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MINING FACILITIES MECHANIZED

MECHANIZATION USES SALVAGED EQUIPMENT -- Politika, No 13179, 9 Mar 49

Last year over a billion dinars' worth of unused materials and several thousand idle motors and machines suitable for use in the mechanizations of mining operations were discovered in various mines. These included endless rubber belts, pneumatic hammers, electric drills, and machinery for loading ore.

According to plans, mechanization is to be introduced wherever the broad-face method can be employed. Last year, electrification and small-scale basic mechanization were introduced into the mines to such an extent that there is scarcely a working place this year where drilling is done by hand.

With modern drilling equipment, only 15 minutes are required for drilling ten holes a meter deep, a task that requires two hours with manual drills. With the pneumatic loading equipment installed at the Ibar mines, 13 pit cars can be loaded in 2 hours instead of the 5 required for loading by hand with shovels.

In the Aleksinac mine, gateways several meters long will be cut and shaking conveyors installed to transport the coal to the lowest level, after which it will pass through the main transport road on an endless track. This hauling system will cut production costs and free about 30 workers for other duties. At the Jelasnica mine the worn-out Diesel engines, which have brought the hauling system to a standstill, will be replaced by winding engines made at the mine. At Aleksinac, endless rubber belts 2.5 meters long, which have been installed for loading the pit cars, have doubled working efficiency.

At the Zenica mine, an old chain system which has lain for decades in a heap of scrap iron has been put into service. This equipment speeds damming-off operations by 30 percent and releases nine men for other work. However, it will soon be replaced by more modern equipment. The Erastnik mine also has installed machinery for damming off exhausted chambers.

The Bor miners have salvaged an abandoned turbine which had lain for years in a scrap-heap at Trbovlje. They repaired it, had new parts made at the "Rade Koncar" Factory, and installed it at Bor, where it now supplements their supply of power for the compressors and electric drills.

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RESTRICTED**SERBIAN COAL FIELD MODERNIZES EQUIPMENT -- Politika, No 13180, 10 Mar 49**

Zajecar -- The installation of electric power from the Zvezdan thermo-electric power plant at the "Rtanj" and "Bogovina" mines and the introduction of winding engines at the "Bogovina" mine greatly improved production and the quality of coal mined.

A large 30-cubic meter compressor to supply the pit with compressed air was installed recently at the "Dobra Sreca" mine, and the "Lubnica" mine has changed over to electric drilling at all working places.

The workers' collectives of the Timok coal field in Serbia fulfilled their February production plan 105.7 percent. Almost all the mines in this field met their individual plans.

BOSNIAN MINE IMPROVES FACILITIES -- Politika, No 13176, 5 Mar 49

The Ljubija mine in Bosnia fulfilled its January production plan 100.5 percent and exceeded its February plan by 5.08 percent.

Improved mechanization of the ore hauling system and the addition of new railroad tracks and switches are expected to raise production above the planned figure, although new power shovels, locomotives, and compressors and more electric power are badly needed. Although the power plant fulfilled its February plan 111.6 percent, it still did not produce enough power for present needs, much less for the spring months, for which the production plans are much greater. Preparatory work has been done toward the construction of a new turbine unit, which is expected to be ready for service in the power plant by 1 May.

BOSNIAN MINE INCREASES PRODUCTION -- Politika, No 13177, 6 Mar 49

The February production plan at the Vares mine in Bosnia was fulfilled, although it was 30 percent greater than the January plan. Increased production was made possible through further mechanization at the mine, and particularly through improved transportation of ore by means of railroad locomotives.

Three brigades of volunteers from the People's Front, who helped fulfill the February plan, will continue to work at the mine during March.

CONDITIONS IMPROVED AT SLOVENIAN MINE -- Politika, No 13175, 4 Mar 49

The Trbovlje coal mine in Slovenia exceeded its February plan by 4.5 percent.

Conditions at the mine have been improving steadily since the beginning of the year. Many working places have been mechanized. New railroad tracks have been installed to improve the transport of coal.

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