THE NORTHWEST MONTHLY

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VOL. IV CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA, OCTOBER, 1920 No. 11

Northwest Agricultural School

DEDICATION PROGRAM

Plans Completed for Great Event

October Fifth is Day Selected For Opening Paved Roadway and Dedicating New Dining Hall and Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial.

Red River Valley Gala Event

Eleven Counties Join in Big Parade

Northwest School Campus to be Scene of Impressive Exercises.

The decorated Roadway will surprise you. All the Alumni will be there.

PLANS FOR OCTOBER FIFTH.

Plans for October fifth are rapidly assuming shape. The seven committees that were placed in charge of this event have formulated plans for one of the largest and most comprehensive celebrations ever held in this section of the state. The forenoon will be devoted to the inspection of the new Dining Hall and Service Building, followed at ten o'clock by an air plane exhibition by Captain Martinus Stenseth, N. W. S. A. '16, now of the United States Air Service located at Sanderson, Texas. From ten to eleven o'clock, the Entertainment committee will be in charge of affairs. Bands will be present from Fisher, Beltrami, Warren, Red Lake Falls, Twin Valley and Crookston.

At eleven o'clock, the new paved roadway leading from Crookston to the Northwest School will be opened. An address will be given by Marius Christianson, Chairman of the Polk County Board of Commissioners, followed by an address in behalf of the city of Crookston by its Mayor, F. A. Grady. At the close of these addresses, C. M. Babcock, State Highway Commission- [illegible] roads movement in Minnesota. At the close of his address, there will be appropriate ceremonies at each end of the concrete roadway opening it formally to the use of the public.

A picnic lunch will be served on the Northwest School grounds. This is in charge of the Refreshment committee of the Crookston Association of Public Affairs. Preparations are being made to serve coffee and sandwiches to a large number.

Immediately after lunch, the parade will form on Main, Broadway and intersecting streets in Crookston to march to the Northwest School. Bands will lead the different sections of this parade. The sections that have already been organized are the University, County and City officials; Northwest School alumni; American Legion Posts; Red Cross; Good Roads; Elks; Industrial, and County Delegations. This parade will leave Crookston promptly at one o'clock.

The parade will stop outside of the new Dining Hall and Service Building, which will be presented formally to the Board of Regents by C. H. John- [illegible] followed by an address in behalf of the Board of Regents by a member of the Board of Regents.

Following this will be the unveiling and dedication of the Northwest School Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial. The procession will form at the new building, led by bands and under the escort of the Nels T. Wold Crookston American Legion Post. The unveiling ceremony will be performed by O. A. Flaat, N. W. S. A. '16, Fisher, for the Alumni Association of the Northwest School. Superintendent C. G. Selvig will present the Memorial to the University and it will be accepted in its behalf by F. B. Snyder, president of the Board of Regents. This will be followed by the Memorial address by President Lotus D. Coffman, of the University of Minnesota.

After this address the "Star Spangled Banner" by the Citizens' Band of Crookston, a military salute by the American Legion Post, taps and a flower tribute from a plane by Captain Stenseth will complete the exercises of the afternoon.

A moving picture operator has been secured to film the features of the

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE
C. G. SELVIG, Superintendent

OFFICE
Northwest Experiment Station,
Crookston, Minnesota

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

OPENING DAY IS OCT. 6.

The fall term of the Northwest School of Agriculture will open on October 6th. The students are urged to come on October 5th in order to attend the Dedication Exercises to be held on that day. The preliminary enrollment continues to grow. The prospects are that every available dormitory room will be taken before the 6th of October, with two students occupying each room, making a total of 250 on the opening day. In some cases, it will be possible to have three students occupy one room, but from present indications it will be necessary to limit the enrollment on account of the lack of dormitory rooms and teaching staff.

All members of the faculty will be here by October 1st. The first faculty meeting will be held on the forenoon of October 2nd and it is expected that everything will be in readiness for the prompt registration of students on the forenoon of October sixth.

ALUMNI GATHERINGS PROVE SUCCESSFUL.

The weather man worked overtime during the week preceding September 26th, to make failures of the Northwest School Alumni meetings scheduled for that day. When one considers the fact that everything had been arranged for September 19th, and that the week of rain dampened enthusiasm in general, the reports from the gatherings which were held on the 26th, prove very gratifying.

For instance, the Thief River Falls delegation claim that "His Honor" the weatherman, overlooked a chance at Thief River in spite of his industry. The people in that vicinity are not to be discouraged by the weather, and a crowd of seventyfive people gathered at Valhalla Hall that afternoon. Miss Lottie Ward of the Domestic Science Department, and E. R. Clark, of the Agronomy Department of the Northwest School addressed the crowd and explained the work now being carried on at the school, setting special emphasis on the program outlined for the Dedication Services to be held October 5th; and inviting the people of the vicinity to participate in the parade. They were ably assisted by Mrs. Clark in their representation of the school.

Many present and former students were in attendance, among them being Misses Sophia Monson, Amanda Hanson, Myrtle Knutson, Johanna Nabben, Wanda Gaass, Mrs. Paul Engelstad and Messrs. Gerald Stevens, Henry Nabben, Ole and Lars Engelstad. Mrs. Engelstad and Mrs. Paul Engelstad, who have always been staunch friends of the Northwest School furnished coffee and sandwiches for the crowd.

At Argyle Mr. Husby reports a fine gathering of folks from Warren, Newfolden, and other communities, who were enthusiastic about plans for October 5th. Similar reports come from Bygland through Mr. McCall, and from Hendrum through Mr. Peck.

It is to be regretted that the meetings scheduled at the other places had to be cancelled on account of rain and bad roads. We hope that such gatherings may become an annual affair among former and present students. Next year it would be wise to plan them early in the season and thus make certain of favorable weather conditions.

HOME PROJECT WORK 1920.

This is too early for final reports from the home project work of the season but the periodical reports from the students themselves and the reports by the faculty members who inspected the students projects, indicate that the work has been highly successful. The extreme drought has affected the crop projects to reduce the yield and the rust epidemic was bad on the wheat projects especially. Better cultivation and care, however, in practically all cases made the students' plots stand out as demonstrations in comparison with neighboring fields.

Potato plots were again this year the popular choice and greatly outnumbered the projects in any other crop. The number of poultry projects this year exceed those of last year and some excellent results have been obtained. Among the outstanding reports this year will also be a number of dairy herd projects.

TO TEACH MARKETING OF FARM PRODUCTS.

The University of Minnesota will with the new school year begin to train young men for the difficult business of marketing farm products. The division of agricultural economics at University Farm is issuing a circular announcing plans for the new course which is offered by the school of business and the college of agriculture, one of the first, if not the very first, course of the kind offered in the United States.

"The course is designed," says the circular, "for all types of marketing businesses, both local and central, retail and wholesale, private and cooperative. Because of the rapid growth of cooperative marketing in Minnesota, special emphasis will be put upon the cooperative form of business organization. Most of the instruction, however will apply equally well to all types of marketing businesses."

The next step will be to provide courses in farm marketing for the students in the three state schools of agriculture. Progress toward this end is being made.

LIVE STOCK PAVILION DRIVE Oct. 1 to 15, 1920.

Plans are under way to complete the campaign for funds for the Red River Valley Live Stock pavilion during the first fifteen days of October. Secretary John Husby recently made trips to Marshall, Pennington and Red Lake counties, where he met with much encouragement in regard to the quotas of those counties. In each case, he reports there is a determination to complete this drive by October 15th. Rains prevented trips through Eastern Polk, Mahnomen, Eastern Norman, Becker, Clay and Western Norman counties, but it is planned to begin the work in organizing this drive in those sections also.

The Executive Committee of the Red River Valley Live Stock Association will hold a meeting early in October to perfect plans for the 1921 Shows and Sales which will be held during the week of February 7, 1921. It will first be necessary, however, to carry on the drive in order to pay outstanding bills that are due the contractor for pavilion Annex No. 2 that has recently been completed. Officers, Directors and members of the campaign committees are earnestly requested to make preparations for this drive to begin October first with the idea of getting through by the 15th of next month.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND ALUMNI.

Plan to join your classmates and friends at the old school on next Tuesday. Make your class section in the parade the best of all.

Assignments will be made for all the classes, 1909 to 1923. Prof. R. R. Smith is the captain of the Northwest School section. He will furnish maroon and gold bunting for decorations Let's make it a hummer. Don't forget the old songs and as for Rah Rah Rah, Crookston Aggies, let's show them we're all here.

BIG DRAINAGE PLANS MADE.

The Clearwater River is being surveyed by George W. Walker who is the engineer of the Red Lake Drainage and Conservancy District, which has the project in charge. At the same time work is progressing on the Red Lake River project. In this project the War Department survey is being used. Engineer Joseph Baugh is making the survey and plans for the Thief River project in proceedings begun under the judicial drainage ditch act held before Judge Andrew Grindeland.

This is briefly the development in providing adequate outlets for three large fertile areas in the Red Lake river basin that have suffered serious losses in the past due to floods. Neces-

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NATIVE FRUITS FOR THE FARM

MANY VARIETIES AVAILABLE

T. M. McCall, Northwest Station horticulturist, presents a plan to increase the amount of fruit grown in this section that will be of interest to the readers of The Northwest Monthly.

"Too often when we think of friut planting on the farm we think of planting only commercial varieties of fruits and pay no attention whatever to desirable native species. Only the desirable hardy kinds of nursery grown fruits should be planted and the lists of hard sorts should be procured from your nearest experiment station. However, there is such a wealth of native species that are absolutely hardy that occur throughout all northern Minnesota that no one needs be without fruit of some sort for canning, preserves, jams and jellies."

"Of the native fruit trees the wild and seedling plums offer the greatest possibilities. Wild plum sprouts or trees can be dug at any of the nearby thickets and can be planted as inside rows to the home windbreak and serve the double purpose of shelter and fruit bearing. Plum pits of native and domestic plums can be saved and planted in the fall where the trees can be allowed to come to maturity and it is only a matter of a few years until the seedlings come into bearing.

An illustration of what can be expected from the planting of plum pits was shown by the results of an exercise in fruit growing at the Northwest School last fall. The students in the fruit growing class planted one-half bushel of plum pits which were obtained from wild and tame plums. The seeds were planted in drills about two to three inches in the row and rows four feet apart. There was a good germination of seed and as a result we have about eighteen hundred trees ranging in height from six to fourteen inches. One cannot get too many plums in this section for if the market for fresh fruit should get flooded, nurserymen will pay a good price for the pits if they are properly handled."

"The choke cherry and the pin cherry are two desirable native cherries and trees of these species can be found in almost any native grove or in the woods along the streams. Such native fruits can be planted as inside rows to the windbreak and can be mulched heavily to keep out the grass and weeds."

"The High Bush Cranberry is another desirable fruit. This native shrub makes a valuable bush for ornamental planting about the lawn. The red clusters of fruit in late summer make a pleasing color contrast with the dark green foliage. This fruit makes an excellent quality of jelly when used alone or in combination with other fruits."

"The native grape offers variety to the fruit collection. A start with wild grapes can be made by taking cuttings from bearing vines in the fall winter cover in northern Minnesota and with protection, only the very hardy types such as the Beta can be depended upon year after year. Beta vines at the Northwest Station yielded as much as three pounds per vine this season."

"The huckleberry or Juneberry is a desirable fruit which can be placed the same as the choke cherry, it being understood that these fruits are planted as catch crops and that their value in ornamentation and shelter justifies their planting."

"A great many of the small fruits such as the raspberry, strawberry, and in some sections the blueberry, can be given a start. If competition from weeds and other brush can be reduced to a minimum, fruit crops can be expected."

"One should not feel, however, that by planting a few of the native fruits that nothing more needs be done in the fruit planting line, for desirable varieties of hardy fruits can be secured in the small, bush and tree fruit groups. The native fruits should only supplement the planting of the cultivated sorts and add variety to the home collection."

BIG DRAINAGE PLANS MADE.

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sarily progress is slow on account of the extent of land included in each project and the necessity of doing careful work in ascertaining the best plan to afford adequate protection.

The members of the Conservancy Board have held several meetings during the past few months. One was held at Clearwater Lake on an inspection trip thru the Red Lake and Clearwater basins. An outstanding feature of this trip was the almost uniformly high quality of soil in that section. This is a factor of the utmost importance in connection with the drainage project before the board.

Late in August members of the Board joined a party of Bemidji business men and Beltrami county farmers in a trip around the west end of Red Lake to the outlet of Red Lake river, west to Four Town Corners and Grygla, east and north to the Rapid River drainage project and Baudette, returning to Bemidji along the eastern shore of Red Lake stopping at Washkish on the Tamarac river. Several meetings were held which gave opportunity to learn of the problems confronting the farmers of that section. All the members of the Drainage Board were impressed with the work that has already been accomplished in developing that vast area of land. Judges Stanton and Grindeland were among the members of the party.

1920 PURE SEED GROWERS REPORT FINE YIELDS.

Exceedingly satisfactory yields of oats, superior rust-resisting qualities corn, are features of the results obtained by the 110 farmers, who grew pure seed grains in cooperation with the Northwest Experiment Station this season. Barley yields were only fair, being shortened by the early summer drought in nearly every section of the Valley. Spring floods reduced the stands of corn in some sections.

While many threshing reports have not been received at the time of this writing, field inspections before harvest seemed to show that Minnesota No. 281 oats would lead other varieties in average yields. This variety also led at the station farm this season, a field of 27 acres averaging 60.6 bushels per acre, tho an average of several seasons' crops has shown Minnesota No. 295 and English Newmarket oats to be equally good yielders. Both of these varieties have given very satisfactory results for cooperators, this year. The three varieties mentioned all originated from selections made several years ago from Swedish Select stock.

Black stem rust has once more taken its toll from the wheat growers of the Northwest, and again the durum varieties have demonstrated their merit as rust resisting wheats. Mindum (Minn. No. 470) wheat has proved to be practically immune from rust damage in both variety plot and cooperative trials this season. While some rust lesions appeared on the Mindum stems, no appreciable damage has been reported, while Marquis and Velvet Chaff varieties have been seriously rusted.

"My Mindum wheat came up promptly, kept ahead of the wild oats and other weeds, and filled out well," writes P. B. Mahlberg, a Pennington County cooperator. "Some rust appeared but not enough to damage any, while my other wheat was so badly rusted that I got only one third of a crop."

Kittson County cooperators grew over 100 acres of Northwestern Dent corn and have demonstrated that this extremely early variety of dent corn makes very good yields of silage, even in the extreme northern section. "Northwestern Dent has given us the best results as a silage corn," writes W. V. Longley, county agent of Kittson County, who supervised the trials. Growers in the central and southern sections of the Valley have had no difficulty in obtaining mature corn from this variety.

Reports from Minn. No. 25 flax and sweet clover cooperators have come in slowly up to this time. However, numerous visits to sweet clover growers have shown excellent stands from new seeding of sweet clover even where extreme drought has burned up most of the red clover since harvest time.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

PERSONALS

A number of N. W. S. A. Graduates are preparing to continue their education in college. Milton Warner, '20, and Morrill Campion '20, are taking the senior year at the Warren High School. James Felber, '20 has entered the Central High School, Minneapolis. Melvin Bengtson, '20 and Harold Morris, '18 will take their advanced work at the Central School. Lucille Morris will enter the College of Agriculture to take up the Home Economics Course. Oscar Samuelson '18, will enter the Crookston High School. Ole Flaat will enter the College of Agriculture this fall. Arthur Skonovd, '19, who during his vacation has been employed as assistant to the station agronomist will return to continue his course at the College of Agriculture.

Thorval Tunhein and Norris Johnson will graduate from the College of Agriculture this year. Norris has been employed as assistant in the agronomy department at the Central Station during his vacation and Thorval has been assistant editor of the "N. W. Farmstead.

N. W. S. A. students and faculty were in evidence at the State Fair. Einar Aakre, '20, Harold Morris, '18, and Thomas Abbott, '20, all exhibited stock. Einar Aakre was there with the Schroeder Holsteins from Moorhead, Thomas Abbott has charge of a herd of Gurnseys from Dassel and Harold Morris was with M. C. Wilford's herd of Angus from Canton.

C. E. Brown, T. M. McCall and J. P. Bengtson assisted in the management of the Farm Boys' Camp during the week. Among the N. W. S. A. students enrolled in the camp were Martin Anderson, Knute Thorson, Eldred Lindahl, and Elmer Skime. The culinary department of the camp was in charge of Miss Lottie Ward of our domestic science department. The following students assisted in the kitchen and dining rooms:

Sophie Krbechek, Erie, Ellen Ahlm, Argyle, Mable Vesledahl, Erskine, Clara Gilbertson, Hendrum, Marie Austin, Malung, Laura Kjallberg, Wannaska, Gladys Erickson, Twin Valley, Myrtle Erickson, Goodridge, Marie Larson, Argyle, Agnes Torgerson, Stephen, Hazel Perry, Crookston, Hope Jensen, Clearbrook, Alma Lindgren, Clearbrook, Olga Lovaas, Plummer, Esther Landby, Swift, Ella Fossbakken, Fosston.

Mrs. J. P. Bengtson and Mrs. C. G. Selvig spent the week in camp as chaperons for the young ladies.

Among the campus callers during the summer were Carl Berg, Lloyd Ness, '22, Rufus Logan, '21, Rosalind Friday, '22, Norman Friday, '22, Martin Anderson, '21, Marie Mariner, John Peterson, Oscar Samuelson, Grace Walker, Hope Jensen, Hazel Perry, Agnes Torgerson, Viola Pederson, Morrill Campion, Milton Warner Joseph Thorkilson, Ella Tollefson, Henry Bagge and Clayton Walker.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Femrite (nee Alma Nettum) was gladdened by the arrival of a baby daughter, Lois Dona Marie.

The Northwest Monthly takes pleasure in recording the following marriages that are of interest to its readers:

Miss Lucille Holliday was married to Earl E. Swain. They live in Minneapolis. Mrs. Swain will continue her community singing work.

Marie Mariner married S. C. Johnson, a young banker of Eldred, Minn., where they reside.

Ruth Cawelti married A. J. Wignes. They live in Farwell, Minnesota.

The Northwest Monthly has also been informed that Thomas Abbott has taken unto himself a wife but the information did not include the name of his better half.

FARM BUREAU MOVEMENT GROWING

The farm bureau movement is growing. The stand of the national organization in deciding that farm marketing should receive the attention that its importance deserves marks an epoch in farmers' movement in this country. In western Canada and in the fruit regions of the west much has already been accomplished. All signs point to the closer organization of farmers in perfecting their marketing machinery under cooperative principles.

In this movement as in every other project, its strength and its ability to accomplish needed reforms depend upon the membership. The Farm Bureau has come to stay. It is a convenient local organization that has a definite work to do. Thru its state organization, projects involving the state at large can be handled. Its national board of managers will place the farmers' problems before the people in a way to impress the country with their fundamental importance and secure such action as is needed.

All but two counties in the Red River Valley have county agents at the present time. The vacancies in Marshall and Roseau counties will be filled as soon as men can be secured. In all the counties membership drives are being made in order to raise sufficient funds for the successful prosecution of farm bureau work. Membership in the farm bureau is urged on business grounds. It is an organization for promoting agricultural interests and as such it is worthy of every farmer's support.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB WORK.

Boys' and Girls' Club work represents one of the important lines of agricultural and home activity in the Red River Valley. It is made a part of the County Farm Bureau progrma, and the work directed by club leaders, county agents, home demonstration agents and others interested in extending the work. The importance of this line of extension work is expressed by Secretary of Agriculture, E. T. Meredith, in a letter to club boys and girls in which he says: "I believe it (club work) is important because it has such large possibilities. We men and women who are trying to improve farming and farm life will be out of the game when you boys and girls are just reaching the prime of life. You have the advantage of us, because you are learning the principles of good agriculture and home-making while you are still young enough to learn to the best advantage and to apply in a practical way the knowledge thus gained thruout your whole lives."

Complete enrollment lists from the 13 counties comprising the Red River Valley show there are 2256 boys and girls enrolled in club work this year. From the standpoint of number enrolled, the potato project seems to be the most popular. It is the one project taken up in every county in the valley and has an enrollment of 715 boys and girls. The live stock projects also claim a very large enrollment which means that the Red River Valley Junior Live Stock Show in November is sure to be a success.

VALLEY WOMEN CLUBS ARE ACTIVE.

According to officers of the Ninth District Federation of Women's Clubs, in the ninth district. Four of the clubs are new, including Red Lake Falls Civic League, Warren Girls' Community Club, Beltrami Woman's Club and Strathcona Daughters of Ceres.

The twentieth annual ninth district convention was entertained by the Ladies' Reading Club of Warren. The meeting was the largest in the history of the district and was marked by the finest hospitality and the finest spirit of cooperation of all at Warren. The next annual convention will be held at Breckenridge.

Among the events of the past year the report includes mention of a successful lyceum course conducted by the St. Hilaire Women's Club. The Reservation Club of Mahnomen presented silk flags to each class room in their public schools. The Women's Study Club of Breckenridge has placed magazines in the library and given financial assistance to the public health association. The three clubs of Crookston cooperated in a series of lectures on citizenship for information to the women voters. The Ladies' Reading Club of Warren has done excellent work in Americanization. The Fairfax-Andover Social Circle, composed of farm women near Crookston, will study citizenship, child welfare and textiles next year. All of the clubs are promoting better citizenship and community welfare. There are many communities that would benefit by having a women's club in its midst. They have a distinct place among the organizations that are doing good work. There is room for at least thirty more clubs in the Valley towns and communities. Why not get together?