

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.

VOLUME XXVII

CROOKSTON, MINN., JULY, 1943

NUMBER 8

300 Attend Crops And Soils Day

Three hundred farmers from the Red River Valley counties of Minnesota and North Dakota attended the annual Crops Day at the Northwest School and Experiment Station on July 13. New varieties of crops were on display from the various crop experimental plots.

On the speaking program, Dr. C. H. Bailey, dean and director of the Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, in discussing the effects of the war upon the food habits of the nation, pointed out that changes were now being made in civilian diet along the line of use of more fluid milk and the use of high protein legumes and crops in replacing in part the animal proteins. The crisis in feed shortage facing the livestock producers must be faced, stated Dean Bailey. He suggested the following possibilities for sustaining our feed reserves: 1. Increased production per acre? This offers a doubtful solution; 2. Importation. Tankage from South America and feed from Canada are possibilities but not likely to be adequate; 3. More economical use of feeds as: (a) by reducing losses of livestock and poultry (b) by lowering weights of hogs at time of marketing (c) by not finishing beef so highly on grain.

Dr. F. R. Immer, associate director of the Minnesota Experiment Station, gave a summary of the experiments necessary in the various departments to answer questions of war-time production and carry on fundamental research. With weather conditions unfavorable for maximum production of food and feed crops, Dr. Immer stated that advantage should be taken of recent researches in all fields of Experiment Station work to increase production and save every possible pound of food and feed.

Dr. H. K. Hayes, chief of the Division of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, University Farm, St. Paul, emphasized the fact that the greatest economy in producing total digestible nutrients for livestock feeding came in pasturing grass and legume crops in contrast to the feeding of cereal and feed concentrates. Dr. Hayes stated that Ladak alfalfa is recommended over the old famous Grimm variety due to the wilt-resistant qualities of the Ladak. The breeding work with forage crops was started in 1936. Many new promising strains of the more desirable forage and pasture grasses have been isolated and are now being increased.

Dr. E. R. Ausemus, associate agronomist from the United States Department

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

H. W. Soderburg Appointed Agricultural Engineer

H. W. Soderburg of Benson, Minnesota, a graduate of the University of Minnesota in Agricultural Engineering, has accepted a full-time position as instructor in agricultural engineering and home project supervisor at the Northwest School. Mr. Soderburg will take over the position, formerly held by W. R. Peterson, on August first.



After majoring in Agricultural Engineering for his undergraduate work, Mr. Soderburg received his Master's Degree in the field of Agricultural Economics in 1932 and has since served as county agricultural agent. He will give instruction in agricultural engineering subjects, teach electric arc and oxyacetylene welding, organize and conduct research in agricultural engineering, and be in charge of summer project supervision work.

Mr. and Mrs. Soderburg will reside in one of the cottages on the Northwest School campus. They expect to arrive in Crookston on July 31.

Changes In English Staff At School

A new one-hundred percent record was established during the past year in marriages of members of the English teaching staff. All four members of last year's English staff were married during the year. The wedding of Ardelle Hamlett Bakkegard and Mary Roemer Pofahl late last year have previously been announced.

Miss Mary Janet Noyes, instructor in freshmen English, was married on June 19 to Joseph Edward Williams at Minneapolis, Minnesota. Miss Martha Myrle Manning, instructor in senior English, was married to Lt. Leonard M. Madsen on May 29 at Macon, Georgia.

Mrs. Ardelle Bakkegard will return to her former position. Successors to the former Misses Noyes and Manning have been selected and the appointment of a successor to Mrs. Pofahl is now pending. Announcement of the new staff members will be made as soon as appointments are confirmed by the University Board of Regents.

BUY WAR BONDS

Northwest Monthly Will Have New Name

A request has been made of the United States Postoffice for changes in title and frequency of publication of the "Northwest Monthly." The editorial staff of the "Northwest Monthly" has for some time considered the possibility of a change in the frequency of publication of the school paper.

The proposed name "Northwest School News" will be broad enough to cover all school and experiment station news items. It is the plan to have the "Northwest School News" published monthly during the school year October through March, and bi-monthly April through September. The change in frequency of publication will be effective following this final issue of the "Northwest Monthly." The August-September issue of the "Northwest School News" will be published early in September.

Weather And Crop Conditions

R. S. DUNHAM

The record of precipitation kept at the Northwest School and Experiment Station indicates that 1943 is well within a wet cycle. As an average of the 10 dry years 1929-38, the total precipitation from January 1 to June 30 was 7.94 inches. For the last three years the precipitation has exceeded this amount. The record for January 1 to June 30, 1943, is 10.61 inches or 2.67 inches over the dry period average. Monthly records are as follows: January, 0.51 inch; February, 1.51 inch; March, 1.39 inch; April, 1.83 inch; May, 2.87 inch; and June, 2.50 inch. Rain in July through the 20th measured 1.56 inches. Reports from students of the school who are keeping rainfall records as a summer home project show that there are many areas in the Valley that have been wetter this spring than Crookston.

May and June were cool months with mean temperatures considerably below average. There were only five days in May when the sun shone all day and six in June. It rained enough to measure ten days in May and eleven in June. The cool moist weather was ideal for the development of flax rust and it was found on Bison as early as June 18. A warm period soon afterward and a very warm week in July slowed the development of the disease so that even the most susceptible varieties are not badly infected at the present time. Continued warm and dry weather will insure the escape of the crop from this disease. Breaking off

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

NORTHWEST SCHOOL BRIEFS

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.

300 ATTEND CROPS AND SOILS DAY

(Continued from Page 1)

of Agriculture, located at University Farm, St. Paul, discussed the cooperative work in wheat breeding. Dr. Ausemus stated that one of the outstanding accomplishments of the Experiment Station is the production of the new variety of spring wheat, Newthatch. This variety has characteristics very similar to those of Thatcher, a variety which is well known. Thatcher has been seriously injured by leaf rust. Newthatch has resistance to leaf rust and should replace Thatcher where it has been grown. There is a 40-acre field at the Northwest Station this year with a total of about 100 acres, seed of which will be available next year. This variety is high yielding, resistant to stem and leaf rust, and has excellent milling and baking qualities.

In the plant disease and insect control round-table, Drs. Carl J. Eide, J. J. Christensen, and A. A. Granovsky, discussed the control of the serious crop diseases and insect pests.

Members of the Northwest Experiment Station staff in charge of the Crops Day program were Superintendent T. M. McCall, Agronomist R. S. Dunham, and Horticulturist J. H. Wampole.

WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

of flax plants has been reported following the hot weather due to heat canker, an injury to flax caused by excessive heat at the soil line and not caused by disease.

Corn that had grown very slowly was much improved by the warm weather. One interested farmer reported his corn grew 7 inches in twenty-four hours according to his measurements. Early varieties still have a chance to make good corn. It takes about 40 days after silking.

NOTICE

The Northwest School wants names and addresses of former students and alumni in armed forces of the United States. The Northwest School would appreciate it if parents of men in service would notify the school promptly of any change of address so men in service will not lose any issues of the Northwest School News. School news will be sent regularly to boys in service when names and addresses are received. Send information to Sup't T. M. McCall, Northwest School, Crookston, Minn.

News of Alumni and Former Students in Military Service:

***Cpl. Chester Lohi was killed in action on an island off the coast of Alaska on May 29. Corporal Lohi had been in service since war was declared, when he enlisted on the West Coast.

***Lt. Cora Dalager, A. N. C., Nurses' Quarters, Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

***Lt. Edward C. Worman, Automotive No. 6, 2nd Bn. O's Std. Gp., AAA Schools Camp Davis, North Carolina.

***Pre-aviation Cadet Edson D. Washburn, Jr., is stationed at the army air force training center at Kearns, Utah.

***PFC Lloyd A. Walhaug of Oklee is being held as a prisoner of war by Italy.

***Capt. Donald E. Anderson, formerly of Perley, was recently reported as missing in action; however, word has now been received that he is being held as a prisoner of war by Italy. He was graduated from Kelly Field, Texas in December 1942. Capt. Anderson was pilot of a P-38 bomber.

***Cpl. Clayton James Lenes of Foston has been reported as wounded in action in the Aleutians area.

***Captain Clayton Isaacson has been in action on the Tunisian and Mediterranean battle front since March. He is a captain in the Army Air Corps.

***Cpl. Allan R. Merdink, Co. C. 185th Inf., 37023708, A. P. O. No. 40, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California. He has been in the Hawaiian Islands since last August.

***Pvt. Bert A. Merdink, 353rd F. G. T. S., L. V. A. A. St., Las Vegas, Nevada. He is in the Air Corps mechanic ground crew.

***Wm. H. Merdink, A. M. 3/c, A. B. A. T. U., H-5; N. A. C., Breezy Point, Norfolk, Va. On June 3 he finished a course in aviation metalsmith.

***Cpl. B. Duane Moen is stationed at the Air Depot Training Station, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

***Sgt. Norman A. Moen, 37160748, Bn. Hdqs. 581 St. Sig. A. W. Bn., A. P. O. 953, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California. He has been stationed at Honolulu, Hawaii, since April 28, 1942, where he is in the signal corps.

***Sgt. Major Herbert V. Anderson, U. S. M. C., Marine Barracks, Naval Powder Factory, Indian Head, Maryland.

***Kenneth Rosvold So. M. 3/c, U. S. S. Topaz, c/o Fleet Postoffice, New York, N. Y.

***Cpl. T. Arthur L. Gordon, 8th Malaria Control Unit, A. P. O. 503, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California. He is in New Guinea.

***Brig. Gen. Martinus Stenseth, Hq., 36th Flying Training Wing, VAAF, Victorville, California.

***Leyden Finney, 2nd Platoon, Co. A, 83rd Inf. Trg. Bn., Camp Roberts, California.

***Sgt. Frank J. Phillips, U. S. Army, Med. Det., Station Hospital, T-139, Shenango, Per. Repl. Depot, Greenville, Pennsylvania.

***Cpl. Benjamin Bakkegard, 86 Plum Street, Greenville, Penn.

***Sgt. Reed E. Lamberson, 37310506,

Hq. 1st Vn. 40th Engr. Combat Regt., A. P. O. 700, c/o Postmaster, New York City. Sgt. Lamberson married Miss Frances Senechal of Bottineau, N. D., on May 15 at Camp Pickett.

***Pvt. Derreld "Jack" Ferrier, 37091338, Hq. Co. 3rd Infantry Div., A. P. O. 3, c/o Postmaster, New York City.

***S/Sgt. Edward McMillan 17047884, 20th Station Hospital, A. P. O. 709, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

***Wayne A. Lantz, F 2/c, U. S. N. R., U. S. Indiana, P. F. Division, c/o Fleet Postoffice, San Francisco, California.

***Clifford J. Nybo F 3/c, U. S. S. Carmick DD (493), c/o Fleet Postmaster, New York City.

***S/Sgt. Don McCall is spending a fifteen-day leave on the Northwest School campus with his parents, Superintendent and Mrs. T. M. McCall. Sgt. McCall has been in the Air Forces since his enlistment in October 1942. He is in charge of radio programs at the Sacramento Air Depot, McClellan Field, California.

News Regarding Northwest School Alumni, Former Students, and Faculty:

***Lawrence Omundson is county supervisor for the Farm Security Administration with offices at Benson, Minnesota.

***RECENT CAMPUS VISITORS: Lt. Earl Lindberg of Enid, Oklahoma; Ebenhard Gandrud of Owatonna, Minnesota; Mollie Fosbakken from Redlands, California, and Betty Halliday.

***E. F. Bennett's address is c/o Colonial Hospital, Rochester, Minnesota.

***E. R. Clark, a former instructor at the Northwest School, is employed as associate seed technologist in charge of the West Lafayette, Indiana, laboratory of the Purdue Federal-State Laboratory. On June 26 he attended a regional conference at Chicago and served as chairman of the conference.

***Mr. Seigel A. Anderson, a former instructor at the Northwest School in agricultural engineering, has served as associate professor in agricultural engineering at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, for the past nine years. He recently resigned that position and on July first assumed his new duties as manager of the Rural Electric Corporation, an organization of the rural electric cooperative organization in Indiana. Mr. Anderson has carried on research and extension work in agricultural engineering, specializing in rural electrification, since his graduation from the University of Illinois. He has become widely known in this field. Mrs. Anderson will be remembered as the former Rose Polski, instructor in piano at the Northwest School.

***Helen Rasmussen of Grygla has been awarded a trip to the American Youth Foundation leadership training camp at Shelby, Michigan, to be held August 2-15. This trip was awarded her for outstanding leadership and achievement in 4-H club work.

***Joyce Merdink is living at 20 Carana, Long Beach, California.

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

Avoid "Sticker" Loss In Lamb Production

O. M. KISER

Packing companies are joining the Experiment Stations in their drive to eradicate "stickers" from lamb pelts and meats. The spear-pointed seeds of troublesome grasses annually take a toll from the lamb crop in all of the northern sheep grazing sections. The losses occur chiefly on old grass land or run-out pastures where the so-called foxtail (wild barley) and bur seeded weeds get a start.

Losses to the sheep breeder from the spear-pointed grasses come from lowering the value of the lamb carcass and pelt and reducing the rate of gain of sheep through both internal and external irritation from the sharp pointed seeds. Many of the sharp or spear seeded grasses, maturing in July and August, break off easily from the spike or panicle; and because of the construction of their awns, they work into the wool and hide of the animals or stick in the mouths or digestive tracts.

The greatest injury to hides and pelts of sheep comes from the barbed grasses such as needlegrass, spear grass, wild barley (sometimes called foxtail or squirrel tail), and Spanish needles. Burry or spiny seeded receptacles of weeds such as cockle bur, burdock, sticktight, and others lower the value of wool and sometimes damage the carcass.

Many of the spear grasses when young and succulent are of value for pasture; however, sheep and lambs should be taken from such pastures as soon as the seeds form and be kept off until the seeds have fallen. Hay for sheep should not be taken from spear grass meadows unless cut after all seed has been shed. Hay containing squirrel tail grass spikes is a cause for winter sore eyes and blindness in sheep.

The rough awned grass seeds of the spear-like grass keep working inward through the wool of the sheep or lamb and finally penetrate the flesh and cause many unsightly areas which must be trimmed out of the carcass. Government inspection requires that all stickers be trimmed from a carcass. Any trimming will mutilate a carcass which results in a considerable decrease in value, sometimes as much as from one-third to one-half of what it would have been worth if free from an infestation of the pointed seed stickers. When lamb buyers find stickers in the fleece of lambs, the bid will be lower than it would have been if the lambs had not been infested. The buyer cannot always determine the presence of stickers, and as a result the damage is not detected until after the pelt is removed. Any number of sticker infested lambs coming from a particular locality could be a means of discriminating on the lamb price for that region.

Shipping records show that there has been a substantial decrease in the death of all classes of livestock in transit to market except sheep and lambs. Lowered vitality, caused by the stickers, may be the reason for a higher transportation loss in sheep and lambs than that of other classes of livestock.

(Continued in Col. 2)

Crops And Soils Association Elects Officers

The directors of the Red River Valley Crops and Soils Association met for their annual meeting at the Northwest School of Agriculture on July 13. Officers and directors re-elected for 1943-44 were the following: Adolph Skyberg, Fisher—President; Oscar J. Olson, Lake Park—Vice president; R. S. Dunham, Crookston—Secretary; Otto Hoppe, Crookston—Treasurer. Directors re-elected were: J. E. Sundberg, Kennedy; Gustaf Kveen, Roseau; Alfred Hvidsten, Stephen; Peter Schirrick, Red Lake Falls; John O. Rydeen, Clearbrook; Albert Kopecky, Tabor; Melvin Flaskerud, Fosston; Martinus Flatten, Twin Valley; Oscar J. Olson, Lake Park; Theodore Mellum, Ulen; Theodore Peet, Wolverton; W. H. Frey, Perham; Theodore Thompson, Fergus Falls; V. C. Noper, Thief River Falls; and George Berggren, Baudette.

AVOID "STICKER" LOSS TO SHEEP (Continued from Col. 1)

Losses can be reduced by delayed grazing of infested areas during the six-weeks to two-month period when seeds are maturing and being shed. Where it is practical to cut the weeds, this should be done and the weeds raked and burned.

Research bulletin No. 23 of the Swift and Company, Chicago, has many excellent illustrations describing the injury and losses from "Stickers on Lamb Pelts and Meat."

DEATHS

***Clarence S. Haugen, 24 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Haugen of Oslo, Minnesota, from sunstroke on July 9.

NORTHWEST SCHOOL BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 2)

***Amy B. Peterson is employed at Northwest Airlines, St. Paul.

MARRIAGES

***Miss Delene Hegreberg to Cpl. B. Duane Moen, at Military Intelligence Office, Air Depot Training Station, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on June 20, at the Post Chapel. Present house address: 119 So. High St., Albuquerque, New Mexico.

***Miss Edna Hoppe to Rollin M. Dennistoun at Crookston, Minnesota, on June 12. Mr. Dennistoun, at the present time, is stationed at Truax Field, Madison, Wisconsin.

***Miss Dorothy Glass to John Morrisey at Crookston, Minnesota, on June 29.

***Miss Edith Peterson, of Pitt, to Cpl. Stanley R. Cornelius on June 10 at Baudette, Minnesota. Their address: 22 E. 13th St., Lennox Apt. B-12, St. Paul, Minnesota.

***Miss Eleanor Anderson to PFC Gilbert Fargo of Crookston on June 29, at Wichita Falls, Texas.

***Miss Dorothy Sampson to Alfred Rasmussen on June 25 at Crookston, Minnesota.

***Miss Palma Jahr to Wilhelm Hanson of Thief River Falls on July 11.

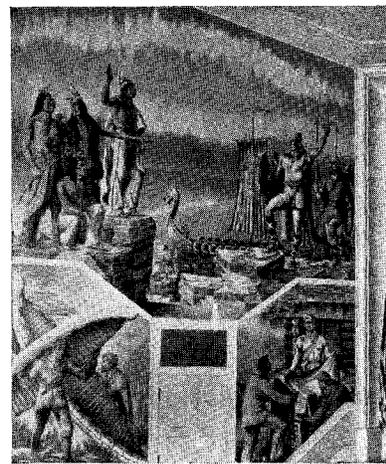
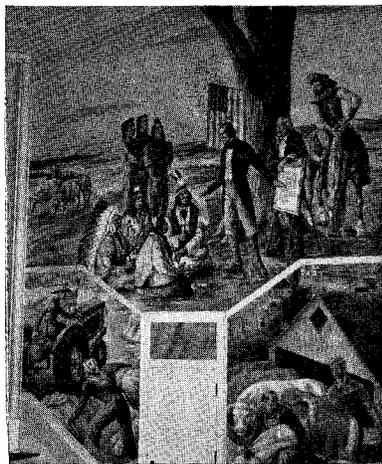
***Miss Helen Buhn of McIntosh to Norman W. Thieling of Grygla on July 4 at McIntosh, Minnesota.

BIRTHS

***To Mr. and Mrs. John Patenaude, a son, on May 30. The son has been named Robert Wayne.

***To Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Lantz (Clara Seeger), a son, on June 8.

***To Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ward, a daughter Eileen Clare, on June 21.



Auditorium Mural Paintings — Presented by Class of 1932

The two large panels, left to right, are: (1) Signing the Old Crossing Treaty October 2, 1863; (2) Discovery of America by Leif Ericsson. LEFT—Small panels: Old Crossing Treaty, Red River Valley Wheat, Red River Valley Cattle Raising; RIGHT—Small panels: Discovery of America by Leif Ericsson, Portage of Canoes by Early Explorers, Fur Trading and Indian.

The figures in the mural paintings are life-size. The large panels, illustrating the Signing of the Old Crossing Treaty and Discovery of America, are 14 feet in height by 16 feet in width. The small panels are 8 by 6 feet in dimensions.

John Martin Socha of St. Paul painted the murals. They were formally presented to the Northwest School by the Class of 1932 on Parents' Day, November 7, 1942.

Northwest School—Fall Term Opens October 4

THE SCHOOL YEAR

The school year, beginning in October and extending through March, enables farm boys and girls to assist with farm and home work during the growing season. The school year consists of two twelve-week terms. Students may enter at the opening of each school term.

The opening date of October 4, 1943, enables the student to assist in the completion of the major farm enterprises.

SCHOOL COSTS

The chief costs of attendance are for board and room. Board will cost \$4.25 per week, and room costs \$1.25 per week (including flat laundry). Tuition fees cost approximately \$36 to \$42.00 per year for those students who are ineligible for state tuition aid (see below).

STATE TUITION AID

Eighth grade graduates, under 21 years of age, who live in school districts which do not offer four years of accredited high school instruction, may attend the Schools of Agriculture with necessary tuition, laboratory, and equipment fees paid from state funds. (The tuition aid law applies to students enrolled in grades nine to twelve, inclusive).

TRANSPORTATION AID

The 1941 Minnesota Legislature made students of the Schools of Agriculture eligible for Transportation Aid on the same basis as students attending high schools. The granting of Transportation Aid rests entirely with the local school board and parents should make application for this aid if it is desired.



Northwest School Crops Judging Team, 1942-43

Crops judging is one of the many subcollegiate contests held each year in competition with other Schools of Agriculture in Minnesota, North and South Dakota. Team members win the coveted gold A award. Pictured above, reading left to right: Kent Hanson, Hallock; R. S. Dunham, coach; Howard Anderson, Fisher; Jaroslav Kruta, Gatzke; and Vernon Høppe, Crookston.