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SOME DATA ON THE USSR FOOD INDUSTRY,
 AS OF FOURTH QUARTER, 1951

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Lithuanian SSR

In 1951, the Vil'nyus Fats and Oils Plant produced two times more oil than in 1950. The plant has been outfitted with new equipment, manufactured in the Urals, Leningrad, and Rostov-on-Don, resulting in a sharp rise in labor productivity and a reduction of production costs.(1)

Belorussian SSR

Millions of rubles were spent during the postwar Five-Year Plan on restoration and reconstruction of enterprises of the republic bread-baking industry. The following bakeries were practically rebuilt: Novo-Belitskiy, Bobruysk, Gomel', Vitebsk, Minsk, Polotsk, and Rogachev. Much attention was given to increased mechanization of bakeries. The semimechanized bakeries in Rechits and Brest were converted into large-scale mechanized enterprises. Obsolete equipment is being replaced with new machines, such as high-productive conveyer ovens, each with a capacity of 15 to 20 metric tons, sifters, dough-kneading machines, dough separators, etc.

Production processes such as flour weighing and greasing of bread molds are being mechanized. The most labor-consuming processes in bagel (baranka) and gingerbread production are to be mechanized further in 1952. Part of the new equipment is manufactured by machine shops in Minsk. The Belarus machine, which automatically greases molds will find wide application in the Belorussian SSR and other republics. Large-scale bakeries are to be constructed in Minsk, Lid, Pinsk, Vitebsk, and other cities and mechanized bakeries in Osipovichi, Orsha, Borisov, Mstislavi', and Kobrin.(2)

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Ukrainian SSR

Sugar plants of the Voronezh Sugar Beet Trust have announced preterm fulfillment of the third-quarter 1951 plan, and have produced tens of thousands of pud of sugar above plan. The Ertil'skiy, Gribanovskiy, Sadovskiy, and Borinskii sugar plants of this trust have consistently exceeded sugar production norms.(3)

Construction of a new sugar-beet-processing plant has been completed in Kursk Oblast. The new plant, which will go into operation in the next few days, is to be called the Kshen'skiy Sugar Plant. Other sugar plants which have been completed and will go into operation in October 1951 include the Bol'shevik Sugar Plant in Kursk Oblast, the Second Gorodokskiy Sugar Plant in Kamenets-Podol'sk Oblast, the Lanovskiy Sugar Plant in Poltava Oblast, and the Cherkasskiy Sugar-Refining Plant in Kiev Oblast. The new plants have been outfitted with the latest equipment, which insures maximum utilization of raw materials.(4)

In the Sumy Krasnaya Zvezda Refinery experiments have been completed on a new highly productive method of sugar refining. Up to this time refined sugar was poured into blocks weighing 2 kilograms each. Then the blocks were made into cakes by six sawing machines, which were handled by 18 men. Moreover, 20 percent of the refined sugar was converted into sugar dust and scrap, which was again processed.

Using the new process, blocks are formed immediately in a mold into which special bands of galvanized plates have been inserted. The crystallized sugary mass (utfil') poured into such molds is quickly cooled and more easily compressed in centrifugal machines. Sugar drying in such molds is cut 6 hours, and moisture content is reduced 10 percent.

Introduction of the new method of refined sugar production will have a definite economic effect. The sawing shop is being eliminated, and electric power and fuel expenses are being reduced considerably. As the result of reducing refined sugar loss in sawing, the plant will produce 112,000 more quintals of prime-quality sugar during the current season. Total saving for the season from introduction of the new method will amount to nearly 4 million rubles.(5)

A new refining machine for production of cube sugar has been tested successfully at the Gorodishchenskiy Sugar Plant in Kiev Oblast. The machine performs all complicated technological processing operations in sugar production, from pouring of crystallized liquid sugar mass to cooling of refined cake. Preparation of refined sugar by the machine takes only 8 hours instead of 70 hours by the old method. Use of this machine in sugar plants will release 25 percent of the workers occupied in cube sugar production, and will greatly increase efficient utilization of floor space.(6)

The Ukrainian SSR liquor industry fulfilled the 1950 annual plan and the plan for the first half of 1951. Liquor production in 1950 was 2.5 times that of 1946. During 1950 and the first half of 1951 the industry produced 177,000 decaliters of liquor above plan (7)

Moldavian SSR

There are managers in the republic who are trying to fulfill plans easily by reducing production norms. For example, the 1952 production plan for dried fruits which was introduced by Korneyev, chairman of the Moldpromsovet (Moldavian Industrial Council), called for 1,000 metric tons, as compared with 2,260 metric tons actually produced this year. The Ministry of Meat and Dairy

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Industry Moldavian SSR has planned to produce almost the same quantity of animal fats in 1952 as was produced during the first 10 months of 1951. Lowered production norms have become habitual in the Ministry of Food Industry Moldavian SSR, the top personnel of which have repeatedly asserted before Gosplan the impossibility of fulfilling additional assignments in wine products and vegetable oil production, and then exceeded the norm several times. Even now, in making up the 1952 production plan, they have attempted to lower production of food products by 10 million rubles.(8)

Of the various waste materials obtained in processing grapes, the hard parts of the grape cluster make up nearly 50 percent, alcohol 2 to 4 percent, and tartaric acid nearly .2 percent. The husk is used for distillation of alcohol and derivation of calcium tartrate. The remaining waste products, which consist of grape peeling, crowns (greben'), and seeds (12 to 17 percent), are often used for fuel, fodder, or fertilizer, but more often thrown away.

However, grape seeds contain oils and tannic acid which are valuable industrially. Oil content of seeds varies from 9.9 to 17.7 percent, depending on the grape variety. Seeds of hybrid grapes, which are grown in 80 to 90 percent of all vineyards in Moldavia, vary in oil content from 13.3 percent for the Kuderk grape variety to 16.6 percent for the Zaybel' grape variety. The European varieties with largest oil content are Aligote (16.5 percent) and Granuar (17.7 percent). The content of tannic acid in grape seeds (2 to 8 percent) compares with that of oak wood pulp (3 to 7 percent)

Grape oil has a pleasant taste and can be used as a nutritive, for preparation of toilet soap, and in oil paint production. Tannic acid is suitable for the tanning, chemical, and industries, and also for tannin derivation. The 1951 gross grape harvest in Moldavia will total hundreds of thousands of metric tons. Grape seeds will account for 3 to 4 percent of this harvest, and will amount to 12,000-15,000 metric tons, from which 1,500-2,000 metric tons of grape oil can be processed.(9)

Moldavian canners have fulfilled the 1951 plan for canned goods production ahead of time. The Moldavian Canning Trust produced 10.6 million jars of canned goods above the plan. Annual production is double the prewar level.

Along with rapid growth of production, the assortment has been enlarged considerably. The Moldavian canning industry is now producing more than 80 items of meat, tomato, vegetable, and fruit canned goods. The quality of canned goods has been improved greatly. In 1949, the proportion of prime-quality canned vegetable production was 36.7 percent of total production. In 1950, it constituted 60.4 percent, and in the first 9 months of 1951, 74.6 percent.

Because of economical consumption of raw materials and materials, Moldavian canners achieved a sharp decrease in production costs. During the first 9 months of 1951, 6,800,000 rubles were saved as the result of above-plan reduction of production costs.

The republic canning plants are not yet operating at full capacity. Tomato and fruit plants stand idle during the winter period. The Canning Plant imeni Mikoyan was shut down for winter quite inefficiently last year and spoilage occurred. By no means all the possibilities for more economical consumption of raw materials, fuel, and electric power have been exploited. In the second postwar Five-Year Plan, production capacities of the Canning Plants imeni 1 May, imeni Tkachenko, and imeni Mikoyan will be doubled. In the Benderskiy Plant construction of a new vegetable shop and an increase in the capacity of the fruit shop are planned. The capacity of the Kalarashskiy Canning Plant will be

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increased three to four times. A large-scale shop will be constructed for drying of fruits. The Tiraspol' Fruit Combine is being remodeled to produce prime-quality fruit and grape juices. A fruit and vegetable marinades shop will also be constructed here and a pickling shop will be restored. The construction of new canning plants in Kishinev, Grigoriopol', and Rybnits is planned.

In connection with the large growth in production capacities of Tiraspol' canning plants, the local raw materials base and power station will be enlarged considerably. Construction of a plant for production of glass packaging materials in Tiraspol' will solve one of the most important problems -- the improvement of packing of canned production.

The planned introduction of additional production capacities will allow production of canned goods to double the postwar Five-Year Plan and quadruple the prewar level. To eliminate the seasonal operation of canning plants, production of semiprocessed fruits and vegetables will be increased three to four times. In 1952, production of canned goods will be increased by 15 to 20 million jars as compared with 1951 and quality of packing greatly will be improved.

The Tiraspol' Fruit Combine fulfilled the 1951 production plan ahead of time and produced more than 1.5 million jars of canned goods above plan. Production in 1951 increased 53 percent over 1950.(10)

Georgian SSR

On 1 December, the Ministry of Food Industry Georgian SSR fulfilled the 1951 gross-production plan 102.7 percent. During the first 11 months of 1951 production increased over the corresponding period of 1950 by 11.8 percent. Various branches of the food industry fulfilled the gross-production plan by 1 December as follows: tea industry 108.2 percent, wine-making industry 101.2 percent, beer and nonalcoholic beverages industry 104.4 percent, and mineral waters industry 100.8 percent.(11)

The Starch Plant of Akhaltsikhskiy Rayon Industrial Combine has been put into operation after the completion of capital repair work. During the current season the plant will process 500 metric tons more potatoes than last year.(12)

During the first 10 months of 1951, the canning factories of the republic produced 7 million more jars of food than in the same period of 1950. The 1951 plans for production of canned vegetables, compotes, and jams have been considerably exceeded.(13)

In Khorsha (village on the boundary which separates the mountainous Kolkhida area from the Kolkhidskiy Plain) a volatile oil crop sovkhoz and an "efiro-peregonyy" (ether distilling) plant of the Georgian Volatile Oil Trust are located. The plant has been equipped with powerful distilling apparatus. It processes daily 50 metric tons of different volatile oil crops.

The area sown to basil in the sovkhoz is being expanded from year to year. In 1952, the area planted to this crop will be increased to 60 hectares. The sovkhoz has been cultivating the damask rose (*rosa damascena*) for more than 10 years.

The area sown to this crop is 10 hectares totaling 160,000 damask rose plants. Part of them are used for seeding purposes, and the remainder are designated for shipment to kolkhozes of eastern Georgia and Armenia.

Of the area planted to basil, 2 hectares are used for seed; the annual yield is 200 kilograms of seeds. A large part of the seed is shipped to kolkhozes in Krasnodar Kray. Bitter oranges are being cultivated on one hectare.

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In the next 2 to 3 years the area sown to this crop will be increased to 6 hectares. The oil of the bitter orange is used in the perfume-cosmetic industry and in the liqueur-vodka industry. On the sovkhoz 20 hectares are sown to mountain lavender. Lavender oil is used in the food and perfume-cosmetic industries, and also in medicine, especially for kidney ailments. The sovkhoz has 150,000 grafts of lavender.(14)

New branches of the chemical industry have been developing in Georgia. Tartaric acid production has expanded because of this development and is in considerable demand by the food, dye, and pharmaceutical industries. Prime-quality tartaric acid, which is used as a substitute for citric acid, is prepared from waste products of industrial grape processing such as husks, yeast sediment, waste products of cognac plants, dried yeast, calcium tartrate, tartar, and liquid yeast.(15)

Armenian SSR

The plants attached to the Armenian Canning Trust have announced preterm fulfillment of the 1951 plan. During the first 11 months of 1951 enterprises of the trust produced 5 million more jars of fruits than during all of 1950.(16)

On 1 October 1951, Armenian SSR fulfilled 45 percent of the 1951 grape procurement plan.(17)

Azerbaijdzhan SSR

Bread-baking, confectionery, beer and nonalcoholic beverage, tobacco, macaroni, and wine-making enterprises of the republic have fulfilled the 1951 plan ahead of time.(18)

Since the beginning of 1951, 31,476,000 jars of various canned goods have been produced. Product variety has been increased. Plants of the Azkonserv-trest (Azerbaijdzhan Canning Trust) are producing 14 kinds of preserves, ten kinds of vegetable canned goods, eight kinds of stewed fruit, seven kinds of jam, etc.

At the Khachmas plant the production of fruit juice has been mechanized and equipped with new devices. In 1951, 2 million jars more tomato products, including sauce, paste, and juice, were produced than in 1950. In the summer and fall of 1951 the plant processed 300 metric tons of tomatoes.

Azerbaijdzhan canned goods are becoming famous throughout the country. They are sold in stores in Moscow, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, and Rostov-on-Don. The canned goods are shipped to the Far North and the Far East.(19)

RSFSR

In Omsk Oblast nine large fats and oils plants have fulfilled the 1951 plan ahead of time. The Lukerinskiy, Knyazivskiy, and Novo-Karasukskiy fats and oils plants have assumed additional production obligations which are to be completed by the end of the year.(20)

A retail store of the Moscow Food Combine imeni Mikoyan has been opened 15 Maroseyk Ulitsa in Moscow. Up to 70 items produced by the combine will be sold, among them delicatessen sauces, various canned goods, coffee, condiments, etc. A tasting room has been opened where all kinds of dishes are prepared in the presence of the customers. The store is open for business from 0900 to 2100 hours.(21)

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Kazakh SSR

Enterprises of the Ministry of Food Industry Kazakh SSR have considerably exceeded the plan for the first 10 months of 1951. Workers of the republic have been supplied with 41,000 metric tons of flour, 1,380 metric tons of confectionery goods, 500 metric tons of macaroni, and 261,000 decaliters of beer in excess of planned production so far this year. During the first 10 months of 1951, production of flour increased 1.5 times over the same period in 1950, tea 27 percent, and confectionery goods 26 percent.(22)

However, the Ministry of Food Industry Kazakh SSR considerably underfulfilled the 1950 year plan in the production of a number of food products. This story has been repeated in 1951. For the first 10 months of 1951, although the gross-production plan was fulfilled by the ministry, production plans for fruit and vegetable canned goods, vegetable oil and other products were not fulfilled. This nonfulfillment is due to the inefficiency of the minister and his deputies.(23)

In 1951, the republic produced almost twice as much meat and vegetable oil as in 1948. Production of canned and confectionery goods increased more than two times during the same period.(24)

As a result of reduction of losses, Kazakh sugar enterprises have produced tens of thousands of pud of sugar above plan since the beginning of the season.(25)

Uzbek SSR

In September, the sugar beet trust enterprises produced 1,214 quintals above the plan. The Yangi-Yul'skiy Sugar Plant fulfilled the month plan by 200 percent.(26)

Turkmen SSR

Reconstruction work is under way on the Ashkhabad Brewery. An annex is being built on the underground fermentation room. The volume of the room will be increased by 5,400 cubic meters. New equipment will be installed shortly: eight new malt-mixers (solodovoroshitely), two compressors, and 40 metal tanks with a capacity of 12,000 liters each. After the reconstruction work is completed the plant is to increase its output from 20 to 30 percent. The cost of the reconstruction work will total about 3 million rubles.(27)

Tadzhik SSR

The Tadzhik food industry has fulfilled the 1951 plan ahead of time. During the first 11 months and 10 days of 1951, the industry increased production of wine over 1950 by 91,000 liters, confectionery goods by 298 metric tons, bread and bakery products by 5,434 metric tons, dried fruits by 946 metric tons, vegetable oil by 3,611 metric tons, etc. The Regarskiy Fats and Oils Plant produced twice as much vegetable oil in 1951 as the entire Tadzhik SSR fats and oils industry did in 1945.(28)

Cotton-ginning plants are giving food enterprises an ever-increasing quantity of seed. The republic fats and oils industry, in spite of its tremendous growth, is not handling the reprocessing of the available supply of cotton seed.(29)

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A short time ago the Stalinabad Wine-Making Plant installed a conveyer to accelerate the feeding of empty bottles to the filling machine and from the filling machine to the warehouse. Conveyer output is 900 decaliters a shift, while output by the old method was at best 450 to 500 decaliters a shift. A second such conveyer will be installed in the plant in the near future. (30)

Construction work has been completed on the largest industrial enterprise in Leninabad -- a mechanized bakery located on Shark Ulitsa. (31)

Kirgiz SSR

During the first 10 months of 1951, production in enterprises of the Ministry of Food Industry Kirgiz SSR rose as follows over the same period in 1950: 112 million cigarettes, 224,000 decaliters of beer, and 540 quintals of fish products. (32)

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