



consulted by the Left before the formation of the present government.

Groza's position is more that of a puppet than of a Prime Minister. The policy of the government is directed by the Communists regardless of the other formations. The main cause of Groza's dissatisfaction is that whereas his intention and desire was to transform the Agrarian Reform into a Ploughman's Front success throughout the country, it was the Communists who formed the expropriation committee. The Ploughman's Front members were in most cases left out entirely.

### 3. Change in proposed war criminal law

Mr. Lucretiu Patrascanu, communist Minister of Justice, is supposed to be having a most difficult time. Several laws which he submitted to the King were refused signature. It is reported that the proposed constitutional change of the section protecting private property has been dropped. The new law for the prosecution of war criminals will be probably passed but with substantial changes. Art. 18, the most objectionable feature of the law is also being modified.

Comment: For story of the King's refusal and for original text of the law, see GR-438 of 12 April 1945.

### 4. Communist appeal for membership

On 11 April a public meeting took place at a hall called "Marna". The speakers were Ana Pauker, Miron Constantinescu from Scanteia and about six other communists. The most important thing that the leit-motiv of the speeches was a fervent appeal for everybody to join the communist party without any intermediary stages. The speakers pointed out the advantages of belonging to the party and urged everybody to do so. In the evening the independent papers were told by the people from Scanteia not to print the story and to make sure that nothing would appear in the press. The workers were also told not to work on the story.