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SOURCE Ta-chung Jih-pao.

TSINAN PRESS REVEALS LOSS OF PIGS IN CHINA

[Summary. During 1952, Shantung Province, the China Native Products Company lost 8 billion yuan through its inept dealings in pigs and because of the lack of supervision by government leaders. The raising of pigs in some parts of Shantung Province is reported to be difficult because of lack of feed grain and because of the low market price.]

SCORES GREAT LOSS OF PIGS IN SHANTUNG -- Tsinan, Ta-chung Jih-pao, 17 Mar 53

In 1952, the China Native Products Company, through its Shantung provincial office and subsidiary organizations, generally experienced serious losses in dealings with pigs. From January 1952 to January 1953, the company purchased 278,898 pigs. Of these, 18,558 died, entailing a loss of more than 8 billion yuan. The Tsingtao branch lost 10,720 of this number.

Among the reasons for such loss was blind excessive buying, lack of leadership, and irresponsibility. Examples of excessive buying are the purchase by the Tsingtao office of 165 percent more than the original estimate and by the Chiao-chou branch of three times as many as first planned.

The lack of leadership is illustrated by the following case. On 6 October 1952, the Chefoo office reported a loss of 814 pigs. The secretarial office turned over the report to the business office and one of its secretaries transmitted the report to a clerk to "note and file" and that was the end of the matter. It was only after the development of the movement against bureaucratism that the situation became known. Irresponsibility was displayed by the Tsingtao office, when, during the 3-day New Year holiday, the meat of 700 slaughtered pigs spoiled because no one took care of it.

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There have been many official documents regarding pigs. In one year the Shantung Provincial Native Products Company accumulated 141 volumes containing 2,000 documents about pig transactions, but there has never been any thorough investigation nor solving of actual problems.

FARMERS LACK GRAIN TO FEED PIGS -- Tsinan, Ta-chung Jih-pao, 27 Feb 53

Letters to the editors from two newspaper readers report that in all the hsiens of the I-shui, Special Administrative District, in Shantung, and especially in I-shui and I-nan hsiens' grain for pigs is entirely lacking. In parts of I-shui Hsien there is no fodder available for several tens of miles around.

Farmers have been reduced to feeding unsuitable wheat chaff or turning the pigs into winter wheat fields where the crop is quickly devoured and the hogs are again without feed.

An additional difficulty is that of the cheap price when pigs are sold. In I-shui and I-nan hsiens a small pig weighing 5 catties (one catty equals 1 1/3 pounds) can be purchased for 1,000 yuan. A pair of straw shoes can be exchanged for three small pigs, or ten eggs for a pig weighing 20 catties, while an old hen can be exchanged for two small pigs. A pig weighing 70-80 catties sells for only 40,000 yuan.

Under such circumstances many farmers have killed their pigs. In the 13 ch'us of I-nan Hsien, on 25 December of last year, within 8 days, 682 pigs out of 2,424 were slaughtered. In I-nan Hsien, a farmer failing to find a buyer for two pigs for which he had no more fodder, in a fit of anger, slaughtered them on the street.

This situation seriously affects the farmers' interest in raising pigs, yet if they don't raise pigs how can they accumulate fertilizer for crop production? The farmers are very pessimistic.

The I-shui Special Administrative District should make a serious study of the matter and direct the departments concerned to help the farmers solve this problem.

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