

U.S. Newsmen Find Russ Farm Production Lags Because People Have No Incentives

(Editor's Note: Marshall Formby and Robert Dix were among a group of American newsmen who have just visited the Soviet Union while on a tour of Europe. They have written their views on some aspects of the Soviet scene in the following dispatch written while in Moscow last April 3. Formby owns several radio stations in Texas and Dix is a Ravenna, Ohio, newspaper publisher.)

By ROBERT DIX and MARSHALL FORMBY
Written For The United Press

Moscow — (U.P.) — If a collective farm manager ever asks you to tea at his house, be prepared for a sumptuous banquet.

Our group of American newspaper editors learned this at first hand when we were taken to farm manager Ivan Morozov's house after touring part of his collective farm in the village of Vihino, near Moscow.

It was a cold day, for winter still holds this harsh land in its grip. The hogs in the barn were huddled together to keep warm. Even the cows were lying down. So when Ivan suggested after our frigid walk that we have tea, we readily accepted.

Located in the heart of a rustic village of frame and log-cabin type homes, his house was modest but adequate. And the feast which his wife, Marie, and their daughter had prepared for us consisted of a half dozen different foods supported with ample portions of vodka and wine.

Inherited Home
The home was his. He inherited it from his father, he told us. As manager of this 1,600-acre farm, he earns in money and kind about 45,000 rubles a year.

About 600 persons work on the farm — 400 women and 200 men. Each is paid by a complicated formula of work days. On the average, each earns about 2,000 rubles in money and kind. There are no privately-owned farms in Russia as we have in the United States. The independ-

ence of the Russian has ceased to exist.

The reason so many women work here is that the menfolk, in this village close to Moscow, have jobs in the city. Most potatoes, tomatoes and other vegetables are raised on this farm.

The farm has 290 cows, 600 pigs, 700 hens, 18 trucks and two automobiles and 78 horses.

Everybody readily admits that the USSR has an agricultural problem. To help solve it, the government adopted an abrupt change of policy in 1954. It raised the amount paid to the farms for their products 12 times.

Ivan has many medals, including the Order of Lenin for his

Seven News Editors Back From Behind Reds' Iron Curtain

New York — (U.P.) — Seven news editors who spent nearly two weeks behind the Iron Curtain returned to the United States Saturday.

The group left here Feb. 23 on a tour organized by James Wick of the Wick Newspapers, New York City. They spent four days in Moscow, two in Warsaw, Poland, three in Leningrad and two in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

Foresee No War
They said the returned with the feeling that the countries behind the Iron Curtain have so many domestic problems, that they are not planning to launch any war.

They found women doing a great deal of the heavy work, including street cleaning, foundry work and other tasks normally done by men in other countries.

They said they felt more optimistic about the chances for peace since their visit to the Communist dominated countries.

Seventeen other members of the group remained abroad for further sightseeing and study.

efficient farm management. Many other workers on the farm also wear government medals.

Sewage Water
Some of the acres of the farm are irrigated, he said, with the water from the sewage disposal plant to increase their fertility. They also use a great deal of chemical fertilizer, he said.

A farm never looks its best on a cold winter day but the buildings and equipment which we saw appeared to be in good condition. The cows looked like our Holsteins and the pigs were big and healthy.

After the state takes its share, for which it pays at the rate of

75 per cent of the going price, the farm can sell the rest of its produce to cooperatives. And the farmers can sell what they receive in kind on the free market, which they do.

Typically old-Russians, the homes in the area had a sort of back-mountain-country look. Many had earth packed up around the sides to keep out the always formidable Russian winter.

The food production per man is very low compared to our standards, mostly because government ownership and control has taken away the incentive for once-independent farmers.

Plan To Give Winnie U.S. Citizenship Apt To Prove Troublesome

Washington — (U.P.) — Congressional proposals to grant Sir Winston Churchill honorary U. S. citizenship might do more harm than good, administration

officials said Saturday. They were far from opposed to the idea of this nation's showing its appreciation for Churchill's services to the free world during his long career. But there were definite misgivings about risking legislative debates and a possible legal inquiry by the Supreme Court into the constitutionality of any move to give Churchill citizenship.

Warning From SEC Admitted by Helser In Court Testimony

San Francisco — (U.P.) — J. Henry Helser, charged by the government with fraud and mismanagement of client funds by his investment firm, admitted in Federal Court Friday he had been warned by the Securities and Exchange Commission as early as 1950 the company was under investigation.

The government tried to prove that Helser wrote a letter to clients after the government brought its charges last fall, which said:

"At no time until now has the Securities and Exchange Commission indicated that we are operating in any way contrary to their rules and regulations."

Admits Letter
Helser admitted under questioning that he wrote the letter, but said he retracted it as soon as his attorneys pointed out that the SEC had, in 1950, called his attention to possible "fraud and deceit" by his firm.

It was a hot time for Helser Friday. Under prodding by Assistant U.S. Attorney Frank E. Kennamer Jr., he admitted that at one time his investment company kept seriously impaired accounts in a "hospital" file.

Helser said the company no longer keeps a file of sick accounts but that the accounts are still segregated.

The "hospital" file was introduced as evidence by Kennamer Friday.

Read From Manual
He read from a Helser basic policy manual which said all accounts having special problems should go into the file, including those in which a client's equity was impaired.

Kennamer then introduced a note from the record sheet which indicated that the account of Mrs. Fannie Marmette suffered a large decline and "needed more help."

Another notation on Mrs. Louise Algood read, "Please place this in your hospital file. The account is under water by \$2576."

The SEC has asked Federal Judge Louis E. Goodman to issue a permanent injunction against the company.

The hearing was recessed early for Good Friday and will continue Monday.

Samuel Brannan announced the discovery of gold at Coloma in San Francisco on March 15, 1848.



MENTIONED as possible choice for foreign minister succeeding Sir Anthony Eden, Britain's new prime minister is Harold MacMillan (above), present defense minister. (International)

NO NAME
Columbia City, Ind. — (U.P.) — This city lost its identification overnight. For unknown reasons, seven signs bearing the city's name and population were stolen from highways leading into the city.

Latest Nike Defenses for Portland Seen by Norblad

Portland — (U.P.) — Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore) said Saturday he believed Portland would be given the latest in Nike air defense missiles after high priority cities received them.

Norblad, who attended an atomic test in Nevada, said he has asked the secretary of the Army to establish the Nike missiles in the Portland area. Sites would not have to be in valuable property areas, he said. Undeveloped areas and marginal regions around the city could be used.

The latest Nike anti-aircraft weapon can reach planes 200 miles away, Norblad said.

Norblad, a member of the House Military Affairs Committee, also said guided missile development was rapidly progressing. He said that by 1960 guided missiles will have reached the point where one could be fired from Portland, Me., and hit Moscow in 30 minutes with only a maximum of a 40-mile error.

Kearney, Neb. — (U.P.) — Sheriff Wilbur Gewecke was ordered to serve a subpoena recently but found he didn't have far to go. The sheriff served the paper on himself, as a party in a civil lawsuit.

New Umatilla Toll Bridge Set To Open

Umatilla, Ore. — (U.P.) — A new toll bridge, slightly more than a half mile long, will go into use here April 15, replacing the Umatilla ferry across the Columbia river between Oregon and Washington.

Govs. Paul Patterson of Oregon and Arthur B. Langlie of Washington are scheduled to speak at the day-long dedication activities.

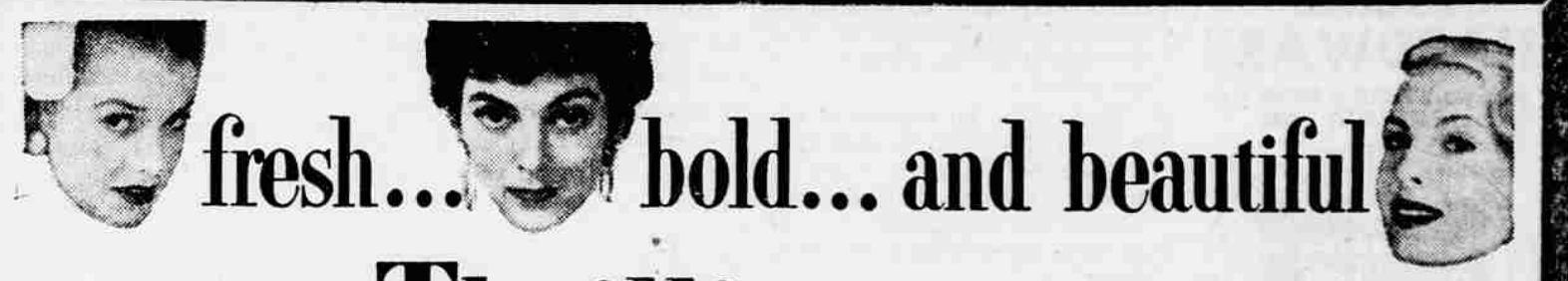
The bridge was constructed with money raised through the sale of bonds, which will be repaid in about 27 years from tolls collected on the bridge.

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