

MUNICH, June 1, 1962 (Polish Research and Evaluation) -- Poland's tiny collective farm sector, which cultivates only one per cent of the nation's arable land, steadily continues to dwindle still further. In the first quarter of this year, 86 collectives were dissolved, while only one new farm was organized, according to the official "Statistical Bulletin".

These most recently reported liquidations extend the slump in collective farm totals which has held sway since June 1960. Since that time the totals have been reduced by 312, and not a single month has passed which has not brought more liquidations than new organizations.

Before Gomulka became Party First Secretary in October 1956, Polish collective farms numbered well over 10,000. By December of the same year, the number of collectives had been reduced to slightly more than 1,500. Then collectives began to rally, gradually and on a modest scale, reaching a total of 2,111 by June 1960. The number has since declined to 1,799 (at the end of March 1962).

Under Gomulka, no serious effort has been undertaken to reform or revitalize the collectivization movement in Poland. Instead, Gomulka has thus far been content to allow agriculture to remain largely private, for the very good reason that it has been working well. Contrary to the poor agricultural situation which prevails in most of Eastern Europe and socialist Asia, Polish exports of food have ascended record heights during the past two years. Under these circumstances, large-scale collectivization in Poland can, apparently, wait.

A congress of collective farmers held in February of this year produced little which would stiffen the collective movement. On that occasion, Gomulka went so far as to admit that the private peasantry was out-producing the collectives, excepting the case of grain.

The following table traces the progressive deterioration of the Polish collective farm sector since June 1960:

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Date		Total	Source	YB stands for "Statistical Yearbook", SB for "Statistical Bulletin"
30 June	1960	2,111	SB No. 7/60	
31 July	1960	2,110	SB No. 8/60	
31 August	1960	2,108	SB No. 9/60	
30 September	1960	2,099	SB No. 10/60	
31 October	1960	22,090	SB No. 12/60	
30 November	1960	2,083	SB No. 12/60	
31 December	1960	2,072	SB No. 1/61	and Sm. YB 1961, p. 107
31 January	1961	2,068	SB No. 2/61	
End February	1961	2,054	SB No. 3/61	
31 March	1961	2,019	SB No. 4/61	
30 April	1961	2,014	SB No. 5/61	
31 May	1961	1,992	SB No. 6/61	
30 June	1961	1,982	SB No. 7/61	
30 July	1961	1,974	SB No. 8/61	
31 August	1961	1,968	SB No. 9/61	
30 September	1961	1,952	SB No. 10/61	
31 October	1961	1,938	SB No. 11/61	
30 November	1961	1,917	SB No. 12/61	
31 December	1961	1,884	SB No. 1/62	
31 January	1962	1,862	SB No. 2/62	
28 February	1962	1,839	SB No. 3/62	
31 March	1962	1,799	SB No. 4/62	

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