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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

HALT FREE SALE OF FALL POTATOES; BULGARIAN COOPERATIVE TRADE NET EXPANDS

DECREE ON SALE, PURCHASE OF POTATOES -- Sofia, Izvestiya, 26 Aug 52

/The following information from Order (Zapoved) No K-3940, issued by Bulgarian Minister of Supply and Food Industry Rusi Khristozov, would seem to imply a shortage of potatoes in Bulgaria./

As of 20 August 1952, the free sale and purchase of the fall potato crop is forbidden. Producers and consumers may not transport any amount of fall potatoes purchased at free market prices or earmarked for free sale from one populated area to another.

All state control organs must see that this order is carried out. In accordance with Ministry of Domestic Trade directives, this order does not apply to trade in fall potatoes by state and cooperative organizations.

Violators are to be prosecuted and confiscated potatoes turned over to the rayon cooperative unions and general cooperative stores in the area.

STATE AND COOPERATIVE TRADE EXPANSION -- Aussenhandels Nachrichten, Berlin, 23 Jul 52

The state and cooperative trade network in Bulgaria is expanding continually. In the last 2 years alone, 1,715 new shops and department stores were opened in villages. The total number of cooperative stores is now approximately 5,000. The shops in the rural areas have an extensive selection of merchandise.

Because of the increasing wealth of the working peasantry, merchandise turnover has risen greatly. In 1950, cooperative stores sold 68 percent more merchandise than in 1949; in 1951, 82 percent more than in 1949.

Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 27 Oct 52

At present, there is a cooperative store for every 700 rural inhabitants in Bulgaria.

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