

USSR to examine ag production

WASHINGTON - The Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service (ERS). However, Soviet officials say it will take several years for a forecasting system to become operational.

Like the United States, the Soviets for years have been gathering information on a wide range of farm activities throughout the crop season. They have used it primarily to monitor how closely agricultural performance comes to meeting annual goals.

But since the early 1907's they have changed their policy of "belt-tightening" to one of buying grain on international markets to compensate for domestic shortfalls. This has apparently led to the need to anticipate import requirements as early as possible.

Sharp differences exist between the data gathering systems of the United States and the Soviet Union. Here, USDA's Statistical Reporting Service uses objective yield surveys on a sampling of farms, and cooperation of farmers is voluntary. The USSR's Central Statistical Administration, in contrast, covers all collective and state farms, and participation of farmers is mandatory.

Holly Trail tour slated

The Lancaster Branch, American Association of University Women, will hold their ninth annual Holly Trail Tour on Saturday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 7 from 1-6 p.m. The following homes will be included on the tour and will be decorated for the holidays by various stores in the Lancaster area: The Robert Emery Home, 1903 Robindale Road; The Richard Graff Home, 2965 King's Lane; The James Spitel Home, 1542 Hiemenz Road; The John O. Shirk Home, 925 Grandview Boulevard; The Galen G. Miller Home, 1500 Nissley Road; and The Earl Creamer Home, 1148 Mill-Mar Road. The Church included on this year's tour will be St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Refreshments will be provided in the Fellowship Hall of the Church, and a holiday boutique will be open featuring baked goods, handcrafted decorations and gifts.

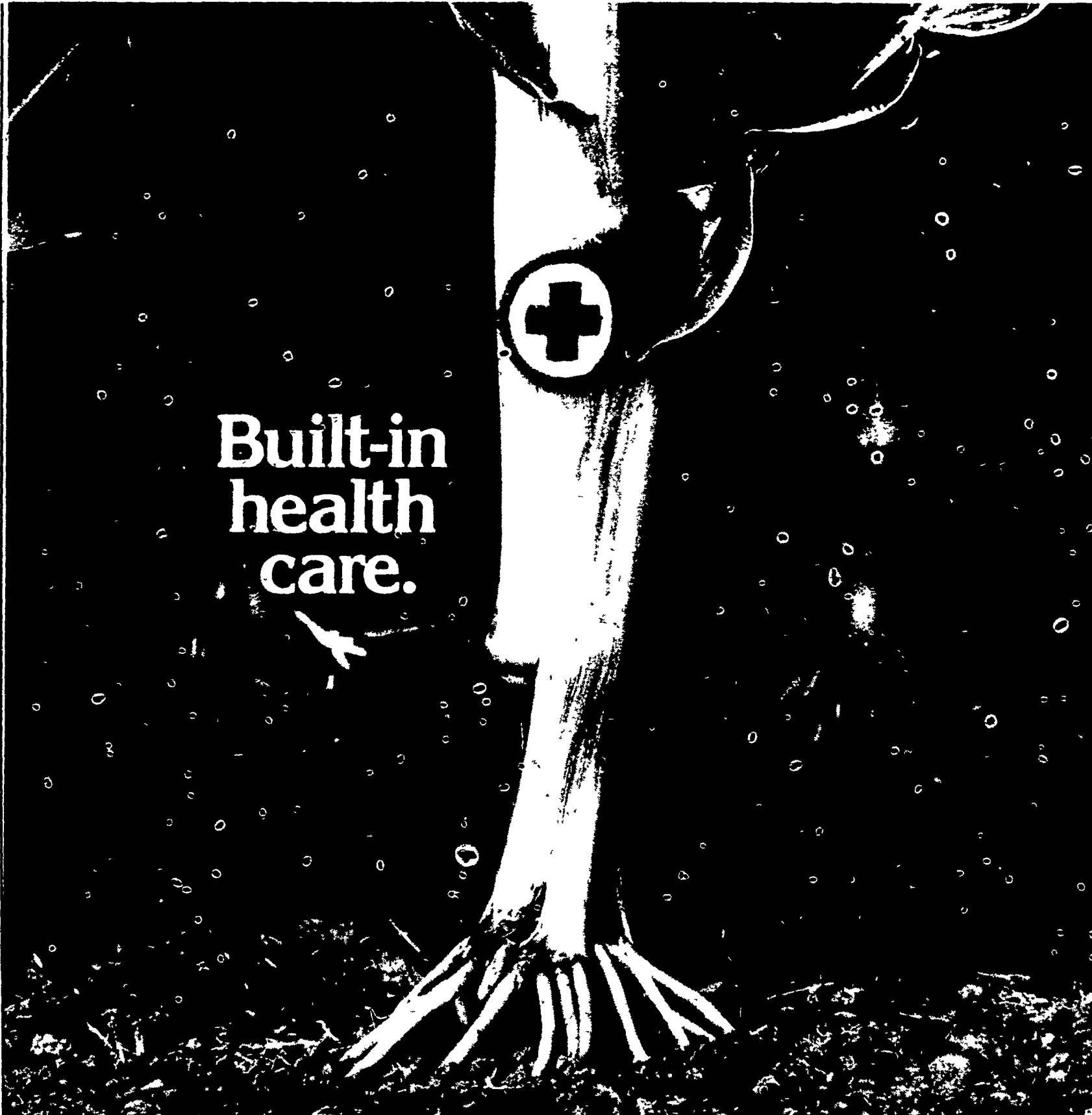
Dissemination of agricultural statistics to the public is less widespread in the USSR than in the United States. Only part of the USSR data obtained are published on a regular basis. The forecasting work that has been done to date for the USSR as a whole is seen only by Soviet officials.

Stiffer laws called for

Grange Delegates from 38 states meeting on Columbus, Ohio until Nov. 18 took action supporting the following positions:

- Heavy Mandatory punishment, without parole, for persons using lethal weapons in the commission of any crime;
- Increase research of propellants in aerosol cans;
- Severe punishment for retail stores that engage in food labeling practices that misrepresent the cost per unit weight of food items;
- Transfer of Food Stamp program from USDA to the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare;
- A re-evaluation of qualifications for welfare assistance;
- All canning companies to use jars manufactured to meet safety standards and with standardized tops for replaceable lids;

- Limiting the length of political campaigns;
- Elimination of federal regions and return to federal-state concept;
- Voluntary prayer in all public schools and assemblies and the continuance of religious programs on radio and TV;
- Present laws pertaining to ownership of firearms;
- Reappraisal of federal agencies with a view to reducing the size of the federal government;
- Raise the exemption allowance for individuals on federal income tax returns to \$1,000 and the percentage standard deduction to 20 percent.
- Permanent exemption from taxation on property owned by non-profit organizations and used primarily for tax-exempt purposes; and
- Standardized simplified personal income tax forms.



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