FRONT COVER: Two soil scientists and their assistants examine a soil profile in the almost barren desert of Iran.

A PEEK AT IRAN

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In 1941 Reza Shah, King of Iran, abdicated his throne in favor of his 21 year old son, leaving him with an occupied country full of poor uneducated people and a rising communist party. "There is no honor in being king of a poor country," proclaimed the uncrowned King. His Imperial Majesty, the Shahanshah systematically led Iran out of the war-stricken forties, wrested the country from her internal troubles and decided on a policy of alignment with the West. The Shah was crowned King of Iran in October 1967, twenty-six years after his father abdicated. I had the good fortune of sharing this historical event.

Iran is a country of 25 million people. Seventy-five percent of the population are peasant farmers. Tehran, the capital city, is a beautiful, modern city located at the foot of high desert mountains. It reminds one of Denver or Salt Lake City with its tall skyscrapers and early morning fog. Every mile one goes from the cities becomes more primitive. Iran today is a land of many

A farmer prepares his land for wheat in Iran.