Works." Dr. E. C. Stakman gave a brief report of the rust situation in the Great Plains area, and discussed the "Root Rots of Cereals." Dr. H. K. Hayes discussed "What's New in Varieties of Cereals."

The field plot tour started at 3:00 p. m. under the joint direction of Professors R. S. Dunham, E. R. Clark, and R. E. Nylund. Great interest was shown on the part of the visitors in the behavior of the new varieties of wheat in regard to drought and disease resistance.

Visitors were present from all of the Red River Valley counties of Minnesota and Grand Forks and Walsh counties in North Dakota.

RAINFALL BELOW NORMAL

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present (July 26), the soil at the Station contains the least moisture of any year on a corresponding date since 1934 with the exception of 1936 when the moisture was slightly less.

"The temperature of the fall and winter was exactly average although September, October, December, and January were warmer than average and November and February were colder. March was cold, April average, May very warm, June average, and July very warm. The maximum of 101 was the highest ever recorded in May."

T. A. HOVERSTAD VISITS STATION

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

I came here today to spend a day with Superintendent McCall and his associates.

"It is forty four years and one month since I came here as Superintendent of the new Northwest Experiment Station. It is a source of great joy and comfort to me to be able to spend a day here and see the progress that has been made. To list the progress made would mean writing books. But I am willing to say that the progress made is equal to the dreams we had at the beginning. The campus is laid out in walks and roads that make for convenience and beauty. Shrubs and trees shelter and beautify the campus. The large number of buildings indicate the progress made by the School of Agriculture.

"On July 1, 1895 the land now used for experiments and campus was wild, undeveloped land. It was used for pasture for the city herd except a small field planted in small grains near the northwest corner. The trees and buildings show remarkable progress.

"However, the most important progress is invisible. The farmers had severe problems. The experiment station tried to solve these problems. The measure of success is the happy solution made to the farmers' problems.

"Extensive research required money, time, and the highest type of educational intelligence. It became apparent that it would take years to get reliable results in experimental work, so the plan was developed to start a School of Agriculture. Here the results could be secured very soon. The legislature was asked to furnish money to start the school. This money was not secured without opposition. The state will always be indebted to Senator A. D. Stephens for his intelligent labors in securing the first appropriation. A less able man could not have secured it, and now the Northwest School of Agriculture is the largest in the state and gives promise of still greater progress and growth.

"During the past 40 years I have traveled extensively in almost all states in the Union. In the past 25 years I have had occasion to travel and observe agricultural and education progress in the states of Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri. I do not hesitate to say that the experimental work and the educational work is of the highest order, and I predict continued progress."

ALUMNI ENJOYED REUNION

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members of the 1913 class present for the reunion included Mr. and Mrs. Nels Pederson of Bejou, Herman Lee of Erskine, and John Rude of Radium. The 1929 class of the five-year reunion groups had the largest attendance with eleven members and their families.

The annual meeting of the alumni Association was held in the auditorium at 8:00 p. m. with Miss Evelyn Bierbaum of Warren as acting president and Evelyn Bain Erickson of Baudette as Secretary. County Agent Howard Balk of Bagley was elected as president of the Alumni Association for a two-year term. Melvin Soderberg, Hallock, Register of Deeds of Kittson County, was elected as secretary. Officers elected for two-year terms last year were George Berggren of Baudette, vice president, and Rishton Bedard, Hallock, treasurer.

The Alumni Association voted to continue the \$25 scholarship awarded annually to one member of each the freshmen and junior classes for scholarship. Superintendent T. M. McCall extended greetings to the alumni and gave a report of progress made by the institution during the year. Motion pictures of the Northwest School were also shown at the meeting.

Greetings to the alumni were received from former Superintendent and Mrs. C. G. Selvig of Washington, D. C.; Miss Elsie Kingston of Wayne, Nebraska; Harvey Johnson (president of the Alumni Association), St. Paul; and T. A. Hoverstad, first superintendent of the Station who is now located in Minneapolis.

The program for the day was concluded with the annual alumni dance in the school gymnasium.

NEW RUST RESISTANT SPRING

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 3)

Pentad (red durum) x Marquis cross and originated from the Canadian experiment station at Morden, Canada. In Canada it is not considered equal to Marquis and is not eligible to grade higher than No. 3 Manitoba Northern.

Great Northern

(tested at Crookston in 1938)

Great Northern was tested at Crookston in 1938 and was such a mixture of types that it cannot be recommended.

Rival (tested at 4 stations in 1938)

Rival is a high yielding, bearded spring wheat moderately resistant to stem rust and leaf rust but has rather weak straw. It appears satisfactory in milling and baking qualities. It is the result of a Ceres x (Hope-Florence) cross made at the North Dakota Experiment Station.

On the basis of the results obtained on these new varieties to date, the conference agreed that Thatcher is the only rust resistant wheat which can be recommended for Minnesota.

**White Leghorn Cockerels
For Sale at Station
Only limited number of
Pedigreed Birds
Write to—A. M. Pilkey**

PERSONALS

***Professor and Mrs. O. M. Kiser with daughters Joy and Beth, attended the graduation exercises of their son Loren of Annapolis Military Academy on May 30. Upon graduating Loren was given his commission as ensign and assigned to the battleship Minneapolis for duty on June 26. The Kisers visited the New York World's Fair and relatives in Connecticut on their return trip.

***Professor and Mrs. A. M. Pilkey and children, Ruth and David, left on a combined business and pleasure trip on July 27. The trip includes a visit to the World Poultry Congress in Cleveland, Ohio, and at parental homes of Mr. and Mrs. Pilkey in Canada. Master David Pilkey had the misfortune to break an arm two days prior to the start of the trip.

***Professor and Mrs. A. M. Foker and daughter Helen have spent their vacation in July at their cottage at Strawberry Point on Cass Lake.

***Former Superintendent and Mrs. C. G. Selvig and daughter Margaret are spending the summer at their cottage at Norway Beach, Cass Lake.

***Robert Foker of Moline, Illinois visited at the parental home on the campus a few days during the first week in July. Robert is doing art work for a large commercial firm in Moline.

***The R. J. Christgau family plans to return to the campus September first. Mrs. Christgau and children will precede Mr. Christgau to Crookston to enable the three children to start school at the beginning of the term. Mr. Christgau will resume his work in late September in time to get things in readiness for the opening of the football season.

Members of the staff at the Northwest School entertained the guest speakers and experiment station workers attending the Crops and Soils Day at a picnic dinner on the school campus at noon, Tuesday, July 18th.

Guests from St. Paul included Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Bailey, Dr. and Mrs. H. K. Hayes, Dr. E. C. Stakman, Dr. L. M. Winters, and E. H. Comstock; E. J. Mitchell, Minneapolis; J. Allen Clark, Washington, D. C.; Superintendent R. L. Donovan, Grand Rapids Station; Superintendent Theodore Fenske, E. J. Volden, A. C. Heine, and P. S. Jordan from the West Central School, Morris; Superintendent and Mrs. E. J. Taintor, Park River, North Dakota.

The committee on arrangements for the picnic was composed of Mesdames R. S. Dunham, T. M. McCall, E. R. Clark, O. M. Kiser, and A. M. Pilkey.

Congratulations

***Miss Isabelle Letnes ('30) became the bride of Mr. Donald Hudson on July 22. Mr. and Mrs. Hudson will reside in Devils Lake.

***Announcement has been received of the wedding of Orbin Thompson ('35) to Miss Carlene Mae at Patchogue, Long Island, New York. The Thompsons will live at Independence, Mo.