

Soviet Agriculturists Trade With Canadians

By ARCH MACKENIE
Canadian Press Staff Writer
OTTAWA (CP)—Canadian and Russian agriculture scientists are making hay in a warmer international climate, building up a busy exchange of plant material.

It's a businesslike swapping arrangement, cultivated in the last few years after a long drought of such exchanges dating to the 1930s.

"The great softening came when Russian agriculture delegations came to visit, headed by some of the Soviet's top men," said Dr. D. G. Hamilton of the agriculture department Thursday.

"But I'll tell you how good things are now: I can send off for material by airmail to Leningrad and have it back on my desk in 10 days, airmail special delivery."

Dr. Hamilton, director of the department's entire crops research program, lists various items as arrivals from the Soviet.

WIDE VARIETY
They include carrigana trees for western shelter belts, cereals, peas, beans and assorted fruits and berries. One of the biggest recent exchanges was in fruits. Gooseberry and strawberry plants from Russia now are growing in department greenhouses here, sent after they were singled out by Canadian scientists from a Russian list. In return, Russia has been sent varieties she wants. More will follow.

"I don't think we'll find anything for use immediately," Dr. Hamilton said in an interview. "It will take time to see how the plants do. Probably the value will come from breeding Russian varieties with ours."

Canadian-Russian plant swapping goes back a long way. An old Siberian apple tree, which died recently at the central experimental farm here and was replaced, is credited with a big influence on Canadian strains.

Canadian wheat of all varieties has a deeply entrenched Russian ancestry, as have some other cereals. The reasons for Russian-Canadian mutual interest lie in similar climate and other agricultural characteristics.

Dr. Hamilton said a flow of materials seems to have started this year between Russia and the United States.

"The Russians have been great collectors of seed," he said. "They have a lot of the old and we have a lot of the new produced by breeding. It's a two-way street on a most businesslike basis."

Dr. Robert Glen, director-general of the research branch, said he credits Russian participation in recent years in international scientific congresses with providing the basis for swaps of material in the insect, agricultural and other fields. He said the last few months have produced much more traffic.

MINERAL REGION
Minerals in the Flin Flon mining area of northern Manitoba include copper, zinc, gold, silver and cadmium.

Wharf Planned To Save Fort

SAINT JOHN, N.B. (CP)—Transport Minister Hees solved a vexing problem for local civic, shipping and tourist officials today.

He announced that development of long wharf on the east side of Saint John harbor is being planned so that it will not interfere with future restoration of Fort La Tour as a historic site and national park.

The two properties, sitting almost on top of one another along the water front, have been a matter of concern here. All are in favor of developing both. The problem was how to tackle one without damaging the other.

Long wharf reconstruction and plans are in preparation.

IN FULL SYMPATHY
He added that the NHB has advised it is in full sympathy with local desire to see reconstruction of Fort La Tour as a major tourist attraction and will design the wharf in such a way as to prevent interference.

Fort La Tour, first constructed in 1691, was the site of a gallant defence by Marie Jacqueline La Tour against d'Aulnay Charnisay, French trading rival of her husband in 1645. Charles La Tour had returned to France for supplies.

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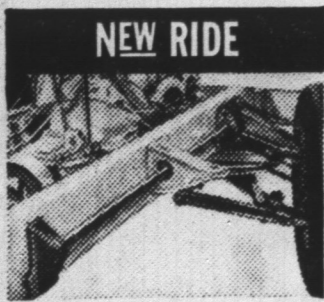
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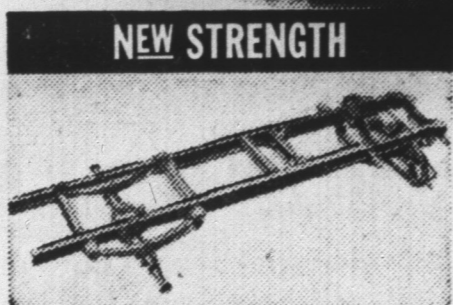
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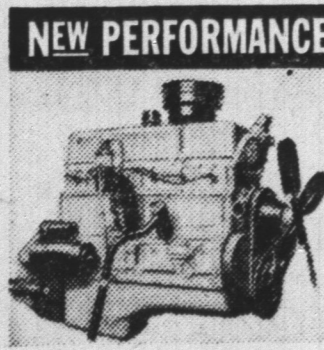
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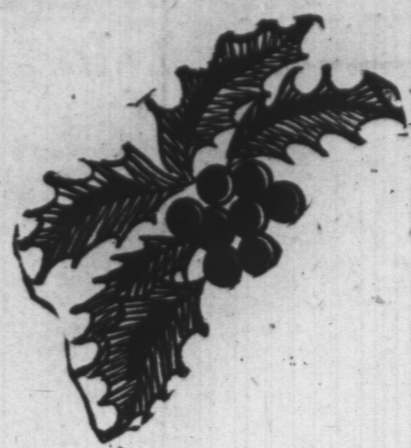
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