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ITEM No 14864/52

LL  
2 Dec  
VI - 2859

RUMANIA

FINANCE  
Pensions

Present Situation Of War Widows And Orphans

SOURCE ROME: A lady who has a brother missing in Soviet Russia, whose wife is living under the described circumstances.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Current period. °

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During the last year, war widows belonging to the IOVR (Invalidi - Orfani - Vaduve Rasboiu - "War Invalids, Orphans and Widows") who still had some possessions like houses, lands, etc., were definitely deprived of their pensions even if they had children. Widows without children were deprived of their rights to pensions even if they did not possess any property.

In the spring of 1952 pensions were also taken away from the poor widows, i.e. those without any property, while subsidies were left only to their children, the war orphans. It was said that "widows should no longer live at the expense of the state since they could earn their own living." In this way they were compelled to work.

War widows who remarried are also obliged to work if they do not want to lose the right to pensions for their children.

EVAL. COMMENT: Confirmed. See for reference item No. 12221/52.