

Semi-Annual Plan Overfulfilled

The industrial plan for the first half of this year was fulfilled to 102.7 per cent, according to Radio Warsaw yesterday. The value of total production ( in comparative prices) rose by 11.4 per cent compared with the same period last year. The Main Statistical Office has released a communique which lists the following production increases:

Electric and thermal power production - 14 per cent.

Fuel production - 3 per cent.

Iron industry production - 10 per cent.

Engineering and Metal Constructions production - 19 per cent.

Textile production - 8 per cent.

Foodstuffs production - 9 per cent.

Investments in the socialized economy (without considering Agricultural cooperatives and housing cooperatives) rose by 14 per cent as compared with June 1960.

Internal retail sales went up by ca. 10 per cent. Foreign trade turnover increased in value by 11.6 per cent, while export value rose by 13.9 per cent.

The cattle population increased by over 5.5 per cent. Peasant incomes from state purchases rose by 14 per cent.

The population of Poland is now over 29,900,000.

No comment until papers are received here.

Agriculture

Note in forthcoming Press Surveys one article on the financial situation of the PGRs ("Zycie Gospodarcze"), and one piece ("Kierunki") with interesting statistics on the collective farms. The heavily-subsidized Polish State Farms have, taken as a whole, reached solvency for the first time in their history. They even show a profit of 300 million zloty at the end of fiscal 1960-61. "Zycie Gospodarcze" does not hesitate to put this achievement in proper perspective: "Because the State Farms are benefiting from considerable budget subsidies and their costs are greatly reduced, they do not represent the real level of the costs of production. Thus, the financial results of a State Farm are not an objective indicator of the level of its profitability."

The "Kierunki" article on collectives laments once more the fact that

not much of the work on "production cooperatives" is done collectively. Private plots continue to embarrass the regime with their prowess in production. Private plots, according to "Kierunki" make up 5 to 10 per cent of collective acreage, yet manage to bring in almost 50 per cent of collective farm income. "In this situation the private plot becomes almost the main source of the means of living of cooperative members, whereas collective farming becomes an auxiliary element."

#### Nkrumah in Warsaw

As one consequence of Ghanian President Nkrumah's visit to Warsaw, Poland has signed an agreement giving Ghana long-term credits. An attached clause awards Poland a contract to supply Ghana with equipment for the construction of about 30 industrial plants, including sugar refineries, chemical plants, shipyards and installations for the dry distillation of wood (one of the chief sources of fuel in Ghana). Some Ghanians will be trained on the spot in the construction of these installations; others will go to Poland for advanced technical indoctrination. No other details were contained in the brief announcement.