The effort came on fast to build a building. Let's get along! But the war effort delayed the action stage. The Red River Valley Livestock Association was very young and still groping for identity. Yet, with completion of incorporation, it was the only group which could take title to the property; however, it really didn't want to plan and operate the Winter Shows each year. So, rather loosely, the big drive for funds developed. Shares were sold up and down the Red River Basin to build the first set of buildings and details on this are well recorded in Selvig's book entitled "The Tale of Two Valleys:"

The Livestock Association continued. The show grew fast and filled the facilities year after year. For 40 years, the Livestock Association owned the buildings. They had a building committee to look after repairs. There was always a hassle over who was to pay for what as the Winter Shows board of managers planned and operated the show each year. By 1957 it became apparent to the board that the facilities downtown, while they were tremendous in 1920, were no longer useful to the burgeoning needs of the Winter Shows.

As a first step, the Livestock Association moved to turn over their title to the facilities in downtown Crookston to the Winter Shows board of managers, with the proviso that the new facilities be built and the Livestock Association maintain four people on the board. David Hoff, farmer and member of the teaching staff of the University of Minnesota, Crookston, is the current president of the Livestock Association. The cooperative spirit and service of the Red River Valley Livestock Association as a major foundation block of the Red River Valley Winter Shows is indeed a story of faith and trust working together that can get the job done despite problems.

Northwest Minnesota Crops and Soils Association (1922) -- This group of crop farmers was loosely organized by Otto Bergh, an agronomist at the Northwest Agricultural Experiment Station. It continued as an informal organization of farmers and seedsmen until the 1920’s, at which time it developed its own constitution and by-laws which lasted until the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association began to have county associations in northwestern Minnesota. Ray Dunham, former agronomist, was a frontline leader for about 20 years. At the time the Minnesota Crops and Soils Association reorganized, with a member of each of the several County Crop Improvement Associations providing membership for the new Northwestern Minnesota Crops and Soils Association. The association became the leader in planning the Crops Show activities at the Red River Valley Winter Shows, replacing somewhat the detailed planning of the RRV Development Association.

In addition, they were helpful in sending some of the new foundation seed increases to southern locations for over winter increases. Seed was then sent back to the Valley and distributed through the county crop improvement groups. Currently this association is not very active. It has a modest amount of money on deposit and in addition to being one of the organizations on the Crops Show committee, it does help from time to time with cash support as needed. Medard Yurtzenka, farmer from Argyle, is president.

The University of Minnesota Technical College (1968) -- In the late 1950’s, the secondary level schools of agriculture were quietly looking to other opportunities for service to agricultural education. After the findings of Bernie Youngquist’s doctoral thesis along with findings of a legislative interim commission and an official University of Minnesota in-house task force study, the recommendation was made to the legislature to begin phasing out the secondary level schools of agriculture. A two-year collegiate institution built around the industry of agriculture and related services was initiated at Crookston and later at Waseca. The Technical College at Crookston began under Dr. Stanley Sahlstrom’s leadership in 1966, and as an arm of the University has strongly supported in a substantial way the present Red River Valley Winter Shows. The college under Dr. Sahlstrom’s leadership has developed a higher education seminar at the Winter Shows, which is well attended by all educators in northwestern Minnesota. Likewise, it supports the Winter Shows substantially with service and leadership expertise as noted in Chapter 11.

Minneapolis Farm Bureau (1961) -- The Minneapolis Farm Bureau is an organization of farm families organized for the purpose of developing and working on matters of mutual interest. The Farm Bureau became a continuing supporter of the Red River Valley Winter Shows very early in Winter Shows history. They were a primary group who helped to launch the county agent system in each county. The group, however, didn't have a person on the board until the early 1960's.

Red River Valley Potato Growers Association (1962) -- The Potato Growers Association is a two-state organization representing growers primarily from the Red River Valley. They joined forces with other organizations in supporting the Winter Shows in the early 1960's and provided assistance and leadership with