

[Redacted]

REPORT NO. [Redacted]

CD NO. --

COUNTRY Hungary
SUBJECT Economic; Sociological - Work productivity

DATE OF INFORMATION 1951

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper

DATE DIST. 5 Feb 1952

WHERE PUBLISHED Budapest

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE PUBLISHED 2 Nov 1951

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Hungarian

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SCORE BUREAUCRATIC METHODS FOR PRODUCTION LAG

The remaining 9 weeks of the year will decide whether the 1951 production plan will be fulfilled. The results of the 7 November competition, however, plus a concentrated effort in the time that remains will permit the production lag to be made up, and the production plan exceeded. In addition to the effect of the approaching deadline, individual responsibility is now felt more deeply by the workers than ever before.

Bureaucratic methods in the work competition movement retarded a high degree of activation of the labor force. Often, the motion for collective contracts of a shop originated in the shop triangle [party-trade union -management] without the workers' knowledge. Although, on paper, the number of workers engaged in the work competition movement increased, challenges and competition pacts frequently were not followed by actual competition. The officials who thought they were fulfilling their duty with respect to the work competition movement in this manner only tricked their superior agencies, and themselves. Former bureaucratic methods also inhibited enthusiasm in functionaries in charge of organizing the activation of labor. Preparatory work in connection with the 7 November work competition drive, however, was a radical departure from previous, lax practice; workers were consulted individually, and the joint responsibility pledge based on their individual, voluntary pledges.

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