

Industrial Committee Meets at Agricultural Committee's Request

The Industrial Committee of the National Assembly met on 4th October at the request of the Agricultural Committee to discuss agricultural mechanisation. Ferenc Herczeg, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, presented a detailed report. The Chairman of the Committee, Prof. Istvan Salyi, in a radio statement explained that the Agricultural Committee viewed with concern the delays there had been in solving fundamental questions relating to the construction, manufacture and import of machinery and consequently considered that the conditions of mechanisation laid down in the Party's theses on agrarian policy had not been created. "The fact that the use to which material resources are put must today be more carefully weighed up ... lends special significance to today's meeting. In the course of a lively debate, the Committee decided to set up jointly with the Agricultural Committee a sub-committee whose task will be to scrutinise these questions. The first person with whom the sub-committee intends to discuss the fundamental questions which came to light at today's meeting is the President of the National Price Control Office", Salyi said. (Budapest 15.00 and 19.00, 4.10.57)

Meeting of Budapest Group: Housing Shortage Worse

When the Deputies representing Budapest met on 8th October, Bela Kelen, Secretary of the Budapest Party Committee, reported on the forthcoming by-elections to the City and District Councils. Twenty-seven Budapest City Council and 461 City District Council members would be elected on 17th November. The election campaign would be opened at a PPF meeting on 10th October. (See above)

Replying to Deputies' questions, Rezső Trautman, Minister of Building, said that the housing situation in Budapest was worse than ever, although, according to statistics, "Hungary stands on the middle of the ladder as regards housing in Europe". The congestion in the capital was due to the fact that nearly 2,000,000 people now lived in a city built to accommodate 1,600,000. The greatest problem was repairs to existing flats. In the Three-Year Plan, three times as much would be devoted to this purpose annually than in the past. One of the State Planning Institutes would be commissioned to draw up the final plans for the rebuilding of the Castle District and Vigadó concert hall. (Budapest 21.00, 8.10.57)

Cultural Committee Meets

The Assembly's Cultural Committee also met on 8th October with József Darvas in the chair and discussed proposed reforms in training colleges for teachers and nursery schools. The organisation of a two-year post-matriculation course of training was advocated from the 1959-60 academic year onwards. (Budapest 21.00, 8.10.57)

Meeting of Assembly's Law and Judiciary Committee: The Assembly's Law and Judiciary Committee met on 19th October with Kálmán Pongrácz in the chair. Ferenc Nezeval, the Minister of Justice, informed the Committee of legal measures taken since the Committee's last meeting, and about some Bills now being drafted at the Ministry of Justice. The Minister announced that a "Permanent government Commission on Public Law and the Law of State Administration" had been set up the previous day. Its members were well-known lawyers and experts and its job was to give professional advice in the drafting of Decrees and Bills. (Budapest 11.00, 19.10.57)