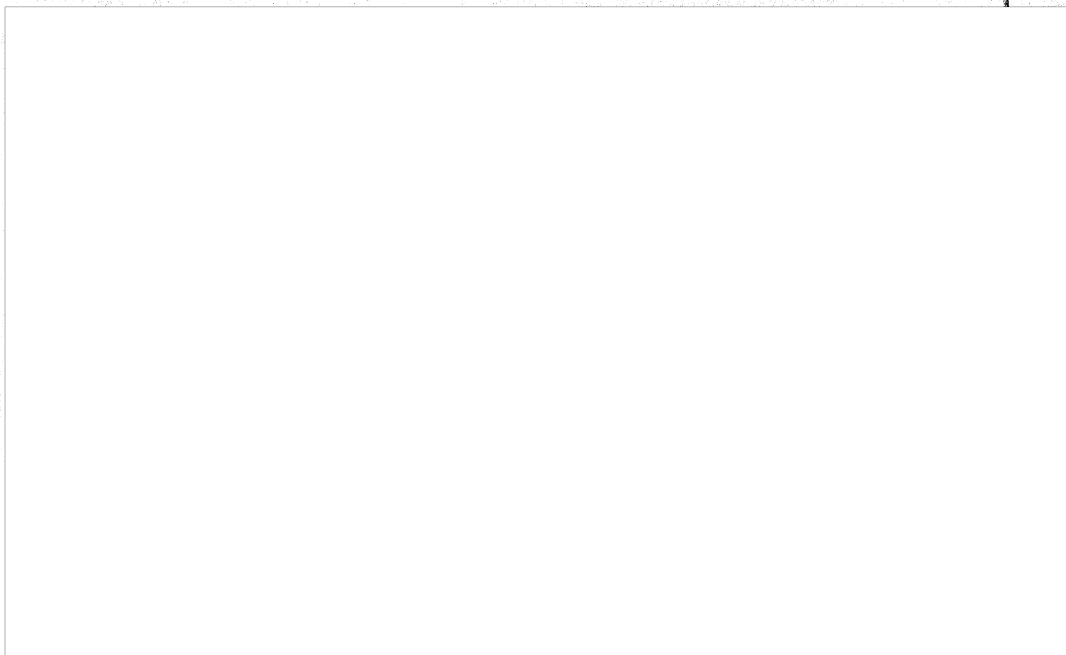
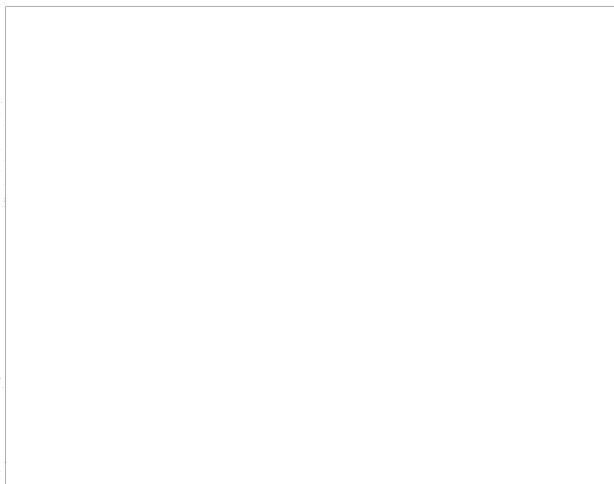


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Cotton Production Increases;
Purchasing of Cotton Unsatisfactory
Rabotnichesko Delo, Sofia, 23 Oct-1 Nov 1951

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COTTON PRODUCTION INCREASES — Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 1 Nov 51

Cotton is an extremely important industrial crop and the main raw material of the Bulgarian textile industry. The increase of its yield assures the cotton industry of a regular supply of raw materials and the more satisfactory fulfillment of the textile needs of the working people.

In the past, the fascist rulers did not pay any attention to the development of cotton cultivation in Bulgaria, despite the fact that conditions in the country are favorable for the growth of that crop. The cotton grown in Bulgaria could not even meet the monthly requirements of the cotton industry, although its capacity was much smaller than it is at present. It was more profitable at that time for the capitalist exploiters to import cotton into the country. This assured larger and easier profits for them, but it also meant great losses to the national economy.

Cognizant of the great importance of the cotton crop to Bulgaria, the Party and the People's Government are greatly concerned for its development. In order to encourage the growers to increase the amount of land planted with cotton and to increase the cotton yield, a policy of subsidizing cotton growers has been instituted. Besides the high prices that the state pays for the cotton it purchases, the cotton growers receive, as premiums, grain, seed-oil, fodder, textiles, and other goods at low fixed prices.

The amount of land planted with cotton was especially increased during the current year -- about 400,000 decares more were planted this year than last. The amount of land planted with cotton in the irrigated lands was also increased. Parallel with the increased size

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of cotton fields, the yields from a green plot of land were also increased. Much progress has been made in the cultivation of better-grade cotton -- the Soviet Union sent seeds of a number of high-yielding and high-grade cotton varieties to Bulgaria. Following the example of the Soviet kolkhoze members, the Bulgarian cotton growers are trying to obtain higher yields and to gradually apply the progressive Soviet agrotechnique of the crop. The Georgi Aleksandrov youth group from the farm workers' cooperatives at Borets, Plovdiv Okoliya, has harvested more than 240 kilograms of cotton per decare from a plot of 22 decares. It has already become commonplace to obtain high yields from large cotton fields. From 480 decares planted with cotton, the cooperative members from Dolna Lipnitsa, Pavlikeni Okoliya, have obtained an average 160 kilograms of cotton per decare.

The total production of cotton this year is almost three times greater than last year, and it will satisfy two-thirds of the Bulgarian textile industry's needs. This is a great economic achievement, if it is remembered that only 3 years ago Bulgarian cotton production could satisfy only 15 percent of the industrial cotton requirement.

A good cotton crop requires much attention for the timely picking, purchasing, and ginning of high-quality cotton. This year, in comparison with the past, the farm workers' cooperatives, farmers, and the officials of the "Tekstilni Vlakna" (Textile Threads) State Economic Enterprise were generally better prepared for the fulfillment of these tasks.

In order to gather the large crop, cooperative members and individual cotton growers must expend every ounce of energy so that not a single kilogram of cotton is left unpicked in the fields. The initiative of the administrative body and the Party

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organization, in introducing the Soviet working method at Byalo Pole, Stara Zagora Okoliya, is commendable. The chairman of the farm workers' cooperative at this village, Comrade Ivan Balabanov, who was a member of the agricultural delegation which visited the Soviet Union last year, has thoroughly acquainted the cooperative members with the experience of the women cotton pickers from the kolkhozes at Kuban. Soon all the Bulgarian women cotton pickers began using the accelerated picking method. The achievements in that direction, made by the members of the farm workers' cooperative at Merichleri, are also notable. Applying the accelerated method the woman cotton picker, Dona Mileva, has managed to pick as much as 117 kilograms of cotton daily. Her example has been followed by a large number of pickers at the farm.

But not everywhere do the cotton growers exert all their efforts for timely cotton picking. A number of villages in Plovidiv Okoliya lag behind in that respect. There have been cases in Provadiya Okoliya when certain members of the farm workers' cooperative have left the cotton fields unpicked. It is an imperative duty of village people's soviets and Party organizations to increase their organizational and explanatory activity for timely cotton picking, and to be merciless toward those who permit any squandering or waste of this valuable raw material.

The activity of the officials of the "Tekstilni Vlakna" Enterprise is of great importance for collecting and preserving the cotton crop. They are required to create a system which will insure the speedy acceptance of high-grade cotton from the cotton growers, its timely ginning, and expediting. The branch of the "Tekstilni Vlakna" Enterprise at Chirpan can serve as an example of successful handling of all these tasks. There the responsible

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officials promptly prepared a sufficient number of warehouses and collection centers. The acceptance of the delivered cotton was done quickly and the branch's employees took care that no cotton was squandered. As a result of this preparation, the plan for purchasing cotton was fulfilled by more than 75 percent by 24 October.

A necessary condition for the uninterrupted acceptance of cotton from the growers is its speedy ginning. Failure to do this causes the warehouses and collection centers to fill up and impede regular work. The branch of the "Tekstilni Vlakna" Enterprise at Pleven, whose administrator is Comrade M. Gramovski, has failed miserably in that respect. The work organization at the ginning mill is poor. No care is taken to increase the workers' qualifications. The machines often bog down and remain idle a long time and, what is more, only 50 percent of their capacity is utilized. For these reasons the amount of cotton ginned is not sufficient to meet the demand.

The officials of the "Tekstilni Vlakna" Enterprise do not give the necessary attention to the work of purchasing cotton from individual farmers. Most of the cotton purchased now comes from farm workers' cooperatives. This indicates that the explanatory work among individual farmers must be intensified so that they will pick the cotton more rapidly and deliver it to the state warehouses.

Bulgarian cotton growers' experiences are convincing them of the great advantages to be obtained by growing cotton. Large yields assure them large incomes and a more prosperous life.

The achievements made in cotton growing at the present time are by no means the limit of attainment. Much larger successes can be obtained by regular application of agrotechnical measures

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and by exercising more care in the cultivation of this profitable crop. The Bulgarian cotton growers are now faced with the task of preparing the plots set aside for cotton planting in an exemplary manner by performing deep autumn plowing with a coulter equipped plow.

Seed quality is of primary importance in the struggle for obtaining higher yields. The officials of the "Tekstilni Vlakna" Enterprise are required to select and preserve for sowing the best such types.

The assurance of a sufficient amount of raw material for the cotton industry, and an increase in the production of cotton goods require greater efforts for further developing cotton cultivation. The goal is for Bulgarian cotton growers to be in a position in the not far distant future to completely satisfy the needs of the Bulgarian textile industry with domestic Bulgarian cotton.

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PURCHASING OF COTTON UNSATISFACTORY -- Sofia, Rabotnicesko Delo,
23 Oct 51

The cotton crop in Pleven Okoliya is very large this year. However, the branch of the "Tekstilni Vlakna" (Textile Threads) State Economic Enterprise has not yet set up a good system for purchasing the cotton crop. Cotton is accepted at only one collection center and only one scale is used, forcing the growers to wait hours for their turn.

The officials of the branch do not adequately supervise the cotton unloading. Much of this valuable product is lost due to negligence. The conduct of the warehouse superintendent, D. Limberov, concerning the safe-keeping of state property is an example of poor organization. He has instructed his subordinates to collect the trash, together with the spilled cotton, and burn it, so that no one will see it.

The administrator of the branch, Comrade M. Gramovski, has not prepared timely measures for executing the campaign. The ginning machines are hastily repaired with unsatisfactory results -- one cotton gin is not even repaired.

The gins work for three shifts, and still nothing is done to utilize the machines to their full capacity. The machines break down almost every day and remain idle for a long time. On 17 October this year, one gin had been idle for about 15 hours. There are no spare parts for repairing the gins.

The floor where the bailing presses roll is uneven. The rolling of the presses is slow and hard and the workers lose valuable time.

The gins and the shops are not kept clean. The bales are not made in a satisfactory manner. Bales weigh from 70 to 80 kilograms while they could easily weigh from 100 to 120 kilograms.

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The above-mentioned weaknesses have caused the plan of the branch, up to 16 October, to be fulfilled by only 32 percent. The quantity of cotton ginned is also very insufficient -- only 70 percent of the total cotton received has been ginned.

The weaknesses permitted to occur in the acceptance, storage, and ginning of cotton are due to the unsatisfactory work method and inadequate care of the workers. The administrator of the branch does not pay much attention to the demands of the workers for improving the cotton processing methods.

No concern whatever has been shown for increasing the workers' qualifications. Because there is insufficient supervision, not a single shift at the gin fulfills its plan, but usually reaches only 70 to 80 percent fulfillment of its plan.

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