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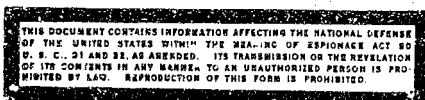
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NORTH CHINA PLANS WINTER PRODUCTION;
NORTHEAST RELEASES HARVEST DATA

NORTH CHINA COMPLETING AUTUMN PLANTING -- Wen-hui Pao, 13 Dec 49

Pei-p'ing, 10 December (NCNA) -- Autumn planting activities in the various provinces of North China has been practically finished. The planted area has been considerably increased over the autumn planting of 1948. In some areas where there has been a lag, authorities have sent out organizers to get the work done. Where planting has been finished, farmers are organizing winter production and are planning for the 1950 summer season.

In Shansi the authorities have mobilized large numbers of farmers for water-conservancy projects. In the Han-tan Special District, plans are being formulated to sink 10,000 new wells for the irrigation of over 30,000 acres.

In the matter of winter production, authorities everywhere are promoting the development of various home industries that can be carried on during the winter months to furnish an additional source of farm income. They include weaving, animal husbandry, oil pressing, and fishing. Loans totaling almost 3 billion yuan in people's currency have been made to encourage such developments. Many cooperatives are being organized to facilitate the purchase of supplies and marketing.

NORTHEAST AREAS REPORT PRODUCTION -- Ta Kung Pao, 16 Dec 49

Shen-yang, 14 December (NCN) -- The Northeast People's government has published data on its 1949 harvest and made some predictions for 1950. The leading products in the Manchurian production plan include Asian hemp, silk, cotton, peanuts, fruit, sugar beets, and tobacco.

The North Manchuria provinces are all able to grow Asian hemp. In 1949, some 21,000 acres were devoted to its production. This figure marked a 31-percent increase over what had been originally planned. About 10,000 acres in Liaotung, Kirin, and Liaoos provinces were devoted to various types of hemp, the total yield of which would make about 10,800,000 gunny sacks. Ramie fiber is also being utilized in the making of varnish, dyestuffs, and rope. The fiber produced locally is usually processed in the hemp factories of the Northeast.

- 1 -

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The 1950 plan of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Northeast People's government calls for planting 58,000 acres in Asian hemp and 98,000 acres in other types.

Liaotung provides about 90 percent of South Manchuria's silk production. Natural calamities both in spring and autumn led to a very small yield of only 1,700,000,000 cocoons. Nevertheless, pure silk plus the type used in making artificial fur and paper can supply half of the needs of the An-tung silk filatures.

The 1949 cotton harvest was about 60 percent of an optimum yield or 13 percent more than was anticipated. In 1949, 230,000 acres were devoted to cotton; in 1950, the figure will be increased to 366,600 acres. The goal of the Northeast is some day to surpass the record figure of 398,333 acres of the puppet Manchurian regime.

Peanut oil plays a major role in the maintenance of machinery essential to the recovery program. In 1949, the harvest was more than 90 percent of an optimum yield. In South Manchuria, 36,500 acres are devoted to peanut production.

The South Manchuria apple orchards contain approximately 1,440,000 trees yielding about 1,500 tons. Liaosi produced 18,000 tons of pears, peaches, plums, and grapes. The 1950 plan calls for the planting of from 2 to 3 million apple trees throughout the Northeast. Special efforts will be made to double the 1949 production figure and still comply with merchandise quality standards.

Only 12,000 acres in Sungkiang Province were devoted to sugar beets in 1949. The average yield was 2,000 catties per acre, enough to meet only a part of the demand in Ha-erh-pin and Ho-ch'eng.

Tobacco grown in Liao-tung and Kirin occupied only 30,000 acres and the production amounted to 7,000 tons. This low figure is due to the limited market available to tobacco.

On every level the Northeast People's government is giving strong support to producers of special products. According to an incomplete estimate, the Northeast Bank only this fall granted 57,680 million Northeast yuan to special producers.

Despite adverse weather conditions and other natural calamities, organization and progress in the Northeast are making great strides. In Fu Hsien there are 136 production cooperatives. Similar examples of organization and planning are to be found throughout the entire area. The average harvest of 1949 was 70 percent of the optimum. It is anticipated that, with the experience derived, the advances already made, and a minimum of good fortune, 1940 will bring to the people of the Northeast an era of long-awaited prosperity.

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- 2 -

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