

1924

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25 Nov
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RUMANIA

LABOR
Strikes

Strike Of "Izolatii No.3" Employees While
Working At BOTOSANI.

SOURCE ISTANBUL : A refugee of foreign origin, who
left Rumania in 1950.

DATE OF OBSERVATION : 1950.

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In 1950, the Enterprise "Izolatii No.3" took over the task of winter insulating the textile factory of BOTOSANI, which has a large productive capacity. Thus, in August 1950, two ten-man equipes, each group composed of a chief, his assistant, and eight workers under the general supervision of an engineer, were sent to BOTOSANI. Our norm Bureau committed an error of calculation by not considering that the climate of the BOTOSANI region is more severe than that of other parts of the country, and that winter arrives relatively early. The insulation work was not finished within the planned time. Meanwhile the two groups of workers had labored 16 hours each day, exceeding the established norm by 400 per cent.

At the end of the first month of work the salaries were figured on a basis of an ordinary workday and therefore, amounted to one-fourth of the just figure. The engineer who was responsible for the payroll was not able to pay the amount rightfully due to the workers. The workers refused to go on with their tasks and, instead, retired to the factory roof after declaring a strike.

When local Communist authorities brought pressure on the workers to take up work again, they refused categorically. When other workers were brought to break the strike, the angry strikers would not allow them on the factory roof. As I was chief of the insulation section, I was sent out to settle the affair with the cadre

(Over)

functionary of BOTOSANI.

On 9 September 1950 I arrived in BOTOSANI and immediately went to the workers whom I found sitting about idly on the roof of the factory. With them I discussed the reasons for their discontent, after which I talked with the engineer, arranging a meeting of all concerned. The salary problem I resolved by making use of a law of the Work Code, which permits the assignment of additional work hours for the realization of the State Plan, on condition that the extra hours are paid in full. This provided the solution to the dispute.

But to bring an end to the strike I had to reconcile the workers with lavish praises and soft words, had a special meeting, and throw a dinner for the workers. I remained in BOTOSANI for fifteen days, after which I returned to the plant in BUCHAREST where I handed in my report.

EVAL. COMMENT: No confirmation available here.
The main offices of the afore mentioned enterprise are at 7 Alexander Sahia Street in BUCHAREST.