The enthusiasm of the livestock breeders, after the successful 1917 show, for permanent livestock exhibition buildings, prompted C. G. Selvig and the writer to go on a scouting expedition to Brandon Manitoba. The success of the Brandon Winter Livestock Shows, their buildings and judging arena inspired the Red River Valley Development and Livestock Associations to start a drive for funds to buy property and erect buildings for a permanent home for all divisions of the Winter Shows. Cropsmen, poultrymen, Chambers of Commerce of the Twin Cities, Duluth and towns of the Valley combined forces on a drive for funds and $20,000 was raised that year and the Pavilion on Broadway adjacent to the Armory was built in time for the 1919 Shows. The livestock was housed in the basement, the main floor made room for concessions and a judging arena and the second floor housed the Crops Show, the Poultry Show was held in a nearby building, the Armory and Presbyterian Church were used for meetings.

Epochal dates in the history of the Red River Valley Winter Shows and Northwest School’s Farmers and Homemakers week are:

1910 December (last week) First Meetings and Shows at Northwest School.
1912-13 Meetings held at Northwest School and Exp. Station.
1914 Meetings and Crop Show held in downtown Crookston; First R. R. V. Rural School Contest held, County winners compete annually.
1917 First Livestock Show held. Northern Minn. Poultry show held in combination with Winter Shows.
1918 Drive for funds for Winter Shows Buildings.
1919 First Show held in Livestock Association building. First Purebred Livestock Sale held.
1920-21 Fourth Street and Elm Street buildings constructed ($50,000).
1923 to ’25 Two Donation Sales held (Farmers donated livestock to help pay on indebtedness on buildings.)
1940 Final payment on debt $7500.00 paid in full.
1957 Winter Shows Board of Managers reorganized with assets of the Livestock Association combined with Winter Shows.
1958 Agitation for new buildings on a new site, to relieve overcrowded conditions for Shows and Sales, also to seek adequate parking space.
1959-60 Goal of $450,000 set for new buildings on a new 20 acre site purchased from University on U. S. Highways No. 2 and No. 75.