

which joined the collectives in three of the chief agricultural regions:

Region	Percentage of Peasant Holdings Joining Collective Farms				
	June 1, 1927	June 1, 1928	June 1, 1929	Oct. 1, 1929	May 1-15, 1930
Northern Caucasus.....	1.6	5.2	7.3	10.0	55.2
Lower Volga	1.6	2.1	5.9	18.3	34.8
Steppe Region of Ukraine	1.6	3.8	8.6	16.0	45.4

The collective farm movement has made big strides throughout the U. S. S. R., extending from the grain regions of the south and embracing to an ever greater extent the central and northern regions of the country.

VIII

What has led to such an enormous growth in the collectivization of agriculture in the U. S. S. R.? The answer to this question lies in those advantages of large-scale collective production which were disclosed in the process of collectivization in the first years of the formation of large-scale collective farms. First of all the collectivization of peasant holdings eliminated boundary strips, and, in connection therewith, increased the utilization of the means of production in the large-scale farms thus formed. An enormous role in this uniting of the small peasant strips into the large tracts of the collective farms has been played by the nationalization of land in the U. S. S. R. and by the abolition of private ownership in land. This has provided the indispensable basis for combining the many thousands of small scattered strips of land, constituting the peasant holdings which entered into the collective farms, into the large land tracts of the collective farms, organized in conformity with the topographical conditions, with the nature of the soil, and with the best