



Fig. 24 is a view of the railway track between Mukden and Antung

new rulers took energetic steps to improve the agriculture of the entire zone and leased territory. This action has stimulated somewhat the Chinese to follow suit; and the Russians also have established agricultural experimental farms in Harbin, Anda, and Jeh-hu, along the line of the Chinese Eastern Railway.

The South Manchurian Railway Company has established and is operating a number of experimental farms in its holdings, the principal ones being those located at Dairen, Kungchuling, Paiyintala, Hsiungyaocheng, and Fenghuagchen. In these places great betterments have been effected in the quality of seeds for the farmers; many new and improved fruits have been introduced and wide-spread (including peaches, apples, pears, grapes, and cherries); rice culture has been inaugurated; four superior types of beans have been produced and distributed; and the breeds of sheep, hogs, ponies, and cattle have been wonderfully improved.

By importing Merino rams of a superior breed and crossing them with native Mongolian ewes, a fine fixed type of sheep has been secured, yielding wool of a better quality and much larger quantity.

Similarly, by importing a superior breed of Berkshire boars and crossing them with the native sows, a fine breed of hogs has been established.

By improving the quality of the mulberry trees, the output of silk has been materially augmented; and experiments on the introduction of American tobacco have proved successful.

The improvement in wheat production has been disappointingly small, but the experiments thereon are being continued. The prospects for bettering the wheat are greater in North Manchuria than in the south. This is encouraging on account of the vast areas of untilled land that are to be found in North Manchuria.

The introduction of seed rice from Japan has increased the output per unit of area forty per cent, besides bettering the quality of the grain.

Seed distribution was begun in 1924 by the various stations and farms of the company, with the following results up to the beginning of 1928:

Improved soya bean seed...	17,000 bushels
Improved paddy rice seed..	6,850 bushels
Improved sheep.....	608 head