

## Nezval on Work of Ministry of Justice

Dr. Ferenc Nezval, the Minister of Justice, told the Press on 10th July about the judiciary's current tasks, with particular reference to points discussed at the recent National Party Conference. "We must make sure", he said, "that the Courts keep counter-revolutionary elements and aspirations at bay and mete out punishment for counter-revolutionary criminal acts. But they must also observe the law, protect the legitimate interests of citizens and win their trust. Socialist legality must be protected with unabated vigour." Discussing economic crimes, Nezval said, "We have to deal here with two different categories of crime: One concerns the looting of social property and the other speculation and profiteering." Referring to the latter category, the Minister said that opportunities for speculation were created mainly by the enemy, but the situation arising out of current economic difficulties was also being taken advantage of by unscrupulous workers.

As for civil cases, their importance grew with "the progress of social development". The effect of the counter-revolution was being very strongly felt in labour relations. There had been a considerable temporary rise in the number of divorce proceedings and litigation about dwellings had also become more widespread. Nezval announced that a salary settlement for judges and judiciary employees would be announced at the end of this month. Legal co-operation agreements with the USSR and the GDR were being prepared. (Budapest 14.00 and MTI 10.7.57)

He added that there had been "an improvement concerning criminal sentences as compared with recent months". The Ministry of Justice was making plans for Hungary to join the multilateral international agreement on alimony payments, concluded in 1956. Under this agreement, claims for alimony could be submitted in foreign countries. If Hungary joined this agreement, claims for alimony could be put forward in all the countries which had signed it. (Hungarian information service 11.7.57)