consecutive years for grand champion small grain samples with farm implements valued up to $100 offered as first prizes in other classes, cash and merchandise prizes were awarded in the second and third brackets in crops and homemakers exhibits. The second shows during the winter of 1911-12 (the first in which the writer participated) and 12-13 shows brought crowds from all of the counties of the valley, which taxed the capacity of the facilities at the Northwest School. So the shows were moved to Crookston in 1914 where vacant buildings were used for the shows and the Grand Theater was used for meetings.

Speakers of national fame, authorities from the Minnesota Experiment Station and Extension Division and from nearby states and Canada and liberal prizes for exhibits attracted thousands of farm families to the Shows annually. The railroads cooperated with the shows by running special trains with special round trip rates.

The great success of the Red River Valley Winter Shows through the years has been due largely to its organization, which is unique in agricultural fair circles. Valley wide organizations have given enthusiastic support to the meetings and shows. When the Shows moved to Crookston in 1914, the Red River Valley Development Association and the Crookston Commercial Club (now the Chamber of Commerce) gave direct financial support to the meetings and shows. When the first Livestock Show was made a part of the Winter Shows in 1917, the Red River Valley Livestock and R. R. V. Dairyman's Associations affiliated with the parent organization. The Agricultural Extension Service of the University cooperated with the Shows from their beginning, the County Agricultural Extension Agents from the Red River Valley Counties have cooperated through the years by serving as Superintendents and assistant Superintendents of the various departments of the Livestock and Crops Shows. The Red River Valley Development Association through the years has sponsored the premiums on the Crops Division of the Winter Shows through appropriations from the counties for the county and district prizes.

Livestock judging contests between Farmer's Club began at the second year of the Winter Shows and have continued through the years. The first Livestock used for the livestock judging came from the Northwest Station's flocks and herds supplemented by different breeds of horses from nearby farms. The first livestock, exhibited as a part of the Winter Shows was shown in Sathre's Garage in downtown Crookston at the 1917 Show, with $300 offered in cash prizes. An interesting sidelight on the enthusiasm and loyalty of the early exhibitors was their continued support to the Shows through the years. A family record for years of exhibiting cattle and swine was made by P. M. Finkenbinder family, their continuous record of showing livestock began in 1917 and extended through 1960 and three generations of the family.