

# CURT- (H) PRODUCTION COMPLAINTS

1956

X  
FS  
Munich, April 11, Reut/Leason...the Hungarian Communist paper Szabad Nep said this morning that extra work in March by "many thousand <sup>OF</sup> workers" succeeded in making up for production losses in January and February and enabled Hungarian industry to fulfill its plan for the first quarter-year.

C-158

The paper said that the January and February backlog was not entirely due to bad weather and complained that the type of "rush work" which took place in March "causes new expenditures and raises the cost of production."

Szabad Nep of March 25th had said that the first quarter plan which should have been fulfilled by 65 per cent during February and March, was in fact completed by only 52.6 per cent.

Western observers said the fact that almost fifty per cent instead of 35 per cent of the first quarter <sup>IS WORK</sup> had to be done in one month indicates that there was a great deal of overtime work during March.

There have been reports from Hungary, and the other East European countries, that coal miners in particular have been forced to work regular Sunday shifts to make up for January and February production losses.

Today's paper said that during the first quarter the development of technique was neglected and that this will adversely effect foreign trade output and general industrial growth.

The export branches fulfilled their obligations by only 98.4 per cent, the paper said.

The paper said that because of all these lags, "it becomes clear" that the duties to be fulfilled during the second quarter plan "are very considerable and our workers, as well as technical leaders must work hard if they want to be successful at the end of the next quarter."

Western observers said the Hungarian Communist complaints about lagging production and cries for better work in the future continue to emphasize export production and industrial growth over any concern for the welfare of the workers.

They said this continued criticism of production puts a long way off the day when such worker-benefits as the seven-hour day will be instituted.

Rakosi, the Communist Party Chief, said in a speech on March 13th that the implementation of the shortened day will depend on "how we will be able to fulfill our plan, that is to what extent we will overfulfill it."

The observers said the tone of Hungarian regime statements seems to preclude the possibility that the plan will ever be sufficiently overfulfilled.

-12