

The School of Agriculture

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL

July, 1931



Here's How Jim Found Out: You Might Try His Method and You May Write to the Principal of the School of Agriculture

Sez Jim to Phil, and Phil
to Jim

July 15, 1931

Dear Phil:

Do you remember that you promised to come to school with me this fall? Margy tells me that the _____ bank gave you a fifty dollar prize for being the best club boy in your county. Adding that to what you have already saved, you will surely have enough to carry you through a school year. Now, you will just *have* to come with me.

I wish you were nearer so I could tell you all about the School. It is hard to write all about it

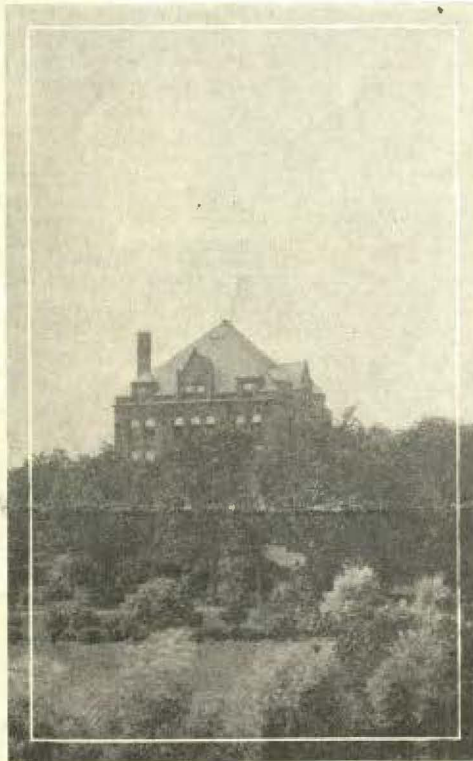
You know, I was a pretty lucky guy last winter. Because I had done some livestock judging in our club, I joined the Dairy and Livestock Club and took part in the general livestock judging contest in March. You should see the swell blue ribbon I got in the hog judging contest. Surprised? Well, I guess I was! They had a banquet for the winners and when they read my name, I nearly tumbled under the table, but I had to get up and go to the speakers table and get the ribbon. Wish you could come over and see it. You'll see it, next fall, hanging on the wall in our room!

Did I say I was lucky? I took my sax along to school and they let me join the band. It's some band, too. About forty pieces, and Mr. Boland, our leader, is keen. You should hear him play his cornet. He's the best cornetist in the Twin Cities.

Got to hear from you soon—because I want to know if you are coming with

Your old pal,

JIM.



Pendergast Hall

August 1, 1931

Say, Jim:

How did you know that I was thinking about school? I was just going to write to you and ask if I could be your room mate. You didn't say I could but I'm going to wish me on you.

Do you suppose there would be room for Alec McGinnis—he's Mike's cousin, you know, and a pretty decent kid. He has a banjo and I'll bring my fiddle. Do they let you play in your room? Did you know that Alec won the mile run at the Farm Bureau picnic? Will that help him get on the basketball team? Have they got a gym there? Are there any more 4-H'ers there?

Write soon to your old tin-type,
PHIL.

August 12, 1931

Hello, Phil, you old sill:

Have they got a gym there? have you got a motorcycle? Yes, we got a gym, and I don't mean maybe. It has two basketball courts, a big running track, five handball courts, a boxing room, a wrestling room, and a pool. And do we play?

No, it won't help Alec to get on the basketball squad if he can run fast, but he can join the cross-country squad and he can get a letter that way, too. He can go to the gym and try out for basketball and maybe if he is good, he can get on the sub team the first year. Yes, he can be in our room because there is a single bed and a double bed in it.

There are so many 4-H'ers in the school that they have a big club that meets once a month, and they learn a lot about leadership from the state leaders.

Won't we have fun with a fiddle and a sax and a banjo? I know a boy who has a snare drum and his room mate had a guitar. We can have a jazz orchestra and play at the lits.

I forgot to tell you that on Saturdays, everyone goes and belongs to some lit right after supper, to hear a good program and play games. After that we go to a movie or a play or maybe a party or a dance. Every Saturday night there is something to go to.

You'll be happy when you come to the School of Agriculture. I'll be happy, too.

JIM.

September 1, 1931

Dear Jim:

Alec is awfully glad you said he could room with us. His dad said
(Continued on page 2)

NEWS OF THE
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(Continued from page 1)

he would take us all down. He has a big car and there is lots of room for all our stuff. What things do I have to bring?

You told me about the band and the gym and the clubs and now I want to know about the studies. Do you have to work hard? What studies did you like best? How much money do I have to bring with me? I've got to be careful about it.

PHIL.

September 20, 1931

Dear Phil:

Guess you thought I was never going to answer your last questions. For your room, board, laundry, books, and tuition you will need about \$75. Then there is \$4 for an activities ticket that lets you into all the entertainments, and that is *cheap*. You will need to buy a gym suit and shoes and a notebook and school supplies. I am sure that you can get along on about fifty dollars a term for extras and carfare. Maybe you will not use it all if you are careful. It will help if we do not have to pay train fare.

You will need to bring three sheets for our double bed, a pillow, three pillow cases, a blanket and a dark bedspread. If your mother can spare a small rug, it will be nice to have it. Bath towels, wash cloths, soap, a tumbler and spoon, tooth, hair and clothes brushes are things you will want. Don't forget hangers for your clothes and a shoe brush. We shall want to hang drapes at our windows but can decide on them when we get to school. If you have bedroom slippers and a bathrobe, they will come in handy. A pair of rubbers will save your good shoes. Oh, I forgot to say that you will need a dresser scarf. It can be white, but it is better to have it of dark linen or to match your bedspread. If you have a nice calendar or a picture, bring it along, too.

Studies, well, you know what I like best, studies about livestock and crops, and I know that you like mechanics best. I guess I'll ask the registrar to send you a bulletin with the description of the courses. After you have studied it, you will find that in each year there are required subjects in each course, and some that you can choose. When you get to school, we can talk over what course you should choose. There are many subjects where you do all the work in the class, and there is no studying, but then, there are others that you have to study hard to get. It's a good plan to have a full program. A good way to save money and a good way to learn how to study. I'm Scotch enough to cut down the cost of each credit.

This is my last letter unless there is something else you need to know. We should plan to be at University Farm on Monday, September 28 for registration. I shall be ready to leave as early as you want to start. Send me a postcard with the hour.

Here's hoping the days pass fast.

JIM—'33

Alumni Dedicate Memorial Grove

Faculty and students of the School of Agriculture have remembered the boys who lost their lives in the World War in Armistice Day assembly exercises each year. No one who has attended these exercises can forget the impressive moment when their names were read to a reverently standing assembly, "Ralph Anderson, Harry Anderson, Phillip Arnet, Lawrence Bostad, Roy I. Danielson, George Gotfelter, Clarence Helliwell, Geo. Kimball, Cecil Kyle, Helmer Neseth, Harold B. Nelson, Clarence G. Olson, Louis Olsen, William Ringus, Carmen Thomson, Jay Viets, Gay York." It was in honor of this group that a handsome brass tablet, bearing their names, was hung in the Auditorium shortly after the war.

It is more than a year ago since the alumni decided to mark the sacrifice these boys made with living symbols. Mr. C. C. Hunter '97, Mr. Howard Andrews '97, and Mr. Ben Zacharaisen '21 were named on a Memorial Grove Committee with power to act. A site

above and facing the college memorial grove on the corner of Cleveland and Carter Avenues was selected and seventeen blue spruce were set out in the spring of 1930. It was in this grove of young spruce that a bronze tablet bearing the names of the honored dead was fixed on a large boulder early in June, 1931.

To dedicate this grove and this tablet all alumni and friends of the boys were invited to assemble at the grove at two o'clock on Saturday afternoon, June 13. In the group that gathered there that day were many friends who remembered well the days when the boys left for the front.

An American flag was draped over the memorial tablet and at one side of the grove stood a uniformed detail of boy scouts from Troop 17 when Professor Will Boss '04, president of the Alumni Association called the meeting to order with a brief story of the planting of the grove and its significance.

Professor Boss introduced Rev. Harry Noble Wilson of the Central Presbyterian Church of St. Paul as a friend of the School of Agriculture who had often appeared in the School assembly during the days of the war. Rev. Wilson interpreted the sacrifice of the lives that were lost in the late war as a challenge to the boys and girls that face the future now to never permit a recurrence of war by using every means in their power to preserve peace among nations through sympathetic understanding of each others problems.

Professor L. B. Bassett '96, secretary of the Alumni Association, read the roll call. At the mention of each name, a boy scout placed an American flag beside a tree, saluted, wheeled and stood at attention beside the tree. When each tree had been decorated, a boy scout unveiled the tablet. A prayer was then spoken by Rev. Lloyd H. Rising. The impressive sounding of taps by Mr. D. W. Boland and the dismissal of the scout troop closed the exercises.

"I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree—"

Gunhild Aronson, '23, became Mrs. Arthur Lofgren on March 25. Mr. and Mrs. Lofgren are making their home on a farm near Cohasset, Minnesota.

Reunions

Contrary to custom, there was no rain on Saturday, July 13, the summer reunion day at University Farm! And it was a warm mid-summer sun which shone down on the Aggies who gathered on the athletic field after the dedication of Memorial Grove to watch the faculty lose to the alumni, 2-13. It is not certain that each spectator knew the final score, for how to watch a kittenball game and visit with school friends one had not seen for two months or two years was a problem that each Aggie solved in his own way.

Commissioner R. A. Trovatten '10, was the speaker at the evening program in the Auditorium. Mr. Trovatten was introduced by Congressman Victor Christgau '17 of the First District, Minnesota. Community singing was led by Mrs. Philip J. Larson, formerly instructor in voice in the School of Agriculture. Einar Eilertson '29 gave several of his popular yodeling numbers. Kenneth Chapman '26 was program chairman.

After the program, the audience adjourned to the gymnasium, colorfully decorated with crepe streamers, where they were joined by other Aggies, and all enjoyed the reunion of old friends and the dance. The music for the dance was furnished by R. E. Samuelson's orchestra.

William Haight was in charge of the decorating. Nels Hanson and John Marrs managed the dance; Howard Friese, athletics; and Charles Head, Erhardt Bremer, and Harry Marshall composed the committee on general arrangements. Muriel Bassett headed the committee on refreshments.

The reunion of western Minnesota Aggies was held in Smith's Park, Montevideo, on Sunday afternoon, June 21. Speakers were Commissioner of Agriculture R. A. Trovatten, Class of 1910, and J. O. Christianson, Principal of the School. Peter Hoff of Granite Falls was chairman of the committee on general arrangements. Lynn Sheldon led the singing, and sang one or two extremely popular songs one of which especially made a hit. That was a parody on "School Days" fitting it in with school days here at the School of Agriculture.

Officers elected for the coming year were Peter Hoff of Granite



Secretary, Rural Credits Bureau
H. M. Johnson, '02

Falls '23, president; William Paulson '21, Redwood Falls, vice president; Ellen Anderson '24, Clarkfield, secretary; Helmer Hermanson '23, of Boyd, treasurer. Two hundred Aggies were in attendance.

A resolution was adopted in the business meeting asking that a statewide School of Agriculture reunion be held next summer at some place in the state other than University Farm. The places suggested were Redwood Falls, Litchfield, or some place in Nicollet County. Mr. Christianson was asked to find the sentiment of other Aggies and to proceed with arrangements for such reunion at the place which he felt most suitable.

Professor Ruggles, godparent of the Class of 1911, reports that a number of the 1911 class had a picnic at Owatonna on Sunday, June 21. He says that there were between 30 and 40 in attendance. This picnic was arranged by Mrs. Fay Billingsley Peterson and was held in Mineral Springs Park. Professor and Mrs. Ruggles, and the mascot, Elizabeth, were there.

On Sunday, June 21, the Southwestern Minnesota Aggies also held a reunion at the Ludlow Nurseries at Worthington. Herman Skovgaard '21 was re-elected for the coming year. There were about 150 Aggies present. Mr. Dankers and Mr. Swenson gave their dramatic debate "Does an Agricultural Education Pay?" and other numbers from Aggies in the district

served to make a complete program. Next year's reunion will be held at the usual place, Ludlow Nurseries, on the usual date, the third Sunday in June.

Aggies of Pine County held a reunion on Sunday, June 14, at Pine Lake, West of Finlayson.

Plans are under way for reunions to be held later in the summer in Nicollet, Goodhue, Ottertail, and Jackson counties. The date of the Jackson County reunion is definitely set for Sunday, August 9, at Fish Lake in the northern part of the county. Elmer Soehren of Windom is chairman of the committee on general arrangements. Arrangements are being made for Governor Floyd Olson and Mr. J. O. Christianson as speakers of the day. Aggies from all neighboring counties are being invited for this picnic.

The Hennepin County Alumni Association will hold its usual reunion later in the summer.

June 3 was the date of another Aggie wedding. Clarence Natt, '25, and Ethel Rydeen, '29, were married at Marine-on-St. Croix on that day and left for Canada where they spent their honeymoon. They will make their home on the Natt farm near Marine-on-St. Croix.

Florence Natt, '28, was graduated from the Mankato Teachers College this spring, and will teach in the school near her home next year.

Miss Eileen Lindenberg, who has been the secretary in the principal's office for the past three years, was married on May 16 to Mr. H. C. Donohoe. They left immediately for Davis, California, where Mr. Donohoe is to be stationed, doing Federal work at the School of Agriculture. Reports coming back to the campus indicate that the Donohoe's have had a most pleasant trip.

Announcement has been received at University Farm of the marriage of Miss Lydia Anna Goetsch of Austin to Mr. Edgar Christgau '20.

Dr. G. D. Failing '13, K. C. V. C. '17, and Mrs. Failing, nee Ida Mae Willoughby '14, attended the annual meeting of the State Veterinary Society at University Farm in July.

Dear Aggies and Prospective Aggies:

In the last issue of the School News, I urged all of you to be finishers, to carry on whatever program you might have under way, to carry it on through to actual completion. ON SEPTEMBER 28, SCHOOL OPENS for the fall term. There are a number of young people throughout the State who should be here at the School for enrollment on that date, but who are right now hesitating, waiting for something to happen or someone to help them so that they might enroll. I have, during the past years, talked with a number of young people throughout the State in regard to enrolling at the School of Agriculture, and some of them have said, "We surely would like to go to the School of Agriculture, but will have to see just how things turn out." Very few of those young people ever enroll.

The ones who will be here at the opening of the fall term are those who now have made up their minds to be here, who have started making plans, and who are so directing their activities as to make it possible for them to be here on that OPENING DAY.

You who have been here at the School do not need to be urged to return, for you know the place, and as all true Aggies, love it. To you who have not been here at the School of Agriculture, but who are planning to come, I say, the only way to get here is to MAKE PLANS FOR COMING AND THEN COME. It depends pretty much upon you, yourselves.

The world judges you and pays you not for what you would like to do but for what you do. Dreams don't count until they begin to work themselves into realities. Start now. DO SOMETHING AND BE SOMEBODY.

J. O. CHRISTIANSON

Principal

Creative Imagination Works Transformation—Dormitory Room Becomes Class Laboratory

There were twenty-five girls in Miss Segolson's class in house planning and furnishing when she offered them the choice of term projects. "I do" and "Yes, I, too" and soon a chorus of sixteen "I's" chose "room 230" as their project. "Can we see the room?" And then the sixteen and Miss Segolson tramped over to the girls' dormitory to take inventory and make plans for its transformation. "Room 230" was really three rooms, a study room and two alcove bedrooms. The new oak floor and good-looking green rugs were accepted approvingly, but every piece of equipment was to be refinished and decorative articles added to supply color and interest.

O, no, this was not decided in one class period, for there were measurements to be made, colors and fabrics to be chosen, cost to be considered, appropriateness to be studied, and individual work to be assigned. "We'll make the lamp shades." "I think it is fun to paint." "May we make the curtains?" "Would a block print fill this wall space?" "Shall we remove this mirror from the dresser and hang it on the wall after both are painted?" Dozens of individual problems had to be studied.

Work details had to be planned. But "the sixteen" persevered.

Two months later the school girls were invited to visit Room 230. Oh's and Ah's and "How good looking!" and "Isn't that keen?" greeted the pleased ears of Miss Segolson's class. The beds, one of the dressers and some chairs had been refinished in a warm buff. The study table, some chairs and a chest of drawers were refinished in green that harmonized with the rugs. There were new drapes at the windows, curtains in the closet doors, spreads on the beds, lamps and lamp shades, blotter pads and blotter, bowls, pictures on the walls, all harmonious in color and design and texture, all the individual work of the sixteen, guided by a stimulating instructor.

And so the news spread. And the college girls began asking "May we see Room 230?" And the faculty said, "We've heard about Room 230." And the alumni exclaimed "That's practical as well as lovely." And the sixteen grew long ears listening to the praise that their work called out from all who visited Room 230.

And here's a secret. One of Miss Segolson's college classes has designs on a boy's dormitory room as a demonstration laboratory!

Elizabeth Howe, '10, teaches school at Denton, Montana.

Walfred Mattson Is Star Varsity Pitcher

Walfred Mattson, '28, now a sophomore in the College of Agriculture was the chief



Walfred Mattson

varsity pitcher during the spring term. The June 4 Minnesota Daily reports: "Walfred Mattson, sensational Gopher hurler, took matters in his right hand yesterday afternoon and proceeded to give the Wisconsin baseball team exactly no hits and no runs, giving Minnesota a 3 to 0 victory on Northrop Field. The underhand twirler performed a feat that has not happened at Minnesota since Iowa was held hitless and runless in 1926. Mattson's work was more remarkable as he had to face a crew of dangerous sluggers. The Wisconsin slugger, Jake Summerfield, pitched in style that would have won nine out of ten games, but he was up against an invincible Mattson."