Accounting Changed

The University’s method of accounting, where all monies left at the end of the year were returned, had to be changed to accommodate the beef research. There was never money available at the right time to purchase the large number of beef steers required for a viable research project.

Until the University corrected this and let the Station have a revolving account, Superintendent Youngquist had to personally sign the note for thousands of dollars to keep the research going. Needless to say, he directed the researchers to keep a good eye on this stock until it was again sold.

Dr. Soine retired in 1974 and was replaced by Dr. George "Walt" Wallingford, a graduate of Kansas State University with a Ph.D. in soils.

Sady Newell, senior account specialist, joined the Station full-time in 1974, although she had worked with some Station and College accounts since 1967. The volume of accounting work at the Station had multiplied to the extent that an accounting office was necessary.

A new dairy building was designed by E. C. Miller. Looking for ways to cut agricultural pollution, Miller designed a building with a slatted floor placed over an eight foot deep manure pit. The building's foundation walls, which provided the manure pit, were poured into trenches dug while the concrete truck discharged its load behind the trencher. When the walls were completed, the interior was dug out and a concrete floor installed.

Dr. William F. Hueg Jr. and Dr. C. Peter Magrath, president, University of Minnesota, at the Northwest Experiment Station.

On June 14, 1974, William F. Hueg Jr. was appointed deputy vice president for Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics at the University of Minnesota. He also held the title of dean of the Institute of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics.

Dr. Hueg was a "researcher's researcher". His early extension work gave him a good overview of Minnesota and the research systems. He called every staff person by first name, regardless of whether a field hand or Ph.D.

Ada farmer "Bud" Berglind and Dr. "Walt" Wallingford, soil scientist, NWES, check corn quality.

James Jacobson resigned his position as farm foreman in August, 1976, to go with private industry.

Elvin Moran was appointed farm foreman in December, 1976. Moran had been a farm helper as a NWSA student in 1944. In 1945 he left and served in the U.S. Army returning to station in June of 1947.

Research in 1977

In 1977, Dr. Larry Smith, agronomist, and Dr. "Walt" Wallingford, soil scientist, took projects to the Stephen, and Grygla, Minnesota areas respectively, to look at problems with other soil types.

The Grygla plots were where "burning the surface layer of peat" had been discovered to rejuvenate the next year’s grain crop. Wallingford determined that burning had released micronutrients which could easily be applied in fertilization, thereby saving the organic matter in the soil.

Wallingford left the Station in July, 1977, to accept a position as Eastern Midwest Director of the Potash Institute of America.

A new research position was created in 1977. Dr. Larry Smith was appointed as agronomist-sugarbeet. A major meeting of all sugarbeet interests—farmers, researchers, and industrial participants—met at the Station to organize new projects which included cooperative work with NDSU.

Dr. Gary Varvel joined the staff November, 1977, as soil scientist. He continued the research done in part by "Walt" Wallingford. An important study, at the Station, was the correlation of soil test results with actual crop response to various fertilizer rates. Research efforts included tests on cooperative farmers’ fields as well as Station areas. Even with new plot land available, researchers took great pains not to test areas where past residual fertilizer would upset the results.