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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

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INTERNATIONAL

CHAZOV MAKES PLEA FOR DISARMAMENT, AGAINST WAR

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Apr 82 p 3

[Article by Academician Ye. Chazov, chairman of the Soviet committee "Doctors For Preventing Nuclear War": "Reason Must Triumph"]

[Text] The 2nd International "Doctors of the World For Preventing Nuclear War" Conference is coming to a close in Cambridge. A year has passed since the first such forum in [Early] (USA) which originated the movement "Doctors of the World For the Prevention of Nuclear War."

It must be noted with regret that the time that has passed since then did not bring any positive changes. The situation in the world has become even more serious and acute, arousing ever greater fears for the further development of international contacts. All this is the result of known attempts to supplement military arsenals with the most sophisticated means of mass destruction, from neutron to chemical, undermine detente and peaceful coexistence with them and substitute confrontation and the spiralling arms race instead.

The words said several centuries ago by the eminent Dutch thinker Erasmus of Rotterdam that only the few whose foul wellbeing depends on popular grief make wars, have not lost their topicality to this day. The absolute part of humanity wants peace and only peace! Today we cannot help being worried by the fact that the greater the danger of an apocalypse the more insistent the efforts of some circles to train people in the very idea of its inevitability, of the possibility of conducting a "limited" nuclear war and winning it. It is wishful thinking that nuclear weapons can be limited to the boundaries of some region, thereby avoiding the consequence of a retaliatory strike against targets laying outside it. How can one seriously expect a nuclear war to be waged according to pre-arranged rules or missiles to explode only over certain strategic targets without at the same time striking the population?

Again and again one must ask oneself can we doctors, people called upon to protect life on earth, passively observe the efforts of those who would suppress man's instinct of self-preservation, who are interested in concealing the truth about the true dangers of thermonuclear war? There can be only one answer. No, we cannot.

We must clearly realize that each new nuclear submarine is not just a naval vessel, it is a new nuclear weapon 600 times more powerful than the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

It has been calculated that to feed all the starving children of the world--and 30 million people die of this every year--it is sufficient to spend 10 percent of the funds funnelled every year into the arms race. Some 135 billion dollars are needed to supply the population of the whole world with good drinking water. This is half the military budget of the USA. The eradication of malaria on all continents requires 450 million dollars. Yet military expenditures in today's world are 2.5 times higher than the costs of health protection.

The consideration by the Cambridge conference of the question of what would happen to the people of Europe if a thermonuclear war broke out on the continent is topical as never before. The plans and actions of certain military and political circles in essence doom the long-suffering expanses of Europe to become the first and main potential theater of a possible nuclear conflict.

Estimates show that in the event of a nuclear war vast numbers of people would suffer in Europe alone, and the survivors would envy the dead. It would be impossible to give the necessary medical help to tens of millions of wounded, burned, sufferers from radiation sickness.

Unlike conventional weapons, nuclear weapons have a long "radioactive" memory.

The survivors of such a blast would be confronted with the threat of a lethal outcome all their lives. They would be subjected to a higher risk of leukemia and various malignant tumors. Moreover, the psycho-emotional risks would be as substantial as the physical ones. Many victims would suffer from radiation cataracts and chromosome disturbances.

Long-living radioactive residue from numerous nuclear blasts would make vast areas of the globe uninhabitable.

We realize that we are saying terrible things. But it's best to say the truth, which is directly related to all, loudly and bluntly, before it's too late, when the trouble can still be prevented. We are Europeans. Europe is our home, it is dear to us, just as our whole planet earth is dear to us.

More than two decades ago Albert Einstein said that we would have to develop strict criteria of thought if we wished to survive. These criteria are truth, courage and honesty. These are the criteria which define our movement, which is supported today by tens of thousands of doctors of integrity, devoted to the preservation of life and health on earth, living in different countries of the world, in American and Europe, in the East and the West.

Speaking of the work of the Soviet "Doctors for the Prevention of Nuclear War" Committee, I would like to note that the committee and its members carry out a great deal of work aimed at informing the broad Soviet and international public of the medical consequences of nuclear warfare. The APN press has just published a book, "The Danger of Nuclear War," which sets forth the point of view of soviet medical scientists. The materials of the 1st International "Doctors of the World For the Prevention of Nuclear War" Conference were published extensively in Soviet newspapers and magazines and broadcast over radio and television. In this connection the attempts of some information media in the West to represent the work of the Soviet "Doctors for the Prevention of Nuclear War" committee as one-sided propaganda and an attempt to "intimidate" the peoples of other countries are absurd.

Soviet doctors advocating the prevention of nuclear war consider themselves part of the growing international movement of scientists and medics serving one cause and doing everything to prevent the madness of nuclear war and protect the health and lives of all people.

We firmly believe that there is no fatal inevitability of war. We want to restrain the world from a new round of the arms race and are convinced that this is equally in the interests of the Soviet Union and the Western countries, all Europe in the first place. The main thing now is to halt the process of sliding towards a new world war, to prevent the irreparable. This requires a struggle, and our contribution to this struggle must include honestly telling the people of the world what the human race can expect in the event of a thermonuclear war. Those who have entrusted us with their health and lives--our patients--must realize the reality of the nuclear threat.

There is probably not much that each of us separately can contribute to the struggle for the preservation of peace on earth. But by pooling our efforts and expanding our movement we can fight more actively against the nuclear arms race.

There is no time to lose. There is too much explosive material in the world. There is no place for nuclear weapons on earth, and the sooner they are eliminated the more reliably can people be protected from the dangers to which aggressive circles are subjecting all mankind.

We believe that reason will triumph!

9681

CSO: 1807/83

NATIONAL

TEREBILOV ON WORK OF PEOPLE'S COURT JUDGES

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Apr 82 p 3

[Article by V. Terebilov, USSR minister of justice: "The Soviet People's Court"]

[Text] As is well known, on 20 June 1982 elections of rayon (municipal) people's court judges will be held in all the Union republics. Approximately 10,000 people's judges are to be elected.

The people's courts are the fundamental units of the Soviet judicial system--they try all criminal and civil cases of the first instance. Only a small number of the most complex cases are tried directly in the oblast courts or in the supreme courts of the autonomous and Union republics.

The trying of any case in the people's court is conducted in a collegial manner, i. e., by the people's judge and two people's assessors, who are completely equal in their rights and who decide all questions by means of free voting. The equality between the people's judges and the people's assessors is one of the democratic principles of our judicial system.

The people's judges administer the court proceedings independently of anyone and are subordinate only to the law itself. No kind of interference in the court decisions by officials, state or public organs is permitted, and this is clearly set forth in the USSR Constitution.

Who can be elected a people's judge? The law indicates only one condition--a candidate for a judgeship must have attained the age of 25 by election day.

Must a candidate for a people's judgeship have a legal education? No, it is not mandatory, but life and practical experience have shown that citizens, as a rule, in electing judges, have shown a preference for those persons who have a higher legal education.

In evaluating the results of the activities of the judges who were elected in the last elections, it can be stated with satisfaction that in the overwhelming majority of cases they have been worthy of the trust which has been reposed in them. The principal criteria for evaluating court activities is the timely and high-quality trying of cases. If we take the recent years, then it can be seen that reversals and changes of the sentences handed down by the people's courts have been cut almost in half and comprised about three percent in 1981. There have

also been some improvements in the time periods taken to process cases in the people's courts. Last year (1981), for example, about 94 percent of the criminal cases and approximately 92 percent of the civil cases were tried within time periods of a month or less.

But it would be incorrect to assert that the work of all people's judges provides no cause for comments or even serious criticism. Unfortunately, there have been instances of individual people's judges poorly organizing the reception of citizens and of allowing red tape to interfere. And, what is particularly serious, errors have been encountered in the imposing of sentences and the reaching of verdicts.

As has been stated already, the judges are subordinate only to the law itself. But for lapses in his work he can be held in disciplinary responsibility by a special disciplinary collegium, consisting of judges. But if the error has brought about serious consequences, the electors can pose the question of recalling such a judge, and, unfortunately, such cases of judges being recalled have taken place during the period just past. Thus, the people's judge of the Panemunskiy Rayon People's Court of the city of Kaunas, E. Yatskyavichyus permitted serious violations of socialist legality. As a person who had not justified the trust placed in him, he was recalled by the electors.

"Strengthening socialist legality and law and order is the lofty responsibility of the organs of justice, the courts, and the procurators' offices, and the Soviet militia," said L. I. Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress, "...the Soviet people rightfully demand that their work be effective to the maximum extent, that every crime should be investigated in the proper manner, and that the guilty persons receive the punishment they deserve." This obligates the courts to approach the trying of criminal cases with particular care so that they can be unconditionally assured of imposing sentences which are legal, sound, and just.

Readers often pose the following question: don't the people's courts too frequently impose sentences with extremely mild terms of punishment? I think that this is an incorrect idea. On the whole, as scientific analysis testifies, the practice of assigning measures of punishment by the people's courts is correct. But, unfortunately, in the work of a few--I stress, a few--judges one still encounters errors, and often gross errors, when, for example, mild measures of punishment are applied to persons who have committed dangerous crimes.

Thus, Makhmudov, who had previously been found guilty of stealing socialist property, became the farm chief of the Shirvan Kolkhoz in the Agdashskiy Rayon of the Azerbaijan SSR, committed cattle robbery. However, by the sentence of the people's court of the Agdashskiy Rayon, pronounced under Zeynalov's presidency, he was sentenced to only one year of corrective labor at his place of service. Of course, this sentence was annulled. Taking into consideration the fact that such instances had occurred on several occasions in the practice of this court, the electors recalled the judge.

I would like to draw attention to the new legislative acts which have been adopted by the Union republics: one--on the criminal responsibility for accepting illegal remunerations from citizens for performing work connected with services in the field of trade, public dining, community, medical, transport, or other services to

the public; the second deals with the criminal responsibility for the sale of goods from warehouses, centers, from out of the auxiliary areas of commercial enterprises (organizations) or concealing goods from buyers. Such crimes are linked with the violation of the essential and universal interests of the citizens and evoke their legitimate displeasure.

Trying civil cases occupies no small place in the work of the people's judges. The USSR Constitution has considerably expanded the rights of Soviet citizens. For example, the right to work has been formulated in a new way: now it also includes the right to choose one's occupation, type of classes, and work. The rights to housing have been expanded. In particular, the Fundamentals of the housing legislation which were adopted last year do not allow the removal of extras from the housing area; the grounds for evicting citizens from an area occupied in an administrative procedure have been curtailed; as a rule, it is not allowed to evict citizens without offering them housing from departmental houses, etc.

"The family is under the protection of the state." Such a statute has been recorded in the Constitution for the first time, and this indisputably requires special attention by the courts in trying divorce and alimony cases. Civil cases affect the vitally important rights and interests of citizens, and, therefore, attentive, timely trials of them and correct decisions require from candidates for judgeships not only a good knowledge of the law but experience in life along with wisdom.

People's judges conduct a great deal of preventive work with regard to averting violations of law, maintain close ties with local Soviets of People's Deputies, commissions on minors' cases, render legal and methodological assistance to the comradesly courts, and to the voluntary people's guards; they actively participate in legal propaganda and the legal education of citizens, etc. And so a people's judge is not simply a highly qualified jurist but indeed a people's, state figure with a wide range of powers and great responsibility to the people and to the electors.

We have quite a few splendid, qualified, and objective judges. Many of them have been awarded orders and medals of the Soviet Union. Recently the work of the people's court in the city of Inte, Komi ASSR. For a period of four years now this court's sentences have not been overturned, and only one was altered in a cassation procedure. One out of every five criminal cases was tried by the court with a trip out to the labor group involved. Working in this court is a modest-sized but compatible group, headed up by the president of the court, V. Ye. Naberezhnyy. And it is not only the statistical indicators which testify to this court's good work. The entire set-up here is strict and solid. Work on receiving citizens, examining complaints and declarations has been placed on a good footing. The duties are carefully distributed among the judges, and the training of staff members and people's assessors is well organized. Effective monitoring has been established over the preparation of cases for hearing, as well as the timely implementation of sentences and court decisions. In short, the workers in this court have regarded the trust placed in them by the electors with a feeling of great responsibility.

In April--June 1982 elections of people's assessors will be held throughout the country. People's assessors are elected at meetings of citizens at their places of work or residence by open voting for a term of two and one-half years. Any

citizen who has reached the age of 25 by Election Day can be elected to be a people's assessor.

More than 700,000 people's assessors will be elected in the upcoming elections. Such broad-based participation by citizens in the running of the law courts is indisputable testimony to the fact that the Soviet court is a genuinely people's court; it is also testimony to the genuine participation of citizens in running an extremely important function of the state.

The people elect as people's assessors persons who have been made truly wise by the experience of life, persons who will make a substantial contribution to the cause of carrying out the law court's business.

For example, Moisey Yegorovich Safonov was elected to be a people's assessor of the Podol'skiy Rayon People's Court in the city of Kiev. He is a member of the CPSU, a participant in the Great Patriotic War, and he works as a die-adjuster at the Kiev Cement Machine-Building Plant imeni Kalinin. He is a mentor of the youth and has been awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor, as well as eight military and labor medals. And it is with a feeling of great responsibility that he also performs the duties of a people's assessor. Or Ilma Krishnevna Guzha--a people's assessor of the Liyepaya Municipal People's Court in the Latvian SSR, a schoolteacher at a secondary school. She conducts a great amount of work on legal propaganda and legal education among the citizens of this city.

Preparations for the elections of people's judges this year are taking place in circumstances of high political activity among Soviet citizens, brought about by the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. Great importance at the congress was attached to questions of reinforcing the foundations of the socialist way of life and the formation of the new man. Attention was directed at the need for a determined struggle against parasitism, bribe-taking, black-marketeering, and infringement on socialist property. In solving these problems an important role has been assigned to the organs of justice, and, above all, to the people's courts. With this goal in mind, particular use must be made of meetings between the electors and the candidates, as well as reports to the electors by the judges of the previous staff.

Article 152 of the USSR Constitution states the following: "Judges and people's assessors shall be responsible to the electors or the organs which elected them, and shall report to them...." It should be stated that in 1981 alone the people's judges made more than 104,000 accounting reports to the electors. Most of the people's assessors also made reports. During the meetings the electors expressed quite a few critical remarks and suggestions. They were all taken into consideration, and measures are being adopted regarding them.

The time remaining until the elections of people's judges should be utilized for further active explanation to the public of the essence of Soviet democracy, the importance and the procedure for electing judges and people's assessors, and the role of the law courts in our state.

2384

CSO: 1800/480

NATIONAL

OBKOM SECRETARY ON DISCIPLINING OF FACTORY DIRECTOR

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 82 p 3

[Article by A. Khomyakov, first secretary of the Tambovskaya Oblast CPSU Committee: "Being More Demanding"]

[Text] The article entitled "Former Director," published in PRAVDA on 11 December 1981, told about the unworthy behavior of M. Serikov, former director of the Tambov Elektropribor Plant. He violated party principles of personnel work flagrantly, ignored the party and trade union organizations, was intolerant of criticism of himself, took reprisals against unsuitable workers, imposed ingratiating behavior, and abused his official position for selfish ends.

These actions by Serikov became possible because the Oktyabr'skiy Rayon party committee protected him in every possible way. V. Surkov, secretary of the plant party committee, also played an unworthy role. He himself began persecuting certain workers to suit the director.

The Tambov City committee of the CPSU (first secretary is I. Popugayev) criticized Serikov's incorrect attitude toward personnel and public organizations many times, but nonetheless did not give a rigorous party evaluation to his behavior on time and did not take party steps to normalize the situation in the plant party organization. The industrial division of the oblast CPSU committee, which knew about the bad moral-psychological climate in the plant collective and certain facts about Serikov's unworthy behavior, was satisfied with fulfillment of the plan and closed its eyes to his actions.

The decision of the Party Auditing Committee of the CPSU Central Committee on the incorrect behavior and abuses of official position by CPSU member M. Serikov, director of the Elektropribor Plant, and the corresponding decree of the bureau of the oblast CPSU committee on this issue were discussed at a plantwide party meeting.

The communists received these party documents with approval and elected a new party committee ahead of time because the old members showed lack of principle and failed to take steps to straighten out the abnormal situation in the collective. All the shop party organizations held meetings at which they discussed problems of improving the selection, placement, and indoctrination of personnel and raising their accountability in light of the requirements of the

26th CPSU Congress. The plant party committee and administration worked out measures to normalize the moral-psychological climate in the collective.

The bureau of the oblast CPSU committee acknowledged as correct the criticism in the newspaper PRAVDA directed at oblast party bodies for failure to take prompt steps to stop the improper practices of the plant management and the unworthy behavior of former director M. Serikov.

The divisions of the oblast committee, city committee, and rayon committees of the party were assigned to look more deeply at the activities of party organizations and economic managers and resolutely uncover and stop any cases of violation of Leninist principles of selection, placement, and indoctrination of personnel.

Considering that the Party Auditing Committee of the CPSU CC punished I. Popugayev, first secretary of the Tambov City party committee, for delay in taking steps to normalize the situation in the party organization of the Elektropribor Plant, and the bureau of the Oktyabr'skiy Rayon CPSU committee announced a reprimand of former secretary of the plant party committee V. Surkov for his unprincipled attitude toward evaluating the incorrect actions of communist managers, personal lack of discipline and sincerity, the bureau of the oblast party committee took official notice of the statement by secretaries of the Tambov City party committee and the Oktyabr'skiy Rayon party committee I. Popugayev and A. Metlitskiy to the effect that the leadership of the party committee, the primary party organization of the plant administration, and the plant trade union committee has been bolstered.

11,176

CSO: 1800/555

NATIONAL

PARTY JOURNAL ON FAILURES IN ECONOMIC WORK

Moscow PARTINAYA ZHIZN' in Russian No 8, Apr 82 pp 14-19

[Unsigned article: "Higher the Banner of Competition in Honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Formation of the USSR"]

[Excerpts] Those operational directors who explain the cause of a lag as being exclusively due to shortage of resources should acquaint themselves more attentively with the experience of leading collectives. We have many examples where growth of production is ensured without additional resources. Kiev's Tochelektropribor Production Association is ensuring in 1982, without an increase in the limit of metal, growth of production output as provided by the plan. Here they took the route of introduction of new technology, found reserves for reduction of metal intensiveness and sharply boosted the use of capacity. The party created commissions of designers, engineers and technicians who search at every sector for reserves of economy.

Is it that other collectives do not have such possibilities? Undoubtedly they do. At a recent conference at the CPSU Central Committee, cases were cited of mismanagement in the use of timber and its high levels of waste. There are, however, enterprises where the prepared timber is used practically in its entirety. The CPSU Central Committee approved the initiative of the Ivano-Frankovskiy Obkom of the Communist Party of the Ukraine for rational use and renewal of forest wealth. The oblast's party organization headed a movement for integrated processing of timber. Under the guidance of party committees, measures have been worked out and are being implemented which make it possible to put out maximum production from each cubic meter of timber. The principle has been put in operation--"When you cut down a tree--plant three." The ideas are being embodied in real affairs. Here procurement, and renewal of forest are concentrated in the same hands. Prikarpatlesprom Production Association has modernized many enterprises; it has set up shops and sections for the processing of lumber waste. As a result use of capacity in 1981 was 0.96, that is practically all the wood is used up. Production output per cubic meter of timber has grown almost fourfold.

What do these and comparable facts attest to? Collectives of enterprises can and must put an end to mismanagement and waste, find additional resources and put them to work. It would be useful to take advantage of the working methods of enterprises that develop and implement programs for reduction of manual labor,

economy of materials, production of products through the use of local resources. City and rayon party committees should investigate in detail that is being done in this direction at labor collectives and whether all party organizations exercise the requisite control over such an important matter.

It should be especially said concerning this that in a number of cases formalism in the competition and an irresponsible attitude toward the fulfillment of commitments become apparent. Much is said about the competition at the time of adoption of commitments, but the work results are summarized without self-criticism, without due depth. There remain unknown to the collective indicators of yield on capital, labor productivity, material intensiveness and production cost.

It is hardly necessary to say what harm such formalism does to a vital creative competition. It is not too much to remember that supervision of a competition is a charter requirement made on the primary party organization. The CPSU Charter states that the party organization "heads socialist competition for the fulfillment of state plans and commitments of workers and mobilizes the masses for the revealing and better utilization of the internal reserves of enterprises and kolkhozes...."

The interests of the undertaking require that party organizations recall this charter requirement to all communists and, what is most important, work to see that it is embodied in concrete work in production and in social-political life.

"Why is it that certain party members fail to set an example in labor and in the ability of achieving good results at work? Why do some collectives, headed by communists, fail to fully set targets and adopted socialist commitments?"

"The answer to these questions should be sought, I believe, in the fact that a number of obkoms, raykoms and gorkoms of the party and many primary party organizations lack concreteness and efficiency in organizational and ideological educational work. And no doubt, self-criticism is lacking.

"A lot of harm is being done by the roots emitted by the paper style of leadership. It deflects cadres and the aktiv from vital work and does not contribute to the proper education of people."

Serious conclusions should be made from these comments, especially for improvement of the style and methods of party management of the economy, further strengthening of ties with the masses and mobilization of all Soviet people for the solution of the difficult tasks of the current year and the 11th Five-Year Plan as a whole.

The present stage of socialist competition is a particularly responsible one for agricultural workers. Poor harvest years have created certain difficulties in supplying the population with products of animal husbandry. The party and the government well know of these difficulties and are doing everything possible for overcoming them. We have in mind to examine at the Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee the food program in which ways of achieving a cardinal

solution of the given problem will be determined. But agriculture and related sectors of industry contain a multitude of pressing matters, which will not wait and which can and must be dealt with immediately in order to improve the supply of food products to the population. Among them, first place is being occupied by questions of raising productivity of livestock and unconditional fulfillment of targets for sale of meat, milk and other products of animal husbandry to the state.

The duty of party organizations is to do everything possible for overcoming difficulties connected with providing feeds to animal husbandry and also to extract lessons for the future. It is fitting in this connection to bring to mind the experience of Tomskaya Oblast. Climatic troubles did not bypass it. Nonetheless kolkhozes and sovkhozes have fodder. Both in 1980 and in 1981, the oblast increased its production of meat and milk. Targets are being fulfilled this current year as well. Oblast farms have fodder-production plans for the five-year period broken down by years. The party obkom has supported and disseminated the so-called watch method of fodder procurement. In the spring-summer period, brigades are created; they are provided with the necessary equipment and engage in procurement of fodder in remote floodlands of the Ob' and in other regions where it has been impossible to procure fodder with the ordinary methods. A floating plant was built for production of grass flour. Last year, it supplied to farms several thousand tons of value feed.

In the oblast, a system has come into existence of organizational and mass political work among animal-husbandry collectives. Mass-political work centers have been established on animal-husbandry farms. Political days are held for animal-husbandry workers; heads of rayons and oblast personnel appear before the personnel of animal-husbandry farms. Party organizations have selected and sent to work on the farms 1,500 machine operators, each third one was a communist. All this brought positive results.

There are many such examples. It was stated at the trade-union congress that the pacemakers had reconnoitered the fight and seized important important bridgeheads. But some of the reconnoiterers were not victorious. It is necessary to tighten up the entire front and to launch a general offensive. The party organizations act correctly when they mobilize the efforts of the competitors in a search for and use of reserves at each kolkhoz and sovkhoz as well as subsidiary farm.

The solution of tasks set for agriculture large depends on a good preparation for sowing and carrying it out successfully. Thus spring certifies the quality of seeds, level of agrotechnology, effectiveness of use of machines and equipment and most of all the skills of people and their will to attain the set aim.

7697

CSO: 1800/562

NATIONAL

PAYMENT IN KIND URGED AS STIMULUS FOR FARM LABOR PRODUCTIVITY

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 82 p 2

[Article by F. Chernetskiy, IZVESTIYA correspondent, Odesskaya Oblast: "Is the Ruble Really the Problem; Principles of Payment of Labor in Kind Are in Need of Improvement for the Kolkhoz Farmer"]

[Text] The talk, it could be said, was unrestricted as to theme. People came on business to the office of the first secretary of Saratskiy Party Raykom. Some, on clearing up their problem, left, others, inadvertently becoming involved in the conversation, remained. And gradually an improvised "round table" was formed. The topic of the discussion: the economy is the very basis of life of the village. A burning question was touched upon--labor resources in the countryside; then they went on to problems of discipline, labor productivity. Discipline should be strengthened--such was the unanimous opinion. How? Various points of view were presented. They spoke of weak parts of the administrative mechanism, of wages and material incentives of kolkhoz farmers. Of everything that I heard, I was particularly interested in the opinion of Ivan Stepanovich Boyev, chairman of Druzhba Kolkhoz.

"I think that perceptible weakness in labor discipline started to be displayed from the time we limited payment in kind. More precisely, when norms of issue of grain to kolkhoz farmers were reduced. Guaranteed monetary pay is one of the measures whose effectiveness it is difficult to overestimate. Its introduction made it possible to strengthen the economy of farms. But the psychology of the peasant must also be taken into consideration...."

This thought rang a bell. And later, when I investigated what the chairman had said, I involuntarily began to recall that to which I had paid no particular attention at the time and remembered only partially.

Let us say that a talk took place with the director of one of the sovkhoses of Oviodiopol'skiy Rayon. The farm is a vegetable growing farm. In the summer it resorts to the services of workers who come from the western oblasts of the Ukraine, where, as is known, there is a surplus of labor resources. Contracts are concluded with the arrivals. Monetary pay is in the prescribed manner--on the basis of norms and wage rates. But the contract would mention without fail payment in kind--size and form. The chief item is grain. During one of the difficult years at the farm the grain balance required effort to be formed, and it was impossible to live up to the size of payment in kind

stipulated in the contract. And what was the result? The following year, many of those who constantly worked at vegetable plantations did not show up. I want to emphasize that the monetary earnings of those who did come were generous.

I recall how the leaders of a rayon, explaining why the output of the private subsidiary farm of the kolkhoz member was going down and why procurement of meat and milk from the population was not growing, aptly noted that the problem, so to say, was not so much that because of social-economic changes in the countryside the kolkhoz farmer had lost interest in private farming and did not wish to burden himself with the maintenance of poultry but rather because of a limited possibility of feeding animals. And it is not just a matter of grain. The private subsidiary farm requires hay, silage, root crops, potatoes.... And all this must be in proper proportions, with account being taken of local possibilities.

The fact is that payment in kind is an extremely fine and sensitive instrument, and its influence is spreading rather widely. Payment in kind, pushed into the background by the ruble, seemingly hides in the shadows. And as an economic category, it is not given due importance; it therefore acts in secret, if one may put it that way, and serves as a footboard on the sly.

The problem of payment in kind brought me to Razdal'nyanskiy Rayon. I met with Anatoliy Vasil'yevich Krivoplyas, the chairman of one of the best farms--Kolkhoz imeni Shcherbakov.

"This is a serious question," the chairman agreed. "Payment in kind, more precisely its restriction, if we took our farm as an example, would have a marked effect both on labor and on production discipline. Consequently, on economy. We frequently discuss why the output has been reduced, let us say, of corn. Formerly, eight or nine years ago, we with dry farming collected 50-60 quintals of the kernel per hectare. Now it is considerably less. Such is the situation. Formerly we set the following condition for the corn growing link: here is your target--produce 40 quintals of grain per hectare. Pay will be in money. If you want to get kernels, grow your crop in excess of the set target. You would then get one-quarter of above-plan grain as additional pay. And the men really tried; they did not worry about time or labor outlays. And, let us say, on producing a 60-quintal yield, each corn grower earned about 5 tons of the grain. The rest of the above-plan crop--15 quintals--went into the farm's and the state's granaries. In one of the poor-harvest years, this procedure was not adhered to. Subsequently, we did not return to it. Monetary pay forced out payment in kind. And yields began to go down. The corn growers lost that extra incentive. And today, it would appear that the volume of work on the corn field has not been reduced, and the monetary earnings of machine operators remain the same, but the work results are something else. You ask, who won what?"

Now would appear to be the time for us to look into what in general is the present situation in regard to payment in kind of the kolkhoz farmer. There is a recommendation in Odesskaya Oblast to the effect that 500 grams of grain show for each earned ruble. This can serve as the norm for the formation of a payment in kind fund on a farm. Averaged, this would amount to something like five quintals of grain per person. This applied to the maintenance of

poultry on the private plot is on the thin side. Some person might be able to feed 10-20 egg-laying hens. It should also be said that the grain that has been set aside is not just issued for the earned ruble; he, the kolkhoz farmer, must purchase it.

I became interested in determining what the relative share of pay in kind was in the earnings of the kolkhoz farmer. In general, monetary earnings on the rayon's kolkhozes are growing. A comparison of man-day pay during the Ninth and Tenth Five-Year Plans that the growth is more than a ruble, that is, about 30 percent. As for payment in kind, if we were to judge by reports, it simply did not exist during the Ninth Five-Year Plan, while during the 10th Five-Year Plan, the average total pay, computed for a man-day, amounted to 4.71 rubles and its share was only one kopeck. True, economists have noted, that this does not include the value of the grain produced by the kolkhoz farmer per earned ruble. Actually those 500 grams of grain, which the kolkhoz farmer gets for the earned ruble, cannot be included under pay in kind. This is not payment in kind, but the standard buy-sell operation. But even if we include the value of these 500 grams of grain at state purchase prices under payment in kind, its relative share would still be significantly below that proportion which was practiced formerly.

We therefore make the proposal that payment in kind under present-day conditions has lost its meaning; no need exists for it. But life itself and everyday practice refute such a proposal. Let us say that fall plowing is in progress. The work, it can be said, is pressing, requiring mobilization of efforts. It is necessary to create incentives for the men. What could be used as the most effective incentive? Payment in kind. At the kolkhozes of the same Razdel'nyanskiy Rayon, grain is issued on fulfillment of the shift norm in fall plowing. The calculation is 7 kilograms per unit. Such a detail is important. This grain issued to the machine operators is taken not from the general kolkhoz payment in kind fund, which as already stated is formed on the principle of 500 grams per an earned ruble. Internal reserves, so to say, are sought for stimulating the labor of kolkhoz farmers at the time of this or that seasonal operation on the farm.

We cite an enumeration of different kinds of agricultural operations in the carrying out of which payment in kind serves as a factor for boosting the material incentives of kolkhoz farmers and to a significant degree guarantees speed and good quality. At the fall sowing, the collective, serving the sowing unit is issued grain on the basis of one kilogram per sown hectare. In harvesting of peas, for example, the crew is credited one and a half kilogram of grain for each hectare. This rule is in force for the first 5 days for the purpose of speeding up work and putting the peas in mows more quickly. The same principle applies in cutting down winter crops, only the amount of grain is smaller -- 0.5 kilogram. Payment in kind is also employed in the production of vitamin-grass flour and in cleaning seeds.

Thus we see that payment in kind is practiced, and on rather a wide scale. But it is not customary to talk about and especially to include it in reporting. So as not to exceed the officially prescribed payment in kind fund. And if we approach it from a formal point of view, all grain used as an incentive

in these or those seasonal operations is spent secretly. And here the thought arises. A policy has now been adopted to link as durably as possible the labor of the kolkhoz farmers with end results, with the harvest. Payment on the basis of job authorization, for individually completed work as shown by practice does not provide the expected effect. Today for this reason, the effort is to tie in monetary payment to the end result. Then why break down and organize on the basis of operations of seasonal work payment in kind--a stimulus of special force? Would it not be better to have the system that was practiced formerly, the one which A. Krivoplyas, the chairman of Kolkhoz imeni Shcherbakov, spoke about?

Let us look at the problem from the following point of view. Grain, as they say, is everyone's chief concern. And grain requirements are great. It is expended through many channels. It would therefore be interesting to analyze the grain balance. Usually there are complaints, and Razdel'nyanskiy Rayon in this instance is no exception, in regard to the growing plans of state purchases of grain and consequently with respect to the limited possibilities of using payment in kind.

Let us take a look at the report, let us see how things are in regard to grain production. During the Eighth Five-Year Plan, the average annual "wave" of grain in the rayon equaled 89,000 tons, during the Ninth--113,000 tons and during the Tenth--104,000 tons. And what are the dynamics of state purchases? During the Eighth Five-Year Plan an average 33,000 tons of grain were sold in a year, during the Ninth--44,000 tons and during the Tenth--40,000 tons. Now let us see what the relative share of state purchases in the total volume of grain production would be, what the marketability of the grain industry is: for the Eighth Five-year Plan the average annual indicator was 37 percent, for the Ninth--39 percent and for the Tenth--39 percent. The proportions as we see, are roughly the same. And for complete clarity, we shall show that something remained on the rayon's farms. During the Eighth Five-Year Plan, kolkhozes and sovkhozes had for their needs 56,000 tons of grain, during the Ninth--69,000 tons and during the Tenth--64,000 tons. How strange that during the Eighth Five-Year Plan in particular, when the smallest amount of grain was at the disposal of the farms, payment in kind was practiced most widely.

And here we would like to emphasize once more that grain requirements in the national economy are great and payment in kind cannot be fully locked into it. Today the supply of grain, cereals and products made from flour is not organized badly. The chief need of private farming is for feed for poultry. Consequently, in the selection of the size and choice of components comprising payment in kind, it is necessary to proceed from the following premise. Grain should be a constituent part in combination with root crops, silage, potatoes, hay and other products produced by this or that farm. In a word, local conditions and special features must be taken into account.

Of course, in no case can the role be minimized that was played and is being played by guaranteed monetary pay. Payment in kind, however, if we take the former principle of its of its reckoning and distribution, has been variable in size and first and foremost has completely depended on the efforts and quality

of labor both of the collective as a whole and of each worker individually. Consequently the stimulating effect of payment in kind each year is new, as it were. For it to remain and grow, it would be necessary to strive for a high yield.

Involuntarily, a unique parallel arises. Today much is being said about the appearance of the village, how it should be, how in its building up to best take into account the specific character of the peasant's life. Which means that he should have a vegetable garden, that he should have the possibility of maintaining a cow or of growing a pig, that egg-bearing hens would be wandering about his yard under the watchful eye of a noisy rooster. In a word, the uniqueness and stability of the peasant's way of life is a generally acknowledged fact. But recently a tendency can be traced with respect to wages of putting the kolkhoz farmer and the worker, a city inhabitant, under the same conditions. The tendency, putting it plainly, is to put them on the same footing. The footing here is assigned to the ruble. But the interest of the peasant, because of the specific features of the rural way of life, cannot be connected solely to the ruble. That same noisy rooster should be treated to some grain. And without a rooster, what kind of a peasant's yard would it be!....

7697

CSO: 1800/566

NATIONAL

SOCIOLOGIST URGES END TO ISOLATION OF WORKER DORMITORIES

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 May 82 p 2

[Article by B. Pavlov, candidate of philosophical sciences, Sverdlovsk:
"Boredom at the Crossroads of Desire"]

[Text] It is well known that the demands of youth on a culture of leisure have grown: if they listen to a lecture, then the topic is not interesting; if they go to a concert, it turns out to be poor; if they dance, they want to do so in a convenient hall to modern music.

But that is not all. There must be added here the breadth of the spectrum of interests of young people. If one tries to take into consideration their wishes even in a single dormitory, then it becomes necessary to organize tens of amateur art circles, tens of sports sections for different kinds of sports, tens of amateur associations and clubs on the basis of interests and to conduct at the same time tens of reading rooms on every possible kind of topic and much also. This is nothing extraordinary. The desire for the individualization and self-expression of one's creative "I" on the part of every young person and the desire for knowledge are on the whole the result of a high educational and cultural level found among contemporary youth, the reflection of a high level of development of all social relations in our country.

The question arises: would it be advisable in such a case to convert workers' dormitories into leisure combines? Probably not.

Let us remember that worker dormitories in the '20s and '30s were kinds of clubs and were practically exclusive centers for the organization of political-educational and cultural-enlightenment work. Today the situation has changed. The cities, especially large ones, have a developed network of cultural institutions providing the population with diverse forms of cultural services, conditions and forms for engaging in active leisure. For example, in Sverdlovsk in one and the same evening, young people can attend more than 30 films in motion-picture theaters and palaces of culture in the city, go to five theaters, to six museums and tens of reading halls. And in addition to this, that same evening in the city there are sports competitions and circles, sections, clubs and reading rooms are open! It is possible to find something to do for practically any taste.

In other words, today worker dormitories are surrounded with modern specialized cultural institutions. But sociologists note as before that a seeming paradoxical situation is to be found: hundreds of residents of worker dormitories languish from boredom. At the same time, measures founder in half-empty palaces of culture, libraries and stadiums--there are no visitors; groups are not functioning for lack of participants and an audience. Our surveys show that only each fourth resident of a worker dormitory more or less regularly goes to a club or palace of culture, every third person is registered at a city library; even fewer utilize a facility with sports structures. And it is clear that a complex approach to the communist upbringing of working youth must presuppose the joint operation of these institutions and dormitories.

What is hindering this today?

First, a bureaucratic approach to the organization and assessment of educational work at dormitories. Ask any educator as to what he reports in particular in his work. As a rule it is those measures which are carried out directly within the dormitory. The greater the measures within the dormitory, the higher the rating given to the work. The cultural life outside the house "is not taken into consideration." How many young people go and how often they go to the movies, the theater or the stadium and whether there are many persons participating in art amateur activity at a plant club, how often residents visit a library--these indicators of leisure organization remain outside the field of vision of komsomol and trade-union activists. Hence the desire for the arrangement of one's own measures, even if they be bad.

There is also a second reason--a lack of publicity on the work of cultural institutions. The contingent of amateur collectives and audiences for mass measures are formed spontaneously: general announcements in the city and micro-rayon--come, register, take part whoever so desires. But cultural institutions show no interest in friendship with dormitories because workers of the cultural front are not responsible for work in young people's dormitories.

But the cooperation of a dormitory and, for example, a club can be bilateral. This would mean assistance by specialists in cultural-educational work in the organization of measures at dormitories and the possibility of involving residents in more active participation in the affairs of the club. The House of Culture of the Ural Heavy Machine-Building Plant, where political clubs and branches of people's universities as well as cinema halls have been in operation at the dormitories, of which there are about 30, for more than 10 years.

Such relations are also possible between a dormitory and a library, a dormitory and a cinema theater or a dormitory and a sports complex. But what should be done to get them going, to oblige the workers of a dormitory to become friends with cultural institutions?

A number of rayon party organizations of Sverdlovsk, Kamensk-Ural'sk and several other cities of the Middle Urals possess experience in long-range plans of educational and ideological work. In Sverdlovskaya Oblast, working out is being completed at the present time of a special goal program for development of dormitories of workers in the oblast during the 11th Five-Year Plan and

the period to 1990. And one of the tasks which should be solved by this program is the organization of purposeful work by cultural institutions at dormitories.

The five-year plan provides for the construction of new workers' dormitories and the modernization of old ones. In this connection, the most promising direction of improving organization of leisure and creating conditions for providing young people access to the values of culture is the construction of separate youth towns, where social-cultural centers will be in the immediate proximity of the places of residence of young people.

Such a path of development for dormitories can be used not only for newly built towns but also for those already in existence. There are such developments at the Ural Heavy Machine-Building Plant, the Plant imeni M.I. Kalinin, the Sverdlovsk House-Construction Combine, the Perfoural'sk New Tube Plant and the Nizhny Tagil Metallurgical Combine.

The relation "dormitory--city" in organization of the leisure of working youth is not just limited to stimulating the activity of cultural institutions. A second side exists to the question: how to get young people from a dormitory to go to a club, a library or stadium, to have them find something interesting and useful to do. This is what is proposed by sociologists.

Dormitories must always contain information on what is going on in the cultural life of the city, rayon or microrayon. A more convenient system needs to be created for acquisition of tickets and registration for events. Cultural workers themselves must more actively propagandize the possibilities of enjoying leisure, realizing creative inclinations and satisfying the various cultural needs of young people.

It is important not to omit the social and psychological features of the behavior of youth in the leisure sphere. In one of our studies, the question was raised: "How do you prefer to go to the movies, to concerts or the theater?" It turned out that practically 6 persons out of 10 prefer to do so "together with friends or girlfriends." A young man tries to satisfy not only his cognitive interests; it is also important to him what his circle of contacts will be.

And last. The effective organization of the leisure of young workers largely depends on how its accomplishment is connected to labor collectives. Constant cooperation with them is the key to successful solution of the problem we have been dealing with. They in particular must be interested in the creation of favorable conditions in departmental dormitories. This work, however, will hardly meet with success if the other element is not connected with it--that of the young people themselves. Their energy, search and activity during leisure hours is required.

7697

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NATIONAL

DISSIDENTS REVEAL TRUE RADICAL NATURE IN WEST

Vilnius SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 10 Apr 82 p 3

[Article by K. Bagdonavichyus, journalist: "Convictions for Sale"]

[Text] Recently the journal HORIZONS, which comes out in the United States, published an article by Vintsas Trumpa, entitled "Several Thoughts on the Dissident Movement." The author writes that the "genuine" dissidents have no desire whatsoever to undermine the Soviet system. They only want to correct the "mistakes" committed by it. Their bold struggle to "democratize" the USSR, Trumpa assures us, is not directed against the Soviet regime. In his opinion, we should listen to the advice of citizens who, he says, sincerely wish good for their native land. And he subsequently reveals with some bewilderment that, after turning up in the West, "the dissidents easily degenerate and turn into the kind of persons which they should not be."

All the troubles begin at the time, the author complains, "when the apostles of the dissident movement come from there to here," or, to put it more clearly, when they turn up in the West. There extremely strange things happen to them: "After one night here they are transformed from Soviet dissidents into pure-blooded democrats." Furthermore, after this first night in the West they not only cease stammering about improving the Soviet system, for which purpose, as they declared prior to this, individual shortcomings must be eliminated, but they attempt to destroy the foundations of this system. But they do not stop even at this: these fighters for "socialism with a human face" immediately begin snuffing around with the most reactionary anti-Soviets!

But what could a "genuine" Soviet dissident do in the West? Trumpa asks this question and then answers it himself as follows: "such a dissident would join the socialist and communist movements and would attempt to fight for a further socialist democracy." Well now, that is quite logical. But can we now recall anyone who has turned up in the West and has joined a socialist or communist movement? There are no such persons. And so, what happens with the dissidents on that first night, after "coming from there to here?" But to answer this, we must first shed some light on the question of what they themselves represent and in whose name they are acting.

As far back as 1967 the U.S. House of Representatives sent a report to the President with the suggestion to utilize as a political weapon the Concluding Act of the Helsinki Accords. In commenting on this report, the observer of the INTERNATIONAL

HERALD TRIBUNE, James Goldsboro, wrote that the "Concluding Act ought to make Soviet society more open for penetration by the West and to aid the dissidents in their struggle for 'human rights'."

It was assumed that these "heroes" with the help of mentors in the West would finally betake themselves to work for the improvement of the Soviet system. But they quite often mislead their own benefactors and compromise themselves in the eyes of progressive public opinion. Thus, the writer Anatoliy Kuznetsov, who emigrated to the West and then abandoned the role of "improver of socialism," and not only that but even his own family name, declared in a "Black Hundreds" type of newspaper which is published in Paris with a complete lack of ambiguity: "I am against the Soviet regime in general." Another "improver"--Academician Sakharov--has written in the book "Sakharov Speaks," which was published in the United States, that the hangman of the Chilean people, Pinochet, began in that country an "epoch of re-birth and consolidation," that the "capitalist and democratic states are considerably closer to the true ideals of humanity than are the socialist ones...." Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn answered a question of an Italian neo-facist journal regarding his political aims as follows: "a crusade against the Soviet Union." Vladimir Bykovskiy, whom the Western anti-Soviet centers have presented as a "great writer" and even dragged into the PEN Club, said at one of his press conferences that since childhood he had dreamed "about an armed revolution against the Soviet regime...." This thought was repeated word for word by the [?] late Andrey Amal'rik, who was transformed by the Western mass media into a "renowned historian, although, in fact, he taught for only a year and a half at a university department of history....

At first all these "liberators" covered up their subversive activities by "the struggle for human rights," for the "liberalization" and "democratization" of our system. They needed this fig leaf because they understood full well that the openly facistic and humanity-hating ideas which they were propagandizing, along with their hatred for their native country, could hardly create the halo of martyrs, or evoke interest in their persons even in the West.

But as soon as the preachers of "improved socialism" turn up across the ocean, their ideas fly away like last year's leaves. Having turned up in the "free world," such a "figure" becomes very adept at selected slander against his native land, and then he runs to obtain his fee for this. He runs to that same cash-box from which he received money before, while living in the Soviet Union. Here then, at last, is the explanation for the true convictions and aspirations of such a person, convictions which consist of the idea that he should be paid for convictions. And so all his schemes are concentrated on seeing to it that this source of thirty pieces of silver does not dry up for as long a time as possible.... And this, as the saying goes, has nothing to do with liberties....

And so the journal HORIZONS is distressed in vain regarding the "strange" transformations of the "fighters for human rights." Much stranger is the fact that to this very day such renegades are regarded seriously in some quarters. This is indeed an anomaly.

2384

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NATIONAL

FAILURES IN ANTIRELIGIOUS WORK SCORED

Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 31 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by A. Kruglov, candidate of philosophical sciences and docent of Belorussian State University imeni V. I. Lenin: "To Fight for Man"]

[Text] "... We have ahead of us," the 26th CPSU Congress pointed out, "a great effort to improve the socialist way of life, to eradicate everything that stands in the way of shaping the new man. This is one of the inseparable components of the party's social policy, whose goal is the good and the happiness of the Soviet people!" The mass propaganda and information media have an important role in shaping a harmoniously developed personality that possesses the scientific outlook and atheistic convictions. This survey discusses the place which material on atheistic topics has in the pages of the oblast newspapers ZARYA in Brest, GRODNENSKAYA PRAVDA and (MINSKA PRAUDA).

Last January ZARYA published a letter headlined "Object Lesson for Teachers." It concerned the fate of adolescents who had fallen under the influence of religion. It was a small piece, but in reading it it was hard to remain indifferent. Judge for yourselves. The schoolboy Aleksandr Ch., son of a scientist, moved outside the range of parental influence because of squabbles in the household. The Pentecostals took advantage of this and drew them into their sect. Life taught a bitter and instructive lesson both to the teaching staff and also the boy's parents. The author addressed a deserved reproach to the teachers who after Aleksandr graduated from school, they forgot about him, took no interest in where he was and what he was doing. Moreover, in indicating in his record when he graduated that he was religious, the teachers committed a flagrant violation of the provisions of Soviet legislation concerning religious faiths.

Nor did they take the right approach to Alla P. in that same school. She was under the influence of a pious mother. But then when the girl got her bearings pretty much and began to move away from religion, they did not believe her in the school and did not allow her to take the Leninist examination. The author of the article also referred to another example. The teachers in the tekhnikum gave Vladimir R. an F for a composition in which he expressed a

number of erroneous general philosophical positions and for refusing to rewrite it. They even wanted to expel the boy from the educational institution. In other words, instead of a serious effort to build the characters of the pupils in the tekhnikum, they preferred outright administrative action, whose harmfulness in atheistic propaganda has been repeatedly indicated by our party. It is a good thing that the ispolkom of the local soviet of people's deputies corrected the teachers in time.

Three examples, three destinies in a single small newspaper article. But how many sentiments and thoughts they evoke, how many topics they suggest for serious and necessary discussion. For example, discussion of invigoration of atheistic training in the family; of improvement of the system for indoctrination of militant atheists in educational institutions and for individual work with religious people; of the need for broad and comprehensible explanation of the policy of the CPSU and Soviet state with regard to religion, the church and religious people, which everyone is required to know.

ZARYA has made a serious attempt to find its way in treating the topic of atheism. In April a department was started under the very promising heading "Prometheus." In its first installment the newspaper decided to treat a number of current issues with the help of members of the KVAT [Militant Atheist Club] which was started in Brest a few years ago on the initiative of the department of philosophy and Komsomol committee of the construction engineering institute. The club has trained a numerous group of popularizers of scientific atheism. In and of itself its experience deserves to be summarized and disseminated. Especially since KVAT is training truly convinced atheists and is teaching the difficult art of working with religious people. The club is headed by Z. O. Zimak, a keen psychologist, capable teacher, candidate of philosophical sciences and docent at the Belorussian Construction Engineering Institute.

The first installment of "Prometheus" was entitled "We Are the Children of Our Childhood" and was devoted to the reflections of people of different ages who had been trained by KVAT about why children and adolescents sometimes fall into the spider web of religion. The main thing in the discussions of the young militant atheists is the vitality of their position. It is in turn dictated by their fervent anxiety about the fate of those few contemporaries who fall under the influence of religious people at an early age. And not simply anxiety, but an indefatigable desire to help them get their bearings in their errors, to tear them away from fruitless prayers, to draw them into matters worthy of our time, which only comes once.

In the second installment of "Prometheus" the newspaper performed a long-needed service in raising the problem of organizing planetariums and museums in the buildings of vacant churches. The third installment makes an attempt to respond to the question of how to oppose the church's effort in its attempt to use various forms of art to strength its emotional impact on religious people. In its fourth installment, the last one in 1981, it offered the readers' attention an article on the experience of the atheistic effort made by N. N. Gurina, a teacher in the No 11 Secondary School in Brest, which she does not confine only to lessons in class. This is fine. But it would be better to

tell how the teacher manages to supervise the publication of the wall newspaper and atheistic bulletins, to head the specialized lecture series, to organize evenings, talks and political information sessions, and to make a topical review of newspaper articles. Unfortunately, nothing is said about what other teachers in the school are doing to inculcate atheism in the schoolchildren. Nor is it an accident that all the things listed are perceived as one-time measures conducted by a single teacher. That is why to be convincing the experience of the teacher N. N. Gurina ought to be portrayed against the background of the effort conducted by the entire school to popularize atheism among adolescents.

ZARYA's initiative unquestionably deserves approval. The topics treated in "Prometheus" are interesting and sufficiently varied though repetitions are evident in places. Nevertheless, the four installments mentioned and one article amounts to little for an oblast newspaper during an entire year. One would hope that the "fire of Prometheus" will not die out, that the newspaper has not exhausted its capabilities, that it will find new topics and new authors and will yet have its convincing word to say in training militant atheists and augmenting their ranks.

Last year GRODNENSKAYA PRAVDA published only two articles in the department "Atheism, Religion and the Present Day." They were devoted to the activity of the Vatican. One of them was signed by P. I. Vdovichenko, candidate of philosophical sciences and docent at Grodno Medical Institute, and the other by K. K. Koyta, candidate of philosophical sciences in the same VUZ. The two articles correctly expound the essence of the matter, and they differ from one another quite a bit. But we should bear in mind that the ideology and policy of Catholicism, which is still a live in Grodnenskaya Oblast, is by no means exhausted by treating only the activity of the Vatican.

Aside from these articles, two pieces were published on preserving historical and cultural monuments, and there were two reviews, one of which of the pamphlet by Ya. Marash entitled "Use of Monuments of Religious Art in Popularizing Atheism." Even here, as we see, there is a clear exaggeration: three pieces out of the six are devoted to a single topic. And that covers the entire arsenal of the oblast newspaper with regard to teaching atheism.

At the same time, we need to take note of the constructive fact that reviews of books with atheistic content do appear if rarely. It really would be worthwhile if a special-topic review of atheistic literature were published twice a year on the most problems. After all, it is no secret that the popularizer, whether he is a physician, a school teacher, an agronomist or an engineer, is not always able by any means to follow the publication of books on the topics that interest him. That is why annotated reviews would be of great benefit to the ideological aktiv.

It is not possible to judge the variety of genres or originality in publication of articles with atheistic content in (MINSKA PRAUDA). Over the entire past year there was only one article on this topic: "The Beauty of Life in the New Ceremonies." The piece was written by T. Meleshko, a staff member of the Kirov Rural Library in Slutskiy Rayon, a deputy of the rural soviet who

spoke about interesting experience in establishing new ceremonies. The article convincingly demonstrated that only well-organized Soviet ceremonies can display the ceremonialism of religion.

The journalists of the Minskaya Oblast newspaper deserve another reproach because they make absolutely no use of many departments which have been successful and which, as they say, simply beg for pieces for popularizing the materialistic outlook among the public. Take, for example, the department entitled "Parental Classroom." There is every reason to include here articles on atheistic training in the family, but this is not done. Broad opportunities are opened up by the department "Our Constitution," but again not a single article was published in it on the freedom of conscience in our country, nor one which would explain the provisions of Soviet legislation on religious faiths. There are also other departments which could do good service in a thorough demonstration of our country's achievements in developing culture and widespread atheism. Which is not even to mention that the newspaper, as a particular kind of platform, should have a permanent department or section on such an important problem as atheistic indoctrination of the workers.

It is well known that one of the main directions in popularizing scientific atheism in the present stage, along with the task of exposing religion as a false outlook, is above all to shape the Marxist-Leninist outlook, to inculcate firm atheistic convictions in every worker of our country. The press has an extremely large place and role in this, especially at the oblast level.

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REGIONAL

WORK OF ESTONIAN RAYON AGROINDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS DISCUSSED

Benefits of the Associations

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 82 p 2

[First of two articles by PRAVDA special correspondent O. Dronov, Estonian SSR, bearing the common title: "The Estonian Version--Field--Plant--A Single Complex"]

[Text] 1. Finding a Reference Point

Is it possible to obtain greater output on the same land without additional outlays of labor and resources?

Workers on the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Vil'yandiskiy Rayon have proved that it is possible. During the 10th Five-Year Plan compared to the Ninth, they increased production of grain by 39 percent, meat--by 40 percent and milk--by 20 percent. Let us point out that this is average for a year. Although '78 and '80 were like the preceding unfavorable: drought in the spring, rains during haying and harvesting.

"What is percentage, it won't fill your stomach"--you occasionally encounter angry words in readers' letters. Let us take such a telling indicator as production output per hundred hectares of agricultural land. It can be clearly seen on its basis who uses how our main wealth--land. Vil'yandiskiy kolkhozes and sovkhoses obtain per hundred hectares of land 828 quintals of milk and 205 quintals of meat--an enviable result not just for Estonia.

Almost all this production goes to the state (the commodity output of animal-husbandry farms here reached 95-98 percent). To sum up, during the 10th Five-Year Plan versus the Ninth, sales to the state of cattle and poultry in Vil'yandi grew 33 percent (for the republic--23 percent), milk--16 and 15 percent, respectively. Every steer at the meat combine weighed 441 kilograms and pig--107 kilograms; 95 percent of the milk sold was first grade.

High growth rates, likewise without additional allocations, were also attained in neighboring Pyarnuskiy Rayon.

As we see, practice provides an affirmative reply to the question raised in the beginning of the article. Then another question cannot help but be asked: how was this done? Let us listen to V. Udam, first secretary of Pyarnuskiy Party Raykom. Before this, he headed the Vil'yandiskiy Rayon Party Organization and thoroughly knows the contemporary Estonian countryside--for 30 years he has been living with its concerns.

"The means of achieving the goal," he says, "lies in intensification on the basis of comprehensive mechanization, land improvement and use of chemicals. But it happens that these chief factors are still weakly connected to the end results of work in the field and at the animal-husbandry farm. We are attempting to eliminate this defect and to improve the interrelations of the partners within the framework of the rayon agroindustrial association (RAPO).

V. Udam has participated in the creation of two of them. An experiment was started in 1975 at Vil'yandi; after four years, it was continued and deepened at Pyarnu. Bypassing the details for the time being, let us give the gist of the experience accumulated here.

Rural bureaucratic isolation has become a common subject of conversation. Selkhoztekhnika, land improvers, construction people, processors of raw materials and other related contractors are frequently concerned with the outcome of the harvest, milk yields and weight gains but rather with their receipts. Contracting organizations (according to V. Dal', the word "contracting" from the beginning has meant "after the agreement, that is not in the agreement but after it") have left the prescribed second row and, possessing funds, are trying to dictate their conditions to the first row--kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

This means that it is time to remove bureaucratic barriers in production and related psychological ones in people. Factors of intensification should be directed to the attainment of the end result--growth of yields, productivity of livestock. All sectors serving agriculture should aim at this.

This is how they soundly have thought in Vil'yandiskiy and Pyarnuskiy rayons. In both rayons, kolkhozes and sovkhoses, local units of the State Selkhoztekhnika Committee, interkolkhoz construction administration, grain-product combines, mixed-feed, dairy and meat combines united on a voluntary basis. At the same time, the priority of farms has been retained as the nucleus of the agroindustrial complex. In Pyarnu in distinction from Vil'yandi, the rayon agroindustrial association has also been joined by a fishery kolkhoz, a consumer union, timber enterprises--all the 13 enterprises of different affiliations serving the countryside.

Thirteen is an unlucky number according to superstition. But all joking aside, troublesome problems occurred. And, of course, not because of seeming but because of departmental prejudice. Vil'yandi's experience turned out to be handy. At first the delicacy of relations of the partners allowed resolution through compromise. All these units are under double subordination: vertically--to their department and horizontally to the rayon agroindustrial association. The rayon agroindustrial association's council (it includes heads of farms and industries) now indicates where it would be advisable first to direct the forces

of the subcontractors. Plans, funds and financing are as before determined vertically. Of course, such a double system sometimes brings about contradictions. How they are to be overcome lies ahead. Right now it is worthwhile noting that agroindustrial associations in Estonia as, let us say, in Georgia and Latvia are based on the territorial principle.

When the experiment was first being prepared, specialists from Vil'yandi visited a number of republics and oblasts where they had started sooner to form associations, true, on a sectorial basis. Of course, the guests thought that in each case it is necessary to take into consideration concrete zonal and economic conditions. Still the root of the economy, if one can so put it, is to be found in the land. It has been and remains the basic means of agricultural production.

"It means that the first commandment of those who live and work on this territory is to conserve the land jointly, to increase its fertility," R. El'vak, the first secretary of Vil'yandiskiy Party Raykom, states. "This is becoming a concern not only of farms but also of land-improvement specialists, agricultural chemists and other partners. For the second five-year plan in a row, all our organizations are operating according to a long-term program of economic, social and cultural development of the rayon."

There is no doubt that it is important to continue our course according to the compass of effectiveness whose arrow clearly indicates "land-yield." But the organizational side of the matter should be reinforced with economic measures. The previous rayon agricultural administration did not have such levers, but the agroindustrial complex's council now has them. These are centralized funds for: the development of the rayon agroindustrial associations, material incentives, social-cultural measures and housing construction, mutual aid or reserve. Their very designations indicate in what direction action is taken with the help of these levers.

Scientists and practical workers have worked for a long time on the methodology of formation of these assets. The instruction prescribes allotting to them money from funds of the same name of farms and enterprises, and they, as we know, feed on profits. Well, let us say, one kolkhoz, albeit not through any fault of its own, has small receipts, while another, thanks to fertile plowland and a solid capital-labor ratio, makes superprofits. How does one here, without falling victim to subjectivism, determine the contribution? In Vil'yandiskiy and Parnuskiy rayon agroindustrial associations allotments going into centralized funds are determined on the basis of the so-called normative coefficient of level of management for a hectare of cultivated land. This simply means that this indicator for kolkhozes and sovkhoses situated approximately in identical soil and climatic zones, does take into account the fertility of the land, level of provision of material and labor resources and the like. Farms with better conditions contribute the bigger share and those with inferior conditions a smaller one.

The coefficient varies from 0.51 to 3.4, Yu. Rakhula, the chairman of the Vil'yandiskiy Rayon Agroindustrial Association, explains. The Sovkhoz-Tekhnikum imeni Yu. Gagarin, where production conditions are of the best, contributes

35 rubles 68 kopecks per hectare into the common pot. This is a most solid contribution.

The collective of Sovkhoz imeni Yu. Gagarin is in no way deprived. Here, for example, the largest pig-raising combine not just in the rayon but in the republic as well was built and is being extended with the use of cooperative funds. The shareholders of the rayon agroindustrial association are not complaining: the erection of the combine has made it possible for them to save about a million rubles of capital investment because it made it unnecessary to build 21 pigsties at other farms of the rayon. The sovkhos itself has acquired new power--it now sells about 5,250 tons of meat in a year--two and a half times as much as before. Thanks to the use of industrial technology, labor and feed outlays for production of pork have been reduced; the sector's profitability is in excess of 50 percent.

By receiving more resources through the association, the strong farms naturally return to it a solid share of their income and leave for themselves a portion of additional profit. This means that they can contribute new funds to housing, cultural and consumer construction.

The contribution into the centralized funds of the rayon agroindustrial association of other kolkhozes and sovkhoses is one-third and even one-fifth that of the pacemaking ones. Does this not show indulgence to the laggards? To understand the crux of the matter, let us return to the coefficient of the level of management. When it was developed and combined with the old estimates, it turned out that some of the former leaders were operating worse than those whose land was poorer and the farms that were not much to look at.

"For those collectives who as yet do not have sufficient working capital, the agroindustrial combine's council annually allotted money from the reserve fund," V. Udam elucidates. "When the rayon agroindustrial combine was created, Pyarnuskiy Rayon had nine lagging farms. We are trying to equalize conditions of operation. It would be naive to expect an immediate return. Let us say that in two years, yields of milk from a cow here have gone up 601 kilograms and the yield of grain crops has also risen."

At the beginning of the article it was noted that the workers of Vil'yandskiy and Pyarnuskiy Rayon took a step forward without additional funds from outside. They found them among themselves. Monetarily, these sums are quite modest (5-8 percent of the profit of the farms), but the addition has provided quite a bit.

On the example of Vil'yandi and Pyarnu, agroindustrial associations were created last year in all the rayons of Estonia.

"They can provide themselves with our experience," V. Udam noted. "But it must be admitted that not all reserves have been used, not all the problems have been solved at the first two associations."

Need of Internal Cooperation

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 82 p 2

[Second of two articles by PRAVDA special correspondent O. Dronov, Estonian SSR bearing the common title: "The Estonian Version--Field--Plant: A Single Complex"]

[Text] 2. As One Team

Both in Vil'yandi and in Pyarnu, many of the people I spoke to were concerned with how to boost the efficiency of agricultural production. In brief, the following is the crux of the matter. Capital investment in Estonia's agriculture during the 10th Five-Year Plan compared to the Ninth increased 16 percent, while growth of its gross production during the same time was only 13 percent. More than a fifth of all allotted funds went into land improvement, solid funds have been invested in comprehensive mechanization, use of chemicals, construction and modernization of animal-husbandry structures. In other words, factors of intensification and each by itself have grown, but their yield has been so far beyond the possible. What is the reason for this?

"Of course, dynamic development of all parts of the agroindustrial complex will henceforth require significant capital investment, and this will not suddenly result in a solid increase of production. The situation is aggravated by a non-coincidence of the economic interests of the partners," V. Udam says. "Rayon agroindustrial associations are trying to coordinate the operation of all its members. But sectorial ministries and departments have so far not contributed to strengthening of connections."

Enterprises of the State Committee for Selkhoztekhnika are striving to repair machines to a greater extent and more expensively. Land-improvement specialists are intent not on removing stones from the fields or clearing plots of shrubs but on draining large areas of land. Motor depots of the Republic Ministry of Motor Transport and Highways are responsible for the delivery of mixed feeds to farms in a centralized manner. But their dispatchers frequently call upon trucks from kolkhozes and sovkhoses to the mixed-feed plant and then tally such hauls to the plan fulfillment of their enterprise. Such examples could be continued.

"More than anything else, loss of worktime, labor and money occur where different departments impinge on each other," M. Bronshteyn, chairman of the Commission For Economic and Social Problems in the Development of the Republic Agroindustrial Complex of the ESSR Academy of Sciences, noted in a talk. "Agricultural chemists frequently compare the effect of investment to the level of a liquid in a keg. Each board comprising it is considered as a factor of effectiveness. All the boards could be whole, but one may be broken. Through this leaking stave--the factor of the minimum--the liquid pours out of the keg, that is the result. The analogy in our case is, of course, arbitrary, but, you must agree, obvious. Such unreliable, unsecurely fastened together, staves are to be found at the junction points of departments. And in order to increase effectiveness, it would be more practical to act with all one's resources on the factor of the minimum."

In the past decade and a half, the republic's rural population has diminished by 9.3 percent. The relative share of agricultural and timber workers today comprises 13.5 percent of those employed in all sectors of the republic. A serious contradiction. On the one hand, industry is interested in a fresh influx of manpower, but, on the other hand, its source--the countryside--is in dire need of cadres, especially of the leading vocations and high qualifications.

Thus at the present time, milkmaids on kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Estonia add up to roughly 93 percent of need. About one-third of them do not meet the high requirements of mechanized animal-husbandry farms and complexes. Tractor operators are short by one-fifth. This is beside the fact that in some villages, elderly people and women are predominant. Why is such a drain in progress?

People are even leaving well-appointed homes in the countryside and are moving to cities and rayon centers.

There choice of occupation is wider. Selkhoztekhnika, the Administration of Agricultural Chemistry, construction and processing workers are erecting their enterprises, housing cultural and consumer facilities. Unfortunately, this is how workhands leave the land and animal-husbandry farms. In the same way, industry and agriculture become separated on occasion, the threads to the servicing are sundered.

This can be rectified, as practice shows, by virtue of the creation of inter-related production associations in a rayon agroindustrial association. During this five-year plan, there will be continued the movement closer to the land of repair shops, construction, land-improvement, agrochemical and other services. It is planned to erect warehouses, procurement centers, mixed-feed, dairy and other shops directly at local sites.

Incidentally, only an improvement in transportation, storage, processing and sales would make it possible to prevent the losses of approximately one-third of the produce of the fields.

Such an approach to the location of productive forces opens up possibilities to a different approach than hitherto practiced selection of cadres. How does one keep them? By raising wages still further? But today in agriculture, they are already somewhat higher than in other sectors. Furthermore their growth exceeds the rate of increase of labor productivity.

Material incentives in the past and present continue to be important for people in the selection of a place of work. But the situation cannot be improved solely with money. The agroindustrial complex can help. More precisely, it opens up new possibilities for improving living and work conditions.

Experience again suggests how the knots can be untied. Aside from good conditions in production, people find it important as to whether there is a school, kindergarten, store, post office, consumer-services combine, club or hospital near them. In the course of the experiment in Vil'yandskiy Rayon, there was found, in the opinion of specialists, a successful form for the development

of production and the service sphere for people on the basis of cooperation of farms and enterprises of different departments within the framework of a so-called region. (This word may be entirely accurate, for it is usually used as the designation of a large territorial unit. Here perhaps "microrayon" would be more appropriate.) Incidentally, rather extensive rural zones were formed in Estonia long, long ago. There was a time when even homesteads were drawn to the towns of Mustla, Suure-Yaani, Myyzaklyula and the villages of Nuya, Ab'ya, Viyratsi, Kolga-Yaani. From earliest times there has been a brisk trade there, it was possible to have clothing repaired or made, to go to a pharmacy, a barber--after all, a peasant and his household have many living needs.

Today these traditional locations have become centers of modern production and agricultural services for the microrayon. In Nuya, we saw a trade center arranged with taste comparable to what one would find in Tallin. Here they are erecting a kindergarten, a school annex, a sports complex, a polyclinic, a musical school, well-appointed country homes, which the owners of city apartments would envy. And all this, we would like to point out, is growing through the means of cooperative funds. They were allotted by Karksi Kolkhoz, Kyrgemyae Sovkhoz, Polli Experimental Base, Yyzu Sovkhoz of the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Industry, the branch of Selkhoztekhnika and other local organizations, including those under the ministries of education and health care of the republic.

As to how important such cooperation is may be judged by the fact that despite the implementation in recent years of a rather broad program of social development of rural Estonia, only approximately one-third of the kolkhozes and sovkhoses have so far good living conditions. On most of the other farms, cultural and consumer-services construction still must be speeded up.

Practice shows that technical equipment of the countryside does not eliminate the problem of seasonal work in rural localities. There is nothing to hide concerning the help provided by flying visits of city people, except that it is sometimes not enough. A shortage of machine operators exists. Although it depends on how it is considered. If you count only "your own" there is not enough for two-shift work. But if all those living in rural areas but engaged in different departments were come together to deal with rush work with elan, it would be a different matter. Let us say that in Pyarnuskiy Rayon, the use of organic fertilizers has now been increased by almost one-third through joint efforts for their procurement not only of farms but also of enterprises of the State Committee for Selkhoztekhnika, timber enterprises and Tootsi Peat Briquet Association. True, road, construction workers and others in related fields are still holding themselves aloof.

We have already seen with Vil'yandi and Pyarnu as examples that although a great deal has been done for integration, the knots of a number of old and newly arising problems have still not been "untied" in the rayon. The solution of many of them, we repeat, rests on the fact that ministries and departments frequently are against working as one team. Just on the republic level, specialists believe, there has to be first provided an optimal combination of territorial and sectorial principles of management, followed by improvement of planning and the system of the operational mechanism of the agroindustrial complex.

In the opinion of many scientists and practical workers, it would be advisable to include in Estonia's agroindustrial complex the republic ministries of agriculture, fruit and vegetable industry, forestry and conservation of natural resources, procurement, meat-dairy and food industry, the State Committee for Selkhoztekhnika, Estkolkhozstroy as well as associations and organizations of land-improvement specialists, agricultural chemists, rural electrification, union of consumer cooperatives and other departments connected with the production and sale of the end products of fields and animal-husbandry farms.

Actually the agroindustrial complex as the sum of its separate parts was formed long ago, but so far it has been operating in a disjointed way. Reference is made to a qualitatively new approach--planning, financing and managing it as a unified whole.

How this is to be achieved in practice is, of course, a question that is far from simple. Many proposals and opinions have been stated in this regard, which at times were quite contradictory. The opinions of specialists perhaps agree in one thing: the agroindustrial complex requires a transition to management guided by economic rather than administrative methods. The role of planning and material-technical supply is growing.

The first steps have been taken. We can say that Gosplan ESSR is beginning to distribute motor vehicles, tractors, bulldozers and other equipment from this year's stocks not to the Ministry of Agriculture, the State Committee for Selkhoztekhnika and Estkolkhozstroy as formerly but directly among rayon agroindustrial associations. In the planning of purchases of animal-husbandry products and deliveries of concentrated feeds from state resources, the rule is abandoned of doing it "on the basis of the attained level"; it is more efficient to tie in targets to allocation of funds.

The new cannot make headway without work. Here, we think, it would be timely to recall V.I. Lenin's advice on how the administrative apparatus should be improved: "Aid for it for more radical improvement, for a new influx of fresh forces, for successfully combating bureaucracy, for overcoming stagnation should come to it from local areas, from below, from a model organization of a small "entity," but truly an "entirety," that is, not just one farm, not just one sector of the economy, not just one enterprise, but the sum total of all economic relations, the sum total of the entire economic turnover even if it be of a small locality."

Let it be a rayon, but in fact a single economic organism.

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REGIONAL

LATVIA'S CHEMM ON RAYON AGRO-INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS

Riga KOMMUNIST SOVETSKOY LATVII in Russian No 3, Mar 82 pp 26-34

[Article by V. Chemm, secretary of the Central Committee of the Latvian Communist Party: "Improve the Management of the Agro-Industrial Complex"]

[Text] Insuring stable, scientifically substantiated and well-regulated economic relations in agriculture and between agriculture and the other sectors of the agro-industrial complex plays an extremely important part in meeting the challenges that face rural workers in the current five-year plan. The intensification of production, the growth in the scale of production, and the expansion and growing complexity of economic links are all factors that necessitate further refinements of production planning and stimulation, consolidation of cost accounting [khozraschet], and improvement of interaction among the sectors included in the republic agro-industrial complex.

A good deal of work has been done in this direction in our republic in recent years. Thus, in conformity with the CPSU Central Committee Decree entitled "Further Development of Specialization and Concentration of Agricultural Production on the Basis of Interfarm Cooperation and Agro-Industrial Integration," in April 1977 the Plenum of the Central Committee of the Latvian Communist Party approved a comprehensive program for specialization and concentration of agricultural production in the republic. We can state today that this program is being carried out according to plan. At the present time the Latvian SSR has 94 interfarm enterprises, organizations, and associations in operation. In animal husbandry interfarm associations have been formed to produce beef and pork and to raise replacement animals. In crop farming specialized farms and enterprises to produce feeds for grain crops and perennial grasses are functioning on the basis of interfarm cooperations. The republic's first enterprise for the production of dehydrated feed is operating successfully in Valmiyerskiy Rayon. Forty-seven shops have been built to prepare full-value feeds and feed mixtures. As a rule, the growth rate of production, labor productivity, and quality of output at interfarm organizations are much higher than at the kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

The processes taking place in the agricultural sector of our economy, including deepening specialization and concentration of production based on interfarm cooperation and agro-industrial integration, and the growth in the material-technical base and power available at the farms make it necessary to

straighten out the supply and procurement system, improve production-technical and agrotechnical service to the kolkhozes, and resolve many socio-economic problems. Under these conditions it is becoming more and more important to increase the role and responsibility of agricultural agencies at the rayon level, to expand their rights and duties, and to improve management of the agro-industrial complex. For this reason the Central Committee of the Latvian Communist Party and the republic Council of Ministers assigned the Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences to work out recommendations on new forms of management of the agro-industrial complex at the rayon level. The main problem that must be solved here is that all the organizations and enterprises included in this complex should have an interest in steady growth in the production of agricultural output and raising its quality. This requirement was taken into account in working out and setting up the Talsinskiy Rayon Agro-Industrial Association (RAPO). In the initial phase all the kolkhozes and goskhozes, the rayon Latvsel'khoztekhnika Association, the interkolkhoz construction organization, the mobile mechanized column for water management construction, the Talsy specialized mobile column of the Latstetssel'montazh [Latvian Special Rural Installation] Trust, and the Stende experimental plant breeding station joined the association on a voluntary basis as fully equal members. Later the rayon division of Latvsel'khozkhimiya [Latvian Agricultural Chemistry Association], the Stende Mixed Feed Plant, the Sabile Fruit and Vegetable Canning Plant of the Latviyas Konservy Production Association, and the Yaunpagast Alcohol-Starch Plant of the Latviyas Balzams Association also joined the RAPO. The working experience of the Talsanskiy Rayon agro-industrial association (and that of several other RAPO's organized later) demonstrated that this formation, created on the territorial-sectorial principle, insures a comprehensive approach to the development of agricultural production in the administrative region, at the same time implementing further specialization and concentration of production on the basis of interfarm cooperation and agro-industrial integration. In this case the specialized services of the RAPO administrative apparatus are more closely linked to production organizations and their specialists are directly responsible for the final results achieved in the sector for the production of particular types of output. In this way the management was brought closer to production, which increases the role and accountability of managers and specialists and develops their initiative.

The powers of the management agencies for the rayon agro-industrial complex were also broadened. Thus, the association received the right to centralized expenditure of capital to finance construction of interfarm production facilities and to set calculation prices for output exchanged among farms and tariff rates for mutual services. It became possible to plan production and capital construction of production and social-domestic facilities more effectively and to decide the questions of personnel training and raising qualifications in the interests of all members of the association and the rayon agro-industrial complex as a whole.

Social questions began to be decided in a more purposeful, well-founded, and rational manner. This is one of the important factors in the development of rural productive forces and above all helps keep regular workers on the farms.

The following circumstances are also important. The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers entitled "The Private Plots of Kolkhoz Members, Workers, Employees, and Other Citizens and Collective Orchard and Garden Farming" obligated party, Soviet, and economic bodies to establish the necessary material and nonmaterial conditions to give citizens greater incentive to operate private farms, above all to raise livestock and poultry. Work experience shows that under RAPO conditions work to create these conditions is done more purposefully and opportunities to increase the production of meat, milk, and other agricultural output in the private plots are used more fully. This is because the RAPO is responsible for raising the efficiency of agricultural production and increasing state purchases of output not only in the public sector, but also in the private sector. As a result of this the established goal for sale of milk to the state by private citizens was overfulfilled in several rayons where RAPO's were in operation, by eight percent in Talsanskiy Rayon and by six percent in Valkskiy and Valmiyerskiy rayons. Sale of milk by private parties in these three rayons compared to 1980 increased, respectively, by four percent, 0.3 percent, and three percent. The productivity of the cows rose. In Valmiyerskiy the population sold the state 1,378 tons of meat (compared to a plan of 1,150 tons) in 1981; 604 tons of this amount was bought from citizens by kolkhozes and goskhozes of the rayon on the basis of contracts.

In conformity with the demands of the CPSU Central Committee and the instructions of L. I. Brezhnev the Central Committee of the Latvian Communist Party and the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers adopted a decision to form associations based on the Talsinskiy and other RAPO's in all rayons. And today this new form of managing the agro-industrial complex at the rayon level has begun to operate everywhere in Latvia. In this connection we should say that this form, which has a number of advantages, as mentioned above, and is more flexible and purposeful than earlier forms, nonetheless does need significant refinement. Above all we must eliminate those tight spots which reduce the effectiveness of management and, therefore, the efficiency of agricultural production and of the work of the entire agro-industrial complex.

During the formation and development of the existing rayon agro-industrial associations numerous problems accumulated. Solutions to them must be found more quickly to insure a further consolidation of this progressive form of managing agricultural production and thereby to raise labor productivity, use material and labor resources more efficiently, and increase the production of agricultural output.

Speaking at the October 1980 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, L. I. Brezhnev emphasized that in working out the food program it is essential "to bring together the questions of the development of agriculture and its service sectors of industry, procurements, storage, transportation, and processing agricultural output, plus the questions of development of the food industry and the food trade. This agro-industrial, food complex should be planned, financed, and managed as a single unit, insuring good final results."

The document "Basic Directions of Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-1985 and the Period Until 1990," ratified by the 26th CPSU Congress,

also opposes the task of insuring efficient management of the unified food complex, refining the system of plan indicators and material incentive, organizing management of production, storage, processing, delivery, and sale of agricultural output so that the employees of each of these elements have an interest in delivering high-quality products to the customer. In view of these demands we must strive for a further improvement in the work of the rayon agro-industrial associations. This must be begun by improving the organizational structure of the RAPO's. It appears that enterprises of the Ministry of Meat and Dairy Industry must be included in them as full-fledged members. This will make it possible to increase the joint interest of meat and dairy combines, on the one hand, and sovkhozes and kolkhozes on the other with respect to more efficient use of meat and milk resources. It will raise the quality of output and reduce losses of output as it moves from production to sale. In addition it will be possible to make better use of the by-products of meat and dairy output, thereby increasing resources of protein feeds.

A number of enterprises of the Ministry of Food Industry, including alcohol-starch plants, should also be included in the RAPO's. This will insure better coordination of actions to achieve more rational use of local raw material resources and enterprise capacities, and will make it possible to use by-products more fully for feed purposes. The entry of sugar plants into the RAPO's would make the farms and enterprises more accountable for preservation of the tubers and for efficient use of transportation. This would promote a reduction in time required to gather and prepare the harvest and would insure more production of the real output, sugar. At the same time it will be necessary through joint efforts to solve the problem of more rational use of beet pulp and molasses. It would obviously be wise to dry the beet pulp at the plant. This would reduce the need for rail and motor vehicle transportation and make it possible to use this type of feed to enrich rations at a later period of the livestock overwintering.

From the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Growing the fruit and vegetable canning plants and central depots should be included in the RAPO's in addition to agricultural enterprises. This will also provide more clearcut coordination of the actions of agricultural and industrial enterprises in organizing procurement, processing, and storage of output.

Including the rayon procurement inspectorate and mixed feed industry enterprises in RAPO's will make it possible to refine the system of procurement of agricultural output, correctly locate and develop the central depot of the mixed feed industry, and organize the receipt, drying, storage, and processing of all feed grain from the combines better. At the same time, the accountability of agricultural agencies and procurement organizations for fulfillment of state plans will rise.

The inclusion of flax processing enterprises in the RAPO's should also have a substantial impact. This will promote an improvement in the production and processing of flax output and widespread introduction of the progressive principle of receiving flax where the output goes directly from the field to the plant. This will require construction of initial flax processing points (drying, sorting, and so on) right at the enterprise or near it. The entry of

flax processing enterprises into the RAPO's will also make it possible to use labor resources and means of transportation better and reduce losses of harvested output that now occur.

Including the administrations of land improvement systems in the RAPO's will raise the accountability of the managers and specialists of these organizations, on the one hand, and the farms on the other for more rational use of capital investment appropriated for land improvement, for correct choice of projects, and for high quality, timely performance of work.

It would be wise for organizations of the Sortsemoyoshch [Varietal Vegetable Seed] Association to be included in the RAPO's. This would promote accelerated introduction of progressive new, high-yielding varieties of agricultural crops into production.

The road repair and construction administrations of the Ministry of Motor Vehicle Roads that exist in the rayon should also be RAPO members. At the present time they do a great deal of work for the countryside, but the demand for this work is several times greater. Using the capacities of these administrations and the means of the enterprises and organizations belonging to the RAPO, it would be possible to greatly expand road construction and repair in the countryside and to build other facilities that the farms need very much: railroad siding to production sites; equipment storage areas; airfields; and, grazing areas for livestock. The performance of this work within the boundaries of a rayon would be economically advantageous for the road repair and construction administrations themselves as well.

The inclusion of rayon consumer cooperative societies in the RAPO's would make it possible to identify surplus agricultural products more completely, organize their purchase and processing, and improve the siting and development of shopping centers, procurement points, and public catering facilities.

Including all of the above-named enterprises and organizations in the RAPO's would promote not only a strong production base, but also accelerated and efficient solutions to social problems in the countryside because it would make it possible to concentrate personnel and equipment even better for planned construction of housing, trade, public catering, and domestic service facilities, children's preschool institutions, and Houses of Culture. Individual enterprises often are unable to build these facilities, and in many cases it is not expedient.

In addition to refining the organizational structure of the RAPO's significant practical efforts should be directed to furthering and comprehensively developing interfarm cooperation and agro-industrial integration. This refers above all to seed growing for grain crops, perennial grasses, and potatoes. We must remember that we cannot raise the yield of the crops without well-organized seed growing.

Our republic has some experience in this work. Seed growing for grain crops is well-organized on an interfarm basis at the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin in Talsinskiy Rayon, for example. It is long since time to begin widespread introduction of

this experience in every rayon. We have the capacities and means for this; it is time to get to work. Specifically, we must prepare the appropriate documents and provide interfarm seed growing enterprises with physical facilities. Goskomsel'khoztekhnika, with the help of a number of other organizations, will obviously have to manufacture seed storage bins, equipment for disinfecting the seeds, and other machinery, and see that these facilities are supplied with all necessary materials.

The republic has established a fairly good base for raising perennial grass seed. Twenty-three integrated seed cleaning points have been built. With correct organization of the work they are capable of preparing high-quality seed for the entire republic. But the capacities of these points are not being used well at all. There must be a significant improvement in seed production at specialized farms, setting up inexpensive primary preparation points at them. The drying and initial seed cleaning must be done here, after which the seeds should be turned over to the integrated cleaning points for further preparation.

In animal husbandry, in addition to establishing more specialized interfarm enterprises to feed out livestock, we must significantly speed up the organization of enterprises to raise replacement stock. It is long since time to single out stock replacement as an independent subsector of animal husbandry and put it on a scientific basis, remembering that the level of animal productivity and production of animal husbandry output as a whole depends on the quality of the stock raised for replacement. The republic also has experience with skillful organization of this work on an interfarm basis. We must strive to see that it is applied by all rayons.

A great deal must be done to expand centralized hauling of livestock and milk by enterprises of the Ministry of Meat and Dairy Industry and accepting fruit and vegetables by procurement organizations at the farms with broad use of progressive procurement methods (containers, special boxes, and motor vehicle transportation).

We must also begin establishing more enterprises that belong to the RAPO, primarily in feed production, on the basis of agro-industrial integration. The Valmiyera Association offers a good example here. They have established an enterprise to produce dehydrated feed, are completing design work on a second one, and are building an enterprise to produce yeast and molasses from peat. Most of the rayons of the Latvian SSR have such possibilities.

The farms of the republic have significant forest resources, but they are certainly not managed well in all places. At the same time the steadily growing demand of the kolkhozes and sovkhoses for timber, lumber, and cabinet goods is not being satisfied well. To eliminate this problem a wood processing enterprise belonging to the RAPO should be set up in each rayon. There may be different forms depending on local conditions. Here is one alternative. Appropriate forest lands are transferred to the enterprise. It carries out a program of logging and reforestation on them, organizes procurement of timber and milling for lumber, supplies it to the farms, and manufactures cabinet goods. The members of the association decide questions of management and procurement of lumber jointly and procure needles for production of meal from them.

Flax processing enterprises should also be set up on the basis of agro-industrial integration. Rezeknenskiy Rayon has begun organizing such an enterprise. Similar possibilities should be sought in the other flax growing rayons of the republic.

The growth in the power-worker ratio at RAPO enterprises and organizations and the increasing delivery of various kinds of complex machinery challenge us to find new forms to secure a significant increase in the efficiency of their use and an improvement in servicing, repair, and organization of equipment work. It would appear that the production enterprise for mechanization and electrification set up in 1980 within the Talsinskiy RAPO can be considered an acceptable form.

A great deal must be done to expand the services of Goskomsel'khoshtekhnika associations. The establishment of points for exchange of assemblies and aggregate parts at them proved entirely justified. Now we must take the next step and organize points for exchange of tractors and combines. This will foster a rise in the efficiency of use of machinery.

At the present time the Latvsel'khozkhimiya Association does a great deal of agricultural chemical service for the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. According to the plan for social and economic development of the republic the scale of services it offers will grow. This organization has the duty of performing the full program of work to provide agricultural chemical service to all land users. But this is still beyond its capacities today. Therefore, in addition to further development of the material-technical base of Latvsel'khozkhimiya, high-quality and prompt agricultural chemical service to the farms demands that we set up interfarm (regional or zonal) agricultural points and centers which are responsible for the corresponding work in their service zones under the management of the rayon agricultural chemical office.

Another problem that must be solved is improving the organization of capital construction and capital repair of buildings and structures. A single construction organization in the rayon should be established for this purpose. In addition to actual construction it could do work related to issuing orders for design projects and necessary industrial equipment and machinery. In this case it will be necessary to revise the existing system of forming economic stimulation and bonus funds at construction organizations so that they have an incentive to increase work volume, reduce work time, and raise the quality of construction-installation and repair work.

Cooperation among RAPO members offers great opportunities for training personnel at different levels and raising their qualifications on behalf of all members of the association. Thus, rayon training combines can and must be used more efficiently to train workers in the common occupations. In a number of places it is necessary to expand the system of rural vocational-technical schools and to set up training of specialists in new occupations. The experience of the Talsinskiy RAPO with training middle and top level specialists deserves attention. The associations set up a stipend fund, and the RAPO has sent more than 60 persons to study at higher educational institutions and tekhnikums. After finishing school specialists are sent where they are most

needed. The Valmiyerskiy RAPO has begun to do similar work. It seems that this is the correct way.

All the problems and issues raised above can be solved successfully only if all the members of the association are thoroughly interested in it. That is why one of the most important problems now is to refine the management mechanism in the associations. Analysis shows that it still does not completely eliminate the departmental approach for solving many problems and does not direct the activities of the collectives and managers of certain service and processing enterprises and organizations to increase the production and reduce the cost of the agricultural output, food products and raw material for industry, that are so necessary. Therefore, it is essential to reorganize economic relations within the RAPO's so that the volume, quality, and time of jobs and services done and rendered by all enterprises included in the rayon agro-industrial complex and the wages and material incentives of all participants in the production process are subordinated to the final results of economic activity. This applies above all to the enterprises and organizations that serve agriculture. The system of planning, material incentive for workers, and all economic relations that has become established here does not fully meet the above-listed requirements yet. As a result an inordinately large part of profit received through work at the kolkhozes and sovkhoses comes to rest at agricultural service enterprises and organizations. To avoid this the rates for services that they render to the farms should be set by the rayon agro-industrial associations, and these rates must not exceed the prime cost of doing such jobs at the best farms. The fund for development and consolidation as well as other funds of these enterprises and organizations should be formed from deductions from actual net income (profit) of the kolkhozes and goskhoses they serve.

It is essential for the republic Ministry of Agriculture, working with the Institute of Economics of the Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences and other interested ministries and departments, to develop a system of material incentive for the managers and specialists of enterprises and organizations which are RAPO members as soon as possible. These incentives should depend on the final results of agricultural production, on growth in sale of agricultural output to the state.

Financial relations among RAPO members are important and complex. It is wise to establish centralized association funds to finance general measures envisioned by the programs of economic and social development of the agro-industrial complex for the administrative region and to set deductions to this fund at a uniform amount for all RAPO members regardless of their departmental affiliation. Perhaps the principal source for formation of this fund should be deductions from the planned and above-plan profit of all association members, and deductions from the fund for development and expansion of production where there is no such profit. Other sources are also possible. The capital of the centralized fund should be distributed among the corresponding RAPO funds by decision of the association council. Representatives of agricultural science and employees of legal, financial, and banking agencies should offer their suggestions for the best solutions to these problems. And this question must be decided in the very near future.

While resolving all these problems we must remember that the enterprises and organizations that serve agriculture and process its output have double subordination, to their own department and to the rayon association. The republic ministries and departments must continue to provide them with funds, provide technological leadership, and carry on material-technical supply. But the planning procedure must be changed. Assignments for performance of jobs and services for the countryside should be ratified by the associations. Where capital investment should be used first, what lands should be improved, where to apply fertilizer, and the most efficient way to use the capacities of construction organizations — these are things that should be decided in the local area, at the RAPO.

The proposals of a number of associations that the republic Gosplan establish a uniform limit on capital investment for the development of all spheres of the agro-industrial complex and give the RAPO council the right to plan its use independently, and when necessary to redistribute it, deserves fixed attention and support. This will make it possible to use capital investment more efficiently. The volumes of capital investment allocated to each subordinate enterprise for the five-year plan should be fully incorporated. The republic Gosplan together with the appropriate ministries and departments must review these suggestions and make their own proposals to directive agencies.

Solving the above-mentioned problems will make it possible, in addition to everything else, to achieve coordination and purposefulness in the efforts of the RAPO administrative apparatus. It will eliminate parallelism in the work of its individual services and employees and make them more accountable for performance of assigned jobs. In connection with this essential amendments and changes should also be made in official instructions for specialists and the statutes on RAPO services. During this the obligations among association services and their employees should be defined as specifically as possible, reflecting the concrete features of labor organization and the characteristics of the activity of each rayon association. Work to refine the structure of the administrative apparatus should aim at reducing overhead expenditures.

Refining the management of production at the level of the administrative region is a new and difficult task, but a very essential one. Indeed, successfully meeting the challenges that face the employees of the entire agro-industrial complex depends to a significant degree on this. The question of organizing a republic-wide agrarian-industrial association (ReAPO) is now being decided also. Setting up such an organization would, in our opinion, help greatly to improve the management of agriculture and of the entire agro-industrial complex of the republic. Therefore, it would also help solve a problem of enormous political, economic, and social importance that has been posed by the party: increase the production and sale to the state of food products for the population and raw material for industry.

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REGIONAL

CONTROL ROLE OF DAGESTAN ELDERS DESCRIBED, PRAISED

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 May 82 p 2

[Article by P. Krasnozhenov, head of the division of administrative agencies of the Dagestanskaya Oblast party committee and deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the Dagestanskaya ASSR: "Traditions and New Customs"]

[Text] "Godekan" is the name we use in Dagestan for a small square in the middle of the village. It is an ordinary square. Old men sit solemnly and properly on the benches. You see them there on hot summer days and in the winter twilight. They recall the past and discuss present-day matters.

A wedding was being celebrated in the village. But the good spirits were disturbed when two young men began arguing. There would have been trouble if old Arsanmurza had not been nearby. By simply appearing he brought the hot-headed young men to their senses. Lowering their heads in shame, they stood before the "aksakal": there is nothing more unpleasant for a man of the mountain than the reproach of an elder.

There are many good and venerable traditions in Dagestan. Unfortunately, some outdated ones also survive such as "sadaka," where the family gives away the deceased person's things and food at the wake, or "kalym," a ransom payment for a bride. It is true that they are steadily losing their following. But they still exist and, of course, party and Soviet bodies and public opinion in the republic take this into account when organizing indoctrination work. This work aims at consolidating new customs that have been born in our day, as well as useful old ones such as respect for elders. Their authority is great and indisputable. At the initiative of local party agencies, rural Soviets of Peoples Deputies, and rayon divisions of internal affairs in Dagestan councils of aksakals have been formed in the republic and have become one of the effective forms of public participation in deciding many local questions, bringing up young people, and strengthening public order. The republic now has more than 600 such councils.

Nominations are made at a meeting of inhabitants of the town and ratified at a session of the local Soviet. The candidates are the most highly respected and prominent people, ones who have earned their authority and the complete trust of their fellow citizens. They are veterans of labor and participants in the Civil War and Great Patriotic War.

The settlement of Buglen in Buynakskiy Rayon sent 145 of its inhabitants to defend the homeland during the war and 72 of them did not return. For purposes of military-patriotic indoctrination of young people the council of elders proposed building an obelisk with the names of the dead. They also organized correspondence with units where men from the town are serving and they conduct ceremonies to see off young men being drafted into the army. By indoctrinating young people in combat, revolutionary, and labor traditions the aksakals are teaching them love for their native town, love for work on their farm, and dedication to the cause of the elders.

About 30 years ago the inhabitants of the settlement of Kurush, one of the highest villages in Dagestan by altitude, moved to the plains. There they are working very well and multiplying their fine traditions. The local Kolkhoz imeni K. Marx is one of the richest in the republic. Sector inspector Yu. Umarov, who has been serving this populated point for four years, observed that he has never had to deal with legal offenders there. A good deal of the credit for this goes to the council of aksakals headed by S. Kuliyeu, Hero of Socialist Labor, former permanent chairman of the kolkhoz, and honored citizen of the town. He and all the members of the council he heads are teachers of young people and sponsor the Komsomol-youth brigades. At the initiative of the veterans three streets in the town were surfaced, a waterline was laid, and many other good deeds were done.

The settlement of Fiy in Akhtynskiy Rayon is high in the mountains and far from the center. The local Kolkhoz imeni F. Engels, headed by K. Atluyev, a delegate to the 26th CPSU Congress, has about 14,000 sheep and usually surpasses its plan for sale of wool and meat to the state. Chairman of the executive committee of the Fiyskiy Rural Soviet S. Omarov and chairman of the council of aksakals R. Rashidov tell of these successes with pride. They are equally proud of the fact that there has not been a single crime in the settlement since 1936. Not only is there no larceny or hooliganism in the settlement; there are not even divorces, even though the population, 1,236 persons, is not that small.

The working experience of the councils of aksakals in Akhtynskiy, Babayurtovskiy, Buynakskiy, Gunibskiy, Kazbekovskiy, Magaramkentskiy, Khasavyutrovskiy, Charodinskiy, and other rayons testifies to their great effectiveness. They play a significant part in establishing socialist morality and rooting out ugly remnants of the past that still exist in our life.

In the square of the village of Charoda 80-year-old M. Ismailov, who heads the council of aksakals, relates the following:

"We have fewer and fewer conflict situations to deal with. Most of the time we do what is now called preventive work. We teach young people to respect their elders. We teach them kindness, attention, sensitivity, and observance of the law and order. Once an inhabitant of the town began to drink and disturb other people. We visited him at home, met his family and relatives, and had a very serious talk with him at the council. It was in time. He straightened out."

"Do not tolerate evil near you for even a minute," the mountain people say. The aksakals in the village Talukh are guided by these wise words. They are

introducing new rituals and traditions into daily life. They try to be teachers to young people and pass on their experience to them.

Last summer marked 30 years since a legal offense had occurred. The village was awarded a Certificate of Honor from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Dagestan ASSR and a challenge Red Banner for exemplary public order.

Similar awards were given to the settlements of Lutkun in Akhtynskiy Rayon and Nakazukh in Gunidskiy Rayon. They have not had crimes for the last three decades either. In the republic as a whole there are more than 700 villages which have not had legal offenses in recent years.

Through the efforts of the elders of the village of Lutkun the families of E. Shakhabanov and N. Gamzayev were preserved. They also helped wayward adolescents G. Abdulkerimov and G. Akhmedov return to school. And they have done many fine things to fix up the town. When the drinking water supply was interrupted the aksakals themselves outfitted a spring, and they built an arc bridge across the ravine for people's convenience.

It is common knowledge that a Dagestani wedding is a holiday for the entire village. But how can unpleasant incidents be avoided in this case? Here too the aksakals set the tone. As a rule the council of elders appoints three of its members to be responsible for order at the wedding and notifies the organizers of this. These things make it possible to conduct the celebration without incidents.

For a long time mountain women were not selected for the councils of aksakals; women were not allowed in the men's circle. But then the deputies in Kazbekovskiy Rayon proposed that they too be included in the council of aksakals. So A. Telepayeva and A. Magomedova, respected women in Bylym, began to work as equals to the men on questions of life in the town.

Dagestan has joined representatives of dozens of peoples into a single fraternal family. The strength of international friendship and brotherhood is felt everywhere in the republic. When our towns were devastated by an earthquake in May 1970 the entire country came to our aid. The settlement of Korkmaskala, for example, was raised from the ruins by college students from Moscow and Leningrad and construction workers from Tula and Georgia. How can the inhabitants of the reborn town fail to remember this today! Naturally such events bring people closer and remain in the people's memory. It is also natural that where the population of villages is multinational, so will the councils of aksakals be multinational, and they do a great deal of good for the international indoctrination of young people.

The discussions of the aksakals in the rural squares are more lively these days, during the election campaign and preparations for the 60th anniversary of the USSR. The old men talk about how the deputies perform in local governmental bodies, and sometimes this is the first time that they mention the names of persons who are worthy of being chosen as members of a new council.

For their part, the local governmental bodies of Dagestan, conscious of the role of the councils of aksakals in all aspects of village life, attach great importance to their work. And they give them all possible assistance.

REGIONAL

BELORUSSIAN PAPER PINPOINTS SHORTCOMINGS IN PARTY WORK

Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 30 Apr 82 p 3

[Article: "The Range of the Party Theme"]

[Text] The plenary session of the Belorussian Communist Party Gomel'skiy obkom, during which it would be necessary to discuss measures for improving the selection, assignment and indoctrination of leading kolkhoz and sovkhoz cadre, was being prepared. GOMEL'SKAYA PRAVDA reported on this to its readers. However, it did not limit itself to this, but introduced a column entitled "For the Plenum of the Belorussian Communist Party Obkom". In an article entitled "Before Entrusting", G. Kalinovskiy, the head of the organizational section of the Belorussian Communist Party Rechitskiy raykom, shared his experiences in working with cadre and told how the Belorussian Communist Party raykom is solving this problem.

Every party worker, who has read this article, will draw much that is useful for his own practices, will measure his own actions against the actions of his neighbors, and will determine the positive and negative features in working with cadre.

Party work is complicated and multifaceted; it requires a great deal of creativity and ability. Its treatment in a newspaper is also a complicated and labor-consuming process. The allegation exists that it is not an individual -- it is a style, all the more if it concerns a party leader. However, style -- as is known -- does not lie on the surface; it is necessary to "hunt it down", it is necessary to notice it, to find it, to choose its best features perhaps, and to submit it to the court of the reader -- and to submit it so that the material in the column entitled "Party Life" will be grasped by the mass audience, will carry a large emotional charge of experience and morality, and will sink deeply into human hearts. The journalists of GOMEL'SKAYA PRAVDA are doing a lot to keep pace with life and contribute to the implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress during which it was emphasized: "If each party organization uses all the reserves in its sector and introduces proper order in everything, then the affairs of the entire country will move further forward". How this requirement is being realized in localities is the primary theme of the newspaper.

"Improving Work Style" is the leading column of the party theme. Detailed material, in which the comprehensive activity of party committees and organizations is treated, is published most frequently of all under it. For these articles, the

journalists are able to find a disturbing problem and to determine the author who has a moral right to share his thoughts and his experiences with the readers. In this connection, I would like to cite the article entitled "Help the One Lagging Behind" by L. Astraukh, first secretary of the Gomel' Zheleznodorozhnyy raykom.

Among the recent articles in the column entitled "Improve Work Style", it is also possible to pick out the article entitled "He Is Being Nominated to an Office" (I. Govyadkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Yel'skiy raykom), "The Meeting and its Return" (A. Kovalev, a Belorussian Communist Party obkom instructor), "For Control -- Effectiveness" (L. Khonyak, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Petrikovskiy raykom), and others. The fact that grains of new experiences are contained in each of them, that today's affairs are evaluated self-critically in them, and that controversial discussions which make the readers think creatively are present in them, is important.

In treating work style, the newspaper does not disregard the area of shortcomings. It boldly and with principle speaks the truth right out, directs attention towards unsolved questions, and names those guilty of an evil. Among the articles of this type, one can pick out the articles entitled "Letters From One Party Organization" which were published under the headings "What is Disturbing the Headquarters?" and "...Yet Another Lesson". It is an unusual genre by means of which journalist N. Lukovskiy conducts a lively and natural conversation with the reader. However, the merit of the "letters" is not only in this. Their value is primarily in the fact that the author deeply and thoroughly investigated the activity of the Rogachevskiy Agricultural Administration's party organization and cast light on its weak points. Using concrete examples, it was shown that the agronomists, livestock specialists and engineers provide useful advice in the majority of cases; however, they are frequently not listened to in the localities and are ignored. This inflicts a great deal of harm on raising public economy.

A logical question is posed: Why did the party organization resign itself to this situation and not see to it that the administration's specialists were not only and not so much advisors as genuine production organizers and technologists?

The newspaper also uses such a genre as notes from its correspondents. They are usually devoted to the treatment of mass events such as the plenums of party committees and the meetings of party aktivs on the main questions of practical work. This genre device permits one to depart from the dry stereotyped reports which are at times poorly grasped by the readers or which remain quite unread. For example, a plenum of the Belorussian Communist Party gorkom examined questions concerning the construction and reconstruction of "Gomsel'mash". The editors devoted notes to its progress -- notes in which the main thoughts of the plenum participants were reflected.

A fitting place is being allotted to the column entitled "Party Life: Be in Front". Ordinary communists appear in it, they tell about their work and the work of their comrades in the party, and they share their experiences in organizational work. The newspaper introduces the author with a brief biographical annotation and publishes his picture. The headlines of the latest articles testify to the breadth of the questions in this theme: "I Am Proud That I Am a Farmer", "The Fifth Route", "Ennoble Yourself by Work", "Bread -- the Dearest Thing", "Why Heat the Sky", "The Road to the Farm"

GOMEL'SKAYA PRAUDA also treats the party theme using other avenues of organizational party work. Among them, one can pick out the columns entitled "Party Life: Leadership of the Economy", "Party Life: Cadres -- the Decisive Link", "Party Life: How the Decision is Being Carried Out", "The Communist and His Work", and "Party Veterans". All this testifies to the fact that the party theme in GOMEL'SKAYA PRAUDA is being conducted systematically, creatively and with variety. The newspaper is embracing the various aspects of the activity of committees and organizations in its articles. Its authors' aktiv is broad. During the second half of last year and during the time which has passed this year, 10 Belorussian Communist Party raykom secretaries, 28 primary organization secretaries, 10 party group organizers, and 20 ordinary communists have appeared in the newspaper.

As was mentioned above, a fitting place in the newspaper is allotted to articles in the "Leadership of the Economy" series. This is commendable since politics -- to use a Leninist expression -- is the concentrated expression of the economy and, naturally, the treatment of these questions should not depart from the pages of the newspaper. However, the trouble is that the authors of the material on the subject of party leadership of the economy frequently confine themselves only to statements on production work and do not tell how -- using what methods -- committees and organizations affect the course of their development. Because of this, the articles in this series differ little from the presentations of economic leaders.

In introducing the "For the Plenum of the Belorussian Communist Part Obkom" column, the editors displayed good initiative. However, in the first place, there are nevertheless few articles under it. In the second place, only experiences are set forth in the materials which are published. This is good, but it is not enough. Articles of this type should also be open to discussion; analytical discussions of the forthcoming plenum agenda should be present in them. The editors do not subject an unworthy work style to criticism often enough and seldom speak on the letters of the communists; the information genre is watered down in the newspaper. It is necessary to write more frequently about the new replacements for the party and about the responsibility of those recommended for their qualitative aspect.

If these and other omissions -- known to the editors -- are eliminated, the range of the party theme in GOMEL'SKAYA PRAUDA will become wider and its articles will acquire even greater effectiveness and purposefulness.

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