



Station Shropshires

ley alone. Cross breeding experiments with hogs showed that market hogs can be produced successfully by crossing two pure breeds. An experiment to determine the relative merits of inbred and outbred Poland Chinas in developing a purebred herd is now under way. Pasture trials with dairy cattle compared sweet clover with blue grass and wild grass pasture and resulted in sweet clover proving most efficient in nutrients per acre.

Sheep breeding investigations to compare the value of large type versus small type ewes for producing market lambs have shown an advantage in favor of the large type in flock increase, average birth weight, and average daily gain, although the small type lambs were worth slightly more per hundredweight. An investigation into the possibility of raising the percentage of flock increase by means of selecting ewes from a line of twin-producing ancestors is under way at present.

The results of many of the above trials were made available to farmers and stockmen on Annual Feeders' Days, the first of which was held in 1924. These annual events gave hundreds of Valley breeders and feeders an intimate view of the livestock work of this Station.

A high standard in both quality and quantity is indicated by the following inventory of all station livestock:

Beef Cattle, 44 head, including 15 straight Scotch females and an outstanding herd sire, Divide Chancellor, grand champion at the 1935 Minnesota State Fair.

Dairy Cattle, 58 Holsteins, headed by senior sire Minnehaha Burke Sir Dekol and junior sire Governor Banostine Matador. The 1933-34 herd average from 20 cows was 330.5 pounds of butterfat.

Sheep, 76 purebred Shropshires and 59 grades, the grades being used in the experimental work on type.

Hogs, 22 purebred Poland Chinas, a group of inbred and an equal number of outbred to be used in breeding trials.

Horses, 15 purebred Percherons, 4 grades, headed by three-year-old purebred Percheron stallion, Minnesota Carnot.

Thus it is seen that the Northwest Station is maintaining herds and flocks of high standard which are of value as an example of desirable types for students as well as a source of stock for Red River Valley breeders.



Station Holsteins

