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Critics Food Industry

Vecherni Novini, Sofia, 29 Sep 1951

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CRITICIZES FOOD INDUSTRY -- Sofia, Vecherni Novini,  
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✓ The food industry is undergoing a fast general development. In recent years it has achieved large production successes both in quality and in variety. While a few years ago there were only 4 varieties of sugar products, there are now 40 varieties, indicating a tenfold increase; the 2 varieties of beer have been doubled. Some new products, hitherto unknown in Bulgaria, such as crystal glucose, pectin, etc. are now in production.

Notwithstanding the general progress of the food industry, certain enterprises are still negligent in their work, and permit the production of low-grade products and the spoilage of valuable raw materials, thus causing great losses to the national economy. The "Republika" State Industrial Enterprise at Sofia has produced raw and poorly shaped Turkish delight, badly covered with powdered sugar, and stuck together; the same enterprise has produced nut-helva which melts easily and loses its shape and good appearance. The "G. Kirkov" State Industrial Enterprise at Sofia has produced candied marchpane which has melted 24 hours after it was made and has lost its shape and outward appearance. The fruit jelly, produced by the same enterprise, has melted 4 days after it was made and has stuck to the cardboard containers. The candy, produced by the "Zakhar i Zakharni Izdeliya" (Sugar and Sugar Products) State Industrial Combine, is easily spoiled, melts quickly and sticks to the paper wrappers. In general the paper used for wrapping the candy is poor, of unpleasant color, plain and the same for all kinds of candy. It is imperative to increase the production and variety of sugar products. Biscuits must be produced in a number of varieties; more candy of the kind

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in demand by the population must be produced.

Some seed-oil manufacturing enterprises, such as the "Merek", the "Rodina" (Fatherland), the "Perla" (Pearl) factories, still produce low grade seed oils; the oils are turbid and contain a larger percentage of sediment than permitted. At certain milk-processing establishments of the Rayon Cooperative Federation spoilage of milk products has been permitted to occur. The dairies of Balvan, Tervelsko, Galiche and Botevo, Oryakhovo Okoliya, have produced low-grade butter; the dairies at Medkovets, Lom Okoliya, Knyazhevo, Tervel Okoliya and others, have produced very porous "kashkaval" (yellow cheese) and white cheese.

Defects have also been permitted in the production of soap. A large part of the laundry soap produced has a bad appearance, is soft, and slimy, and after a short use melts and turns into pulp. The "Murgash" Factory has also produced soap with an insufficient amount of fatty acids, with inadequately dissolved bicarbonate of soda and with a heavy, unpleasant odor

Certain enterprises of the "Konservna Industriya" (Canning Industry) State Industrial Combine have produced low-grade canned goods. The "Yasna Polyana" (Clear Meadow) State Industrial Enterprise at Sofia has produced a canned compote of rotten cherries and worms have been found in them; the former "Plovdiv" Factory at Plovdiv has produced canned pigs feet, in which small bones and other impurities have been found. The canning enterprises of the Central Cooperative Federation have also permitted considerable deficiencies to occur. The cannery at the Krichim railroad station has canned green peas in jars with a liquid content of 40 percent; the

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"Kooperator" Factory at Pazardzhik has also canned green peas in jars with a liquid content of 21 percent, and the "Kooperator" Factory at Pleven has canned a compote of cherries which contained worms. Another weakness of the canning industry is that its enterprises can more "paprakash" (vegetable stew) than "gyuvech" (meat and vegetable stew), string beans, green peas, stuffed peppers, stuffed vine-leaves, etc., which are very much in demand. There is also a lack of ready-to-eat canned foods, dietetic and children's foods.

There are also great shortcomings in the flour industry. Very often the flour turned out by the mills for the needs of the public-bread-bakeries or that which is sold directly to the population does not conform to the qualitative norms, has a large percentage of foreign substances and impurities and often contains sand. It has been found that the "Khadzhi Cimitur" Mill at Sliven, the "Kooperator" Mill at Nova Zagora, "N. Gospodinov" at Kharmanli, and others regularly turn out flour which contains sand. Certain rice mills, such as the "Tundzha" at Yambol, the "Petoluchka" (Five Pointed Star) State Industrial Enterprise at Reka Devnya, etc. also permit a larger percentage of sand in their production than the norms specify.

All the above-mentioned defects in the enterprises of the food industry are basically of a subjective nature. It is imperative that serious measures be taken to assure exact control of technological processes, to strengthen production discipline and to enlarge the variety of goods.

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