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Agriculture

1. Over 100 motor tractor stations have been established in Latvia and have been given the task of ensuring that 80 percent of all farm work is mechanized by 1955. The following makes of tractors are commonly used in Latvia:

- AK-35 produced by Factory 1/n Kirov, Leningrad
- KhTZ produced by the Kharkov Tractor Works
- KhTZ-NATI
- DT-54 produced in Kharkov
- ChTZ produced by the Chelyabinsk Tractor Works
- UTZ probably produced by the Ural Tractor Works

2. The use of combine harvesters is very restricted in Latvia, because it is said they are unsuited to the climate and the soil.

3. In general, much effort and money are expended by the Soviet authorities to develop the collective farms in Latvia and to convince the farmers of the great advantages to be gained from collective economy. The State, for example, sells motor vehicles and agricultural machinery to the kolkhozy at especially reduced prices as a special form of concession and encouragement for fulfillment of production plans. This is, of course, offset by the fact that at the same time the State pays the collective farmers for their compulsory deliveries of produce at fixed rates which are lower than the official market prices at which they can sell their surplus products after, and if, the compulsory deliveries have been met.

4. Workers on kolkhozy are sometimes obliged to carry out building work on local power plants. This reduces the number of workdays credited to them for agricultural labor and consequently affects their allocations of payment in kind.

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5. In 1950, according to official figures, 1,424 agricultural and 1,118 zootechnical groups with a membership of 70,000 had been organized in Latvian kolkhozy. An important item in the curriculum of these study groups is the superiority of the Soviet way of life and the advantages it offers.

#### Collectivization of Fishery

6. The fishermen of Latvia have been obliged to conform to collectivization, and along the Latvian coast there have now been established 24 fishing artels, 1 State fishery concern, 10 fish processing factories, and 57 fish receiving points.
7. In Ventspils Rayon, there are two fishing artels, as follows:
- Sarkana Baka. Chairman: Berzins. The central office is in Ventspils. Some 200 fishermen belong to this artel; its fleet consists of 30 trawlers and some 50 motor fishing boats.
  - Lenins Cels. Chairman: Brakmanis. This artel was already established in 1945 and operates in the Baltic, north of Ventspils. It has four stations: Ovisi, Jaunupe, Liepene, and Staldzene, and a fleet of some 40 motor fishing boats, each having a crew of two to four men.
8. The average earnings of the fishermen in the two above-named artels during the annual fishing season are 5,000-6,000 rubles. In addition, the fishermen receive premiums for fulfilling the plan which amount to 7,000-8,000 rubles.

#### Industry

10. The Latvenergo (Latvian State Power Administration) Repair and Engineering Works, Arensburgas 3, in Riga, is producing various equipment for power stations and substations, including items such as a transformer with a capacity of 180-320 kva.
11. The Riga Chemical Combine (Rigas kimiskais kombinats), Riga, Jelgavas 63, produces large quantities of special highly sensitized paper for use in technical drawings and blueprints, which are sent to USSR planning organizations.
12. The Livani Peat Factory (56-23N, 26-10E) has been producing, since 1950, insulation material for the USSR oil industry, which is sent to Baku and the Georgian SSR.

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