with 20 banks and local savings and loan associations. A special rate of six percent was paid to the participating institutions with a balloon payment due after five years.

It was at this time that the finances of the shows, despite its past problems, turned around under the new management. In fact, payments to the financial institutions were always made promptly and by the time the balance of the loan was due in 1978, reserve had been established for debt service by the board of directors. It was about this time that I was informed that I would be leaving Crookston to assume the presidency of the Citizen's Bank in Brainerd. Realizing that the loan was due and that some attention would be given to this, I committed myself to obtaining renewals on the part of the financial institutions at the rate of seven percent over a term of five years. This was accomplished just prior to my departure for Brainerd. I am told the repayment of this was three years ahead on the principal by the time that the five year term was up.

This success and contribution to the general welfare of life in northwestern Minnesota is history. And it's a history of which many hard working volunteers of the Valley can be justly proud. I was glad to be part of it.

Dr. S.D. Sahlstrom, provost, University of Minnesota Technical College. Dr. Sahlstrom heads one of the cooperating institutions in northwestern Minnesota. Without the continuing help of institutions like the College, the Red River Valley Winter Shows would soon lose its vitality.

The legislature provided funds for the development of college programs at the University of Minnesota, Crookston in 1965. Since that time various offices and departments of the College have contributed freely of their time and effort to assist in supporting the Red River Valley Winter Shows. Individuals have done so because of their commitment as citizens of northwestern Minnesota to this important educational function. The Red River Valley Winter Shows is a volunteer organization and administrators and faculty have felt an obligation to provide their personal support. In addition, the College as a good citizen of the community has felt that it was important to be active in the support of the Red River Valley Winter Shows. It has always been felt that bringing people onto the campus was an important contribution to the educational process as well as a valuable asset to the College in acquainting people with the facilities for technical collegiate education. Through the support of various seminars and special educational events, the College has made a substantial contribution to the Winter Shows and in turn the Winter Shows has contributed valuable information that could be used to enhance the quality of life in northwestern Minnesota. The following is a list of special events that have been particularly the responsibility of the College:

1. Education Day -- Beginning in 1966, the College has planned and promoted Education Day. A committee of superintendents works with the College administration in planning this special event. Attendance has always been high and topics relative to public education have been discussed each year.

2. Talent Contest -- The Talent Festival responsibility was accepted by the College in 1967. During the early years the event was assigned to the University relations department. In the recent years, the department of music has had the responsibility for the Talent Festival. From every indication that event has been a remarkable success each year.

3. Youth Day -- The entire faculty in the Division of Agriculture has been involved with the activities of Youth Day. In addition to the College faculty, staff members have been involved in arranging space needs on the campus and preparing facilities for that event.

4. Contributions from Other Departments -- The audio visual department has been involved with special events. They assist with arrangements for the King Agassiz banquet, especially, the audiovisual equipment needs and other items throughout the entire Winter Shows.

5. Food Service -- The food service department and the hospitality division have both been involved with many events each year.

6. Rural Communications Department -- Students from the rural communications department have been involved each year in preparing pre-show advertising. The Winter Shows provides an "on-the-job-experience" for communications students as they organize to operate a service to the radio, newspaper, and TV media including news coverage and photography. The Winter Shows provides scholarship awards to the outstanding student reporters.

7. Horse Activity -- The Division of Agriculture has been involved in providing leadership for the horse

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