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MACHINERY AND TROOPS STEP UP AGRICULTURE IN NORTHEAST;
SUMMER GRAIN COLLECTION GOES WELL IN NORTH CHINA

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY SPEEDS HARVEST -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 22 Aug 50

Mukden 20 August (Hsin-hua) -- For the first time, mechanized harvesting machinery has appeared on the 12 nationally operated farms in the Northeast. Both self-propelled and tractor-drawn Soviet-made harvester combines have been in use. The former can harvest 32 mou and the latter 25 mou per hour. The government farm at Kung-chu-ling in Kirin Province has been using the 1949 and 1950 model "Stalinets-8" tractor-drawn combine and the "Stalinets-4" self-propelled combine. At slowest speed, these machines can reap and thrash 23 to 24 mou per hour.

At the Sungkiang provincial farm, 14,800 mou of wheat were harvested in 8 days by the use of ten combines and 18 binders.

In some areas, mutual aid groups are renting Soviet-made horse-drawn binders from the government and cutting up to 22 mou per day at a saving of 8 man-days of labor. Such labor can be employed in hoeing other crops.

FOURTH FIELD ARMY FARMS IN MANCHURIA -- Mukden Tung-pei Jih-pao, 15 Jul 50

The various units of the CCF Fourth Field Army that returned to the North-east to engage in production enterprises are devoting all their efforts to opening up new land in northern Manchuria. During the first 20 days of June, the "T'ang-shan" unit, and the cavalry and artillery units broke and planted over 520,000 mou of new land. Of this amount 324,000 mou were opened up and planted by one artillery unit. At present, all units are actively engaged in summer hoeing. They work under the slogan "the more cultivation the larger the harvest."

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ANHWEI FLOOD VICTIMS RUSH PLANTING OF FALL CROPS -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao,
28 Aug 50

Shanghai, 26 July (Hsin-hua) -- The farmers in the areas of North Anhwei that were flooded this summer are now rushing the planting of late fall crops. About one million mou have already been planted.

SUGAR CULTIVATION LOANS BOOST PRODUCTION -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 25 Aug 50

Canton, 24 August -- Various sugar mills have been acting as agents of the People's Bank in distributing grain loans to the sugar cane farmers to carry them over the producing season. Bean cake and chemical fertilizer loans have also been made. The application of these fertilizers has raised the yields from 30 to 40 percent. Two percent interest is charged on the loans.

SUMMER PUBLIC GRAIN COLLECTION NEARLY COMPLETED IN NORTH CHINA -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 22 Aug 50

Peiping, 21 August (Hsin-hua) -- The summer grain collection has been practically completed in Hopeh, Pingyuan, and Shansi provinces. The Pingyuan collection amounted to 267,330,000 catties up to 15 August. This is 90 percent of the target. By the same date 220,200,000 catties or 65 percent of the target had been collected in Hopeh, and 129,220,000 catties in Shansi, 91 percent of the quota.

USE OF FARM MACHINERY -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao, 28 Jun 50

The Tung-hsin Mechanized Farm in north Kiangsu, having used tractors for plowing, is now using machinery for harvesting wheat. Eleven mechanical plows and 12 reapers are being used. All the plows have been put to work, clearing an undisclosed number of mou. On 3 June, one of the reapers harvested 60 mou of wheat in one day.

RURAL CUSTOMS CHANGE -- Ningpo Yung-chiang Jih-pao, 26 Jun 50

Chekiang peasants, in response to the government's maxim "Produce and economize; avoid summer scarcity," are reinvesting the proceeds of their special crop, cocoons, into further production. The old customs of religious and social festivities, with much eating and drinking, are a thing of the past. For example, eight villages of An-jen, Wu-k'ang Hsien, sold their spring cocoons for the value of 800 piculs of rice; and after setting aside enough for summer food and for autumn silkworms, they put the balance into buying hoes and rakes and repairing 1,760 worm-trays and 50 boats.

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