

G
6 November 1951
VI-1270

RUMANIA

INDUSTRY
Artisans

STATE CONFISCATION OF PRIVATE WORKSHOPS

A mechanic of Italian extraction residing in TARGU JIU for many years was called up by the Party administration of the rayon in March 1950 "for information."

He was allowed to speak to the president, RADULESCU (fmu), ex-blacksmith and ardent Communist, who received him in the offices of the temporary committee and told him in a few words the Party's intentions regarding his workshop.

It would have to join the collective workshops and would have to work for state institutions and business concerns in the communes and region. In exchange, the Party guaranteed to appoint the ex-proprietor director at a high salary and to grant him food and clothing facilities; his house would not be nationalized. Knowing how useless it was to oppose this decision, the mechanic was obliged to accept.

But the following day a Communist member of the Party was nominated administrative director instead of the former owner.

The ex-proprietor was obliged to content himself with the qualification of a technician in his own workshop at a salary of 16,000 Lei a month, working more than 10 hours a day.

When he returned to work at the beginning of March 1951 after having been absent for two months owing to ill health he was told to his great surprise that his salary was reduced to 9,000 Lei.

On presenting his case to the president of the temporary committee he was told ironically, that if he was not pleased with his salary, the workshop could carry on without him just the same.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: March 1950 to March 1951

EVAL. COMMENT:

Source : fairly reliable
Information: probably true
(Name withheld.)