

# Present Situation At North Dakota Agricultural College

By J. H. Longwell

North Dakota Agricultural College has done a remarkable job, both in education and research, in past years. The successes of its graduates and the accomplishments of its research staff both support this statement. The state's young people today are entitled to educational opportunities equivalent to those enjoyed by former students as well as the opportunities offered by other states. Likewise the agricultural and industrial interests of the state deserve a research program that will provide for the maximum development of the state's resources.

If the institution is to perform these services its development must keep pace with the changing needs of the state. This college is owned and supported by the citizens of the state. Its development will depend upon the support which the citizens feel they are justified in giving. Investors usually familiarize themselves with an enterprise before they invest in it. In like manner citizens of North Dakota should become familiar with their Agricultural college, a going concern in which they are already investors, in order to enable them to determine the extent to which they feel justified in supporting the institution. Alumni and former students have more interest in the institution than the average citizen and are in a position to initiate by the experiment station, the college is not in a position to render of the college.

During the years of drought and depression, followed by the war, financial support to the college was considerably restricted. This has resulted in low salaries, reduced size of staff, and deterioration of the physical plant. Now with the largest enrollment on record, and a greater number of problems calling for solutions by the experiment station, the college is not in a position to render as effective service as it should.

The faculties of the schools and divisions of the College are now working on plans for the development of a well balanced program for the institution. These plans come under five general topics.

An adequate program of instruction and research depends primarily on a staff of well trained and experienced teachers and investigators. To secure and hold competent staff members, salaries must be commensurate with the training and experience of the staff members and com-

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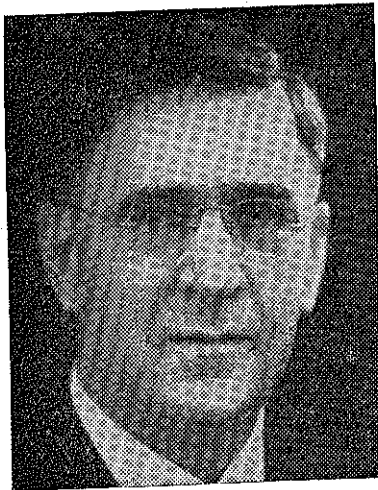
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Dr. C. L. Swisher

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parable to salaries offered by other institutions that bid for their services. A satisfactory retirement system for staff members is badly needed. Opportunity must also be provided for professional improvement of staff members.

The older buildings on the campus are not fire proof and are poorly arranged for present needs, and should be repaired or replaced. Several additional buildings are needed if the institution is to function effectively.

Laboratory equipment and apparatus, especially in several of the stu-

dent laboratories, are out of date and insufficient in amount.

Research laboratories are in better condition but also need additional equipment.

The college needs to recognize more fully its responsibility for the health and welfare of students. A health and welfare department, adequate to meet student needs should be established.

Much closer relationships between the college and alumni will be of tremendous help to the institution. A well qualified Alumni Secretary who is associated with the college publicity program would be in an excellent position to coordinate the common interests of the college and alumni association.

Budgets for the 1947-49 biennial are just now being developed. These will be complete before Homecoming. When you are in Fargo at Homecoming make it a point to learn what the budget includes.

### NDAC ALUMNI QUESTIONNAIRE

The Alumni Office would like to obtain biographical information regarding all who have attended NDAC. Please fill out this form and return it to the Alumni Office. Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated and you will be rendering the college a valuable service. Thank you!

Name in full

Graduation date or period of attendance

(surname)

(first)

(middle)

Address

(Please keep us informed of address changes)  
Degrees (with source and date of each)

NDAC

Other

Other institutions attended, from which no degrees were received, with dates

Marriage date

Place

Full name of husband or wife

Is husband or wife NDAC graduate or former student?

Name

Graduation date or period of attendance

## Forrest Skinner Returns to AC

Forrest F. Skinner, former lieutenant colonel in the quartermaster corps, has returned to NDAC as business manager after being in the army since 1941.

Mr. Skinner was auditor of the North Dakota state board of administration before entering the service.

Dr. and Mrs. Alton J. Bjork are in Grand Forks where Dr. Bjork is associate professor of education at the University of North Dakota. Mrs. Bjork is the former Adeline Hoge, HE '38, from Fargo. They have a daughter, Mary Adelyn, 10 months old.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Westgate,