

The haymaking in the month before the war

Recently looking through old archived newspapers I read the article in “Akmolinskaya pravda” dated May 27, 1941 №122 (708) about preparation and holding of the haymaking and ensilaging in the farm in 1941. The results of the wintering of 1940-1941 were marked in the report of the bureau of Akmola regional committee CP (b), the causes of certain failures and crucial moment in the districts were specified.

Considering a particular relevance and concern about such important event in the village as fodder, I will mention some interesting moments from the article. “Placing special emphasis on to the establishment of the stable fodder base and timely organization of the haymaking, provision of the cattle with feed in the housing season, bureau of the regional committee and executive committee resolved: 1. ...conclusive completion of all works on preparation to the haymaking for the June 1, 1941, to organize maintenance teams in collective and state farms in 3-day period, to make schedules of repair and bring forward to each team in the farm, to establish daily control for its implementation, drawing attention to the quality of repair, ensuring the acceptance of each repaired hay harvesting machine in the collective farms by the chairmen and foremen of hay-harvesting teams, MTS – by directors and senior mechanics; 2. ...to oblige regional land department, directors of MTS and collective farms to organize 10-day seminars for engineers working on the wide-cut grass moving machines, as well as courses of chainmen and hay accepter; 3. ... to complete the preparation of pits, trenches to June 15, setting up of the ensilage of wild grass to June 10, seeded cultures to August 1, in view that each cow will be provided with no less than 10 quintal and the sow not less than 5 quintal in winter housing period; 9. to set each minimal task for collectives farms for collection of hayfields on districts (there were 16) and state farms (14); 10. To start hay harvesting campaign in the period of grass florescence, on sedge and reed hayfields – before the start of ear emergence; to finish hay making in 20-25 days from the date of haymaking start; to oblige district party committees, executive committees of regional councils and regional land departments to calculate consumptive use of the coarse food at the rate of not less than 190 days of animal housing; to establish daily use rate of the hay per head of cattle in kilograms; for cow – 14, for draught ox – 16, for calves from 1 to 2 – 10, calves under one year – 7, for sheep – 3, for lambs – 2,5, for horses – 18, for foals under 2 years – 12, for camels -20, for colts under 2 years -14 kilograms; 11. to

arrange proper care of the meadows and pastures in agronomic terms. 12. ...to prohibit grazing on the grasslands until grass mowing, to organize grazing on pastures in a proper way by dividing the pastures for the required number, in hot time – July-August, to recommend state and collective farms to organize seeding of the annual grass for green conveyor system for feeding the cattle with green mass. To provide best feed for young stock to mow and dry best green mass for young stock of 1940-1941. 13. Along with the grain-harvesting campaign to organize collection and stacking of straw, chaff, applying mechanization for stacking, providing delivery of straw to the bases until September 15; 14. to recommend collective and state farms, which hay areas located in far distance to organize wintering of the cattle in the steppe with equipment of stockyards, waterholes, accommodation for service personnel in the wintering period; 15. To oblige editors of the regional newspapers “Akmolinskaya pravda”, “Stalin tuy” and editors of district newspapers to publicize course of haymaking and ensilage of forages. 16. ... provision of coarse fodder is one of the most important areas to improve livestock productivity.to organize socialistic competition for the best preparation for haymaking, sowing of feeding crops..”

The head of the region on behalf of the secretary of the regional committee of CP(b) S.Kulmagambetov and deputy chairman of the regional council of people’s deputy A. Zhavoronkova set such tasks for collective and state farms of Akmola region on the bureau of the regional committee on May 23, 1941. They did not know, that insidious and protracted war started by the Nazi would begin on a month. Each of us can remember what kind of farmers they were. A bright image of my grandfather Suyumbayev Kabylda rises before my eyes, who returned from the Soviet-Finish war and worked as a chairman of “Tanagul” collective farm, later as all the villagers he volunteered to the front. After he was wounded, he came back to the village and he continued his work with other workers under the slogan “Everything for the front, everything for Victory!” until the end of the war.

By virtue of the courage of the Soviet people, daring of all soldiers and selfless labor of our workers, our older generation gave us the peace sky over the head.

I consider many heads of the current agricultural companies and farms after reading this article will make efforts for development of livestock feed and cattle breeding.

Erekbolat Kabylda, a native of Bereke village

**Graduate of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of
RK**