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SUMMARY OF THE BULGARIAN PROVINCIAL PRESS
(7-13 January 1960)

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FOREWORD

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SUMMARY OF THE BULGARIAN PROVINCIAL PRESS

(7-13 January 1960)

Preface

The present summary is a report on the economic, political, military and sociological activities and developments in Bulgaria, covering all available newspapers of the Bulgarian provincial press from 7-13 January 1960. All items, whether summaries, condensations or partial translations reflect the specific and contextual meaning of the original text. This week the newspapers focused their main attention on agricultural news and on the absenteeism in the villages in connection with the numerous saints' day celebrations. Several anti-religious and anti-church articles are carried, giving the atheistic explanations of the origin of the world and the reactionary nature of church dogma and holidays.

Appendix A of this summary lists graphic materials.

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I. ECONOMIC

A. Manufacturing Industries

The "Progress" Industrial Combine (Promkombinat "Progres") will produce the first metal snowplows made in Bulgaria in 1960. They will be used with 10 ton "Tatra" type trucks. The combine will also manufacture "Pioner" type cranes. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 10 January 1960, page 1).

The new 3,200 ton vessel "Mir" built in Varna docked recently at Burgas port for the first time. It is to load goods of various types bound for the Near East. It will then make another test run to Burgas port, where it will load freight for China and Japan. It is eventually to be delivered to the Korean People's Republic as a part of its commercial fleet. The "Mir" was built on commission from the Korean People's Republic and is of the same type as the vessels "Burgas" and "Varna." It is the second to be built for export. The first 3,200 ton vessel built in Bulgaria for export is now sailing under the Albanian flag. (Chernomorski Front, Burgas, 8 January 1960, page 1).

B. Chemical Industry

In 1960, the "Gavril Genov" State Chemical Plant (DKhZ "Gavril Genov") will produce the following new products: "Rezinal-130" rosin, which will replace "Kosenal-220" in the manufacturing of colorless varnishes, and liquid lead manganese resinate linoleate, which will aid in economizing on linseed oil. The plant has already begun producing nitroglyptal glue for use in shipbuilding and construction work, and has thus avoided the expenditure of 270,000 leva in imports annually. (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 7 January 1960, page 3).

The 1960 plan for the "Stalin" Chemical Combine (Khimicheski kombinat "Stalin") calls for 40% more production than the 1959 plan. In 1960, the combine will produce 247,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizer, 275,000 tons of phosphorus fertilizers, 86,000 tons of sulphuric acid and other chemical products. It will also undertake the manufacturing of the following new items: silicon dioxide, various types of fluoride salts, and sulphur gas. The plant expects

to double its production of ground sulphur, most of which is manufactured for export. (Dimitrovgradska Pravda, Dimitrovgrad, 7 January 1960, page 3)

C. Ferrous Metallurgy

In order to satisfy the increasing needs in Bulgaria for ferrous metals, the metallurgical combine in the city of Kremikovtsi is being rapidly constructed. It will utilize the Kremikovtsi iron ore deposit which contains resources estimated at several hundred million tons of ore. The combine will have a rich open pit, concentration and agglomeration factories, a chemical coke plant, and a metallurgical plant for the production of pig iron, rolled and other steel. In addition, the plant will process manganese, pyrite and lead. It will be several times larger, in production volume and size, than the "Lenin" Metallurgical Plant. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 8 January 1960, page 2)

D. Nonferrous Metallurgy

A new lead processing plant is being built in Kurilo at the site of the former lead production factory. There will be two shops -- a roasting-concentration shop and a smelting-refining shop. Most of the machinery for the plant has been produced in Bulgaria. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 10 January 1960, page 1)

The discovery of large deposits of lead and zinc ores in the Rhodope Mountains and of copper ore in the Burgas and Panagyurishte has made possible the opening of new pits and the construction of concentration factories. The old semi-craftsmen's enterprises have been reconstructed and their production has been greatly increased. The "Georgi Dimitrov" Plant at the Eliseyna Railroad Station has been expanded. A conversion shop was added to it, and the first black copper was produced in Bulgaria. In comparison to 1939, the production of the lead processing factory at the Kurilo Railroad Station is ten times greater. However, the most important factor in the development of nonferrous metallurgy is the construction of new plants. Currently the expansion of the Lead and Zinc Plant in Kurdzhali is being completed. Its initial capacity will thus be increased by more than 100%. This has made possible the extraction of almost all the valuable components of the concentrates delivered to the plant, including lead, zinc, tin, rare metals, sulphuric acid, etc. The expansion of the

"Georgi Damyanov" Copper Processing Combine will be continued in 1960. Deposits of copper ore discovered recently in Bulgaria have made it possible and necessary that further expansion be carried out from the present to 1965 at the "Georgi Damyanov" Copper Processing Combine such as to increase the production of electrolytic copper in Bulgaria. The construction of a new lead and zinc combine near Plovdiv has been undertaken. After its completion Bulgaria's production of lead, zinc and other metals will be increased by several hundred percent. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 8 January 1960, page 2)

E. Fuels and Power

The electrical network in the city of Plovdiv was established in 1929. At that time it consisted of 11,500 meters of electric 15 kw cable, 16,000 meters of surface electric conduits of 15 kw, 16 transformer stations with a total capacity of 1,210 kw, a low tension network of 80,000 meters, of which 69,400 were on the surface and 10,600 underground, and 2,500 lights. These installations were calculated to serve the needs of the city for electric energy for five to ten years. No changes were made until 9 September 1944. After that, the increase in the number of consumers and the amounts of additional electric energy consumed were tremendous. In 1944, there were 18,400 consumers in the city, while by 1 December 1959, there were 34,900. In 1944, consumption averaged 58 kwh per resident, while during 11 months of 1959, it reached 495 kwh per consumer. This great increase in the consumption of electric energy, particularly in the past two years, has considerably exceeded the handling capacity of the 15 and 20 kw electric wires, the low tension network, and the transformer stations. They have been overloaded, and in many sections of the city, the electric energy supplied is of low quality and falls below the technical requirement norms. In many quarters, the tension varies between 140 and 180 volts. As a result, electric motors, radios and electric home appliances do not operate properly, and the lighting is poor. The transformer capacity in many sectors of the city is insufficient. About 44% of the transformers are overloaded. As a result, the supply of electric energy is limited in some enterprises, particularly at the peak consumption hour. This naturally leads to frequent damage to the equipment. As a result, many consumers are deprived of electricity, sometimes for days on end. The 15 and 20 kw cables running from substations to the transformer stations in the city are carrying the maximum possible load, and thus some important consumers, including the exhibition grounds, have poor service. Entire sections of the city are sometimes without electricity.

A plan has been drafted for the reconstruction of the city's electrical network during the period between 1960 and 1970. Four junction stations will be built, two to the south and two to the north of the Maritsa River. Each junction will be fed by direct 20 kw cables either by the Filipovo substation or the Plovdiv substation and will in turn feed the city's transformer stations. These cables will each be capable of carrying 988 kwh per resident by 1965, and 1,602 kwh per consumer by 1970. This consumption will even be surpassed in forthcoming years in some sections of the city. This construction will require 7 to 8 million leva annually. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 12 January 1960, page 2)

In 1959, the "Maritsa-III" Thermoelectric Power Plant (TETs "Maritsa-III") produced more than 25,000,000 kwh of electric energy above the plan, and earned an additional 10,000,000 leva. The new 1960 plan calls for 10% more production than in 1959, and 18.5% more than in 1958. In 1960, the plant is to produce 4,000,000 kwh hours of energy more than the 1959 plan called for, and 40,000,000 more than specified in the 1958 plan. Its thermal energy plan has been increased by 13.3% compared with that for 1959. (Dimitrovgradska Pravda, Dimitrovgrad, 7 January 1960, page 3)

F. Transportation and Communications

In 1959, the Plovdiv Okrug Road Administration asphalted the following roads: Krichim village-Mikhalkovo village; Rogosh-Belozem-Bolyarino villages; Trud-Maluk chardak villages; and Tsaratsovo-Voysil villages. In 1960 the following roads are to be asphalted: Voysil-Golyamo Konare villages; Krichim-Brestovitsa villages; Dolna makhala-Banya villages; and Plovdiv-Kuklen village. (Otechestven Glas, Plovdiv, 10 January 1960, page 1)

The high mountains around Sofia will aid regular and steady reception of transmissions from the Sofia Television Station in Dimitrovo. Sofia television broadcasts can be received in Dimitrovo if powerful reception sets are used. They should have a sensitivity of 100 microvolts. The Soviet "TEMP-3" television set is one such type. A directional antenna is also needed with an average height of 7 to 8 meters above the ground. In the center of the city, an antenna extending 40 meters above ground will be needed. Near the railroad station and as far as the Golo burdo foothills, reception will be almost impossible, as the antenna height would have to be 100 meters above the ground. (Dimitrovska Zname, Dimitrovo, 13 January 1960, page 4)

G. Construction and Construction Materials

The 1960 production plan of the "Vulcan" State Cement Combine (DTsK "Vulkan") is 28% higher than the plan for 1959. It calls for additional production of 15,000 ton of cement and 1,090,000 convention meters of asbestos cement pipe. The plant will also produce 4,500 cu meters of centrifugal pillars, 9,000,000 lime and ash bricks, 2,000 cu meters of mining props, 6,000 cu meters of hothouse frames, and 5,500,000 concrete tiles. All in all, the combine will provide the people's economy 52,000,000 leva's worth of production more than in 1959. (Dimitrovaradska Pravda, Dimitrovgrad, 7 January 1960, page 3)

II. THE GOVERNMENT

A. People's Soviets Violate the Law

The Fourth Regular Session of the Ruse Okrug People's Soviet was held on 5 January 1960. Yoncho Kamburov, the Ruse Okrug Prosecutor, gave a report on "The Status of Law Observance and the Struggle Against Crime in Ruse Okrug." He stressed the fact that in 1959 not a single case occurred in which a citizen was illegally deprived of his freedom. The Exemplary Statutes for the Farm Workers' Cooperatives are being followed with increasing faithfulness, and attempts to damage socialist property have decreased.

"Furthermore, Comrade Kamburov dealt with certain violations of the law which have been permitted by the people's soviets and their organs. Regulations on the application of Article 53 of the Law on People's Soviets require village soviets to send copies of their decrees to the Okrug People's Soviet for approval and to the Okrug Prosecutor to ensure their legality. However, this is not being done by the village soviets in Cherven, Nikolovo, and other villages. Because of ignorance of the law, certain local administrators have fined citizens without justification."

".....There have been many cases in which the obshtina people's soviets have made improper use of the property of farm workers' cooperatives and citizens' houses." The report dealt at considerable length with violations in the registration of vital statistics. In some villages birth and death certificates are not being signed by the responsible official.

Khristo Petkov, Secretary of the Ruse Okrug People's Soviet, criticized the chairmen of many village soviets and farm workers' cooperatives for violations of socialist law permitted by them. Petur Danailov, First Secretary of the Ruse Okrug BCP Committee, reported that state organs and public organizations in the okrug have implemented many measures for the strengthening of socialist law. "However, shortcomings and violations are still quite frequent." (Dunavska Pravda, Ruse, 7 January 1960, page 1)

III. THE COMMUNIST PARTY

A. The New Class

For the past year the Dolna banya Obshtina Party Committee has been following the progress of and working with the primary party organization in Raduil village, where inner party unity was being violated. At the end of 1958 and the beginning of 1959, the majority of the communists in this organization were working not on the farms but in offices and various other "better paid positions," as they themselves admitted. Under these circumstances, the attention which the party organization devoted to the strengthening and future prospects of the farm workers' cooperative was limited. As a result, party members failed to understand properly and promptly the need for the merger of this farm with others. This attitude on the part of party members in the Raduil primary party organization was no accident. A certain number of the party members were leading lives unworthy of communists. Boris Lazarov Dzhiikov and Dobri Nikolchov indulged in drunkenness. Iliya L. Georgiev became involved in theft. Party political work was neglected. Educational and other reports were rarely delivered. Party meetings were held irregularly, and were often pointless, being devoted to useless discussion and argument. Certain of the members failed to pay their dues to the party organization for months on end, and failed to show any interest in its activities.

Extensive work was done by the Dolna banya Obshtina Party Committee to strengthen the Raduil primary party organization. Several members were expelled. The organization was then divided into two separate groups: the primary party organization at the TKZS, with 18 members; and that for workers at various establishments, with 22 members. This and other organizational and educational measures have greatly improved the work of both organizations. (Sofiyska Pravda, Sofia, 12 January 1960, page 3)

IV. SOCIOLOGICAL ITEMS

A. January Absenteeism

"There are still workers and cooperative farmers who fail to work during the January Christian holidays. Of course, this cannot be explained by religious sentiment, but rather as a bad habit, and a blind enslavement to old traditions. January becomes a month of drunkenness with parties during which the workers drown their sense of duty and responsibility to their teams, comrades and families whom they are harming by taking unpaid holidays."

The damage is easily assessed. If for one day 1% of the workers employed in the most important enterprises in Dimitrovo are absent from work, the people's economy loses 70,400 leva. If 2% are absent for five days, the loss is 740,000 leva. It is more difficult to calculate the loss to cooperative farms through the celebration of saints' days in January. (Dimitrovsko Zname, Dimitrovo, 9 January 1960, page 1)

Graphic Illustrations

1) View of the "topolnitsa" Dam. (Dimitrovgradska Pravda, Dimitrograd, 7 January 1960, page 2)

2) Photograph of Tsvetan Danov, Chief Engineer at the "Stalin" Chemical Combine (Khimecheski kombinat "Stalin"). (Dimitrovgradska Pravda, Dimitrograd, 7 January 1960, page 3)

LIST OF SOURCES

Chernomorski Front
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