Church, the high school auditorium, out at the agriculture school, at the Chevrolet garage, at the old armory, at the Grand Theatre, and like places. But it was very fortunate that no major catastrophe occurred in the old location with the big wood heating stoves and the overloaded electrical circuits.

I think of Mr. Townsend, a concessionsman from Fergus Falls, who sold balloons and ice cream and the like to show visitors. Every time he used his ice crusher, he'd blow a fuse. I know that Chauncey Carlson, who was the local manager for the Ottertail Power Office at Crookston, insisted that his service representative be close during the entire show. It was truly an accident waiting to happen. With so many people crowded inside you could barely move.

The timing of the show was perfect. In the dead of winter, people were looking for an excuse to get off of the farms or out of their businessplace for even a day. They were in a receptive mood and a good frame of mind. There have been great changes in the past 75 years in agriculture and I'm sure that the Red River Valley Winter Shows can lay claim to its full share. There were tremendous numbers of people, many far removed from Crookston who gave of their time and talent to make it successful. I don't know if it would be possible today to start from scratch to organize such an event. I don't think so. Beginning with the dairymen, poultry raisers, Development Association, the hog men, the sheep producers, the beef cattle breeders, Crops and Soil Associations, the women's crew, horticulture society, the farm organizations, commodity organizations, all getting together for a week to schedule all the programs and events and doing it for 75 years in a row.

Herb Mauritson from Shelly, Minnesota, a farmer and a horse breeder, and former member of the board of managers.

My memory of the Winter Shows goes back to the old days in the buildings downtown. What a set up that was in comparison to what there is to work with today. Many times during my years with the show, I've caught myself complaining about the lack of funds for something we really would like to do or to have. But when I think back about Bill Strickler, Bernie Youngquist, Harold Thomforde, and others putting their necks out a country mile to get a new piece of land with the buildings and facilities. I really marvel at your faith and guts. The Show itself has been more than just that for years. It's an institution in itself. People really look forward to it for months. It's a break in the winter. It would be sorely missed. The fellowship and the educational aspects go hand in hand. Neither more important than the other. Seeing all the new ideas in equipment and products are exciting even to those who can't afford to avail themselves of everything they might want and even need. It's a show where both men, women and youth are served and the rich and the poor can both afford it. Nothing is so high priced as to be a burden to anyone.

I was active in the horse show from the beginning. I remember when Gene Miller of the Northwest Experiment Station provided leadership for the first three-day winter show. He invited a group of us horse breeders to get together and suggested that we form a Red River Valley Horse Breeders Association and provide the leadership for the horse show portion of the Winter Shows in the future. Actually, this is where the Red River Valley Horse Breeders Association commenced with the objective in mind to have a winter show at the Valley City Winter Show as well as the Red River Valley Winter Shows at Crookston. It has been a very great experience. I don't regret the time and effort and money I've spent. The greatest value I've received is working with a lot of fine people, making many friends that I would never have known without the Winter Shows.

Frank Forbes, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, County Agent and Agricultural Extension Administrator, and member of the board of managers for a number of years.

I've observed the Red River Valley Winter Shows for 45 years and I see it as a focal point for various educational programs during its 75-year history. During that time the Red River Valley region evolved from the horse and buggy time society to a high developed agricultural-industrial complex society equal to that of any in the world.

The emphasis on youth educational programs through 4-H, FFA, and FHA judging demonstration activities has had a great influence in developing leadership skills among the farm families from one generation to the next. There's a continuing need for these types of activities in the future. The Valley Farmer and Homemaker Award where an outstanding farm couple from each county is selected by their peers as an example of top farming and homemaking expertise and service to the community and care for the soil and water has brought honors to many in every county. The crowning of the King Agassiz each year from a group of county kings selected by their peers out in the counties on an annual basis recognizes outstanding young men and of course they are usually young couples coming up the ladder of leadership ability and service to their community. It is in itself one of the outstanding projects of the Red River Valley Development Association.

The Agricultural Extension Service in each county has played a major role in the continuing success of the Red River Valley Winter Shows. Several county agents, men and women, have served on various committees and boards during the 75 years. The county extension staff have assisted in the planning and carrying out of the adult and youth educational activities. Agents for years have served and yet today serve as superintendents of livestock and crops exhibits. Those experienced leaders, working with the best livestock and crop producers in the region, added a valuable dimension to the Winter Shows. I remember the contributions to the swine industry by the purebred swine breeders from various parts of the Valley. Swine would be housed on the second floor above the cattle. When the floor leaked, one would hear some rather loud grumbling from Howard Balk, who was the county agent from Clearwater County and superintendent of the cattle exhibits below for more than a 20 year period.

I participated actively in the Winter Shows for over 20 years beginning about 1936. At that time I had FFA, 4-H and young farmer judging teams participating in the shows. I was superintendent of the swine department for over 10 years. During the post-war years, I served as a member of the Winter Shows board of managers. That was a time when tremen-