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A. I. MIKOYAN

PEOPLE'S COMMISSAR OF FOOD INDUSTRY, U.S.S.R.

Toward a

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TOWARD A

Land of Plenty

By

A. I. MIKOYAN

People's Commissar of the Food Industry, U.S.S.R.

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*Report delivered January 16, 1936,
at the second session of the meeting
of the Central Executive Committee
of the U.S.S.R.*

The Food Problem Solved

IN NEARLY every public utterance made by Comrade Lenin in the early years of the revolution we meet with one theme, namely, the food problem, as one of the biggest difficulties of the Russian revolution.

In April, 1919, Lenin said:

“. . . About the food situation I have here spoken only briefly, but you all understand that this is our chief internal difficulty.” (*Collected Works*, Vol. XXIV, “The Tasks of the Trade Unions in Connection with the Mobilization on the Eastern Front”.)

At a Party Conference held in December, 1919, Vladimir Ilyich [Lenin] formulated this thought even more emphatically:

“The food problem forms the basis of all problems . . . but as soon as the military situation improves ever so slightly we must devote as much energy as possible to food work, because this is the basis of everything. . . . And only when we have accomplished this task and have a socialist foundation, shall we be able to build on this socialist foundation that luxurious edifice of socialism which we several times began to build from the top and which several times collapsed.” (*Collected Works*, Vol. XXIV, “The All-Russian Conference of the Russian Communist Party”.)

Today we are in a position to say that this task—the solution of the food problem—has been accomplished. Under the leadership of Comrade Stalin, we have already laid the socialist foundation and are now successfully building “the luxurious edifice of socialism”. Today

the millions of our country are saying, in the words of Stalin, "Life has improved, comrades, life has become more joyous".

Under the leadership of the man who is carrying on the work of Lenin—Comrade Stalin—the peasant problem, that most difficult problem of the proletarian revolution, has been completely solved in our country in an historically very short period of time. For the first time in the history of humanity millions of peasants, abandoning a manner of life to which they had been accustomed for thousands of years, have adopted a new mode of life, a new, socialist method of production—and this is one of the greatest, if not the greatest, event in the history of mankind.

We have now successfully removed all the main difficulties in the way of the internal development of our country. It is inexpressibly sad that the great Lenin is not with us in these happy times to add his joy to ours.

As far back as 1918—in Tsaritsyn, as it was then called—Comrade Stalin, engaged at the time in liquidating the Southern counter-revolutionary front, also devoted a great deal of attention to the food question. With the foresight of genius, Comrade Stalin at that time, when we were only just beginning to administer the state, seriously raised the question of creating a food industry. Even at that early period he set the task of instituting the factory production of food products, as far as it was possible in Tsaritsyn—a task which later developed into a veritable program for the construction of a large-scale food industry in the U.S.S.R.

Writing to Lenin at the time about the consignment of meat to Moscow, Comrade Stalin said.

"There is more livestock here than we need, but there is exceedingly little hay, and since we cannot consign with-

out hay, large-scale consignments become impossible. It would be well to organize at least one cannery, an abattoir, and so on. . . .”

“At least one cannery”—Comrade Stalin said at that time, in 1918. We are now in a position to say that we are building and have already built six huge canneries where Comrade Stalin in 1918 demanded that at least one cannery be built.

There was no real food industry in old Russia, if we leave the vodka, sugar and tobacco industries out of account. Why did these branches develop, and others not? Because they were subject to *excise duty* and provided tremendous revenues for the treasury, and their development was fostered by the tsarist government from fiscal motives. The treasury required money for the maintenance of the court, for the maintenance of the parasitic bureaucratic apparatus, for the maintenance of the imperialist army. And it was for this reason that the vodka industry was developed to the utmost. There were hundreds of vodka distilleries all over the country. The sugar industry was another source of vast revenue from excise duty. The same was true of the tobacco industry. But even these fostered branches of industry were poorly developed and on a very low technical level.

As to other branches of the food industry, there was, for instance, in the confectionery business the Siou factory, which produced an insignificant quantity of confectionery and biscuits of high quality, the George Borman factory, which produced high-class confectionery, but in small quantities, and several other factories. These factories produced confectionery only for the “upper ten”, for the cream of Russian bourgeois society.

There was no food industry in old Russia. Owing to the general backwardness of the country and the small

number of large cities and proletarian centers, owing to the poverty-stricken life of the working class masses and the low standard of living of the petty bourgeoisie in the towns, and owing to the largely self-sufficient economy prevailing in the countryside, large food factories were not required, handicraft and domestic production of food-stuffs sufficed, and the wealthy classes got along in their own way without a food industry.

The Russian merchants did not know what good food was. They used to stuff themselves with pancakes and caviar, and then call in doctors to cure them of overeating. And the more cultured members of the bourgeoisie and the aristocracy, who spent half the year in foreign countries, used to order the foods they required from abroad. There were a few magnificent stores in St. Petersburg and Moscow which used to deal in imported articles of food. Here, for instance, is the price-list of the "trading house" of Byelov, or the "trading house" of Eliseyev. The Eliseyev price list contains a vast quantity of imported goods which for the most part we now produce ourselves. Eliseyev used to import 43 kinds of canned goods (these canned goods we are now making ourselves), 18 kinds of cheese (as though good cheese could not be made in Russia!), 14 kinds of chocolate, 45 kinds of biscuits and crackers (which are now being produced by us in large quantities and of better quality), 308 kinds of wines and spirits, 3 kinds of mustard and 4 kinds of vinegar. They even imported vinegar from abroad! They also imported large quantities of groceries: pepper, spices, and so on.

In old Russia—with its extremely backward economy and social conditions, with unemployment in the towns, agrarian overpopulation and the slavish position of women—labor, especially the labor of women, was not valued highly. It was therefore natural that the domestic pro-

duction of foodstuffs should be able successfully to compete with factory production. "It is cheaper to cook at home", it used to be said. In Russia domestic labor was regarded in a way as unpaid labor.

In the countryside, the low standard of living of our peasantry before the revolution gave rise to the domestic weaving of textiles. The peasants wore homespun clothes and bast shoes. Homespuns were cheaper for the peasant because he set no value on his own labor—there was nothing he could apply his labor to in the long winter months.

And in the sphere of food domestic products hold the field until a proper value is set on labor, especially on the labor of women. How tenacious is the idea that domestic labor costs nothing is shown by the fact that until recently bread-baking in many of our cities was not even a handicraft industry, but a domestic industry. The working woman and the housewife baked bread for themselves every day or every other day. For instance, in a city like Sverdlovsk 100 tons of baked bread and 70 tons of flour were sold daily even as late as 1932, which meant that more than 40 per cent of the population ate homemade bread, which they considered cheaper.

Now, when the face of our great and vast country has undergone a change, when increasing numbers of women are being drawn into production and social work on an equal footing with men, women are beginning to use their labor and their time more fruitfully and more rationally.

An experienced hand baker can bake from 500 to 550 pounds of bread a day—not more, whereas in the Moscow mechanical bakery the output of bread amounts to about 5,000 pounds per worker per day. Now, of course, you cannot induce a Moscow working woman to bake bread for herself at home. Our mechanical bakeries

are now doing the work for her and baking excellent bread. And this is not only true of the cities. In the villages too we now have harvester-combine operators and tractor drivers—men and women—brigade leaders and rank-and-file women collective farmers who value every minute of their time. Women and girl workers in the countryside are now beginning to count every minute of their time, because the Stakhanov movement has revealed to them the real value of the labor of women. Do you think, then, you can induce our women tractor drivers, harvester-combine operators, such women as Maria Demchenko and others, to sit at home and bake bread and to wear homespun? That won't work now! They are changed people, they are demanding factory-made goods, including factory-made foods, so as to be able to devote their time more rationally to production, driving a tractor or harvester combine, to cultural work and to tending to their children.

The face of our country, the face of our cities and villages, has changed. Our people have also changed, and so have their habits. The food industry must expand very rapidly so as to satisfy the growing demand and increasingly to replace domestic and hand-made foodstuffs by factory-made foodstuffs. Only the factory production of foodstuffs can lighten and emancipate female labor and at the same time ensure hygienic foodstuffs of good quality, high nutritive value and abundant variety.

It was only under the Soviet power that the food industry was really started and is developing.

It was in the years of greatest hardship, when there was a shortage of bread, butter and meat, when the ration system was introduced in order to enable poverty-stricken Russia to rise to a higher level of culture and technique, and to enable our peasantry to abandon the primitive plow and the sickle for the tractor and the

harvester-combine, it was at this time—a time of food difficulty—that our Soviet food industry was born. It developed at a rapid speed, because this matter was guided by the Central Committee of the Party and by Comrade Stalin, who with dauntless determination led us through all the impediments and difficulties of the socialist reconstruction of the country. At a time when there was still a shortage of livestock, when there was a shortage of grain, Comrade Stalin, who saw further than the rest of us, expedited the construction of meat packing plants, canneries, mechanical bakeries and new enterprises in other branches of the food industry.

Comrade Stalin told us that very soon we should be having everything in abundance—meat, bread and vegetables—and that factories must be built in good time to handle all these foodstuffs.

In 1929 the Council of People's Commissars and the Central Committee of the Party adopted a very important decision on the meat industry.

In 1931 there was published the famous pronouncement of the Central Committee of the Party and the Council of People's Commissars, signed by Comrades Stalin and Molotov, dealing with the development of the meat and canning industry. This pronouncement became for the whole Party a program for the development of the food industry.

“The very rapid development of a powerful meat packing and canning industry”—the pronouncement ran—“relying on the latest achievements of world technology, has become one of the most important links in the socialist reconstruction of our country and should receive as much attention from the working class, the trade unions, the Party and all Soviet organizations as is now being concentrated on the larger building projects. That is the key to a radical improvement in the food supply of the worker and the way to increase

productivity of labor, to achieve a proper organization of labor power and to eliminate the high turnover of labor. Any underestimation of the importance of creating a new, large-scale food industry is as much a manifestation of opportunism as was the underestimation of the importance of large-scale agricultural production, based on state farms and collective farms, for the solution of the grain problem."

The Right and "Left" deviationists at that time used to sneer and say that we fools, instead of occupying ourselves with stock-breeding and grain, were building mechanical bakeries and packing plants, as though, if there were an abundance of grain, it could not be consumed without the help of mechanical bakeries, and that if there were an abundance of meat, it could not be eaten without the help of packing plants. I even recall that a complaint was made to the Central Committee of the Party against the People's Commissariat of Supply on the grounds that the People's Commissariat of Supply was squandering money on the building of the Moscow Packing Plant instead of spending this money on stock breeding. The interference of the Central Committee was requested to put a stop to this "outrage".

Comrade Stalin wrote the following comment on the complaint: "If the People's Commissariat of Supply is to be blamed for anything it is for having delayed beginning the building of this plant a whole year."

Now the Moscow Packing Plant at the height of the season manages only with difficulty to cope with the stream of animals that flows through its gates. Last autumn the Moscow Packing Plant handled 9,000 animals per day, while 40,000 to 45,000 animals stood waiting their turn.

If we had listened to the opportunists and had then not built our packing plants, what would have happened to our capital city, how could we have lived better, more

happily, without an abundance of meat and sausage?

Pravda printed a report of a speech on the food question made by Goering, German Minister of Aviation. There was a time, in our years of difficulty, when every lecturer, no matter what the subject of his lecture, would invariably speak of the food problem. And now the German Air Minister cannot speak on aviation without touching on the subject of food. It was at one time difficult for us to explain the absence of meat, but it is far more difficult for Goering to do so now.

When we used to say that there was a shortage of bread, butter and meat, we knew that very soon there would be an abundance, because we were building collective farms and state farms, tractor plants, automobile plants and harvester-combine plants in order to re-equip and reconstruct our entire agriculture. We had a program for a prosperous future and our difficulties were difficulties of growth, difficulties of the transition from capitalism to socialism. Comrade Stalin at that time taught us to fight, to overcome our difficulties, because we would soon be living well and joyously. The people believed us and courageously fought to overcome the difficulties of the transition period, because they all knew that they were difficulties of the transition to a better life. And now we all see how rapidly the line of the Party has been justified in practice.

And now, when—after the millions of our peasantry have abandoned individual farming for collective farming and a food industry has been created—we have an abundance of food products, now, when rationing has become a thing of the past, Germany, one of the foremost capitalist countries, is returning to the ration system we have discarded.

We could now sell Germany the left-over stock of our ration cards. We could hand over the whole remaining

stock of ration cards to Comrade Rosenholz as a new item of export in place of the foodstuffs which have been removed from the export list.

This is what Goering said in his speech:

“We have returned to Germany the freedom to arm. Of what importance is a lack of fats and butter compared with this achievement? As to myself, I am prepared for the sake of the happiness of the German people to promise never to touch butter in my life. Every sacrifice should seem a trifle to us if it helps us to acquire guns, shells and airplanes. . . .”

Note, comrades, he says he is “*prepared*” to promise—but he never did promise and so far has not denied himself any butter.

But when a Minister finds it necessary to give such a monastical promise—*never in his life* to touch butter—it shows that the Minister sees no hope, and that he has no grounds for expecting that butter will ever become a food within the reach of the people. This is because Germany is in the decline of capitalism, her economic and political organism is decaying. The deeds and days of present-day Germany are the labored tread of moribund German capitalism. But with us, even in the most difficult years of the revolution, above the sound of construction work could be heard the tread of the new and happy life, the life which has now arrived.

We are now in a position to say that our country has a food industry as well as a powerful heavy industry.

Capital investments in the food industry in the period of the First Five-Year Plan totaled 2,000,000,000 rubles, whereas during the past three years—the first three years of the Second Five-Year Plan—investments totaled 2,800,000,000 rubles. In three years a larger sum has been invested on capital development than throughout the whole period of the First Five-Year Plan. Capital expenditures

have been planned for 1936 at 1,155,000,000 rubles. As you see, the state is assigning immense sums of money for the development of the food industry.

During these years there were constructed and put into operation 17 large meat packing plants, 8 bacon factories, 10 new sugar refineries, 41 large canneries, 37 cold storage plants, 11 ice plants, 205 mechanized butter-making plants, 9 confectionery factories, 33 milk dairies, 11 margarine factories, 178 mechanical bakeries, 22 tea factories and a number of enterprises in other branches.

I should mention that in my report I am dealing only with the all-Union enterprises, the enterprises in the charge of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry, and that there are also local and non-mechanized food industries. If one were to deal with the entire food industry of the country, a good deal would have to be added to these figures. It must therefore be borne in mind that the data I quote refer only to the all-Union food industries under the charge of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry.

As Comrade Molotov has already informed you in his remarkable report, the plan of the food industry for 1935 was fulfilled 111.5 per cent. The output of products in 1935 was 23 per cent more than last year and 12 per cent more than the program laid down for 1935 in the Second Five-Year Plan. According to the Second Five-Year Plan, by 1937 the food industry should increase its output by 150 per cent as compared with 1932—the last year of the First Five-Year Plan. In 1933 the industries of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry increased output by 10.3 per cent as compared with 1932; the increase in output in 1934 amounted to 26.9 per cent and in 1935 to 23 per cent. According to the plan for 1936, the industries of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry should produce products to a value of 9,150,-

000,000 rubles (at prices prevailing in 1926-27), which is more than double the entire output of 1932.

We are fulfilling the Five-Year Plan normally, and we have no doubt that we shall fulfil it completely and even ahead of time.

The plan for 1936 already provides for an output in certain branches of our industry equal to what was projected for the last year of the Second Five-Year Plan. For instance, the output of granulated sugar in 1936 will be as large as the output provided for in the Second Five-Year Plan for the year 1937, namely, 2,500,000 tons. The output of lump sugar in 1936 will be greater than that planned for the last year of the Second Five-Year Plan—1,000,000 tons instead of 750,000 tons.

In 1936 we shall produce 170,000 tons of sausage, whereas the plan provides for an output of 135,000 tons of sausage in the last year of the Second Five-Year Plan. We shall produce in 1936, 600,000 tons of artificial fodders, which is the amount provided for in the program for 1937. And in the case of a number of other branches of the food industry there is a possibility of fulfilling the Second Five-Year Plan in four years.

II

The Soviet Sugar Output

YOU WILL recall that at the Stakhanovite Conference, Comrade Stalin, interjecting in the course of my report, set us the task of producing not less than 130,000,000 poods of sugar. [60 poods equal about one ton.—*Ed.*] This was at the end of November, when the buying in of the sugar-beet crop had not yet been completed and

when the prospects for the sugar refining season were not yet definitely clear. This interjection of Comrade Stalin's became a fighting program for the workers in the sugar industry. Comrade Stalin's words evoked a spirit of enthusiasm that has never yet been observed in the sugar industry. And it happens that today the directors of the sugar refineries, the directors of the sugar trusts and the Stakhanovites of the sugar industry have sent a report to Comrade Stalin in which they write:

"Dear leader and teacher: At the All-Union Conference of Stakhanovites, you, Comrade Stalin, set us the task of supplying the country with 130,000,000 poods of sugar from the sugar-beet harvest. Our People's Commissar accepted the task. We are happy to report that the task you set has been accomplished completely.

"By January 14, 1936, the sugar refineries had already produced 130,300,000 poods of sugar.

"We are now striving to produce another 11,000,000 or 12,000,000 poods by the end of the production season, that is, 141,000,000 to 142,000,000 poods of sugar in all.

"It was the development of the Stakhanov movement in our sugar refineries which alone made these results possible."

Comrades, it would be interesting in this connection to quote a few facts illustrating the production of sugar in capitalist countries.

I take these facts from the German periodical *Die Zuckerindustrie*.

In the 1934-35 season Germany produced 16,000,000 centners of raw sugar, which is equivalent to 91,800,000 poods of white granulated sugar; Czechoslovakia produced 6,400,000 centners, or the equivalent of 35,000,000 poods of white sugar; Poland produced 4,500,000 centners, or the equivalent of 24,500,000 poods of white sugar; France produced 12,200,000 centners, or the equiv-

alent of 67,000,000 poods of white sugar; Great Britain produced 6,900,000 centners, or the equivalent of 38,000,000 poods of white sugar.

In the case of the U. S. A. the output of beet sugar amounted to 11,800,000 centners, and of cane sugar (without the colonies) to 2,500,000 centners or together the equivalent of 78,000,000 poods of white sugar. Even if we add the output of corn sugar—4,000,000 centners, or the equivalent of 15,000,000 poods of white sugar—the total output of all kinds of sugar in the U. S. A. amounts to 93,000,000 poods. I shall not quote figures for India, since India produces mainly brown sugar from sugar cane, prepared in large quantities domestically or by hand industries.

How far our country, especially the Ukraine, has advanced in sugar-beet growing and in the production of sugar will be seen from the fact that the Vinnitsa Region alone—the Vinnitsa Sugar Trust alone—is producing 34,400,000 poods of sugar this year, whereas the whole of Poland produces 24,500,000 poods. In other words, the Vinnitsa Region alone has far outstripped Poland. The Kiev and Kharkov regions each also produce more than Poland does.

In 1921—the year of greatest decline of the sugar industry—the country produced 3,000,000 poods of sugar.

Even as late as 1933 our country still occupied only sixth place in the world in the production of beet sugar.

In 1934-35, when we turned out 78,000,000 poods, we immediately stepped up from sixth place to third place. *Now, in 1935, we have assumed first place in the world in the production of sugar.*

In the speech he delivered at the First Conference of the Stakhanovites, Comrade Stalin set us the task of obtaining in the Ukraine next year a yield of 20 to 25 tons

of sugar beet per hectare. This has been reflected in the national economic plan, which provides for a gross harvest next year of 25,400,000 tons of sugar beet. This is the equivalent of 210,000,000 or 220,000,000 poods of sugar, even if we assume that the rate of extraction of sugar will be less than it was this year. What place will we then occupy in the world's beet sugar production if we have already assumed first place this year! There is no other place to occupy! We will produce twice as much sugar as Germany and twice as much sugar as America!

But this in fact is as it should be. It was all very well for the old Russia to lag behind Germany and America. We—a growing socialist country—must produce all food products in greater quantity than Germany and America—more than any country and better than any country.

We accept the sugar plan for next year without the slightest hesitation, because the Stakhanov movement—that great movement which is causing a revolution throughout the whole of industry—has developed particularly well in the sugar industry. Stakhanovites like I. Litvinenko, Galya Kovtun, I. Gnyedovsky and others have shown that the sugar refineries, by adapting their work to the Stakhanov methods and effecting relatively small expenditures on the elimination of weak spots, can increase their capacity by 30 per cent. This is as much as could be produced by 60 new refineries, the construction of which would cost 900,000,000 rubles. The Stakhanov movement enables us to fulfil the production program for sugar a long way ahead of time, and to overfulfil it. The Stakhanov movement in the sugar industry began at the Kalinin Refinery, while the Profintern Refinery—in the beginning of January—was the first to carry out a Stakhanov week, and in the course of this period daily handled 2,000 tons of sugar beet instead of 1,550 tons, fulfilling the daily program 136 per cent.

Without the Stakhanov movement this would have been impossible.

In September, 1935, a foreign journal printed an article by Dr. Gustav Mikush, in which the following was stated:

“Judging by the meager information at our disposal with regard to the Soviet Union, it may be assumed that the sugar-beet crop this year will be a normal one. Official circles in that country estimate the output of sugar in the forthcoming season, 1935-36, at an equivalent of 2,000,000 tons of granulated sugar. But despite the improvement of the technical equipment of the refineries effected in the past few years, *it is doubtful whether they will be able to handle in the time so large a quantity of sugar beet as would ensure an output of 2,000,000 tons in granulated sugar.* In our estimates, therefore, we set the figure of sugar production in the U.S.S.R. at 2,000,000 tons of raw sugar. At any rate, the prospects for the season are very favorable, inasmuch as the abolition of the ration system for sugar as from October 1 this year has been announced.”

They thought it impossible for us to produce 2,000,000 tons of sugar. But we have already produced 2,200,000 tons, and by the end of the season will produce about 2,400,000 tons. We have achieved this thanks to the Stakhanov movement, from which our sugar industry has greatly benefited.

I shall quote a few figures illustrating the untapped resources of the sugar industry. In 1932 stoppage due to damage to machinery amounted to 6 per cent of the total working time, in 1933 to 5.2 per cent, in 1934 to 3.5 per cent, and in 1935 to 2.6 per cent.

During the past three years eight refineries have not had a single breakdown. These are the Ulyanovsk Refinery (director, Comrade Soroka; chief engineer, Comrade Bogatsko); the Kuibyshev Refinery (director, Com-

rade Tarasov; chief engineer, Comrade Stefanovich); the Tsyrupe Refinery (director, Comrade Chernyakhovskiy; chief engineer, Comrade Kravchenko); the Krassnoselko Refinery (director, Comrade Potomskiy; chief engineer, Comrade Libo); the Olshansk Refinery (director, Comrade Ganzha; chief engineer, Comrade Teteruk); the Sokolov Refinery (director, Comrade Kirilin; chief engineer, Comrade Demchinsky); the Bukharin Refinery (director, Comrade Radomskiy; chief engineer, Comrade Frolov); the Borinsk Refinery (director, Comrade Ivanov; chief engineer, Comrade Korzhov).

Stoppages in 1935 were at a minimum in the following refineries: the Collectivist Refinery, Kursk Region, had aggregate stoppages of only 1 hour in 90 working days. This includes both stoppages provided for and stoppages not provided for in the plan. Stoppages at the Tsurupa Refinery aggregated 1.3 hours, at the Ulyanovsk Refinery 3 hours, at the Dombalyevskiy Refinery 5 hours, at the Olshansk Refinery 5 hours, and at the Shepetovska Refinery 5.8 hours.

But there are many refineries which had numerous breakdowns even in the present season. For instance, the Globinsk Refinery had stoppages aggregating 48 hours owing to three breakdowns due to overheating of steam boilers (director, Comrade Derevyanko; chief engineer, Comrade Kozey). The stoppages at the Burynsk Refinery (director, Comrade Mezurkevich; chief engineer, Comrade Churuk) aggregated 23 hours owing to five breakdowns of machinery.

Facts like this cannot be further tolerated. We are entitled to demand that every sugar refinery should take the Collectivist Refinery, the Tsurupa Refinery and the other outstanding refineries as their criterion with regard to the elimination of breakdowns.

I have quoted figures for breakdowns and stoppages

caused by inferior repairs for which the refineries themselves were to blame. But until last year, when the work obviously improved, there were stoppages due to other causes. In 1932 the refineries were idle for 16.8 per cent of their working time owing to the lack of transportation facilities for coal, lime and sugar beet. In 1933 the refineries were idle for 18 per cent of the time due to the fault of the railways. In 1934 stoppages from this cause amounted to only 2.5 per cent, whereas in 1935 and in the beginning of 1936 the railways worked with great regularity and not a single refinery stood idle a single hour due to the fault of the railways.

That is why Comrade Molotov was absolutely right when he referred in his report to the great improvement in the work of the railways and mentioned the great services rendered to the Party and the country by Comrade Kaganovich, who has fought so successfully for the improvement of the railways.

I will not dwell in detail on the way our sugar refineries have been re-equipped. In the case of 155 refineries the delivery of sugar beet from the fields and the removal of offal have been mechanized. The sugar refineries now have 2,300 kilometers of spur railway lines as compared with 780 kilometers in 1932. Formerly, large numbers of horses and men were employed carting sugar beet to refineries and carting away the beet offal. But this is now unnecessary, since the refineries have been mechanized.

Incidentally, a new feature in our sugar industry is the fact that we are now producing dried beet offal. There is a large quantity of offal in the sugar industry, which makes excellent cattle feed, but which was often wasted because of the difficulty of carting. We have now begun to dry the offal, which in nutritive value is equal to oats. We dried 18,100 tons of offal in 1932, 19,800 tons in 1933, 31,400 tons in 1934 and 43,500 tons in 1935. The

program for 1936 is 90,000 tons, a program we shall undoubtedly fulfil.

Of great help this year was the fact that the majority of collective farms and state farms worked well. A number of republics and regions—the Ukraine, the Voronezh and Kursk regions, the Kazakstan and Kirghiz republics and the Azov-Black Sea territory—put up a good fight for sugar beet and provided the refineries with the necessary supplies.

The sugar content of the beets this year is higher than ever before, namely, 18.14 per cent.

Such a sugar content of beets is unknown in the history of Russia. There was only one year—1908—when the sugar content of the beets (18.12 per cent) approximated that of the present year; in all other years it was considerably lower.

The sugar yield this season amounts to 15.75 per cent—which is also a record. Never has there been such a high yield in the past—the highest was 13.5 or 14.0 per cent. Only in 1908 was the sugar yield as high as 14.76 per cent, whereas in 1935 it was 15.75 per cent—one whole per cent higher. One per cent would seem a trifle, but as a matter of fact it is equivalent to 150,000 tons of sugar.

What are we striving for today in the sugar industry, what must we strive for in 1936? The refineries which still have stocks of sugar beet for winter refining must cherish every single root and not allow it to spoil and decay. Every single kilogram of sugar must be saved, bearing in mind that the danger of the beets spoiling is greater in winter. The work must be so conducted as to prevent increased losses in the winter period, which was the case in past years. It is a fact that the Vinnitsa refineries—the Vinnitsa Trust as a whole—are showing in January a higher yield of sugar than the other refineries

did in the more favorable autumn period. This is what all the refineries must strive for. A most important task of all the refineries is, immediately the production season ends, to proceed with repairs, to effect them in a scrupulous way under systematic technical guidance, and using good materials; to eliminate the weak spots in the refineries and to increase their capacity to the maximum in order to be able to work much better, to handle a greater quantity of sugar beet and to produce more sugar in the 1936 season. We must see to it that there are no breakdowns and stoppages next season, so as to be fully prepared for the new and abundant collective farm harvest of sugar beet.

The workers in the sugar industry must not allow themselves to be lulled by the successes already achieved, but must continue to improve their work, to bring the lagging departments in every refinery up to the level of the foremost departments and the lagging refineries up to the level of the best refineries. We must not allow ourselves in this respect to be guided by average figures, for average figures in this case are dangerous, because they paint everybody one neutral, gray color. The good refineries and the bad refineries must be considered separately, so that the best refineries may serve as a criterion, so that the bad refineries may be brought up to the level of the good refineries, so that we may know who must be taken to task and who must be helped in order to advance along the whole sugar refining front.

In 1936 the sugar refineries must make even more intensive preparations for handling the sugar beet crop.

The sugar beet crop this year will be a large one, and the refinery which does not make proper preparations and which does not cope with the handling of the sugar beet will cover itself with unspeakable shame.

The Fish Industry

THERE is another big branch of the food industry which was able to record important successes last year. I am referring to the fish industry.

The extent to which the fish industry has been re-equipped is illustrated by the following figures.

In 1929 the fish industry had 560 motor vessels with an aggregate of 37,000 horsepower. We now have 3,150 vessels with an aggregate of 230,000 hp. In other words, the motor fleet has increased sevenfold. On January 1, 1933, the fish industry possessed 19 cold storage plants; today we have 26 cold storage plants. In 1928 there were only four.

We started the fish canning industry in the Far East in 1923, when we possessed two small canneries. By 1929 the number of canneries had increased to 12. Today we have 41 canneries in the Far East. In the Soviet Union as a whole we have 55 fish canneries with a total capacity of 252,000,000 tins a year. We have 28 plants producing fish oil and fish flour for cattle feed. There were no such plants before; all we had was a few small and primitive enterprises. We have two huge ship repair yards, 14 shipyards for building wooden vessels and 26 coopering plants, 8 of which are equipped with the latest coopering machinery. The fish industry possesses an extensive radio system consisting of 360 stations—receiving and transmitting. It also possesses 16 airplanes for reconnoitering the movements of shoals.

In 1929 the Soviet Union occupied fifth place in the

world fishing industry. In 1935, by making a total catch of 1,550,000 tons of fish (together with the local fisheries), we moved up to second place, outstripping America, Great Britain and Norway. The first place was retained by Japan, which fishes in all waters from the Far North to the Equator, including our Soviet waters.

It should be mentioned that before the revolution our Far Eastern waters were rapaciously exploited almost exclusively by the Japanese fish industries.

Here are a few figures. In 1928, when we had already begun to fish in Far Eastern waters, the Japanese still accounted for as much as 87.3 per cent of the total catch *in our territorial waters*, the Soviet fishing industry—state, cooperative and private—accounting for the remaining 12.7 per cent. In 1934 we raised our share of the catch to 44 per cent. In 1935 our catch in Far Eastern waters increased by 16 per cent, which should enlarge our relative share of the total catch, but we still do not know how much since the final figures of the Japanese catch are not yet available. I think that in future the mastering of the Far Eastern waters by our fishing industry will proceed even more rapidly.

It should be said that this is a difficult matter. For a number of years we were obliged to bring workers from Japan, and partially to provide them with imported Japanese foodstuffs, clothing, and so on. In 1929 and 1930, for instance, we hired 12,000 Japanese workers for Kamchatka, for the Northern Maritime Region and for work on the crab-fishing vessels. Since 1933 we have not imported a single Japanese worker. In the Far East fish is now being caught and handled by Soviet workers led by Soviet commanders.

We are managing not at all badly. However, our workers have not yet fully mastered the technical equipment of the fishing industry in the Far East. Owing to

a labor turnover which is still large and the absence of a sufficiently numerous local population, as many as 25,000 workers have to be recruited annually for the Pacific Coast from internal regions of the U.S.S.R. At the end of the fishing season the majority of these workers return home. This involves a great waste of time in traveling, and, what is most important, a waste of accumulated experience owing to the constant change of seasonal workers.

The chief task of the fish industry in the Far East is to secure permanent workërs for the fisheries and the fish-packing plants and to put a stop to the constant changing of the basic categories of workers; otherwise it will be impossible to master technique and to squeeze out of technique all it can yield. For this purpose it is necessary on the Far Eastern Coast of our country—the potentialities of which are enormous—to build houses, schools and hospitals, to build towns and villages. The funds assigned for housing and social improvements in the fish industry are being increased from year to year, but so great is the need, so vast a region has to be covered in so short a time, that this is still inadequate. We were able this year to get 33,000 workers (11,000 more than last year) to settle permanently in the Far Eastern fisheries. But this is not enough, since it provides the fishing industry with only 50 per cent of the skilled fishermen and only 15 per cent of the fish packers required. Our task is to secure within the next two or three years permanent basic cadres of fishermen and crab fishers. These people should live permanently at the fisheries, spending the summer catching fish and the winter repairing the fishpacking plants, vessels, nets and tackle, building houses, working on communal improvements, and so on. If these conditions are fulfilled great successes will undoubtedly be achieved in all fisheries of the Far East.

Certain of the Far Eastern fish trusts are already showing quite good results. The Far Eastern Fish Trust, the Crab Trust and the whaling fleet are working not at all badly. I shall mention a few of the finest Stakhanovites of the fish industry in the Far East: Skipper Li Oon-ho, a Korean Young Communist Leaguer, and Skipper Vaku-lenko. They each catch as much as 200 tons of fish per fishing boat, which is double the average. Captain Yegorov, on his crabber has caught as much as 270 tons of crab per boat, whereas others of our crabbers, for instance, the *Tungus*, catch only 100 tons per boat. Comrade Yegorov has a well-selected crew, who work extremely well in the Pacific.

Our recently created whaling flotilla is doing good work. Comrade Zarva, captain of the whaler *Trudfront*, killed as many as 193 whales. He has surpassed the foreign standards in this sphere and has kept the lead now for three years running.

Need it be said that the opportunities for fishing in the Arctic and Pacific Oceans are truly enormous? There is no limit to the amount of fish that can be caught in the Pacific and in the Barents Sea. Our task is to develop our fishing fleet, our trawling fleet, to the maximum and always to fulfil and overfulfil the plan for fish catching.

The Fish Board this year fulfilled the plan for fish catching and overfulfilled the plan for fishpacking. But the Fish Board could have achieved even better results. The spring fishing season passed off very well in the North, in the Caspian Sea and in the Sea of Azov, and we had every reason to expect a greater overfulfilment of the plan for the year's catch. However, the autumn season was less successful than we expected both in Murmansk and in the North Caspian. True, the weather conditions in the Caspian Sea were very unfavorable this year—frost set in earlier than usual, roughly about the

middle of November, and more than 3,000 fishers were caught in the ice at sea.

The year 1936 must be one of even greater progress for the fishermen. In 1936 the fishers in the Far East, Astrakhan and in many other places have every opportunity of fulfilling the Five-Year Plan ahead of time. A thing that particularly delights me is the competition that has begun among the Murmansk trawlers. Following the example of the trawler *Kirov*, the captains, mechanics and crews of three of the finest trawlers—the *Lebedka*, the *Navaga* and the *Moskava*—came forward and promised to secure a catch of 3,000 tons of cod in 1936 on each trawler and called upon all the other trawlers to catch not less than 2,500 tons, in place of an average catch of 1,700 tons in 1935. Comrade Skornyakov, captain of the trawler *Lebedka*, writes:

“Last year our trawler caught 2,500 tons, although we spent only eight months at sea. The rest of the time was wasted owing to the wretched organization of the work of the administration of the trawling fleet and the ship repair yard.

“This year we undertake to catch 3,000 tons. This is quite feasible. If we catch 300 tons on each cruise, we shall have to make only ten cruises.

“Each of the trawlers is able to catch not less than 2,500 tons a year, provided the heads of the trawling fleet and the shipyard and the sailors of the fleet make it their fighting task to eliminate loss of time in port and to take affectionate care of the engines.

“Setting out to fulfil the program given us by the People’s Commissar, we proclaim the first cruise of 1936 a Stakhanov cruise.”

We would like the whole trawling fleet to join in the Stakhanov cruise and to catch not less than 2,500 tons of fish per trawler. We shall then be able to supply Len-

ingrad and Moscow with an abundance of excellent frozen and cured cod, excellent herring and an abundance of smoked bass of the finest quality.

The collective fisheries, especially in the Azov-Black Sea territory, have done good work this year. I should like to mention a few of the finest collective fishermen: Comrade Lyashko, for instance, chairman of a collective fishery in the Azov-Black Sea territory, who caught five and a half tons of fish and fulfilled the 1935 plan 178 per cent. Comrade Milkin, head of a fishing brigade of the Sixteenth Party Congress Collective Fishery which belongs to the Astrakhan Collective Fisheries Alliance, fulfilled the 1935 plan 181 per cent. Comrade Simenenko, a fisherman of the Ochakov Motor Fishing Station, caught 16.5 tons of red fish, when the plan provided for six tons, thus fulfilling the standard for red fish 250 per cent. Comrade Krivulko, skipper of the Red Partisan Collective Fishery in the Northern Maritime Region, fulfilled the plan 300 per cent. Comrade Nadya Vashchenko, a Kerch fisherwoman, member of a collective fishery and organizer of women in fish catching, earned about 6,000 rubles.

Here are a few figures illustrating the earnings of members of collective fisheries. In 1933 each fisherman earned an average of 764 rubles; in 1934, 929 rubles; in 1935, 1,919 rubles. This does not include subsidiary earnings from other kinds of work. In the Far East, each fisherman earned on an average 4,600 rubles in the year, in Murmansk the average was 5,300 rubles, whereas in the collective fisheries in the Kuban the average earnings were 4,209 rubles.

I should like to draw your attention to the assortment of fish products we are selling to the population this year. In 1935 the fish industry provided 64 per cent more products for sale than in 1929. The supply of fresh and

frozen fish products was 155 per cent larger than in 1929 and the supply of smoked fish 790 per cent larger than in 1929. There is a big lag in the case of dried fish, and we must devote more attention to this matter. Two thousand eight hundred tons of fish oil for medicinal and industrial purposes were supplied in 1934, whereas 12,500 tons of oil for industrial purposes and 2,700 tons for medicinal purposes were supplied in 1935. The output of canned fish amounted to 95,000,000 tins in 1935, as compared with 37,000,000 tins in 1929. The increase in the case of salt fish was much less. The supply of salt herrings in 1935 was 48 per cent larger than in 1929.

Our country has a very rich variety of fish. Excellent kinds of fish are to be had in our country, such as are to be found nowhere else in the world. There are 98 such kinds in all. There are as many as 310 different kinds of fish in our waters, 184 of commercial value. Ninety-eight kinds are caught only in the U.S.S.R., including such excellent fish as osetrina, sturgeon, beluga, sterlet, belorybit-sa, shemaya and seld-zalom. The assortment of fish products for sale includes 708 different kinds of goods and we are now planning to enrich and extend the assortment of fish products.

I should like to draw your attention to the fact that live fish is being sold in Moscow, Leningrad and other large cities. We did not sell live fish before, but in 1933 Comrade Stalin once asked me: "Are we selling live fish anywhere?" "I do not know," I replied, "most likely not." And Comrade Stalin continued to question me: "Why is it not being sold? It used to be formerly." After this, we began to devote attention to this matter and we now have excellent shops, chiefly in Moscow and Leningrad, where 19 different kinds of live fish are sold, including such fish as sturgeon and trout. The best of our fish stores also sell live lobsters and oysters. Live fish in

the shops! That is good, because there are certain connoisseurs who insist that fish should not only be fresh but should even squirm in the frying pan. Well, an assortment of fish will be found to suit even their taste. What is more, this is not a bad advertisement for the fish industry. The sight of live fish arouses an appetite for other kinds of fish products. We shall extend the sale of live fish.

[*Kalinin*: It's profitable.]

Of course it's profitable. A good thing is always profitable.

Another innovation, unknown in our country before, but one we must widely develop, is the sale of filleted fish. We have built plants in Murmansk and Astrakhan for the preparation of filleted fish. We shall in 1936 organize the production of filleted fish on the Azov coast as well. This is a business of no small importance. There are quite a number of people who prefer any other kind of food to fish solely on account of the large number of bones and the difficulty of cleaning fish in the kitchen. Certain kinds of fish have a very large number of bones. It is true that housewives know how to cook fish quite well. But this demands a lot of time and trouble, and in addition there is much waste—scales, insides, head, tail and bones—which is thrown away. Yet this waste contains many valuable products.

The first to protest against this waste were the Americans. They came to the conclusion that fish should be cut up and cleaned not at home, in the kitchen, but at special factories. Now, in our filleting plants, they take the fish, carefully separate the meat (fillets) from the bones, pack it in parchment paper, freeze it well and supply it to the consumer, while the offal is all used in the production of industrial products and cattle feed.

Housewives, we think, will be grateful to us, because

carefully cleaned fish relieves them of unnecessary, unpleasant work. But, in addition, filleted fish is a big source of revenue and saves the national economy from vast losses. Out of the offal, which constitutes as much as 40 per cent of the weight of the fish, we manufacture fish oil and fish flour, which makes an excellent feed for poultry and pigs. In the manufactured state these by-products almost cover the cost of the raw fish.

That is why we have decided to develop the production and sale of filleted fish to the utmost. In addition to filleted fish, we want to develop the production of other kinds of table products. We are building big restaurants, big central kitchens—and that is a good thing. But we must meet the requirements of those who for one reason or another prefer to eat at home. If there were always on sale prepared hamburger steaks, roast beef and beefsteaks which only required frying, filleted fish which only had to be put on the fire, soup tablets, cold veal, ready-made noodles which only required boiling, and so on, it would be a great help to housewives and single people, whose time after all is also valuable. This is something we must develop to the utmost.

IV

Canned Goods

I HAVE already spoken of the fish canning industry. But it is not only fish that is canned. We have created a big industry for the canning of meat, fruit, vegetables and milk.

In 1928 we produced 21,000,000 tins of canned meat, and in 1935—146,000,000 tins, a sevenfold increase.

Next year we are to produce 216,000,000 tins of canned meat and canned meat and vegetables. We produced 33,000,000 tins of canned fish in 1928 and 136,000,000 tins in 1935, while the program for this year is 178,000,000 tins. Canned vegetables, 20,000,000 tins in 1928, 72,000,000 tins last year and 100,000,000 tins in 1936; canned fruit: 3,000,000 tins in 1928, 272,000,000 tins in 1935 and 298,000,000 tins in 1936; tomatoes, 13,000,000 tins in 1928, 161,000,000 tins in 1935. We produced no canned milk in 1928. The canning of milk began only in 1932, when we produced 2,000,000 tins. We produced 4,000,000 tins of canned milk in 1933, 8,900,000 tins in 1934 and 16,000,000 tins in 1935. In 1936 the industry will turn out 25,400,000 tins of canned milk.

The milk canning industry is one of prime importance. Its prospects are unlimited. In the large cities there is a shortage of whole milk; it can be supplied fresh only from nearby districts, and the consumption of milk in our country is steadily growing. Canned milk is also required for a number of branches of the food industry. Confectionery should not be made from whole milk, which is required for children. For the same reason we cannot employ whole milk in the manufacture of margarine, chocolate, and so on. Such articles must be made from high-grade canned, condensed milk. Our remote regions (for instance, Kazakstan, Siberia and Bashkiria), from which milk cannot be consigned to the cities and where it is so plentiful that they do not know what to do with it, are bases for the condensed milk industry. From these regions we shall supply condensed milk to the cities and to the northern regions, where there are not enough cows, to the cotton-growing districts of Uzbekistan, to Baku, Magnitogorsk, Khalil, Murmansk, Kamchatka, to the goldfields, and so on. There is in general a shortage of milk in the winter. How are we to make good this

seasonal shortage? The only method is condensed milk, which is a highly nutritive and palatable product. We are now in a position to supply a large quantity of this canned article. We are also producing dried milk, which when dissolved in water yields a normal milk as tasty and nutritive as fresh milk. We have six plants producing condensed and dried milk, another two are in course of construction and in 1937 we shall build seven more. We recently began to supply condensed milk mixed with cocoa and coffee. This is a convenient food for expeditions, tourists and for our Red Army. We shall develop the production of these canned articles in every way.

The assortment of canned goods has greatly increased. There were 80 varieties in 1934; we are now supplying 128 varieties. Canned goods were formerly produced solely as hors d'oeuvres. A man would take a drink and develop an appetite for sprats, mackerel, sardines, egg-plant, peppers. But in developing our canning industry we shall follow the example of America, where canned goods are something more than hors d'oeuvres. We are canning whole tomatoes (in their natural state) without dressing. We are also canning asparagus, cauliflower, green peas and sweet corn (maize) without dressing. The taste is as though the corn had just come off the stalk. Incidentally, canned corn is very popular in America.

We shall intensively develop the production of new kinds of canned goods, not only as hors d'oeuvres, but also as foods which will make a good breakfast or supper—even without vodka—and dietetic foods in particular. The capacity of our canneries is enormous, there is an abundance of raw material. All we lack is tins and glass for tins and jars. We shall ask the People's Commissariat of Heavy Industry to devote more attention to the production of tinplate and the People's Commissariat of Light Industry and the People's Com-

missariat of Local Industry to the production of glass jars, because it is on this that the possibility of satisfying the demand of the population for canned goods now depends.

The work of the canning industry has markedly improved. I must particularly mention the good work performed by Comrade Andreyev, director of the Azov-Black Sea Trust, one of the oldest and best workers in the canning industry, Comrade Breitman, director of the Ukrainian Trust, Comrade Melikyan, director of the Armenian Trust, Comrade Duche, director of the Crimean Trust and Comrade Matitaishvilli, director of the Georgian Trust.

v

Meat and Sausage

AN IMPORTANT branch of the food industry is meat. The state packing plants, not counting local industries, supplied 343,000 tons of meat in 1932 and 533,000 tons in 1935, whereas in 1936 the meat packing plants will supply 650,000 tons, or nearly double the output of 1932. In addition to the supply of meat to the cities by the state, a large quantity of meat is brought to the bazaars by the collective farms. These supplies increased greatly after the abolition of the ration system. For instance, in the fourth quarter of 1935 the Moscow Packing Plant put 25,000 tons of meat on to the market, while the collective farmers supplied 8,000 tons. In the fourth quarter of 1934 collective farm supplies of meat to Moscow amounted to about 5,000 tons.

A very important branch of the meat industry is the

production of sausage. In 1933 the sausage factories supplied 36,000 tons of product, in 1934, 47,000 tons and in 1935, 111,000 tons. In 1936 our output of sausage is to be 170,000 tons.

You know, comrades, there was a time when the Germans used to pride themselves on their sausages and beer. Sausages and beer were a sign of bourgeois abundance and prosperity. But the other day I asked Comrade Pyatakov, who had just returned from abroad, about German sausages, and his reply was interesting. He went into a good restaurant one day to take a glass of beer and asked for sausages, and it turned out that there were none to be had. And Comrade Zhukov, who also recently returned from abroad and at one time was fond of praising German goods, complained that even sausages were not to be found in Berlin. Yet in Moscow and Leningrad you can get cold and hot sausages anywhere you like. In Moscow we have recently been supplying as much as 45,000 kilograms of sausages daily. German sausages have now adopted Soviet citizenship.

The sale of sausage and sausages must be developed also in Kiev, Kharkov, Odessa, Baku, Gorky, Ivanovo, Sverdlovsk, and other cities. In 1935 we created a large number of sausage factories, large and small, and we shall take care in future to develop this industry still more and to supply even larger quantities of sausage of good quality.

Sausage production is on the upgrade. The meat industry supplied 17 kinds of sausage and smoked meats in 1933, 41 kinds in 1934, and 111 kinds in 1935. In Leningrad 92,000 kilograms of sausages were produced in December, 1934, and 560,000 kilograms in December, 1935. Moscow produced 68,000 kilograms of sausages in December, 1934 and 974,000 kilograms in December,

1935. This is not the limit. We shall supply far larger quantities.

Some people might think that Comrade Stalin, being immersed in important questions of international and domestic policy, would not be in a position to devote attention to such matters as the production of sausages. But that is not so. Quite the contrary, in fact. It happens sometimes that the People's Commissar of the Food Industry forgets about something, and Comrade Stalin reminds him of it. I happened to say to Comrade Stalin that I wanted to boost the production of sausages. Comrade Stalin approved this decision and remarked that sausage-makers in America had made fortunes out of this business—especially from the sale of hot frankfurters at stadiums and other places where large numbers of people congregate. They had become millionaires—"sausage kings".

We do not want any kings of course, comrades, but the making of sausages must be developed to the full.

I may state that the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry is prepared to keep our trading system regularly supplied with meat, frankfurters, sausage and smoked meats—and of good quality at that. We are now devoting particular attention to quality. Our people are demanding fatter meat, but the livestock we receive, with the exception of part of the animals supplied by the state farms, is not fat. It must be stated that at the sugar refineries the feeding up of livestock for slaughter is being neglected. This business must be put on a higher level. The collective farms must also pay proper attention to fattening up livestock intended for delivery and should supply the state with properly fattened animals. The leaner the meat, the less nourishing it is and the greater the number of animals that have to be slaughtered in order to obtain a given quantity of meat.

Particular attention must be devoted to pig breeding. We shall then have enough meat and we shall be in a position to satisfy the growing demand of the population for meat. Of course, it must not be forgotten that we are now converting into meat twice as many pigs as before the war. But even this level is a low one compared with America and Europe.

There are 55,000,000 to 60,000,000 pigs in America, the number fluctuating somewhat from year to year. Owing to the rapidity with which pigs breed and reach maturity, the number of pigs slaughtered annually exceeds this amount, and in pre-crisis years was as high as 65,000,000 to 75,000,000. In our country, of course, sheep breeding will also develop to a greater extent and will play a greater part in the supply of meat than in America. Comrade Stalin's slogan regarding the production of seven or eight billion poods of grain annually will mean that a considerable part of the increased supply of grain will be used for fodder and for developing stock breeding, especially pigs and poultry. Pig breeding will make a tremendous spurt, and, as you know, given enough fodder the breeding of pigs can be very rapidly doubled and trebled. In the U.S.S.R. there was a total of 23,500,000 pigs in 1935, and according to the plan there should be 31,500,000 pigs in 1936. It is quite possible that when we have a harvest of seven or eight billion poods of grain we shall be able to increase the number of pigs to seventy or eighty million—that is, more than in America—and on this basis to increase the consumption of meat and lard in our country to a level unknown even in the richest capitalist country.

Butter and Cheese

LET US now pass to food products no less palatable than meat—butter and cheese. Cheese, which, apart from its value as a food, has recently also acquired diplomatic interest in connection with Uruguay.

Here are a few figures regarding the production of butter. They refer only to factory-made butter, since we do not keep an account of home-made butter. In 1928 the quantity of factory-made butter amounted to 82,000 tons; in 1932 the output declined to 71,600 tons; in 1933 it had risen to 124,000 tons, in 1934 to 138,000 tons, and in 1935 to 154,000 tons. In 1936 we shall produce 193,000 tons—nearly 200,000 tons of good butter. This is nearly three times as much as was produced in 1932 and twice as much as was produced in 1913.

In 1932 35,000 tons of butter were sold in the home market and in 1935—117,000 tons, or more than three times as much as in 1932. This increase is at once apparent when you visit the Soviet shops. Everybody can see that there is enough good butter in our country. And there will be still more.

The quality of butter has improved. Russian butter used to be of poor quality. When this butter was exported it was melted in London and used in the making of confectionery. This butter was never used for food in its natural state. And the price of a hundredweight of Russian butter used to be 9 shillings less than, let us say, Australian or New Zealand butter. Last year, when we exported butter, Soviet butter was already being compared to the finest kinds of New Zealand and Australian

butter. And New Zealand and Australia are British colonies, so that Great Britain is interested that goods from these countries principally be purchased in the British market. Nevertheless, in 1935 the difference in the price of our butter and their butter was already one shilling and eight pence instead of nine shillings. We are now making excellent butter. That this is true, that this is not only our opinion, is borne out by so great a butter expert as the Englishman, Professor Thompson, who says of Russian butter that it is a pasteurized product, and in this respect comparable to the products of all the well-known butter-making countries. He goes on to say, however, that Russian butter is not prepared from neutralized cream, but is an absolutely natural product, rich in every ingredient which makes butter a wholesome and valuable food.

One very strict judge of butter, Comrade Rosenholz, who used to complain that our butter was bad, has now for two years been noting in the order papers of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Trade that Soviet butter is of excellent quality. But if we supplied good butter for export purposes, we shall supply even better butter for our home market.

Our butter is now of higher grades and sorts, which testifies to a radical improvement in quality. In 1932 the quality of our butter was estimated at grade 84, and this year at grade 89. In 1932 only 21 per cent of the butter was of the first and superior sorts, whereas in 1935 the proportion of first and superior sorts had increased to 70 per cent. More than two-thirds of all our butter is of a superior sort.

How is it, a comrade once asked, that although there are less cows than before the war, there is now more butter? What is the reason? My explanation was a simple one. Dairy farming in our country has become more

productive. Before the war, for instance, Siberian cows never knew what a warm barn was. Their hides were their only protection against the rigors of the Siberian cold, and the greater part of their vital energy went not to the production of milk but to maintaining animal heat. Now for the first time Siberian cows are being housed in the warm barns of the collective farms and state farms. They are being better tended, and are therefore yielding more milk. And when the yield of cows still further increases—and it will increase rapidly—there will be more and more milk. A second reason is that the collective farms, and especially the state farms, provide higher salable surpluses than the individual peasant farms. It will suffice to say that in 1936 the state farms alone, with a total of 1,170,000 cows (not counting the farms of the workers' supply organizations), will supply 72,000 tons of butter, that is to say, as much as was supplied in 1932 by all the cows in the country.

It must however be said that the average milk yield in our country is still low compared with other countries and compared with the best of the collective farms and state farms. We have cows that yield 5,000 and 6,000 litres of milk and more. The average, however, for the collective farms in 1935 was only 1,225 litres and for the state farms 1,500 litres per cow. In the state farms and collective farms there are excellent milkmaids who because of the care they take of their animals obtain as much as 3,000, 4,000 and 5,000 litres of milk per cow. Take, for instance, Nadyezhda Persiyantseva of the Krasnaya Zarya Collective Farm in the Lukhovitsk District in the Moscow Region, a young milkmaid who attended the rally of Stakhanovites in the butter-making industry. In 1933 Nadyezhda Persiyantseva obtained from her 16 cows an average of 1,000 litres of milk per cow; in 1934 an average of 1,800 litres from the same

cows and in 1935 an average of 3,200 litres, while from her best cow, "Tonka", she obtained as much as 3,700 litres. Take Comrade Chernenko, a milkmaid in the Veselo-Podolyansk Breeding Station of the Sugar Trust, who in 1935 obtained from her 16 cows an average milk yield of 4,072 litres. The same is true of the Kirov State Pig Farm in the Moscow Region, where Comrade Dembovitskaya, a milkmaid, obtained from her 11 cows an average milk yield of 1,914 litres in 1934 and 3,300 litres in 1935. There are already quite a number of such milkmaids and there will be still more. And therefore the prospects for the production of butter and cheese in our country are enormous.

The butter-making industry has been to a large extent re-equipped. We now have 403 well-equipped mechanized butter factories. These factories produce high-class butter of grade 92.4 on an average. But we still have many hand dairies which must be replaced by modern, mechanized and larger butter factories, so as to produce butter of the finest quality, utilize the growing supplies of raw material and improve the quality of butter still further. We also require far more wax paper than we are getting at present. We shall soon be producing a great quantity of good butter, but if there will be nothing to wrap it in and we have to pack the butter in barrels without paper we shall be spoiling an excellent product.

In 1935 we produced 19,500 tons of hard cheeses as compared with 14,300 tons in 1932. Cheese-making is backward in our country and we must develop it more rapidly. There are many who still do not appreciate good cheese, and we must cultivate the taste for it. Cheese is one of the most nourishing of foods, rich in albumen and fat.

Before the war Russia used to produce 10 kinds of factory-made cheese. Today we are producing 24 kinds,

and in addition five kinds of soft cheese. Next year we intend to produce 60 or 70 different kinds of cheese. But why should we have less varieties of cheese than France? Our country is richer, we have milk of the most varied qualities and we can produce a large number of kinds of cheese. The French make 160 kinds; they are proud of their cheeses. We must see to it that we have as large a variety of cheeses, and of equally high quality, in no respect inferior to French cheeses—not to speak of Dutch cheeses.

That is why in 1936 we shall build new cheese-making plants and expedite those at present under construction.

Skimmed milk at our factories at one time used to be wasted or fed to cattle. Now we are making a number of valuable foods and industrial articles out of skimmed milk.

Until 1932 we used to import casein—which is made from skimmed milk—as a glue used in the production of veneers. In 1930 we imported 1,218 tons to a value of 378,000 gold rubles and in 1931 we imported 1,224 tons to a value of 224,000 gold rubles. Since 1932 we have entirely stopped importing casein, because the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry is producing it in sufficient quantities at its own butter-making factories. In 1935 we produced 8,400 tons of casein as compared with 2,000 tons in 1932.

We have already made preparations for rapid development of the production of milk sugar.

Vegetable Oils and Fats

A FEW words about vegetable oil. In 1932 the output of vegetable oil amounted to 388,000 tons, in 1935 to 408,000 tons while in 1936 we shall have, according to the plan, to produce 475,000 tons.

I want to draw your attention to the fact that the position with regard to the supply of raw material to the oil pressing industry is still unsatisfactory. Primary purchasing of sunflower seed, flax seed, hemp seed and other oil seed is still proceeding badly. In this respect the vegetable oil industry differs from other industries, the raw material supply of which has considerably improved in recent years. I shall quote a few figures illustrating the primary purchasing of various kinds of raw materials for the food industry.

Primary purchasing of sugar beet increased from 6,100,000 tons in 1932 to 15,700,000 tons in 1935, which was a record in the supply of raw material to the sugar refineries ever since sugar beet has been grown in our country.

Primary purchasing of makhorka increased from 75,000 tons in 1932 to 141,000 tons in 1935, *i.e.*, almost double.

The increase was less in the case of tobacco: in this period primary purchases of tobacco increased from 45,000 tons to 55,000 tons.

Primary purchases of potatoes for industrial purposes increased from 644,000 tons in 1932 to 2,050,000 tons in 1935, or more than threefold.

There has been a more than twofold increase in the

primary purchases of vegetables for the canning and preserving industry—from 131,000 tons in 1932 to 293,000 tons in 1935.

During the same period primary purchases of sunflower seed increased from 562,000 tons in 1932 to 847,000 tons in 1935, or by 50 per cent. It should, however, be borne in mind that the sunflower seed harvest in 1932 was a poor one.

Primary purchases of flax seed somewhat decreased in 1935, amounting to 243,000 tons as compared with 267,000 tons in 1932.

Primary purchases of hemp seed increased by 2,300 tons, amounting to 52,600 tons in 1935 as compared with 50,300 tons in 1932.

Primary purchases of cotton seed and other oil seed increased by 30 per cent in three years. The slow rate of increase in the primary purchases of oil seed, especially sunflower seed, flax seed and hemp seed, is chiefly due to the low harvest yields of these crops. In 1934 the yield of sunflower seed amounted to 590 kilograms per hectare and in 1935 to 510 kilograms per hectare. The principal reason for the low yield of sunflower seed is the non-observance of the most elementary agronomical rules, as expressed in sowing to spring plowing, use of inferior seed, irregular distances between rows and, especially, poor cultivation of the sunflower crop. In 1935, 14 per cent of the sown area, or 448,500 hectares, was never hoed at all, while 32.5 per cent—or 1,200,000 hectares—was hoed too late in the season.

The reconstruction of the vegetable oil and fat industry, the creation of a network of hydrogenization and margarine factories, the starting of powerful oil extracting plants in Voroshilov and Krassnodar and the forthcoming completion of the oil extracting plant in Katta-Kurgan will permit us to expand the production of

vegetable oils. The fact that the raw material supply of the vegetable oil industry is lagging cannot be tolerated. We must in the next few years achieve a marked increase in the yield of oil-bearing crops, ensure proper cultivation of the crops and the unconditional fulfilment of the plan for primary purchases. The local Soviets and agricultural departments must help us in this.

Of particular importance is the question of improving and extending seed selection work in the case of oil-bearing crops, especially as regards introducing and spreading the use of disease-resisting sorts. At the Rostov Agriculture Experimental Station, Comrade Zhdanov has succeeded in developing a disease-resisting sort of sunflower which for two years now is being multiplied in the collective farm fields of the Matveyevo-Kurgan District and the neighboring districts of the Azov-Black Sea territory. At the Voronezh Experimental Station for Oil-Bearing Crops two other sorts of disease-resisting sunflower have been introduced and multiplied. If proper work is done in the cultivation of these seeds the extension of their use to 70 or 75 per cent of the total area under sunflower in 1937 could be ensured.

A few words about margarine. This year we produced 83,000 tons of margarine. Certain people objected to the manufacture of margarine in our country because they had heard that in Europe margarine is made from faked ingredients. We, however, make margarine from excellent vegetable oils, to which we add milk and eggs. Meat cannot be fried in sunflower seed oil, nor is it good to fry meat in mutton or beef fat, because these fats rapidly congeal. But meat can be fried well in margarine. Margarine is one of the most nutritive and at the same time most easily digestible foods, its digestibility being almost equivalent to that of dairy butter. We have eleven new, first-class margarine factories. In addition to margarine,

these factories turn out a refined, deodorized vegetable oil, which is sold ready bottled in our food shops.

Our margarine factories also produce various kinds of sauces, what are known as mayonnaises. The Americans began the factory production of mayonnaise a long time ago. There you can buy them according to taste. We have also begun to produce mayonnaises. They form a very valuable sauce for various dishes. Not everybody is able or has the opportunity to produce these sauces at home; one must know how much mustard, vinegar and other ingredients is required, and these are not always at hand.

Until about the end of 1933 the position was very unsatisfactory with regard to the production of soap in our country. Soap is essential for the health of the population. But since there was a shortage in a number of very essential articles, many people became accustomed to a shortage of soap as well. But one day Comrade Stalin summoned us and demanded that there should be enough soap in the country, and soap of good quality. The soap-making industry was transferred from the People's Commissariat of Light Industry to the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry. And it was only then that an abundance of soap of good quality began to be produced. The output of soap in 1932 amounted to 292,000 tons and in 1935 to 442,000 tons. There is now an adequate supply of soap. If there is a shortage at all, it is only in places where the trading organization fails to ensure supplies.

But the important thing is that we are now producing soap of the finest quality. When Comrades Stalin, Molotov and Kaganovich considered the question of the kinds of soap we should produce, it was forbidden to manufacture soap with a fat content of less than 40 per cent.

Formerly, soaps with a fat content of 30-35 per cent

constituted one-third of the total amount of soap produced. Now this kind of soap is not being made in our country at all. We are now producing 100 kinds of toilet soap of excellent quality with a fat content of 60-78 per cent. In order to compare our soap to foreign soap, we had various samples sent us from Europe and America and were able to convince ourselves that our toilet soap is not inferior to foreign soaps.

Formerly, when there was little soap, the People's Commissariat of Health used to carry on propaganda urging people to wash more often. But there was no soap. Now there is soap in abundance, but for some reason or other the People's Commissariat of Health is silent.

I shall request Comrade Kaminsky to see to it that the public health bodies take more energetic measures to inculcate hygienic habits among the population.

Comrade Stalin devotes attention to matters for which one would think he has absolutely no time. For instance, the production of perfumes and cosmetics. We are producing good soap and eau de cologne, but as to perfumes we are rather below standard. Comrades Stalin and Molotov supported us and let us have gold for the importation of aromatic oils. We are now beginning to create our own aromatic oil industry—rose, geranium and various synthetic oils, of which we formerly used to import as many as 72 kinds. In the next two or three years we shall succeed in producing every kind of aromatic oil in our own country.

The increase in the production of perfumes and cosmetics is shown by the following figures for 1935 (1932 = 100) : eau de cologne, 210; perfumes, 155; toilet water, 287; cosmetics, 117; tooth powder, 244. Nor have we forgotten tooth brushes.

We used to make very bad tooth brushes. Their quality is now improving.

However, it must be frankly stated that in spite of the fact that our perfumery, creams, pastes, tooth powder and tooth brushes are steadily improving, we are still far below foreign standards.

We are making it our task to improve the quality of the products of our perfumery and cosmetics industry. Comrade Zhemchuzhina, the head of the Tezhe Trust, is doing good work and carrying on an energetic fight for improved quality of product.

The Lenzhet Trust in Leningrad, headed by Comrade Shaposhnikova, has also begun to work better. The Tezhe and Lenzhet are energetically striving to fulfil the tasks that have been set them, and there is no doubt that they will soon be turning out such fine perfumes and cosmetics that our Soviet women will no longer be envious of the possessors of Parisian perfumes and powders.

Our working women and women collective farmers are demanding good perfumes; our women want to use the best perfumes. And they are absolutely right.

I have already spoken of the good work performed by Comrade Zhemchuzhina. And in this connection I should like to say that we in the food industry underrate the work of women, we do not promote women enough. Yet in the light and food industries women can be promoted to executive posts much more energetically.

At the First Congress of Collective Farmers, Comrade Stalin put the question of the Soviet woman very plainly. He said

“I know that many of you underrate women and even make fun of them. But this is a mistake, comrades, a serious mistake. The point here is not only that women constitute one-half of the population. The point here primarily is that the collective farm movement has advanced a number of remarkable and capable women to executive posts. Look at this Congress, at its composition, and you will see that women

have already long ago advanced from the ranks of the backward to the ranks of the foremost. Women constitute a big force in the collective farms. To conceal this force under a bushel would be a crime. It is our duty to advance women in the collective farms and to put this force into operation."

This was said by Comrade Stalin two years ago. And this year we have seen such heroines as have never been seen before. There are such heroines both in town and in country. We must do more to advance women to executive posts.

The experience of enterprises where the directors are women fully justifies this. In the Gryazny Sugar Beet State Farm in the Kharkov Region the director for four years has been a woman, Comrade Roslyak. She works better than the others, there is discipline and good order on her farm; many men directors may envy her.

The director of the Nizov Sugar Refinery is Comrade Demchenko whose husband is the director of a neighboring sugar refinery.

Last year she outstripped her husband and he almost quarreled with her for doing so.

We must do more to advance women, they are more accurate than men. When you promote them they devote themselves heart and soul to their work. And they never get drunk, as certain men do.

In the food and light industries women are fully entitled to occupy positions as directors of perfume, soap, confectionery, textile and similar factories where women principally are employed, and the women directors will run these enterprises very well indeed.

Milk and Ice Cream

I SHALL pass to the milk industry. We now have milk dairies in more than 50 cities; 33 of them are new plants. The best are in Leningrad and Moscow. The importance of the milk dairies is tremendous. Milk, of course, is a very nutritious food, especially for children. But it is also dangerous. Bad milk, stale milk, is one of the chief causes of children's ailments. Until now we have been at the mercy of the peasant milk women. They brought to town any kind of milk they liked; and they would add as much water as they liked, sometimes even chalk, to make the milk seem thicker. How was the consumer to test the milk sold him by the peasant milk women? But now all milk consigned to our milk dairies or supplied by them is subjected to thorough analysis: it is tested by chemists and doctors; it is tested for its chemical content, its freshness, its acidity and its bacterial content. Seventy-six per cent of the milk is supplied by the factories in pasteurized form. Pasteurization is highly important. It completely purifies milk of dangerous microbes, especially tubercular germs and dangerous intestinal germs. At the same time pasteurization preserves the nutritive value of milk, in distinction to boiling, which while it kills the germs at the same time destroys part of the vitamins, changes the structure of the albumens and renders them less digestible. Pasteurization guarantees the consumer, and especially children, milk of the very best quality.

The People's Commissariat of Health is doing much to cure sickness, but it is even more important to prevent

sickness. And if we supply children and adults with fresh, unadulterated and nourishing foods, they will be less liable to get sick. After all, at least two-thirds of all sickness is due to bad food. Good food is more important for health than any medicine.

I want very much to say that our late Comrade Kirov was greatly interested in the food industry. When we set about building the Leningrad milk dairy he and I carefully selected the designs. We obtained the designs of the finest milk dairies in Europe, and Sergei Mironovich Kirov would examine every detail with the greatest interest and ask about everything. And when we ordered from abroad 11 milk tanks made of aluminum and rustless steel, he enthusiastically set about arranging for the production of such tanks in Leningrad. We have now received the first lots of these excellent Soviet aluminum milk tanks, which protect the milk from heat and cold and permit whole milk to be brought in from points hundreds of kilometers away.

The late S. M. Kirov frequently used to mount the scaffolding of the Leningrad Meat Packing Plant when it was under construction. He would attentively study the life and work of the Murmansk fishermen. Comrade Kirov understood perfectly how important the food industry is for a center like Leningrad.

Last year the milk dairies turned out 207,000 tons of milk products as against 49,000 tons in 1932. In 1936 they are to turn out 285,000 tons. In cities where there are milk dairies, 76 per cent of the milk supplied to the population is pasteurized. These dairies produce a vast quantity of milk products, such as various kinds of cream cheeses (sweet and chocolate flavored), kefir, sour milk, sour cream and ice cream.

Incidentally, about ice cream. I am a great advocate of developing the production of ice cream. Some comrades

still believe that ice cream is a dainty for children, something adults have no use for.

[Kalinin: Yet everybody likes ice cream.]

They all like it, but some hypocritically conceal the fact, considering that ice cream is a dainty for children.

We must develop the production of ice cream as much as possible. We are learning from the U.S.A. in many things. I have obtained information regarding the production of ice cream in America. There they produce over 600,000 tons of factory-made ice cream annually, whereas we produced only 8,000 tons in 1935 and are to produce 12,000 tons next year. True, it is hotter in America than it is here, they need ice cream more, but it is obvious that we are extremely backward in this branch. I am agitating on behalf of ice cream because it is a delightful and very nutritious food. It can be safely said that ice cream is the most expedient, beneficial and pleasant way of employing milk and sugar. To make ice cream at home is difficult, it demands time and labor. You need a special ice cream freezer, which has to be kept exceptionally clean to avoid the danger of contamination. Particularly dangerous is the ice cream made by small dealers, and until quite recently ice cream in our country was entirely made domestically or by small dealers.

In recent years we have organized the production of ice cream at the milk dairies and at the plants of the Cold Storage Board. We are supplying ice cream of good quality. The Cold Storage Board and the Milk Board have learned to produce new kinds of ice cream, such as eskimo pie, which is very popular, and sweetmeats, cake and pastry made of ice cream. Our ice cream is of high quality and is made of the finest ingredients under the careful supervision of doctors and special laboratories and in proper sanitary conditions.

In 1936 we are building four ice cream plants and

numerous ice cream departments at cold storage plants and milk dairies. This is a new branch of industry and its prospects are excellent. Formerly, ice cream used to be eaten on high days, in bourgeois families, at wedding and birthday parties, but now ice cream can and should be made an item of the daily food of the masses and sold at moderate prices. Ice cream should be produced *summer and winter, in the South and in the North.*

IX

Cold Storage

A FEW words about our cold storage industry. Nothing is more characteristic of the technical and sanitary level of the food industry than the figures illustrating the employment of artificial methods of refrigeration. The importance of refrigeration in the food industry is only comparable perhaps to the importance of electricity in industry. Food cannot be preserved without refrigeration. Nor can a number of food products, at least high quality products, be produced without refrigeration. For instance, in order to make good sausage the preparation of the sausage meat and other processes must take place at fairly low temperatures so as to prevent the product going bad, to keep away flies, and so on. At the best of our sausage factories we ensure this by artificial refrigeration and by maintaining artificially low temperatures where the food is prepared. Cold is the best means of preserving foodstuffs.

We already have a number of large cold storage plants, but still not enough, Before the revolution we had a cold storage capacity of 45,000 tons, now it is 217,000

tons. The refrigerating capacity of our cold storage plants in 1929 was 17,000,000 calories, now it is 106,000,000 calories, or six times as great. But we must develop cold storage still more, especially in the South. Moscow, Leningrad and the Donbas are more or less supplied with cold storage plants, but our southern cities are poorly supplied. We have very few cold storage plants in the districts where poultry, rabbits, milk, fruit and vegetables are produced. We are therefore building small cold storage plants in connection with the poultry and butter-making industries. In 1935 the Poultry Board built 80 cold storage plants. This year we shall start construction on a number of new cold storage plants in connection with other branches of industry.

While we have large cold storage plants in industry, the number of cold storage plants in the trading system is very small. As a rule our shops are not equipped with refrigerators, with the result that a good food product is chilled in the cold storage plant and is brought to the shop in an automobile refrigerator but the heat and the flies in the shop are such that all the previous work is wasted. It has therefore become very urgent to start manufacturing a large number of small refrigerators for shops. Comrade Veitser, the People's Commissar of Domestic Trade, is working hard for this. He must be supported and the production of refrigerators for shops extended. We still have no domestic refrigerators. Good food is brought home, there is no cool place to keep it in, and the result is that it spoils and is wasted. But in America there is a big industry in the production of automatic domestic refrigerators. In America they produce as much as one million domestic electric refrigerators annually, which make it possible to keep food in good condition and to have a constant supply of ice.

I raised this question in the Central Committee of the

Party and in the Council of People's Commissars, and Comrades Stalin, Molotov and Orjonikidze supported me. The People's Commissariat of Heavy Industry has already begun to make the designs with the object of widely developing the production of automatic domestic refrigerators in 1936. We must have refrigerators everywhere—at meat-packing plants, fish-packing plants, dairies and in shops. And there must be refrigerators at home. What we must strive for is that from the moment of production to the moment of consumption food products should be kept at the necessary temperature, so as to guarantee high quality and to protect it against contamination, decay, and so on. This is the chief task in the fight for high quality products, which at the same time is the fight for the health of our people—the workers, the collective farmers and the toilers generally.

We have developed the production of artificial ice, ordinary ice and dry ice. Taking ice from the river is expensive, and it is a mistake. River water is not always clean, river ice cannot be used in food, because on heating the bacteria revive. Yet in winter, at a temperature of 15° centigrade of frost, we can take good and pure water, freeze it in the open air and convert it into ice. We are now building plants in the South—in Baku, Tiflis, Odessa and the Donbas—for producing pure ice from pure water winter and summer, ice that can be used in food without any risk whatever. The production of ice must be developed to the utmost. In American restaurants, for instance, water is invariably served with ice in it. Why cannot this be done in our country? It can and should be done.

And so you see, comrades, that even small questions in the food industry become important. Comrade Stalin teaches us that anything that concerns the daily needs of the millions, however small it may be, is always big and important.

Baking and Confectionery

I SHALL not dwell in detail on the bread industry. Comrade Badayev will speak and tell you how we have brought about a veritable revolution in the bread industry: 61 per cent of the bread on sale is baked in mechanized bread factories, and if we include our mechanical bakeries, 78 per cent of all the bread is baked by mechanical methods.

I should like to remind you of the opinion at one time expressed by Marx of the way bread was produced in capitalist England. I will read you this most interesting passage:

“Englishmen, always well up in the Bible, knew well enough that man, unless by elective grace a capitalist, or landlord, or sinecurist, is commanded to eat his bread in the sweat of his brow, but they did not know that he had to eat daily in his bread a certain quantity of human perspiration mixed with the discharge of abscesses, cobwebs, dead black-beetles, and putrid German yeast, without counting alum, sand, and other agreeable mineral ingredients.”

The picture painted by Marx speaks for itself. And this was the case not only in England but also in Russia. I have already once quoted the remarkable passage from Gorky's *Twenty-Six Men and a Girl*.

But now we have automatic bread factories where the worker has a seven-hour day, where he takes a shower daily, where he is not allowed to start work until he has been medically examined, and where the strictest medical supervision has been instituted. These factories are equipped with laboratories which analyze and test the

quality of bread, flour, water, and so on, thus guaranteeing pure bread of the highest quality. Mechanized bread-baking is a new industry, one that will grow and develop. And the quality of bread will improve from year to year. Baking bread in mechanized factories has many important advantages: while in ordinary bakeries the cost of producing one pood of bread is 6 rubles, at the automatic factories it costs 3 rubles—twice as cheap. We shall try to increase the number of these factories in 1936.

Ever since the abolition of the rationing system there has been a distinct improvement in the quality of bread and an increase in the varieties of bread. In Moscow and Leningrad 150 different kinds of bread are now on sale. In cities like Kiev, Kharkov, Odessa, Sverdlovsk and Minsk more than 60 different kinds of bread are sold—this is less than in Moscow and Leningrad, but also not bad. But the situation is worse in other cities where only about 10 or 12 kinds of bread are sold.

Take Moscow, for instance, where 5 kinds of rye bread are baked, 10 kinds of white bread, over 30 kinds of buns and sweet rolls and dozens of kinds of rusks and bread rings.

But even this assortment is insufficient. Furthermore, there should be more shops selling a complete range of varieties of bread in Moscow and Leningrad, for at present there are few shops which stock a complete assortment. We must take at least a hundred shops in Moscow and Leningrad and see to it that they sell a complete assortment of bread. And after this we must see that the same thing is done in Kiev and Kharkov and then in all other cities.

We now have lots of flour; we are being supplied with it in abundance and of good quality. Formerly the bread factories used to cry: "Give us flour, there is not enough flour." But now the Commission of Wholesale Purchases

frequently says: "Take more flour—our selling plan is not being fulfilled."

Other times, other conditions, other tasks. We are now in a position to develop the production of bread to the utmost. I think that this business will go smoothly. Comrade Badayev, who heads the bread-baking business, is doing good work. It is true that many of the bread factories and bakeries are accustomed to not fulfilling the plan, and did not fulfil the plan this year either. But we have put before them such conditions as will eliminate non-fulfilment of the plan. We shall reward and honor those who fulfil and overfulfil their plans, whereas we shall first warn those who do not fulfil the plan and then we shall punish them by replacing them with better people, people who know how to fulfil the plan.

Comrade Molotov has already criticized the work of our confectionery industry. His criticism was absolutely just. We shall try to improve the work of our confectioners. True, there are still certain difficulties. If we had all the good paper we require we would most certainly improve the confectionery business more rapidly. But there is not enough paper. We have not enough cellophane and tinfoil. The production of tissue paper must be increased. But we are nevertheless improving the assortment without awaiting a large increase of paper. We have now been enabled to import larger quantities of cocoa bean. The plan for the import of cocoa bean has been approved in the amount of 900,000 rubles. Thank you, Central Committee! We shall now have good chocolate and sweets in abundance.

We are no longer importing tractors; we are not importing automobiles. We are rich enough to be able to spend a modicum of foreign currency on coca bean for chocolate. We have a technically well-equipped confectionery industry and we have skilled workers, so that we

can produce confectionery in vast quantities and of good quality. Why was inferior confectionery bought before? Because there was no sugar, so that the consumer would take sweets of any quality, even the worst. But now, when there is an abundance of sugar, our consumer wants only good confectionery. If the confectionery is bad he prefers to buy sugar. We are taking measures to cut down the production of what are known as "powdered cushions", of which Comrade Molotov spoke, and increase the output of good confectionery.

A few words about the salt industry. A year ago there was still not enough salt, and in 1932 there was a regular shortage. Now salt production in Artyomovsk, Baskunchak and other places has been mechanized to such an extent, has been so equipped technically, that we can supply all the salt required. But what happens now? Organizations demand salt, but sometimes do not pay for it, knowing that there is nothing else we can do with it anyhow. I think that we shall manage to get financial discipline observed and compel people to pay us promptly. We are preparing to extend the output of ready packed, finely ground salt of the highest quality. In 1935 we supplied over 1,000,000 poods of salt of this kind. But here, too, paper is required. It seems that not only the bureaucrats, but even industry, cannot get along without paper. We need paper for wrapping confectionery, we need a lot of wax paper for meat and butter, we need paper for package salt and for many other purposes. Comrade Lobov must pay serious attention to this question.

Tea and Tobacco

I MUST also tell you what the Soviet government and the Party are doing with regard to the production of tea. In 1913 the tsarist government spent 62,000,000 gold rubles on importing tea and several millions of rubles on importing tangerines. Yet our country has its own sub-tropical regions and can grow its own tangerines and tea. Now, on the initiative of Comrade Stalin, the Georgian comrades have seriously tackled the question of growing citrus fruits and tea and have made rapid progress. This year we have brought in a crop of 200,000,000 Soviet tangerines, which are sweeter and better than imported tangerines. We shall soon be supplying even larger quantities of tangerines and other citrus fruits.

Before the revolution there were only five small tea factories, supplying 130 tons of tea annually. Before 1930 there were only six tea factories. In 1935 we already had 28. By May, 1936, we shall have 34 tea factories which will be in no way inferior to foreign tea factories and in certain respects—particularly as regards mechanization—even superior. The foreign tea factories employ workers of the black and yellow races on whose labor the capitalists set no value and therefore do not mechanize production. But we have neither black nor yellow races; we have the finest of all races—toilers, irrespective of race. And we strive to lighten the labor of the worker to the utmost and therefore mechanize production. In 1937 we shall have 39 tea factories. There is also an increase in the area of the tea plantations. In 1913

there were eight hundred hectares planted to tea, in 1925 there were 6,000 hectares, in 1935 over 34,000 hectares, and in 1936 the tea plantations will have an area of 37,000 hectares. Azerbaijan has followed the example of Georgia and has begun to grow tea. If we had to buy abroad the tea which Georgia supplied this year we should have had to pay 2,000,000 gold rubles. Georgia is doing good work as far as tea is concerned. The average yield of the Georgian tea plantations has been doubled in two years. But this is not the limit. Even better results can be obtained.

I shall not deal with the tobacco industry. You all know to what extent tobacco production has been re-equipped and mechanized.

But something must be said about the assortment of tobaccos. We formerly used to have inferior sorts of tobacco; our cigarettes were also bad. Now a certain proportion of the cigarettes are good, but there are still too many bad ones. What is the reason? Firstly, bad work, and, secondly, a part of the tobaccos, and the best at that, used to be exported. Now, thanks to the support given by Comrade Stalin, we have been able to reduce the export tobacco plan for 1936 to 1,000 tons as against 4,000 tons exported last year. The rest of the tobacco will remain in the Soviet country.

[Kalinin: We are ourselves buying in exchange.]

And on the proceeds we are importing Greek tobaccos. When we have a large quantity of Abkhazian tobacco in 1936, we shall be able to develop the production of superior cigarettes, because, since life has become joyous we must smoke high-class, aromatic cigarettes.

In 1932 cigarettes of the best and superior sorts amounted to 9 per cent of the total, and in 1935 to 18 per cent of the total. Next year they will amount to 20 per cent of the total. There will be a considerable in-

crease in the tobacco output next year: we shall turn out 89 billion cigarettes, and will then assume second place in the world, following after the U. S. A., which produces 112 billion cigarettes. Before we held only fourth place.

The position is now satisfactory with regard to makhorka as well. There used to be a shortage of makhorka. Now we have enough.

XII

Alcohol and Rubber

PERMIT me, comrades, in concluding my review of the chief branches of the industry, to dwell on the alcohol industry. The alcohol industry has acquired particular importance. Alcohol used to be exclusively used for the manufacture of spiritous liquors. But now alcohol is becoming an important factor in the chemical industry and in the national economy generally. Speaking of the results of the First Five-Year Plan, Comrade Stalin said that with the exception of rubber, we had achieved economic independence of foreign countries. But now we are in a position to say that even in the case of rubber the U. S. S. R. is independent of the capitalist world. The People's Commissariat of Heavy Industry has begun to make synthetic rubber out of alcohol. Seven thousand tons were produced in 1934 and 25,000 tons in 1935, while in 1936 the output of rubber will be 42,000 tons. This Soviet rubber is made out of our good, strong alcohol.

It is true that we are still importing a certain quantity of rubber, but that will only be as long as our own production of rubber is not sufficiently developed.

A few figures on the consumption of alcohol. Before the war 75,000 decalitres were used for medicinal purposes, now 600,000 decalitres. Before the war the perfume industry absorbed 133,000 decalitres, now 450,000 decalitres. No alcohol went for the production of rubber before, whereas 26 per cent of our total output of alcohol was used in the manufacture of rubber in 1935.

Before the war 95 per cent of the total output of alcohol was used in the manufacture of vodka, wines and other spiritous liquors. Now 50 per cent of the total output of alcohol is used for vodka and another 5 per cent for wine. Thus only 55 per cent of our output of alcohol is used for the production of spiritous liquors. The remaining alcohol is used for industrial purposes.

Alcohol will acquire great importance in aviation and automobile transport, where it is used in the form of absolute alcohol. Our alcohol is at present 96° proof, whereas absolute alcohol, which we are still not producing, must be 99.8° proof. Only in 1935 did we begin the production of alcohol of this strength at one small plant. In 1936 we shall have three such plants and, in addition, will build and start operating in that year two large plants using imported equipment, for the manufacture of absolute alcohol. These plants will enable us to produce 5,000,000 decalitres of absolute alcohol for airplanes and automobiles. This will considerably facilitate the development of the aviation and automobile industries.

Comrade Molotov has already quoted figures showing that the consumption of vodka in our country has been reduced to one-half as compared with pre-war days and has somewhat declined as compared with 1932.

On the other hand, there has been an increase in the manufacture and sale of liqueurs and cordials. We formerly used to produce only small quantities of such kinds of spiritous liquors. We then began to ponder over the

question of turning out something better, and now we are producing 69 different kinds of liqueurs and cordials as compared with 25 kinds in 1932. Formerly we had only 8 small departments of vodka distilleries engaged in the production of liqueurs and cordials; now we have 23 well-equipped plants producing various liqueurs and cordials. True, our liqueurs cannot yet be compared in quality with foreign liqueurs. This is due to the fact that we have not yet fully mastered the technique of this business and because we still do not have a proper cellarage system. The consumption of liqueurs and cordials in 1932 amounted to 2,600,000 decalitres, and in 1935 to 4,900,000 decalitres.

Parallel with the increase in the consumption of liqueurs and cordials there is also an increase in the production and consumption of beer. In Moscow and Leningrad there is still very little good beer to be had and special attention must be paid to the brewing industry. But while we had only one kind of beer in 1932, we now have seven kinds, among them some good beers. It is our desire to supply larger quantities of good beer, not only in the capitals but also in other cities. The brewing business will be put on a proper footing. We now have lots of good Soviet ingredients for the brewing of beer: in the state farms we have carefully selected malt barley and we have Soviet hops of good quality. We also have skilled brewers. This business will receive proper attention and I think that the production of beer will increase and its quality improve.

There will also be a wide expansion of the production of fruit drinks, kvas and other non-alcoholic beverages.

I return to the subject of vodka. Some people think and say that a lot of spirits is drunk in our country and very little is drunk abroad. This is an absolutely false idea. Here are some figures regarding the per capita con-

sumption of spirits, wines and beer, in the equivalent of pure alcohol, in 1931: France, 18.9 litres; Belgium, 11.2 litres; Great Britain, 3.2 litres; U. S. S. R., 1.6 litres.

If we take only spirits (not counting wine and beer), the per capita consumption in France is 9.4 litres, Belgium 3.5 litres, Great Britain, 1.4 litres and the U. S. S. R. 3.7 litres. The per capita consumption of beer in France is 35 litres, Belgium, 228 litres, Great Britain 62 litres and the U. S. S. R. 3 litres.

The per capita consumption of wine in France amounts to 171 litres, in Belgium to 4 litres and in the U. S. S. R. to only 0.6 litres. Half a litre per person! More wine is drunk in the South and very little in the North. But why has Russia always been notorious for drunkenness? Because under the tsar the people lived the life of paupers; they drank not from joy, but from sorrow and misery. They drank deliberately to get intoxicated and to forget their accursed existence. A man would scrape together enough for a bottle of vodka and proceed to consume it; he had not enough money for food, would eat nothing and would get drunk. But now life has become more joyous. Good living and good food do not make you drunk. Life has become more joyous. That means that we can drink, but not so as to lose our wits and injure our health.

Our Farms

THE People's Commissariat of the Food Industry possesses 874 farms, including 264 sugar beet plantations. We possess tobacco and makhorka plantations, hop farms, essential oil plantations and market gardens producing vegetables for canning and preserving. These farms produce from 10 to 20 per cent of the raw material absorbed by our industry. In addition, they supply the collective farms and collective farmers with seed for the crops required for industrial purposes. The entire sugar beet crop and the tobacco crop, the greater part of the makhorka crop, vegetables for canning purposes and potatoes for industrial purposes are grown from seed supplied by our farms.

Our farms have produced so much sugar beet seed of good quality that there is enough to last the whole country for over two years. This seed is of very good quality and last year the surplus was exported. There we were paid 450 gold rubles a ton for this seed. It is true that the harvest abroad last year was a bad one. Comrade Rosenholz secured in one year 4,500,000 rubles in foreign currency from our sugar beet seed.

The workers and leaders of our farms have striven to wipe off the stain on their reputation. In 1933 we had not enough sugar beet seed. Comrade Stalin took us to task and gave orders to have seed to a value of 300,000 rubles imported from abroad so as not to endanger the sugar beet crop. This, of course, was a disgrace to our sugar producers. How is that—seed imported from abroad when our own seed is better than foreign seed!

This was a lesson to our sugar producers. They tried to wipe off the disgrace, and last year they were able to supply Comrade Rosenholz with 8,700 tons of first-class seed for export purposes.

We have a three years' supply of tobacco seed. We supply seed to all collective farms growing tobacco. The production of seed in our makhorka plantations and cannery farms already covers two-thirds of the country's total requirements of makhorka seed and roughly the same proportion of the requirements of vegetable seed in the cannery districts.

The harvest yield of all crops except fruit and vegetables is on an average higher in the farms of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry than in the collective farms. This applies to sugar beet, tobacco and makhorka. But the collective farms have begun to work well, and the state farms will be able to retain their position and to perform their function—namely, to serve as an example to the collective farms—only if they begin to work considerably better than they have hitherto.

I request the local organizations, Soviet and Party, to see that matters are so organized in the collective farms and state farms that they produce more raw material for our factories. We shall try to handle this raw material properly and to turn out food products in large quantity.

We should have had no success to record in the food industry this year had it not been for the help given us by the local Soviet and Party bodies, had it not been for the fact that the Commission of Wholesale Purchases of the Council of People's Commissars fulfilled its purchasing plan, and had it not been for the fact that the People's Commissariat of State Farms has begun to stand on its own feet. It is standing on its own feet and we shall now demand more from it.

The increase of livestock in our farms has been no

small one. There were 159,000 pigs in the farms of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry in 1932 and there are 519,000 now, in 1935. Pig breeding is the business chiefly of the People's Commissariat of State Farms. Comrade Kalmanovich has tackled this job and I think that 1936 will see not only a turning point but also rapid progress in pig breeding. Now, when the grain problem has been solved and when Comrade Stalin is already setting us the task of producing seven or eight billion poods of grain, we shall, of course, have all the feed we require. We have trained skilled pig breeders and this business must now be developed to the utmost.

In addition to industrial enterprises, farms, and a wholesale purchasing system, the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry possesses its own auxiliary trading system consisting of about 1,750 shops. The Alcohol Board has another 16,000 shops.

The food industry has shops which display the finest samples of goods, serving both as exhibitions and advertisements for the products of our industry. But these goods are not only on exhibition, they can not only be viewed; one can also taste them by buying in the shops anything one fancies. Our shops are at the same time feelers enabling us to ascertain the demands of the market. We now learn about the demand not only through the departments of the People's Commissariat of Domestic Trade but also from the experience of our own shops. Such feelers are highly essential.

The People's Commissariat of the Food Industry plays an important part in the national economy of our country. Of the total planned retail trade turnover of 100,000,000,000 rubles, 46,000,000,000 rubles will consist of the products of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry.

We have approved a budget of 78,000,000,000 rubles.

Of this sum, 26,000,000,000 rubles must be furnished by the work of the People's Commissariat of the Food Industry. This includes both profits and turnover tax. From the standpoint of the national economy this is a very important business. That is why we must work so that the plan for 1936 is not only fulfilled but overfulfilled. That is what we shall fight for.

XIV

We and They

COMRADES, the problem of producing articles of general consumption, foodstuffs, like that of every other branch of production in our country, is different from what it is abroad, in capitalist countries. There they produce for profits. As soon as a capitalist ceases to make profits he discontinues or curtails production. No profits—no production.

We, on the other hand, produce not for profit but in order to satisfy the demands of the population of our country. It sometimes happens that the state is prepared to produce certain articles at a loss if it is necessary for the country. In our country the satisfaction of the requirements of the country stands above all commercial considerations, which are necessary in themselves, but which are subordinated to the aim of satisfying the demands of the country.

Not so long ago a vast quantity of coffee was destroyed in South America, as much as 22,000,000 bags were burned. This is what a bourgeois journalist writes:

“Santos is the largest coffee city in Brazil, the second in importance in South America. The first thing that strikes

the eye of the foreigner on entering the bay in which the city is located is a vast bonfire extending along the shore for 400 metres. This huge conflagration is fed with a new kind of fuel—coffee. Heavy leaden clouds envelop the whole bay and are constantly fed from this beacon of the economic crisis. The nightmare of these fires pursues the traveler far into the heart of the country. When one travels at night to the Chicago of South America—Sao Paulo, the largest industrial center in Brazil—the flames of the coffee fires illuminate the line on both sides of the track and create the gruesome impression of an army of flaming ghosts.”

Then they began to destroy the coffee trees. They have now succeeded in reducing stocks of coffee by one-half and they say that the coffee output has reached the required dimensions. They say this because by destroying and reducing the production of coffee they have attained an increase in the price of coffee and are beginning to earn profits. Capitalist economy destroys vast wealth. In Denmark alone, 117,000 head of cattle were destroyed on the ground that they were superfluous. In America 6,000,000 pigs and 225,000 sheep were destroyed. There was no market for them, it was alleged. Of course, there is a market for meat products, but this would involve putting an end to unemployment and starvation, it would involve lowering prices. Capitalists cannot consent to this, because profits decide everything.

The situation is entirely different in our country. We are developing production for the sake of consumption. Speaking of the development of our national economy and transport, Comrade Stalin said in his report at the Seventeenth Party Congress:

“It is high time we realized that in the last analysis goods are produced not for the sake of producing them but to be consumed.”

And we make machines not for the sake of having machines but in order that they may produce goods for consumption.

The whole idea of socialist production is to supply the country with articles of consumption. Our final aim is not profit and not production for the sake of production. We are steadily increasing the production of goods. When goods with us are plentiful, prices drop. The purchaser is able to buy products in the market more cheaply and in larger quantities.

And our Soviet policy is precisely to reduce prices systematically and to make goods increasingly accessible. During the past year and a half our prices have dropped considerably. If we examine the drop in prices since October 1, 1934, we get the following picture: the state price for beef has been reduced 36 per cent, plain sausage 46 per cent, sander (fish) 36 per cent, cod 66 per cent, Murmansk herring 43 per cent, Caspian herring 16 per cent, lump sugar 73 per cent, biscuits 41 per cent, canned goods 16 to 26 per cent, butter 56 per cent, frying oil 58 per cent, soap 24 per cent, macaroni 23 per cent, makhorka 50 per cent and bread 66 per cent.

The reduction of prices in state and co-operative trade has resulted in a considerable drop in prices in the collective farm market. In the collective farm market in Moscow the price of beef has fallen 51 per cent. There has been a considerable drop in the price of pork. The price of butter has dropped 53 per cent.

The Party and the government are steadily conducting a policy of reducing prices and increasing the amount of products in the country. The result of the reduction of state prices and the fall in market prices has been a considerable increase in consumption. This testifies to a rising level of culture and prosperity.

The Stakhanov movement has provoked a vast increase

in the demands of the working class population. Stakhanovite workers are now earning 600 rubles, 700 rubles and more. The December Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party has enjoined us in this connection to bear in mind the demands of the workers, to supply goods in greater variety and of better quality. Quality must be of the best!

XV

Our Farmers' Demands

LIFE is changing in the villages as well as in the towns. Our peasants are not what they used to be. They have stopped making homespun cloth, they have stopped wearing bast shoes, and they no longer feed exclusively on stale bread and kvas. That is natural. The population has grown prosperous. Life is becoming more cultured. Take Uzbekistan, comrades. There many people still wear the Uzbek costume. But in the very near future they will be wearing the same sort of clothes in Uzbekistan as in Moscow. The same may be said of the population of other districts, for instance, of the peasants of Ryazan. Do you think the women harvester-combine operators and tractor drivers there now wear the costume of the women of Ryazan? No. Our village women are already wearing good city clothes. They buy good perfumes and scented soap—because life has become more cultured.

The distinction between town and country is being obliterated. The countryside has become more cultured. And we must therefore pay even more attention to the demands of the rural consumer. Both the food industry

and light industry, when expanding production, must not for a single moment forget the collective farmer, who will be increasingly demanding good city articles. We must not fall behind the rapidly growing demands of the rural population.

We are advancing at tremendous strides. Instead of 15,700,000 tons of sugar beet harvested in 1935, we must harvest 25,400,000 tons in 1936. That alone will imply a tremendous increase in rural income. And if income increases, the demand for goods of better quality will also increase. When people's earnings are small they buy only bare necessities. When earnings are high, the demand for more valuable goods increases and the range of the demand widens. A correspondent of our paper *The Food Industry* tells of an experiment made by the village shop in Didenov in the Dimitroff district. This shop caters to 19 collective farms with a total membership of over 3,000 farmers. The range of goods in this village shop and the demand differ very little from those of a city shop.

There is a tremendous demand for sausages: 100 kilograms were sold in three days. Four hundred kilograms of sausage were sold out in one week.

Customers very unwillingly buy tea at 1.25 rubles per 100 grams. They demand tea at 1.70 rubles.

Ten cases of "Nelson" biscuits were sold out in 22 days. In this same period 25 kilograms of "mixed biscuits" were sold out in two days and 40 kilograms of "cream crackers" were sold out in 10 days. There is a demand for package biscuits.

About 2,000 tins of canned fish were sold in three months. In this period 240 kilograms of smoked cod and 40 kilograms of red caviar were sold out in 20 days.

From December 4 to January 10, 120 kilograms of macaroni were sold.

Mustard, pepper, bay leaf, cooking soda and washing

powder are now part of the permanent stock of the village shop. Toilet soap is being demanded in addition to household soap. In addition to face powder, the villagers are now purchasing tooth powder. Cigarettes, especially "Football" at 35 kopeks a packet and "Deli" at 65 kopeks a packet, compete quite well with makhorka. Wines and cordials are beginning to oust vodka. The villagers are even acquiring a taste for liqueurs: since November 22 the village shop has sold 15 cases of liqueur.

"If I only had, well, four kinds of herrings—two barrels each," is the dream of Comrade Seleznyov, the manager of this village shop, "a barrel each of three kinds of fresh fish, 20 kilograms of salmon, 20 kilograms of Siberian salmon, 20 kilograms of red caviar, 50 kilograms of smoked fish, 300 kilograms of pork sausage and frankfurters, 200 kilograms of plain sausage, 200 kilograms of 'superior' sausage, 50 kilograms of ham, 100 kilograms of loose biscuits, about 50 kilograms of package biscuits, likewise fine salt. Add all this to my present stocks, and I could lead a quiet life for a week or two."

We could cite many such examples. They signal the tremendous development that is going on in the countryside and the demand it is making and will make on our trading system, on our food industry.

Our villagers now want to eat jam, canned meat, canned fish, canned vegetables and condensed milk. One is simply astonished how rapidly they have got to know of all this in the countryside. But we shall strive to make it still more widely known in the countryside. It used to happen formerly that what was depicted on the signs and displayed in the windows was not on sale in the shops, and if it was it would be sold on the quiet. But there are lots of foods now. What is needed is that everybody should see them in the shops and that the show windows should be better dressed.

Soviet Advertising

WHAT Comrade Molotov said about advertising was absolutely right. The food industry needs advertising—Soviet advertising, of course, not capitalist advertising, not blaring and deceptive advertising, not advertising for the sake of palming off an adulterated and trashy product on the consumer. We have never had and never will have such advertising. We shall introduce good Soviet advertising, advertising which will tell of a good product, develop a taste for it and help its distribution.

Many people in our country have never seen a number of products which are being turned out by our food industry, and they know nothing about them. The other day a comrade told me about a collective farmer who bought ten tangerines in a fruit shop and began to eat them skin and all. He took a bite at one, and of course did not like it—too bitter! It was then explained to him that he must peel it first. He tried it, and liked it. So you see we even have to teach people how to eat tangerines. There are still people to be found who have never seen them, as they have not seen many other things.

Another comrade told me that at one time he worked as a servant boy for a certain manufacturer's wife. She used to give him sandwiches. One day she gave him a cheese sandwich. He did not know what cheese was. He took the sandwich home. Neither his mother nor father had ever seen cheese before, nor had any of the neighbors, and they wondered what it was. Some said that it was most likely soap that had been put on the bread. But it did not look like soap. They tasted it and did not

like it. They threw it away from fear of being poisoned. They did not know what cheese was.

We must begin to develop Soviet advertising, so that people should get to know the new kinds of foods and buy them, so that people's tastes should develop, so that new foods and new goods should become a part of everyday life. What distinguishes Soviet advertising from capitalist advertising is the fact that capitalist advertising is largely designed to get rid of old stocks of rubbish, to palm off adulterated products on the consumer.

In his *Condition of the Working Class in England*, Engels vividly describes the way foodstuffs were adulterated for the toilers in capitalist countries. He said that merchants and manufacturers adulterated foodstuffs in the most shameless way without the slightest compunction for the health of those who had to eat them.

Engels in this book quotes instances of food adulteration. Food is adulterated now too, but not so grossly as before, the latest "achievements" of science and technology being at the service of the capitalist food fakers.

The Soviet country holds production and trade in its own hands. Our aim is not profit, but honest catering to the consumer. If there are bad goods it is because there are still bad workers, who have to be re-educated to make them work better. We can guarantee products of high quality because it is our principle to supply the workers, the collective farm peasants and all the toilers of the country with fresh, nourishing, and genuine foodstuffs.

In this connection we must advertise not only in the streets and in the shops but also in the newspapers. Our newspapers must print advertisements. At the Eleventh Party Congress, Ryazanov wanted to propose that *Pravda* should not print advertisements of restaurants. Thereupon Lenin, who was already ill, came to the Con-

gress and won its permission to print advertisements in the Party press.

At one time certain comrades were contemptuous of trade. This was understandable then, when trade was in private hands. But now, when it is our state that conducts trade, when it is the products of our industry that are being sold, this is already our Bolshevik trade; and the advertising of our products is our advertising, and therefore the newspapers should print advertisements and help our trade. That is what Comrade Stalin teaches us.

We want the tastes of our workers, collective farmers and toilers to develop, so that they should pass from simple foods to superior and more nourishing food. For this purpose we must adopt all forms of propaganda, including the best kinds of advertising.

The discussion of the food industry here, at the Session of the Central Executive Committee, places great obligations on us, the workers in the food industry. It demands of us that we should work still better and provide the country with a still larger quantity of products of the finest quality. The demands of the Soviet country are unlimited. They will steadily grow. This opens up unlimited prospects of development for the food industry.

Our Red Army is equipped with the finest airplanes and tanks. In the event of war we shall also endeavor to provide it with the finest foodstuffs as well.

I recall how the tsarist war commissary used to stuff the soldiers with monotonous, coarse and insipid food. I remember in 1919, when we, a group of Bolsheviks, were being brought under an escort of British soldiers from Krassnovodsk to Baku, how astonished we were to see the British soldiers eating cake, canned chicken and canned beef. They had sweets, jam, compot, chocolate and condensed milk.

We can say that when the Red Army needs foodstuffs

in time of war it will receive an abundance of condensed milk, coffee, cocoa, canned meat and chicken, canned tongue, sweets, jam and many other of the things in which our country is rich.

Comrades, we could not have achieved these successes if we had not had the assistance and support of the Party and the Soviet organizations in the localities and if we had not been helped by the organizations in Moscow, Leningrad, the Ukraine, the Crimea, Transcaucasia, Voronezh, Kursk and other places.

I hope that this Session of the Central Executive Committee will start a new wave of the Stakhanov movement among the workers, engineers and technicians of the food industry. After this Session, united by this determination for victory, the workers of the food industry will set about their task with fresh energy and will work with greater productivity so that the year 1936 may be marked by new victories and by a new overfulfilment of the yearly plan of the food industry.

Permit me, comrades, to express the wish that every Communist, every Bolshevik, Party and non-Party, should interest himself in the needs of the food industry, assist it, educate it, and correct it if need be, in the way that Comrade Stalin does.

Under the banner of Lenin and Stalin we are advancing towards an abundance of products, towards an abundance of articles of general consumption, towards a new and cultured life for every member of our society!

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