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As far as has been determined so far, Slovakia has fallen short of the plan by 21,000 pigs, while Bohemia is 3,000 pigs ahead. This means As of 10 May there were 103 percent of the planned number of hogs in the that the plan is 18,000 pigs behind. According to the ~~supplm~~ supplementary Czech Provinces and 75 percent in Slovakia. plan we were supposed to deliver 384,106 pigs to slaughter. By 10 May 21,675 pigs had been delivered, so that leaves 362,431 pigs to be delivered by the end of the year. There are 264,476 pigs at present in large-scale fattening centers, so that leaves 97,955 pigs to be obtained by 30 June. Of this quantity, 59,000 will be obtained from our own production, and the remaining 38,955 hogs will be purchased.

The state farms have delivered 13,000 hogs. They have agreed with the Ministry of food to deliver a total of 47,000 quintals ^{of meat}. The state farms have 40,000 hogs/ready for delivery, By the end of the year the state farms will have delivered a total of 295,000 hogs. At present we have pledged 204,000 hogs and 17,000 of the 25,000 sows ~~are~~ pregnant.

It was pointed out that in order to keep Slovakia from falling behind the plan ^{suckling pigs} ~~hogs~~ must be purchased in the Czech Provinces. In the week just past 4,000 ^{suckling pigs were} ~~hogs~~ purchased through the cooperatives. ^{1948?}

During the month of January/the state farms delivered 1,300 hogs, in February 2,500, March 2,800, April 11,000, May 23,000, June 29,000, July 24,000, August 25,000, September 27,000, October 30,000, November 40,000, and in December 73,000, an total of 295,000 ^{hogs} ~~hogs~~. Steps must be taken to assure enough shelter space in which to raise this number of hogs.

The delivery plan had been fulfilled by 57.5 percent in Bohemia and by 25.5 percent in Slovakia.

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The plan for sheep raising has been far overfulfilled. As of today we were supposed to import 12,000 sheep, and ~~maximumly~~ the actual number is 17,770. A total of 30,000 sheep are to be transferred out of Slovakia. The government plan for the public sector envisions ~~50,000~~ 42,000 sheep, and we actually have 56,000 sheep today.

The minister asked about the fulfillment of the yearly plan for ~~meat~~ cattle. The overall plan for cows had been fulfilled by 92 percent. The number of cows dropped rapidly ^{from the} beginning of January, and continued into April, when it stopped. As of 1 April there were supposed to be 41,000 calves, and there were actually 71,000. In order to maintain and increase the number of calves a number of steps were taken:

- 1) Slaughtering of calves was forbidden. In order to do this the ~~okres~~ were controlled and punishments announced.
- 2) The state farms took over/pledged cattle even though ~~it was~~ ^{still} ~~smaller~~ in order ~~maximum~~ that ~~it~~ might be fed on the state farms.
- 3) The state farms ~~have~~ ^{will} purchased 27,000 calves.
- 4) The allotment of fodder for ~~max~~ suckling pigs has been increased from 50 ~~khmx~~ to 100 kilograms and this provision has been extended.
- 5) Pork has been used to replace beef on the rations.

For 1950 the state farms will produce at least half a million hogs, and possibly 600,000. Large-scale fattening centers will be established for both cattle and hogs on the state farms.

So far 311 ~~companies~~ poultry cooperatives have ~~been~~ ~~registered~~ registered for construction of poultry stations. The minister stated that construction of 120 or 130 poultry stations should begin immediately, ~~without delay~~.

In the last year the number of nun moths (*Psilura monacha* L.) has increased tremendously. Last year considerable efforts were made to kill these moths in two localities. This program was not entirely successful because activity was limited to those places where there was a critical number of moths. Further ^{more} old equipment was used; no aircraft were used, and ^{the proper powder} ~~ground~~ sprayers were not available. There was not enough contact poison available, nor we were aware of the extent of the danger

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which the moths present.

During the latter part of last summer we made maps and graphs of the locations of the moths. During the winter and early spring we spent a good deal of time controlling the eggs of the moths. There are 9 infested areas. The largest of these ~~xxx~~^{is} around Doksy, Mimon, Zakupy, and Mlada Boleslav, ~~xxxx~~ a region of 5,473 hectares. Another area is in southern Bohemia, a 448 hectare patch in the ^{region of the Chlum u Treboni} Management of State Forests. There is another infested region in the Teschen region of Silesia. This is a 529 hectare area in the region of the Kocanovice ~~xxxxxx~~ [unidentified] Management of State Forests. There is a 500 hectare infested area in the Lizek region of the Teschen area, 300 hectares around Bilovec, 20 hectares near Hradec, 40 hectares around Trest, and 5 hectares around Straznice. ~~xx~~ ^{They have also appeared in Liptov.} ~~Mun~~ moths have not appeared in critical numbers in Slovakia. The only infested area is a 200 hectare region around Kysuca.

DDD has been obtained and stored in preparation for use against the moths, which is probably beginning right now. The old ^{powder} ~~gunpowder~~ sprayers were not suited to this activity, and the airplane which the Ministry of National Defense loaned us for the project ^{was} ~~was~~ not equipped properly either. This year we have 21 aircraft at our disposal. They were made in the Vysocany L tov and Jinonice plants. With good weather this program can be finished in a week. It will probably take from 16 to 20 days, however,

About 50 to 70 kilograms of DDD preparation will be used per hectare.

Sowing was to have been completed in Slovakia by 10 May, ~~and~~ but it was ~~about~~ ^{target} three days late. The date of 14 May was met in the Czech Provinces. All spring work which was supposed ^{to} be completed by 29 May 1949 will be ~~done~~ ^{completed} at least ten days early. Since 15 February 671 new ponds with a total area of 920 hectares have been established, 698 hectares of ponds have been renewed, and 36,000 hectares have been irrigated. Slovakia reports from 21 to 50 millimeters of rain and the reports from the Czech Provinces are satisfactory. There are some beats on state farms in Slovakia which have not been ~~things~~, and brigades will be sent out to do this.

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Deliveries of machinery for agriculture are much better than during the Two-Year Plan, although there are shortages of certain machines since it is impossible to plan exports precisely. Machinery is being standardized; only five types of trailers are going to be manufactured. Seedling planters are ~~already~~ ready for use, and beets have already been ~~xx~~ planted with them. These machines will be in mass production by ^{about} 1951. The question ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ of whether to use Diesel or automobile engines for caterpillar type tractors has not yet been decided. The state forests are to receive about 10 of these tractors. About 250 tractors will be made in 1950 and about 2,000 during the five-Year Plan.

A request to manufacture stronger milling machines ^[mechanical saws?] has been received, since forestry requires ~~xx~~ 8 HP machines. Instead of the 100 machines planned, 300 are to be made, and this will meet the request. Three beet combines will be ready this year.

Short term work is being taken care of by brigades. Recently 20,000 permanent workers have left agricultural work in Slovakia. These were primarily Hungarians. ~~The government is trying to solve this problem by sending more workers to the Czech provinces.~~
 We cannot even obtain the 10,000 seasonal workers which the Slovaks promised would be sent from Slovakia. The Slovaks say that they themselves have a shortage of workers, but we know for certain that there are people available in Slovakia who want to come to the Czech Provinces. This ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ is a political matter, and can be settled only by the government.

The problem of the disagreement between the plan and the contracts with farmers was discussed. The best way to overcome these differences seemed to be to increase the prescribed hectare yields, since the areas sown cannot be changed.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held on 13 June.

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THE MANPOWER PROBLEM IN AGRICULTURE

Since 1850 there has been a growing shortage of manpower for agriculture. This is partly the result of the rapid industrialization of the country, and partly because the villages and country-ies have developed so much more slowly with respect to culture and social conditions than the cities. The movement from the country to the cities increased considerably after the first World War, and still further accelerated after 1945. At the end of the second World War tens of thousands of workers left agriculture, at the same time ^{+land} ~~an~~ added 1,500,000 hectares had to be cultivated in the frontier regions. Some manpower problems were solved by ~~temporarily~~ ^{temporarily} moving German families into the interior. The situation which resulted from ejecting the Germans was solved primarily by sending young people from the class of 1927-28 into agriculture for a three-month period. A large number of Hungarians from southern Slovakia were allotted for agriculture, but they returned ^{to Slovakia} early this year after fulfilling their obligations. In addition Bulgarians, Rumanians, and a few Italians have been obtained for agricultural work, but after they have worked the agreed length of time they ~~was~~ will mostly return home. Last year some Polish workers were also obtained, but they are finishing up the six months they agreed to work for and a considerable portion of them are returning home. Meanwhile the departure of workers from agriculture continues, primarily among young people, and the influx of young people is completely unsatisfactory. The main reasons for this are the low wages paid in agriculture, the bad housing, and the long working hours.

As a result of the departure of agricultural labor for more profitable jobs, the public sector of agriculture, which consists mostly of the state farms, is short about 20,000 permanent and seasonal workers, and the private sector lacks about 41,000 permanent and seasonal workers.

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Peak work loads in agriculture are handled by voluntary, short-term brigades of city and factory people. These peaks are connected with spring digging and thinning of beets, and with the hay and hop harvests.

There are about 150 percent more short-term brigade workers working on ~~beets~~ ^{beets} this year than there were last year, and it may be expected that the same will be true of the hay and other harvests.

The problem of permanent and seasonal workers is much more difficult. It is particularly bad with respect to animal keepers and drivers; there is a shortage of feeders, drivers, and agricultural artisans.

The situation is made worse by the fact that, in spite of the fact that, according to annual practice, ~~that~~ 10,000 workers had been promised from Slovakia, and the Ministries of Social Welfare and Agriculture had made direct efforts to recruit labor in Slovakia, they were quite unsuccessful primarily because other industries ~~were offering~~ ^{offer higher wages.}

In order to overcome this situation the government decreed on 10 May 1949 that disposable workers ~~from public~~ ^{are to be sent from public} service to six-month agricultural brigades. Those who volunteer and those who are going to be transferred to industry anyway, will be taken first. The first information available indicates that there is not a great ^{number} of such employees. For this reason the various offices ^{have} ordered their subordinate components to cooperate with the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement in recruiting workers for agricultural brigades. The results of this were to be reported by 20 June 1949. It is not yet known what the result of this will, but it will probably not amount to much, since one group of ^{has} surplus public employees ~~has~~ already been ~~sent to~~ fired, and no group sent on long-term coal-mining brigades.

The suggested solution of recruiting more workers from abroad is not very successful and is very costly. The Poles, Rumanians, Bulgarians, and the few Italians working in Czechoslovakia now total about 8,000 workers. Further, there would not be time to ^{recruit} ~~recruit~~ a sufficient number of workers from abroad, if this method were decided upon.

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The only course remaining for this year is to enlist long-term brigades for agricultural work. This must be done even if it means closing offices and factories, since the nation's food is at stake. Of course, the army is being counted upon, since it helps out in agriculture every year. This will be cheaper than import^{ing food}.

The press has the tremendous task of preparing the public to understand the extreme seriousness of the situation.

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