

Westerners Believe Red China Creating Artificial Crop Shortage

Other Communist Nations Thought Having Troubles

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst

Red China and Soviet Russia have both admitted disastrous crop failures.

Communist China announced that agricultural setbacks involving half of the 300 million acres under cultivation also had hit hard the country's production of consumer goods.

A Moscow announcement said that Soviet Minister of Agriculture Vladimir Martskevich had been fired and replaced by Mikhail Olshansky, a relative unknown.

Output Disappointing
A report to the Supreme Soviet last week acknowledged that the output of grain had been disappointing, and had in turn affected meat production.

Non-Communist official weather observers in Asia doubted Peiping's report that weather was responsible for the crop failures and the shortages which foretold more suffering for the Chinese people.

The weatherman said Red China's rainfall had been about normal and that Central China, where the Reds said no rain fell for nine months, had better than normal moisture.

Artificial Shortage Charged
They suggested the Communists were creating an artificial internal shortage in order to have more grain for export and more foreign exchange with which to purchase machines for its lagging industrial program.

The Soviets did not disclose this year's grain production figures, but there were indications they might even fall below 1959's disappointing total of 47 million tons which were 9 million tons below the banner year of 1958.

There are indications that Red China and the Soviet Union are not alone among the Communist nations experiencing serious agricultural setbacks.

Trouble in Poland
Polish leaders have admitted that their greatest failure has been their attempt to enlist support of Polish peasants who have successfully resisted collectivization and whose output has fallen off drastically.

Resistance of Hungarian peasants forced the government last spring to resort to capitalistic practices to increase farm production. Private plots were assigned to farmers who were permitted a profit motive.

Communist East Germany boasted that its farmlands were 100 per cent collectivized but admitted shortages brought about primarily by sabotage and the flight of East zone farmers to the West.

Policeman Amused -- For Awhile

Orange, N.J. — Police Capt. Joseph McCartney was amused.

"Look at those crazy kids riding their bikes on that icy driveway," he said to Sgt. Herman Paccarelli.

Paccarelli was more than amused. He dropped the report he was reading—it concerned a bicycle theft—ran out into the cold and collared the "crazy kids."

The two boys, both 13, said they merely had borrowed the bikes. They were released in their parents' custody.

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Economic, Fiscal Problems Will Dominate Session of Congress

Washington (CQ) — A long, tough, and expensive agenda awaits the 87th Congress, as it convenes this week.

Details of the legislative program to be proposed by President-elect John F. Kennedy won't be known until after his inauguration Jan. 20. But there is ample evidence that it will keep his fellow Democrats on Capitol Hill busy for the next six months or more.

With controlling margins of 65-35 in the Senate and 262-175 in the House, Democrats are expected to respond quickly to the next President's anticipated request for a batch of anti-recession measures.

Economic and fiscal problems are certain to dominate the session. The departing Eisenhower Administration will leave a lagging economy, a gold crisis, and (in all probability) an \$82-billion budget, all of which will shape much of the legislative output in the first months of the Kennedy Administration. Deficit spending is clearly just around the corner.

Here, in capsule form, is the outlook for major items on the upcoming legislative agenda:

• **Pump-priming.** To counter the recession, the new President is expected to recommend a variety of spending and credit-easing steps, including the enactment of five measures enacted in 1960: grants for school construction and teachers' salaries; medical care benefits for the aged under social security; grants and loans for economically depressed areas; increased mortgage purchase authority; and a lower FHA interest rate, and a minimum hourly wage of \$1.25 plus extended coverage.

• **National Security.** Having campaigned on a pledge to strengthen the armed forces, the President-elect is likely to propose a net increase in defense spending already slated to approach \$43 billion in fiscal 1962. Congress will be more receptive to the higher outlays than to a major reorganization of the Defense Department, which has been urged on the new President by Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) but is not likely to be undertaken in 1961. Expenditures for space programs are certain to rise.

• **Foreign Aid.** The Kennedy Administration may well ask for long-term and increased financing for the Development Loan Fund, to step up U.S. assistance to underdeveloped areas. But it is probably too late to undertake any basic revision of the catch-all Mutual Security Program in 1961, and a critical Congress is no less likely to cut the requests of a Democratic President than those of his Republican predecessor.

• **Trade Policy.** With the Sugar Act due to expire on March 31, along with the President's authority to cut Cuba out of the U.S. sugar market, quick action is anticipated to extend the law, at least through 1961. The Senate will be asked to ratify U.S. membership in the new Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, but the ticklish problem of extending the President's authority to cut tariffs under reciprocal trade agreements won't arise until 1962.

• **Taxes.** Whether taxes will be cut, increased, revised or simply extended in 1961 is an open question. Tax reduction, although favored as an anti-recession measure, appears least likely in the light of prospective revenue needs. But the recession itself all but rules out any across-the-board increase. Best bet: some revisions, possibly including higher depreciation allowances to spur new investment, offset by the closing of such Democratic-labeled "loopholes" as the 4 per cent tax credit on dividend income.

• **Highways.** Congress will almost certainly be asked to rescue the federal highway program from collapse in 1961 if only because one-cent increase in the gas tax imposed in 1959 is due to expire on June 30. Since the multi-billion-dollar expenditures for roads are a vital economic stimulant, it's not likely that the program will be cut back. That means Congress will have to find the money to cover the deficit in the Highway Trust Fund, either by raising user taxes (like the gas tax) or absorbing the added costs in a deficit-bound budget.

• **Farm Policy.** Despite the campaign pledges to restore farm income and cut the wheat surplus by instituting a new farm program, there is a good chance that neither the Kennedy Administration nor Congress will attempt to write a major law in 1961. But if

new, airport construction, and water pollution control — come up for certain extension and probable expansion in 1961. Another good bet: federal loans to cities to develop commuter services and mass transportation systems.

• **City Problems.** A cabinet-level Department of Urban Affairs is a major goal of big-city Democrats, who want a bigger voice in Washington and are in a good position to get it from the President-elect. Three programs of special concern to cities — federal grants for urban re-

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— FRUITS —

Fruit Cocktail	Hunt's No. 300 can	25c	5 cans	\$1.00
Grapefruit Sections	Del Monte No. 300 can	27c	4 cans	\$1.00
Peaches	Sieffon (Branded) No. 2 1/2 can	29c	4 cans	\$1.00
Peaches	Del Monte (Glen) No. 300 can	2/49c	5 cans	\$1.00
Peaches	Hunt's (Glen) No. 300 can	31c	8 cans	\$1.00
Pears	Viskaya (Barbotts) No. 300 can	25c	5 cans	\$1.00
Pears	Del Rogue (Fancy Barbotts) No. 300 can	30c	4 cans	\$1.00
Pineapple	Mission (Sliced) No. 1 Flats	6 cans	\$1.00	
Grape Juice	Church 20-oz. bottle	39c	3 for	\$1.00
Orange Drink	Hi-C 46-oz. can	35c	3 cans	\$1.00
Apple Juice	Tree Top 24-oz. cans	25c	5 cans	\$1.00
Chili	Nalley (With Beans) No. 300 can	35c	4 cans	\$1.00
Tuna	White Star (Chunk Style) No. 1/2 can	33c	4 cans	\$1.00
Ketchup	Heinz 14-oz. bottle	27c	5 for	\$1.00
Spaghetti	And Meat Balls, Dennison 40-oz. can	63c	2 for	\$1.00
Chicken Raviolis	IXL 40-oz. can	59c	2 for	\$1.00
Facial Tissue	Soflin 400 count	25c	5 boxes	\$1.00

— VEGETABLES —

Asparagus	West Coast (All Green Spears) 300 size can	35c	3 cans	\$1.00
Pork & Beans	Hunt's No. 2 1/2 size can	25c	5 cans	\$1.00
Green Beans	Diamond A Cut 303 can	21c	6 cans	\$1.00
Wax Beans	Diamond A No. 303 can	2/45c	5 cans	\$1.00
Diced Beets	Diamond A No. 303 can	2/29c	8 cans	\$1.00
Corn	Del Monte (Cream Style) No. 303 can	21c	5 cans	\$1.00
Corn	Borden's Best (Cream Style) No. 303 can	2/39c	6 cans	\$1.00
Corn	Diamond A (Whole Kernel) No. 303 can	19c	6 cans	\$1.00
Hominy	Van Camp (White or Golden) 303 can	2/29c	8 cans	\$1.00
Peas	Walla Walla (Fancy) No. 303 can	20c	6 cans	\$1.00
New Potatoes	Hunt's No. 300 can	2/27c	8 cans	\$1.00
Sweet Potatoes	Royal Prince 303 can	31c	4 cans	\$1.00
Spinach	Del Monte No. 303 can	2/33c	7 cans	\$1.00
Tomatoes	Hunt's (Solid Pack) No. 2 1/2 can	29c	4 cans	\$1.00
Tomatoes	Tastewell (Standard) No. 303 can	2/35c	6 cans	\$1.00

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