

# Good Wheat Harvest Under Way in Russia

Deep into the night the headlights of the combines pick their way along the wheat furrows, raising a steady clatter that carries far across the vast flatlands.

Harvesting is going on almost around the clock in the steppes surrounding this Don River city in southern Russia, with the only regular break during the dewy hours between 3 and 5 in the morning.

The harvest has particular urgency in this third "decisive"

year of the current five-year economic plan.

Last season's "once in a century" crop disaster forced the Soviet Union to buy roughly 25 million tons of grain from the West, most of it from the United States. The U.S.S.R. is still buying abroad to build up reserves, but harvest prospects are much better this year.

Communist party chief Leonid Brezhnev reviewed the harvest recently last week and said in a televised speech from the

Ukrainian capital of Kiev that prospects "are much better this year and even (better) than the year before last.

"On the whole, we can expect good results," Brezhnev said. He stopped short, though, of predicting the record yield the Kremlin wants, to bounce back from last year's disaster when only 168 million tons were harvested because of drought and bad weather at cutting time.

## GRAIN TARGET

The over-all target for 1973 is 197.4 million metric tons of grain, compared to the record of 186.8 million tons set in 1970.

Party propagandists are taking no chances. The newspapers and broadcast media are filled these days with strident exhortations for all-out effort in the "struggle for bread — the wealth of our motherland."

The same urgency is expressed in leaflets passed out to combiners, drivers of tractors and trucks and other participants in the harvest on the sprawling "Gigant" state farm about 90 miles from Rostov in the Salsky Region.

"Everywhere a good crop is being reaped. The decisive hour has now come in the struggle for the great Salsky crop," the leaflet said, reminding farmers that the region's quota was 202,100 tons of grain to be sold to the state.

## Penryn Woman Bitten By Rabid Skunk

The Pennsylvania Agriculture Department's Bureau of Animal Industry, reporting a minor upsurge of rabies cases in wild animals, disclosed that two persons were bitten by rabid animals recently.

Mrs. Clifford Steely of Penryn was bitten by a skunk August 4 while camping in Poe Valley, Mifflin County.

Mrs. Steely reported she is now undergoing an extensive series of injections. The series involves abdominal injections daily for 21 days. The injections are reported to "hurt" and to have side effects, such as very high fever and being very sick.

Mrs. Steely stated she, like many of us, thought a "friendly animal" would not be rabid. However, this skunk was acting peculiarly — too friendly for a wild animal.

The second rabies case reported was Ronald Showaker, age 30, of Newville RD1, Cumberland County, who was bitten by a bat on his farm August 7. He too is undergoing rabies treatment.

Secretary McHale issued a warning that bats and skunks are the main carriers of rabies at this time of year.

Dr. Everett E. Denlinger, director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, cautioned persons not to handle wild or stray animals, and to inform authorities if any animal acts in an abnormal manner.

"In the event a person is bitten or scratched by a suspected animal," Denlinger said, "the person is advised to contact a doctor immediately. The animal should be killed without damaging the head and submitted to the department's diagnostic laboratory in Summerdale, across the river from Harrisburg. Live animals should not be submitted."

Denlinger added that all specimens should be accompanied by information indicating the sender, owner of the animal, person or persons bitten and their complete addresses and telephone numbers. If the specimen is diagnosed positive, he said, infected persons will be informed immediately by telephone so they can seek medical care as soon as possible.

Denlinger stresses that it is extremely important to have animals vaccinated if they accompany their owners on camping trips. "This is to protect the pet in the event it is bitten by a rabid animal without its owner knowing," he said.

Ten positive rabies cases were diagnosed in Pennsylvania between January 1 and July 31, 1973. Four of those cases were diagnosed in July, 1973, indicating a significant recent upsurge of rabies in the state.

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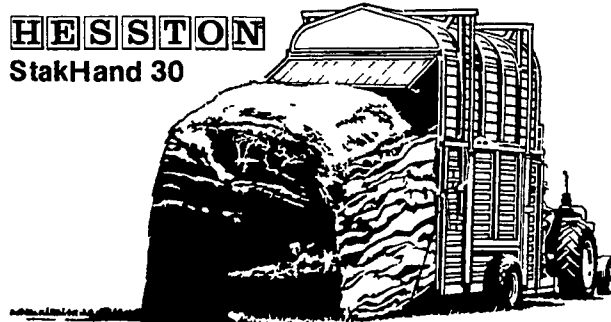
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## 4-H Club Calendar

Saturday, August 18  
2 p.m. — Jolly Caterers Round-Up, Shady Grove.

Sunday, August 19  
Silver Spurs 4-H Club Horse Show, Lancaster Riding Club.

Tuesday, August 21  
7 p.m. — Elizabethtown Sew and Sews 4-H Round-Up, Church of God Fellowship Hall, Elizabethtown.  
State Dress Revue, Penn State, August 21-22.

Wednesday, August 22  
5 p.m. — Nifty Needles 4-H Club Swimming Party, home of Kim Doutrich.

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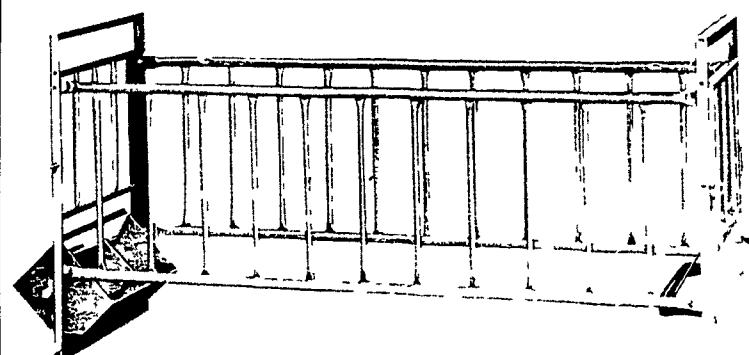
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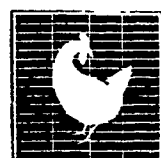
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