

Workers of all lands, unite!

***For a Lasting Peace,
For a People's Democracy!***

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the Communist and Workers' Parties**



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FOR FINAL OF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF KOREAN QUESTION

With feelings of profound satisfaction the peace-loving people in all countries welcomed the outcome of the negotiations between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government Delegation of the Korean Peoples Democratic Republic. The results of the negotiations will, undoubtedly, play a great role in the consolidation of peace and security in the Far East and throughout the world. Simultaneously they, with renewed force, demonstrate before all mankind the consistency of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union, the policy of peace, friendship and co-operation among the nations.

To the heroic Korean people and the valiant Chinese People's Volunteers belongs the historic merit that they upheld the cause of peace in the East and in no small measure damped the ardour of the aggressors seeking to unleash a new world war, delivered a telling blow at the far-reaching designs of the reactionary forces aimed at crushing the progressive movement of the peoples of Asia and the Pacific basin for national freedom and independence. The heroic struggle of the Korean people clearly showed that there is no force in the world capable of defeating people who have taken the fate of the country into their own hands and who are inspired by knowledge of the justness of their cause, people who rely on the solidarity of all progressive mankind.

"Today", said Comrade G. M. Malenkov, "the word Korean has become a symbol of the greatness and fortitude of national spirit, a symbol of lofty and selfless service in the cause of freedom and independence of

the homeland.

A splendid example of fraternal solidarity is provided by the immortal exploit of the Chinese People's Volunteers who at a critical hour came to the aid of the Korean patriots, and sealed with their blood the bonds of friendship between the great Chinese and Korean peoples. This testifies to the new era that has begun in the East. While the forces of international reaction headed by the ruling circles of the U.S., pursuing their aggressive aims, try to divide the peoples of the East and apply their jungle principle of getting "Asians to fight against Asians", the exploit of the Chinese Volunteers demonstrates the inviolable solidarity of the peoples of Asia their determination to win and uphold their national freedom and independence and not to allow Asia to be turned into a centre for a new world war.

Relying on the fraternal aid and support of the people of China, the countries of people's democracy and the entire camp of Socialism and democracy headed by the great Soviet people, the people of Korea upheld their freedom and independence upset the aggressive designs of the American imperialists and forced them to sign the armistice. This constitutes a big victory for the entire camp of peace, democracy and Socialism and signifies a vital phase in the struggle of all the peace-loving forces for a peaceful settlement of all controversial international problems, in the struggle against the aggression and international gambles of the imperialists. The signing of the armistice in Korea clearly testifies that the peace-loving forces, provided they display staunchness and persistence, can secure the right solution of burning international issues.

In the Korean question, as in its approach to the

solution of other international problems, the Soviet Union has always displayed and displays now profound understanding for the national aspirations of the peoples and respect for their independence and national sovereignty. After the people of Korea had been liberated from the long years of Japanese imperialism all the conditions were created in North Korea for establishing people's power, for carrying out democratic transformations and for rehabilitating and developing the national economy of the country. A firm democratic base for a peaceful unification of the country was created, in North Korea.

In the grim days of the just liberation war of the Korean people against the imperialist aggressors and the Syngman Rhee clique the Soviet Union, together with all the peace-loving nations, aided and assisted the Korean people in upholding their lawful rights and interests on the international arena consistently laboured for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question and for the signing of an armistice in Korea.

Immediately after the cessation of hostilities the Government of the Soviet Union decided to grant gratuitously one billion roubles for the rehabilitation needs of the war-ravaged economy of the Korean People's Democratic Republic. In the recent negotiations special attention was given to the matter of economic aid to the Korean people on the part of the Soviet Union. In keeping with the agreement reached during the negotiations the funds granted by the Soviet Union will be used to restore and build a number of big industrial enterprises comprising the vital base of the country's economy, to secure an upsurge of the national economy and to raise the standard of living of the working people.

The Soviet Union's selfless aid to the Korean People's Democratic Republic is motivated by feelings of sincere friendship and desire on the part of the Soviet people to make a further contribution towards a peaceful settlement of the Korean question, peaceful unification of Korea and the ensuring of peace and security in Asia.

In direct contrast to the peace policy of the Soviet Union is the policy of the international reactionary forces, and of the ruling circles of the USA in the first place. Theirs is a policy of enslavement and ruthless oppression of the peoples, a policy of trampling on their national freedom and independence, a policy of bloody suppression of the liberation movement in the countries of Asia and the Pacific basin.

Whither this policy leads can be seen from the example of South Korea. The five years' rule of the U.S. colonisers and their Syngman Rhee puppets and the three years of war which they unloosed has reduced South Korea to an extreme degree of ruin, poverty and hunger. Industry there has been devastated, output of consumer goods has all but stopped; agriculture is experiencing a deep crisis; South Korea has over one million unemployed, while the number of part-time workers and those who have suffered from the ravages of war runs into 14 million. The U.S. "aid", widely publicised in the American press, means no improvement whatever for the working people since it is designed to back the criminal Rhee clique in preparing new military gambles.

The U.S. monopolies, closely bound up with the policy of aggravating the international situation and which have waxed rich on war production, regard the ending of the war in Korea as a threat to their profits. It

is precisely for this reason that the U.S. ruling circles are trying to frustrate the armistice in Korea and to aggravate the situation in Asia and in the Pacific. Proof of this is the agreement signed between Dulles and Syngman Rhee, which preserves “indefinitely” the occupation of South Korea and which aims at frustrating the unification of Korea on a peaceful and democratic basis. Proof of this are the bellicose declarations and warlike actions of puppet Rhee, who, with the connivance of the Americans, is preparing “a crusade against the North”.

But this U.S. policy does not take into account the cardinal changes which have taken place in Asia and the Pacific basin and which have left their impress on the postwar life of the more than one billion people residing in this area. The peoples of the East have traversed a long path in their development and have learnt much from the lessons of their history and from the history of other peoples. And never will the international reactionary forces succeed in halting the movement of the peoples along the road to progress, in imposing their yesterdays on the future of mankind.

Today objective conditions are such that they enable the advanced forces of the East to convert Asia into a stronghold of peace. The most vital of these objective conditions is the international weight and policy of the Chinese People’s Republic which now appears in Asia and the Pacific basin as a powerful stabilising factor. The People’s Republic of China, now on the threshold of its fourth anniversary, is a new Great Power which appears on the international arena not in the role of supernumerary but which is pursuing its own independent and sovereign policy and, together with all peace-loving forces, is upholding the interests

of consolidating peace and security of the peoples. To ignore China, as the international reactionary circles are trying to do, means closing one's eyes to reality, means acting contrary to common sense and historical inevitability.

An important factor for strengthening peace in the East is the Korean People's Democratic Republic. It embodies the cherished hopes of all Korean people striving to restore their national unity, striving for peace. Under the leadership of their glorious Party of Labour and relying on the, selfless aid of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and on all countries of people's democracy, the Korean people are widely developing rehabilitation, healing the wounds inflicted by the interventionists. They are strengthening and guarding as the apple of the eye their great historical gain—the alliance of the workers and peasants—and are successfully striving to ensure a higher standard of living for the working people.

The ending of hostilities was an important step in the direction of easing the tension in international relations and created more favourable conditions for further measures aimed at averting the threat of a new world war. The armistice in Korea has brought about conditions facilitating the peaceful settlement of the Korean question on the basis of the national unification of Korea and enabling the Korean people themselves to settle the question of the state structure of Korea. The Governments of the Soviet Union and the Korean People's Democratic Republic firmly and resolutely declared their readiness to cooperate in this matter with all interested states. It is precisely such a settlement of the Korean question, a settlement that corresponds to the national aspirations of the Korean

people and the interests of strengthening peace, which the Soviet Union is now upholding at the 8th session of the United Nations General Assembly, in conformity with the inviolable principle of its foreign policy—respect for the national freedom and sovereignty of all countries, big and small.

Peace-loving mankind give due credit to and wholeheartedly approve each step directed towards a speedy and just, peaceful settlement of the Korean question, to consolidating peace and security in Asia and the Pacific. At the same time the peace supporters in all countries are keeping a vigilant eye on the intrigues of the aggressive forces in the East which seek to disrupt the armistice in Korea, to sharpen the situation and unleash new adventures against the peace-loving peoples.

The peace-loving forces see their paramount task in exposing and frustrating the designs of the aggressors, in achieving a final peaceful settlement of the Korean question, converting the armistice in Korea into a starting point for fresh efforts directed towards further lessening the tension in international relations in the East and throughout the world.

PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES WHOLEHEARTEDLY APPROVE OUTCOME OF SOVIET-KOREAN NEGOTIATIONS

The press in China featured the communique on the Soviet-Korean negotiations, the report about the Government Delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic being received by Comrade G. M. Malenkov and the speeches exchanged by Comrade G. M. Malenkov and Kim Ir Sen. The central newspapers in China gave a digest of the "Pravda" editorial of September 21 "For inviolable friendship between the Soviet Union and Korea!".

"Trybuna Ludu" wrote that the People of Poland welcomed with joy the communique on the negotiations between the U.S.S.R. and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, since they see in it a step forward along the road of consolidating peace. Not for the first time, stressed the newspaper, has the U.S.S.R. given fraternal aid to the nations of the camp of peace and Socialism.

Greeting the outcome of the negotiations the press in **Czechoslovakia** stressed that the vital task confronting the freedom-loving people is to render effective aid to the Korean people in restoring their devastated economy and the peaceful unification of their country. "Rude Pravo" said that the Soviet people, their Communist Party and the Government, are in the van of the peace-loving forces, determined to render the necessary aid to Korea without delay.

The **Hungarian** "Szabad Ne" stated that the outcome of the negotiations and the help of the Soviet Union to the people of Korea serve the cause of peace.

The healing of Korea's wounds, the economic consolidation and flowering of its national economy bring nearer the peaceful unification of Korea and strengthen the system of peace and security in the Far East.

The people of **Rumania** wholeheartedly approve the results of the negotiations which, says the newspaper "Scanteia" "are a great contributor to the cause of Korea's rehabilitation, to consolidation of peace in the Far East and throughout the world".

The **Bulgarian** "Rabotnichesko Delo" points out that the aid extended to the Korean People's Democratic Republic by the Soviet Union is an expression of the life-giving force of the new relations between the countries of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism relations which are unknown in the capitalist world.

Public opinion in the **German Democratic Republic** displayed great interest in the outcome of the Moscow Soviet-Korean negotiations. The press emphasised the vital significance of these negotiations. "Neues Deutschland" reported the results of the negotiations under the headline: "A new era has begun in the Far East".

"**l'Humanite**" prominently featured the results of the negotiations between the Soviet Government and the Government Delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic. In an editorial comment it pointed out that a basic principle of Soviet policy is the principle of respecting the national sovereignty of other nations, big and small.

The democratic press in **Italy** hailed the results of the Moscow Soviet-Korean negotiations. "Unita" stressed the selfless nature of the help extended by the Soviet Union to the Korean People's Democratic

Republic.

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF KOREAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Soviet-Korean communique released on September 20th states that on September 11-19 negotiations were held in Moscow between the Soviet Government and a Government Delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic.

In the course of the negotiations questions of interest to the two parties were discussed concerning the further development and consolidation of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the Korean People's Democratic Republic, and also matters pertaining to the peaceful settlement of the Korean question complete mutual understanding was reached that the relations of friendship and co-operation which have developed between the U.S.S.R. and the Korean People's Democratic Republic conform to the interests of the peoples of both countries and serve the cause of strengthening peace and security in the Far East. The two parties fully agree that the signing of the armistice in Korea has created conditions which facilitate the peaceful settlement of the Korean question on the basis of national unification of Korea and of giving the Korean people the opportunity themselves to decide Korea's state structure. The Government of the U.S.S.R. and the Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic express their readiness to co-operate with all interested states towards this end.

Special attention was devoted to questions of

economic help by the U.S.S.R. to the Korean people who suffered heavy losses during the war for their independence and freedom.

In the course of the negotiations questions were discussed pertaining to the utilisation of the one billion roubles granted gratuitously by the Government of the U.S.S.R. for the rehabilitation of the war-ravaged national economy of the Korean People's Democratic Republic.

It was agreed that these funds will be used to rebuild the big Supun hydro-electric station on the Yalu River; for rehabilitation and construction of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgical works including such big enterprises as the metallurgical plants in Chondin and Kimchak, the non-ferrous metals plant at Nampho chemical and cement factories including such large enterprises as the mineral-fertilizer plant in Hynnam for the needs of agriculture, the Synhori cement factory; for construction of textile and food enterprises including a big textile mill, a silk-spinning factory, a meat packing plant and fish canneries.

The help of the Soviet Union in rehabilitating and constructing industrial enterprises will be in the form of designs by Soviet organisations, in the form of equipment and materials, technical help in the process of rehabilitation and construction, licences and technical documents for launching production in the above-mentioned enterprises, and also in training Korean personnel for these enterprises.

Agreement was likewise reached during the negotiations for, delivery from the Soviet Union of equipment and materials for the rehabilitation of railway transport and communications, and agricultural machines and implements, fertilizers, pedigree

livestock and horses essential for the development of agriculture, as well as fishing vessels, machinery, equipment and materials for restoring housing and public utilities, hospitals and educational establishments.

The Soviet Union will also supply consumer goods for the population of the Korean People's Democratic Republic.

Taking into account the heavy expenditure involved in carrying out the urgent tasks of rehabilitating the national economy of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, the Soviet Government has postponed payments by the Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic on all credits previously granted by the Soviet Union, and has granted new, more favourable terms for their repayment.

The negotiations took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and full understanding of the importance of the further strengthening of friendly relations between the U.S.S.R. and the Korean People's Democratic Republic.

SPEECH BY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE U.S.S.R. G. M. MALENKOV

At Dinner Given in the Kremlin on September 19th

Highly esteemed Prime Minister, highly esteemed members of the Government Delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic!

Allow me here in Moscow to greet you and in your person the heroic Korean people who have defended their native land from the encroachments of the interventionists. Together with all progressive mankind Soviet men and women cherish feelings of profound friendship for the Korean people.

Today the word Korean has become a symbol of the greatness and fortitude of national spirit, a symbol of lofty and selfless service in the cause of freedom and independence of the homeland.

The glorious Korean people have inscribed another remarkable page in the history of the liberation struggle, and this page teaches us that there is no force in the world capable of breaking a people who have taken the destiny of their country into their own hands.

Two sources nurtured the will of the Korean patriots to victory, their courage and heroism in the struggle: awareness of the profound Justice of their cause and the unprecedented solidarity of all progressive mankind with the Korean people.

The immortal exploit of the Chinese People's

Volunteers testified to the unbreakable lies linking the peoples of Asia. This is a sign of the new era which has dawned in the East, a sign of the resolve of the peoples of Asia to win and uphold national freedom and independence, to prevent Asia from becoming a centre for another world war.

The peace-loving peoples recognize with gratitude the historic service of the Korean people and the Chinese People's Volunteers who upheld the cause of peace in the East and who, in no small measure, damped the ardour of the aggressors seeking to precipitate another world war. By their heroic struggle on the fields of Korea the glorious Korean and Chinese patriots struck an altogether telling blow at the far-reaching plans of the reactionary forces to suppress the progressive movement of the peoples of Asia and the Pacific towards national freedom and independence.

The aggressive circles are reluctant to reckon with the incontrovertible fact that the old Asia, doomed to dark oppression and enslavement of the peoples by foreign forces, is receding into the past. They would like to halt, to disrupt the great process of the regeneration of the peoples in the East; which constitutes one of the most important features of our times and opens inspiring prospects for the further advancement of contemporary civilisation as a whole.

Is it possible to find in our days an American who would claim that the decision of the thirteen colonies in North America, taken more than 175 years ago, to put an end to their colonial dependence and to establish the United States of America was not an act of historical progress? Is it possible to find in our days an American who would claim that the Declaration of Independence is unlawful since it proclaimed, as a self-evident truth,

the right of the people to establish a government on principles and in a form “as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and Happiness”? Of course, not. Why, then, in these circumstances, do influential American circles rudely intervene in the internal affairs of the countries of the East, carry on a blockade and incite war against them when the peoples of these countries choose a form of government which is not to the liking of Washington politicians?

Evidently an altogether peculiar philosophy operates here that which was alright for Americans way back at the end of the XVI century is not the thing for the Chinese, Indians, Koreans and Indonesians even in the second half of the XX century. But this is the old song of racism; this is an attempt to pursue a policy which is a challenge to the entire historical progress of the peoples. And in acting thus some American leaders take it on themselves to don the toga of adversaries of the “old colonial policies”, it must be admitted that their new colonial policy leaves far behind all examples of expansion known hitherto, that it is of an aggressive nature and aimed at a fundamental re-division of the world in favour of the United States of America.

It is time to understand that history develops not according to the instructions of those who would like to bring it to a standstill, who would like to bring the advance of the peoples towards progress, to dictate to mankind its yesterdays as its future. Only people who do not realise what is happening in the world can reduce their foreign policy in the countries of the East to supporting those particular individuals and groups who personify all that is most backward, corrupt and decayed. Only men who deliberately seek artificially to complicate the situation in the East can allow

themselves to slight the great Chinese people and stake on antinational scum, such as the Chiang Kai-shek clique.

A policy of this kind is a short-sighted policy. For one must not ignore the fundamental changes which have taken place in Asia and the Pacific region and which put their stamp on the postwar the of the more than one thousand million people living in this area.

The signing of the armistice in Korea is, undoubtedly, a highly important landmark in the struggle of all the peace-loving forces against the forces of aggression and international gambles. It has vividly demonstrated that the peace-loving forces can achieve the proper solution of acute international problems provided they display staunchness and persistence.

It would be inexcusable, however, to ignore the new intrigues of the aggressive forces in the East. The purpose of these intrigues is perfectly obvious—to wreck the armistice in Korea and to aggravate the situation in Asia and the Pacific region.

As is known, not long ago the Secretary of State of the United States and Syngman Rhee signed a treaty whereby Ute United States of America receives for “an indefinite period” the right to dispose of land, air and sea forces “in or about the territory of the Korean Republic”. In other words, the presence of American armed forces on the territory of South Korea which until now was motivated by the war is now to be motivated by the so-called mutual security treaty. The substance of the matter, however, remains unchanged: the intention is to maintain South Korea in the position or a bridgehead of the United States, which, of course, runs counter to the requirements of a final peaceful settlement of the Korean issue and of strengthening

security in Asia.

It should also be added that the attitude of the United States ruling circles in relation to the composition and procedure of the Political Conference, the convoking of which is provided for by the Korean armistice agreement, is rightly condemned by the peace-loving forces. This attitude resulted in the exclusion of India from the Conference and also of some other Eastern states about whose participation in the Conference there can be no doubt whatever.

All this by no means testifies to a desire on the part of the United States ruling circles to consolidate the armistice in Korea and to take another step towards the final peaceful settlement of the Korean issue.

All the greater, then, is the responsibility devolving on all the peace-loving forces. They can and they must transform the armistice in Korea into a starting point for fresh efforts for the further lessening of the international tension throughout the world, including the East.

The objective conditions exist for the progressive social forces of the East to transform Asia into a stronghold of peace and one can but warmly wish all the Asian peoples success in accomplishing this noble task.

The most important of these objective conditions is the international weight and the policy of the People's Republic of China. For many decades the struggle of the imperialist groups for domination in China engendered special tension in international relations in the East. Today the People's Republic of China acts in Asia and in the Pacific region as a powerful stabilising factor. And precisely for this reason the masters of aggression are furious because China has forever ceased to be an object of their game and of exploitation, because China

not only formally, but actually, has won sovereignty, because she appears on the international arena not in the role of supernumerary, but pursues her own independent sovereign policy. Another Great Power has appeared in the world which, together with all the peace-loving forces, is working to strengthen peace and international security. This, truly, is the most important historical result of international development in recent decades, a result which illumines not only the path traversed but also the prospects.

Yet, certain circles pursue an aggressive policy towards China and are trying to isolate the People's Republic of China. It is clear that in the present international situation any calculations about some kind of a possible "isolation" of the People's Republic of China are nothing more than the reactionary utopia of people who are out of touch with the and have lost sense of reality.

Is it not time to abandon the policy which, contrary to common sense and the requirements of historical inevitability, proceeds from the premise that today it is possible to settle important questions pertaining to the establishment of peace among the nations without the great China.

The unbreakable friendship of the peace-loving Soviet Union and the peace-loving People's Republic of China is a powerful bulwark of peace. That is why this friendship is acclaimed by all peoples who regard it as a paramount factor in strengthening peace among nations.

Developing under the signboard of peace and consolidation of security in the East, all the countries of Asia and the Pacific basin would have exceptional possibilities for peaceful economic relations both

among themselves, and with other areas of the world. And in turn this would create the necessary conditions for a new approach towards settling the question of constructive and effective aid to Asian countries by many states.

Dear friends! Allow me to convey through you to the heroic Korean people the heartfelt friendly feelings of all Soviet men and women. The friendship between our peoples rests on the solid foundation of mutual respect for the sovereignty and independence of our countries and mutual readiness to serve the cause of strengthening peace and international security. This means, that all the grounds are there for its continued consolidation and development.

The peoples of the Soviet Union are glad that the Korean people are bound by ties of unbreakable friendship also with the great Chinese people. The heroic sons of the Chinese people have cemented this friendship with their blood on Korean soil for the triumph of truth, for the freedom and independence of the Korean people. May the glorious friendship of the peoples of China and Korea live and thrive for centuries to come.

The Korean People's Democratic Republic embodies the finest hopes of the Korean people, who seek the re-establishment of their national unity, peace and progress.

There can be no doubt that already in the near future the Korean People's Democratic Republic will achieve big success in rehabilitating and further developing the economy and culture of the country and in raising the well-being of its people.

The Soviet Union will give every help to the Korean People's Democratic Republic in healing the wounds

inflicted by the interventionists.

In severe battles against the interventionists the popular masses of the Korean People's Democratic Republic demonstrated to the world their great cohesion and unity, based on the historic gain of the Korean working people—the alliance of the working class and the peasantry. Let our Korean brothers continue to safeguard this sacred alliance as the apple of tile eye and tirelessly strengthen it in every way.

Allow me to express the conviction that the country of morning calm, as Korea is known, will soon gain complete peace and take the path of all-round advancement.

I toast the unbreakable friendship of the Soviet Union and Korea, the heroic Korean people, the final peaceful settlement of the Korean question and the re-establishment of the national unity of the Korean people, the Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic and your health, Comrade Prime Minister.

**SPEECH BY KIM IR SEN, CHAIRMAN,
CABINET OF MINISTERS, KOREAN
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, AT
DINNER IN THE KREMLIN ON SEPTEMBER
19th**

Highly esteemed Chairman, Comrade Malenkov!
Dear Comrades!

Allow me on behalf of the Government Delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic to express heartfelt gratitude for the friendly hospitality accorded us by the Soviet Government, by the Soviet people, by the leaders of the Party and the Government of the Soviet Union, and particularly for the special concern shown our Delegation during its sojourn in Moscow by our esteemed Georgi Maximilianovich Malenkov personally. Thanks to this the Government Delegation of the Korean People's Democratic Republic has successfully accomplished its mission in a friendly atmosphere.

The great Soviet Union liberated our people from longstanding domination by Japanese imperialism, created in North Korea all the conditions for the establishment of the people's rule, ensured the carrying out of democratic reforms and gave our people enormous material and technical aid in the rehabilitation and development of our country's national economy which had been devastated by the Japanese imperialists.

The all-round assistance rendered by the Soviet

Union to the Korean people under the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the Korean People's Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union, concluded in 1949, was of decisive importance for the further democratic development of our country.

Thanks to the selfless assistance of the Soviet Union and the self-sacrificing labour of our people the material and cultural standards of our population rose rapidly in North Korea after the liberation and a powerful democratic base was created for the peaceful unification of our country.

The armed attack by the American imperialists and their lackeys from the Syngman Rhee clique to our Republic aroused in all our people indignation and haired for the aggressors. Our people, who, with arms in hand, rose as one man to fight, for the freedom and independence of their homeland and in defence of our people's-democratic system, displayed, together with the Chinese People's Volunteers, unparalleled heroism.

Thanks to the fraternal assistance and support of the Chinese people, the People's Democracies and the entire camp of democracy and Socialism headed by the great Soviet people, the Korean people upheld their freedom and independence, frustrated the aggressive plans of the American imperialists to enslave our country and forced them to sign the armistice agreement.

With every justification this is regarded as a victory not only for the Korean and the Chinese peoples but also for the entire camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

At the most critical period for our homeland the Soviet Union at the head of the democratic forces of the whole world, by giving the Korean people tremendous

assistance and support and by defending its lawful rights and interests on the international arena, inspired our people to selfless struggle for our just cause and reinforced the faith of our people in victory. This was one of the factors which determined the victory of our people.

Today the all-important urgent tasks confronting our people are to rehabilitate and develop our war-ravaged national economy as quickly as possible, improve and advance the material well-being of our people and further strengthen the material base for the peaceful unification of our homeland. These tasks are, of course, big and difficult ones.

But there is no doubt that under the leadership of the Korean Party of Labour and with the fraternal assistance of the great Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the People's Democracies, the Korean people, overcoming all difficulties and obstacles, will successfully accomplish these tasks just as it achieved victory in the struggle against all internal and external enemies.

As a result of the successful negotiations in Moscow between the Governments of the Korean People's Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union the Korean people will receive from the Soviet Union equipment and assistance in rehabilitating and building the industrial enterprises which constitute the vital foundation of our economy; they will also receive assistance which will play an important part in further developing our agriculture and culture.

This help will also strengthen the friendship between the Korean and Soviet peoples, the alliance between the workers and peasants of our country, will be a new contribution to the cause of the peaceful

settlement of the Korean question and the peaceful unification of our homeland, to ensuring peace and security in Asia.

Our people, together with all progressive mankind, wholeheartedly rejoice at the great successes won by the Soviet people under the leadership of the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union in building Communism in the Soviet Union, for the sake of ensuring lasting peace throughout the world, and a radiant future for mankind. Our people sincerely wish the Soviet people, more and more success.

Allow me to assure you of my high esteem and to express once again deep-felt gratitude to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet Government and the Soviet people.

I wish you, esteemed Comrade Malenkov, the best of health and allow me to raise my glass to your health.

**CHANG WEN TIEN, AMBASSADOR OF
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO U.S.S.R.
RECEIVED BY G. M. MALENKOV,
CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,
U.S.S.R.**

On September 17th, Chang Wen-tien, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the U.S.S.R. called on G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.

In the course of the reception the Ambassador presented G. M. Malenkov with the text of a telegram from Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, in connection with the help given by the Soviet Union in the economic upbuilding of the People's Republic of China.

Presenting the text of the telegram, the Ambassador stated that the decision to send the telegram to the development of the U.S.S.R. was unanimously adopted at the meeting of the Central People's Government Council of the People's Republic of China on September 15, arising from the report made by Li Fu-chun, member of the Government Delegation of the People's Republic of China, on the results of the negotiations in Moscow with the Soviet Government on the question of the help of the Soviet Union in the economic upbuilding of the People's Republic of China.

Accepting the text of the telegram G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., said that the Soviet people rejoice at the achievements

of the great people of China in advancing the economy and culture of their country. The further economic development and industrialisation of China rest on a firm foundation and is in reliable hands. The Government of the Soviet Union wishes prosperity for the People's Republic of China, and the further consolidation of the great friendly alliance between China and the U.S.S.R. for the benefit of the peoples of our countries, for strengthening peace and, international security.

V. M. Molotov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R., was present at the reception.

COMRADE G. M. MALENKOV, CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, U.S.S.R.

The Central People's Government Council of the People's Republic of China, at its meeting on September 15, 1953, heard with gratification the report made by Comrade Li Fu-chun, member of the Government Delegation of the People's Republic of China, on its negotiations with the Soviet Government on the question of the Soviet Government's aid to China's economic construction. It is the unanimous opinion of the Central People's Government Council that thanks to the great Soviet Government agreeing to extend systematic economic, and technical aid in the construction and renovation of 91 new enterprises and the 50 now being built or renovated in China, the Chinese people, who are energetically learning from the advanced experience and the latest technical achievements of the Soviet Union, will be able step by step to build up their own powerful heavy industry. This will have an extremely vital significance for the industrialisation of China, for its gradual transition to Socialism and for strengthening the forces of the camp of peace and democracy headed by the Soviet Union.

The two States settled in the course of the negotiations the question of the construction of 91 enterprises and the question of long-term aid. This is unprecedented in history. It fully materialises the truth as stated by the great Stalin: "The experience of this co-operation shows that not a single capitalist country could have rendered such effective and technically competent assistance to the People's Democracies as the Soviet Union is rendering them. The point is not only

that this assistance is the cheapest possible and technically superb. The chief point is that at the bottom of this co-operation lies a sincere desire to help one another and to promote the economic progress of all.”

In the course of the negotiations, the Soviet Government, on the basis of its rich experience or more than 30 years of great socialist construction, has made a number of suggestions in relation to the principle and to the concrete tasks of China's Five-Year Plan. These suggestions will enable us to avoid many errors and many readjustments in the course of China's economic construction.

On behalf of the Chinese Government and the Chinese people wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Soviet Government and the Soviet people for this great, all-round, long-term and selfless aid. The Chinese Government and people will strive untiringly to strengthen the economic co-operation and friendly alliance between the Soviet Union and China, in the interests of the joint struggle for the cause of world peace.

MAO TSE TUNG
Chairman, Central People's
Government, People's Republic of
China

Peking, September 15, 1953.

DEVELOPING INDUSTRY IN CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. Li Fu-chun, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of China

On October 1 the great Chinese people, and together with them all progressive mankind will mark the fourth anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic of China. During this historically brief space of time the people of China, under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Central People's Government headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, relying on the friendly and selfless aid of the U.S.S.R., have achieved big success in developing the economy and culture of the country and in building the independent, democratic Chinese state.

This year, having completed the postwar rehabilitation of the national economy, the Chinese people have launched wide-scale, planned economic construction. The article by Comrade Li Fu-chun, published below, gives an outline of the industrial development in the People's Republic of China during the first Five-Year Plan period.

I.

The victory of the revolution ushered in a new era for the Chinese people—the era of gradual transition to Socialism.

Marching steadily ahead towards the great goal of Socialism, the Chinese people have now embarked on planned development of the national economy. It will

be the main task of the Chinese Communists and the Chinese people to carry out the planned development of their Socialist industries, to promote agriculture and handicraft industry on co-operative lines, thereby transforming China from a backward agricultural into a Socialist industrial-agrarian country. These tremendous, complex tasks can be carried out given planned development of the national economy and correct leadership of the economic development.

During the short period since the founding of the Chinese People's Republic great victories have been won on all fronts and the necessary conditions created for planning the national economy. As the result of the nation-wide completion of various kinds of democratic, social reforms, the wiping out of the remnants of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism in the country, and the deepening of the political consciousness of the masses of workers and other labouring people and the strengthening of their organisations, the people's democratic dictatorship, led by the working class, has been immeasurably consolidated.

The success of economic rehabilitation has raised sharply the productive power of our industry and agriculture, especially of modern industry. The output of the basic Industrial and agricultural products has surpassed the peak level in Chinese history. In the course of economic rehabilitation the state economy of a Socialist nature gained considerable weight, thus firmly establishing the leading position of the state economy in the national economy. Thanks to economic rehabilitation and development, the state budget has been balanced, prices have become stable and the life of the people has begun to improve.

This momentous victory of the Chinese people is inseparable from the selfless help of our great ally, the Soviet Union.

During this period the American imperialists invaded and occupied our Taiwan and embarked on all-out aggression against our neighbour, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea. To ensure the security of their country and to defend justice and peace, the Chinese people, in response to the call of Comrade Mao Tse-tung, heroically carried out the gigantic struggle of resisting American aggression and aiding Korea, and have won a decisive victory.

II.

The basic task of the First Five-Year Plan starting from 1953, as defined by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China is to concentrate on the building of heavy industry so as to lay the foundations for the industrialisation of the country and ensure the steady growth of the socialist sector in the national economy. With this general goal before us, we shall carry out a corresponding development of agriculture and light industry, actively and gradually promote agriculture and handicraft industry on co-operative lines and raise the level of the people's material and cultural life on the basis of increased production.

In accordance with this directive of the Party, the State Planning Committee is now working on a programme for the First Five-Year Plan. The concrete policy of the industrial construction in our country in the First Five-Year Plan is:

First, in the Five-Year Plan of National Construction the development of heavy industry will be the vital link.

This will require huge funds, a comparatively long time and complicated technique; but it is the proper policy to follow and there is no other choice. For only through the building-up of heavy industry, viz., the metallurgical industry, the fuel industry, the electric power industry, the machine-building industry and the basic chemical industry, can we lay the firm foundations for our industries; can we consolidate our national defence and ensure the safety of our country; only in this way can we set up a powerful economic force capable of safeguarding the complete economic independence of our country and of guaranteeing the rapid growth of the socialist economy; only in this way can we pave the way for the full development of light industry and create material and technical conditions for the transformation of our agriculture so as to steadily raise our economy and the standard of living.

In capital construction and in the general development of the national economy the proportion between the means of production and consumer goods will be carefully arranged by making sure that the rate of growth of the former exceeds that of the latter and that the former develops in step with the speed of reproduction on an extended scale and the latter with the speed of the rising of the people's purchasing power.

Secondly, in the development of our economy we shall see to it that socialist economy grows continually. That is the fundamental principle we shall follow in the development of our economy, for only this principle can ensure the consolidation and further development of our people's democracy, create the material basis for the transition to socialist society and finally realise the triumph of Socialism in our country. So we shall exert

our utmost effort to develop further our state-owned industry, state and co-operative trade at a rapid rate and strengthen continuously the leadership of the socialist sector of the national economy. Our general policy in relation to the capitalist economy is one of restriction. But because of the historical conditions of Chinese society and the present stage of economic development, the section of capitalist economy which is beneficial to the national welfare and to the people's livelihood will continue to be encouraged and drawn to state planning by such methods as placing orders with the private enterprises, entrusting them with the work of processing, reorganising them to be jointly operated by state and private capital, etc., while the remaining section that is harmful to the national welfare and to the people's livelihood will be weakened and gradually abolished.

Thirdly, the alliance of the workers and peasants will be further consolidated. In this connection, the foremost problem is to develop further industrial and agricultural production and on the basis of this development to increase the circulation of goods and strengthen the economic ties between city and countryside. Therefore, great attention is to be given to the development of agriculture, especially grain production.

In this way the peasants' standard of living can gradually be raised, the funds required for industrial construction accumulated, adequate supplies of industrial raw materials ensured, the market for industrial products broadened so as to further stimulate industrial development, and the source of grain for the market be broadened so as to meet urban demands and demands arising from foreign trade. In order to develop

agriculture, emphasis should be placed, under the present conditions, on the development of the peasants' mutual-aid and co-operation movement. But consideration should be given at the same time to protecting the interests of the peasants who have not yet joined mutual-aid teams or co-operative societies.

In order to further consolidate the alliance of the workers and peasants, our industry must supply the peasants with the necessary means of production and consumer goods. In addition, our state trading companies, marketing and supply co-operatives, financial organs and credit agencies must correctly implement the price, tax or credit policy so that peasants can increase their income on the basis of increased production and that conditions for constant reproduction on an extended scale are created for agriculture.

Fourthly, the level of the material and cultural life of the labouring people will be raised on the basis of increased production.

J. V. Stalin taught us: "Maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole of society is the aim of socialist production; continuous expansion and perfection of socialist production on the basis of higher techniques is the means for the achievement of the aim."

In China's Five-Year Plan provisions will be made not only for the development of production, but also for a corresponding rise in the standard of life. As a result of this rise the popular masses will more extensively take part in the construction, and will demonstrate to a higher degree their activity and creativeness in the struggle for a still better future.

With a view to raising living standards for the

working people the Five-Year Plan also envisages a rate of growth of labour productivity greater than the rise in wages so as to ensure the accumulation of state funds for the further development of industry and creation of state stocks. Obviously, this will be in full conformity with the long-range interests of the working people.

III.

In order to implement the Five-Year Plan our country is taking the following series of measures, with the help of the Soviet Union and other fraternal nations who selflessly and actively render us economic and technical assistance:

First, to make big efforts in building new industrial enterprises. Within five years new enterprises in our country will include a ferrous metallurgical combinat, non-ferrous metallurgical enterprises, coal pits, coal-dressing plants, oil refineries, machine-building factories, automobile plants, factories making equipment for the power industry, chemical works, thermo and hydroelectric stations, and a number of light industry plants. All these factories and mines will be provided with up-to-date equipment. In addition to the above-mentioned large-scale enterprises, our country will, under possible conditions, reconstruct and expand some of the existing enterprises, and will also build a certain number at medium and small enterprises. In order to meet the requirements of industrial construction and economic development, our country will build several thousand kilometres of railways and will pay adequate attention to highway construction and inland navigation.

When our country began to carry out construction.

there were certain comrades, who because of their lack of experience and their lack of concrete understanding of the difficulties involved in rehabilitating and developing the national economy, mapped out a far too grandiose programme for new enterprises and were too impatient in their demands. The Central Committee of the Party has carried out the necessary criticisms against this way of thinking and of doing things which does not conform to the requirements of the objective laws of economic development or to the actual situation of China.

Secondly, to exploit to the utmost the potential capacity of the existing enterprises, for the existing enterprises in our country will undertake the great and arduous tasks of supplying the new enterprises with equipment and will train personnel for them. The existing enterprises are the foundation on which our industry will grow. Therefore, the Party and the Government attach great importance to the full utilization of the equipment of the existing enterprises, and have adopted concrete measure and methods to readjust the equipment and organize the production of various enterprises on a rational basis.

At the same time, the Party and the Government have gradually introduced a scientific system of administration in the enterprises, strengthened the planning and technical management, intensified ideological and political work, raised the efficiency of the management and eliminated shortcomings and defects so as to enable the existing enterprises to fully disclose their untapped capacity for fulfilment and overfulfilment of the state production plan.

When our country first embarked on construction, some comrades, failing to realise the importance of the

existing enterprises in our national construction, thought lightly of them and paid little attention to their exploitation. The Central Committee made the necessary criticisms of these ideas and acts that are not in keeping with the Party's policy.

Thirdly, to practise strict economy in order to accumulate funds. The large-scale construction requires huge funds which must be accumulated by various means.

Lenin and Stalin taught us that the practice of economy and socialist accumulation constitute the sole path leading to industrialisation. In accordance with the teaching of Lenin and Stalin, Comrade Mao Tse-tung also pointed out that increased production, reduced costs, elimination of waste, and economy are the principal means of accumulating funds. Following these directives, the Chinese Communist Party launched a widespread movement for increasing production and for economy in the industrial, commercial, communication and transport enterprises. Meanwhile, we are taking appropriate measures to apply business accounting in all the state-owned enterprises, in enterprises jointly operated by state and private capital and in the co-operative enterprises. On new industrial and mining enterprises much research is being carried out.

Fourthly, to do everything to train construction personnel. One of the colossal difficulties the old China left us is the shortage of industrial and technical personnel. This prevents the economic construction from developing on a wide scale. The experience of the past few years of economic rehabilitation has enabled us to realise the seriousness of this problem.

In order to train personnel for industrial construction the state has exerted strenuous efforts to

establish, in accordance with the need of the construction plan, a number of new institutions of higher education, to enlarge the existing universities and colleges, adjust certain departments of the higher educational establishments, build a certain number of middle technical schools; improve curriculums and strengthen the leadership of public education. In all major enterprises, primary technical schools, apprentices' schools, spare-time schools or short-term training classes have been set up, and master-apprentice contracts and other effective training methods have been introduced.

In training personnel for industry Party and the Government will pay particular attention to promoting and fostering the most outstanding workers and will gradually turn them into specialists and make them the backbone of the new industrial intelligentsia.

Finally, in order to strengthen the Party's leadership in the economic work and to ensure the fulfilment of our First Five-Year Plan the Chinese Communists are studying Lenin and Stalin's teaching on socialist construction, learning from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, using the Soviet methods of economic leadership and advanced methods of labour based scientific achievements. Conscientiously learn from the Soviet Union—this, undoubtedly, is one of the cardinal conditions for putting our great Motherland on the right road to the building of the new life.

MEASURES FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN U.S.S.R.

**Report Delivered by N. S. KHRUSHCHEV,
Secretary of Central Committee of Communist
Party of Soviet Union at Plenum of C.C.
C.P.S.U.B. on September 3, 1953**

Comrades! The great successes achieved by the Soviet people in developing socialist industry enable the Communist Party and the Government to get down directly to solving the problem of creating an abundance of articles of popular consumption in our country.

The great Lenin taught us that “a large-scale machine industry capable of reorganising agriculture, too, is the only material basis possible for Socialism”*. Under the leadership of the Communist Party the Soviet people have built a fully developed heavy industry, which constitutes the powerful foundation of the Socialist economy. With this foundation there is the practical possibility of organising a sharp advance by all branches of the light and food industries, of considerably expanding the production of consumer goods, because the main aim and the chief task of socialist production is the maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole of society.

* V. I. Lenin, Collected Works, vol. 32, p. 434— Russian Edition.

But in order to organise this sharp advance in the output of articles of popular consumption it is necessary to develop our agriculture at an accelerated pace.

At the present stage the most urgent and paramount national economic task is, while continuing to develop heavy industry in every way, to achieve a sharp upsurge by all branches of agriculture and greatly to increase in the next two-three years the supply of foodstuffs to the entire population and ensure at the same time a higher level of material well-being for the entire mass of the collective farm peasantry.

In this connection the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Party deemed it necessary to submit for the consideration of the present Plenum proposals for carrying out a number of important and urgent measures which should ensure a rapid advance and diversified development of agriculture.

1. State of Agriculture and the Task of Creating an Abundance of Agricultural Products

The collective-farm system, created under the leadership of the Communist Party, has decisive advantages over any privately-owned agricultural production—both small-scale production for the market and large-scale capitalist production. In place of the old system in the countryside with its 25 million dispersed, dwarf private farms, the system of socialist agriculture—the biggest in the world—has been developed and is now firmly established. The socialist system of agriculture in our country includes now 94 thousand collective farms, 8,950 machine and tractor stations and more than 4,700 state farms.

Agriculture in our country is the most mechanised in the world. It is common knowledge that in capitalist countries modern agricultural equipment is concentrated in the hands of a numerically small group of capitalist farmers, while in the husbandries of the overwhelming majority of the toiling peasants manual labour and primitive implements predominate.

The Soviet state has provided agriculture with the first-class equipment of the machine and tractor stations, which has made it possible to solve the problem of mechanising the most important farming operations. In 1952 operations in the collective farms were mechanised to the extent of 87 per cent for grain sowing, 70 per cent for harvesting grain by combines, 96 per cent for fallow ploughing, 97 per cent for autumn ploughing, 98 per cent for cotton planting and 95 per cent for sugar beet planting. The mechanisation of agricultural production greatly lightens the labour of the collective farm peasantry, it gives our society a colossal saving in labour. It has made it possible to place agriculture in our country on modern scientific-agronomic foundations.

The commonly-owned enterprise of the collective farms, provided with modern agricultural equipment is developing and gaining in strength. With the collective farms and state farms as its basis socialist agriculture is becoming more productive and its output for the market is growing. Thus, from 1926/27 to the year 1952/53 the production of agriculture for the market increased: for grain from 10.3 million to 40.4 million tons, for potatoes from 3 million to 12.5 million tons, for meat (on the hoof) from 2.4 million to 5 million tons, for milk from 4.3 million to 13.2 million tons. Big achievements have been registered in the production of cotton, sugar beet

and some other industrial crops. The growth in the output of agriculture has enabled the socialist state to increase from year to year the quantities of agricultural products for the raw material needs of industry and for satisfying the rising requirements of the population in foodstuffs.

Accordingly as the commonly-owned enterprise of the collective farms is strengthened and further developed, their wealth rises and the incomes of the collective farmers in cash and in kind increase. It suffices to say that the indivisible funds of the collective farms doubled between 1940 and 1952. Today the real incomes of the collective farmers are several times greater than the incomes of the toiling peasantry before the Revolution. A deep-going cultural revolution has taken place in the countryside.

All this shows that the collective-farm system has radically transformed the foundations of production and the mode of life tens of millions of peasants along new socialist lines. The collective farm system has paved the way to a well-to-do and cultured life for all working-people in the Soviet countryside. The alliance of the working class and the collective-farm peasantry has become an invincible force.

We must say, however, with all frankness that we poorly utilise the tremendous reserves inherent in large-scale socialist agriculture. We have not a few collective farms and whole districts that are backward and are even in a state neglect. In many collective farms and districts crop yields have remained low. The productivity of agriculture, especially in animal husbandry, the growing of feed and fodder crops, potatoes and vegetables increases very slowly. A definite disproportion has set in between the rate of

growth of our large-scale socialist industry, the urban population and the material well-being of the working masses, on the one hand, and the present level of agricultural production, on the other.

Several facts can be cited by way of illustration. From 1913 to 1952 total output of large-scale industry in the U.S.S.R. increased (in comparable prices) 27-fold, with the production of the means of production increasing 47-fold. The development of socialist industry has brought about greater increase of the urban population: between 1926 and 1952 it grew more than three-fold. The material well-being of the working people rises in accordance with the steady growth in the wealth of socialist society. Today real wages of factory and office workers in the U.S.S.R. are several times higher than the pre-revolutionary level. This means that our country is becoming more prosperous with every passing year, that the material well-being of the working people is rising and together with this, naturally, ever greater demands are made on agriculture.

Yet, the rate of development of socialist agriculture obviously lags behind the rate of development of industry and the growth in the requirements of the population for consumer goods. It suffices to say that from 1940 to 1952, while industrial output increased 2.3 times, total production of agriculture (in comparable prices) rose only 10 per cent.

Generally speaking we meet the country's grain requirements in the sense that our country is provided with grain, that we have the necessary state reserves and export definite quantities of grain. With the rise in material well-being of the working people the demand of the population shifts more and more from bread to

meat and milk products, vegetables, fruit etc. But it is precisely in these branches of agriculture that an obvious disproportion between the rapidly rising requirements of the population and the level of production has set in in recent years. The lag in a number of important branches in agriculture retards the further development of -the light and food industries and prevents the incomes of the collective farms and the collective farmers from rising.

What are the reasons for the inadequate level of agricultural production as a whole and the lag in a number of important branches of agriculture?

The Communist Party has persistently pursued a course of developing heavy industry to the utmost, as an essential condition for the successful advance of all branches of the national economy, and has achieved major successes in this respect. Attention was concentrated on fulfilling this paramount national economic task and the main resources and funds were assigned for it. Our best cadres were engaged in industrialising the country. We did not have the possibility of ensuring simultaneously the same high tempo of development for heavy industry, agriculture and light industry. The necessary conditions had to be created for this purpose. Today we have these conditions. We have a powerful industrial base, collective farms which have gained in strength and trained personnel in all spheres of economic development.

But there are also other reasons for the lag in a number of important branches of agriculture, reasons rooted in the shortcomings in our work, in the shortcomings in the guidance of agriculture, that is, reasons that depend upon ourselves.

Among such reasons is first and foremost the violation in a number of branches of agriculture of the principle of material interestedness. The principle of material interestedness of an enterprise and of each worker individually in the results of his labour is one of the fundamental principles of socialist management. V. I. Lenin pointed out that many long years are required for the transition to Communism and that during this transitional period it is necessary to build “not on enthusiasm directly but with the help of the enthusiasm engendered by the great revolution, on personal interest, on personal incentive and on the economic factor...”. Otherwise, V. I. Lenin further pointed out, “we shall not get to Communism; we shall never bring these tens and tens of millions of people to Communism”.*

Yet, the facts show that this principle of material interestedness, of material encouragement of the working people is not applied in the case of a number of important branches of agriculture.

This is true of animal husbandry in the first place. We have figures showing that receipts from the delivery and sale of cotton to the state by collective farms amounted in the Central Asian Republics from 17 to 36 roubles per work-day unit expended on that crop, for sugar beet in the Ukrainian Soviet Republic 12 roubles and from the sale of industrial crops for the U.S.S.R. as a whole approximately 18 roubles. In districts with a high level of mechanisation, in the North Caucasus, for example, collective farms receive for grain, from 8 to 14 roubles for each work-day unit. At the same time, for one work-day unit in animal husbandry, the receipts

* V. I. Lenin. Collected Works, vol. 33, p. 36—Russian Edition.

from delivery-sale of products averaged, for the U.S.S.R. as a whole only roubles and slightly more than 4 roubles in the Ukrainian Soviet Republic. Thus, compared with other branches of agriculture animal husbandry is in an economically disadvantageous position:

In animal husbandry, owing to the obvious predominance of manual labour, there is heavy production expenditure. At the same time facts show that the existing procurement and purchase prices paid for livestock products are an insufficient material incentive to the collective farms and collective farmers to develop animal husbandry and cannot at present ensure the collective farms and collective farmers the due incomes. The same can be said with regard to vegetables and potatoes.

Further, many collective farms violated the most important provisions of the collective farm Rules. Comrade Stalin pointed out that the keystone of the collective-farm type of economy is the principle of properly combining the common and the personal interests of the collective farmers, with the subordination of the personal interests to the common. Proceeding from this guiding principle the collective farm Rules laid down that in the collective farm along with the primary and decisive commonly-owned enterprise each collective farm household has the right to have a small personal husbandry. This subsidiary husbandry is necessary as long as the commonly-owned, enterprise of the collective farm is insufficiently developed and cannot satisfy in full measure both the common needs of the collective farm and the personal requirements of the collective farmers.

This cardinal principle of collective farming has

been violated in many collective farms. This could not but lead and actually did lead, to a reduction in the number of cows, sheep and hogs in the personal husbandry of the collective farmers.

Violation of the principle of material interestedness of the collective farms and collective farmers became especially felt in the present conditions. Our industry is growing at a rapid pace. It is short of labour. We have long forgotten about unemployment. Wages of industrial workers are rising and their life is improving with every passing year. Under such conditions, if work in the commonly-owned enterprise does not give the collective farmer the proper income for the work-day units to his credit, if moreover his personal interests in his subsidiary husbandry also suffer, the collective farmer easily finds other application for his labour—he goes to the town, to work in industry. Herein lie the reasons for the curtailment in the personal husbandry of the collective farmers and the drift of the rural population from the lagging collective farms.

An important reason for the serious lag in certain branches of agriculture is the obviously unsatisfactory use of the powerful equipment which the state has provided and continues to provide the machine and tractor stations. Manual labour still predominates in a number of branches and jobs in agriculture. While the mechanisation of cultivating grain crops, sugar beet and cotton is at a high level, the mechanisation of such important branches as animal husbandry, the growing of potatoes, vegetables, flax and a number of other crops is lagging. Many machine and tractor stations poorly utilise the tractors and other machinery.

A major reason for the serious lag in a number of branches of agriculture is the unsatisfactory guidance of

collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms by Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies, especially in the matter of selecting, allocating and training personnel for agriculture and in carrying out Party-political work in the countryside.

Lastly, it is necessary to speak of the reasons which depend on the collective farms themselves, on the chairmen and boards of the collective farms, on the collective farmers. In many collective farms labour discipline is still at a low level, not all collective farmers are taking part in collective farm production in full measure. Not everywhere is the labour of the collective farmers well organised. There are still not a few instances of an irresponsible, negligent attitude to public property.

The further advance of socialist agriculture has for its aim the raising of the well-being of the people. It is known that with the victory of Socialism popular consumption is growing all the time. Thus, in the past 28 years the production of consumer goods increased approximately 12-fold, with the supply of foodstuffs rising considerably. However, the well-being of the Soviet people, their purchasing power and demands are growing at a still faster pace, while the production of foodstuffs by far does not satisfy their rising requirements. Consequently, the task of improving the diet of the population assumes special significance.

We must set ourselves the task of training a level of food consumption which should proceed from scientifically-based standards of a diet required for the all-round harmonious development of, healthy people. In this connection a vital task is to improve the composition of consumption by increasing chiefly the output of livestock products and vegetables.

In order fully to satisfy the requirements of the population for dairy produce it is necessary to get 26 tons of milk for every 100 hectares of all ploughland, meadow and pasture in our country. And in order to get 26 tons of milk we must have for every 100 hectares of ploughland, meadow and pasture not less than 10 cows will an average annual yield of 2,500-2,600 kilograms:

To satisfy the needs of the population for meat and meat products it is necessary to get 2.7 tons of meat for every 100 hectares of ploughland, meadow and pasture. Hog breeding must be intensively developed and not less than three tons of pork be received per 100 hectares of plough land.

For every 100 hectares of ploughland we must have 340 hens each laying at least 110 eggs a year.

It is necessary to increase substantially the output of sugar, melon crops, fruit, berries and other products.

It is our duty to secure this level of production of foodstuffs as swiftly as possible. The time needed for attaining this level will largely depend on us, on our guidance, on the organisational work of the Party organisations. If we concentrate all our abilities, resources and efforts on solving this problem and do not limit our guidance to general directives but get busy reinforcing each collective farm, each state farm, each machine and tractor station, we will achieve this level of consumption in a brief period, and for a number of products—in 2 or 3 years.

We have no small number of collective farms which are already making their full contribution to creating an abundance of food in our country. Many of them have advanced from among those lagging to the ranks of the foremost in the last 2-3 years. Take, for example the Molotov collective farm in the Ramensky district,

Moscow region. Three years ago a number of smaller collective farms which lagged considerably behind the Molotov collective farm merged with it. Thanks to able management by the collective farm board headed by Comrade Puzanchicov, splendid organiser of collective farm production, during the past 3 years the collective farm as a whole, including the former lagging collective farms that merged with it, has made great progress and has become a highly developed and highly profitable enterprise. The average milk, yield per cow has risen from 2,500 to 4,208 kilograms. The yields of all crops have increased, including potatoes up to 1116,2 tons and vegetables up to 29.4 tons per hectare. The head of livestock has increased and the collective farm is getting considerably more livestock products.

The high productivity of animal husbandry and the big yields of all crops have enabled the Molotov collective farm to raise the money income to 3 million roubles. The collective farm spent 612 thousand roubles last year on livestock buildings alone. The collective farmers received per work-day unit 25 roubles 80 copecks.

If we compare the above-mentioned norms necessary for satisfying the requirements of the population with livestock products with the actual results of the Molotov collective farm we get the following picture:

	To ensure consumption by the population, according to scientifically-based norms we must have	In 1952 the Molotov collective farm had
per 100 hectares of ploughland, meadow and pasture: beef and dairy cattle	20	35
including cows	10	19
meat yield (slaughterhouse weight) in kilograms	2,700	3,100
milk yield in tons	25	71
average yield per cow in kilograms	2,800-2,600	4,208

For all the above-mentioned indices the Molotov collective farm has already exceeded the norms we have to reach for the country as a whole. It should be borne in mind that the figures for the Molotov collective farm include only the commonly-owned cattle, that is, without the livestock personally owned by the collective farmers.

If all collective farms of our country attained the level of the Molotov collective farm—and this task is within the reach of every collective farm—the problem of creating an abundance of agricultural products should be solved.

Socialist agriculture has all the possibilities for solving in the shortest possible time the problem of fully providing the Soviet people with foodstuffs and industry with raw materials. But to translate these possibilities into reality it is necessary to strengthen all the

collective farms organisationally and economically and, first and foremost, to promote to leading posts in each collective farm efficient organisers capable of successfully managing large-scale socialist enterprises.

Of major importance is greater material incentive to the collective farms and collective farmers to increase crop yields and to develop the commonly-owned animal husbandry. For this purpose the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Party have found it necessary to increase the present procurement and purchasing prices of livestock products, potatoes and vegetables. Thus the procurement prices paid for cattle and poultry delivered to the state by way of obligatory deliveries are raised more than 5.5-fold, milk and butter two-fold, potatoes 2.5-fold and vegetables 25-40 per cent on the average.

As for purchasing prices, they are raised for meat 30 per cent on the average and for milk 1.5 times. At the same time it is important to note that retail prices for livestock products, potatoes and vegetables are not increasing but, quite the contrary, are being reduced annually. The policy of reducing retail prices for consumer goods will be undeviatingly continued.

It has also been found expedient in the present conditions to reduce the norms of obligatory deliveries to the state of livestock products by the collective farmers and to reduce the norms of deliveries of potatoes and vegetables by the collective farms. The norm for obligatory deliveries of livestock products by husbandries of industrial and office workers are cut considerably.

With the norms for obligatory deliveries reduced, the collective farms and collective farmers will have bigger surpluses for sale at the increased purchasing

prices as well as at the prices on the collective farm market. In this connection it is necessary to revise the present system of purchases by state and co-operative organisations. It is necessary to go over from the present system of purchases to the system of contracts which will enable the state to plan in advance the quantity of produce received in excess of obligatory deliveries, will give the collective farms and collective farmers a guaranteed sale of their products and enable them to receive money advances and to buy the necessary manufactured goods by way of reciprocal buying.

To carry out urgent measures for the further advance of agriculture the Soviet state will spend an extra 15 odd thousand million roubles this year and over 35 thousand million roubles in 1954. A considerable part of this outlay is envisaged for additional capital investments in agriculture, for providing a greater material incentive to the collective farms and collective farmers to develop animal husbandry and the production of potatoes and vegetables so as to attain substantial progress in these branches of agriculture in the next few years. As a result of carrying out the abovementioned measures the collective farms and collective farmers will receive over 13 thousand million roubles in supplementary income in 1953 and over 20 thousand million roubles in 1954.

The higher procurement and purchasing prices and the lower norms for obligatory deliveries are of great importance for enhancing the material interestedness of the collective farms and collective farmers in further advancing agriculture. It is essential, however, correctly to appraise the economic side of these measures. Their importance and necessity at the present time are

evident. But it is not they that determine the main path of the development of collective-farm production.

A distinguishing feature of the economy of socialist society is the systematic lowering of prices which takes place on the basis of the improved production, the rise in labour productivity and increased output. The main way to overcome the lag in animal husbandry and in growing potatoes and vegetables and achieving a steady powerful upsurge of all branches of agriculture is to raise the level, of collective-farm production, to increase total output and output for the market and to reduce expenditure per unit of the items produced. Then, with the present level of procurement and purchasing prices, all branches of collective-farm production will yield big incomes.

Already now hundreds and thousands of the leading collective farms which supply the state, with meat, milk, wool, potatoes and vegetables by way of obligatory deliveries and sales at the procurement and purchasing prices in force up to now, receive big incomes. Such collective farms not only successfully fulfil their obligations to the state but also assure annually a growth in the established common funds and also big remuneration for work-day units. Consequently, it is not only a matter of higher procurement and purchasing prices but chiefly of the level of development of the economy.

This is best illustrated by the example of definite collective farms. The “October 12th” collective farm and the “May First” collective farm in the Kostroma district, Kostroma region, have approximately the same soil and climatic conditions but the results of their work differ sharply. This is borne out by the following figures:

Comparative economic indices of the “October

12th” collective farm and the “May First” collective farm for 1952:

	“October 12th” collective farm	“May First” collective farm
Area of ploughland, meadow and pasture in hectares	998	904
Crop yields in tons per hectare: all grains	1.85	0.71
potatoes	19.5	7
vegetables	16.4	8.6
Milk yield per cow in kilogram	6,203	1,272
Head of commonly- owned livestock (per 100 hectares of ploughland, meadow and pasture): beef and dairy cattle	26	13
including cows	10	6
hogs (per 100 hectares of ploughland)	142	8
poultry (per 100 hectares of ploughland)	240	15
Livestock products received (per 100 hectares of ploughland, meadow and pasture: meat (slaughter-house weight) in kilograms	1,300	500
milk in tons	50.9	8.5
Money incomes of the collective farms	2,109,000 roubles	151,000 roubles
per hectare of ploughland, meadow and pasture	2,113 roubles	167 roubles

The secret of the success of the “October 12th” collective farm is that the personnel has been properly selected and allocated. This collective farm is headed by Praskovya Andreyevna Malinina who knows the job thoroughly and manages the farm ably. The main thing in Comrade Malinina’s management is that she and the collective farm board headed by her rely on the collective farmers, on the collective farm activists. Here the role of the collective-farm Party organisation in guiding the enterprise and educating the collective farmers is really obvious.

Many such examples could be cited. All this shows the tremendous reserves the collective farms possess for the further advance of agriculture.

Allow me to go over to a more detailed analysis of the state of the different branches of agriculture.

2. The State of Animal Husbandry and Measures for its Further Development

Most urgent tasks confront us in animal husbandry as its lag has assumed a protracted nature, and without decisive measures we shall not be able rapidly to improve the situation.

Even in prewar days our animal husbandry lagged behind. In the years since the war extensive work has been carried out in rehabilitating and further advancing animal husbandry. During the period from July 1945 to July 1953 the cattle herd of the U.S.S.R. increased by 11.3 million head, sheep and goats by 53.9 million, hogs—25.1 million.

At first glance it would seem that with such figures of growth, and they are indeed impressive, there are no

grounds for alarm. In reality, however, this is not so.

Let me cite figures on the size of the livestock herd in the U.S.S.R.: (in million head as of the beginning of the year, on comparable territory)

	Beef and dairy cattle	Including cows	Hogs	Sheep and goats	Horses
1915	53.4	28.8	23.0	96.3	38.2
1928	66.8	33.2	27.7	114.6	36.1
1941	54.5	27.8	27.5	91.6	21.0
1953	56.6	24.3	28.5	109.9	15.3

These figures show that we had 3.5 million fewer cows at the beginning of 1953 than at the beginning of 1941 and 8.9 million fewer than at the beginning of 1928.

While agriculture as a whole, developing along the lines of extended reproduction, advanced far ahead, animal husbandry developed extremely slowly. The productivity of collective farm and state farm livestock is still low. Especially intolerable is the situation with regard to the productivity of dairy cattle in some regions and Republics. In 1952 the collective farms in the Kirov region registered 727 kilograms of milk per cow; in the Novgorod region 777 Vologda 819; Kostroma 905; Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic 373; the Georgian S.S.R. 457; the Kirghiz S.S.R. 537; the Armenian S.S.R. 814; the Byelorussian S.S.R., 829 kilograms of milk per cow.

It is necessary in the shortest possible time to overcome the lag in animal husbandry and first and foremost to advance the commonly-owned animal husbandry and take decisive measures to increase the cattle herd and raise its productivity in the collective

and state farms.

The commonly-owned collective farm animal husbandry has grown rapidly in the post war years. At the beginning of 1953 the beef and dairy cattle in the collective farms increased by 10.2 million head as compared with 1940, including cows by 2.8 million head; the number of sheep and goats increased by 35.3 million; hogs by 7.9 million grown poultry by 58 million

The livestock herd in the collective farms can increase still faster provided we overcome the serious difficulties that have arisen in developing commonly-owned livestock and which have already resulted in slowing down the process of herd production. The point is that the growing of fodder, the building of premises and the mechanisation of labour-consuming work in animal husbandry sharply lag behind the rate of increase of the collective farm herd.

Can we quickly surmount these difficulties? Yes, we undoubtedly can and shall surmount them provided we give better guidance to the development of animal husbandry, if we select good workers for the livestock farms, properly train these workers and give an added economic incentive to the collective farms and collective farmers for developing the commonly-owned animal husbandry.

In this connection I should like first of all to dwell on the practice of the procurement of animal husbandry products. At the present time procurement is frequently reduced to the mechanical distribution of assignments among the collective farms in accordance with the number of livestock they have, and the per hectare principle of deliveries is grossly violated. The leading collective farms, districts and regions which have a developed animal husbandry each year receive ever

greater assignments for the delivery of animal products, while collective farms which show little concern for the development of the commonly-owned animal husbandry receive smaller and in effect privileged norms. This practice undermines the economic interestedness of the collective farms and the collective farmers in developing the commonly-owned livestock herd and in stepping up its productivity.

Here is a characteristic example. The collective farms of the Moscow region deliver to the state 39.5 litres of milk per hectare of ploughland, meadow and pasture while those of Ryazan region deliver only 14.8 litres. Lukhovitsi district in the Moscow region and Rybnovsk district in the Ryazan region have about the same conditions for the development of animal husbandry. And yet the collective farms of Lukhovitsi district deliver to the state 57 litres of milk and 5.5 kilograms of meat per hectare while the collective farms of Rybnovsk district deliver 31 litres of milk and 4.7 kilograms of meat.

There is no reason why the collective farms of the Ukraine should deliver to the state on the average considerably more animal products per hectare than the collective farms, say, of Byelorussia. Thus, for the collective farms of the Ukraine the per hectare norm of meat deliveries is fixed at 6.3 kilograms and milk at 25 litres while for the collective farms of Byelorussia it is respectively 3.9 kilograms and 12.8 litres. Yet Byelorussia has favourable conditions for the development of animal husbandry and for hog raising in particular. The Party and Soviet bodies in Byelorussia are not waging a real struggle for increasing the herd and raising its productivity. It is not accidental that in 1952 the collective farms of this Republic fattened less

than one hog per 100 hectares of ploughland, and the proportion of pork in the total meat deliveries comprised but 13 per cent.

Is there any justification for this divergence in fixing delivery norms for collective farms which have about the same conditions for the development of animal husbandry? The procurement workers try to justify this by the difference in the level of economic development of collective farms, districts and regions. In their opinion the more developed farms should deliver more products: you have preserved this year more young animals, and have obtained more milk so you get a bigger assignment. As soon as a collective farm rises above the level of its neighbour the procurement workers bring it just as gardeners prune shrubbery in the parks.

It is necessary to put an end to this impermissible practice. The per hectare principle established by the Party and the Government for the delivery of animal products must be strictly observed so that in one administrative district there should be, as a rule, hut one per hectare norm. Only when there is a difference in the quality of the soil can certain departures from the average district norm be allowed, as an exception.

The interest of the collective farms and the collective farmers in developing the commonly-owned animal husbandry, as I have already said, depends to a large extent on the procurement prices paid for animal husbandry products. Thanks to the increased procurement and purchasing prices the collective farms already this year will get an additional income of about 3,800 million roubles from meat and milk. Receipts from the delivery and sale of animal husbandry products to the state will become a major source of collective farm

income from animal husbandry.

Owing to the insufficient development of animal husbandry some collective farms are in arrears as regards obligatory deliveries of livestock products. The respective decisions of the Party and the Government envisage the cancelling of collective farm arrears for deliveries of livestock products that have accumulated for past years in order to provide additional possibilities for the swiftest advance in this branch of agriculture. It is proposed to take a similar step as regards the husbandries of collective farmers, industrial and office workers which are in arrears with delivery of livestock products for the past years so as to enable them to acquire cows as quickly as possible.

Serious mistakes have been made not only in the procurement of livestock products but also in other matters of animal husbandry. Over a number of years executives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. and the Ministry of State Farms of the U.S.S.R. and many executives of local bodies did not show real concern for the state of animal husbandry, tolerated an unsatisfactory situation, did not raise and did not solve long overdue problems of advancing animal husbandry.

Allow me to illustrate this by a few examples. The situation as regards the herd of cows is unsatisfactory in tile collective farms and state farms. The Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R., the Ministry of State Farms of the U.S.S.R. and many local Soviet bodies seeking to achieve a general increase in the herds paid less attention to increasing to the utmost the number of cows.

In 1952 the collective farms could have increased the herd of cows by 15 million but did so only by 500

thousand. What was the reason for this? It turned out that this took place because about one million cows were delivered to the state instead of hogs and fattened oxen and simultaneously 500 thousand cows were sold and utilised for needs in the collective farms. The expenditure of 1.5 million cows in one year comprised 18 per cent of the total herd in the collective farms. In the collective farm livestock sections in the Vologda region the number of cows used for these purposes amounted last year to 23 per cent, in the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic 24 per cent, in the Kirov, Molotov and Vladimir regions 26 per cent of the total herd.

By 1953 cows constituted 43 per cent of the total herd of beef and dairy cattle in the country as against 51 per cent in 1941. In the collective farms cows account for 28 per cent of the total beef and dairy herd and in the state farms for 31 per cent.

To get sufficient milk it is necessary to have no less than 50 per cent of cows in the herd, no less than 60 per cent in the vicinity of cities and not less than 40 per cent in the collective farms of the steppe, semi-steppe and alpine districts of Kazakhstan, Central Asia, Transcaucasia, North Caucasus, Astrakhan, Chkalov and Chita regions, the Buryat-Mongolian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic and in the Tuva Autonomous Region. How can we speak of an abundance of milk if the collective farms of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic have only 26 per cent of cows in the herd, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Kursk and Voronezh regions, 24 per cent, Rostov, region, 21 per cent and the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic, 19 per cent.

A considerable reduction in the herd of cows has occurred in such major dairy-farming areas as Vologda,

Archangel, Yaroslavl, Tambov, Molotov, Sverdlovsk, Kurgan, Omsk and Novosibirsk regions. The insufficient increase in the herd of cows explains also why regions which have long since developed as big suppliers of butter are now producing less butter than before. In Siberia, for example, 75 thousand tons of butter were produced in 1913 and 65 thousand tons in 1952.

The state farms too are lagging behind as regards the increase in the cow herds. At the present time they have 1,300 thousand cows that is 500 thousand less than in 1935. Due to a strange "theory" held by officials of the Ministry of State Farms of the U.S.S.R. 200 thousand cows in the state farms are not milked but are used for feeding calves as a result of which the state loses no less than 200 thousand tons of milk annually. Comrade Soroka, Secretary of the Gorno-Altai Regional Committee of the Party, has reported that the milking of 2,000 Simmental cows was stopped four years ago in the Abai and Koxsin state farms of the Altai Territory. Some of these cows yielded up to 3,000 kilograms of milk. These state farms delivered to the state 3,500 tons of milk whereas now it is being fed to calves and large quantities are squandered and pilfered.

The draft decision provides for increasing the number of cows to 29.2 million in 1954, an increase of 4.9 million compared with the beginning or 1963, including up to 11.5 million, in the collective farms—an increase of three million for the same period. It is proposed that the plan for cattle herds be considered fulfilled if the plan for the herds of cows is carried out as well.

It is known that planning and plan fulfilment computation for all types of cattle have been conducted for many years as of January 1st each year. Life has

shown that this procedure brings nothing but harm. Seeking to fulfil the plan for the increase in herds the collective farms are forced to maintain until January 1st a large number of unproductive and sorted out cattle earmarked for delivery to the state, for sale and use as meat; to buy calves from the collective farmers, to resort to autumn farrowing of sows, and to maintain "cockerel" sections.

After the January 1st registration the collective farms at once get rid of a considerable number of livestock. This, in December 1951 the collective farms throughout the country delivered to the state 232 thousand head of cattle and in January 1952, 889 thousand. In December 1951 the collective farms of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic delivered 16.7 thousand head of cattle and in January 1952, 219 thousand, that is 13 times more.

According to the estimates of the Central Statistical Board of the U.S.S.R. in order to fulfil the plan for meat deliveries in the first quarter of 1952 the collective farms delivered an extra 200 thousand head of cattle simply because the cattle was emaciated due to a shortage of fodder and poor feeding during the winter months. This caused big losses both to the collective farms and the state.

The economic year in animal husbandry actually ends on October 1st. By that time the stocking of fodder and the preparation of buildings for the winter is completed, while the animals are well fattened, which enables the collective farms to make meat deliveries after summer pasturing with well fattened cattle heavier in weight and fewer in number. By the beginning of October the allocation of cattle for different purposes (for breeding, sorting out for meat,

etc.) is completed in the collective farms. Therefore it is necessary to establish that the economic year in animal husbandry should begin on October 1st.

One of the most serious shortcomings in the development of animal husbandry is the excessively high barrenness of the female stock and the high death rate in the herd, especially of younger animals. Last year the collective farms received 11 calves fewer per 100 cows, 27 lambs fewer per 100 ewes and 163 suckling pigs fewer per 100 sows than in 1940. In the last two years the collective farms of the Novgorod, Kostroma and Kurgan regions and of the Altai Territory lost every third calf, the collective farms of the Vologda and Ivanovo regions in 1952 lost every second lamb, the collective farms in the Voronezh, Tambov and Rostov regions every fifth suckling pig, and the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic every fourth suckling pig.

One can cite many other examples testifying to the extremely unsatisfactory guidance of animal husbandry. But the point is not in the number of examples. One thing is clear: to take animal husbandry out of its present state of neglect it is necessary, along with other measures, decisively to raise the level of the leadership in animal husbandry.

The draft decision outlines measures for achieving in 1954 a substantial rise in the number of all types of productive stock as well as an increase in milk yields, wool yields and in the fattening of cattle.

In view of the envisaged growth in herds and the increase in livestock productivity it is planned to increase next year the total procurements of meat to 4.1 million tons (against 3 million tons in 1952), milk to 14.3 million tons (against 10 million tons in 1952), eggs to 4,300 million (against 2,600 million in 1952) and wool

to 230 thousand tons (against 182 thousand tons in 1952). I have already said that the procurement of livestock products will be made at new, higher prices.

It is necessary resolutely to improve the fodder situation in the collective and state forms. The neglected state of the fodder resources in many districts and in many collective farms has become absolutely intolerable.

Extended growing of different fodders must be decided in accordance with the soil and climatic conditions of the given zone. But it must become a rule for all zones to extend in every way the production of succulent fodder, without which a sharp increase in milk yields is impossible. For the central districts, for example, this will be potatoes, fodder beet and sugar beet, carrots, squash, pumpkins and turnips, for the southern districts fodder water-melons, pumpkins, squash and beet.

More attention should be given to growing maize, sunflower, fodder cabbage and certain other crops for silo.

A special point should be made of such a valuable fodder crop as maize. It is not accidental that maize is extensively grown in a number of countries with a developed animal husbandry. In the U.S.S.R., however, maize, even in the districts where it grows best, is planted on exceedingly small areas.

Many regions in the U.S.S.R. have favourable conditions for growing maize. One can cite many instances of the high yields of maize obtained by the collective farms and state farms in the Ukraine. In the "Comintern" state farm, Poltava region, the agronomist Comrade Taran, using the square-cluster method of planting, raised 7 tons of maize per hectare on a large

area, as early as 1948. In the Chkalov collective farm, Dniepropetrovsk region (Comrade Shcherbina is the chairman), the average maize yield for 5 years has been 5 tons per hectare. I say nothing of the remarkable successes achieved in maize cultivation by the renowned master in this field, Mark Evstafyevich Ozerny, of the Red Partisan collective farm in the Likhov district of the Dniepropetrovsk region, who year by year gets high yields and in 1949 raised a record yield of 22.4 tons of maize to the hectare.

The experience of Moscow region shows that cultivation of maize assures a big yield of silage vegetation in the central areas. The square-cluster method of planting guarantees a yield of 50 and more tons of silage vegetation per hectare. For example, "The Road to the New Life" collective farm and the Gorki No. 11 state farm, in the Moscow region, have raised no less than 70-80 tons of maize for silage per hectare. If most of the collective farms were to raise not 70-80 tons but just 25-30 tons of green vegetation per hectare of planted maize this would be sufficient to obtain 225-260 kilograms of butter per heel arc of crop.

Some of the local executives complain about the shortage of fodder and at the same time raise the question of reducing the area under maize. Our Ukrainian comrades, for instance, are guilty in this respect. It may be asked: what feed crop with a higher yield can they name?

It is necessary to take vigorous measures to extend the planting of maize for grain and to extend considerably the planting of maize for silage. The planting of maize for silage should be extended to most regions of the central black earth zone and the non-black earth area as well as to districts of Byelorussia

and the Baltic Republics. It is also very important to extend the cultivation of maize for silage in collective farms and state farms of the southern districts of the Urals, Siberia, the Far East and the northern areas of Kazakhstan. While extending the planting of maize, sunflower and other silage crops we must see to it that each collective farm and state farm builds silos large enough to stock from five to six tons of high-quality silage per cow.

Party bodies, especially in the central black earth and non-black earth regions must resolutely overcome the underestimation of growing potatoes for fodder.

The utilisation and improvement of natural meadows and pastures are unsatisfactory. In 1952 the collective farms stocked 960 kilograms of hay per head of cattle instead of 1,100 kilograms in 1940. It is necessary sharply to increase the yield of natural and sown grasses, to develop in every way the sowing of alfalfa, clover, timothy and esparcette. Sudan grass merits special attention in the southern, districts where it yields good crops of excellent hay. Vetch-oats mixtures do well in the northern and central districts.

It is necessary widely to introduce in the collective farms and state farms summer open-corrals maintenance of live-stock with the use of the green conveyor* system as an effective measure for raising milk yields.

Animal husbandry cannot be advanced if the Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies, all agriculturists do not tackle in earnest the development of firm fodder resources. Yet, many Party and Soviet workers regard the growing and stocking of fodder as a secondary

* A succession of crops ripening at different times providing green fodder—Ed.

matter. Some comrades replace concrete and day-today guidance of this work in each collective farm and state farm by sporadic drives and loud-sounding declarations.

Here for example is how Comrade Syomin, Secretary of the Vologda Regional Committee of the Party, understands fulfilment of tasks relating to the stocking of fodder. In his report to the Plenum of the Party Regional Committee (subsequently published in the regional newspaper), he said: "We must convince ourselves that in animal husbandry starting point, the fundamental cause is not the fodder base. First comes leadership and only afterwards the fodder base". He then proposed to carry through the mowing by methods of a drive in 10-15 days. Only by an all-out drive", he said, "can this battle be won". Comrade Syomin demands "the establishment of inter-collective farm or district headquarters which would organize and guide this work".

It is permissible to ask: where then are the district committees of the Party, the district executive committees and what part do they play if some kind of chimerical inter-collective farm headquarters are to direct the mowing? The Vologda Regional Committee of the Party and the Regional Executive Committee have withdrawn themselves from giving leadership in the stocking of fodder. The result is that by August 25 some 159 thousand hectares of natural meadows and sown grasses remained unmown while the silage plan was fulfilled only to the extent of 57 per cent.

Without solving the fodder problem we cannot achieve a sharp increase in livestock productivity. We can no longer tolerate the situation when for more than 10 years milk yields in the collective farms do not exceed 1,000-1,070 kilograms per cow. This is

absolutely intolerable. Are not the leading enterprises such as the Karavayevo, the Gorki No. 11, the Forest Glades and the Kholmogorka state farms and the October 12th collective farm in the Kostroma region and "The New Life" collective farm in the Archangel region, by using abundant succulent fodder, averaging for a number of years milk yields of 4,500-5,000-6,000 and more kilograms per cow.

Close attention must be paid to the question of raising the productivity of hog breeding by the utmost expansion of hog fattening since the output of hog raising still does not hold due place in the meat resources of the country. The total output of hog raising in 1952 was 1.6 million tons compared with 1.5 million tons in 1940.

Of enormous significance likewise is the matter of increasing the production of wool. High wool clips have been registered in a number of regions and districts. Last year the collective farms of the Stavropol Territory as a whole had a clip of 5.2 kilograms of fine fleece wool per sheep. Nevertheless, the production of wool is insufficient. The leaders of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic deserve severe criticism. This Republic has now 17 million sheep and goats while in 1928 there were more than 19 million. Although the number of fine-fleece sheep has increased more than four-fold compared with 1940 at the same time the average wool clip has declined from 2.4 to 1.9 kilograms. It is therefore not surprising that the wool delivery plan in Kazakhstan is fulfilled only to the extent of 6.70 per cent.

Of great importance for the solution of the fodder problem is the further raising of the level of mechanisation of fodder production in the collective

farms. In the last three years the volume of work done by machine and tractor stations in mechanizing mowing and silaging fodder has increased considerably. But the general share of the machine and tractor stations in fodder production remains exceedingly low and sharply lags behind the level already attained in the mechanisation of grain growing.

Special attention should be paid to mowing and stacking of hay in brief periods of time. The dragging out of these jobs reduces the quality of the hay. It is generally known that hay which has remained unmown too long or mown but not stacked for a long time loses the most valuable nutritive substances. Consequently, by dragging out the mowing we get considerably less fodder units per hectare.

It is planned to raise in 1954-55 the mechanisation of mowing and raking up to 80 per cent, hay stacking to 65 per cent, silaging of fodder to 75 per cent, the sowing and hoeing of silage and fodder root crops to 95 per cent. It is also envisaged considerably to extend the radical improvement of meadows and pastures by machine and tractor stations. At the same time it is necessary to raise in every way the level of mechanisation of labour-consuming processes in livestock sections.

It is exceedingly important to provide premises for all the livestock. The sale of building materials to collective farms should be increased through the Centrosoyuz channels as well as through the local co-operative and state industries. Wherever it is found expedient the collective farms should be advised to produce with their own forces and resources bricks, tiles and lime to meet their requirements in the above materials.

So far we have discussed the reasons for the lag in the commonly-owned animal husbandry and the ways and means of advancing it. This is our cardinal task. We cannot, however forget about the livestock personally owned by the collective farmers. Here too the situation is unsatisfactory. Compared with prewar the number of cows owned personally by the population decreased by 6.5 million. The number of collective farm households with no cows increased up to 45 per cent.

The new agricultural tax law adopted recently by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. has created a greater incentive for collective farmers to acquire cattle. It is necessary that parallel with the development of the commonly-owned animal husbandry, the local Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies should completely eliminate the incorrect practice of infringing on the collective farmer in regard to the cattle he owns personally. Only people who do not understand the policy of the Party, the policy of the Soviet state can think that the productive livestock possessed by a collective farm household within the limits envisaged in the collective-farm Rules, represents a danger to the socialist system. It is also necessary to dispel the prejudice that it is disparaging for an industrial or office worker to have livestock of his personal possession.

The measures proposed for the acquisition of livestock by collective farmers, industrial and office workers in no way mean that less attention be paid to the development of the commonly-owned animal husbandry in the collective farms and state farms. The chief way to solve the livestock problem is, as was the case previously, the way of advancing the commonly-owned animal husbandry. The time will come when the

development of the commonly-owned animal husbandry will reach a level that the personal demands of the collective farmer for livestock products will be fully satisfied by the commonly-owned enterprise and then it will be unprofitable for him to have livestock in his personal possession.

But as long as we do not have this situation, as long as the commonly-owned animal husbandry does not fully satisfy the requirements of the whole population, the collective farmers included, for livestock products, personal ownership of livestock by the collective-farm household is not a hindrance but a help to the commonly-owned animal husbandry and, consequently, is of benefit to the collective farmers, the collective farms and the state.

And so, for the further advance of animal husbandry it is necessary:

- radically to improve the guidance given to animal husbandry, to select permanent well-trained personnel for the livestock sections;

- to increase the economic interestedness of the collective farms and collective farmers in developing the commonly-owned animal husbandry;

- to take the necessary measures to increase the commonly-owned livestock, and especially the herd of cows and to step up its productivity so that already by 1954 big success is achieved;

- To strengthen the fodder base of animal husbandry, to ensure sufficient fodder for all the livestock;

- to raise the level of mechanising fodder growing and labour-consuming jobs in the livestock sections, to erect good buildings for the entire herd of the collective and state farms, to improve maintenance of the stock and the care for it;

to help collective farmers in acquiring productive livestock.

Comrades! The rapid advance of animal husbandry is of vital importance for the country and is today the most urgent task of the Party and the state in agriculture. We have to accomplish a big and complicated job. But no matter how great the difficulties we must carry out this work successfully and achieve in the next 2-3 years a sharp increase in the output of livestock products.

3. Increase in Production and Procurement of Potatoes and Vegetables

The next question which must be solved without delay is the question of increasing the production of potatoes and vegetables. The demand for potatoes and vegetables has grown so much that the present level of their production must be recognised as absolutely unsatisfactory. Far from increasing, in recent years the crops and gross harvest of these cultures have actually dropped. The area under vegetables is 250,000 hectares less than in 1940. While the area planted to potatoes has increased for the country as a whole, in some regions it is far below prewar. In the Novgorod region the area under potatoes in collective farms is 38 per cent under prewar, in Velikie Luki 59 per cent and in Smolensk 61 per cent.

But what is most alarming is the lower crop yield in many districts, which has resulted in smaller gross harvests of potatoes.

The smaller gross harvests of potatoes and the insufficient production of vegetables prevent us from

substantially improving the supply of these products to the working people in the towns and industrial centres, and the food industry plants with raw material. The insufficiency of potatoes, as I have already said, adversely affects stock raising.

With the vast possibilities of the collective farms for growing potatoes and vegetables what is the explanation for the fact that of late their production has not only not increased but in many districts has actually dropped?

One of the reasons for the lag in the production of potatoes and vegetables is that the collective farms and collective farmers are not greatly materially interested in growing these crops. With regard to other crops such as cotton, sugar beet, tea and citrus fruits, we have a whole system of material incentives for increased production, but until now we have not had this for potatoes and vegetables. The inadequate procurement prices, the incorrect approach by the procurement bodies to calculating the norms of deliveries, and, particularly, the raising of the norms for collective farms in the districts adjacent to towns and food-industry centres, and the fixing of higher norms for the lending collective farms have undermined the interest of collective farms in increasing the production of these crops.

It is necessary to correct these defects and to provide substantial material incentives for increasing the production of potatoes and vegetables in the collective farms. Such incentives are higher procurement prices for potatoes and vegetables, lower norms of obligatory deliveries and more purchases at higher prices, exemptions with respect to delivery of grain by collective farms which grow a large proportion

of potatoes and vegetables.

It should be stated, however, that as regards raising procurement prices we have done all that can be done. The procurement prices paid for potatoes and vegetables cannot be increased any more. If we were to follow this path in the future potatoes and vegetables would have to be sold at a loss. Then, instead of lowering the retail prices for potatoes and vegetables, which the Party and Government have undeviatingly practiced, retail prices would have to be raised, which is not in the interests of the people. It goes without saying that the Party and the Government cannot and will not do this.

The main thing therefore is to bend our efforts to increase the yield, which is still very low. And yet, the possibilities for increasing yields are enormous. The average collective farm gets 14-15 tons of potatoes per hectare, while many hundreds of the leading collective farms gather 20-30 tons. The results obtained by thousands of the leading agriculturists are still more outstanding. The Ukrainian collective farmer Martha Khudoly gathered 80 tons of potatoes per hectare and Comrades Dianova and Kozhukhantseva, collective farmers in Moscow region, have obtained over 50 tons.

If we succeed next year in raising the yield of potatoes in all the collective farms even to the level of the average collective farms, and this task is fully realisable, then the production of potatoes will go up considerably. From this it can be seen that the main source of higher income from potatoes and vegetables is to be found in higher yields. And what is required for this primarily is to ensure all-round mechanisation of sowing, planting, cultivating and harvesting of potatoes and vegetables. Whereas the main operations in

planting and harvesting cereal crops are almost completely mechanised, operations in planting potatoes in collective farms last year were mechanised only 14 per cent and in harvesting under 6 per cent.

The problem of mechanising the cultivation of potatoes is, basically, the problem of the methods used in planting. We shall not solve the problem of mechanisation if we do not shift to a more progressive method permitting full mechanisation of cultivation. Is such a method practiced in our country? Yes, it is. This is the square-cluster method. The advanced collective farms have long been employing it. The Stalin collective farm in Serpukhov district in the Moscow region began potato planting by the square-cluster method as far back as 1943. In recent years many collective farms, convinced of the advantages of the new method, have begun to employ it extensively. In the Moscow region, for instance, a larger proportion of the potato crop has been planted in this way. What are the merits of this method? The fact is that it makes it possible to mechanise the cultivation of the crops lengthwise and crosswise, and to expend a great deal less hand labour in tending the crops. Moreover better conditions are created for developing the plants and therefore getting big crops.

I will cite some examples. The “Forward to Communism” collective farm in the Ramensk district, Moscow region, has 920 hectares of arable land. The inter-tilled crops occupy 460 hectares, of which potatoes take up 277 hectares and vegetables 120 hectares. The collective farm has 321 able-bodied collective farmers of whom 160 are engaged in field work. Thus every collective farmer working in the field takes care of some three hectares of inter-tilled crops.

Could the collective farmers by using horse and hand labour properly cultivate such an area and get a big crop? Of course not. Beginning with 1951 the collective farmers began to employ the square-cluster method of planting potatoes. At that time there were no machines for planting potatoes in this way; they were just being tested. So it was decided to use a cultivator. The collective farmers reasoned correctly: the planting, even though it had to be done by hand and without machines, would be done by the square-cluster method. Better to expend more labour on planting but create conditions for mechanised tending. By mechanising tending the collective farm raised the yield substantially. In 1952 the crop of potatoes which had been planted by the square-cluster method came to 16.7 tons to the hectare, while those planted in rows came to only 8 tons per hectare.

In the current year this collective farm used the square-cluster method to plant potatoes almost on the whole area. The labour expended in the collective farm on planting one hectare by the square-cluster method using a four-row planter came to one man-day and to the carrying out of three inter-row cultivations in both directions by tractor came to only 0.6 man-days per hectare. Thus, using the square-cluster method only 1.6 man-days were spent on planting and cultivating one hectare of potatoes whereas more than 30 man-days are required where the planting is by row. For every man-day expended in growing potatoes by the square-cluster method the collective farm obtained 2.3 tons of potatoes whereas the ordinary method yielded only 0.15 tons.

Labour productivity will be even higher when the potato planter is thoroughly mastered. It requires

skilled workers. Such people are developing in our country. We have quite a number of operators of machines who have mastered technique and are getting remarkable results. In the "Road to Communism" collective farm in the Ramensk district, Moscow region, the machine operator Comrade Akimfeyev has raised daily planting with a four row potato planter to 12.4 hectares against a norm of 8 hectares. If we bear in mind that the machine is served by a crew of eight we get one and a half hectares of planted potatoes per man per day! In the Voroshilov collective farm in the Bronnitsky district, Moscow region, the machine operator Comrade Redkin raised the area planted in one shift, using a four-row planter to ten-eleven hectares. Such are the advantages which the square-cluster method yields! The task is to introduce it widely in production.

It must be stated that the heads of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. have taken an incorrect stand on this matter. Their plans call for potatoes to be planted by the square-cluster method as far as the planting machines will allow. And since we still have few machines, then, according to the Ministry, only half the area should be planted by the new method. We cannot agree to this. It must be said that the square-cluster method had its origin in the collective farms when we still had no special machines. Nevertheless it was used quite effectively in the advanced collective farms. Next year we shall plant potatoes as a rule by the square-cluster method. Industry is now sharply increasing the output of potato planters, but there will still not be enough of them. It will be necessary to plant potatoes using cultivators or ploughs, but by the square-cluster method. If we do this

and in this way mechanise the tending of potatoes we can be certain that already next year the yield will rise sharply.

Planting of potatoes by the square-cluster method with cultivators and ploughs is, as is known, done by hand. That makes it possible to put manure into the soil together with the tubers, which is of tremendous significance for raising the yield. In the same “Forward to Communism” collective farm in the Ramensk district, during planting in sandy soil with the use of a cultivator, a mixture of manure and mineral fertilizer amounting to 0.5 kilograms was put into the soil along with the tuber. The crop harvested was 15.6 tons per hectare. This method makes it possible to use the fertilizer more rationally. To obtain such a crop it would have been necessary to put roughly 30-40 tons of manure into the soil, but by putting it in the hole with the tuber only 10 tons are required. Any collective farm or state farm can plant potatoes by the square-cluster method using the cultivator or plough and simultaneously putting manure and mineral fertilizer into the hole. Everything depends on the leadership, on understanding of the significance of the new method, on the persistence and skill in organising this matter—correct allocation of people, seeing that the fields are marked off and doing the other work.

Something should also be said about the seed. There is a wise saying among the people: “Do not expect a good breed from bad seed”. Unfortunately there exists among us towards seed potatoes a careless attitude and sometimes even a criminal attitude. Many collective farms and state farms use bad seeds in planting and besides they fail to use a full norm. Yet the use of full norms for potatoes has an exceptional and often a

decisive importance for obtaining high crops. Leading collective forms in the Moscow region, for instance, plant 2-3 tons to the hectare. With proper cultivation they get a crop of 20-25 tons per hectare. Unfortunately most of the collective farms, with the connivance of the leadership, plant 1-1,5 tons of potato per hectare. Of course with such a norm, and the use of bad and small seeds and poor tending, a good crop of potatoes cannot be expected.

Things cannot be permitted to run this way in the future. To permit planting under the norm means deliberately dooming the collective farms to poor crops. And such workers must be called to strict account. Every collective farm must have its potato seeds and they must be stored in September, under no circumstances later, and they must be selected from the sections yielding the largest crops. At that time the potatoes are dry and will keep well. We must do away with the state of affairs when the storing of seed potatoes is left to the last days or harvesting and the harvesting is dragged out to the end of October and sometimes runs into November. The wet season has come followed by early frosts and the collective farm has still not stored its seed. And that is why often frost-affected potatoes, not thoroughly dried, are laid aside for seed. When the pits are opened in the spring half the potatoes turn out to be spoiled. If in every collective farm and state farm seed potatoes are stored in September, and we must absolutely bring this about, we shall have enough good seed potatoes in spring. The area under early varieties of potatoes must be considerably extended and as regards the southern regions more attention must be paid to summer planting of potatoes by Academician T. D. Lysenko's method.

Comrades! The importance of potatoes to the national economy is immense. This product is valuable not only as a food but also as raw material for making alcohol, starch and so on. And from an equal area planted to potatoes and cereals four times as much alcohol is obtained from potatoes. Potatoes are splendid feed for livestock, mainly hogs and dairy cattle, and also for poultry.

Data given by Academician D. N. Pryanishnikov show that to produce one pood of pork about ten poods of potatoes are required. If 15 tons of potatoes are to be grown per hectare then by adding a small portion of grain to the ration it is possible to obtain an increase in pork of up to 90 poods. If the feeding of potatoes to cows is properly organised much milk and butter can be produced.

The task of increasing the production of potatoes is one of the main tasks of the further development of agriculture. If we have enough potatoes we can considerably increase the production of pork, milk and butler in the next two years.

The role of the central non-black earth areas in growing potatoes and vegetables calls for special mention. I have in mind the Moscow, Leningrad, Ryazan, Tula and a number of other regions, the Byelorussian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Esthonian Republics, where the conditions for getting good crops of potatoes are most favourable. Unfortunately, these regions produce small quantities of potatoes and vegetables.

Up to now the agricultural bodies have planned the planting of vegetables incorrectly. Where a district was assigned the task of planting 100 hectares of cabbage, it invariably divided the task among all the collective farms. The same is true of cucumbers, tomatoes and

other vegetables. From an economic stand-point that is an altogether incorrect principle. Vegetables require special conditions and special soils. Most vegetables, especially cabbage, yield a considerably greater crop in humid low-lands. Our practice is to assign the same tasks to collective farms situated in water meadows, those adjacent to water and also to collective farms which do not have such land. Collective farms are compelled to plant cabbage and other vegetables on land which is not much good for the purpose. Although such collective farms put a great deal of labour and money into this they obtain small crops.

What then should be done about the cultivation of vegetables? The best solution to this problem should be sought in concentrating vegetable growing in districts where the soil is most suitable. That is the path that has been taken by the Party and Soviet organisations in the Moscow region, which submitted for consideration by the Government a draft for “Concentration and mechanisation of vegetable growing in the collective farms”. The proposals submitted for the Moscow region have been considered and approved by the Government. No the production of vegetables and cabbage in the first place. In collective farms in the region will be concentrated on land best suited for the purpose—water meadows.

Whereas formerly 1,373 collective farms in the Moscow region grew vegetables today the production of vegetables for the market will be concentrated in the main in 252 collective farms, 141 of them located in water meadows. The area under vegetables in the basins of the Moskva, Oka, Yakhroma, Klyazma and other rivers will be increased from 6,000 hectares in 1952 to 12,000 in 1954. As a result of concentrating the

growing of vegetables and increasing their yield the Moscow region should practically meet the entire demand of Moscow and other cities in the region for cabbage, carrots, ordinary beets and to a considerable extent for tomatoes and cucumbers.

An example should be taken from the Muscovites in solving the question of concentrating vegetable growing also in other regions, territories and Republics.

The mechanisation of hoeing is of exceptional importance for increasing the production of vegetables. It should be regarded as abnormal that vegetable planting in most collective farms is still done mainly by hand. Why not begin to plant a number of vegetables by the square-cluster method? When this question is put to the executives in the Ministry they reply that there are no machines for square-cluster planting. But this is a poor argument! Why, even how the cabbage and tomato plants are, as a rule, planted by hand. Hence, no additional expenditure of work-day units is required to plant them in squares. Even if we admit that planting by this method requires a somewhat greater expenditure of labour the collective farm gains in the subsequent operations. By planting according to the square method we are afforded the possibility of mechanising the hoeing by using tractors, and where there are no tractor-drawn implements then by horse-drawn cultivators. Timely cultivation, however, means a sure gain in the crop. Therefore in the spring of 1954 cabbage, tomatoes and egg-plant should be planted by the square-cluster method. Cucumbers, squash, pumpkins and water-melons should also be planted by the square-cluster method.

One of the important means for increasing the vegetable yield is to grow seedlings in peat-humus pots.

This valuable recommendation was made over twenty years ago by Professor Edelstein. Unfortunately, however, the agricultural bodies have done practically nothing to have seedlings grown in peat-humus pots. Where this method is employed wonderful results are obtained. By planting seedlings grown in peat-humus pots the "Pamyat llyicha" collective farm in the Mytishchi district, Moscow region, has averaged in the past 13 years 44.7 tons of early cabbage per hectare. Thanks to the use of peat-humus pots the collective farmers increased the cabbage crop by ten tons per hectare.

Then there is the Gorky state farm near Moscow where Comrade Filatov is the agronomist. He is a real enthusiast for his work. By growing seedlings in peat-humus pots he obtained a high yield for early vegetables and a big income per hectare. In 1953 this state farm began to gather early cabbage and make deliveries to the state on June 25th; it delivered cauliflower on June 11th. The average crop of early cabbage was 29.8 tons and of cauliflower 24.1 tons per hectare. The income per hectare of early cabbage was 65,000 roubles and from cauliflower 82,000 roubles. In 1952 this state farm turned over to the state 7,334,000 roubles worth of early vegetables by the first of August, and in 1953, it sold 1,14,000 roubles worth by the same date. Such is the effectiveness of this new and remarkable method of raising vegetables. What must be done now is to arrange for every vegetable growing state farm and collective farm to grow seedlings in peat-humus pots.

Collective farms and state farms plant exceedingly small areas to such valuable vegetables as egg-plant, pepper, squash, tomatoes and green peas. This limits the possibilities of the food industry for canning

vegetables. In the next year or two we must extend the area under vegetables and increase their yield, More watermelons and melons must be cultivated in districts where conditions favour this.

Finally, about hotbeds and hot-houses. We will not be able to have good vegetable farming unless we develop hotbed and hot-house facilities. Estimates indicate that for growing seedlings alone the collective farms need 14 million hotbed frames, but all that they had this year was about 5 million frames. Up to now supplying the collective farms with hotbed frames has not been organised. And frames that are manufactured now are sold at too high a price. The problems relating to the development of hotbed facilities must be solved without delay.

Where the possibility exists exhaust heat from industrial enterprises must absolutely be utilised. Vegetable-growing collective farms often experience a shortage of biological fuel for hotbeds and heated soil, and also a shortage of coal and wood for heating hot-houses. Yet exhaust heat from industry (steam and hot water) which costs practically nothing is utilised in insignificant quantities. The experience of a number of collective farms shows that these sources of fuel can be successfully used in heating hot-houses and hotbeds.

Exhaust heat from industry is used by the "Tretyia Piatiletka" collective farm in the Ukhtomsky district, Moscow region. The collective farmers built a hot-house 1,080 square metres in area in 1952 and to heat it they used the exhaust steam of a nearby factory. Unfortunately, however, such examples are few. The exhaust heat of industrial plants is not used for heating hotbeds in the Donets basin, in Leningrad, Gorki, Sverdlovsk and other cities although the possibilities for

this are immense.

It should be recommended to collective farms and state farms that they make wide use of steam and also electricity for heating hotbeds; this will lighten the labour of the collective farmers and raise the vegetable yield. The "Pamyat llyicha" collective farm in Moskvoretsky district, for instance, has been using steam to heat hotbeds since 1952. This year it had 1,200 hotbed frames which were heated by steam. As of August 1st the collective farm's average crop from hotbeds per frame was: for those heated by steam 28 kilograms of vegetables and for those heated by biological fuel 19 kilograms. Each work-day unit put in growing vegetables in hotbeds yielded 26 kilograms where steam was used for heating, and 15 kilograms where biological fuel was used.

Members of this collective farm in 1952 gathered 48.5 tons of cabbage and 26 tons of tomatoes per hectare. The money income per hectare of vegetables grown in open ground was 56,000 roubles. In 1952 a work-day unit in this collective farm brought in 22 roubles and 76 copecks in cash alone.

And so to increase the production of potatoes and vegetables it is necessary:

- to raise the material interestedness of the collective farms and collective farmers in the production of these crops;

- to mechanise the planting and hoeing of potatoes and vegetables, extensively to introduce the square-cluster method of planting;

- to re-arrange the areas under vegetables by concentrating them in water meadows and low-lands;

- to increase to the utmost the accumulation of manure and other local fertilizers and the extraction of

peat for fertilizer so that potatoes and vegetables are planted on well fertilized land; to extend the hotbed and hot-house facilities and to begin growing seedlings in peat-humus pots.

The tasks set for increasing the production of potatoes and vegetables are great. We must in the briefest possible span bring up the production of these crops to dimensions that will completely meet the demand for them in our country. We can cope with this task. It can be solved and it will be solved.

4. Raising Yields of Grain and Industrial Crops

While overcoming the lag in the development of animal husbandry and in the production of potatoes and vegetables we must ensure a further and more rapid increase in grain production. This is necessary not only to meet the growing requirements of the population for grain but also to ensure the rapid advancement of all branches of agriculture, and of animal husbandry in particular.

We have bigger achievements in grain production than in some of the other branches of agriculture. Our grain husbandry which suffered from the war has not only been restored in a relatively short period but also expanded. The area under wheat this valuable food crop, is growing rapidly and today is 8.1 million hectares more than before the war. Grain production has made great progress in the Ukraine, in the North Caucasus and in the Crimea, where the area under wheat, especially winter wheat, has been restored and extended and the per hectare yields increased.

Many collective farms and whole districts register

150 to 200 poods of wheat per hectare. The Stalin collective farm in the Vurnary district, the Chuvash Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, obtains 212 poods of spring wheat per hectare. In the Bashtanka district of the Nikolayev region the collective farms in 1952 raised 170 poods of winter wheat per hectare on their entire area under this crop.

These are important achievements. There are, however, a good many collective farms and state farms which still have low yields of grain and especially grain-leguminous crops. Lagging in this respect are the districts of the non-black earth zone, the central black earth regions, the Volga area, West Siberia and Kazakhstan.

The collective farms and state farms have great potentialities for increasing production of wheat, rye, barley, oats and other grain crops year by year.

Special attention must be devoted to wheat. Besides the old areas producing winter and spring wheat there are extensive possibilities for increasing the production of this crop in many districts of the central black earth regions, the Volga area, the forest-steppe zone of the Ukraine, as well as in a number of districts of the non-black earth zone. Provided all the necessary agrotechnical conditions are observed these districts could produce rich harvests of winter and spring wheat.

A decisive step must be taken to overcome the lag in the production of feed-grain crops, the per hectare yield of which remains low.

Our cereal crop acreage is also insufficient and its yield low, As a result, buckwheat and millet deliveries have sharply declined. Everybody knows how important buckwheat is. Yet its cultivation receives far too little attention. As a rule it is not planter in time, is given the

poorest soil, badly tended, is not pollinated additionally, bees are not brought over, etc. No real effort is made to raise the yields of millet, the wide-row method of sowing is hardly applied, and where it is applied hoeing is not always practiced, though wide-row sown millet and other crops when not tended do not produce high yields. It should likewise be noted that we do not sufficiently stimulate the production of cereal crops. For procurement purposes 40 pounds of millet equal 34 pounds of wheat or 40 pounds of rye, which does not help to increase the interestedness of the collective farmers in growing millet. Proper exchange equivalents must be established for these cereals.

We have the possibility of increasing rice production in the regions and republics of the South, in Transcaucasia, Central Asia, Southern Kazakhstan and the Far East.

Another serious shortcoming is that many collective farms hardly apply in grain growing such a powerful incentive as bonuses. Yield showings for which bonuses should be paid are too high and in many collective farms the collective farmers do not get the bonuses. It is time to revise the bonus system.

Nor should we neglect chumiza (variety of millet). We must continue to work on this crop, develop high-yield varieties and test them at the experimental stations as well as on the fields of the collective farms and state farms.

The interests of providing the population of our country with all food products also demand that the growing of grain-leguminous crops—peas, beans, lentils, soya—be expanded to the utmost.

The area under oil-bearing plants in the collective farms has increased considerably in the postwar years

and exceeds the prewar area. Sunflower has great potentialities for higher yields. The yields now, unfortunately, are low. Yet the collective farms and whole districts where sunflower is well cultivated obtain splendid yields. This can be illustrated by the Maryinka district in the Stalino region where the collective farms grow more than 1,800 kilograms of sunflower seed per hectare.

If this crop is planted by the square-cluster method its cultivation can be mechanised, done well and in the proper time, yields can sharply be increased thus enabling us to cover our country's vegetable oil needs.

Besides sunflower we must also raise the production of seed flax, castor oil plants, ground nuts, mustard and other oil-bearing plants.

We have great achievements in cotton-growing. Our irrigated cotton acreage this year is 317,000 hectares greater than in 1940. Per hectare yields of raw cotton in the irrigated districts in 1952 were 600 kilograms higher than before the war. Last year's cotton deliveries exceeded those of 1940 by 70 per cent. Hundreds of collective farms have obtained an average of 3,000 to 4,000 kilograms of raw cotton per hectare, while many brigades and teams raised 5,000 kilograms and even more.

The production of this most valuable crop must be further expanded. There are great potentialities for this in our cotton growing republics. Bearing in mind that one third of our cotton growing collective farms last year obtained less than 1,500 kilograms of raw cotton per hectare we can readily visualise the effect that would be produced if these collective farms increased their yields at least up to 2,000-2,500 kilograms per hectare. This task confronts first of all the cotton

growing collective farms of Kazakhstan where the per hectare yields are still low, comprising on the average 1,100-1,200 kilograms per hectare. Cotton growing is advancing slowly in the Kirghiz S.S.R., in the Tashauz region of the Turkmen S.S.R., in the Kara Kalpak Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic. The big potentialities for increasing cotton output are not being utilised in the Khorezm and Samarkand regions of the Uzbek S.S.R.

Further development of cotton growing is retarded by the poor work of restoring and reclaiming unused irrigated land. Unsatisfactory too is the work of improving the condition of the soil.

We must, as quickly as possible, considerably increase cotton production and fully satisfy the needs of our light industry for this valuable raw material.

We have notable achievements in the production of sugar beet. The area under this crop has increased in 1953 by more than 28 per cent as compared with 1940 and per hectare yields have risen. Sugar output surpassed the prewar level already in 1950, and since then has been steadily mounting. However, the demand of the population for sugar exceeds its output. The task is to increase the production of sugar beet by the end of the present Five-Year Plan period by 65-70 per cent and achieve a gross harvest of approximately 35 million tons a year instead of the 22 million tons of 1952. This can be achieved by extending the area under this crop in the principal sugar heel growing districts and extending beet cultivation to new districts, and particularly by increasing its per hectare yields and gross harvest.

An idea of the great potentialities we have for increasing sugar beet yields and how much our collective farms and our country lose by its poor

cultivation can be had by comparing the situation in two neighbouring regions Kursk and Kharkov which have the same conditions for the development of agriculture. But note how different are their results.

Sugar beet delivered to the state, in tons per hectare:

	The years			
	1940	1950	1951	1952
Kursk region	9.2	9.4	13.9	9.6
Kharkov region	18.3	19	21.3	18.5

In 1952 the collective farms of the Kursk region planted 131,000 hectares to sugar beet, while the collective farms of the Kharkov region planted half the area, namely 62,000 hectares. Yet both delivered to the refineries almost an equal amount of beets: Kursk region 1.26 million tons and Kharkov region 1.15 million tons. This was due first of all to the difference in their agrotechnical methods. Here are figures showing how much time each region spent on the principal field work in 1952:

	Kursk region	Kharkov region
Sugar beet planting	20 days	10 days
Hoeing	45 “	30 “
Thinning	55 “	30 “
Picking	70 “	55 “

The sugar beet crop was also much better tended in the Kharkov region than in the Kursk region, all this shows that agriculture is unsatisfactorily guided in the Kursk region.

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the Kharkov region than in the Kursk region, all this shows that agriculture is unsatisfactorily guided in the Kursk region.

Such important industrial crops as fibre flax and hemp also require attention. Favourable conditions for their development have been created in recent years. Many of the collective farms which fulfil and overfulfil their flax and hemp deliveries obtain high incomes from these crops: 10,000 roubles and more per hectare. Despite the great assistance rendered in the postwar years by the Government to the machine and tractor stations and the collective farms in the flax and hemp growing districts the production of these crops remains extremely unsatisfactory. In many regions, territories and Republics no care is taken to increase the production of fibre flax and hemp. The area under these crops far from being restored to the prewar level, has, in the past three years, considerably decreased compared with 1950. Per hectare yields and market output of these crops remain low. Little care is taken to get the collective farms to produce their own flax-fibre seed.

The situation with regard to the restoration and development of flax growing is particularly bad in the Smolensk, Ivanovo, Kostroma, Kirov, Velikie Luki, Bryansk and Tumen regions, in Altai and Krasnoyarsk territories; and with regard to the development of hemp growing—in the Bashkir and Mordovian A.S.S.R., in the Oryol, Tambov and Gorky regions and in the Byelorussian S.S.R.

One of the principal factors retarding the development of flax and hemp growing is the poor mechanisation of the cultivation, harvesting and particularly of the primary processing of these crops.

Every collective farm spends a lot of labour on spreading, retting and picking up the flax from the ground. Owing to the shortage of labour and poor mechanisation the collective farms do not carry out this work in the proper time and lose large quantities of flax. The agricultural bodies must seriously tackle the question of mechanising, all processes of flax growing and processing. Noteworthy is the experiment carried out in processing flax in the Novosibirsk region. Last year ten collective farms in the Maslyanino and Bolotnoye districts of this region by way of experiment delivered their flax directly from the fields to the factories where the threshing and processing of the flax was organised. As a result, the useful output of the fibre increased in these collective farms 3 to 3.5 times and of seed 2 to 4 times.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. and the Ministry of the Consumer Goods Industry of the U.S.S.R. must study this experience and see to it that it is widely applied. The work must be so organised that the collective farms deliver the flax unthreshed to the factories which should organise its threshing, cleaning of the seeds, retting and processing of the flax straw. The hemp factories must be ready to receive the hemp straw. Construction of mechanised shops must be started for handling flax and hemp stems at flax factories and hemp factories, and also of shops for threshing the flax.

Big tasks confront the collective farms and state farms in further expanding the production of tobacco, makhorka, tea, fruit, grapes, citrus fruits and other crops.

A major task in agriculture is to secure higher yields. A number of important and urgent measures have to be carried out in this direction.

Farming efficiency must be thoroughly stepped up, introduction of crop rotation and particularly its assimilation are badly organised in many collective farms and state farms. And the principal reason for this is the neglect in relation to growing grass seeds.

The work of growing perennial grass seeds in the collective farms and state farms must be decidedly improved, their yields increased and the targets for planting grasses not only fulfilled in the next 2-3 years but the necessary stocks built up. Measures must be taken for every collective farm and state farm to supply its needs in perennial and annual grass seeds from its own production. At the same time we must think in terms of organising commercial seed farming, first of all in those districts where high yields of grass seeds can be obtained.

We must grow more lupine for manure. In many of the northern districts lupine sown for seeds does not always ripen. Therefore the collective farms of the northern districts, and this covers a pretty large zone, cannot as yet supply their own requirements. It is necessary to define the districts where commercial production of lupine seeds should be organised.

A major factor for increasing yields is timely ploughing and cultivating of fallow and autumn ploughed land, and sowing the crops in good time. The low yields of winter crops in a number of districts is explained by the fact that they are planted late on poorly cultivated and insufficiently fertilized land or on freshly ploughed land after a non-fallow predecessor. It

can no longer be tolerated that in the non-black earth zone many collective farms drag out the autumn sowing to the second half of September, and some collective farms sow even as late as October. It is clear that the non-observance of agrotechnical methods causes the loss of a substantial part of the autumn crops.

One of the reasons for the low yields of spring crops in many districts is that to this day they are planted late and on spring ploughed and poorly cultivated soil. In 1951 the collective farms planted 38 per cent of the spring crops on spring-ploughed land, in 1952, 33 per cent and in 1953, 41 per cent, while in such regions as Smolensk, Pskov, Novgorod, Velikie Luki, Vologda and Kostroma 80 to 90 per cent of the spring crops were planted on spring-ploughed land in 1953. With such work, naturally, it is hard to obtain high yields. This state of affairs can no longer be tolerated. Already this year it is necessary to plough in the autumn the entire area to be sown next spring.

The seed problem merits serious attention. Many collective farms and state farms take bad care of their own seed and they get annually big seed loans from the state. Much time and much labour, money and transport facilities are expended unproductively for the shipment of seed grain. By spring this year the collective farms in the central regions alone were given more than 500,000 tons of seed grain or about 30 per cent of their requirements. Over 30 million roubles of state funds, not including the expenses of the collective farms, were spent on shipping and cleaning this seed. Of great importance here is another point. It often happens that seed received as a loan is not adapted to the soil and specific climatic conditions of the districts where it is to be sown. Under these circumstances, naturally, big

yields cannot be expected.

It is time to bring order into the matter of handling seed. It is necessary to ensure that in 1954-55 all crops be sown with selected seed. This year the Government has established a new system of stocking seed in the collective farms and state farms. The stocking of seed must be done in good time with selected high quality seed first and foremost from the crop gathered on the seed sections, on the basis of agro-technical sowing norms. If there is not enough selected seed from the seed sections the best grain from the general crop sections having the highest yields is to be set aside before the plan for grain deliveries to the state is fulfilled. At present we have all the conditions to enable the collective farms and state farms fully to provide themselves with the best selected seeds of high-yield varieties. The outrageous practices of reducing the seed norms per hectare must be resolutely cut short.

It is necessary to condemn as a serious shortcoming the incorrect attitude that has developed in recent years among personnel of the agricultural bodies and many executives of collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms in relation to the use of local fertilizers. There is a harmful underestimation of this matter. Otherwise it is impossible to explain why the plans for the accumulation of manure and extraction of peat are not carried out.

As is known manure is a highly valuable fertilizer. By the end of the Five-Year Plan we can have about 400 million tons of manure annually, which is equivalent approximately to 20 million tons of mineral fertilizers, or 3.5 times as much as industry produces now. Close attention must be given to the accumulation, proper

storage and use of manure. An end must be put to the improper keeping of manure because this subjects it to the ill effects of the weather and results in loss of its valuable properties. Manure storages should be built in livestock sections in each collective and state farm and the manure should be carted fully and in time to the fields and ploughed under. It is also necessary to take measures for mechanising such labour-consuming jobs as the loading, unloading and spreading of manure in the fields, to organise the manufacture of manure spreaders and manure loaders and to use these machines in collective farm and state farm production.

In districts with acid sod-podzol soils liming of the soil is of great importance for increasing crop yields and likewise the treatment with gypsum for districts with salinized soils. For these purposes it is necessary considerably to increase the production of lime at the enterprises of the building materials industry, local industry and producer co-operatives and to organise quarrying, grinding and delivery of gypsum to the collective farms.

Parallel with the use of local fertilizers for increasing yields it is necessary sharply to expand the production of mineral fertilizers. The Government plans to increase the output of mineral fertilizers. This year the collective farms and state farms will already receive from industry 6 million tons of mineral fertilizers which is almost double the quantity supplied to agriculture in 1940. In subsequent years the production of fertilizers will increase considerably. The storing of mineral fertilizers should be put in order and they should be properly utilised. It is also necessary to use bacterial fertilizers on a larger scale.

The carrying out of the above-mentioned measures

will raise the efficiency of farming and appreciably increase the yields of all crops.

5. Improving Work of Machine and Tractor Stations

The machine and tractor stations must play the principal and decisive role in the further advance of agriculture. The machine and tractor stations have 969 thousand tractors (in terms of 15 h. p. units), or 74 per cent more than before the war. 255 thousand grain harvester combines, or 66 per cent more than in 1940, and many other machines.

In postwar years the machine and trader stations have received plenty of new machines. While before the war there were mostly wheel tractor's, in postwar years many diesel caterpillar tractors have been supplied. Their number has increased 14-fold compared with 1940. New types of tractor cultivators have been developed: the "Belarus", "KDP-35" and "KHTZ-7", and production of direct tractor power machines and implements has been organised. More and more cotton picking machines, sugar beet combines and other machines are being built.

Year by year the mechanisation of collective farm production is extending, manual labour is used less and the labour productivity of the collective farmers is rising. This means that the further advance of all branches of agriculture depends first and foremost on the improvement in the work of the machine and tractor stations.

Unfortunately, many workers of Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies still do not understand that mechanisation is the force without which it is impossible either to maintain our rate of development

or the large scale of production. Many Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies inadequately guide the machine and tractor stations, they do not exercise proper control over the timely performance and high quality of the work and do not properly select and train machine and tractor station personnel. The main shortcoming in the work of the machine and tractor stations is the absolutely unsatisfactory utilisation of equipment. This is the principal reason why a number of vitally important branches of agriculture is lagging behind.

It is necessary radically to change the attitude to the machine and tractor stations, resolutely to eliminate the serious shortcomings in their work and to carry out all-round mechanisation of agricultural operations.

The main task of the machine and tractor stations is to raise in every way the yield of all crops in the collective farms, ensure a growth in the number of the commonly-owned cattle with the simultaneous rise in its productivity and increase gross output and the output for the market of crop cultivation and animal husbandry in the collective farms they serve. The machine and tractor stations must complete the mechanisation of grain and industrial crops cultivation, develop mechanisation of labour-consuming processes in animal husbandry and in growing potatoes and vegetables on a large scale, apply the achievements of science and the best practical experience in collective-farm production; they must ensure the further organisational and economic consolidation of the collective farms and on this basis raise the material well-being of the collective farmers.

The machine and tractor stations must ensure big yields on all the areas they cultivate. This can be

attained if the tractors and other machines are used efficiently and if agricultural work is done well and in a brief space of time. Many machine and tractor stations, however, do not carry out this highly important task. They do not adhere to the established agrotechnical methods, drag out the operations, till the soil poorly and do not sow the crops well, which inevitably results in a smaller harvest. Last year more than half the machine and tractor stations did not fulfil their plans. More than 20 per cent of all the work involved in sowing spring and winter crops was behind time. Such important operations as cultivation of fallow land and autumn ploughing, mowing and silaging of fodder are likewise badly carried out. There are considerable losses during harvesting. This happens because a large number of tractors and other machines are idle during field-work. Only 34 per cent of the tractor drivers fulfilled their shift production quotas in 1952. Utilisation of tractors is particularly badly organised in the machine and tractor stations of the Novosibirsk, Kalinin, Smolensk, Yaroslavl, Velikie Luki, Pskov and Novgorod regions and in the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic.

One of the main reasons for this situation is that the machine and tractor stations are not supplied with qualified machine operators. The wealth of complex equipment of the machine and tractor stations demands skilled labour. But this equipment is handled by seasonal workers whom the collective farms assign for the duration of field work. The tractor driver is not, in fact, subordinated to the machine and tractor station director. If he wants to he reports for work, and if he does not report for work it is difficult for the director to exert influence on him. Today he operates a tractor but

tomorrow he may go back to the collective farm or go to work in industry. This state of affairs explains, in large measure, the low labour discipline and the big fluctuation in personnel. From 30 to 35 per cent of the tractor drivers leave the tractor teams annually, while the composition of operators of tractor drawn machines in many tractor teams changes several times in the course of the year.

If we are really to improve the work of the machine and tractor stations we must have permanent qualified machine operators capable of utilising the equipment most efficiently and of ensuring the further advance of all branches of collective farming. Therefore it is necessary to establish that in the machine and tractor stations the tractor drivers, leaders of tractor teams and their assistants, excavator operators and their assistants and fuel record keepers be permanent workers and be put on the staff of the machine and tractor stations. During the time when there is no work in the fields they are to be employed by way of combining trades in repair shops, in mechanising the livestock sections of the collective farms and other jobs in the machine and tractor stations. Operators of tractor-drawn agricultural and soil-digging machines and assistant combine operators should be included in the staffs of machine and tractor stations as seasonal workers.

It is also necessary to raise the personal material interestedness of the workers of the tractor teams for the most efficient utilisation of the machines in raising yields. The system of remunerating the tractor team workers according to work-day units, and piece rates has justified itself in practice; under this system workers are credited with earnings according to

fulfilment of the production quota and the general quantity of products obtained, depending on the crop yields. This system must be preserved in the future as well.

It is planned to increase the cash payment for work-day units to the tractor team workers from the machine and tractor stations. Besides, they will receive, as hitherto, payment for workday units equally with the collective farmers; their additional remuneration for surpassing crop yield plans is also preserved. The system of grain payments under the guaranteed minimum payment to tractor drivers and other workers of the tractor teams is being changed. Formerly they received grain in the collective farm and now they will get it in the machine and tractor station. Food grain which the workers of tractor teams get under the guaranteed minimum for the work-day units as well as for work in harvesting the crop by combines and other machines will be delivered by the collective farms to the state procurement centres simultaneously with payment in kind for the services of the machine and tractor stations. The machine and tractor station will get the food grain for tractor teams from the procurement organisations.

Now that yields are rising, the productivity of livestock and the production of potatoes and vegetables increasing and hence the incomes of the collective farms and payment per work-day unit going up, the wages of tractor drivers and other workers of tractor teams will also be raised substantially. This, undoubtedly, will make for stability of personnel. Thereby better utilisation of equipment will be assured. There is an urgent need for changing the system of training drivers, combine operators and workers of the

varied trades. Until now these cadres were trained very badly. A boy would spend 2-3 months at courses, he would be taken around the machine several times, then put behind the wheel—and so, the tractor driver is ready. In the spring this tractor driver would somehow manage to drive out into the field but if the machine happened to stall he would sit down beside the tractor and wait until the mechanic came along, since he himself did not know what to do. Hence low productivity, frequent break-down of machines and work of poor quality. The system of training personnel at the short-term courses which existed until now did not give the necessary technical knowledge to the trainees. This matter must be changed radically. It is necessary to train for the machine and tractor stations drivers and operators with a wide range so that they may be able to operate tractors, combines and other machines and have the skill to do repairs and other jobs. To place the training of personnel on a proper footing it is necessary to reorganise the mechanisation schools and to extend the term of training. The system of training in the vocational schools and factory schools in industry should be adopted. The reorganisation of the system of training machine operators must be effected in the shortest possible time. Not a single day's delay can be brooked in this matter.

In recent years many experienced tractor drivers who know their job thoroughly left the machine and tractor stations and are working in industrial establishments in towns. We must call upon the former machine operators to return to the machine and tractor stations. It may be anticipated that now that the tractor drivers are on the staff of the machine and tractor stations and get higher guaranteed pay many

former tractor drivers will readily return to work in machine and tractor stations. The directors of industrial enterprises should be warned not to hinder them.

The question of selecting executive personnel for the machine and tractor stations requires special attention. In September 1951 the Government adopted the decision "Measures for improving the work of machine and tractor stations", in which it established higher wages and premiums for achieving the planned yield and other forms of encouragement for executive personnel of the machine and tractor stations.

Many local Party bodies, however, have not taken measures to reinforce the machine and tractor stations with qualified personnel, have not made use of the possibilities provided by this decision and have done little to promote engineers and technicians in the machine and tractor stations. Yet, the level of engineer-technical and agronomical training of the overwhelming majority of executive personnel of the machine and tractor stations does not correspond to the requirements of running large-scale mechanized agricultural production. I will cite some figures on the educational standard.

	Educational standard {in percentage):		
	With higher education	Secondary special education	Elementary (people with practical experience)
Director	22.6	47.00	30.4
Chief engineers	14.8	20.8	64.4
Shop superintendents	1.3	8.8	89.9

Attention must be paid to the absolutely

impermissible situation when the posts of directors, chief engineers and shop superintendents are filled by people lacking special education. It is understandable that lacking the necessary training they often fail to cope with the work entrusted to them. It is quite possible to place in these posts trained people with a special education and capable of successfully managing the big and complicated enterprise of the machine and tractor stations.

It should be noted that the training of personnel of higher and intermediary grades in our educational establishments is carried on without due account of the requirements of agriculture. There is a particularly big lag in training engineering and technical personnel for the machine and tractor stations and state farms.

While the total number of agricultural specialists increased 53 per cent from 1940 to 1950, the number of agricultural specialists with an engineering education increased only 12 per cent.

Further improvement in the work of the machine and tractor stations directly depends on how we provide them with executive and engineer-technical personnel. It is essential that machine and tractor station directors should as a rule be mechanical engineers or agronomists possessing higher education and the training necessary for mechanising agriculture. People with a higher special education should be appointed chief engineers and chief agronomists of the machine and tractor stations.

It may be asked: what is to be done with those machine and tractor station directors who have not had a special education but who have proved to be good managers. Of course there should not be an indiscriminate approach in this matter. We have not a

few machine and tractor station directors who, although they do not have a special education, have learnt their jobs thoroughly and are skilfully managing the machine and tractor stations. Such workers should be left at their posts and should be helped to get an education.

To reinforce the machine and tractor stations with executive and engineer-technical personnel. it is necessary to send in the near future mechanical engineers from industry and other branches of the national economy to the machine and tractor stations as directors, chief engineers and repair-shop superintendents. Technician-mechanics should be sent to work as mechanics in the machine and tractor stations.

The machine and tractor stations have much equipment but it is still insufficient for the successful accomplishment of the tasks facing us. Therefore the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Central Committee of the Party have mapped out a big programme for the production of tractors and other machines. It is envisaged to supply agriculture from 1954 to May 1, 1957 with 500,000 general purpose tractors (in terms of 15 h. p. units), 250,000 tractor cultivators as well as a large number of other agricultural machines and motor vehicles. In the next few years the machine and tractor stations will receive many tractor cultivators of new models as well as highly efficient machines for cultivating and harvesting industrial and fodder crops, potatoes and other vegetables, machines for the all-round mechanisation of mowing, harvesting silage crops and labour-consuming jobs in livestock sections. This will make for a considerable extension of mechanisation in agriculture.

We must demand from the industrial ministries that

they be more active in designing new machines and improving present models. Very often new and good machines, badly needed by agriculture, are not put into production for a long time and without any reason, or else they are produced in insignificant numbers owing to insufficient care on the part of the Ministry of Machine-Building and the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. Some enterprises fulfil unsatisfactorily the plans for manufacturing a number of agricultural machines.

Not all is well with the quality of the machines produced. Agriculturists rightly complain about this. For a number of years combine operators and workers in the machine and tractor stations and state farms have been pointing to serious shortcomings of the S-4 self-propelled combine which does not meet the requirements of agriculture, especially in districts with higher moisture. But the Ministry of Machine-Building and the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. have not taken the measures necessary to eliminate these shortcomings.

The square-cluster method of planting which will make possible hoeing by tractor-drawn or horse-drawn cultivators will play an important part in ensuring high yields of row crops—maize, sunflower and castor oil plant, but a seed drill is necessary for this method. The work of industry in this respect is proceeding at a slow pace. True, the “Red Star” plant in Kirovograd is producing a seed drill for square-cluster planting of maize, sunflower and other crops. But in order to get a square, a hand corrector is used on it. This method, however, has not justified itself, and no square is obtained. Here it is necessary to have an automatic device with the use of a wire gauge as in the case of the

potato planter. The use of this principle on the SSH-6 seed drill has given good results.

It is necessary to develop seed drills for the square-cluster method of planting of other row crops where considerably greater density of planting is required. Institutes and plants should be instructed to develop such seed drills more rapidly, the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. to test them more rapidly so as to put them into production and supply them to the machine and tractor stations. Only if we go over to mechanised planting and mechanised cultivation will it be possible to increase rapidly the yield of all row crops. There is no other way. It is a matter of honour for the workers, engineers and technicians of our industrial enterprises to carry out fully and on time the assignments for the manufacture of high quality machines.

It is necessary, further, to pay special attention to the repair and maintenance of tractors and other machines. We must no longer tolerate the fact that the splendid equipment of the machine and tractor stations is improperly maintained and goes out of commission before time. Many machine and tractor stations to this day have no repair shops, garages or sheds for the machines, and lack other production premises. In this respect the following facts illustrate the unfavourable situation that has developed in the machine and tractor stations: 429 machine and tractor stations have no repair shops at all and about 5,000 machine and tractor stations have inadequately equipped shops which do not meet the repair requirements. Many machine and tractor stations do, not have the necessary housing facilities for the engineer-technical personnel, dormitories for tractor drivers and other premises.

Despite this, investments allotted for building production premises and living quarters for machine and tractor stations have been utilised only to the extent of 80-85 per cent in the last 3 years. Responsibility for this situation rests first of all with the heads of agricultural bodies in the localities who have not taken measures to utilize fully the allotted funds, while the Party bodies have not exercised the necessary control over this matter.

An end must be put to this mismanagement. In the next 3 years each machine and tractor station must have, as a rule, a standard repair shop, no less than 2-3 tractor garages, 2-3 sheds for combines, the necessary number of shelters for keeping agricultural machines and other production premises and dwellings. Considerable funds are assigned for these purposes. The task is to utilize them correctly, in a business-like way, and to achieve fulfilment of the assignments.

Of great importance is the organization of the supply of machine and tractor stations with equipment, tools, metals and other materials, and especially spare parts.

It is necessary to extend the electrification of agricultural production and the use of electricity in the everyday life of the collective farmers through more efficient utilization of the existing rural electric stations, the building of new stations and of wind-power installations as well as by linking the machine and tractor stations, collective farms and state farms to the state power systems. It is most important to provide agriculture with machines using electric power.

In view of the increased volume of mechanised work, in the collective farms the machine and tractor stations have begun to receive bigger payments in kind

for their services. The rates of payment in kind now in force are based on the following principle: the higher the yield of a collective farm the higher the rate of payment in kind. This system has considerable shortcomings, because the yield depends not only on the quality of the work of the machine and tractor stations but also on the quality of the collective farm work.

Not infrequently one and the same tractor team of a machine and tractor station works for two neighbouring collective farms but one collective farm raises a big crop and the other a poor one. The quality of work done by the machine and tractor station was the same. What is the point? The point is that the collective farm which obtained a big harvest used selected seed and fertilizers. The other collective farm however, had not done so and gathered a poor crop. The first collective farm pays for the work of the machine and tractor station in kind at a higher rate while the second one pays at a low rate, although the actual outlay per hectare by the machine and tractor station is the same in both, collective farms. After the payment in kind is made the amount of grain and other products remaining in both collective farms for distribution per work-day units is almost the same.

In view of the fact that the existing system of payment in kind for the work performed by the machine and tractor stations does not stimulate the leading collective farms, definite rates of payment in kind should be established encouraging the machine and tractor station to strive for higher yields the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Party have instructed the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the

U.S.S.R. to draw up proposals on this question.

An end must be put to the incorrect practice when the results of grain-growing and the output of other products are assessed not by the actual harvest but only by the estimated yields. This system does not stimulate an increase in crops and even hampers the struggle against losses during harvesting which are still high in the collective farms. The procedure for estimating the yields does not make the executives of the machine and tractor stations follow up matters to the end and care not only for the raising but also for the bringing in of the crop without loss. It is necessary to organize the calculation of the crop gathered in the granaries and to pay premiums depending on the harvest gathered so that the workers of the machine and tractor stations be directly interested in the actual garnering of the grain crop and of other crops.

The production relations of the machine and tractor stations and the collective farms will continue to be defined by the agreements concluded between them. Changes should be introduced into the standard agreement, proceeding from the new tasks of the machine and tractor stations. It is necessary to stress once again that the agreement signed between the machine and tractor stations and the collective farms has the force of law and its fulfilment is binding on both. It is the task of the local Soviet and Party bodies to ensure systematic control over fulfilment by the machine and tractor stations and the collective farms of the obligations stipulated in the agreements.

Thus, for further improving the work of the machine and tractor stations it is necessary:

to have permanent personnel of highly skilled machine operators, for which purpose the system of

training tractor drivers, combine operators and other machine operators should be radically reorganised, replacing the short-term courses with a network of mechanization schools;

to reinforce the executive personnel of the machine and tractor stations;

to enhance the role of the machine and tractor stations in the further development of animal husbandry, resolutely to improve the utilisation of equipment and to ensure the carrying out of agricultural work in good time and at a high level;

to build shops in each machine and tractor station for repair of tractors and agricultural machines, garages and shelters. To launch the construction of dwellings for machine and tractor station specialists and workers.

It is the duty of the Party organisations to improve the guidance to the machine and tractor stations, to enhance their role in the organisational-economic consolidation of the collective farms and in the struggle for the further advancement of agriculture. Herein lies the guarantee of success.

6. Work of Agricultural Bodies and Greater Agronomic and Zootechnical Help to the Collective Farms

Comrades! The tasks of overcoming the lag in some branches of agriculture and the raising of the aggregate agricultural production to a new and higher level make serious demands on the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R., on the Ministry of State Farms of the U.S.S.R., the local agricultural bodies and on all agricultural specialists.

The agricultural bodies employ tens of thousands of

specialists who are devoted to our Party and are giving all their energy and knowledge to the further development of agriculture. But can we say that the agricultural bodies as a whole measure up to their tasks? No, comrades, we cannot say this. The facts show that the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. and the Ministry of State Farms of the U.S.S.R. impermissibly lag behind the requirements of life, do not take into account the changes taking place in the collective farms machine and tractor stations and state farms.

It should be noted that the very structure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. and its local bodies is not suited for the swift, efficient solution of the problems raised by the collective farms and the machine and tractor stations. This structure is very cumbersome and includes numerous boards and departments which duplicate each other and often work without any useful results. It is not surprising that the Ministry does not display efficiency and accuracy in guiding the local bodies, tolerates bureaucracy and red tape in settling urgent problems. The contact of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. with practical activities is poor, the Ministry is out of touch with the collective farms and machine and tractor stations. Without knowing the real state of affairs in the localities the Ministry nevertheless tries to regulate from the centre all aspects of the activities of local agricultural bodies, collective farms and machine and tractor stations and issues instructions which are often useless to the localities.

Ask the comrades from the North Caucasus whether they have ever asked the Ministry as to how wheat

should be cultivated? I am convinced that you will get a negative answer. Ukrainian agriculturists have never asked the Ministry how to grow sugar beet and those from Uzbekistan—how to cultivate cotton. This is understandable because experienced personnel have developed in the localities, but the workers of the Ministry continue to guide as of old, proceeding from the wrong concept that they alone know everything and are able to do everything.

V. I. Lenin pointed out: “It would be a mistake were we to stereotype the decrees for all parts of Russia”.* He said: “It would be absolutely absurd to apply the same stereotype to central Russia, the Ukraine and Siberia, to squeeze them into the same mould”**. These directives hold good also today.

The shortcomings in the work of the Ministry stand out especially in the planning of agriculture. The plans include many superfluous indices which fetter the initiative of the local bodies, the machine and tractor stations and the collective farms. Suffice it to say that there are from 200 to 250 indices in the annual assignments given to the collective farms for crop cultivation and animal husbandry. The centre plans such measures as for example the time when the fattening of hogs obtained by crossbreeding should end, the sowing of tall-stalk plants as fallow-land shelters and many others.

The excessively large number of assignments containing many indices has led to an inordinate inflation of all kinds of reports. Vast numbers of agricultural specialists and collective-farm personnel

* V. I. Lenin, Collected Works, Vol. 29, p. 138—Russian Edition.

** V. I. Lenin, Collected Works, Vol. 32, p. 198—Russian Edition.

are diverted to compiling various reports, statements and accounts. During the year each collective farm submits to the district agricultural bodies figures for approximately 10,000 indices. Compared with prewar the number of indices in the collective farm reports have increased almost eight times.

If we criticise the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. this does not mean that we thereby belittle its role. On the contrary, the role of the Ministry must increase still more. In conformity with the changed situation the structure of the Ministry must be revised and the staffs cut considerably.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R. must engage first of all in drawing up plans for agriculture and its separate branches, the material and technical supplying and financing of agriculture, in procuring agricultural produce, selecting, allocating and training of personnel, in popularising and applying the advanced experience and the achievements of science and also in the organisational problems of the collective farms.

In this connection the Ministries of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the Union and Autonomous Republics as well as the territorial and regional boards of agriculture and agricultural stocks must assume still greater importance. And this means that the local agricultural bodies must be reinforced with qualified personnel, their structure should be revised, staffs cut and brought into closer touch with production.

Special mention should be made of the guidance given to agriculture in the Russian Federation. Over 57 per cent of all collective farms and 62 per cent of the machine and tractor stations are located on the

territory of the Russian Federation. The sown area of the Russian Federation comprises over 62 per cent of the total crop area of the U.S.S.R. The share of the Federation's livestock in the total herd exceeds 50 per cent.

Notwithstanding this, the Russian Federation as distinct from the other Union Republics did not have until recently a real Ministry of Agriculture possessing the necessary prerogatives and funds. Even the machine and tractor stations located on the territory of the Republic were not subordinated to this Ministry. Formally the Ministry was instructed to engage in growing potatoes and vegetables, but actually even for this it did not have the necessary material and technical facilities. The result was that the Ministry had to restrict its activities to problems of rabbit-breeding, bee-keeping and fur-farming. This sounds like a joke but unfortunately it is not a joke, it is a fact.

The Russian Federation with its huge and diversified agriculture must have a real Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks vested with the necessary prerogatives and funds. This ministry should be charged with guiding all the branches of agriculture, and all the collective farms and machine and tractor stations located on its territory.

No less important is the question of increasing the agronomic and zootechnical help to the collective farms. Much has already been done and is being done by us in this respect. But here too the possibilities are utilised most inadequately.

The state has trained hundreds of thousands of agricultural specialists in the higher and secondary educational establishments. The agricultural bodies alone have more than 350,000 specialists with a higher

and secondary education.

How are these specialists utilised? It turns out that only 18,500 specialists, or only 5 per cent of the total, work directly in the collective farms. One specialist per five collective farms! Fifty thousand, or 14 per cent of the specialists, work in machine and tractor stations. On the other hand 75,000 or 21 per cent are employed in the apparatus of the agricultural bodies and their contact with collective-farm production is by far not sufficient.

The question of properly utilising agricultural specialists has been raised more than once. The Government has in recent years decided to raise the salaries of specialists working in the machine and tractor stations. Today an agronomist and an engineer in a machine and tractor station, engaged in production, receives not less, and in many cases even more, than an engineer working in industry. But even after this most of the specialists continue to settle down in various establishments and offices.

What is the explanation for this abnormal situation? First and foremost is the fact that the agricultural bodies approach the question of utilising the specialists not from the standpoint of state interests. Considering their main calling to be the issuing of orders, regulations and instructions, many executives of the agricultural bodies try to put the specialist behind an office desk. The agricultural bodies do little to develop a feeling of professional pride in each specialist, to awaken in him the spirit of creative questing, the spirit of creative questing, the spirit of an indomitable remaker of crop cultivation and livestock breeding.

Such an attitude to the precious reserve of agricultural personnel is fundamentally wrong. We

must, at long last, get the specialists to work in production—in the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms—get them to engage in their real job—the raising of yields and developing animal husbandry.

The draft decision provides for sending by the spring of 1954 not less than 100,000 agricultural specialists to the machine and tractor stations so that each collective farm has an agronomist and the bigger collective farms an agronomist and zootechnician. An agronomist working in a machine and tractor station which systematically serves one collective farm must check on the fulfilment of the agreement conclude between the machine and tractor station and the collective farm. It is his duty to see to it that all measures envisaged by the agrotechnical rules are carried out. In no case must an agronomist cover up low quality work, bearing in mind that the least liberal attitude on his part to non-observance of agrotechnical rules and condoning of bunglers, harms the collective farm and the state. An agronomist must interest himself in everything pertaining to the quality of agricultural, work and actively champion the application of everything new and progressive in collective-farm production.

It is expedient to entrust the chief agronomist of a machine and tractor station with the duties of a state inspector controlling the quality of work, as stipulated in the agreement between the machine and tractor station and the collective farm. In this connection it will be perfectly correct if the chief agronomist is, on agrotechnical matters, subordinated directly to the chief of the regional board of agriculture and not to the director of the machine and tractor station. This is needed in order that production and agronomic

interests are not subordinated to narrow departmental considerations. There are cases when the director of a machine and tractor station in order to get bigger production per tractor and to save fuel allows shallow ploughing or delays the beginning of spring sowing until the soil dries. The duty of the chief agronomist of the machine and tractor station is not to allow in any circumstances violation of agrotechnical demands, always to proceed from the premise that high yields can be obtained only if the work of the machine and tractor stations is carried out on time and on a high level. The agronomists must become real organisers of the efforts to attain good crop.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the USSR should draw up regulations regarding the standing of the chief agronomist of the machine and tractor station, clearly and precisely defining his rights and duties.

In view of the enhanced organisational role of the machine and tractor station in collective-farm production there will now, evidently, be no need for the district boards of agriculture and agricultural stocks. It is enough to have in the district executive committee several workers to do the planning and accounting, while the main cadres of specialists work in the machine and tractor stations and collective farms.

It is necessary to dwell on such an important question as popularising and applying in agriculture the achievements of science and advanced experience.

Every region, territory and Republic has many innovators in agriculture, leading collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms. In our days to manage an enterprise without taking account of the experience of the foremost collective farms,

machine and tractor stations and state farms and of the achievements of innovators, means deliberately to foredoom it to backwardness.

Unfortunately we badly popularise and introduce the new developments. Every collective farm is forced, if we may put it that way, to go ahead on its own, drawing on its brain, its own experience, its own practical work. And yet with tremendous experience accumulated by those in the lead we could equip all our collective farms with it.

To date the Ministry and its bodies in the localities have regarded with indifference and passivity the new developments in agriculture, just as though they had never noticed them. Many valuable and tested methods of raising yields have not been applied for years.

To guide agriculture means first of all to study, summarise and spread the foremost experience, the achievements of science. Agronomic propaganda must finally become a vital integral part of the entire activities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the U.S.S.R., the Ministry of State Farms of the U.S.S.R. and their local bodies.

It should be said that not only the Ministries and their local bodies are to blame for the poor organisation of the propaganda of foremost experience and achievements of science. Many Party and Soviet bodies have shifted the important task of agronomic propaganda on to a small group of workers while they themselves stand aside.

Heads of Party and Soviet organisations must not only make reports on the need to spread the best experience but what is most important, they themselves must study this experience and actively promote its application in all collective farms and state farms.

Before calling on others to act, an executive should thoroughly study on the spot the foremost methods of work and ways of managing an enterprise in order that he may have a good idea of what he is calling on others to do, and while visiting collective and state farms give the necessary advice and render assistance.

Heads of Party and Soviet organisations should urge chairmen and members of boards, heads of teams and of groups and individual collective farmers of lagging collective farms to visit leading farms and to study in detail on the spot all the ways and methods of their work. Appropriate measures of influence should be found to get the lagging collective farms and state farms to carry on all their work after the model of the leading ones.

The propaganda in the press, especially in the agricultural press, of the achievements of science and best experience is unsatisfactory; few good books on these subjects have been put out and those published often give a superficial description of facts and do not reveal the essence of the new ways and methods of work.

Production of popular science and educational films dealing with agriculture is badly organised and the quality of films often leaves much to be desired. Not infrequently people not connected with agriculture and with scant knowledge of it are entrusted with making agricultural films.

Now a few words about the agro-zootechnical studies in the collective farms and state farms. At present more than 2,500,000 collective farmers and state farm workers are enrolled in three-year courses. This, of course, is a big thing. However, in many cases instruction is at a low level, often it is divorced from

concrete conditions. In the current school year only 60 per cent of the collective farmers studying in these courses passed the technical examinations. In 30,000 collective farms there is no agro-zoo-technical study for the collective farmers.

Agricultural science plays a big part in further advancing agriculture. It should be noted that Soviet science has made a big contribution to the advance of agriculture, nevertheless it still lags behind the needs and requirements of production. Some institutes and experimental stations do not work adequately on urgent problems of raising the efficiency of farming and animal husbandry. Criticism and self-criticism are not developed sufficiently in the scientific institutes and creative discussion and free exchange of opinion are absent. Not infrequently an atmosphere of fawning and servility is cultivated around some scientists.

As you know, the Government does not begrudge funds for the development of science, and exceptionally favourable conditions have been created for scientists. Unfortunately, however we still have scientific workers who, after defending a dissertation, actually discontinue research and for a number of years contribute nothing new to science, to collective-farm and state-farm production. There are also instances when dissertations have neither scientific nor practical value. The extent to which some research institutes lag behind practice is shown by the fact that in separate experimental centres of the institutes and experimental stations crop yields and livestock productivity are lower than in the leading collective farms and state farms.

It is necessary that all scientific institutes work in earnest on problems of raising crop yields and developing animal husbandry as well as on problems of

the economics and organisation of agriculture, mechanisation and electrification of collective-farm and state farm production.

District and regional agricultural exhibitions should become an important form of popularising scientific achievements and leading experience and of spreading emulation for their wide-spread application. Before the war such exhibitions were held annually in many districts and regions. In recent years less attention has been given to their organisation.

This situation must be remedied. Agricultural exhibitions must be arranged annually in district and regional centres. Let every leading collective farm, each state farm, each machine and tractor station be given the opportunity to demonstrate its achievements and its experience at the exhibitions. As distinct from the past, a certain place should be assigned at the exhibitions to indices of the lagging collective farms and state farms so that they should see how they are lagging behind compared with the best enterprises. This will prompt them to learn the ways and methods of those in the lead. A proposal has been made to adopt a decision on the opening of the U.S.S.R. agricultural exhibition in 1954.

And so, to improve the work of the agricultural bodies and to increase agronomical and zootechnical help to the collective farms it is necessary:

- radically to improve the guidance of agriculture, to raise it to the level of the new tasks;

- to enhance the role of the agricultural bodies in developing agriculture, to reinforce them with personnel, to bring them closer to the machine and tractor stations and to the collective farms;

- to improve the agrotechnical and zootechnical

service to the collective farms by sending to work in the collective farms not less than 100,000 agronomists and zootechnicians so that every collective farm is served by 1-2 specialists;

resolutely to increase publicity for the advanced experience and the achievements of agricultural science.

* * *

The shortcomings in the guidance given to the collective farms and machine and tractor stations, of which I have spoken, fully apply to the state farms as well. The high cost of producing grain, meat, milk and other items still constitutes a big shortcoming in the work of the state farms.

The state provides everything needed to run things well in every state farm, but the results are entirely different, depending on the quality of leadership.

Here is a case in point. The “Gornyak” state farm and the “Komsomolets” state farm are situated in the October district, Rostov region, and have approximately equal conditions, but here are the results of their work for 1952:

	“Gornyak” state farm	“Komsomolets” state farm
Entire sown area in hectares	3,982	3,222
Head of beef and dairy cattle	1,190	1,117
Cows	352	409
Hogs	813	661
Milk yield per cow in kilograms	3,035	1,934
Cost of production of one hundred kilograms of animal products:		
Milk in roubles	90	114

Pork in roubles	646	1,457
Delivered to state:		
Milk in tons	959,5	627,9
Meat in tons	141.9	93.2
Results of economic activity	Profit 686,000	Loss 407,000 roubles

What is the reason for such different results? The “Gornyak” state farm is headed by Comrade Povarenkin, an experienced zootechnician, while the “Komsomolets” state farm was headed by Comrade Bondarenko who lacks the necessary training and is a poor organiser. Notwithstanding the fact that he obviously did not cope with his duties, the Ministry tolerated him as rector for ten years.

Many state farms are headed by inadequately trained workers. Of the 2,064 directors of state farms directly subordinated to the Ministry of State Farms of the U.S.S.R., 644 directors, or 31 per cent, are practical workers who do not have even a secondary specialised education. Ninety three per cent of the managers of departments and livestock sections do not have a special education; almost three fourths of the people filling the plans of senior mechanical engineers in the state farms are practical workers.

Our task is to make every state farm a profitable enterprise with a high market output. For this the executive personnel the state farms should 'be reinforced. It is necessary to bring order into the lagging state forms, to eliminate mismanagement to achieve the strictest economy of state funds and a sharp reduction in production costs. We should think In terms of abolishing the present system of state subsidies, since it gives rise to a feeling of depending on these

subsidies among the executives of the state farms, does not induce them to strive persistently for improvement in the work of state farms.

It is our task to make all the state farms model enterprises.

7. Questions of Party-Political Work in the Countryside

Comrades! Successful solution of the problems confronting us in the sphere of agriculture requires a great deal of organisational and political work by the party organisations. It would be wrong to think that the further advancement of agriculture will proceed quietly and smoothly, by itself.

The Party and Government are now providing all the material, technical and organizational conditions needed for further strengthening the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms. In this connection a certain part of our workers might develop a frame of mind that henceforth things will go by themselves and one can be completely complacent. Nothing could be more dangerous than such a frame of mind. It can cause immense harm.

Without organisational work by the regional and district committees of the Party, the lower Party organisations, by the heads of the machine and tractor stations and of the collective farms and state farms the material, conditions and possibilities cannot by themselves yield due results. In order to utilise the possibilities and conditions we should set in motion all our forces and resources, exert great organisational efforts, raise the broad masses of the collective farmers, workers in machine and tractor stations and in

state farms and lead them in carrying out the tasks of further advancing agriculture.

We have at our disposal no small Party forces in the countryside. There are Party organisations in 76 thousand collective farms, and the number of Communists in the countryside today exceeds one million. The Young Communist League members in the rural areas make up an army of over two million. If we distribute and utilise these forces properly we shall cope successfully with all problems and we shall overcome all the difficulties hampering the achievement of our aim. To this end the Party organisations should rely more and more on the non-Party activists, on the foremost people in the collective-farm village.

The measures taken by the Party in recent years to develop inner Party democracy, criticism and self-criticism have considerably facilitated the development of the activity of the Communists, the consolidation of the Party organisations and the strengthening of their ties with the working masses.

At the same time it must be admitted that there are serious shortcomings in the activity of the Party organisations in the countryside. In many organisations the Party-political work is divorced from the economic tasks. We have workers who talk a lot about politics being inseparable from the economy, that politics should be combined with the solving of economic problems, but in practice they divorce political activity from everyday work in economic construction. This can be seen first of all from the state of the work with the leading cadres in agriculture, particularly in relation to the chairmen of collective farms.

In order to gain success attention should be

concentrated on the main thing, and the main thing is to strengthen the machine and tractor stations, collective farms and state farms, by giving them experienced, tried and tested, honest and devoted leaders capable of organising the work and property selecting and allocating people.

No directive, however well and comprehensively worked out, will have the proper effect on the advancement of agriculture if there are no good executives and capable organisers on the job. A directive may not yield any benefit whatever without people knowing their jobs at the head of the collective farms.

The collective farms have developed and become big diversified farms. Whereas before the amalgamation the ploughland of a collective farm averaged 589 hectares, today it is 1,693 hectares. To manage such a farm is a complex and responsible job.

The Central Committee of the Party and the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. decided three years ago to improve the composition of collective farm chairmen and other managerial personnel. During the past period a certain amount of work was carried out to improve the selecting of leading workers for the collective farms. A considerable number of specialists and practical workers with experience of organisation work have been advanced to the post of collective farm chairmen.

However, the matter of strengthening the collective farms by providing them with leading cadres is still in a poor state. Only 16,600 of the collective farms have chairmen with a higher or specialised secondary education. In most collective farms the chairmen are people with elementary education.

Because of the unsatisfactory selection of chairmen for the collective farms they are often replaced. Nearly a third of the chairmen hold their post less than a year. There are many collective farms in which the chairmen have been changed two or three times a year. Many of them have been removed for inability to do the job or because of misuse of office. A good many instances can be cited where district committees of the Party have sent from one collective farm to another, forcing them on the collective farmers, people who proved to be failures or guilty of embezzlement.

The task is in the near future to improve the composition of the collective-farm chairmen and to improve their training. At the same time the most serious attention must be given to selecting the heads of production brigades. As a result of the amalgamating of the collective farms the production brigades too have become large and it is necessary that they be headed by experienced people, good organisers, honest collective farmers.

The Party has trained remarkable cadres in the countryside. In many districts it is possible to find among local workers people who will make good collective-farm chairmen. But we have a good many districts which need help in this matter. It should be borne in mind that in some regions the collective farms are experiencing difficulties with respect to personnel. These difficulties are due to the fact that we suffered considerable losses in personnel during the war. Besides, a large number of the more literate and cultured collective farmers have gone to work in industry since the war. Consequently the possibility of finding good workers for advancement is limited in a number of districts. We must help them.

Along with advancing local personnel and the transferring of specialists it is necessary to select Communists in industrial centres and send them to fill leading positions in the collective farms.

At one time the Party sent to the countryside 25,000 workers and they did a tremendous job in reorganizing agriculture on socialist lines. Moreover, to help the collective farms 17,000 Party workers were sent in 1933 to work in the political departments. Thousands of other workers from industry were at various times sent to work in the machine and tractor stations, collective farms and state farms. This was important help to the collective-farm peasantry. Most of these workers did their job with enthusiasm and creditably justified the Party's trust. Although at first they did not possess the required knowledge of agriculture, they, owing to their high political training and experience as organisers, quickly mastered the job, proved to be capable leaders and did a lot to strengthen the collective farms. Many examples can be cited of splendid work by the Communists whom the Party sent to the countryside. Such workers should be given every support by the Party organizations, since they are performing a great and noble thing for the people, strengthening the alliance between the working class and the peasantry.

And in the present conditions, too, assistance in the form of personnel by the socialist town to the collective farm village is an important factor for still further strengthening the alliance between the workers and peasants, the unshakable foundation of the might or Soviet society.

We are fully able to provide all the collective farms with trained personnel. It would be fine to have as a collective farm chairman an agricultural specialist,

preferably one with a higher education. But we must also value the good practical executives. We have many examples of fine work by collective-farm chairmen who are practical workers.

The lagging collective farms first of all need good organisers. In choosing collective-farm chairmen we must endeavour to have at the head of each collective farm an experienced and efficient organiser able to unite the collective farmers and successfully manage big farms.

Why should we not now, when we have considerable numbers of Soviet intellectuals, issue a call from the Party and ask the best people in the towns, say 50,000 Communists, to go to the countryside to help strengthen the work there. I think we can do that. We should exchange here at the Plenum opinions on this question as well as on other questions.

We can be fully confident that if the Party issues such an appeal to the Communists in the industrial centres many will volunteer to go to the countryside and apply their energies and knowledge to the further strengthening of the collective farm system. We should send tried and tested Communists, people, who understand all the importance of the job, who will regard themselves as permanent and not temporary workers in the countryside. And they should be surrounded with care and attention.

If we strengthen the personnel of the collective farms there will no longer be any need to send all kinds of authorised people who often have no knowledge of farming and do not always give the collective farms the needed help. Sending people to work permanently in the collective farms will prove immeasurably more beneficial than sending authorised people.

An urgent task in improving the guidance to agriculture is to enhance the role of the district committees or the Party and the executive committees of the district Soviets in developing the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms. Unless the district personnel is strengthened, unless the Party forces are properly allocated and the entire Party work efficiently organised we shall not be able to raise the leadership of the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms to the level required for the new tasks.

Many agricultural districts are not rich in trained Party and Soviet personnel. The workers of a number of district committees of the Party and of the executive committees of district Soviets lack the business qualities needed for the higher standard required from leaders at the present time. It is necessary to speak specially about the secretaries of the Party district committees in the rural areas. To judge by the information furnished in their applications the picture would look more or less alright. Over 90 per cent of the secretaries have been members of the Party 8 years or more, and 80 per cent possess a secondary or higher education.

What then are the weak sides of the leading personnel in the rural areas? The thing is that some of them know agriculture poorly and do not have the necessary experience of organising work. About half the secretaries or the Party district committees in the countryside have been engaged in Party work less than 5 years and over a third of the secretaries have held their post less than a year. At the head of many district committees of the Party and executive committees of the district Soviets are people with little experience and it is difficult for them to guide the districts, machine

and tractor stations and collective farms in the way that is needed.

Are we in a position to strengthen the district link with the necessary Party and Soviet personnel? Undoubtedly we have the people. All that is necessary is to allocate and use the people properly, to reduce the apparatus in the regional, territorial and republican centres, to do away with the unnecessary superstructures and shift a considerable part of the good workers to strengthen the district link, the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms.

Some regions do not have the necessary reserve of cadres for promotion to Party and Soviet work and that is why they keep transferring poor workers from one place to another. Without the help of the Central Committee those regions will find it difficult to solve the problem of improving the leadership of the districts with their own forces. We must help them. For this purpose it is necessary to select several thousand Party members, the best of the best, and send them to work in the district committees of the Party and, executive committees of the district Soviets in the rural areas.

It is necessary to give warning that the question of replacing the inexperienced leaders must be approached thoughtfully and carefully. Poor Party and Soviet workers must be replaced only by better trained and more experienced workers. As for the comrades who will be thus released, provided they have proved to be good Party members, it would be expedient to give them further training, to send them to refresher courses and to Party schools so that they become good leaders. Clearly it would be useful to include in the programmes of the refresher courses and Party schools the study of

technology, economics and organisation of socialist agriculture.

Work in the countryside is vital and honourable work. The Party organisations should get rid of the haughty and bureaucratic attitude towards the countryside which has developed among some Communists, even among those holding responsible posts. There are still executives who regard work in rural districts, machine and tractor stations, collective farms and state farms as second-rate work. Such people do not understand the simple truth that without advancing agriculture the problems, of Communist construction cannot be solved successfully. Communist society cannot be built without an abundance of grain, meat, milk, butter, vegetables and other agricultural products.

The task is to turn the attention of the Party organisations to rapid development of agriculture. All sectors concerned with guiding agriculture must be strengthened with personnel. The vast army of specialists working in offices must be shifted to the countryside; collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms must be reinforced with leading personnel and general workers; the leading personnel of the district committees of the Party and district executive committees of the Soviets must also be strengthened. This work must be begun immediately and be completed in the main not later than January or February next year so that thousands of newly promoted capable organisers—members and non-Party people—shall be ready in spring to work energetically for a bumper harvest next year and for an upsurge in stock breeding.

It is necessary also to put an end to the lack of

personal responsibility in guiding the machine and tractor stations and the collective farms. The Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies in the districts have large staffs, roughly 5 or 6 leading workers for every collective farm. And yet in point of fact, no one is responsible for the state of affairs in the collective farms and machine and tractor stations and for the political work among the masses.

It might be said that the secretary of the district committee of the Party, the chairman of the district executive committee of the Soviet, the head of the agricultural department of the district executive committee, the director of the machine and tractor station and many others are responsible for the collective farms and machine and tractor stations. But who in the district farms concretely responsible for a particular collective farm? To this question you will not get a definite answer from anybody, since no one is responsible for a definite collective farm. Therein lies the fundamental defect in the leadership of the collective farms. In practice there is no personal responsibility for leadership of the collective farms. More often than not it looks like this: an official from the district committee of the Party or the executive committee of the district Soviet motors from collective farm to collective farm covering half the district in a day and very often gives instructions without getting out of the car.

Major shortcomings are to be found also in the leadership of the primary Party organisations in the collective farms. This is seen first of all in the fact that district committees of the Party with rare exceptions, do not give adequate guidance to the secretaries of the collective-farm Party organisations and do not display

the necessary concern for strengthening the Party organisations and rallying around them the activists from among the non-Party collective farmers. In many organisations Marxist-Leninist education of the Communists is still conducted badly.

The regional and district committees of the Party do not take the proper steps to enhance the role of the collective-farm Party organisations in solving the problems of the collective farms. Many collective farms have fairly big Party organisations. In a number of collective farms the Party organisations are headed by secretaries who have been released from other duties. Responding to the request of regional and district committees the Central Committee of the Party has established the post of full-time secretary for the bigger Party organisations in 3,747 collective farms. But not everywhere have the Party committees given serious attention to the selection of secretaries for the collective-farm Party organisations. Frequently immature, insufficiently trained and sometimes adventitious people are recommended for this job.

In many collective farms the standard of political work conducted among the masses is low, proper attention is not given to the political education of the working people. There are still functionaries who, instead of daily comprehensive work among the collective farmers, limit themselves to issuing orders and violate Soviet law. In many collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms the cultural and everyday services to the collective-farm men and women and workers of machine and tractor stations and state farms are on a low level. In some districts the Party and Soviet bodies pay scant attention to organising film shows.

In a number of districts there is an underestimation of the Young Communist League organisations, which are an important force in the effort to advance agriculture. Members of the Young Communist League and the rural youth are still insufficiently enlisted to help solve the problem of increasing the efficiency of agriculture and developing the commonly-owned animal husbandry.

An exceptionally great role is played in agriculture by women—our glorious collective-farm women, workers of machine and tractor stations and state farms—who furnish splendid examples of devoted labour in all spheres of collective-farm and state-farm production. It must bluntly be said that many Party organisations do not take account of this and conduct work among women unsatisfactorily.

The regional and district committees of the Party must resolutely do away with the serious shortcomings and raise the political work of the Party among the broad working masses to a higher level.

In order to accomplish this it is necessary to put an end to the lack of personal responsibility for socio-political work in the countryside and in the management of the machine and tractor stations and collective farms.

The time has come to bring the Party leadership closer to the decisive production sectors. In the present stage it is necessary to reorganise the work of the Party apparatus so that a definite functionary is allocated to a given collective farm and made responsible for it, so that there is somebody in charge of the proper selection of personnel, the correct allocation of people, the political work among the collective farmers and responsible for solving the tasks facing the particular

collective farm.

For an exchange of views on this matter the following considerations might be put forward. It seems to us that in the district committees of the Party in rural areas there should be a group of workers, headed by a secretary of the district committee, for each machine and tractor station. To give an example, say, there are three machine and tractor stations in the district. In such a district three groups of instructors could be formed. One group for each machine and tractor station, so that there would be one instructor for one or, at the most, two collective farms for the work of which he is responsible to the district committee of the Party. The role of the instructor in the Party apparatus in general and in the district committees of the Party in particular must be enhanced. Attention should, therefore, be given to the selection of instructors and to their training.

The secretary of the district committee of the Party heading the group should guide the instructors under him, serve the collective farms of the entire area serviced by the machine and tractor stations, organise Party work among the machine and tractor station workers and in the collective farms and be responsible to the district committee of the Party for the state of affairs in those collective farms. To make the guidance of the collective farms and lower Party organisations concrete the secretary of the district committee of the Party must spend all his working time at the machine and tractor station, which will be a good thing, since there will be less red tape and more real work. This will make it unnecessary to have any longer a deputy manager of the machine and tractor station in charge of political work. The bureau of the district committee of

the Party, with the first secretary at the head, should direct the work of the groups serving the machine and tractor stations and collective farms and also guide the entire economic and cultural activity in the district.

In our view the realisation of these measures will help to raise the level of all Party organisational work and will abolish the lack of personal responsibility in guiding the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and lower Party organisations.

Something must also be said about the defective style and methods of the regional committees of the Party in guiding agriculture. The Central Committee of the Party has every reason to demand improvement in this guidance. The facts at our disposal show that many leading Party and Soviet workers do not go into the affairs of collective farms deeply. Without properly studying the collective farm economics and advanced experience such workers display a superficial approach and instead of giving business-like help to the collective farms issue declarations and work by fits and starts.

Even some secretaries of regional committees of the Party have no real knowledge of agriculture and do not want to study it, confining themselves to general phraseology and superficial instructions which are of little worth. Can anyone regard it as normal when the leader of a regional organisation of the Party cannot name even a single collective farm which yields good crops or name a good chairman of a collective farm or an outstanding head of a brigade. Or is it permissible for the secretary of a regional committee of the Party or of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of a Union, Republic not to have a thorough understanding of the advantages of the advanced methods of labour in agriculture, not to know how the collective farms in the

region are working to ensure fodder for the stock, which cultures, for instance, would be better for silage and what harvests of these crops are gathered by the collective farms and state farms, and so on. Unfortunately we still have some such leaders.

An end must be put once and for all to such a superficial approach to the leadership of agriculture. In order to lead correctly it is necessary to study the situation in the localities, to study the state of affairs in the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms, keep in close touch with and instruct the personnel and, above all the chairmen of collective farms, to study advanced experience and apply it in production. Leading Party and Soviet' workers need not necessarily be agronomists but they must be well versed in farming matters. And this knowledge is accessible to anyone who really wants to be a useful worker. I think that this demand is absolutely correct.

Comrades! We have today in all districts of our country no small number of economically strong collective farms which gather rich harvests, obtain high productivity of their livestock successfully fulfil their obligations to the state, earn big incomes and every year ensure high returns in kind and cash to the collective farmers for their work-day units. Implementation of the projected measures for the further advancement of agriculture will ensure a further considerable rise in the incomes of the collective farms and the collective farmers. The cultural and material requirements of the collective farmers will greatly increase and will continue to grow.

In view of this we must take up a number of questions pertaining to cultural and welfare construction and improvement of the collective-farm

villages. Many workers ask: how should this work be further conducted? There is only one answer—approach the matter from the standpoint of the concrete conditions. Where the collective farms are strong and have the necessary material means, and we already have no small number of such collective farms, it is necessary to build first of all farm buildings and also pursue the improvement of the collective-farm villages.

With the growth of the collective farms they will be able to use part of their incomes for the construction of public welfare buildings: kindergartens, creches and maternity homes so as to provide the women members of the collective farms with better conditions for work in the collective husbandries and to enable them to take a more active part in social life. The economically strong collective farms can allocate funds for the construction of clubs and thereby create more favourable conditions for socio-political and cultural-educational work among the collective farmers. The collective farms should be recommender! It help their members in repairing and building houses, barn and other subsidiary premises, in acquiring planting material for planting orchards around their houses, in stocking up with fuel and in meeting other needs of the collective farmers.

We must bear in mind that the main thing is to increase the yields per hectare, to advance animal husbandry and develop all branches of agriculture. Only on the basis of a new powerful, upsurge in agriculture can the tasks of improving the collective farm villages and of further raising the cultural level and standard of living of the collective farmers be accomplished. Unflagging concern for raising the material and cultural standards of the working people is the all-important

duty of all Party and Soviet organisations.

I should like to dwell on yet another question, that of the khutors (farms). As we know, in the Baltic Republics-Lithuania, Latvia, Esthonia—there are many “khutors”. Now that collectivisation in these Republics has in the main been accomplished, some local workers ask what about the “khutors”, how to regard them? In our view there can be no two opinions about the matter. In the other Republics and regions, in accordance with the decision of the Government, the change over from the “khutors” was almost completed already before the war. And we are for the gradual liquidation of the “khutors” system and for the creation of collective—farm villages. This will provide more favourable conditions for advancing collective-farm production and will make it possible to raise the cultural level and standard of living of the collective farmers, to build good schools, hospitals, maternity homes and child welfare establishments.

However, it would be wrong to act hastily in the practical realisation of this question. It is necessary that the Party and Soviet bodies, jointly with the collective farms, thoroughly study the local possibilities and, depending on them, decide the question of where, when and how to put this matter into effect. We are confident that the proper solution will be found. The collective farmers themselves will not want to live in “khutors” and will raise the question of improving their cultural and material conditions.

The realisation of the big measures for the further advancement of agriculture largely depends on the work Carried on by the Party organisation among the masses. The creative energies of our agricultural workers are inexhaustible; it is necessary actively to set them in

motion. Our Party functionaries and all members must widely popularise the urgent tasks of developing agriculture, must promote socialist emulation for raising crop yields and productivity of animal husbandry. With this aim in view they must always be in the midst of the masses, daily guide the masses, thoroughly know the people, their needs and interests, be able in time to notice and support useful initiative, and forestall possible blunders and failures. In all their work the Party organisations must rely on the advanced people in the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms, leading workers in crop cultivation and animal husbandry whose ranks will grow and multiply with every passing day.

The Party organisations must:

ensure an upsurge in the entire Party-organisational and mass-political work, combine more closely Party-political work with the solving of economic tasks;

take urgent measures to reinforce the district Party committees, machine and tractor stations, collective farms and state farms with cadres and raise to a higher level the work of leading the personnel in, all branches of agriculture;

put an end to the incorrect views held by a section of our cadres that work in the countryside is a secondary matter;

eliminate the lack of personal responsibility in the management of the collective farms, reorganise the work of the apparatus of the district Party committees, bring the Party organs closer to collective-farm and state-farm production;

improve the leadership of agriculture on the part of the regional and district committees of the Party, resolutely end the incorrect practice of some Party

functionaries, who issue orders instead of giving practical guidance, end the bureaucratic, superficial altitude in leading the collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms.

It is the duty of all Party organisations to rally all the collective farmers, all the workers of the machine and tractor stations, all agricultural specialists in the struggle to further increase the yields of all crops and develop commonly-owned animal husbandry, and to see to it that each collective farm successfully fulfils its state deliveries, has the necessary seed and other funds and ensures the further strengthening of the collective farms and higher payment for the work-day units of the collective farmers.

Comrades! The Soviet land is in its prime and is confidently marching forward along the road to Communism. A vital component of the programme of Communist construction is the practical realisation of the task of creating in our country, on the basis of the powerful growth of socialist industry as the leading force of our national economy, an abundance of agricultural products. This task confronts us now as an urgent, all people's task. Its successful realisation will facilitate also the further strengthening of the alliance between the working class and the collective-farm peasantry.

We can express the firm conviction that under the leadership of the Communist Party, the working class, the collective-farm peasantry, our intelligentsia and the Soviet people as a whole will accomplish this task in the shortest possible time. This will signify a big stride by

our country along the road to Communism!

THE 85th BRITISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS. Harry Pollitt, General Secretary, Communist Party of Great Britain

Before the 85th Trades Union Congress, held on September 7-11, 1953, it was widely recognised that it would be one of the most important Congresses ever held in the history of the British working-class movement.

The representatives of over eight million British trade unionists would be meeting at a critical moment in the national and international situation.

There was a new hope for peace throughout the world as a result of the great series of initiatives for peace undertaken by the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic.

Simultaneously, ordinary people were expressing anger at the heavy burden of the colossal arms programme being carried through by the British Government. Discontent with the policy of the Tory Government was mounting. The British people were disgusted that the Tories, instead of following up the proposal for top-level negotiations between the Great Powers made by Sir Winston Churchill in May, had surrendered to American pressure. Tory policy was also resulting in continuously rising prices, the reduction in the food subsidies in particular having caused a sharp rise in the price of food.

The Trades Union Congress had it in its power to give a lead to the working people of Britain in the fight for peace and against the Tories, and rally to the side of

the Labour movement all progressive, peace-loving and patriotic elements in Britain.

But the right-wing leaders made no secret of their determination to fight harder than ever against a progressive policy. Since the last Trades Union Congress, in September 1952, they have pursued an even more reactionary course than hitherto, making it plain that their aim is the defence of imperialism and hostility to the Soviet Union and the other countries of the camp of peace and democracy.

Instead of fighting against the Tories they have pursued their openly declared policy of “amicable working” with the Tory Government; they have intensified their disruptive activities against the militant left-wing trade unionists.

Instead of fighting for the nationalisation of key industries, some of the right-wing leaders have done their best to assist the Tories to carry through their plans for denationalising the steel and road transport industries. Sir Lincoln Evans, former General Secretary of the steelworkers’ union, resigned his trade union position in order to take up a post, at a salary of £5,000 a year, on the Steel Board set up by the Tory Government to look after the interests of the privately-owned, denationalised steel industry.

During the past year large numbers of workers—well over five million in all—put in demands for wage increases to meet rising prices. Although the employers are making bigger profits than ever, the General Council did not launch a great national campaign in support of these wage demands, but instead repeated all the arguments of the Tory Government about the “grave economic position”, the need to “keep export prices down”, and so on.

Finally, the General Council defied the resolution passed at the 1952 Congress calling for increased East-West trade, and produced a statement pouring cold water on the idea that a great increase in such trade was possible and necessary to the solution of Britain's economic problems.

Many people were shocked and surprised by the decisions of the General Council immediately before the Congress opened. It is the practice for the General Council to meet before Congress in order to decide its attitude to the resolutions placed on the agenda by the affiliated trade unions. One of these resolutions, advanced by the important and influential Amalgamated Engineering Union, called for a united campaign by the Labour movement to bring about the defeat of the Tory Government. The General Council decided at its pre-Congress meeting to oppose this resolution if it were put to the Congress, and they were successful in defeating this resolution when it came before the Congress.

In contrast, the views of the rank and file of the Labour movement had been made abundantly clear also in the week before the Congress, by the publication of the final Agenda for the Labour Party Conference. This was a document, containing literally hundreds of resolutions from local Labour Parties and from trade union organisations, practically all of them hostile to the policy of the right-wing leaders. Particularly noteworthy are the amendments put forward to the policy statement of the Labour Party Executive Committee entitled "Challenge to Britain". This reactionary and bankrupt document comes in for the severest criticism, nearly 300 amendments having been submitted. The conservative "Daily Telegraph"

described this section of the Agenda as “47 pages of hostile criticism”.

It was this clear indication of the wishes and desires of the rank and file that made the right-wing leaders decide that at this Congress it was necessary to surpass all their previous efforts in trickery, threats, manipulation of the agenda and use of the “block vote” of the big unions.

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When the votes of the T.U.C. are examined, it should be remembered. that the right-wing leaders dominate some of the biggest unions, such as the Transport and General Workers’ Union, the National Union of General and Municipal Workers and the National Union of Mineworkers. When the right-wing leaders of each of these three unions raise their hands to vote, it means that nearly 3,000,000 votes automatically go against progressive resolutions. But this, of course, does not mean that all the members agree with the view of the right-wing leaders who, cast the votes on their behalf. On the contrary, in the delegation meetings held before the Congress to decide which way the votes shall be cast, the right-wing often only get their way by a narrow margin. This year, for example, the press reported that in the miners’ delegation the progressive point of view was defeated by only a few votes. Yet the entire vote of the miners was cast on the side of reaction on most important issues throughout the Congress.

The interests of the working people in the unions demand that sustained and concentrated efforts be made to explain to the younger trade unionists, not only

what decisions were made, but how they were made, to explain how the Trades Union Congress works, how the block vote is manipulated. This would lead to greater personal and collective efforts to change things.

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The most outrageous and anti-working-class arguments were resorted to by the right-wing to try to justify their policy. This was most clearly expressed in the debate on wages. It is actually wrong to call it a “debate”, for the General Council so arranged the agenda that only 30 minutes was devoted to this issue, and only three speakers were allowed. The Electrical Trades Union, moved a resolution declaring complete opposition to wage restraint and calling for a vigorous campaign for higher wages. One would have, thought that this was completely in line with the elementary principles of trade unionism. But the right-wing leaders launched a bitter attack on the resolution, declaring that for the workers to campaign for higher wages would be a “disastrous adventure”. Nevertheless, the resolution received 2,614,000 votes, against 5,018,000 for the right-wing. The General Council was, however, forced to agree to a resolution which condemned wage restraint in a less forthright fashion, and called for Government action to stabilise living costs.

The acceptance by Sir Lincoln Evans and three other members of the General Council of posts on the Tory Government’s Steel Denationalisation Board was challenged at the Congress, and 2,877,000 votes were cast for a resolution condemning their action, despite the opposition of the leadership.

The General Council opposed a resolution calling for unrestricted world trade, including reciprocal agreements with the Soviet Union, China and other

eastern countries. This was moved by the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers and seconded by the National Union of Railwaymen, and received 2,353,000 votes. The vilest anti-Soviet slanders aimed at frustrating any possible development of this trade were indulged in by the spokesmen of the platform, although Britain's economic position is such today that even some Tories are now beginning to understand the need for the development of East-West trade and the need to end the American-inspired interference with it.

Striking proof of the peace sentiments of the British working people was found in the unanimous support given to a resolution sponsored by the Electrical Trades Union, which called for peace throughout the world.

Not even the reactionary General Council dared to oppose this resolution, and its unanimous adoption by the Trades Union Congress will have repercussions far beyond the confines of the British Trade Union movement.

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In considering the results of the Trades Union Congress as a whole, it becomes clear how alien is the right-wing policy to the fundamental principles of Trade Unionism.

First, in opposing any further extension of nationalisation Mr. Geddes, the spokesman for the General Council, sought to defend a policy behind which, as behind every manoeuvre the General Council made at Douglas, is the naked policy of class collaboration.

Second, the right wing Trade Union leaders never tire of proclaiming that "they do not intend to lay down

any political policy, they are only concerned with economic issues, politics must be left to the Labour Party”.

Now apart from the undeniable fact, that the General Council does not take any steps to improve the wages of the Trade Unionists as proved by its opposition to any Trade Union action to secure higher wages immediately, every action the General Council takes is political. And the politics it advances are deliberately designed to strengthen capitalism.

Third, in their opposition to any effective campaign for removing the existing restrictions on East-West trade, the General Council close their eyes to the economic realities of the situation into which British industry is entering.

On the very day the General Council sabotaged any efforts to promote East-West trade the British newspapers were stating that the pound sterling had slumped to a new low on the American Stock exchange, and, that the reason for this was the knowledge in America of the adverse effects which German and Japanese competition would have on Britain's capacity to retain existing export markets or win new ones.

There is hardly another capitalist country in the world likely to be in such need of East-West trade as Britain.

Fourth, it is an insult to every trade unionist in Britain that year after year the delegates of the American Federation of Labour are allowed to come to a Trade Union Congress and pour out their filth against the countries of the democratic camp, and against any genuine effort to build up international trade union unity.

Fifth, the stock in trade cry of the Deakins and

Tewsons is that “they are democrats who are opposed on principle to dictatorship”. What a lie this is. The very last thing these people ever practise is real democracy. They shudder at the thought that they should come up for periodical election in their own unions. Watch how they manipulate their delegations which meet before the Trades Union Congress opens, and decide how to cast their millions of votes, before a single word is spoken at the Congress itself. for or against any statement of policy or resolution which may come before the Congress. They are “outraged” if anyone dares to attack the capitalists, and they hurl filth and slander against any delegate who dares to state a reasoned case against them.

Sixth, it becomes clearer each year why the Labour Party Conference is held after and not before the Trades Union Congress. It is a division of labour between the right wing leaders in both organisations.

The decisions of the Trades Union Congress are deliberately meant to Intimidate the Labour Party conference when it meets, and every serious person In the Labour Party fighting for a socialist policy knows this to be true.

At the same time, it would be a serious mistake to overestimate the influence of the right wing leaders of the General Council. The results of the Douglas Trades Union Congress, while serious, in many respects, are not an unqualified victory for the right wing.

The substantial minority votes representing the will of some of the key trade unions in Britain have to be seriously taken into account.

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In the factories, the pits, the transport depots, docks and fields, the workers will more and more close their ranks, and fight for better conditions. Evert while the Congress was meeting, workers in Sheffield were winning important victories, the engineering and shipyard workers were holding great meetings supporting their demands for a 15% wage increase.

What the militant delegates at Douglas fought for has a significance which will reach a greater depth as the weeks pass by. There is no doubt that the militant left wing forces are already drawing many lessons from their experiences at Douglas, both in regard to the general conclusions of the Congress and their own weaknesses. They put up a splendid fight in circumstances of great difficulty, and they will be all the stronger to lead the fight in the factories where they work and in the Trade Unions of which they are such active members.

One of the most important lessons of course is the need for greater unity of thought and action in the places where the workers work and among the organisations of which they are members.

For Britain faces one of the most serious moments in its history. The capitalist "Observer" recently declared: "Far too few persons are aware bow perilous our economic state remains, and how desperately vulnerable we are".

Only complete reversal of the policy of the Trades Union Congress and Labour Party, both economic and political, reduction of armaments, abandonment of the cold war, ending the terrorism against the colonial peoples, and a new, socialist policy can save Britain.

What is needed is a policy of unity to secure higher wages and improved social services, development of

East-West trade, extension of nationalisation to all the key industries.

If every trade union branch, every Shop Stewards Committee, every local Labour Party and Co-operative organisation had such a policy placed before it for discussion in the next few weeks, there is no doubt at all, that the response would be overwhelming. This is the policy for which the rank and file must fight.

PLENUM, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY

The XVI Plenum of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany was held on September 17-19 in Berlin, with Comrades Wilhelm Pieck and Otto Grotewohl presiding.

Comrade Erich Mückenberger analysed the work of the Political Bureau in the period between the XV and XVI Plenums of the Central Committee. The report was approved.

A report on the “Path to Peace, Unity and Well-Being” was delivered by Walter Ulbricht. After discussion Comrade Ulbricht’s report was accepted as the basis for the further work of the Party.

A report “Improving the Work of Press and Radio” was made by Comrade Fred Oelssner.

A report “Preparation for the IV Party Congress and Elections for the Leading Bodies” was delivered by Comrade Karl Schirdewan who spoke about the directive for the political and organisational preparations for the IV Congress of the Party which will be held early in 1954.

Comrade Hermann Matern informed the Central Committee that investigation of the case of Zaisser-Herrnstadt and Dahlem was being continued.

In a closing, speech Comrade Wilhelm Pieck called on the entire Party to work with renewed vigour in order to achieve the grand aims of the Party.

TWO GLORIOUS DATES

September 23 marked the thirtieth anniversary of the glorious September anti-fascist popular uprising in Bulgaria, which was organised and led by the Communist Party. This year this glorious anniversary was celebrated simultaneously with another outstanding date—the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the revolutionary Marxist Party—the Workers’ Social Democratic Party of Bulgaria (“Tesnyaki”).

The activities held throughout the country on the occasion of the anniversary included meetings, rallies and excursions. to historical places connected with the September 23rd uprising.

On September 22nd a meeting was held in the National Theatre in Sofia under the auspices of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, the National Council of the Fatherland Front and the Sofia Party Committee.

The report “50th anniversary of the founding of the Party of ‘Narrow’ Socialists (“Tesnyaki”) and 30th anniversary of the 1923 anti-fascist popular uprising” was delivered by Comrade Encho Staikov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ADVANCED CO-OPERATIVE WORKERS IN HUNGARY

The III National Conference of exemplary members of the agricultural producer cooperatives and machine and tractor stations in Hungary was held in Budapest on September 19-20. 1,300 delegates were present including chairmen and work-team leaders from the best co-operatives, secretaries of the Party organisations, the best tractor drivers, managers of machine and tractor stations. Comrade Matias Rakosi and other leaders of the Party and Government took part in the Conference. The report on the tasks of the producer cooperatives and machine and tractor stations was made by Andras Hegedüs, Minister of Agriculture.

Thanks to the diligent labour and perseverance of the working people and of the working class in the first instance, said the speaker, output of industry was now almost three times greater than prewar. However, alongside rapid industrial development, agriculture is still lagging, and average crop yields are not much higher than they were in capitalist Hungary.

In keeping with the Central Committee decision and with a view to advancing agriculture, Hegedüs said, the Government has carried out a number of measures: the state delivery quotas are greatly reduced, charges for work done by the machine and tractor stations are likewise lowered, veterinary service will be free, and contracts will be signed on terms favourable to the peasants, etc. As a result of these measures in the past two and a half months working peasant income increased by nearly 3,000 million forints, half of which goes to the co-operatives.

Concluding, the speaker said, in tackling the job of the further development of agriculture in Hungary the September decision of the Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union will be of enormous help.

The Conference approved new Rules for the producer co-operatives and adopted a resolution outlining ways and means of strengthening the co-operatives and improving the well-being of their members.

GENERAL STRIKE IN ITALY

A general 24-hour strike in Italy was called on September 24 by the General Confederation of Labour, the Christian Democratic and Social Democratic trade unions. The strike involved about 8 million working people. Work stepped at all the enterprises throughout the country. Transport workers held 3-4-hour strikes. In Rome, for instance, city transport was at a stand-still from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and from 4 p. m. until 6 p. m. Not a single newspaper appeared in the country as a result of the strike.

This strike was caused by the irreconcilable attitude of the employers who refused to grant the demands of the working people to raise wages which are so low that they do not ensure even a subsistence level. A feature of this strike was the unity of the working people on a scale not seen since 1948.

TASS STATEMENT

Regarding Tests of New Types of Atom Bombs in the Soviet Union

On September 18th the Soviet press published the following statement by TASS:

“During the past few weeks, in keeping with the research plan in the sphere of atomic energy, several new types of atom bombs were tested in the Soviet Union. The tests were successful. They fully confirmed the calculations and assumptions of the scientists and engineers-constructors.

“It is perfectly understandable that so long as responsible circles in the United States continue to reject the insistent proposals of the U.S.S.R. for the prohibition of atomic weapons, the Soviet Union, basing itself on the requirements of security, is forced to devote attention to the production of atomic weapons. At the same time the Soviet Union will continue to pursue the policy of strengthening peace among the nations, strive for agreement with other countries for unconditional prohibition of atomic, hydrogen and other types of weapons of mass destruction, for a substantial reduction in armaments and the establishment of strict international control over the implementation of the decisions.

“Parallel with this, work is being carried out in the Soviet Union for utilisation of atomic energy for industrial purposes. The Soviet Union considers that the placing of atomic energy at the service of peaceful progress is its vital task”.

POLITICAL NOTES

American Bases in Japan—Threat to Peace!



The hospitality of the Japanese, their ability to conceal their real feelings under the mask of courtesy is proverbial—that is how the American journal “New Republic” begins a not very original and outwardly calm description of the situation in Japan. But the tranquillity immediately disappears when it comes to depicting the true attitude of the Japanese people to the U.S. occupation army. It appears that “hospitality”

and “courtesy” are words that can hardly be used in characterising these feelings.

Japan is known as the country of the rising sun. A progressive European journal once featured a cartoon showing an American general putting the Japanese sun in his pocket. True enough, the American imperialists, with the connivance of the anti-national Yoshida clique, act in Japan as in their own colony. True, the sun rises over Japan as ever, but the American occupationists have stolen land and water-ways from the people. They deprive them of the right to live in peace and to work in their own country. To date the U.S. has built 733 military bases on Japanese territory. The Yoshida Government has deprived the peasants of 166 villages of their cultivable land which is now used for U.S. barracks and airfields; tens of thousands of fishermen have been deprived of coastal fishing ground's which are now used to serve as U.S. naval bases and mine-fields. In August alone over 4,000 hectares of land in the Miyagi prefecture were taken over for military manoeuvres; the Oshima district in the Wakayama prefecture has been transformed into a radar base and one of the richest fishing grounds in Wakasa Bay turned over to the U.S. sea pirates. In the fiscal year 1953-54 the Yoshida Government will squeeze from the people over 968 billion yen and spend it on the maintenance of the U.S. occupation army. This exceeds last year's expenditure by nearly 8 billion yen.

Evidence of how the occupationists behave in Japan is seen from the fact that between April last year and April this year 3,000 crimes were committed by the Americans 8 or 9 a day. Not long ago a Japanese policeman was forced to fire at two drunken marines belonging to the U.S. 3rd Marine Division who were

committing outrages in the town of Naka and who finally attacked him. Similar cases have been reported since the arrival of the 3rd Marine Division from the U.S. three weeks ago. "All workers employed at U.S. bases know that American officers and soldiers unhesitatingly attack women when and where they please", reads the epilogue to a recently published book of letters by Japanese women-victims of the American occupationists. "If a woman protests she is in danger of death. If anyone goes to her help he is liable to be sentenced from ten to fifteen years hard labour". The American rapers are seeking to secure themselves free rein by means of an agreement with the Japanese rulers whereby Americans would be outside the jurisdiction of Japanese courts. They hold that the arrest of an American criminal cannot be effected without the consent of the chief of the military base.

The people of Japan have reacted as any people with a sense of national dignity would react. There can be no question of "hospitality" and "courtesy" when occupation troops brazenly and insolently run amuck in your own country!

At a recent meeting of the Association for Defence of Children in Tokyo, attended by 400 people, the speakers wrathfully denounced the American manoeuvres during which Japanese children are crippled, wounded and killed. They issued a call for struggle to put an end to the American military bases.

The movement for the liquidation of the U.S. bases developed particularly after the conferences of different organisations which took place last June. More and more sections of the population are joining in the struggle. In August 1,200 representatives of the rural youth on the Hokkaido Island called on the people to

resist attempts to take over peasant farmland for military training grounds.

The working class in Japan is in the van of the struggle against the American occupationists. In mid-August 150,000 workers employed at the American military bases scattered throughout the country held a 48-hour strike. The workers picketed the bases, held demonstrations and meetings and were actively supported by the population. The strikers protested against the occupation of Japan, against the signing by the Yoshida clique of the American-Japanese "Labor agreement" which reduces Japanese workers employed at the US. bases to slaves dependent on the arbitrary rule of the brat American soldiery. In the Shibatakahama district (Tokyo) an American lorry rushed a picket line, seriously injuring one worker. American soldiers in Yokota and Shibaura, near Tokyo, and at other bases, opened fire on strikers and wounded some of them.

Such is the true physiognomy of the occupationists!

A renewed wave of protests is rising in Japan in connection with the American attempts to speed up the establishment of the aggressive "Pacific bloc" in which Japan is assigned a role similar to that of Western Germany in the North Atlantic bloc. The Japanese authorities, servilely obeying to orders from across the ocean, no longer try to camouflage their policy of war preparation by posing as "opponents of rearmament". In their recent speeches Dulles, and Okazaki, Foreign Minister of Japan openly posed the question of increasing the armed forces of Japan in reply to U.S. "aid" which is of a purely military nature. These aggressive designs meet with increasing resistance among broad sections of the Japanese people.

All honest people in Japan are demanding an end to the policy of rearmament and an end to the U.S. occupation. They demand the establishment of economic relations with the countries of the Asian continent, particularly with People's China. They refuse to become reconciled to having in their country occupation troops whose presence offends the national pride of the people, and who have defiled the sacred Fujiyama mountain with barracks and brothels, who open fire on workers, ruin the peasants and maim children. They wrathfully protest against the American policy of suppressing the independence of Japan, of converting it into a hotbed of new aggression in Asia.

Jan MAREK

RESOLUTE ACTION BY FRENCH PEOPLE AGAINST BONN AND PARIS MILITARY AGREEMENTS

A powerful campaign is developing in France against ratification of the Bonn and Paris military agreements. The Permanent Peace Commission has called on all French men and women to unite in face of the danger threatening world peace and France arising from the outcome of the election in Western Germany and Adenauer's militarist-revanchist schemes and to fight against this threat. Meetings held at a number of enterprises in the Paris suburbs were addressed by peace movement activists, and resolutions were adopted condemning the Bonn and Paris agreements and deputations elected to take them to National Assembly Deputies.

The General Confederation of Labour has called on all organisations affiliated to it, on the working people and on all its active members to do all in their power, within the framework of the peace movement, in order to prevent ratification of the Bonn and Paris agreements. A number of organisations such as the National federation of persons forcibly driven to Germany for work, the Association of people of Polish descent-supporters of the Oder and Neisse border the War Veteran's Association of the Seine Department, the Republican War Veteran's Association and all the war veteran organisations in the Finistre Department and others, have declared their opposition to the Bonn and Paris agreements.

Twenty prominent figures in the Allier Department, leaders of agricultural trade unions and co-operatives,

and mayors of rural communes have addressed a letter to Foreign Minister Bidault expressing indignation at the telegram of greetings sent by him to Adenauer after the election in Western Germany. The same letter announced the decision to convene a Department peasant congress in defence of peace and agriculture. Similar congresses will take place during the next few months in a number of other departments. Preparatory committees for these congresses have either been formed or are being formed in the Lot-et-Garonne, Cher, Aude, Pyrenees Orientates, Alpes-Maritimes, Loire-et-Cher, Landes, etc.

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