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A Translation of the Intertitles for Eisenstein's *The General Line* (1927) by Howard D. Allen

The Rural Sector

The General Line. (A rural district). A film in six parts. A Soykino production.

Screenplay and direction: S.M. Eisenstein and G.V. Alexandrov

Principal cameraman: Eduard Tisse

Assistant directors: M.S. Gomorov and M.M. Shtraukh

Set designer: A.K. Burov; Sets by V.I. Kovrigin and V.A. Rakha's

This is a quote by Lenin: "There are sometimes conditions when an exemplary arrangement of local work, even on the smallest scale, has a more important governmental significance than do the many branches of central state work." --Lenin

One hundred-100-100

not ten

not twenty

but precisely *fully*

One hundred

One hundred million

Illiterate

~~Benighted~~ *Undeveloped*

~~Backward~~

Peasants.

One hundred million

Backward peasants

Inherited from

the old order

~~strip-farming and~~

poverty. *[misery]*

abject

And still nowadays in our times... *Even now*

If a brother parts from a brother... *When one brother sets up apart from another*

they divide the farm in two. *they split the household.*

So be it: in two. *Right down the middle*

The land was divided... *The land is reduced to shreds*

into little plots. *Patches They broke up.*

This is the way farms are impoverished and brought to ruin. *Thus families are brought to ruin*

One of many women. *A woman - one of many*

Marfa Lapkina.

The inventory:

1. Horses: None

2. Cows: One

3. Steel ploughs: None

4. Wooden plows: One

5. Harrows: None

Zero horses

one cow

Zero ploughs

one plow

Zero harrows (for furrowing)

And outside... *While outside*

Spring

Peasant Spring *time*

It's misery without a horse.

You have to go ^{Go} begging. *beg and plead*

They didn't give anything. *They refused*

Summer

But there's no horse!

No horse!

Out of desperation

THERE'S NO HORSE!

It's impossible!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
TO LIVE
LIKE THIS!

It's impossible to live like this.

It's impossible to live separately.

We've got to live together. *We must collectivize*

Hey, babal *Woman's talk!*

TOGETHER! *All together!*

The local cell of the All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League...

decrees its support for Lapkina's proposal to organize a dairy-farm collective.

You don't ^{pay} many taxes!

You're trying to steal up to the last cow! *You want to steal the last cow*

Soviet tricks!

The local district agronomist. *agronomer*

Comrade peasants!

A dairy cooperative is a great help.

Who's for it?

I declare the dairy cooperative... *I proclaim the dairy collective open!*

open.

(sign) The name of the cooperative is "The October Path" *Dairy Collective*

Drought

An occasional cloud... *It passed*

passed by. *that random cloud.*
 # A swindle? *(fraud? a deception?)* A big fat lie?
 # Into the first credit account.

A Cream Separator...

will make it possible... *makes butter*

to make butter.

A *fraud* swindle or money.

A *fraud* Swindle... *?*

or...

Money?

It's Thickening!

Or

Isn't it?!

It's thickened!

IT'S THICKENED!

AND
 THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN
 THE MEMBERS OF THE COOPERATIVE
 14, 17, 20
 29, 38, 43
 46, 48, 50
 1, 2, 3, 4, 20, 40, 50.

CONGRATULATIONS. 50.

The dairy cooperative was working...

Congratulations on the first revenue!

Don't you dare give out the cooperative's money!

Give the money back!

Where will the money go?

You will squander it on drink!

What about the pedigreed bull?

How then are we going to organize a cattle-breeding association?

She saved the money: they will get the bull!

Perhaps you think that this is a dream?

Nothing of the sort.

possible

Another lie ... or money?

NO!

Yes ... or no?

*THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS
 OF THE DAIRY COLLECTIVE
 GREW...*

*Don't you dare distribute the
 collective money!*

*That money will just vanish for nothing!
 Give that money back!*

Money for what?

*You'll just get drunk on it
 What about the stud bull?*

*How are we going to start
 the breeding bull collective?*

I saved the money, we'll get that bull!

You think it's a dream?

- # This is... *This is*
- # a State Collective Farm. *a Soviet Collective Farm*
- # He's to be called Fomka. *Call him Fomka.*
- # Thus the dairy collective grew into a cattle-breeding association. *And thus the ^{small} dairy collective grew into a ^{large} stud-bull ^{ranch} collective. ^{breeding}*
- # From the Palace
- # of Industry.
- # From the largest ^{a large} factory *From one of the major factories*
- # the workers on leave...
- # went to help with the construction
- # at the village that they were sponsoring *mentoring.*
- # Under the leadership of the District Executive Committee... *With in charge*
- # the collective farm was building...
- # a communal cow barn.
- # The sponsors... *The mentoring workers*
- # set up a grain-processing operation. *installed a thresher*
- # The farm's economy must be diversified. *We need to expand the collective operations*
- # We have to work the land jointly with a tractor. *We should use a tractor to till the land ~~all together~~ collectively*
- # It's high time!
- # The older men are against it.
- # What do we need a tractor for?!
- # I am a machine unto myself!
- # Look at these arms!
- # Little by little, they got used to working together.
- # The sign reads: "School for Peasant Youth."
- # They were processing the grain for sowing. *They threshed the grain for the next sowing*
- # They were getting ready for a wedding. *A wedding was in the works*
- # She's coming!
- # Here she comes!
- # The bride.
- # HERE COMES
- # THE BRIDE!

THE BRIDE.

THE BRIDE.

THE GROOM. (zing!)

A summer day provides for the winter.

Zharov.

There wasn't a better mower in the region.

Zharov!

I'm going to catch up with you!

I'm catching up to you!

HE CAUGHT UP WITH HIM!

The machine...

has shown us both up!

Topped us both!

The machine...

mows the hay.

it mows

It teds the hay.

it lifts

And stacks it up.

it stacks

Autumn.

It's high time to do the harvesting.

The land aches to be harvested

If only we had a machine!

We need a harvesting machine

The letter states: "In reply to your application, we can answer as follows..."

"Upon payment of the above-mentioned down payment, the tractor can be supplied to the collective immediately."

aforesaid overhead expenses

Immediate delivery of the tractor to your collective could be made"

But there, they were hastening to lend assistance.

The letter states: "It is not deemed possible to lend credit until after the harvest has been brought in."

Credit cannot be extended until after the harvest has been reaped, delivered and paid for.

"We advise you to apply to the appropriate state agencies. With comradely greetings..."

authorities.

Bringing in the harvest. *The reaping of the harvest*

They had lost time.

They had worked enough to make the down-payment on the tractor.

They were working off the cost of the overhead expenses for the tractor.

The slogan on the inkwell reads: "Let's have a little less political blather."

sounding off."

The title of the book is "Into Battle with the Bureaucracy."

Waging War with Bureaucratization

Marfa set out for town as a delegate for the collective...

to try and rescue the tractor.

Forty versts.

and 140 more...

Into town to ^{get help} seek assistance from the collective's ^{factory} sponsors. ^{mentors}

THE TRACTOR IS DONE FOR!

The collective farm workers fed Fomka.

And Fomka fed the collective.

And then the kulaks

made their decision.

Their stooges carried out the plan. *They carried out their malicious schemes.*

Agricultural

Economic

Machine

Credit

Supply

Agricultural Machine Credit Supply

The sign reads: "No unannounced entry"

^{on box:} ~~(words on box unclear)~~ "Danish feeding trough"

FOLLOW → IMPLEMENT

THE GENERAL

PARTY LINE.

The Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate.

WE'VE GOT AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TRACTOR!

HERE'S THE ORDER

The tractor authorization.

Thanks to the workers! *factory workers.*

The sign on the barn door reads: "Mechanized Association"

The ~~sorceresses~~ ^{practiced} were doing ~~sorcery~~. *village witches worked their wicked magic*

He died.

WE'VE GOT A TRACTOR! *Here's the tractor*

WE HAVE ONE!

We don't have Fomka...

BUT

IT'S ALIVE!
IT'S ALIVE!
IT LIVES!

He lives!
He's alive!
It lives on!

THE CATTLE-BREEDING ASSOCIATION LIVES!

The Bull-Breeding Collective Lives

The slogan reads: "Let us strengthen the bond with the village!"

"We shall strengthen the bond with the village"

The sponsors' speeches. of the worker-mentors.

And the hero of the day.

The sign reads: "The Rome Teahouse."

"Let's show them how powerful it is!"

We'll show our strength!

Communist Youth League members were among them.

FOR COMMUNAL LABOR...

FOR SHARED LABOR

ON COMMUNAL LAND!

ON SHARED LAND

At one with industry.

UNITED WITH WORKERS

~~Give us...~~ Long Live...

DELIVER ...
... THE LAND!

the land.

~~GIVE US THE LAND!!~~

Long Live the Land! DELIVER THE LAND!

Marfa!

In this way, the boundaries between town and village are (fading away.)

being erased.

The END.

And so the barriers between cityfolk and countryfolk were worn away.