

Collectives Cause Problems

Frankfurt, Germany - (UPI) - Communist forced collectivization in East Germany is paying off with increasing difficulties in bringing in the harvest and bolstering already low supplies of foodstuffs.

Of the 19,386 collectives in East Germany, nearly 10,000 were established only during the first six months of 1960. When this drive began many independent farmers left all their property behind and headed for the West. But Communist officials successfully gambled on most of the farmers clinging to their native soil - at least for the time before the harvest.

The wet summer, however, combined with the chaos reigning after the completion of the collectivization made the number of fugitive farmers go up again. From January 1954, to April, 1960, 19,139 farmers left the "workers and farmers paradise" with their families.

Those staying behind lost all interest in hard work when it was no longer for themselves but for the state. They often signed the collective contracts for themselves

only, while their wives and children, who formerly worked on the farms stayed outside the collective.

Voluntary Helpers

In consequence, party functionaries and newspapers constantly had to call for "voluntary" harvest helpers during the summer, cancelling all rural festivals and fairs and bringing townspeople by the busload into the countryside to lend a helping hand on Sundays, while East German armed forces supplied transportation.

Despite the all-out effort and newspaper reports proudly announcing that the bad weather and the difficulties foreseen by the West had no effect, supplies of fruits, vegetables, grain and potatoes are still insufficient.

The official Communist party newspaper Neues Deutschland recently criticized the potato supply situation. The District of Neubrandenburg alone was short 11,700 tons, the paper said. Potatoes are one of the basic foodstuffs in Germany. Newspapers from rural districts have weeks

lamented the small output of potatoes and grain.

Following the usual procedure in Communist countries, "Adversive forces" among the peasants were made responsible for the failure of the party collectivization plan. In self-critical meetings party officials lined up farmers to talk them out of their intention of leaving the collectives.

Government Pressure

Theoretically the farmers have the right to dissolve the collective and restart private farming. But with all the government pressure behind the party drive, for the farmers' own security it is not advisable to do it.

Information Bureau West, a private fact-finding organization in West Berlin, reports an increasing number of "information meetings" held by higher ranking Red party officials, criticizing the farmers' belief that the collectives will not last.

In the meantime, the number of refugees rose to over 129,000 in the first 10 months of 1960 against 90,862 for all 12 months of 1959, a possible



FAMILY EVACUATED—A Red Cross volunteer worker paddles a Birmingham, Ala., family from their flooded home toward an emergency shelter set up nearby. Up to 100 flooded-out residents spent the night at the temporary quarters during the worst flood in the city in years. (UPI Telephoto)

Mexican Airline Adds Fare for Dieters

Los Angeles - (UPI) - Mexicana de Aviacion, the Mexican airline that prides itself on its gourmet food service on international flights, has added another touch.

The airline now claims to be the first to serve Metreol instead of the meal to those passengers on diets.

The company said the 900-calories food substitute was added at the request of its regular passengers who had added pounds eating the regular fare.

Medford Man May Be U. S. Marshal

Portland - (UPI) - Wasco County Dist. Atty. Harry J. Hogan may become solicitor for the Bonneville Power Administration instead of U. S. attorney for Oregon in the new administration, the Oregonian said today in a story from Washington, D.C.

Attorney Sid Lezak of Portland was mentioned as a possible appointee for U.S. attorney. Hogan earlier had been reported in line for the attorney job. Charles Luce, new Bonneville administrator, was expected to go to Washington this week to confer about policy and personnel matters.

Paul Hanlin of Medford was reported among leading contenders to be U.S. marshal for Oregon.

Telephone Cable Severed by Bulldozer

Cascade Locks - (UPI) - A telephone cable for 300 long distance channels was severed Wednesday by a bulldozer working to clear away potential slides along a Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way.

It took about eight hours to repair the damage. The long distance lines served The Dalles, Pendleton, Boise and Salt Lake City. However, operators were able to re-route calls around the break in most cases.

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