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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

RUMANIAN FOOD COLLECTIONS, FALL 1952

[Comment: In Rumania, agricultural collection is under the jurisdiction of the State Collections Committee, which is directly under the Council of Ministers. The food collection drive in August 1952, particularly for grain, was not successful, according to indication in Bucharest newspapers. Criticism was directed against the poor organization of collections on all levels, from the State Collection Committee down to individual collection centers.

The following information was taken from the Bucharest daily newspapers Scanteia, and Viata Capitalei, published between 1 and 30 August 1952.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Craiova Reguine

Scanteia of 2 August 1952 reported that the State Collection Committee and Ilie Busuic, chairman of the executive committee of the people's council of Caracal Raion, Craiova Reguine, had failed to appoint qualified threshing delegates. The paper said that these threshing delegates check on mandatory state quotas of grain, accompany wagons delivering grain to reception centers, and maintain official records of these deliveries. Because of a lack of vigilance by Busuic and the State Collection Committee, according to the same paper, hostile elements and kulaks were appointed threshing delegates in Caracal. The latter sabotaged grain deliveries by aiding kulaks, such as delegate Gheorghe Iordache in Farcasele, delegate Gheorghe Parvu in Deveselu, and delegate Ion Rezeanu in Gostavatu, who aided kulaks by giving them credit for grain which they never delivered, the same issue of Scanteia stated. (1)

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In Corabia Raion, Craiova Regiune, the collection plan was fulfilled only 78 percent by 5 August, according to the 8 August issue of Scanteia. Plans called for complete fulfillment by that date, the paper said. Scanteia reported further that the State Collection Committee for the procurement of agricultural products is required by decree to set up reception centers with permanent and experienced personnel. However, the two stations in Corabia did not follow this procedure. The people hired failed to keep proper records. At the stations in Corabia and Visina-Veche, receipts were held up as much as 10 days after deliveries. The Ianca people's council, for example, had to wait until 1 August for receipts giving credit for products delivered between 17 and 22 July. Hostile elements were employed at these and other centers. At Visina-Veche the reception center hired Damian Popa, a dishonorably discharged sergeant major, as chief accountant. He confused the records, Scanteia said.

The people's council of Izbiceni delivered 98 percent of its quota by 1 August; however, Gh. Scutelnicu, raion representative of the State Collection Committee credited the council with only 50-percent fulfillment. He credited Rusanesti with 60-percent fulfillment and Tia-Mare with 50 percent, although the records of the people's councils there showed delivery of the entire quota. An additional error in Craiova was the failure of people's councils and threshing delegates to check the quality and dryness of grains. Because of the negligence of Nicolae Voinea, chief of collection centers in Corabia, peasants delivered quotas containing more than the one percent of foreign matter permitted, Scanteia said. In addition, peasants delivered quotas which weighed up to 10 kilograms less than required and yet, they received full credit.(2)

On 9 August, Scanteia reported that kulaks were active. In Grojdibodu Commune, Corabia Raion, 19 kulaks failed to deliver quotas. Kulak Ion Rusanescu, owner of 10 hectares, failed to deliver his quota of 2,194 kilograms of wheat. Kulak Nicolae Daiconu, owner of 15 hectares failed to deliver 6,869 kilograms; part of this was still due from 1951, according to the paper.(2)

#### Bacau Regiune

The 9 August issue of Scanteia reported the following about collections in Bacau Regiune: executive committees of people's councils are responsible for the administration of local commercial organizations and for the fulfillment of goods distribution. They coordinate the activities of state and cooperative stores to assure food for cities and work centers. In conformity with these duties, the commercial section of the Bacau Regiune people's council drew up plans for vegetable, fruit, and other food distribution and procurement for collection centers in Bacau, Moinesti, Comanesti, Bicz, Zemes, and other areas. Individual units failed to adhere to these plans, however. Moinesti and Comanesti received only a part of the planned vegetable quota. OCL-Aprozar (Crop Collection Organization) units failed to fulfill collection quotas for Bicz and Bacau, as well as other cities. Raion consumer cooperatives operated poorly in Piatra-Neamt, Bacau, and Targu-Neamt. Contracts were not observed, and food transport from procurement centers to city cooperatives was poor. The operations of OCL-Aprozar of Bacau and OCL-Aprozar of Piatra Neamt were not entirely satisfactory.(3)

On 27 August, Scanteia reported that collection and harvesting as a whole were unsatisfactory in Bacau Regiune because of the poor organization of collection by people's councils and State Collection Committee units. Grain lay in the fields for days in Bahna, Podoleni, Borlesti, Rediu, Candesit, and other communes.(4)

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Timisoara, Arad, and Sibiu Regiunes

The Unions of Consumer Cooperatives of Timisoara, Arad, and Sibiu regiunes failed to fulfill quotas, the 17 August issue of Scanteia reported. This was particularly serious because these regiunes supply Resita, the important metallurgical center, the paper said. The Union of Consumer Cooperatives of Sibiu had a contract to send at least one carload of potatoes to Resita each day. This was not fulfilled, the paper continued. In July 1952, Resita was poorly supplied with potatoes, onions, tomatoes, green beans, cabbage, and cucumbers.

This situation was partially the fault of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and of the commercial section of the people's council of Resita, headed by Radu Matache, the paper concluded.(5)

Galati Regiune

In Galati, harvest collection was poorly organized, Kulaks were active, the supply committee was not efficient, and the Marin reception center was unsatisfactory, the 7 August issue of Scanteia stated.(6)

Situation in Bucharest Regiune

Viata Capitalei of 2 August said the following about Bucharest Regiune: the food-supply situation in Bucharest Regiune is of particular concern since the regiune supplies the capital. Poor food supply to Bucharest must be eliminated. The work of OCL-Aprozar, the raion Unions of Consumer Cooperatives, and the State Collection Committee has become poor and the quantity of products collected has decreased. This is due largely to the inefficient operations of these organizations.

Individuals have not fulfilled their duties. For example, Stan Nita, chief of the OCL-Aprozar in Valea Dragului, spends most of his time in Bucharest instead of in his office. Ioan Bughiu, chief of the collection center in Darasti, does not do his job well. Gheorghe Stanciu, in charge of the collection center in Lunguletu, Racari Raion, hindered procurement by his indifferent attitude. Gheorghe Stanciu, chief of procurement in Falasteaca, Vidra Raion, failed to adhere to contractual obligations. Iosif Luca of the collection center in Brezoaiele, Racari Raion, speculated with vegetables turned in by Vasile Cristescu. Because of neglect on the part of the Slobozia Raion Union of Consumer Cooperatives, contract obligations were not fulfilled. Similarly, in Slobozia Raion, only 120 of 260 contracting parties fulfilled obligations. Other raion cooperatives and collection centers permitted peasants to deliver less than their quota or to deliver substitute crops. In Vidra Raion, Florea Mincu, union delegate, tolerated numerous errors of this type. Kulak Ilie Tanase, for example, received 1,400 lei in advance but failed to deliver his products. This was possible because Popa [fnu], union delegate, failed to supervise deliveries.

Transport of crops to Bucharest was also unsatisfactory. On 28 July, for example, there were more than 6,000 kilograms of potatoes awaiting shipment at the Gloria and Unirea cooperatives in Racari Raion.(7)

The same paper of 9 August reported that the collection picture in individual raions of Bucharest Regiune was as follows: reception centers in Draganesti, Slobozia, Rosiorii-de-Vede, and Calarasi raions were poorly organized so that acceptance of deliveries, filling out of receipts, and completion of records required 5-10 days.(8)

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Racari Raion

Viata Capitalei of 7 August stated that in Racari Raion, more than 60 carloads of potatoes remained undelivered. The delivery schedules given to cooperatives, the paper said, called for less products than required by contract. Good products were sold to speculators and poor items sent to reception centers, the paper continued. In 30 December Commune, wagons were filled, but no place was prepared for storage or unloading, the paper concluded.

Giurgiu Raion

Peasants in Turbatu complained that the Union of Consumer Cooperatives failed to keep its two stores supplied; therefore, the stores had closed, Viata Capitalei of 7 August reported. (10)

Branesti Raion

Six hundred peasants were present in Islaz at the trial of saboteurs who withheld their quotas from the state; in Targu-Magurele, kulaks were condemned for failure to deliver quotas, according to Scanteia of 27 August. (4)

Rosiorii-de-Vede Raion

The following was reported by Viata Capitalei of 5 August: On 31 July, more than 300 wagons loaded with grain were brought to the Plosca reception center. Some of this grain was brought from Nenciulesti and other communes 10-20 kilometers away. Peasants traveled at night to deliver the grain. However, employees of the reception center, instead of arriving early, came as late as 0700 or even 0730 hours. Often, grain was weighed at the center by eye instead of by scale. In addition, the norms of some employees were fulfilled only 50 percent. (11)

Vidra Raion

Collection from areas which specialize in vegetables was also poor, Viata Capitalei reported on 12 August. In Vidra Raion, local cooperatives failed to maintain plans and schedules for delivery, the paper noted. Crestesti, Luguletu, and Copaceni, which produce tomatoes, cucumbers, and onions, did not fulfill quotas; this was true in other vegetable areas, the paper said. (9)

Bucharest City

The following food stores carried advertisements or announcements in Viata Capitalei of 30 August: Alimentara (food) stores at Soseaua Armatei Sovietice No 81, Soseaua Armatei Sovietice No 132, Soseaua 30 December No 18, Lascar No 96, Vasile Lascar No 129, Foreasca No 112, Lacul Tei No 47, Viitor No 117, Viitor No 194, Maica Domnului No 5, and Mihail Eminescu No 100. The food stores all advertised a large assortment of groceries, delicacies, cheese, and beverages. ["Groceries" in Rumanian does not include fresh agricultural items.] (12)

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SOURCES

1. Scanteia, 1 Aug 52
2. Ibid., 8 Aug 52
3. Ibid., 9 Aug 52
4. Ibid., 27 Aug 52
5. Ibid., 17 Aug 52
6. Ibid., 7 Aug 52
7. Viata Capitalei, 2 Aug 52
8. Ibid., 9 Aug 52
9. Ibid., 12 Aug 52
10. Ibid., 7 Aug 52
11. Ibid., 5 Aug 52
12. Ibid., 30 Aug 52

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