

"Agitprop" Chief Supports Moscow Line

Radio Bucharest announced on January 11 that "Scanteia" of same day carried an article by chief propagandist and candidate Politburo member Leonte Rautu entitled "A powerful source of strength of the Communist and workers' movement", echoing the recent Pravda article.

The Rautu article follows recent contributions in other Soviet bloc countries supporting Moscow's line against Red China, but whereas in Bulgaria the First Party Secretary Todor Zhivkov has personally attacked the Red Chinese leaders in an article published in "Problems of Peace and Socialism," in Rumania it was considered fit to engage for the time being only the "Agitprop" Chief in the dispute. It can be expected, however, that the head of the Rumanian delegation to the SED Congress will also take a stand on the Sino-Soviet dispute.

Austro-Rumanian Financial Agreement

An RFE Special from Vienna of January 9 announced that Rumania has agreed to pay Austria 1,355,000 dollars expropriation compensation. The agreement also settles claims based on Austrian participation in Rumanian foreign loans. Rumania is declared to have renounced unspecified claims against Austria to the value of 55,000 dollars.

Payment is to be accomplished through Austrian withholding of 66 per cent of payment for Rumanian exports to Austria, plus additional delivery of goods by Rumania, up to 500,000 dollars annually. The agreement was initialed in Bucharest after negotiations held between 3 and 11 December 1962 and is subject to ratification by both Parliaments. A similar agreement has recently been concluded by Austria with Bulgaria.

Additional Data on 1963 Plan

"Agerpres" reported on January 8 that compared to 1962 the planned 1963 production of pig iron is to increase by 18 per cent, that of steel by 11 per cent. This means that steel production is to increase from 2,500,000 tons in 1962 to 2,775,000 tons in 1963 (the goal for 1965 being 3,300,000 tons) and that the production of pig iron is to increase from 1,565,000 tons in 1962 to 1,845,000 tons in 1963, (the goal for 1965 being 2,000,000 tons).

"Agerpres" announced on December 27 1962 that more than 10 billion kwh were produced in 1962, with an increase in 1962 of 18.5 per cent over

1961. The level planned for 1965 is about 18.5 billion kwh (2.7 times the 1959 output.)

The production of electric energy reached 8,657,000 kwh in 1961. An increase by 18.5 per cent would result in 10,250,000,000 kwh in 1962. In comparison with the goal for 1965 a certain slowing down is apparent, but production can catch up in the next three years by the commissioning of big power stations (Arges, etc.)

"Agerpres" said on December that in the 1960-62 period one million tons of coal have been produced in excess of the Six-Year Plan provisions for that period. 99 per cent of underground advancing operations and 96 per cent of loading operations are mechanized.

"Agerpres" announced on December 27 that the enterprises under the Light Industry Ministry have overfulfilled the 1962 Plan provisions. An increase of eight per cent is planned for 1963. Minister of Light Industry Alexandru Sencovici stated in his speech before the National Assembly on December 28 that achievements in light industry in the 1960-62 period surpassed the tasks set by the Six-Year Plan for this period, resulting in an average annual increment of 14.5 per cent compared to a planned 13.3 per cent.

The Minister of Building Industry Dumitru Mosora stated the same day that the production of cement increased in 1962 seven times over 1939 and that an increase is planned for 1963 to reach about nine times the 1938 level. In plain figures this means 3,300,000 tons in 1961, about 3,570,000 tons in 1962 and about 4,500,000 tons planned for 1963 (the goal being 6,500,000 tons.) Actually a production of 3,850,000 tons has originally been planned for 1960 but was not fulfilled. The volume of prefabs made of concrete was in 1962 3.7 times larger than in 1959.

Additional Data on the 1963 State Budget

The report of the Economic-Financial Commission of the National Assembly published on December 1962 said that 1963 Budget revenues deriving from the turnover tax and quotas of profits of enterprises transferred to the Budget are planned to amount to 42.2 billion lei, more than 50 per cent of total Budget revenues, (51.2 per cent) against 35.4 billion lei achieved in 1961 (53.5 per cent.)

The President of the Academy Atanase Joja said on December 28 that 934,000,000 lei will be allocated from the Budget for science in 1963.

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Diplomatic Changes

The East German Ambassador to Rumania Wilhelm Bick has been replaced by Anton Ruh.

Rumania and Cambodia decided to establish diplomatic relations.