

THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY



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NUMBER 6

Martinus Stenseth, '16, Now Brigadier General

Notice of the elevation in rank of Colonel Martinus Stenseth to Brigadier General was carried in the daily papers on May 18. Brigadier General Stenseth, a member of the class of 1916 and instructor in physical education and military training at the Northwest School, has made a brilliant record in the United States Army Air Corps. While at Crookston, he was a member of the Minnesota National Guard and went with the company for training on the Mexican border in 1916. Just prior to the first World War, General Stenseth was sent to Fort Snelling Officers Training School and later to an air aviation ground school at Columbus, Ohio. During World War I he was Minnesota's highest ace with a record of six German planes, receiving the silver star and distinguished service cross. He continued on with the United States air force in service in the United States and Philippine Islands. General Stenseth was, up until the time of his promotion, commanding officer of the Las Vegas Air Field in Texas.

The Northwest School alumni, faculty, and friends of General Stenseth join in their congratulations to him for this signal honor.

4-H Club Camp, June 7-9

The 32nd annual 4-H club camp will be held at the Northwest School June 7, 8, and 9. Only one three-day camp will be held this year at which 4-H club members from the fourteen Red River Valley counties will be in attendance. The 4-H club leaders and county agents estimated that the enrollment at the camp would be reduced forty per cent over previous years due to the labor shortage and travel restrictions. With the advance estimates of 4-H club enrollments made by club leaders, it appears that it will be necessary to restrict enrollment to 600 boys and girls.

Great emphasis will be placed this year on instruction to club members in all projects dealing with food preparation and production, conservation, and thrift. All boys and girls will be given instruction in the gardening projects. In the livestock and poultry work, the greatest emphasis will be placed on care and feeding of animals and poultry whereby maximum returns can be secured from livestock and poultry at a minimum of expense.

Specialists secured for 4-H Club Week from the Agricultural Extension Division, University Farm, St. Paul, include: A. J. Kittleson, state club leader.

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 3)

GREETINGS TO NORTHWEST SCHOOL BOYS IN MILITARY SERVICE

The Northwest School faculty salutes you in the training camps and the battle fronts of the world, wherever you are, and congratulates you on the splendid job you are doing in defending our ideals of human liberty and international law. We would like to, individually, write letters to each of you but the difficulties encountered in keeping up-to-date on addresses makes regular correspondence difficult of accomplishment. Former members of the staff and former students now can be found on practically all of the battle fronts of the world in all types of service.

At least two alumni, veterans of World War I, are in active service. Brigadier General Martinus Stenseth has been in continuous service since 1916. Sergeant Major Herbert Anderson returned to service after the start of the present war. Herbert, a first sergeant during the World War I, remained in service until 1927.

We at home are all proud of the records being made in the training camps and on the battle fronts by our boys and more recently our girls.

There is not much new happening at the School this summer. An attempt was made to cut down the scope of experimental projects, but war demands have raised new questions to be answered. The Experiment Station staff members are all working hard on the

(Continued in Col. 2)

food battlefield to increase the production of foundation seed stock in livestock, poultry, and crops. Progress is being made in the cooperative inbreeding and crossbreeding project with swine. Between two hundred and three hundred pigs will be raised during the year for foundation stock and market.

New varieties of wheat and flax are being increased for distribution. Experimental plots with hemp have been planted to get data on fiber production. Observation will be made on the growth and production of 150 acres of Russian dandelion planted in the Crookston area to aid in rubber production. Production problems with potatoes and garden crops are also receiving a great deal of attention at our Experiment Station.

A more than average number of chicks were hatched for meat and egg production at the Station this year. The project with the broad-breasted bronze turkeys will be continued this year with 125 birds.

The 4-H Club Week will be reduced down to one three-day camp for the fourteen northwestern Minnesota counties. With only one camp, it may be necessary to restrict enrollments from the various counties.

The annual Women's Camp program for June 14-17 will bring to the women of the Red River Valley vital information on foods for war-time and new

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Contests Held At Northwest School

The annual high school crops judging and Future Farmers of America oratorical contests were held at the Northwest School of Agriculture on April 16 with eight schools competing. Stephen High School ranked first in the crops judging contest and Bemidji High School ranked second.

The crops judging contest was held under the direction of R. S. Dunham, agronomist; other Northwest School staff members who assisted with the contest were A. O. Naplin, R. J. Halvorson, J. H. Wampole, W. R. Peterson, and A. M. Foker.

In the oratorical contest, Harold Benson of Stephen ranked first with an oration entitled "Farm Labor"; George Nornes of McIntosh ranked second with the oration on "The Farmer's War." Superintendent T. M. McCall acted as critic judge of the oratorical contest.

Summer Reunion Postponed

In view of serious labor shortage in the Red River Valley and governmental instructions against non-essential driving, the Northwest School staff has discontinued the summer Alumni Reunion for the duration of the war. Alumni contacted on the matter of discontinuance of the summer reunion were unanimous that the change should be made this year and that a fall meeting should be arranged for the fall Homecoming.

Officers and members of the Northwest School Alumni Association are concerned about maintaining the progress scholarships that have been awarded annually from funds secured in part by membership dues which were collected at the summer meeting. All members of the 1943 graduating classes are urged to send their membership dues of \$1.00 to Treasurer of Alumni Association, c/o T. M. McCall, Northwest School.



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NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF
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T. M. McCall, Superintendent
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Northwest Experiment Station,
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agricultural education and home training
for Northwestern Minnesota.

GREETINGS TO NORTHWEST SCHOOL BOYS IN MILITARY SERVICE

(Continued from Page 1)

ideas on thrift in the use of clothing. The usual schedule of entertainment, recreation, and handicraft has been arranged which will give the women a well-balanced program for the three-day camp.

Alumni Reunion, traditionally held on the last Saturday in June, will be postponed until the fall Homecoming in October.

Present indications point to a record enrollment for the coming school year. Paid room reservations for next term are well ahead of the reservations of one year ago.

In speaking for the School, I can say that we are intensely interested in your progress and want you to keep us informed about yourselves. We will keep all news of the boys in service up-to-date in the "Northwest Monthly".

Several members of the staff, on the campus at the present time, have written letters of greeting to you; the rest of the staff and employees join me in sending our very best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

T. M. McCALL,
Superintendent

GREETINGS:

My very best wishes to each of you wherever you may be. We on the home front are fighting a very ornery Weather Man; cold wet weather has delayed seeding but there is still time to grow a crop, and farmers are as determined to raise food as the army and navy is to conquer the Axis.

Sincerely,

R. S. DUNHAM,
Agronomist

GREETINGS:

I am happy to be able to extend to all former students and alumni greetings and sincere best wishes. Many of our students, who would prefer to be in uniform if they had their choice, are actively engaged in the battle of food production, but many more of you are in the armed services. Wherever you may be, we are confident that your work will be of the highest quality and your record will reflect only credit on your family, friends and school.

As a relatively new member of the faculty of the Northwest School, I consider it a distinct honor to be a part of the School family. There are few schools on this level which enjoy such a proud tradition of service and loyalty, or can boast a better record of accomplishments and character for its alumni.

(Continued in Col. 2)

W. R. Peterson Resigns Position

W. R. Peterson, instructor in Agricultural Engineering at the Northwest School for the past three years, has resigned to accept the position as farm manager and machinery experimentalist for the International Harvester Company farm on the outskirts of Chicago. Mr. Peterson was appointed to a full-time position at the Northwest School on June first last year. For two years previous to his full-time employment, he operated his farm at Kenyon, Minnesota, during the summer months and served as an instructor during the school year. While at the Northwest School, Mr. Peterson inaugurated experimental projects in artificial drying of hay and threshed grain, and assumed the supervision of student home project work.

Campus families at the Northwest School gave a farewell community buffet supper at the Aggie Inn on May 12 in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson and their three small daughters. A parting gift from the campus families was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Peterson.



W. R. Peterson

GREETINGS

(Continued from Col. 1)

We are always eager to hear from you or of you and glad to be of service to you when we can.

This year there will be no summer Alumni Reunion because of war restrictions and the absence or preoccupation of many alumni. We are looking forward, however, to the greatest reunion in our history after Victory is won. We hope to see you all then.

Sincerely,

R. J. HALVORSON,
Registrar

GREETINGS:

This is a sort of a hello and farewell greeting as I am leaving the Northwest School this month to join the engineering department of the International Harvester Company at Chicago. But whether I am here or there, my wishes are the same—I wish you the best in all respects.

Sincerely,

W. R. PETERSON,
Agricultural Engineer

GREETINGS:

I wish to extend to all Aggies in service my sincerest greetings and appreciation for the splendid job you are doing.

Sincerely yours,

ALVIN O. NAPLIN,
Instructor

GREETINGS:

While you are making it "hot" for the Axis powers, we are putting in our best efforts on the food production line at home.

Sincerely,

A. M. PILKEY,
Poultry Husbandman

Crop Suggestions For 1943

R. S. DUNHAM

The late season for planting small grains in the Valley is again causing anxiety. A long time comparison of late and early seedings at the Northwest Experiment Station appeared in the Northwest Monthly just a year ago this month. It was found that early seedings of all small grains have been better than late seedings the same season but a late spring has not always meant a poor crop.

Nature attempts to make up for late planting by hastening maturity. In four early seasons for Thatcher, an average of 89 days was required from the time it emerged until it was ripe but in the late seasons only 77 days were needed. Likewise in oats, Gopher took an average of 80 days in the early seasons and 75 in the late. Wisconsin 38 barley required 85 days in the early seasons and 77 in the late. Furthermore, rust which used to be such a factor in late planted grain is not nearly so important where resistant varieties are used.

Those who are planning to seed alfalfa this year will do well to consider Ladak instead of Grimm. In trials throughout the state it has yielded just as well as Grimm and has been more persistent and hardy. It is resistant to bacterial wilt, a disease that is destroying stands of Grimm in some sections. The new synthetic variety called Ranger looked promising in preliminary trials but has not been tested long enough in Minnesota to warrant recommendation. This variety is among those grown at the Northwest Experiment Station and may be seen in comparison with Ladak, Grimm and six other varieties this summer.

Those who have tried meadow fescue with alfalfa for a pasture crop are well satisfied, according to reports that have reached the Station. A number of seed plots of this grass have been established in the Valley from seed obtained from a Station seed field. This strain of the fescue came originally from Canada and is apparently more hardy than southern grown strains. It has proved more satisfactory for pasture when mixed with alfalfa than when sown alone.

Phosphate on alfalfa has shown an increase of one ton of hay in 1942 as an average of 245 farms entered in the TVA trials and 179 farms in the AAA trials as reported by the Soils Division of the University of Minnesota. Increases from phosphate fertilizer are most likely to follow if the fertilizer can be spread on the seed bed and worked into the soil before seeding. However, increases often result when phosphate is spread on old fields at a time when the crop is short. Not all soils need phosphate but alfalfa is one of the first crops to show beneficial results since it requires large amounts of phosphorus.

The scarcity of good seed corn this year will tempt some farmers to buy southern seed of poorly adapted varieties with good germination. A better solution of the problem is to use seed of adapted varieties even though germination is low and plant more seed.

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 3)

Women's Camp To Be Held June 14-17

The eighteenth annual Women's Camp will open at the Northwest School on Monday afternoon, June 14, and continue through the afternoon of June 17. An increasing interest in the Women's Camp is noted over other years with room reservations coming in to the school each day.

This year, the Women's Camp program has been built around the general theme of "Food and Clothing Conservation." Food specialists of national fame secured for the camp are Miss Lou Tregoning, Educational Director of the Northwestern Yeast Company, and Miss Margaret Saurer of the Kraft Cheese Company. Miss Tregoning will demonstrate the latest ideas in the baking of bread and rolls; Miss Saurer will give two demonstrations on "War-Time Uses of Cheese." Mrs. H. H. Hodgson of Crookston will give the lecture on "Clothing Thrift in War Time" and be in charge of the thrift exhibit which will be in place throughout the day on June 17.

Woodworking and utilization of old yarns in knitting and crocheting will feature the handicraft. Lectures will be given on uses of electrical appliances in the home and poultry production problems. Miss Avonelle Gregoire, instructor in physical education during the school year, will be in charge of recreation, including swimming.

Miss Retta Bede will act as director of the camp with R. J. Halvorson as Registrar.

GENERAL INFORMATION: The Women's Camp is open to all women of the Red River Valley counties who are interested in homemaking. As dormitory rooms are equipped with necessary furniture only, it will be necessary for camp members to bring their own bedding including blankets, sheets, pillows. Women who find it impossible to register for the three-day camp are invited to the daily programs. Due to the uncertainty of numbers, it will be impossible for the Northwest School dining hall to serve meals to persons "not in residence". Coffee, cream, and sugar will be provided for the daily guests who bring their picnic lunches. In handicraft work, supplies will be ordered for only those "in residence."

REGISTRATION: Registration for the camp will start at 3:00 P. M. on Monday, June 14. Camp will close with the refreshment hour at 3:00 P. M. on Thursday, June 17.

COST: The total cost for board, room, and entertainment beginning with the Monday evening dinner and continuing through the Thursday noon luncheon, will be \$3.50. Note: \$3.50 for women registering Monday, June 14, or Tuesday morning, June 15; \$1.25 per day for late registrants who reside on campus and board at the dining hall.

ROOM RESERVATIONS: For room reservation or additional information, write to the Northwest School, Crookston, Minnesota.

Notes On Garden Crops and Potatoes

J. H. WAMPOLE

Doing garden work at the right time will be one of the largest contributing factors for success in Victory gardens this year. Attention must be paid to the dates of planting frost hardy and frost tender crops. This means that the planting period for garden crops begins in late April as soon as the land can be marked and continues until the frost tender crops, such as tomatoes, are set in late May or the first week in June. Succession plantings of early crops can proceed throughout the summer with late July or early August plantings of leaf and head lettuce and spinach.

Even though the season is somewhat late for early crops, now is the time to plant beans, sweet corn, and popcorn. After May 20, the vine crops may safely be planted. At the Northwest Station tomatoes, eggplants, peppers and cauliflower have done well when transplanted from May 30 to June 5.

After the garden crops are planted, timely cultivation and prompt control of garden pests are essential for Victory garden success. A well maintained dust mulch throughout the entire summer not only keeps down weeds but prevents the soil from becoming hard and cracking. A supply of poison dust and liquid spray materials should be on hand to be applied promptly when leaf-eating and sap-sucking insects appear.

Potato growers, with seed stock infected with scab, black scurf (rhizoctonia), and from bins in which there has been rot damage, will find it profitable to treat all seed planted with commercial seed treating substance or homemade acid mercury dip.

A valuable type of crop insurance for potato growers is a thorough spraying program with copper sprays against early and late blight and insects such as potato flea beetles and leaf hoppers. While late blight epidemics have never hit the Red River Valley two years in succession, yet potato plants protected by sprays will survive disease epidemics.

BUY WAR BONDS

Looking Ahead in Poultry Production

A. M. PILKEY

Our nation looks up to its poultrymen and farm flock owners for more poultry meat and eggs to meet our own food requirements and for shipment to our Allies.

On how the chicks are grown depends to a large extent the amount of meat and eggs the flock owner will have for market next fall and winter. Good breeding is essential in all cases, yet the best of birds will fail unless well grown. They must have suitable housing, feed, water, and pasture.

The range must be clean, fresh, and free from infectious poultry diseases and worm infestation. Poultry men should not attempt to pasture poultry on the same range more than every third year. If sufficient land is not available for a three-year rotation, a two-year pasture rotation is better than continuous pasturing on the same land. The short tender grasses, clovers or alfalfa will be found much superior in food value to older grasses. Rape or green oat pasture will greatly reduce the cost of rearing good pullets for production.

Some form of shade or protection against hot summer suns and wind and shelter against cold rainy weather are also necessary. All range shelters or houses should be constructed so they can be moved to clean ground without much trouble. Poultry drinking utensils should be kept clean and placed in the shade. Growing birds will not drink enough water if the water is too warm. Where a water line can be used with a drop fountain, considerable labor can be saved. Growing chicks will also eat much more feed when the feeders are protected against excessive heat and wind.

It is difficult to outline a growing mash that will include all the essential ingredients with no assurance that all feeds can be obtained. Because of the shortage of essential ingredients for home mixed feeds, many poultry producers are turning to the use of commercial feeds this season. The large feed concerns have better opportunities to obtain the essential ingredients than the small grower.



Pictured above are members of the 1942 Women's Camp at the Northwest School

NORTHWEST SCHOOL BRIEFS

News of Alumni and Former Students in Military Service:

***Cpl. T. Arthur Gordon, Malaria Control Unit, N. O. S. A., New Orleans, Louisiana.

***PFC Donald M. Nelson, 86th Depot Rep. Sq. 28th A. D. G., Stinson Field, San Antonio, Texas. He graduated as aircraft electrician from the Embry-Riddle School of Aviation, Miami, Florida, and graduated with distinction.

***PFC Leroy E. Peterson, Army Air Force, 13th Tech. Sq., Brks. 803, Scott Field, Illinois.

***Harold A. Lloyd, Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida.

***Percy Sorter, Army Air Base, Sioux Falls, So. Dakota.

***Pvt. Glen Nansen, Co. B. 28th Bn., CSCRTC, Camp Crowder, Missouri.

***Pvt. Ledyard Burhans, 10th General Hospital, Bldg. E. 3263, Camp Carson, Colorado.

***William Vasilakes, Plt. 362, R-D, M. C. B., San Diego, California. He is in the U. S. Marines.

***Pvt. Jothan C. Jansen, A. S. N. 37177190, 14th Ferrying Group, 47th Ferrying Sq., A. P. O. 622, c/o Postmaster, Miami, Florida.

***Cpl. Earl Krogstad, Co. "A" 743 Tank Bn. (M), APO 439, c/o Postmaster, Los Angeles, California. He is in the U. S. Army.

***Pvt. Robert Rustvold, 17154912, 959 Bombardier Training Sq., Hobbs Air Base, Hobbs, New Mexico. He is in the air corps. The Hobbs Air base is a B-17 school for pilots. He recently passed the examination for Aerial Engineer (crew chief).

***Av. Cadet Roy Carlson, Barrack 7, Desk A, 3-A-R-1, U. S. N. A. B. Outlying Field, Oakland, California. He is in the Navy Air Corps. Roy's brother Ray is helping on his parents' farm at Middle River.

***Ernest Nelson S2/c, A. F. Atlantic, Utility Unit, Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

***Leland O. Hanson is employed in the War Department as a radio engineer and instructor. His address is 401 N. E. 4th Street, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

***R. J. Christgau, A. P. O. 929, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California. He is in New Guinea.

***Alvin C. Morin, S2/c, N. A. T. T. C., Brks. 82, Norman, Oklahoma.

***Donald Milner, G. M. 3/c, Electro Hydraulic School, Class -16 1g43, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California.

***Cpl. B. M. Bakkegard, Hq. Det., Shenango Replacement Depot, Band No. 1, Greenville, Pennsylvania.

***Staff Sgt. Don McCall is radio program director for the McClellan Field Station where he directs and announces ten to twelve programs each week and in addition announces two service men's programs weekly over the Sacramento Radio Station KBKA. His address is Public Relations, Sacramento Air Depot, McClellan Field, California.

***Cpl. Robert McCall is now taking advanced electrical training at Camp

(Continued in Col. 2)

Monmouth, New Jersey. He is a member of Co. M, 803rd Signal Training Rgt.

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

***Donald Hanson is employed in a defense plant and his address is 208 N. Fountain, Wichita, Kansas.

***In the "Minneapolis Journal" of May 16 appeared the following item of interest to Northwest School students and alumni: "Mrs. Edgar L. Noyes of Minneapolis announces the engagement of her daughter, Mary Janet, to Joseph Edward Williams of West Palm Beach, Florida. The wedding will take place June 19 at Lynnhurst Congregational Church, Minneapolis.

***Lucille Lerud of Twin Valley is employed as County Club Agent in Mahanomen county. She started her work on April first.

***D. H. LaVoi, a former staff member of the Northwest School, is now living at Fosston, Minnesota.

MARRIAGES

***Miss Dolores Webster to Lt. John Hardy. The ceremony took place on April 27 at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Webster of Stillwater, Minnesota. They will make their home in Dallas, Texas. Mrs. Hardy is a former instructor at the Northwest School.

***Helen Lois Haug of Oslo, Minnesota, to Pvt. George Olson of Donaldson, Minnesota, on April 5 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

***Miss Adeline Kliner of Euclid to Howard Filipi, on May 12, at East Grand Forks, Minnesota.



A. J. KITTLESON
State 4-H Club Leader, will speak at the 4-H Club Week meetings, June 7-9.

BUY WAR BONDS

CROP SUGGESTIONS FOR 1943

(Continued from Page 2)

The earliest Minhybrids are 800 and 801. The 800 is of about the same maturity as early strains of Haney's Minn. 13. The 801 is earlier but will not be available for general farming until 1945. Four Wisconsin hybrids are worthy of trial. Two of them, 275 and 279, are recommended for the southern half of the northern zone. Two others not yet recommended are earlier, numbers 240 and 255. The 240 is flinty in many of its characteristics. The 255 is a dent. They have not been recommended in Minnesota yet because they have not been tried long enough.

The experience of last year with soybeans does not indicate that they are any better adapted to the northern half of the Valley than the results of other years have shown. However, the market for even inferior and damaged beans was fairly strong. The large crushers operated under a government contract and apparently the need for oil was so great that everything was used. The oil situation was undoubtedly made worse last year by the almost total failure of the flax crop on many Valley farms because of rust. Pagoda, Kabbot and Minsoy are the earliest varieties of soybeans suitable for oil production.

4-H CLUB CAMP, JUNE 7-9

(Continued from Page 1)

er; Miss Amy Wessel, state club agent; W. E. Morris, Parker Anderson, R. C. Rose, and E. V. Hunt.

W. J. Breckenridge, curator of the Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, has been invited to give lectures and show colored pictures on "The Conservation of Wild Life in Minnesota." Miss Lou Tregoning of the Northwestern Yeast Company will demonstrate bread making, and a representative of the Kerr Canning Company will furnish a demonstrator for the canning class work.

H. A. Pflughoeft, district club agent, will again be camp leader. Members of the Northwest School staff who will serve as speakers, instructors, or assist camp leaders are: Superintendent T. M. McCall, Registrar R. J. Halvorson; R. S. Dunham, agronomist; J. H. Wampole, horticulturist; O. M. Kiser, livestock specialist; A. M. Pilkey, poultryman; A. M. Foker, mechanics; A. O. Naplin, recreation; Miss Retta Bede, home economics.

WANTED

Names and addresses of former students and alumni in armed forces of the United States. The present mailing list is incomplete due to changes of address of boys in service. School news will be sent regularly to boys in service. Send information to Sup't T. M. McCall, Northwest School, Crookston, Minn.

BUY WAR BONDS