

Northwest School News

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NUMBER 1

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, CROOKSTON -- 1968

The Northwest School of Agriculture will graduate its final Senior class on March 22. This will be the 60th Commencement for the Northwest School. With this 60th Commencement, there will be 5,433 graduates who have gone forth as citizen-leaders. Also, during the period of 1912-1919, the Northwest School offered Teachers' Training. There were 528 students who completed this course to assist in manning the country schools in the second and third decades. Many GI's studied technical agriculture under the GI Bill after World War II, and there were ninety-eight veterans enrolled

for this special course work at the Northwest School, 1947-1950. Thousands of others—young and old—have been touched through the teachings of the dedicated and skillful faculty.

The Northwest School and Experiment Station have been integral partners and pioneers in research and education to serve the people of the Red River Valley. The specialists in agricultural research, along with other teachers in the School of Agriculture, introduced science and improved technology in agriculture at the turn of the 20th century. The Northwest School was the original

promoter of the Red River Valley Winter Shows and Northwest School Farmers' Week.

Life in the Valley is materially richer, without a doubt; but, even more, the high percept and example as well as the firm guidance of the campus community developed a strong spiritual and social fiber among the graduates as they continued on to places of leadership within and beyond the Red River Basin. This leaving of the School means that the University of Minnesota at Crookston still has two missions: the mission of agricultural research on the Experiment Station

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OVER 30,000 ATTEND RRV WINTER SHOWS AND NORTHWEST SCHOOL FARMERS' WEEK

The 1968 Red River Valley Winter Shows and Northwest School Farmers' Week, February 17-25, was a record breaker in nearly every department—with bright and clear weather throughout the show.

Over 30,000 persons attended the nine-day exposition. Also, an estimated 3,000 persons attended one or more of the nine scheduled seminars and twenty-one luncheons and banquets held during the Show period.

The number of industrial exhibits at the Winter Shows far exceeded the amount of room available. Paul Brek-

ken, manager of the Show, was forced to turn away a number of hopeful exhibitors more than a month before the show opened. The paid admissions were sharply increased over last year. The Crops Show was the most beautiful ever — even outdoing the Minnesota State Fair in some respects. An outstanding feature was the heavy increase in the Sunflower Seed Show which exhibited bird seed, confectionery, and oil type of sunflowers.

February 17, the first day of the show, was Farm Youth Day. More

than 1,000 youth from fourteen counties in Northwestern Minnesota came to the shows to compete in crops, livestock, and potato judging contests; also they competed in 4-H dairy demonstrations and a 4-H radio public speaking contest. The day closed with an awards banquet held at the Northwest School and Experiment Station.

The Livestock Show and Poultry Show had endless lines of visitors during the entire week of the show. The mid-winter Horse Show capped

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Pictured above is the Honorable Harold LeVander, governor of the state of Minnesota, and several members of the Red River Valley Winter Shows Board of Managers as they accept a ten-dollar bill for a Sustaining Fund membership. Governor LeVander headlines over 1,000 citizens of the Valley who pay a Sustaining Fund membership each year, of ten dollars or more, to help meet the remaining payment on the new Winter Shows Arena which was built in 1962.

With Governor LeVander, who visited the Winter Shows on February 21, are (left to right): William H. Strickler of Euclid (a Northwest School alumnus), vice president of the RRV Winter Shows Board of Managers, Inc. and president of the Red River Valley Livestock Association; Herman Skyberg, Jr. of Fisher, member of Winter Shows Board of Managers; Governor Harold LeVander; Harold F. Thomforde of Crookston, Mayor of the City of Crookston, and a member of the Winter Shows Board of Managers; and Richard W. Fitzsimons of Argyle, a member of the Red River Valley Development Association board of directors, and also Representative, District 67A, Minnesota State Legislature.

FINAL "AGGIE" TO BE HISTORICAL DOCUMENT

The Northwest School of Agriculture annual for the Senior classes of 1967 and 1968 will be a special production according to Robert Heckman who is faculty Senior class adviser to the annual staff for both classes.

A special effort has been made to gather pictures and data of historical significance to the Senior class. Assisted by their adviser and the superintendent, they have leafed through the archives, visited with alumni, and combed newspaper reports for information that would be descriptive of the role played by the Northwest School of Agriculture since the first class of thirty-one students enrolled in the fall of 1906 and now the final class graduating on March 22, 1968.

The "Aggie" is available to students, alumni, and former faculty members. Only a limited number of copies are being produced; but, those persons who wish to receive a copy may write to the Superintendent's Office, Northwest School, or complete and clip the Northwest School Aggie contract in this issue of News and mail it to the Northwest School with a check or money-order. The cost is \$6.00. In a previous issue of the News, it was listed for \$5.00; however, due to an increase in publication costs, we are required to charge \$6.00. Be sure your mailing address, including zip code, is complete so your Aggie will reach you safely. If the entire supply of this historical "Aggie" is not sold before the Northwest School summer reunion on June 30, the surplus will be sold at that time.

RRV WINTER SHOWS, 1968

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off the week when nearly 400 horses came from five states and two provinces of Canada for the Horse Show events and competitive games.

February 22 through March 2 are the dates set by the Winter Shows Board of Managers for the 1969 RRV Winter Shows.

60TH COMMENCEMENT AT NORTHWEST SCHOOL SET FOR MARCH 22

CLASS OF 1968 — FINAL COMMENCEMENT

The 60th annual Commencement will be held at the Northwest School of Agriculture on March 22, at 2 p.m., in Kiehle auditorium. Several special ceremonies, noting the final Commencement for the Northwest School of Agriculture, will complement the 1968 exercises.

A mixed quartet composed of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Torkelson, accompanied by Mrs. Richard Widseth (nee Clarice Thureen) will present several numbers. Kenneth, Glen, and Clarice are Northwest School alumni. Bringing greetings will be a former staff member, alumni, University Board of Regents, the University's Institute of Agriculture, and the Senior class for 1968. E. N. Reiersgord, principal, will present the Citizenship awards. Following the presentation of diplomas to the Senior class by Superintendent B. E. Youngquist, a brief ceremony will highlight the last official Commencement exercises for the Northwest School. Ole A. Flaatt, a member of the Class of 1916, will make a special presentation for the

alumni. Finally, the "torch of education service" carried these past sixty-three years will be presented to the director of the University of Minnesota Technical Institute, Dr. S. D. Sahlstrom. The recessional march for the Senior class will be played by Mrs. William A. Johnson, organist, of Crookston.

A special invitation is extended to former staff members, alumni, and citizens in northwestern Minnesota. Persons who plan to attend the Commencement exercises are asked to send a "reservation" note, prior to March 20, as the school authorities would like to have seating room for everyone in the auditorium. This reservation should be mailed to: Superintendent, Northwest School, Crookston, Minnesota, 56716.

The schedule for graduation activities is as follows: Sunday, March 17 — Senior Service, 7:30 p.m. Kiehle auditorium, the Rev. Eyrich E. Hansen of Crookston, speaker; Thursday, March 21, 6:30 p.m. — Senior banquet and prom; Friday, March 22 — Com-

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Northwest School "Aggie" Contract

I
 (Name) (Print) Date

 RFD/Street City (Zip Code) State

wish to contract for the final historical issue of the **NORTHWEST SCHOOL AGGIE** at a cost of six dollars (\$6.00).

Check one of the arrangements below:

.....Check enclosed for amount of \$6.00

.....Mail the book to me.

.....Shall receive book at alumni reunion, June 30.

Around and About With Northwest School Alumni

***Carol Ann Fehr, '63, of East Grand Forks, graduated with high distinction on June 10, 1967, from the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics. She was the recipient of a \$300 scholarship award and the Caleb Door book award for having a 3.5 grade point average. She is an instructor in the Thief River Falls High School this year.

*A number of recent graduates of the Northwest School of Agriculture are enrolled this school year at the University of Minnesota Technical Institute, Crookston, including: Richard Piker, Angus; Leon Grove, Roosevelt; Brian Bohnsack, Hillsboro, N. D.; Dacian Bienek, Warren; James Wallace, Euclid; Gary Weiss, Red Lake Falls; Kelly Bitker, Ada; Dean Dahlgren, Warren; Francis Dolan, Graf-ton, N. D.; Leroy Luchau, Ada; Peter Novotny, Borup, Paul D. Pederson, Mahnomen; Eugene Dufault, Red Lake Falls; Roger E. Fischer, Georgetown; Keith Ramberg, Crookston; and Allan Stromstad, Lockhart.

***Herman F. Skyberg, '16, of Fisher, was named to the Winter Shows "Hall of Fame" during ceremonies held February 18 of RRV Winter Shows week, Crookston. Recently, also, he was re-elected to a six-year term to the University of Minnesota Board of Regents.

***Ebenhard S. Gandrud, '26, of Owatonna, was cited on October 11, 1967, for his "significant contributions to American agriculture." Ebenhard, who is president of The Gandy Company, received a medallion commemorating 50 years of agricultural services.

***Walter R. Fehr, '57, formerly of East Grand Forks, received his Doctor of Philosophy Degree on May 27, 1967, at Iowa State University, Ames. He majored in Plant Breeding and minored in Genetics. Presently, he is in charge of soybean breeding research at Iowa State University, and

his primary responsibility is the development of improved soybean varieties for Iowa.

***Orville M. Kiser of Crookston, who retired from the academic staff of the Northwest School and Experiment Station in June 1952, was honored recently by the Grand Forks and East Grand Forks Chambers of Commerce at their annual Red River Valley and Home Forum. He was presented a "Certificate of Recognition" for professional service and leadership to agriculture in the RRV."

***Dr. Lyall A. Bjornson, '59, formerly of Arvilla, N. D., completed his intership, in June 1967, at the Latter-Day Saints Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah, and was named outstanding intern of his class. Presently, he is doing his residency in surgery in the Salt Lake City hospital also.

***William S. Ash, '16, of St. Vincent (and Mrs. Ash) were named Valley Farmer and Homemaker from Kittson county for 1968. They were honored and received a plaque award at the banquet held during RRV Winter Shows, Crookston, on Feb. 22.

***James R. Muzzy, '47, (and Mrs. Muzzy) of Thief River Falls, received recognition as Honored Dairymen for 1968 and they were awarded an honorary plaque. This was presented to them at an honor banquet held Feb. 19 of Winter Shows week, Crookston. Conrad Zak, '47, (and Mrs. Zak) of Angus, also received this honorary award for 1968.

***W. Neal Bohnsack, '64 of Hillsboro, N.D. is a student at the North Dakota School of Forestry, Bottineau, N. D.

Deaths

***Robert A. Abentroth, '57 (home address, Cummings, N. D.) on April 15, 1967, at Colchester, Vermont.

Harry Miller, '12, of Crookston (and formerly Climax, Minnesota) on February 7, 1968, at Crookston.

***Lenus Landby, '12, of Warroad, on February 18, 1967, at Warroad.

60TH COMMENCEMENT, 1968

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mencement exercises, 2 p.m., Kiehle auditorium; also, noon luncheon at Dining Hall for parents, Seniors, and special guests.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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is possibly even more important for the next half century than it was during the last half; the research must be more timely, more precise, and more sensitive to the changing needs of a fast-moving agriculture. The mission of education is being picked up sharply as the citizen-leaders of the Valley now and the faculty of the Northwest School pass the educational torch to the new University of Minnesota Technical College as it sets out to fill the recently developed education needs in this same agricultural setting.

* * * CALENDAR * * *

Northwest School and Experiment Station

Friday, March 22

Northwest School
Commencement, 2 p.m.

Sunday, June 30

Northwest School
Alumni Reunion

Wednesday, July 17

Crops and Soils
Field Day

Tues.-Wed., Aug. 13-14

International Sun-
flower Conference

Feb. 22 - March 2 (1969)

R.R. Valley Winter Shows and
N. W. School Farmers' Week

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