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INFORMATION REPORT

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The factory political instructor of the VEB Gelenkwellenwerk, Stadtilm, Thuringia, an SED official Steinbrück (fnu), spoke to the employees and announced that the women of the plant would no longer be allowed time off for household work, and that free transportation would no longer be available to the employees. In a very lively discussion, those present asked the speaker which really exploited the workers more, the so-called capitalist or the state. Steinbrück preferred not to give an answer. One hundred seventy contribution cards (Spendenkarten) for the "National Front" were promptly handed back. The plant employs about 1,000 persons at the present time.

The Vaggonfabrik in Gotha,* Thuringia, had to discharge about 400 persons at the end of Parch 1951, because the overload springs for railroad cars, which previously had been obtained from West Germany, were no longer available, and now material was not being delivered.

The firms Gebr. Richter** and Gebr. Steinert, *** today both VEB's, in Chemitz-Harthau, had to discharge a great many employees because of lack of materials, since the steel previously obtained from West Germany was no longer available.

The Thuringian Trade and Procurement Ministry must make deliveries of grain for bread to Gzechoslovakia at the present time. As a result, it is estimated among Thuringian government circles that food rationing cards will be reintroduced in Gzechoslovakia very shortly.

destewitz, a section of Rötha, Kreis Borna, Thuringia, is severely threatened by the continual working of the surface coal mine. The excavations are already 500 meters from the houses of Gestewitz. The large conveyor bridge (Förderbrücke am barely be turned, according to experts. About 100 houses in Gestewitz with 500 inhabitants are threatened by these operations. It was attempted to erect new houses for those threatened; however, it is now revealed that no money is available for a resettlement.

The construction of the Rötha Cultural Palace, which was planned on a grand scale, and which was also meant for the use of the Böhlen plant, was suddenly stopped. The reason given for the stoppage was that no more material was available for the completion of the building.

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Comment: This firm is not further identifiable in available references

Comment: This is Eisengisserei Harthau, Harthau, Saxony.

Comment: This is VEB Waggenbau Gotha.