For years it was common "wisdom" that the secret of our high standard of living was our industrial production successes such as those in automobiles, other factories, and transportation. Those who think that have overlooked something more important: the miracle of our agriculture.

When Khrushchev came to America in 1959, he expressed a desire to visit two places: Disneyland and an Iowa farm. He wanted to see for himself how the United States copes with the problem of feeding itself.

When he actually saw an Iowa farm, he was incredulous. He could not believe that an Iowa farmer with two sons produce more on 500 acres than could hundreds of Russians. He demanded to see the hidden farm workers. Of course, there were none.

In Russia, half the popilatioo work in agriculture but are unable to feed their own

people. In the United States, only five percent of air popilation feerl all Anericans

and, in additioo, prcrluce trenendoos surpluses for export.

The 1982 U.S. com crop is 8.32 billion bushels, one percent larger than the previais

record set last year. The soybean crop is 2.29 billioo bushels, which is 13 percent

larger than last year's crop and one percent bigger than the previoos record set in 1979.

Amaricans consunei only half of last year's record U.S. wheat harvest am left the

other half in storage. An even larger surplus is forecast for this year. Qrr gigantic

fa.nn surpluses are accepted arn paid for by very snart buyers all over the world. The

United States clearly leads the world in quality and quantity of crops.

By contrast, Russia's 1982 harvest is a disaster am the Soviet foai-supply is the

IOOSt acute in two decades. The official party line is to bl~ it all on the weather, but

this is the fa.trth year in a ra,, for the sane ham-luck weather story.

The Soviets set 238 million metric tons of wheat, com and other crops as their 1982

prcrluctioo goal. This year's harvest turned oot to be only aboot 170 million metric tons,

less. than last year, far less than the year before, and the poorest since 1975. 'lhe