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Latin America Report

(FOUO 19/81)



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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

'BOHEMIA' COUNTERS YUGOSLAV COMMENTARIES

Neutral Nonalignment Questioned

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 19 Jun 81 p 65

[Article by V. Robles: "Tribulations of a Neutralist"]

[Text] An Indian professor named M. S. Rajan wrote one of the most curious articles that we have read on the theory of the equidistance that the nonaligned countries must observe with regard to the world superpowers.

Rajan began by passionately defending the neutralism of these nations and ended by stating that, for objective reasons, they tend to agree more with the positions of the socialist community than with the developed capitalist countries.

In last April's edition of the Yugoslav journal MEDJUNARODNA POLITIKA, the illustrious Asian educator stated:

"In essence, nonalignment establishes limits to the closeness which a nonaligned country can approach in its relations with one of the superpowers."

Expanding on this topic, he indicated:

"The nature and extent of the friendly relations and close cooperation between the nonaligned countries and one of the superpowers are, of course, not defined; that is trusted to the wisdom and judgment of each of the nonaligned countries."

The writer's contradictions begin here. On one hand, what he understands as non-alignment "establishes limits" for the mentioned ties but then he admits that those relations are "not defined" for the nonaligned nations.

Based on these conflicting and superficial criteria, Rajan accused our country of having revived old criticisms--hatched in the United States--about the foreign relations of the nonaligned countries due to our participation in solidarity with Africa and the affinity that this had with the support that the Soviet Union offered those peoples.

He said: "Unfortunately, the role of some nonaligned countries, particularly Cuban work in African affairs, revived this controversial question, not only in the West but also among the nonaligned countries."

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The significant concern of this political science professor about the opinions and interests of U.S. government circles and other developed capitalist countries does not end there. Referring to the 1979 summit meeting of the nonaligned countries, he stated:

"Some critics, particularly the news media, feel that since the Havana Declaration included exaggerated and immoderate criticism of the West, the summit conference was slanted considerably toward the Cuban position."

After frankly confessing--like the White House--his disagreement with the main decisions adopted almost 2 years ago by the top representatives of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries, he plunged into a verbal labyrinth in which, as we noted above, the alleged neutralism ended up in question due to objective realities that Rajan himself listed.

He noted: "It is natural that some nonaligned countries view Soviet aid and influence as a counterpart to the U.S. aid and influence that has dominated the international scene for a long time in detriment to the nonaligned movement."

He added that "there is no doubt, however, that since the majority of the nonaligned countries represent former colonies and many of them still suffer the consequences of neocolonialism or economic domination by the Western countries and since the present system of unjust international political and economic relations is, in general, their work, the nonaligned countries sometimes give the impression of being closer to the East. The East frequently supports their important national and international objectives: the right to self-determination, racial equality, the proposed new economic order and the social transformation of their societies."

This professor at the New Delhi Advanced School of Political Science ended his paradoxical analysis of relations between the nonaligned countries and the socialist community with the following words:

"Of course, in reference to certain questions (for example, self-determination of the colonial peoples), the nonaligned countries--due to the fact that many of them are former colonies of Western countries--are almost always closer to the socialist bloc and further from (or against) the Western bloc."

Let us try to understand this distinguished writer for the Belgrade magazine.

First, he censures Cuba because, by giving internationalist aid to the African peoples--for example, fighting next to the Angolans to defeat the invasion of the South African racists--and agreeing with Soviet positions of support to those nations, it made the West question the nonalignment of our country.

Nevertheless, he then wrote that no one should be surprised by the agreement between the socialist countries and the nonaligned countries because the former support the latter in many matters that are vital for their national interests, including the fight for racial equality.

He also felt that "the exaggerated and immoderate criticism of the West" at the Havana summit meeting led critics and the mass media to feel that that 1979 conference "was slanted considerably toward the Cuban position."

However, a few lines later, the Indian intellectual admitted that, due to the colonial origin of many nonaligned countries, these are "almost always" closer to the socialist community than the capitalist bloc.

Apparently, the ambiguous and slippery language which gets twisted around in abstract concepts to avoid the objective realities of our time plays bad tricks on writers.

This time these tribulations are the lot of an Indian professor, a disillusioned neutralist.

African Involvement Criticism Questioned

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 10 Jul 81 p 61

[Article by V. Robles: "Famous but Still Infamous"]

[Text] Barely 2 months ago, the Yugoslav journal MEDJUNARODNA POLITIKA generously welcomed an article by Indian professor M. S. Rajan--which we answered--in which Cuba's policy of solidarity with Africa was attacked. There was also a biased interpretation of the results of the Sixth Summit Meeting of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries in Havana in August 1979.

Our response to Rajan was the subject of a rejoinder by the assistant chief editor of that magazine who chose the pages of another Yugoslav magazine, NIN, to answer.

The assistant editor felt obliged to ponder the intellectual values of the mentioned Asian educator, "known by the participants of symposia on nonalignment in many countries and by the readers of the distinguished newspaper DELHI INDIA QUARTER."

Similar personal attributes paled when he stated that Rajan "is known, in one word, not only by the Indian public but by the world public."

Then he explained that what the Indian professor had written represented his personal opinion only since, in the journal MEDJUNARODNA POLITIKA "the signed articles represent the positions of the authors."

Any moderately intelligent reader could ask why an international authority of such caliber has to have others not so well endowed answer for him. If that same reader wanted to look for the strings that pull certain parts, he could ask why two Yugoslav magazines are writing to BOHEMIA because of a reply that a Cuban journalist wrote to an Indian professor.

According to the article that these magazines decided to publish, Rajan is not guilty since BOHEMIA, "being against equidistance, erases all distance between the blocs."

They try to conclude saying: "That, even in the slightest form, means being opposed to the original criteria and principles of nonalignment and the vital interests of the nonaligned countries."

This statement--which we are used to reading in official documents of the U.S. State Department--will be answered in time by history. It will unequivocally

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reveal who was really faithful to the cause of the independence and sovereignty of the peoples, the vital interests of nonalignment, and who was devoted to other tasks not in accord with such generous objectives.

Without having to wait for the judgments of the future, simple observation reveals the role assumed by those professional journalists who carry out the commonplace and base task of trying to equate the revolutionary, progressive and pacifist forces of the world with the forces of imperialists, reactionaries and militarists.

Neutrality, ambiguity and the poses of those who pretend to be above good and evil are condemned to die with this century, to drown in decadence.

The assistant editor asked what spirits moved BOHEMIA. He can go on with his questions; we know the motives of NIN.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

STATE ARBITRATION AGENCY OVERSEES CONTRACT COMPLIANCE

Agency Operations Described

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 26 Jun 81 pp 28-31

[Article by Raul Lazo: "Internal Operations of State Arbitration"]

[Text] Recently this reporter was invited to participate in an act of conciliation convoked by the National State Arbitration Agency; the reason: economic contracts planned for 1981 had not been agreed upon. The definition of the official process which follows will not only help the reader who is not specialized on this subject to understand its conceptual meaning, but will also provide him with the key for a better understanding of a chain of motivations which have a bearing on the violation of contractual discipline.

The National State Arbitration Agency can by itself, without the need for any of the parties to request it, initiate the official arbitration process when it learns, through information obtained from institutions, agencies or organizations, about matters which are within the purview of any arbitration agency and which because of their seriousness may hinder compliance with the Economic-Social Development Master Plan or with contractual law, so that it may reestablish the economic and legal order which has been violated.

When we asked the National State Arbitration Agency for a list of the basic reasons why economic contracts are not agreed upon, they summarized them with the following points:

1. Nonattendance at the signing despite the actions of the offering enterprises.
2. Lack of knowledge of guideline figures.
3. The supplying enterprise does not guarantee delivery of products to consumers.
4. Problems of quality.
5. Lack of knowledge of specifications of products.
6. Discrepancies in the clauses of contracts.

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The simple reading of the causes previously listed explains by itself the reasons for nonpreparation of economic contracts for 1981 and, therefore we believe it is superfluous to comment on them.

Moreover, if we profoundly analyze each and all of them we can arrive at the conclusion that more than reasons for the violation of contractual discipline, they may be described as effects of other greater evils which do not show so obviously on the surface but which generate a chain reaction of noncompliance which may present itself in one way or another.

A Not Very Desirable "Function"

Let us remember that the official process is begun by the arbitration agency when neither of the parties, the supplier nor the buyer, makes a claim to the pertinent State Arbitration Agency, even when there is a violation of contractual discipline which affects them.

Simply speaking, the official process can acquire the appearance of a mere bureaucratic or administrative action or procedure, or whatever you want to call it, that is, when neither of the parties complains about anything, the Arbitration Agency takes it upon itself in the name of all society to convoke both legal individuals to "come to an agreement," or if applicable to decide on the drawing up of a contract. However, if we draw away from the "epidemic" surface of the "legal process," we will note that we are not only in the presence of this or that violation of contractual law here but of something much more, a violation of the principle of business management and of the role the socialist state and society have given to the enterprise as the basic economic, organizational, political and social cell of the socialist economy responsible for watching over and making the most rational use of the goods placed at its disposal.

Making a momentary abstraction of the seriousness implied by the violation of a clause of the contract, it is even more serious "that the harmed party does not make a complaint and remains indifferent before the harm caused to him by the other." Who of us, for example, would not hasten, impetuously and swiftly to make a complaint to a store which has sold us a defective article? A popular saying states: "Who is it that does not yell when his corn is stamped on?" It seems to be that some enterprise managers have become so "calloused" that their "business sense" has become so numbed that they do not feel the harm that others cause their enterprise and all of society by noncompliance with contracts. If we may use a somewhat "biblical" simile, we can say that "two mortal sins" appear in the official process convoked: the one who does not comply and the one who does not complain.

We would not dare to declare that managerial efficiency can be measured by the number of complaints the enterprises place before the State Arbitration Agencies, since every violation of contracts has a serious effect on the economy and it would be preferable that the enterprises agree between themselves without the need for resorting to arbitration. Nevertheless, in some measure, the fact that the parties who feel harmed channel their complaints through the State Arbitration Agency System denotes an understanding of the use of the legal machinery which the socialist state has placed at the disposal of the enterprises

so that they may exercise their rights and guarantee compliance with the part of the technical-economic plans pertaining to them. Something on which it seems to me there can be doubt is that among the causes which lead to official arbitration (let us make it clear that we do not mean official arbitration in itself) there is one which can be described as the worst and which can lead to many other evils: indifference. There is also that which we could describe as the lowest scale of managerial inefficiency, even when other aspects may have an influence here, such as lack of knowledge of the arbitration system, and so forth, but which cannot be used as a justification.

"Paternalism," Another Evil to be Fought

"We have not signed the contracts because that is what we were instructed by our higher organization."

"We are waiting for the higher organization to 'indicate' to us under what conditions we can effect a contract."

We have heard these justifications and others of the same "paternalistic" type, used by some enterprises to justify not entering into contracts within the period established by law.

However, if we review the General Regulations of the Socialist Enterprise from top to bottom, we do not find a single provision anywhere which says that the enterprises must wait for instructions or orders from their higher organizations before signing economic contracts. Very much to the contrary, it is stated clearly there that the enterprises have a methodological subordination to the central organizations to which they belong but that they are fully responsible for the execution of their own technical-economic plans.

Socialist enterprises work under an economic estimate, which is nothing more than a basic principle of planned economic guidance of the socialist society. The very content of the economic estimate is based on the socialist ownership of the means of production and is expressed through the creation of the economic laws of socialism, particularly the law of value and monetary-mercantile relationships and of centralized planning.

As an expression of the principle of economic estimate, it reflects not only a way of operation of the enterprises but also, and much more so, their position in the socialist economy, the field of economic relationships among themselves and with society as a whole.

These principles are based on the interest of its workers in the result of enterprise activity, for which purpose the enterprises have a legal system which establishes their duties and rights before the law.

Monetary-mercantile relationships are the basis of enterprise relations and it is precisely the economic contracts, which according to the basic norms for economic contracts, Article 3, "have as a cause and express legally the economic, monetary-mercantile relationships between the individuals mentioned (it refers to the legal and natural persons who are bound by the economic contract) in the previous article and it establishes the obligations deriving from them in order to insure organized cooperation for the execution of the Economic-Social Development Master Plan of the Nation."

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We can say that economic contracts are an element which help to establish in time and form the content of the monetary-mercantile relationships between the enterprises because it is in them that not only are the physical volume and value of the products contracted specified, but also their assortment, standards of quality, type of container, conditions of delivery and so forth, are established.

Because of the foregoing, it is inexplicable why some enterprises delay in entering into economic contracts or they make them depend on third parties, since contracting is an invaluable instrument of guidance which helps the enterprise to establish its objectives and is a "certificate of guarantee" to insure supplies and establish its obligations.

However, the violation of the principle of management autonomy, whether it be because of shortcomings, lack of knowledge, or in the worst case, because of cronyism, not only harms the enterprise economic activity but works against the political-social principle of democratic centralism.

It appears that in some enterprises the signing of contracts is a purely formal act during which a signature is affixed to a document. This is so much so that on occasions, fortunately not very generalized, some directors have sent their subordinates without any rank in management to sign contracts of which they are entirely ignorant. However, only a few weeks after State Arbitration went into operation, there are already signs that some of these vices which have been dragging along for a long time and which show the weakness in relations and in knowledge and preciseness of the content of monetary-mercantile relationships between the enterprises, not among those which do not have a stable commercial relationship, but among those which are joined by stable contacts, are beginning to show up.

What Brought Arbitration About?

We said at the beginning that in order to write this article we based ourselves on experience obtained by the reporter during his participation as a guest "without voice or vote" in two official procedures convoked by the National State Arbitration Agency. The parties who appeared were a foreign trade enterprise and another two from the Ministry of the Food Industry. The latter provide the former with their production for sale abroad; reason for the official arbitration process was that the pertinent economic contracts had not been entered into a long time after the deadline for their signing had passed.

We do not believe that it is naive to show a puerile unease or "surprise." How was it possible up to now to comply with plans without the existence of economic contracts and State Arbitration? We say this because one of the first aspects which leapt to view, or was made obvious in the act of conciliation, was that the supplying and buying enterprises did not speak a common language. There were aspects of the monetary-mercantile relationship which were objects of the contract and on which each had a different concept than the other with respect to the assortment of a certain product. It was not a matter in this case of a disagreement on a point of the contract and one on which the act of conciliation was precisely required but rather a matter of different interpretations which had not been detected previously and which came out in the arbitration process.

It is not our main purpose to point out or to make a criticism of those who wrote the conditions of the contract. Contractual activity is still very young and there is not much experience in it, that is why, although these errors are not justifiable, their reasons can be understood. More than that, however, we are interested in pointing out the advantages to be derived from economic contracting, which requires a high degree of preciseness in the content of monetary-mercantile relationships between the enterprises and which make obvious these shortcomings, which if economic contracts and state arbitration did not exist, could cause noncompliance with plans.

If it had not been for the signing of the contract and the role played by arbitration, perhaps the exporting enterprise would have committed itself to some foreign customer to supply him with a certain assortment in a quantity which the national producing enterprise was not in a condition to produce.

But even in the cases in which the points of difference between the enterprises were clearly marked, the activity of the arbiters, the decisions made by them, which must be complied with mandatorily by both parties, were decisive because they prevented the enterprises from becoming involved in a round of endless discussions which could endanger compliance with the mercantile activities of both.

However, in our understanding, the importance of state arbitration does not reside only in its functions for resolving differences in contracts, but in the fact that it also helps to bring out a number of shortcomings of prior management and enterprise relationships, which otherwise would not show up so quickly and obviously, even though many of these shortcomings do not have an immediate solution.

It was obvious in the act of conciliation we attended, for example, that there was weakness in the links and relations between the national producing enterprises and those which sell their products abroad. In the first place, we have the impression that these national enterprises still have a scant knowledge, or at least lack enough of the knowledge required, of the demanding conditions of the foreign market.

The preparation of economic contracts should become an element which helps not only to establish requirements and conditions which products must meet to be sold in world markets, but must also become an element which helps to stabilize the relationships of exchange of information.

Moreover, in the acts of conciliation to which we refer, it was made clear that these relationships between national economy and foreign trade are not limited to a simply bilateral relationship between two enterprises, one a producer and the other the exporter, but it showed also the chain of relations which is established and extends to other enterprises which are only in appearance not involved in the contract signed at that moment.

For example, during the act of conciliation, one of the enterprises which produces for export and from which the foreign trade enterprise required a certain standard of quality, argued that it could not meet that standard as long as a supplying enterprise of one of the components of the product it manufactures did not provide it with the quality required. Incidentally, we must say that this situation had already been the object of another act of conciliation which had resolved this situation, linking these enterprises with another that did produce with those standards.

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Other problems related to standards of quality arose in the act of conciliation. The national producing enterprise established some standards of quality in the terms of the contract which are the standards existing officially. However, in the discussions of the contract, the exporting enterprise stated that although that was the standard established officially, it did not meet the demands of the international market. Obviously the conclusion can be drawn here of the need to adjust that national standard to that of the international market, at least in that which refers to export products.

It would be impossible to explain here all the rich variety of lessons derived from our attendance at these acts of conciliation. Nevertheless, we believe that what we have said is an unobjectionable testimony of the importance of economic contracts and state arbitration as elements for improvement and perfecting the content of monetary-mercantile relationships between enterprises. To all the foregoing could be added the discussions on the conditions of delivery, transportation and storage of products.

As a final aspect, we would like to add that all this variety of situations, which characterize some shortcomings in the monetary-mercantile relationships between enterprises and other positive lessons which do not enter directly into the act of conciliation, should not be allowed to remain as purely anecdotal incidents, a byproduct which is lost once the arbitration activity is ended. Ways should be found to collect them and systematize them since they are valuable elements with which to analyze enterprise activity. It seems to us, at least during the acts of conciliation which we had the opportunity to attend, that this has not yet been instrumented. For our part we expect to repeat the experience.

Arbitration As A Law

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 3 Jul 81 p 34

[Article by Raul Lazo: "Socialist Legality and State Arbitration"]

[Text] Recently an agreement of cooperation was signed between the National State Arbitration Agency and the office of the Attorney General of the Republic, an important document in the process for strengthening socialist legality and particularly for the development of economic discipline in the field of contractual relationships and the activity of state arbitration.

Decree 23, which created state arbitration, specifies that among its objectives it is aimed at contributing to the strengthening of socialist legality.

Arbitration is not a repressive agency despite the fact that its decisions, provisions and findings must be complied with mandatorily. In this respect, the agreement signed between the two high state agencies guarantees suitable mechanisms and means of mandatory nature which guarantee and monitors socialist legality.

Article 144 of the penal code says: "The judicial or administrative official who refuses to comply with a sentence, resolution or order of the higher ranking authority issued within the limits of its jurisdiction and which complies with legal formalities, is subject to a jail sentence of from 3 to 9 months or a fine of up to 270 payments or both."

The signing of the aforementioned agreement facilitates the ways and means for remanding to the office of the Attorney General of the Republic any violator of the resolutions issued by the State Arbitration Agencies, as well as of any other type of crime detected by an official arbitration action. The document also considers a broad field of cooperation in the training of the personnel of both institutions.

The creation and maintenance of the principle of socialist legality is an essential method of state leadership of society, which has as an objective the continuous perfectioning of all the economic, political, social, cultural and moral life of the socialist society and its citizens. Socialist law represents the foundation of socialist legality and serves for clearly establishing the duties and rights of the state itself, those of the higher economic leadership institutions, the enterprises and social organizations.

Once Lenin said that as monetary-mercantile relationships develop in socialism, the need to place the importance of the creation of revolutionary legality in first place becomes more obvious.

In this respect, socialist legality in the state and economic leadership, as well as in enterprise activity, acquires a fundamental relevance since any violation of the principles of socialist legality not only implies or carries with it an economic harm but also affects the trust of the people in the state and the agencies of economic leadership negatively.

It is undeniable that in order to fully guarantee the maintenance of socialist legality it becomes necessary that there be an agency that effects surveillance over strict compliance with it. That is why the document signed between state arbitration and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic is a very valuable document in this respect.

However, compulsory compliance required by the pertinent agencies, even when it is an important instrument for safeguarding socialist legality, cannot be considered as the only and most important means for the maintenance of that legality, which rests on the confluence of interests among the individual entities and citizens and those of all of society. In this respect, contractual activity and state arbitration and the development of both is a valuable means for education and for the strengthening of the awareness of socialist legality.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION ON RISE IN LAS TUNAS

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 10 Jul 81 pp 28-31

[Article by Gloria Marsan: "Mambises Yesterday, Builders Today, Winners Always"]

[Text] Las Tunas burns once more. Although it is a little-known passage in our history, in the book on this province there is published that in 1876 Vicente Garcia managed to take the city after a violent battle. However, since he could not hold it, he ordered it burned on 26 September. When the 10-year war ended in 1897, Maj Gen Calixto Garcia showed the enemy how far the self-sacrifice of the Tunas people went when the brave fighters once more burned their family homes, which burned for a week.

Once more the heirs of those Mambises thrill at the thought of combat. But now the revolutionary enthusiasm is because their province has been declared the site of the main ceremony commemorating the 28th anniversary of the attack on Moncada Barracks. The people of Tunas, in a spirited endeavor, are making extraordinary efforts to offer their guests a reception worthy of 26 July.

Among the men and women who give the best of themselves to fulfill the ambitious plans the province has set for itself are the worthy "men of the white helmets." They produced 135 million pesos in industrial, agricultural-livestock, social and educational projects during the past 5-year period and by doing so they contributed to making a reality of the words of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at the inauguration of the Health Complex of this city, when he said: "We would like that with that enthusiasm, that spirit of work of the people of Tunas, with their effort and their efficiency, they would win the right to commemorate a 26 July."

Las Tunas on the 26th

BOHEMIA ECONOMICA is visiting some of the projects which the people of Tunas are proposing to finish or advance to commemorate the glorious date of the Cuban revolutionaries. We initiate our tour at the glass container factory. This is a plant of Belgian technology whose value is on the order of 16 million pesos. When it is working at full capacity, it will reach an annual production of 300 million containers with an assortment of more than 20 types, which will satisfy the demand posed by the development of the food industry as well as some items for pharmaceuticals and perfumes. Fifty percent of its production will be from recycled glass.

In April 1978 it was visited by the supreme leader of the revolution, who pointed out the need for advancing its construction timetable so that it would be finished a year early. Actually, difficulties with some materials prevented the compliance with that commitment by the builders. However, once these were overcome, they managed to deliver it 6 months ahead of schedule, there remaining at this time only some details on the outside of the plant to be completed.

Technical tests are already underway without major difficulties. These accomplishments are due to the efforts of thousands of builders of the entire country. This project truly marks a point of take-off for the people of Tunas. It has become a great school which made its contingent of construction workers specialists in the construction of industrial projects.

Several times we have written on "Metallic Structures," and invariably we called it a "factory factory," because when it goes into full operation, it will produce some 20,000 tons of structures per year for the construction of industries of various types. It is worth mentioning that its expansion during the next 5-year period, increasing its possibilities to 40,000 tons per year, is already under study.

The construction timetable scheduled its completion for the end of last year. It was visited by Fidel twice and the workers pledged to beat that deadline. A proof of the effort made was the presentation of the red "Ho Chi Minh" flag, the highest award of the National Union of Construction Workers (SNTC), in the special emulation on industrial projects.

Despite the rate of work achieved, it could not be maintained. Weather difficulties and, basically, problems in supplies prevented it. However it is now in the completion phase and is partially in use, producing not only elements of its main production line but also some additional items.

Therefore, as July ends, practically only a minimum force of construction workers will remain there to make small adjustments in the final phase of placing it in operation. With this plant Cuba resolves great problems for its development, primarily in metal-working because a large quantity of the parts for the industrial installation of the projects in the country will be made here, among them for the projects in the northern part of the eastern region.

A plan for bagasse panels is being built at the Jesus Menendez sugar mill complex. This project has characteristics which differentiate it from the other two existing on the island. The plant of the Camilo Cienfuegos sugar mill complex in La Habana Province is already in production and that of the Primero de Enero in Ciego de Avila is in the construction phase. Both will be able to produce thick panels.

The Las Tunas plant has a more advanced technology, although it will also produce thick panels from bagasse to replace lumber, it will also produce thin panels. The plan assigned this year is for 2 million pesos and it is expected that it will be greatly exceeded. According to the timetable,, it should be completed next year. However, it is possible that it will be completed ahead of time because as other projects of greater scope are finished in the province, this one will be reinforced.

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At this time, some partial completions are being ordered to guarantee the beginning of operational tests during the next sugarcane harvest. Among the equipment to be completed is the conveyor that will take bagasse from the sugarmill to the plant. The shredder, the predrying area and storage area should also be completed.

The Infrastructure for an Explosion

Las Tunas is traditionally an essentially agricultural province. That is why when projects of purely industrial characteristics are planned, there immediately begins to appear the need for creating an infrastructure capable of responding to that industrial explosion, which is reflected logically in the development of housing and other social programs basically within the field of architecture.

This has generated the need for developing projects in the field of industrial production of housing, asphalt, prefabricated carpentry, production of dry mixes, and so forth. This province had great limitation in the area of the materials industry inherited from capitalism. To overcome them, the installation of a sand washer and the movement of another to a zone rich in this material is being accomplished.

Work is also going on in the installation of a rock crusher in the municipality of Majibacoa, whose capacity will be 200,000 cubic meters per year. Two "large panel 6" technology plants are being built, one in Puerto Padre and the other in the city of Las Tunas, each with a capacity of 650 housing units each. Within the framework of the plan for commemorating the 26th of July, is the conclusion of the first one and physical advancement, is making it possible. Its production will be dependent on whether the metalworking industry will be able to provide it with the molds required for its operation.

The province has an asphalt plant, but its capacity cannot supply the growing needs which are coming. Therefore, the initiation of a new plant in the city of Las Tunas is scheduled, as well as the transfer of the present plant to the zone of Amancio and Colombia, since the acids required are available there and its production will satisfy the demand.

A carpentry plant will also be built in the city of Las Tunas. This project is experiencing problems in the earth-moving phase for fulfilling the scheduled plan. Nevertheless, with the increased activities in commemoration of 26 July, it is expected that the situation will be resolved, thus beginning its construction within this period.

Among the prospects of agricultural development is the conclusion of three sugarcane collection and processing centers, of which two are in the earth-moving phase. That of the municipality of Colombia is having difficulties because of a lack of plans. However, it is expected that these will be delivered during this phase and the special crews will soon begin construction, which will allow its completion pursuant to the foreseen timetable.

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In the Field of Health

The program of architectural projects has always been among the strongest in the province, great experience being acquired in recent years in constructions for health. Recently the health complex, whose main construction is the Ernesto Guevara Hospital, was completed. It also has a home for senior citizens, one for the physically handicapped, a polyclinic and so forth. The School of Medical Sciences, is now under construction. At first it had some delays in the movement of earth because it is located on extremely hard ground and to this were added some indecisions in the plan because it was necessary to modify it to integrate it into the master plan of the city.

Due to the priority given to the foregoing projects, there was a delay in the construction of the Puerto Padre hospital, which is now being greatly intensified, since in addition to having Brigade No 8315 of Integral Enterprise No 2 of this province working on it, there are also 145 members of the high productivity special contingent working here. They were sent by the National Union of Construction Workers.

Constructions workers are working on the initial phase of the area of the polyclinic. This means that by 26 July there will be a large part providing service to the population. However, there will still be various aspects of the hospital to be completed. Of course, as the builders say, this will depend on the steady flow of materials continuing in this final phase.

The polyclinic of the Amancio Rodriguez municipality should have been completed, but delays in its plan delayed it. Now there is an intensive struggle going on to complete it in commemoration of 26 July, although interruptions in the supply of water and sewage installations and some other materials are jeopardizing its conclusion. Another polyclinic is being built in the city of Las Tunas but it was delayed when the health complex was given a higher priority. It is now said that it will be inaugurated among the projects for 26 July.

Two children's nurseries are being built in the province. Between them they can hold 360 children. Of the Giron technology, one is being built in the zone of Manati and the other in the city of Las Tunas. Neither one is having trouble with its timetable, which means they will be completed by 26 July.

Among the school projects, there are two which are expected to be completed on the anniversary of the attack on Moncada Barracks. One is the semi-boarding school of the city of Las Tunas with a capacity of 600 students. The conclusion of this project is a serious commitment of the people of Tunas, since it is scheduled to be used as a villa for the housing of visitors to the main event of the commemoration of the 28th anniversary of the attack on Moncada Barracks. When we were there, it was still in the installation phase but we are sure that when supply problems are resolved, the construction workers will meet the challenge imposed.

The other school is the urban junior high school of the Jesus Menendez municipality, which was delayed because of nondelivery of plans at the scheduled time. Its completion will require an extraordinary effort. But as always, the worthy men of the white helmets will meet the target date proposed as a commemoration of 26 July. A large expansion of the sugarcane agriculture

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polytechnical school is also taking place in this municipality. It consists of shops and laboratories for the practice of the subjects studied there.

Housing

Undoubtedly Las Tunas should not be an exception but there was a historical moment described as a demographic explosion. Nevertheless, recent years have been characterized by a relatively moderate rate of growth. Due to limitations, primarily a result of the setting of priorities for the development of other areas, housing constructions programs, as in the rest of the country, fell behind. That is why, as of the moment in which a proportional level in constructions for health and education was reached and the province begins its industrial take-off, residential projects are beginning, although still modestly.

As of last year there has been an increase in the investment of some resources allocated for the construction of housing. At this time the results of all this effort can begin to be seen. In this respect, the major builders of the province are busy working: Ministry of Construction [MICONS], Ministry of Agriculture [MINAGRI], Ministry of the Sugar Industry [MINAZ], People's Government, and the private sector. The plan is to complete 5,397 houses in commemoration of 26 July.

The MICONS works basically with traditional technologies: large panel 4: system E-14; SPT-72, and so forth, although the first endeavor in the system of tall buildings has also been initiated. The foundations for a 12-story building are being built and another of 18 stories is being

At this time the province intends to complete 529 houses through MICONS in commemoration of 26 July. Of them the largest percentage will be in the city of Las Tunas and will be used as villas for housing some of those invited to the celebration of the great date.

Plan for Completion of Housing in Commemoration of 26 July

Municipality	MICONS	MINAGRI	MINAZ	People's Government	Private	Total
Manati	16	5	181	10	164	376
Puerto Padre	28	26	285	202	339	880
Jesus Menendez	-	5	126	60	224	415
Majibacoa	-	5	65	15	64	149
Las Tunas	340	13	6	156	1193	2508
Jobabo	10	5	63	10	80	168
Colombia	10	5	95	26	280	416
Amancio Rodriguez	24	1	65	50	345	485
TOTAL	428	65	886	529	3489	5397

It is in His Blood

Las Tunas is a province which is practically without tourist accommodation installations and that is why the builders of the new hotel say that this is a building of vital importance. Since they are aware of this aspect, they have

decided to build it as quickly as possible but without under any circumstances allowing such a factor to cause them to neglect quality. To tell the truth, what we saw there impressed us.

Julito Rodriguez is the assistant project chief and his father, Julio Rodriguez, is his immediate superior. Julito says: "The old man is tremendously fussy, with great experience and demanding habits to match. When prefabricated or other materials do not meet required standards, he will not accept them. This, of course favors the quality of the project."

They work with enthusiasm and they have the support of a part of the specialized contingent of high productivity of the SNTC. There is the decision to use it as a villa for the housing of visitors during the 26 July celebration. However the construction workers prefer, in order to maintain quality, to make a partial completion of the 136 rooms and the cabins, going on to finish it completely at a subsequent date.

But since we are obstinately incredulous, we issued our challenge: Seeing is believing. With the eyes of a careful customer we shall visit them when enough time has passed. We shall analyze the experience of the builder and we shall meet with the brigade of construction workers again. We promise to inform the readers on this meeting.

In El Cornito there is an expansion which covers new access roads, parking lots, a bridge, 50 double cabins and so forth. All the effort of the builders of Ciego de Avila is focused here because this like many other projects is the result of interprovincial solidarity. Construction workers from all provinces with their resources are arriving to help Las Tunas in its endeavor to offer a pleasant and warm reception to those who come to celebrate 26 July with them.

In El Mirador del Cerro de Caisimu there is also an expansion, increasing the number of cabins and refurbishing those already existing. This work is being done by construction workers of Pinar del Rio who work with great enthusiasm, certain of meeting their goal.

Roads

A great effort is being made in the repair and construction of communications roads in the province. Among these most important projects are those of the Tunas to Manati highway, which is 42 kilometers long. It will also have a branch road which will allow access to Cobarrubia Beach, a zone of extraordinary natural beauty and a great attraction for future tourist development.

The 17-kilometer road which joins the capital of Las Tunas with Cerro de Caisimu is being improved. A part of it is already finished and work is going on in the construction of the 60-meter bridge across the Almendron River.

The highway from Puerto Padre to Velasco is also being rebuilt. It runs along the northern coast to La Lianita Beach, which is now being used. As far as sugarcane roads are concerned, work is being done in the zone of the Amancio

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Rodriguez municipality to facilitate the hauling of cane out of these areas, which are extremely low. Since this is a densely populated zone, a highway from Amancio to Jobabo is being built. Within the program of work to commemorate 26 July, undoubtedly this road will be given a boost. However, in order to finish it, it is necessary that the MICONS project of sending the required equipment to the construction brigade be accomplished.

The Construction Workers will Win

These and other projects to be initiated represent in large measure the victorious take-off of the people of Tunas toward the development of their young province. Undeniably the battle has just begun but we know that not a single man will take a step backward. Just as yesterday their Mambises spiritedly won a victory, today the construction workers will keep high that banner symbolically placed in their hands by the commander in chief when he called them "the worthy men of the white helmets." There is no doubt: The construction workers together with the people will win in Las Tunas.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

DENGUE FEVER: HOW STARTED, HOW COMBATED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 26 Jun 81 pp 44-45

[Article by Frank Hechavarria]

[Text] The Ministry of Public Health recently revealed the outbreak of an epidemic producing very high fevers (40° to 41°), severe headaches, abdominal pain and pain throughout the body, vomiting and diarrhea. The appearance of the uncomfortable illness caused alarm among the people living in districts and municipalities of Havana City and Havana provinces. The rapid mobilization of the health organization made it possible to determine that the epidemic is caused by a virus of the disease known as "dengue," as well as its carrier, the Aedes aegypti mosquito.

In order to provide the people with more information, BOHEMIA interviewed Dr Rodolfo Rodriguez, director of epidemiology of the Vice Ministry of Hygiene and Epidemiology of the Ministry of Public Health.

"This is a viral-type disease. As you know, there is no vaccine to prevent it. It is a disease that takes several days to develop. In our case, we are dealing with a variety different from the one that circulated in the 1977-1978 epidemic, although the measures of treatment and control are similar in both cases," Dr Rodriguez said. "In the beginning, we doubted whether it was the same type of dengue, but our laboratories and the Institute of Tropical Medicine have already confirmed it."

"Doctor, where in Havana did the outbreak begin?" we asked.

"The situation began in the municipalities on the periphery of Havana City Province, near Rancho Boyeros, Wajay, Guanabacoa, Abel Santamaria and other areas. Cases then began to appear in Santiago de las Vegas, Guines and Melena, but with fewer victims. There have been isolated cases in other municipalities, but they have almost always been related to persons from the areas where the outbreak began."

"Then the symptoms are the same as in the previous dengue outbreak?" we asked.

"Well, this is an illness characterized by a strong fever that begins suddenly, severe headache (especially behind the eyes), in the joints, muscles and bones. In many cases, there may be diarrhea and vomiting. Three or four days after the onset of fever, there may be a rash similar to rubiola, and it may therefore be confused with that disease. When these symptoms have ended, the victims recover satisfactorily, although they remain depressed and fatigued.

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"It is good to point out that the entire population is susceptible to this type of dengue and the clinical manifestations may vary. Some patients do not seek medical care, but any person with symptoms similar to those of this illness should go to the doctor immediately, for he will give them the proper instructions and above all, help us to have true control of the epidemic and prevent complications," he added. "In this way, we know where we have to make the greatest efforts from the epidemiological standpoint, for elimination of the carrier: the Aedes aegypti mosquito."

"And what can you tell us about the measures that have been taken to eradicate the outbreak?"

"There are many measures that have been taken. Although in the beginning, it was concentrated in Havana City and Havana provinces, there are national control activities in which all government and mass organizations participate under the supervision and technical orientation of the Ministry of Public Health.

"In order to fight the outbreak directly, meaning eliminating the mosquito, we are working to fumigate and 'abaticize' homes one by one. In addition, we have made recommendations about how to avoid and eliminate possible breeding grounds. The fight is against the mosquito and larvae. We emphasize that the most important thing is the cooperation of the people in order to manage to break the chain of transmission within the shortest possible time."

Old Havana

After hearing the words of Dr Rodolfo Rodriguez, we decided to make a tour of the municipality of Old Havana in order to observe how the work of eradicating the Aedes aegypti mosquito is progressing.

At the municipal health organization, we were greeted by Dr Sonia Nordet Cardona and Dr Rodrigo Perez Carrillo, municipal director and epidemiologist respectively. We were also met by comrade Jose A. Betancourt Negrin, specialized health workers and head of the Old Havana Vectors Control Unit.

They explained that first of all, the fight is aimed at eliminating all possible breeding grounds for mosquitos. For this purpose, they have the cooperation of the People's Government, the Federation of Cuban Women and the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution]. All coordination has been achieved through meetings held to ensure that the campaign would be effective.

Interested in learning how the campaign is now going, we were told that it was through sanitary workers brigades. Some abaticize house by house, while others fumigate using portable sprayers, bazookas and tractor sprayers.

We told Dr Nordet that we know that there are enterprises and organizations not complying with provisions that have been ordered for eradication of the Aedes aegypti. She answered:

"Yes, that is true, and many have not even reported the number of places to be treated and the measures that must be taken. The plan is to be carried out in a week. If they do not do so, immediate legal measures will be taken."

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"You should know," comrade Betancourt, head of the Vector Control Unit, then said, "that in only 2 days of inspection, we presented 35 notifications of Decree Law 27 to enterprises that had not yet complied with the guidelines that the government set forth two weeks ago. There are some units: the National Transport Base, for example, that began work immediately, and when the sanitary workers arrived, they were cleaning out the entire side of Castillo de Atares, because it was a tremendous breeding ground for mosquitos."

Dr Nordet added that it is good to point out organizations that have complied: Domestic Trade, for example, whose central office and all its establishments in the municipality have reported and even gone so far as to request the abate in order to launch its measures.

"And yet," she said, "we have several that have not done so, but the most critical at the present time are two units: Aguirre Ironworks and a Mambisas warehouse located in San Ignacio 408, which has large mosquito breeding grounds. At the Aguirre Ironworks, measures have been taken and there are not so many mosquitos, but that is a place where tons of scrap are dumped and when it rains, water collects and forms breeding grounds. We are going there to inspect again today."

We asked the director of the public health sector in Old Havana how many centers have already reported their plan of measures to eradicate mosquitos, and she said:

"At the present time, we have about 400 centers, but the problem is that in this municipality, there are about a thousand and we have to verify them. It is precisely for that purpose that we are meeting today."

Aguirre Ironworks

We had decided to visit the Mambisas warehouses first, but the comrade who was to bring the keys did not come. We then chose the Aguirre Ironworks and the MINAZ [Ministry of the Sugar Industry] warehouses.

At the Aguirre Ironworks, we were able to verify that indeed, the mountains of old iron and scrap could become veritable mosquito breeding grounds and this alarmed us. We asked the physical protection comrade accompanying us if there were many mosquitos in the area and he told us:

"We did have mosquitos, but a few days ago, the public health comrades came and fumigated completely. They did a thorough job and from that time on, we have not had mosquitos. Naturally, we followed the instructions given us and we have kept up the work, avoiding the formation of any more breeding grounds."

We followed the health sector comrades in the Old Havana municipality in their inspection of the Aguirre Ironworks and observed that there were no breeding grounds for mosquitos. The work had been done well. Places where water might collect if it should rain now contain oil to prevent the formation of breeding grounds.

MINAZ Warehouses

At the central MINAZ warehouses, an inspection visit was also made. We were accompanied by our comrade from physical protection, who explained that there are quite a few mosquitos in the area. We asked what was being done to prevent them.

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"At the present time, we have a sanitation campaign to wipe out the mosquito as we were directed to do," he said. "We are covering all crates with plastic that were previously uncovered. Since this is a warehouse that receives a great deal of goods for the national sugar industry, the volume is too great and it is impossible to move so many crates, but we are waging an intensive campaign to clean up all the yards, throwing away garbage, covering all tanks, but this is not the work of one day. It is a huge task. I believe that now, having gotten rid of the garbage, we are going to eliminate the mosquito problem."

Our Vector Control comrade could not praise the sanitation work done by the comrades from the MINAZ central warehouses, who pledged to get rid of all possible containers where water might collect. He decided to return another day with a team from the health sector to fumigate the entire area. He announced that he would return in a few days to see whether all the eradication measures had been taken. Otherwise, the sanctions set forth by Decree Law 27 would go into effect.

In our tour of the port, we observed that there were hundreds of places where mosquitos abound because of the extensive breeding grounds that exist. For example, in the yards of the warehouses of the Cuban Fishing Fleet and in those of Mambisas and the port, there are enormous quantities of garbage, containers full of water, old tires, and so on. In the area alongside the overhead railroad, near Tallapiedra, large quantities of materials, crates and other articles are stored, allowing water to accumulate in such a way that grass has grown and small, clean pools of water have formed, an excellent spot for the Aedes' vacations!

We asked the Vector Control comrade about this and he informed us that they have repeatedly notified the port and the Cuban Fishing Fleet of the situation, but that no measures have been taken because the areas are under the jurisdiction of the province.

After our tour of the critical areas in Old Havana, we went to the area where a sanitation brigade from the Vector Control Unit was working. We observed the way in which the abate was being distributed house by house and the fumigation by streets and parks in this wide zone of our capital. Castillo's camera lens has provided us with graphic evidence of this task of eradicating the dangerous agent: the Aedes aegypti.

Home Sprayers

Talking with one housewife in Old Havana, we found real concern about a problem that exists and that could easily be solved: Why, in existing units, does the People's Government not manufacture home insecticide sprayers (the well-known "Flit" container)? Why has that efficient device, which is an effective weapon against mosquitos, disappeared?

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

BORER INFESTATIONS IN SUGAR CANE BEING ERADICATED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 26 Jun 81 p 35

[Interview with Plant Health Department technicians, by Andres Rodriguez]

[Text] In order to determine the incidence of borer infestation, the principal pest attacking the sugar cane crop, a national survey was conducted during the 1980 season by the Plant Health Department of the Ministry of the Sugar Industry. After its completion, we talked with technicians from that department.

[Question] Let us begin with a suspicious question: Can the survey be considered representative?

[Answer] In our opinion, yes, it can, because it included 8 out of the country's 13 sugar-growing provinces and 53 percent of the existing sugar cane enterprises. Nevertheless, we also believe that if it had taken in all the provinces, it would have been even more representative.

[Question] What provinces did not participate in the survey?

[Answer] Pinar del Rio, Villa Clara, Camaguey, Granma and Santiago de Cuba provinces did not participate for different reasons.

[Question] To what do you attribute the fact that Matanzas and Cienfuegos provinces have been the most affected by the borer when both of them have significant differences in their harvesting conditions -- that is, Matanzas burns a high percentage of its plantations, while Cienfuegos cuts nearly all its green cane?

[Answer] The burning of the cane is a destructive factor affecting the natural enemies of the borer. In other words, it affects the development of biological controls. Nevertheless, other important factors are also involved in the problem, including fluctuations in temperature, which can affect both the pest and its biological controls, and the level of precipitation, because heavy rainfall affects the trichogramma, the greatest destroyer of borer infestations in Cuba. In addition, the infestations are markedly zonal in nature, an aspect already reported in the 1940's by the eminent Cuban entomologist Luis C. Scaramuzza, who found that the cane planted in red soil with a high level of moisture is the most likely to be attacked by the borer.

[Question] Your conclusion then?

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[Answer] Our conclusion is that the level of damage caused by the pest is determined by a complex interrelationship of different factors and not by the specific action of any one of them.

[Question] Why is Guantanamo the province with the least infestation?

[Answer] The answer to that question cannot be found in the survey because it was confined to evaluating the level of damage. Nevertheless, we must say that traditionally speaking, Guantanamo and Santiago de Cuba have had relatively little damage compared with the other provinces. We believe it would be interesting for investigators to study the phenomenon and to find its causes.

[Question] The pest's attack on different varieties in the different provinces presents curious phenomena. For example, why does the Jaronu 60-5 have a high incidence of infestation in Matanzas, while this is not so in the other provinces?

[Answer] From the statistical standpoint, the borer's attack on the varieties surveyed does not offer significant differences. But it can be generally observed that the most serious attack in Matanzas on the Jaronu 60-5 is related to the fact that the levels of damage are higher in that provinces than in the others.

[Question] One final two-part question: Has it been possible to determine the incidence of the borer on the agricultural and sugar yields? How is the 1981 sugar cane survey going?

[Answer] In answer to the first part, there is abundant literature on the matter. Already in 1953, Cuban research worker Barreto calculated that for every 1 percent of cane bored into by the pest, .023 percent of the sugar yield was lost. Later, in 1966, Rudzki, an internationally-known investigator, determined that the loss was .035 percent for every 1 percent. Likewise, it is generally accepted on our continent that the average loss in sugar yield is .5 percent for every 1 percent affected. In our country, we have already done a survey on the basis of the microstrips existing in the mills and laboratory analyses in order to determine such losses. We hope to offer the first results when the 1982 sugar cane harvest ends.

In answer to the second part, I can say that the 1981 survey is going very well and we are confident that it will take in all provinces and nearly 100 percent of the cane enterprises for the first time in our country.

Conclusion

For our part, we shall continue to follow the trail of the borer and it is therefore very possible that we may once again meet with technicians from the Plant Health Department of the Ministry of the Sugar Industry.

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COUNTRY SECTION

CUBA

CANE RUST ERADICATION, SUSCEPTIBLE VARIETIES NOTED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 10 Jul 81 pp 90-91

[Article by Andres Rodriguez]

[Text] After a long drawn-out tour of the continent that began in Argentina in 1940, rust arrived in Cuba -- or at least its presence was reported -- on 3 October 1978. Its first victim was the Luis Enrique Carracedo enterprise in Granma Province. Since that time, the fungus disease has gradually spread throughout the country and by the end of 1980, it was found in all sugar-growing provinces in varying degrees.

However, rust has not been as explosive as mildew was, for example, as soon as it was detected. This factor, along with the fact that to date, agricultural yields have not reflected any signs of decline, might mean a kind of peaceful coexistence with the disease.

Although these are the current manifestations of the disease, plant health experts as well as many producers are interested in seeing that the mildew phenomenon is not repeated. Consequently, their guard is up and the rust defense program is beginning to be strengthened.

In order to contribute to the effort, we visited two sugar cane enterprises in the country that have suffered greatly from the disease: Siete de Noviembre and Primero de Mayo, located in Sancti Spiritus and Cienfuegos provinces respectively.

Siete de Noviembre

Natividad and Tayabacoa are the two districts attached to the enterprise, which is located in the extreme south of Sancti Spiritus Province. The former is healthy, while the latter has rust in 9 out of the 201 available caballerias [1 caballeria = 33.2 acres] of cane.

Nine out of 201: Why worry about such an insignificant proportion? The active members of the provincial plant health team explained: "Every growth is surrounded by a mass of millions of spores, which are carried by the wind and constitute the main way in which the disease is spread."

Then how many million spores are contained in the nine infested caballerias?

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"That is the risk we run," the experts continued. "The great concentration of viruses in the air increases the possibility of affecting varieties that have had favorable resistance to the disease, among them the Jaronu 60-5 and the Cuba 87-51, which are predominant in the country."

We then analyzed the composition of varieties of Tayabacoa, the affected district. It is nearly all Jaronu 60-5 and Cuba 87-51. Why then was it attacked?

"It is the mixing of varieties," was the immediate answer.

"Yes, here the Barbados 42231 was predominant," the head of the Tayabacoa district told us, going into a myriad of details. They began to destroy that variety, already banned because of its great susceptibility to rust, and replaced it with the Jaronu 60-5, but it was not planted exclusively and along with it were undesirable mixtures of other varieties, basically the Barbados 42231.

The conclusion was obvious: Although the fields affected are registered as Jaronu 60-5, they have a mixture of Barbados 42231, whence the appearance of the fungus with their millions of traveling spores.

Primer de Mayo

In the seven districts of the Primer de Mayo enterprise, rust has broken out in varying degrees. But the district hardest hit is precisely where there is a predominant variety with great resistance to the disease: Cuba 87-51. How can one explain the contradiction when other susceptible varieties are not registered?

"The mixture of varieties," came the old refrain.

We then saw with our own eyes plantations of Cuba 87-51 mixed with Coimbatore 213, a variety also attacked by rust and banned in the country. To be truthful, they are fields of Coimbatore 213 with a mixture of Cuba 87-51.

Naturally, on Siete de Noviembre and here, they emphasized that the variety reported as actually infested was the mixture and not the one registered. In this case, consequently, the Coimbatore and not the Cuba was reported, and in the previous case, the Barbados rather than the Jaronu.

And for the purposes of the harvest?

"The one registered," was the unanimous reply in both cases.

End of paragraph! Let us therefore leave this matter for when we continue our investigation undertaken by BOHEMIA ECONOMICA concerning the problem of sugar yield.

However, there remains a very objective fact that serves as a warning: Great care must be taken with the mixtures, especially those of varieties susceptible to rust.

Unequal Forms of Pay

The surveyor apparently plays an important role in the fight against rust. Every day, this man, on horseback, rides through the plantations to detect the dangerous

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fungus. Does this constitute skilled work? It is best that we avoid lengthy dissertations on a subject over which for the time being we have no control. But it is nevertheless obvious that that man does assume a responsibility whose form of payment is lacking in uniformity, based on what we saw.

On Siete de Noviembre, the surveyer of the Tayabacoa district with whom we talked was paid a monthly wage of 127 pesos, without any other economic incentive. On Primero de Mayo, on the other hand, there is no fixed wage; rather, they paid according to a scale, like other farm workers.

We bring the problem out into the open in the hope that a uniform solution will be sought, one contributing to the stability so necessary to the rust protection program.

Varieties

What variety do we have here?

The old man and the young man, both members of the sanitary brigade in the Tayabacoa district, looked at the plant.

"It is white Barbados, the 4362," the old man said.

"Jaronu 60-5," the young man said after inspecting the buds.

The district technician then assumed the role of Solomon.

"Yes, it is Jaronu 60-5, but it has shoots mixed with Barbados 42231."

"That no one saw," we added.

This is an isolated incident. Consequently, it cannot be interpreted as representative; far from it. However, we think the message is valid: Do we know all the varieties that are particularly susceptible to the disease?

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