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Soviet Gift Horse Looked in Mouth



The New York Times

A quarantine official patting Wodopad on the nose after the horse was unloaded from Mormacelm at Jersey City.

Special to The New York Times.

JERSEY CITY, March 17—Woodopad, a dappled-gray Orloff stallion, arrived here today aboard the Moore-McCormack Line's freighter Mormacelm. The horse, the gift of Soviet Premier Khrushchev to Cyrus S. Eaton, the Cleveland industrialist and financier, is valued at \$6,000.

Woodopad, according to Dr. Evgeni Sashirin, the Russian veterinarian who accompanied him to this country, is an aristocrat of the horse world. The product of a Soviet horse farm in a village just south of Moscow, Woodopad was trained at the Moscow hippodrome in troika-racing, the Russian equivalent of chariot racing. In a troika race, a

matched team of three horses pulls a four-wheeled carriage known as a troika.

Dr. Sashirin and Woodopad boarded the Mormacelm on March 4 at Hangö, Finland. The equine aristocrat occupied de luxe accommodations in an open-ended steel van that contained a wooden stall.

After spending three days in quarantine at the Department of Agriculture's station at Clifton, N. J., Woodopad will be delivered to Mr. Eaton's Acadia Farms at Northfield, Ohio.

The horse is the fourth to be presented by the Soviet Premier to Mr. Eaton, who entertained the Premier when he visited this country last fall.