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Lupta de Clasa

### LOCAL PARTY PROBLEMS IN RUMANIA

[Comment: During 1953, Lupta de Clasa, monthly organ of the Rumanian Workers' Party, carried several articles discussing party problems in various regiunes. Two of these articles concerned Bucharest and Baia Mare . This report, taken from four additional articles, describes various party activities in Hunedoara, Pitesti, and Ploesti regiunes, and in Campina Raion.

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Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

# Selection and Training of Party Personnel, Hunedoara Regiune

The bureau of the Hunedoura Regiune Party Committee has analyzed the manner in which party organizations are dealing with the selection, education, promotion, and assignment of party members. In this analysis it discovered errors in the work of some raion committees and required them to give greater attention to the selection and political and ideological training of raion activists and secretaries of primary party organizations. Raion committees were instructed to work individually with instructors and to study the work of each secretary of primary party organizations.

The regiune committee is particularly concerned with recruiting and training new specialists devoted to the building of socialism. Today there are ten times as many students in technical and trade schools in Hunedoara Regiune as there were in 1938. A coal institute has been established, which every year turns out significant numbers of mine engineers. Every enterprise in the regiune operates a school or conducts on-the-job training. At the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Steel Combine there are two schools which teach Stakhanovite methods. More than 250 workers, enterprise directors, directors of institutes, and party activists are taking evening or correspondence courses at various party and state intermediate schools, and at enterprises. Workers, engineers, and technicians trained in the USSR are of great help in training workers. At present 22 workers, technicians, and engineers from enterprises and institutes

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in Hunedoara Regiume are receiving training in the USSR. The regiume's more than 1,000 Stakhanovites and its 4,860 leading workers are constantly undergoing technical training. Some of these men, such as Vasile Costache and Engineer Cornel Scurtu, have become famous. The latter, who advanced from unskilled work, has developed five innovations used for the repair of steel furnaces. In addition to the training of specialists, the Hunedoara Regiume Committee is devoting special attention to attracting older specialists to the party and educating them.

Leninist principles are used in the selection, promotion, and assignment of men and in judging their professional and political qualifications. The regiune committee supervises the application of these principles, combating the attitude of those who are interested solely in the professional qualifications or in the political standing of workers. The regiune committee makes every effort to promote only those men who place most importance in the interest of the state and of the people, and who are capable of applying party and government decrees. In 1952 alone, the Hunedoara Regiune Party Committee selected more than 600 new men for the party. In the first half of 1952, more than 170 members, all graduates of party schools, were promoted in the state and party apparatus. In 1952, 3,000 graduates of technical schools received assignments. In the most important enterprises of the regiune, including the Lupeni and Ghelar mines, the railroad complex in Simeria, and others, workers were promoted.

However, there were cases when activists demonstrated disregard for political principles in the selection of personnel. The Ilia Raion Bureau permitted a number of dubious elements to join the party apparatus. These people promoted only undesirable persons consciously misconstrued party decrees, and provoked dissatisfaction among workers. The regiune committee bureau had to intervene and remove the hostile elements from their positions.

The regiune committee itself showed a lack of vigilance in the selection of cadres, tolerating for too long elements with dubious backgrounds as chiefs of party, union, and Union of Working Youth administrative units. Similarly, an enemy was tolerated in a position of responsibility in the regiune Postal, Telephone, and Telegraph Directorate. Although this man associated with numerous class enemies and for that reason was no longer politically reliable, the committee appointed him to an even higher position upon the recommendation of the chief of the heavy industries section of the regiune party committee.

Appointment of hostile elements to positions of responsibility, on the pretext that they are specialists who cannot be replaced, is a harmful practice. It prevents the promotion of devoted, capable elements. The antiparty and antistate activity of the deviationists exposed in 1952 caused great difficulty in party personnel work. In Brad Raion, hostile elements succeeded in obtaining positions of responsibility in party and state, economic and cultural organizations. After the discovery of the deviationists, they were removed from the party and their jobs.

Following the directives of the Central Committee, the Hunedoara Regiune Committee directed all party organizations to carry on a ceaseless fight to eliminate hostile policies and to maintain greater vigilance and observe Leninist principles in the selection and assignment of personnel. Only in this way can enemy elements be prevented from sneaking into party and state organizations.

However, some party units promote persons who lack professional qualifications. Many units do not concern themselves with the professional training of

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Another error chown by party managements is that of promoting persons on the basis of friendship, as was done by the secretary of the Hateg Raion Party Committee. He promoted one unqualified person to the office of chief of the party, union, and Union of Working Youth organizations section, and another as chief of the propaganda and agitation section. The two men had no preparation, experience, of raion committees because they did not wish to bring about discord within the raion committee bureau. It is not surprising, then, that many serious errors occurred in the work of the Hateg Raion Committee Bureau. There has been a tendency to forgive errors and deviations from party directives on the socialization of agriculture.

The regiune party committee has devoted special attention to improving the social composition of the party. Over 80 percent of the party apparatus in the regiune now consists of workers. Measures taken by the regiune committee to continue the improvement of the social composition of party units have resulted in greater combativeness and firmer application of government and party decrees.

New cadres of young people must be assigned to responsible positions. The experience of the CRSU indicates that old and new party members must be grouped together. The development of young party members has not received enough attencommittees complain that they have no young party members, and seek support from the regiune committee. However, they simply do not take the time to train young people. Despite the large potential, the Hunedoara Raion apparatus is under

Although the Hunedoara Raion Committee removed Vasile Manea, an unqualified person, from the staff of the local paper Uzina Noastra for reasons of incompetence, it assigned him to another position of responsibility as instructor of the raion committee, where he likewise was incapable of performing his duties. Eventually he was removed from this position and was made chief organizer of the party committee of the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Steel Combine, where he again failed and was put to work as a manual laborer. Such poor assignments of personnel cause serious harm to party work and check the increase and promotion of qualified personnel who know how to apply government and party directives. Practice has shown that poor personnel policy in some party organizations has been responsible for large turnovers. Men are constantly being reassigned and do not become familiar with the sector to which they are intrusted. In the aktiv of the Hunedoara Regiune Committee, personnel have been shifted three or four times within a few months, and without reason. During one year more than half of the activists of the regiune propaganda and agitation section were changed.

The transfer of personnel from one position to another often results from failure to help men who are new in positions of responsibility. This constant shifting permits reactionary elements to become active. Gheorghe Gotosman, former director of the ratiroad complex in Simeria, was caubled by the confused state of personnel records and the lack of interest of the raion committee to remove the chief accountant, under various pretexts. The accountant, who was well qualified professionally, was replaced by a weak man who could get along with the director.

Women constitute a rich reserve of future party leaders. Forty-four have been assigned to positions of responsibility '1 the regiune party apparatus. However, there are few women in primary party organizations in Hunedoara, Petrosani, and Sebes raions. None of the 50 women in the Teva Factory in Sebes has been appointed to managerial posts. The first secretary of Sebes Raion. Antal Darvas, showed a bourgeois attitude in claiming that women are hard to educate and cannot assume responsibility.

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One of the basic reneers of the Hunedcara legiune Committee is the improvement of personnel through education. Raising the level of management in any field requires Marxist-Leninist training of party, state, and economic cadres. Criticism and self-criticism are essential, and the Hunedcara Regiune committee desires all party members to adopt a proper attitude toward them. However, some raion leaders, such as Stefan Coureanu, first secretary of the Hunedcara Raion Committee, and certain members of the raion bureau, have not done so. Ioan M. Pop, chief of the party, union, and Union of Working Youth organizations section has abused criticism. The Hateg Raion Committee Bureau did not take positive measures against repeated deviations from party discipline on the part of Miron Necsa, former raion secretary. The former directors of the Brad Combine and of the Simeria railroad complex adopted a depreciatory attitude toward criticism from the

During the 951-1952 school year, about 500 party members were graduated from party courses. In 1952-1953, about 600 party activists were graduated. More than 14,000 workers and party members are new studying in all types of party schools and courses in the regiune.

Party members are becoming more and more demanding of their leaders. Those who cannot keep up with this trend lone the support of the masses, as did Ladislau Lenghel, who for some years as a regiume party londer did not strive to improve his political and ideological knowledge and showed complacency. As a result he was not re-elected by the regiume party conference. -- I. Cotot(1)

# Campaign Against Illiteracy, litesti degiune

The Pitesti Regiune Party Committee has devoted particular attention to eliminating illiteracy, raising the cultural level of the masses, and mobilizing party and mass organizations, people's councils, and teachers.

In 1941, there were 4 million illiterates in Rumania. In 1944, there were more than 200,000 in Pitesti Regiune, not including tens of thousands of persons over 55 years of age. In many communes, such as Izvoarele, Orlesti, Slobozia, Harsesti, and Alunisul, 50 percent of the people were illiterate. The entire populations of Putlogeni-Valea, Vale, Costesti, Meris, Cotul Malului, Pausata, Valea Romilor, Gura-Vasilatului, and other villages could not read. People in the northern raions of Curtea-de-Arges and Muscel were regarded as incapable of learning because of the prevalence of golter. Many areas of the regiune had no schools, and 55 percent of the children of school age received no education.

The Pitesti Regiune Party Committee mobilized party organizations, mass political organizations, and local state units in a campaign against illiteracy. As a result of this drive, 148,000 of the regiune's 200,000 illiterates learned to read by 1 November 1952. At the beginning of the 1952-1953 school year a census of illiterates was taken, halon and primary party organizations were assigned to carry on intensive agitation to persuade illiterates to report to census commissions and to sign up for courses. This census revealed that 97 percent of all illiterates live in rural areas, and that 65 percent are women.

The purpose of the campaign against illiteracy is to raise the level of cultural and political work, thereby aiding in the socialist transformation of agriculture. In this work the people's councils were directed to mobilize teaching sections, deputies, and women's commissions to persuade illiterates to attend courses. Raion party committees were assigned to check the manner in which people's councils fulfilled the state plan for evercoming illiteracy, and to report the names of Communists in people's councils who failed in this work.

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Good results were achieved in the 1952-1953 school year. Nevertheless, attendance was less than 80 percent and the quality of the teaching was poor in Lovistea, Ramnicu-Valcea, Babeni, and Dragasani. The regiune committee criticized this work severely and took measures to assure the attendance of illiterates and to improve the teaching. As a result, there were many instances of 100-percent attendance at classes in Videa, Pitesti, and Costesti raions. In Topoloveni and Curtea de Arges raions there was a tendency to leave this work to activists of the agitation and propaganda sections.

In order to support the campaign in rural areas, the regiune committee directed that evening cultural sessions be organized in culture centers, reading rooms, and Red Corners at collectives and state farms. Illiterates were to be invited to these meetings to hear recitations and the reading of instructive books popularizing science. This method was particularly successful in Lovistea and Brezol raions.

Individual conferences were held with illiterates to discuss the best methods of learning and improving attendance during which articles from daily papers were read and the advantages of literacy pointed out. Radiofication stations were also used to explain these advantages and general meetings were also held. Many peasants made heated and illuminated rooms available for classes in Barzoteni. Cojaceni, and other areas in Horezu Raion. The activation of women's commissions was stressed. Teaching sections of raion people's councils were directed to supervise the individual teachers and teacher's confirmation (Sindicatul Salariatilor din Invatamant) has granted awards to 40 teachers of the regiume for good work.

However, there are teaching sections of raion councils which have committed serious errors. The teaching sections of Muscel, Lovistea, and Ramnicu-Valcea took only formal measures, based on statistics alone, and neglected practical steps to overcome illuteracy

The Union of Working Youth also supports the illiteracy drive. Following the example of the Komsomol, Rumanian youths mobilize students during vacation periods to replace teachers, who in turn can be released for work in pioneer and school camps or to attend advanced courses for specialized training.

Trade unions have an important role in the elimination of illiteracy in factories. The CSR (Consiliul Sindical Regional, Regiune Trade Union Council) of Hunedoara has even included this responsibility in collective contracts. However, some lumber and coal enterprises have disregarded such provisos as have the directors of mines in Rucar, Brezoi, Schitu Golesti, and elsewhere. Some lumber and forestry enterprises did set up classes for each shift and, when transportation difficulties arose, the foremen served as teachers.

The regiune newspaper Secera si Ciocanul was also used in the drive. The editors not only organized surprise inspections, but published the names of enterprises doing poor work, such as the Argesul Tannin Factory. As a result of all these measures, the literacy plan was fulfilled 81,58 percent with Horezu, did not graduate, which was the fault of the teachers. The failure of the regiune party committee to check the situation resulted in the tardy discovery of errors in Dragasani, Muscel, Babeni, and Curtea-de Arges. -- D. Cristescu, first secretary, Pitesti Regiune Party Committee(2)



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Party Efforts to Therease Projectivity, Floresti Regiune

Ploesti Regiune has an important petroleum industry and a petroleum equipment industry, in addition to coal mines, forestry, and agriculture. Hence the regiune party committee, the Ploesti City Committee, and the raion committees have important responsibilities in the struggle to fulfill the Five-Year Plan. The regiune committee is striving to have all party organizations in the regiune give economic organizations the best aid possible in applying government and party decrees.

The primary objective of party organizations of the regime is the fulfill-ment of the Five-Year Flan in h years. At the leginning of 1953, party organizations seriously lebated the table facing them. General meetings were held by nists in mobilizing workers, technicians, shops, and enterprises to aid Commuweigheld with an invalue tertification of 70-80 percent of the workers. More than 2,500 ausgestion for impropement of production processes were submitted;

Party organization, so the regime are also helping to strengthen labor discipline and to serrost failings in petroleum production. Mistakes which had occurred at the Tintea, Medeni, and Campina fields were discussed at a meeting of the regime committee with first secretaries of raion committees and directors of oil runts. The fields in not takeful their drilling plans, and it this failure was the part of fields in not takeful their drilling plans. The causes of this failure was a production as well as a very typarty organizations, indifference on this production periods, and pror mathinal alone was forther analysis, the regime committee alopter a decree assigning tasks to party organizations in order to cause the level of party political work, to persuade and to apply Seviet method. In addition, economic organizations were assigned the task of studying the postuction processes in each field and to take measures to remove one tack. In addition, economic organizations were assigned that this decree, the following Raiser Committee summoned party secretaries, chairmen of union sensitives. Field discusses, the geological trust, engineers, and workers to magnine as field and to take measured workers to magnine as field discusses, the geological trust, engineers, and workers to magnine as field as field discusses methods of reactivating idle wells, exiting detailed time by the maximum use of tools, and applying Seviet method.

Party organizations in the monoil of 145 aprilated to mobilize workers for restoring wells to president of the Asia relative each tool wells were reactivated in Tintea in a 25-day period. Moreni, which from ed 433 tons below the plan to the first quarrent of the content of pan by 2,269 tons in the first 7 months of 1903.

The regime committee tenduced the management of the 1 Mai plant in Ploesti that fulfillment of the projection plan is not enough, and that production must be of the required quality. Fourly forged drill collars made by the 1 Mai plant had been delivered to the Gheorghe Cheorghiu-Dej works in Targoviste, but could not be used. This prevented the latter plant from fulfilling its complem

Party organs which gards recommic organizations must also supervise the application of the party line in other economic spheres. They are responsible for the way in which reoperatives, collectives, and state trade units apply the party line and for the aducation of activists who see to it that government and party decrees are respected.



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Some activists in economic organizations and party units have been shown a narrow, departmental attitude which obstructs the application of government and party decrees. In Pogoanele Reion some activists withheld part of the grain destined for central state stocks to fulfill local needs. This action was especially dangerous since it prevented fulfillment of collection and procurement plans and played into the hands of hostile elements.

There are many examples in Ploesti of misunderstanding of the principle of party leadership in the activities of economic organizations. Some party organizations have misunderstood their right of control over enterprise administrations, giving rise to infractions of the principle of single management, and transforming an enterprise into a kind of parliament. The regiune committee made errorts to see that party and union organizations understood the importance of unilateral management and strict responsibility for the operation of enterprises.

Nevertheless, there are still raion committees which interfere with the solution of administrative economic problems telonging within the jurisdiction of state and economic units, and lose sight of political work required in building socialism. These committees take into their own hands control of sowing, harvesting, and collection, ignoring the economic units in charge. The Ploesti Raion Committee, for example, was unable to concentrate on the socialist transformation of agriculture because it concerned itself with broad administrative problems, giving orders to chairmen, interfering with enterprises, and issuing directives for the use of transportation facilities. Other committees took over the management of collective farms, ignoring the rules of internal democracy.

The economic sections of the Ploesti Regiune Party Committee and of the raion committees devoted much attention to personnel questions. In the second quarter of 1952, for example, the regiune and raion party committees promoted to managerial roles in industry 40 directors, assistant directors, and chief engineers, 34 men in cooperatives, and 84 men in banking.

Nevertheless, the assignment and selection of personnel has suffered from bureaucratism and disregard for professional training and character, as was illustrated by the appointment of a carpenter as director of an oil refinery. One party activist, after being removed from the party apparatus as an undesirable member, was appointed director of three enterprises in succession.

The absence of vigilance in some party organizations of Ploesti Regiune has led to the appointment of kulaks, speculators, and other hostile elements to positions of economic responsibility, particularly in banking and finance. The regiune and raion party committees took measures to remove these elements from the fiscal and banking apparatus, replacing them with young workers devoted to the building of socialism. State and economic organizations are still unmasking enemy elements who are trying to sabotage the building of socialism. It was recently discovered that the Campina Raion Committee had appointed an old capitalist servant as director of a factory. This man falsified figures on production and concealed the full potential of the plant, preventing the fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan within 4 years.

On the other hand, the Ploesti Regiune Committee criticized severely the harmful practise of considering old specialists as enemies. It directed party organizations to work with old specialists and technicians who sincerely desire to contribute their creative efforts to the building of socialism.

The Ploesti Party Committee undertook to enroll the largest possible number of persons engaged in economic activities for party courses. Thus, 69 persons registered at the Evening University of Marxism-Leninism, and 229 activists signed up for individual study in the city of Ploesti.

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Criticism and self-criticism have been encouraged. However, there are some economic organizations which are afraid of self-criticism and disregard the critterrorizing those who criticize, as was the case with the former assistant director of Trust No 1 in Campina. Many activists try to avoid making enemies. They tolerate deviations and blame party and state organs for deficiencies in

The checking of plan fulfillment and enforcement of decrees is a primary concern of the regiune and raion committees. When the regiune committee learned that production was behind schedule in the lumber enterprise in Nehoi, one of the most important units in the regiune, a brigade of five specialists was sent to investigate. After 15 days of investigation the brigade came to the conclusion that the lag was caused by poor organization of supply, the bureaucratic attitude of the enterprise committee toward competition the unexcused absence of 15 percent of the workers, poor housing, and inadequate food supplies. The regiune committee took immediate action, improving the food, housing, and supply situation and removing a number of undesirable elements who were disrupting production. As a result, output increased 20 percent.

Teams sent out to check on plan fulfillment and efficiency often consist of men who are poorly trained or unqualified. For example, an inspector sent to the Boldesti oil field was a tailor by trade and incapable of advising on labor discipline and efficiency in the fields.

Several other aspects of party work are unsatisfactory. Party activists in some places tend to become bureaucratic, preventing the party apparatus from fulfilling its role. There are party activists who deal only with the director and chief engineer of an enterprise, ignoring the leading workers and the leaders of primary party organizations. Some activists sent to villages to strengthen political work among peasants contact only the chairmen of the local people's councils.

The regiune party committee showed little perseverance in popularizing advanced methods among oil workers. Administration and union organizations were not mobilized to enforce the new methods. Good work plans were drawn up for meetings, conferences, and press coverage, but these remained largely on paper.(2)

## Political Meetings, Campina Raion

In Campina Raion, Ploesti Regiune, party members and nonparty aktivs are fighting to fulfill the oil production part of the Five-Year Plan within 4 years. One means of emphasizing the importance of this drive is the "current political circle." There are 85 such circles in the oil fields, factories, and shops of the raion.

Activists and members of the raion party committee present hour-long lectures at meetings of the circles. Successful topics have been "The 73d Birth-day of Stalin," "The Fifth Anniversary of the RPR," and "Achievements of the People's Democratic Regime." In order to raise the quality of these lectures the Campina Raion Committee drew up a plan for propagandists, based on documents of the 19th Party Congress of the CPSU, and particularly on Malenkov's statements on the foreign situation. However, many propagandists in the current political circles consider their work of no importance and therefore devote little attention to their duties. They prepare lectures sup-ficially, which distorts the themes and leads to confusion. At one circle at Refinery

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No 4, propagandists giving a lecture on the new electoral laws failed to attack the old reactionary laws and to point out the democratic character of the prescalled for universal sufferage, but they did not point out that this concept favored the minority, the exploiters. Members of the circle tried to have the propagandists removed.

Other propagandists fail to discuss the most important problems and to use the most convincing arguments. Propagandists of the Banloc factory cited facts and figures which had nothing to do with the subject matter or the building of socialism. Another undesirable practice is the custom of propagandists to do nothing but read pamphlets and newspapers.

The selection of propagandists in the raion is very important, since good lectures can be quite successful. The bureau of Primary Party Organization No 16 of the Baicoi oil field attended and analyzed certain meetings. It directed the propagandists to study a <u>Scanteia</u> article on the 1953 economic plan, to read speeches by Gheorghiu-Dej, and to speak on subjects of immediate interest to their listeners.

There are primary party organizations which neither attempt to expand the current political circles nor direct the work of propagandists. The primary organization of the Sulfuric Acid Factory has a totally unacceptable attitude toward the task of leading and directing party teaching. The present secretary of the primary party organization shows no interest in the circle, although it represents the only form of party teaching in the enterprise. Propagandists are not helped to raise the level of their lectures, and party members are not aided in studying advanced Soviet methods. As a result attendance at the circle is only 30 percent.

In contrast to this is the current political circle directed by Stakhanovite Gheorghe Popescu at the Mislea oil field. Popescu prepares good lectures and aids individual members of the circle. The lively programs have resulted in an attendance of 80 percent. Three abandoned wells were restored to production in 1952, resulting in the completion of the annual plan in 11 months and 26 days.

The Campina Raion Committee organizes conferences periodically to discuss and improve the work of the circles. In December 1952 propagandists of primary party organization No 5 of Sovromutilaj Petrolifer (Soviet-Rumanian Petroleum Equipment Enterprise) led a discussion attended by 55 persons.(3)

#### SOURCES

- 1. Lupta de Clasa, Aug 53
- 2. Ibid., Jun 53
- 3. Ibid., Apr 53

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