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SOURCE Scanteia.

JULY - AUGUST PLAN FULFILLMENT, OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN RUMANIAN METALLURGICAL PLANTS

Comment: The progress of plan fulfillment in some of the more important Rumanian metallurgical enterprises was reported in Scanteia during August 1952. The enterprises discussed were as follows: Unirea in Cluj, Menajul, Armatura Metallurgical Enterprise, Sovrommetal of Resita, the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Foundry in Targoviste, Progresul in Braila, Victoria Machine Tool Factory in Arad, Industria Sarmei Wire Factory in Campia-Turzi, IMS Agricultural Equipment Factory in Roman, Armatura Metallurgical Plant in Cluj, 1 Septembrie Metallurgical Plant in Satu-Mare, Metalurgia Metallurgical Plant in Ceahlau, Matyas Rakosi Iron and Metallurgical Works in Bucharest, Atelierele Centrale in Medgidia, Victoria Steel Plant in Calan, Metalurgica Metallurgical Plant in Sibiu, Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Steel Combine in Hunedoara, the CFR (Rumanian Railways) shop in Pascani, Republica Steel Plant in Bucharest, Otelul Rosu Steel Plant, Steagul Rosu Railroad Car Plant in Stalin, Flamura Rosie Railroad Car Plant in Arad, IC Frimu Steel Plant in Sinaia, Grivita Rosie, Boleslaw Beirut Plant in Bucharest, and the Strungul Machinery Plant in Stalin.

The emphasis on metallurgical plants and production in the press appears to have increased steadily from Carol Loncear's appointment as Minister of Metallurgical and Chemical Industries on 30 May 1952 through August 1952.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.7

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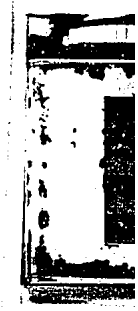

Production Plan Fulfillment

Scanteia reported on 1 August that production quotas had been exceeded at Unirea /Textile Machinery Factory/, in Cluj. At Menajul, it stated, individual smelters were working on 1955 quotas; it mentioned Lathe operator Stakhanovite Karol Torok as outstanding in production. At the Armatura Metallurgical Enterprise workers were successful in competitions, Scanteia continued, and smelters Ioan Tasnadi and Stefan Chirial regularly surpassed quotas. Lathe operators Ioan Pacurar and Alexandru Demeter were trained on the job and became so skillful that they exceeded norms, the article concluded.(1) On 7 August, Scanteia declared that the Metalurgica Metallurgical Plant in Sibiu had fulfilled its production plan in honor of 23 August. The smelting and machine sections were singled out.(2) The Victoria Machine Tool Factory in Arad was reported by Scanteia of 9 August to have numerous outstanding workers in production. For example, Stakhanovite Emeric Treml, working two machines, achieved approximately four annual norms. Lathe operators Andrei Komjati and Geza Klimas were working on 1954 quotas in August 1952. Pavel Horvath, chief of the lathe and finishing section, pledged training of a third group of young workers in machine tool operation. Assembler Constantin Taszlo pledged 110-percent fulfillment of his 1952 norm by the end of August. Lathe operator Adalbert Toth was working on the assembly plan for October 1952.(3)

Scanteia of 12 August reported that the CFR shop in Pascani fulfilled the July production plan 113.4 percent, achieved a 3-percent higher increase in labor productivity than planned, and saved the equivalent of 224,800 lei.(4) The paper stated on 21 August that the machine tool collective of Sector 500 in the Steagul Rosu Railroad Car Plant, Stalin, fulfilled its August plan by 15 August and, in addition, produced a reduction mechanism for the petroleum industry. In the fraising-gear shop 13 workers under master Alex Nistor operated 42 machines. Shop 922 under master Stakhanovite Francisc Pilman led in competitions in the plant. The entire plant had 57 Stakhanovites and 780 leading workers. Over 400 men were working on 1953 quotas in August 1952, Scanteia reported.(5) The collective of the Strungul Machinery Plant in Stalin was working on its October 1952 quota in August, according to an article in Scanteia of 28 August. It produced two lathes above plan and finished construction of a prototype for a machine which manufactures mine drills. Sixteen workers and technicians received the title of Stakhanovite. Steel workers of Group I-a of the lathe section fulfilled their plan 105 percent. One of the outstanding workers mentioned was Adalbert Bodor, who cast 25 percent more pieces than planned.(6)

In the first half of 1952 many steel enterprises, including the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Steel Combine in Hunedoara, the Republica Steel Plant in Bucharest, and Sovrommetal achieved important successes, Scanteia wrote on 16 August.(7) On 13 August, Scanteia had mentioned that the new town built in Hunedoara to house workers of the metallurgical industry, and to attract workers, houses approximately 500 families of furnacemen, steelworkers, electricians, spool workers, and others. The western section contains a school to train steelworkers, and there are seven blocks with 144 apartments, the paper stated. A food store, a Ferometal /hardware store/, and a footwear store will be set up, according to Scanteia.(8) On 14 August, Scanteia reported that the steel combine in Hunedoara was making every effort to fulfill the 1952 production plan in 11 months. Smelters Abel Svaicofer and Miron Serban were said to be particularly successful. Teams under Dumitru Hanganu, Petru Fan, and others were successful in the preparation and loading of furnaces with raw materials, the article added(9) On 26 August, Scanteia announced that the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Steel Combine in Hunedoara had exceeded its steel, iron, and rolled metal plans. Furnacemen, steelworkers, and rolling mill workers had produced thousands of tons of steel, iron, and rolled metals above the plan. By 23 August, steelworkers had prepared 190 rapid charges according to the Matulinets method, producing good-quality steel and conserving 1,300,000 lei between 1 and 23 July alone. Smelters used the Soviet A. Filipov method, the article concluded.(10)

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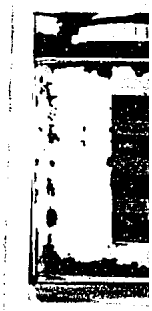

The July 1952 production plan of the Republica Steel Plant in Bucharest was fulfilled 103.2 percent due to the use of Soviet methods and technical measures for reorganization, Scanteia of 14 August reported. Labor productivity was 1.5 percent above the planned increase. The number of workers in competitions increased 17.22 percent. Between 4 and 9 August, 26 proposals for innovations and rationalization were received. Many lathe operators, fraising machine operators, and sheet metal workers received 1,300-1,700 lei during July, the newspaper reported.(9)

Scanteia of 2 August stated that furnace operators of Sovrommetal in Resita had received the Red Banner for production from the Ministry of Metallurgical and Chemical Industries and the Federation of Metal-Chemical Unions. The production plan for the first 6 months of 1952 was fulfilled 102.52 percent. The assortment plan was fulfilled 100 percent, the labor productivity plan 109.7 percent. The cost of production was cut 5.15 percent. The coefficient of furnace use in tons per cubic meter surpassed the plan 2.5 percent and the utilization of minerals was one percent less than planned, the article concluded.(11) On 3 August, Scanteia announced that workers and technicians of the Siemens-Martin furnace section of Sovrommetal in Resita had received the Red Banner for production. They fulfilled the production plan 106.7 percent for the first 6 months of 1952. The article stated that 92 percent of all workers and technicians participated in competitions. In the first 6 months of 1952, more than 180 rapid charges according to the Matulinets method produced good-quality steel. A 7.8-percent rise in labor productivity and a decrease in the number of inferior charges reduced the cost of steel per ton 2.72 percent in the first half of 1952.(12)

On 19 August, Scanteia announced a new production drive in the entire Sovrommetal combine in Resita in honor of the new Rumanian Constitution. The Siemens-Martin section, the steel mill, the furnace section, and the rolling mills pledged increased production. A team of steel workers under leading smelter Alexandru Bukates produced 135.9 percent of their quota in the first half of August because of improved organization, the paper stated. Steelworkers under Martin Tatucu produced 121.6 percent of their quota between 1 and 15 August. Steelworkers prepared 222 rapid charges by the Matulinets method by 15 August. The steel plan for Sovrommetal as a whole was fulfilled 102 percent for the first 7 months of 1952. During this period, economies of 7 million lei were achieved. The cost of steel per ton in the first half of 1952 was cut 4.06 percent. The over-all rolling mill plan was fulfilled 102.8 percent in the first 7 months of 1952. The rolling mill, in addition, made every effort to complete the 1952 plan by 1 December and to produce 700 tons of rolled metal above th plan, the article concluded.(13)

On 30 August, Scanteia declared that the steel and processing sections of Sovrommetal had fulfilled their /August?/ plans. On 26 August, the paper stated, a team of steelworkers under leading smelter Adam Jemanaru prepared a rapid charge in only 6 hours 40 minutes, producing steel for the manufacture of machinery. In addition, the furnace section, the thin- and medium-sheet sections of the rolling mill, and the steel plate section exceeded quotas. Outstanding individual workers mentioned were Stakhanovite Pavel Sera, who operated a shaping machine and produced 180 percent of his daily norm, and lathe operator Iosif Toth of the cross bar section who produced 300-400 percent of his daily norm.(14)

Cost Reduction

Carol Loncear, Minister of Metallurgical and Chemical Industries, stated in a Scanteia article of 2 August that the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Foundry in Targoviste, Progresul /Railroad Equipment Plant?/ in Braila, and other metallurgical plants had been assigned tasks beyond their ability. Loncear placed the

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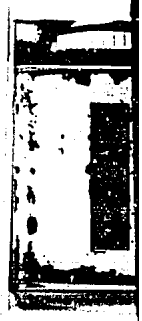

blame for this on Vasile Luca and his financial and banking apparatus. He emphasized the fact that metallurgical enterprises had to reduce production costs. Outstanding in this respect, he said, were the Victoria Machine Tool Factory in Arad, which reduced costs 19.4 percent more than planned, and the Industria Sarmei Wire Factory in Campia-Turzi, which reduced costs 4.78 percent in April - May 1952 by the use of the Grigori Mukhanov and Maria Levcenko methods.

The minister added that, nevertheless, these successes could not hide failures in other plants. For example, he continued, the IMS Agricultural Equipment Factory in Roman did not succeed in cutting costs. It failed to keep records on the use of raw materials and on the expenses of productive sections. Similarly, the Metalurgia Metallurgical Plant in Ceahlau failed to keep records of current costs and expenses, as well as of raw materials used. The Armatura Metallurgical Plant in Cluj and the 1 Septembrie Metallurgical Plant in Satu-Mare tried to justify errors instead of combating them, Loncear stated. The Industria Sarmei Wire Factory of Braila paid too much for unproductive items, he added. For example, the plant paid 299.12 percent more for rent and lodgings in the first quarter 1952 than in the corresponding period of 1951. The Victoria Steel Plant in Calan had 69.8 percent greater office expenses than planned, Loncear continued.

He further stated that 22,000 workers in the steel industry, in metal processing, and in machine constructic. were applying Soviet methods. This included more than 500 applying the Matulinets method and 2,500 using the Zhandarova method.(11)

New Methods and Developments

Scanteia of 16 August reported that the use of Soviet methods was spreading in Sovrommetal of Resita, the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Steel Combine in Hunedoara, the Victoria Steel Plant in Calan, the Otelul Rosu Steel Plant, and others.(7) The Bernat Andrei brigade of the machine section of the Flamura Rosie Railroad Car Plant in Arad surpassed norms by the use of the Baykov-Bortkevitch, Zhandarova, Khrisanova, and Kotlyar methods.(15) At the IC Frimu Steel Plant in Sinaia 416 workers using advanced Soviet methods were working on 1953 quotas. At the Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej Foundry in Targoviste 250 workers using new methods were working on future quotas, Scanteia of 26 August reported.(10) At the Matyas Rakosi Iron and Metallurgical Works in Bucharest, 545 workers and technicians were reported to be using the Nicolae Vasu method. Production of the factory was fulfilled 112.18 percent in the first 6 months of 1952, with a cost reduction of 3.41 percent, according to Scanteia of 28 August.(6) At the Boleslaw Beirut Plant in Bucharest, brigades using the Kuznetsov, Zhandarova, and Voroshin methods fulfilled norms on an average of 155 percent. Rolling mill workers and smelters were working on future quotas. The plant as a whole achieved 250,000 lei of savings in the use of fuel, electricity, and raw materials in honor of 23 August, Scanteia of 29 August reported.(16)

Scanteia of 22 August reported the construction of a new blast furnace. The transformer station, pump housing units, and other parts were finished in August. The construction of ore and coke storehouses required 5,500 cubic meters of reinforced concrete. The purification plant which processes gas used in the furnaces was completed 16 days ahead of schedule. Overhead cranes in the smelting hall were installed 20 days ahead of schedule.(15) Scanteia of 29 August stated that the Atelierele Centrale in Medgidia had installed an electric smelting furnace which enabled the plant to prepare manganese steel for spare parts, various steels for tools, constructions, and other purposes.(16)

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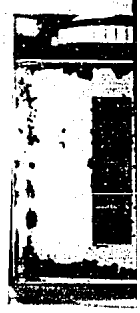

The Steagul Rosu Railroad Car Plant in Stalin built a series of new machines and tools, according to Scanteia of 29 August. In addition, the plant manufactured the first cars for hauling ore ever produced in Rumania. Plans were drawn up by CFR technicians from Soviet models.(16)

Ore for Steel Plants

On 8 August, an article in Scanteia indicated that the Ghelar and Teliuc mines had fulfilled their July plan 113 percent, cutting costs 5.36 percent more than planned. As a result, it added, steel plants in Hunedaora and Calan received more ore than planned.(17) On 29 August, Scanteia announced that the Ghelar mine had pledged fulfillment of the 1952 plan in 11 months.(16)

Metals Conference

The Ministry of Metallurgical and Chemical Industries, in collaboration with the ASIT (Scientific Association of Engineers and Technicians), recently held a conference in Baia Mare to discuss increased production of nonferrous metals, Scanteia of 28 August reported. Speakers included Stoian Petrescu, Assistant Minister of Metallurgical and Chemical Industries, and Engineer O. Russu, first secretary of the Central Council of ASIT. Miners from Baia Mare, Valea Jiului, Brad, and other mining areas participated. Soviet specialists were also present. The Soviet method for rapid sinking of shafts was discussed. As a result, Scanteia stated Rumanian Stakhanovites pledged that they would advance at least one meter per gallery per cycle and perform at least three cycles per 24 hours. New methods discussed included the use of progressive indexes, the general use of wet drilling, drilling with the use of active agents, mechanization, and improved ventilation. In addition, the use of parallel drills 1.5-2 meters in length was discussed.(6)

SOURCES

1. Scanteia, 1 Aug 52
2. Ibid., 7 Aug 52
3. Ibid., 9 Aug 52
4. Ibid., 12 Aug 52
5. Ibid., 21 Aug 52
6. Ibid., 28 Aug 52
7. Ibid., 16 Aug 52
8. Ibid., 13 Aug 52
9. Ibid., 14 Aug 52
10. Ibid., 26 Aug 52
11. Ibid., 2 Aug 52
12. Ibid., 3 Aug 52
13. Ibid., 19 Aug 52
14. Ibid., 30 Aug 52
15. Ibid., 22 Aug 52
16. Ibid., 29 Aug 52
17. Ibid., 8 Aug 52

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