New Romania Contrasted With Old by British M. P.

We have just received a copy of a speech delivered in the House of Commons on October 22, 1946 by Mr. J. F. F. Platts-Mills, Labor M. P. for Finsbury, recently returned from a visit to Romania.

ing Maniu and Brătianu as direct witnesses for this fraud.

ceeding issues:

condition at the moment is most of the party?" interesting. May I first refer to the pre-election situation? It fits with what I have just said. Who are we backing? Of course, the "The Times" last week, in an interesting and rather confused article said that the Opposition represents only the outworn past. I have had the privilege during this month of meeting the leaders of all three of the Opposition groups, and not only the leaders but their main supporters, and the editors of their national papers. I also met some of the editors of their provincial papers. These gentlemen treated me with extraordinary frankness, frankness that did them great credit. There was no mistake on anybody's part, and no misunderstanding as to my position. Indeed, their newspapers made great play of it the moment I arrived in the country. The two outstanding leaders -Mr. Maniu, of the Peasant Party, and Mr. Brătianu, of the Liberal Party, both made it clear that they have no electoral programme. They said that quite frankly. They are there to oppose. All three of and bearing in mind that each seem a little inconsistent.

Hon. Members: Just like it. Mr. Pickthorn (Cambridge University): Exactly like it.

day and a copy goes to the Bri- been implicated in the killing. lică în contrazicere cu programul on an intimate discussion in the ricană să fie înghițită de lupte government and the election of a tish Minister, who is a rather unwilling recepient. The system works quite well, except that on one occasion the original went to the Brisish Minister and the copy was sent to Dr. Groza.

a formal manner to me of want The gentleman who barely esof freedom to get on with their caped with his life was this Mr. electoral preparations. However, Penescu, the Home Secretary at no such want of freedom could be the time of the killing in Palace observed. One met them as one Square, on 18th February, 1945. met any other person, by ringing My impression from canvassing up, by going to call, by their com- this matter in industrial areas in ing to one's hotel, or meeting them Romania and in some of the vilin a cafe in public. They have lages, was that he is more hated their papers, national and pro- than any of the Opposition, mainvincial. They hold their meetings ly because he was responsible for publicly and openly; indeed, they the most recent of these public kilhad a meeting in Bucharest when lings. The names of Timisoara I was there. The National Peasant and Petroshan; where similar in-Party, meeting to discuss, I think, cidents took place are the Peterwhether to put forward an elec- loo Tolpuddle of Romanian worktion programme or not, went on ing class history. It is impossible for four hours 100 yards from to suppose that the Romanian where I was staying with not a Russian soldier or machine gun in sight. (laughter) I can assure hon. Gentlemen that the Opposition keep their machine guns carefully

There is one complaint which can be substantiated. They complained, and rightly, that in some sections of the country they cannot hold their meetings in safety. If that were the situation in this country, it might well be a ground for complaint against the Governto remember what are the reasons cului Partidelor Democratice - li of the people in many neighbor- prietate, consfintandu-li-se astfel

have already taken place, we may shot down at one onset by artil- right hon. Friend the Foreign Secexpect more slander about alleged lery — that is the classical ex-"fraud" in the electoral lists in ample of artillery against unarmed Remania, being handed to foreign peasants - and a certain august correspondents by the Maniu- personage complained that his ar- National Peasant advocates were Bratianu clique, as an alibi of tillery proved somewhat ineffi- to go to industrial areas and press their failure in winning the elec- cient. I discussed this with the their propaganda for these parties phew, Mr. Dino and Mr. Bebe. their lives. This is not a reflection impossible to blame this kind of position parties are the people we thing on the Liberal Party of to- are supporting. In doing so we day, that their leader was not in place our foreign diplomatic rethe Government, he was not even presentatives in an intolerable po-Mr. Platts-Mills, exposes the in the country in 1907 when these sition. They are virtually forced whole hoax about the frauds, us- peasants were shot down. This into a position of having to inmay sound strange but Mr. Bra- trigue against the very governtianu senior is 82, and in 1907 had ments to whom they are ac-This is the first instalment of been connected with the Govern- credited. the extracts from Mr. Platts-Mills ment for some years. Two of his speech. Others will follow in suc- brothers were in the Government can the people blame this on our May I turn to Romania, a coun- Liberal Party of today, because try which has recently been the both brothers are now dead and. most abused and a country whose therefore, are no longer members

From that time on the use of troops against industrial workers has been almost common. The Opposition. The correspondent of outstanding occasion was in 1935 when Dr. Maniu's Party was in power. It was explained to me in Dr. Maniu's presence, and he accepted the explanation, that the mistake of a stupid policeman led to the shooting down of 480 working men at Grivitza, the main railway works in Bucharest. That could not be put against Dr. Maniu because he was not in the Government, although he was President of the Party, and the Home Secretary, at the time was no longer in the Party today. The Home Secretary of the time was Mr. Vaida Voivod and it is true that he is no longer active in the National Peasant Party. But his name has been kept in the public eye. He was used by American oil interests for the nominal purchase of their oil shares so that throughout the war they could go on collecting from the Germans the profits on the sale of Romanian oil to Germany. This man no longer associated with Dr. Mathe groups, the dissident Socialists niu's party, as a result of which included, say that they are really no one should dream of holding in Romania what the British the incidents of 1933 against the Labour Party is here. Bearing in Opposition. But it has not finished mind their absence of programme, yet. In 1945, on 18th February, in the Palace Square, six work- lui Wall Street s'a prins de amenis opposed to the other, the claims | men were shot down by the army, | damentele votate în unanimitate Mr. Radescu was the Prime Mi- la sedinta Comitetului Executiv al dusmanului com un, ar fi ferit Philip Murray, presedintele lui ceived 52% of the vote; the Nanister. Immediately after the un- lui CIO, tinută cu câteva zile înafortunate affair a British aeroplane and pilot rescued Mr. Ra- nale, cu privire la statutele con-

descu, and he now adds one to siliilor de stat, oraș și județ. Mr. Platts-Mills: The claim is the ranks of displaced persons. obviously based on the fact that The Home Secretary, in Febru- terpretate de presa mare, ca maeach one of them has support ary, 1945, was Mr. Penescu. I in- suri îndrptate contra Comuniștifrom the British Government in- vite the House to remember what lor. directly. Mr. Bercovitch, the edi- was said by the Minister of State Si amendamentul de care s'a tor of the Liberal paper put it on 9th October in describing to servit presa în deosebi declară: in these words: "Our policy is to the House the incident alleged to complain, to complain against the have occurred at Pitesti. In this Government day by day. You can House my right hon. Friend ex- si mărginească activitățile lor cât ing in huge block type: "Gafencu, de fier-oțel și că are convingere parties were allocated 69 seats and rest assured that Mr. Maniu or pressed regret at the killing of si declaratiile publice la chestiuni Cretzeanu, Tillea & Co.," in which trade-unionistă." Mr. Bratianu will probably have a member of the National Peasant de ordin local si de stat si la pro- Gafencu is accused of "selling his a letter to the British Minister Party which had occurred at the gramul si tinuta generală, votat country." each day." The routine is well village of Pitesti and gave the im- de organizația națională a lui CIO. "Scânteia" also carries two pic- lor la această convenție aderează parliament and the leader of the worked out. A letter goes to the pression that possibly the Govern- Consilile să nu ia nici o actiune tures, one featuring Gafencu and la aceste principii și nu vor per- National Liberal Party was en-Prime Minister, Mr. Groza, every ment and the police, may have si să nu facă nici o declarație pub- Ribbentrop, supposedly carrying mite ca miscarea sindicală ame- trusted with the formation of the

delivered to this House is of course gati si să nu facă contribuții la and the other, also in Berlin, Street. far as I can find out it has never te de CIO." the Romanian Government, to stat, însă, au tot dreptul de a face mania. These gentlemen complained in which our Minister is accredited.

DOROHOI

(Continuare din pag. 1-a) mânt puțin. (Datele din plasa Săveni nu sunt încă complecte.)

Așa că peste 15.000 de țărani care nu de mult încă au fost chinuiți și umiliți de moșieri reacționari ca Stoianovici, Rosseti, Pilat, etc., datorită luptei lor unite și-au realizat voința lor seculară.

Si nu va trece mult timp, pâná ment or the people. But this is cand - în conformitate cu pre-Romania, and I ask hon. Members | vederile Platformei Program a Blofor the bitterness and the hatred se vor înmâna titlurile de prohoods against the Opposition par- dreptul asupra pământului pe ca-

Although elections in Romania In 1907, 11,000 peasants were people can forget this history. My is perfectly true that if Liberal or Bratianu's, both uncle and ne- they would be lucky to escape with Mr. Romniceanu, their Cabinet on the Romanian people, but on Minister, explained that it was Romanian history. But these op-



EVERY SHIP OF DICTATOR FRANCO of Spain that docks in New York harbor will get a picket greeting like this one staged by the New York Committee to Win the Peace. In addition Fascist Spain is getting hostile attention from the United Nations general assembly, led by the Polish

responsible for this massacre, however. It was put in this way: "How

Problemele Conventiei

Convenția aceasta națională e confruntată cu probleme grele pentru muncitorime, sporirea sadin regiunile sudice ale tării, garantarea unui salariu minim anucauza triumfului Republicanilor reactionari, cu proecte de legi antimuncitorești, țintind la sfărâmarea miscării muncitoresti si distrugerea câstigurilor obtinute lupta pentru menținerea păcii.

Cu ocazia acestei conventii, conducătorii lui CIO sunt aglomerați muncitorilor. cu sfaturi din rândurile cele mai compromitătoare cât și din rândurile marelui capital, că dacă sindicatele vor să trăiască, trebue să ia măsuri contra "pericolului

comunist" din sanul lui CIO. Acești dușmani ai muncitorimei organizate au încercat să foloseassindicate mari, ca United Electrical. Radio and Machine Workers (CIO), Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers cât și în sindicatele din industria chimică, de mobile, comunicații, ghete, etc., dar au fost bătuți. Chiar și aici la Ford Local 600, cel mai mare sindicat din lume (local) de 65.000 membri, au încercat aceleași manevre, dar

Campania Presei

Toată presa mare, ticăloasă, a intea deschiderii conventiei natio-

Amendamentele acestea sunt in-

Amendamentele

"Consiliile locale și de stat să-

să prin rânduirea lui CIO. Dacă torești."

meze constituției lui CIO și orice re." abatere dela constituție va fi supusă disciplinei.

a fost necesar, pentru a arăta că membru "să adopte față de partiîn ultimii 12 ani, și în deosebi cu presa mare, ca deobicei, minte și dul său politic o anume poziție.

Să vedem, ce înseamnă în rea- ziat la înfăptuirea ei." litate cele de mai sus?

mai bine zis lege, căci a fost a- politică în sindicate." probat în unanimitate. Insă, în

Sfatul Lui Stoica

din România, într'un articol, pub- pe nisip sau cu tot sfărâmată. licat în ziarul nostru din 9 Noemcelei de azi.

forte, care îndreptată împotriva toare din sânul lui CIO.

rigurozitate aplicate, a pus capăt nistă, a spus:

Gafencu Exposed

unul din aceste consilii sau con- 2. Pot fi membri "toti muncito-

ducători sunt în dubiu despre ceva rii, fără deosebire de naționalitase pot consulta si apoi primi sfa- te, religie, sex sau conceptie poturile cuvenite dela oficiul națio- litică și care adoptă și se conformă Statutelor de față" cu ex-Un alt amendament stipulează cepția celor cari militează în oral pentru toate industriile și, din că consiliile trebue să se confor- ganizațiile fasciste sau reacționa-

Ce înseamnă asta?

Tot Stoica ne spune, că sindi-Am citat mai mult poate decât catul nu poate forța pe niciun caută să influențeze conventia, să dar poate fi obligat ca fată de creeze destrămare în rândurile linia miscării sindicale să aibe o poziție: aceea care duce neîntâr-

In felul acesta, conclude Stoica, Natural că forțele anticomunis- "s'a înlăturat posibilitatea de a at will, dismissed every governte se pot servi de orice, nu numai se introduce, prin elemente infeude un astfel de amendament sau date anumitor partide, linia lor

Dacă nu s'ar fi luat aceste mă- and as you will see, it happened realitate, aceste amendamente pot suri, sustine Stoica, conducător de very often— the King called upon că "sperietoarea roșie" în diverse constitui o "chezășie a unității frunte al Partidului Comunist Ro- a leader of one of the political parmân și în acelaș timp conducător ties to form a new government de frunte al miscării sindicale ro- and to carry on elections for a new Chivu Stoica, vice-presedintele manești "s'ar fi ajuns ca și în tre-Confederației Generale a Muncii cut" și unitatea sindicală ar fi sau government won a majority or

> Amendamentele adoptate de Co- elections became famous for their brie, cu ocazia aniversării a doua mitetul Executiv al lui CIO, care frauds, violence and chicaneries. dela reorganizarea miscării sindi- vor fi susținute de convenție, își In 1926, the government was cale în România, discută proble- au, credem noi, aceiasi menire, dismissed by the King. General ma unității sindicale în lumina dacă ne bazăm pe situația ce ex- Averescu, the leader of the nosituației sindicale din trecut și a istă în anumite sindicate. Si noi minal People's Party, was asked nu suntem deloc de aviz cu toată by the King to organize a cabinet "Lupta internă," spune Stoica, propaganda meschină a presei and to carry on elections for a "a consumat o uriașe cantitate de mari, hrănită de forțele desbină- new parliament. The results were

> attorimea de multe din neno- CIO și al sindicatului din indus- tional-Peasant Party, 27%, and rocirile ce s'au abătut asupra ei." tria de fier-otel, la convenția tre- the ancient Liberal Party, 7%. Unitatea sindicală, însă, bazată cută, chiar în anul curent, refe- Under a special vicious law to pe două principii cardinale și cu rindu-se la campania anticomu- manipulate the elections, which

> 1. "Lupta hotărâtoare pentru a- democratică. E condusă de mem- party was entitled to an additionbrii ei. Noi nu întrebăm pe ni- al 50% of seats in the new parmeni originea lui natională, cu- liament. Thus, General Averescu loarea lui, religia lui sau credin- with his nominal party, emerged "Scanteia" publishes a long tele lui politice. Pentru noi e des- with 292 members in the parliaarticle with a three column head- tul ca-i un muncitor în industria ment and the other two principal

Noi suntem convinsi că majoritatea conducătorilor și delegați- General Averescu, dissolved the What are the facts? The report lui CIO. Ele să nu trimită dele- latter's private office in Berlin, fratricide și de stăpânii din Wall new parliament. In this new par-

reviewing Nazi troops, shortly be- mai sus nu poate să aducă decât against 7% in the previous parbeen checked by any reference to Consilile acestea locale si de fore the latter were to invade Ru- dezastru muncitorimei si poporu- liament, with 318 seats as against

Maniu Frauds Exposed In **Letter to New York Times**

to the editor of the New York 1927 elected parliament.

The writer states cold facts, and they speak for themselves. The full text follows:

The other day, and several times prior thereto, you published protests of Dr. Maniu, the leader of the National Peasants Party, of about the forthcoming parliamentary elections in Roumania. Dr. Maniu and his associates insist upon the "restoration" of pre-war democracy in Roumania.

For many years I have been nterested in the affairs of my native country, and I am familiar with the "pre-war" democratic practices which have prevailed there. In the interest of truth, allow me to give you some facts and Party received 15% of the vote mania and her rich resources, and figures so that you and the public be fully informed.

Roumania never had a demo-

cratic government, nor a democratically elected parliament, except in name and pretence. No parliament. Roumanian government has ever resigned because of a vote of nonconfidence of the parliament. Notwithstanding that Roumania has one of the best constitutions of any European country, the King, ment, whenever he chose, and dissolved the parliament at the same parliament. Invariably, the new

as usual. General Averescu rehas been abolished by the pre-"A noastră este o organizație sent government, the governing 16 seats, respectively.

In 1927, the King dismissed liament, the National Liberal parthe report of the Opposision. As organizatii nationale nerecunoscu- showing Ribbentrop and Gafencu | Orice abatere dela principiul de ty obtained 62% of the vote as 17. The National Peasant Party

print below a letter sent by Mr. against 27%, with 54 seats against 12 to 28 seats. Leo Wolfson, an American of Ro- 69; and the People's Party, which In 1933, the National Liberal manian Jewish descent, who was received 52% only about a year Party formed the new Government for 30 years president of the Uni- ago, received 2% of the votes and and from 28 seats in the parliated Roumanian Jews of America, did not have a single seat in the ment, elected only a year ago, it

Times. In it, Mr. Wolfson exposes In 1928, history repeated itself, liament. the whole fraud of Maniu and the King again dismissed the gov-Bratianu, with regard to the elec- ernment, and entrusted Dr. Julius operated in the same manner. tions they conducted when they Maniu, leader of the National new government and to carry on liament, which was elected during the election. The results were its regime and under its aegis, exagain as anticipated. The National cept that in 1940, through some Peasants Party received 78% of bungling, Mr. Tatarescu's governthe votes with 348 seats as against ment did not obtain the usual ma-22% and 54 seats in the preced- jority. ing parliament; the National Liberal Party obtained 6.5% and 13 posterous and an imposition for seats as against 62% and 318 seats Mr. Maniu, Mr. Brătianu and their Mr. Brătianu, the leader of the in the last parliament, and the associates, to speak of democracy National Liberal Party, and others, Peoples Party, a negligible per- and democratic principles. It is centage of votes.

Iorga, the leader of the nominal test and to bemoan their fate.

1932, when the National Peasants pathy and assistance. Party was again called to power and to carry on elections. True to on the principles of Democracy tradition and practices, the party and Democratic elections; prinobtained in the new parliament, ciples which they never practiced, which it elected, 274 seats as the meaning of which they never the parliament elected only a year rit of which they have continuago, and the National Liberal ously violated. LEO WOLFSON

obtained 300 seats in the new par-

The succeeding governments Every government carried a ma-Peasants Party, to organize the jority in the elections to the par-

With such a record, it is prerank hypocrisy.

The Government of the Nation- Dr. Maniu, Mr. Bratianu and al Peasants Party carried on for their followers in this country and about 3 years and was dismissed abroad have indeed a case and in 1931, and Professor Nicholas ample reasons to complain, pro-

National Party, organized the new | They should honestly state that government and election. He, too, the present government and its emerged victoriously in the elec- continuance in power is a THREtions with 48% of the vote and AT to their vested interests; a 289 seats; the National Peasants DANGER to their control of Rouwith 30 seats as against 78% and a MENACE to their right to con-348 seats in the last parliament, tinue as "Masters" over the fate and the National Liberal Party and destiny of the Roumanian maintined its political strength of people. There are, indeed, many 6% and had 12 seats in the new people both here and in Europe, who share their views and who This comedy repeated itself in will extend to them, their sym-

They should not rest their case against 30 seats which it had in wanted to understand and the spi-

French-Rom. Committee Appeals to Mrs. Roosevelt Mr. Justin Godart, chairman of the French-Romanian Com-

mittee to aid the victims of the drought in Romania and former Cabinet Minister, addressed an appeal to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, to mobilize American public opinion to render whatever help possible to the destitute population of Romania.

The appeal follows:

The war-devastated population of Roumania has been afflicted with a new calamity-drought. Indeed, two years in succession a terrible drought, such as the country had not experienced for many years, has completely destroyed the harvest of Eastern Wallachia and the entire region of Moldavia (sixteen provinces in all). Hundreds of thousands of inhabitants, chiefly peasants, find themselves deprived of food and are obliged to sacrifice a large part of their cattle, in default

The Roumanian Government has mobilized all its available resources and allotted considerable funds for the needs of the population. In addition, a Committee has been formed in Roumania which groups all men and women of good will who wish to serve the cause of national solidarity to the best of their moral and material ability.

The country's resources are insufficient, however, to meet requirements. A number of products of primary necessity are lacking, particularly foodstuffs for children, clothing and medicines. The approach of winter-which is extremely severe in Roumania-makes it imperative to act rapidly, so that relief may be distributed before the consequences of hardships and malnutrition become more acutely felt.

Accordingly, Roumanians abroad, supported by several outstanding Frenchmen and headed by Mr. Justin Godart, former Cabinet-Minister, President of the Entre-Aide Francaise, have united their efforts and constituted in France the Comite Franco-Roumain de Secours aux Victimes de la Secheresse en Roumanie (Franco-Roumanian Committee for the relief of victims of drought in Roumania). The purpose of this Committee is to assist the stricken population of Roumania by appealing to the generosity of national or international organizations and private individuals who may wish to take part in their humanitarian work. This Franco-Roumanian Committee, the first of its kind

to be constituted outside of Roumania, pending the formation of a similar Committee in the United States, takes the liberty of addressing a fervent appeal to you for moral and material aid, any gifts, whether in the form of foodstuffs, clothing, medicines, or cash, would be of inestimable value to the destitute population of Roumania, to whom they would be scrupulously and equitably distributed by the Roumanian Committee for the Relief of Refugees Stricken by Drought.

We would indeed be deeply grateful for any suggestions or contributions you might care to address to the President of the Comite Franco-Roumain de Secours aux Victimes de la Secheresse en Roumanie, Mr. Justin Godart, 9, Quai Voltaire, Paris, France, who will acknowledge the receipt of all letters or parcels which may be sent to him, and will be responsible for their transmission to Roumania.

Yours respectfully, pusta unisione pappie

ISTORIA UNEI FIGURI "ISTORICE" IULIU MANIU

de TUDOR SAVIN (Continuare din numărul trecut) (8)

Amintind că Boilă - care înainte de venirea național-țărăniștilor la putere era "un mic avocat de provincie cu polițe de câteva mii de lei protestate" - ajunsese la un moment dat să dispună de peste 19 milioane lei depuşi la "Banca Albina," plus aproape 76 milioane lei la "Institutul comercial de credit," ziarul "Viitorul" se întreabă: de unde acești bani? De unde aceste 95 milioane lei?

Boilă, la comisiunea pentru controlul averii pretinsese că banii îi fuseseră împrumutați, prin Banca "Svoboda" din Viena, pentru exploatarea minelor de aur dela Baia de Aries ale lui Iuliu Maniu, pe care Boilă le administra.

"Viitorul" arată însă că "producția minei d-lui Iuliu Maniu a fost de 420 tone pirită în valoare totală de 421,000 lei." Cum se poate ca pentru o mină care are o producție anuală de 421.-000 lei, să dea cineva aproape 100 dreptate "Viitorul."

Concluzia la care se ajunge este că afacerea cu mina lui Maniu era un simplu pretext. Boilă primise banii pentru altceva... Banca "Svoboda" nu lucra decât ca intermediară a uzinelor "Skoda" ...

Că Romulus Boilă se ocupa cu afaceri de armament reese limpede din documentele publicate în "Universul" din 3 și 6 Septembrie 1933.

Primul document este o scrisoare din 12 Martie 1929 a unui oarecare Franz Rehner din Viena, adresată lui Romulus Boilă. Prin această scrisoare, Rehner oferea spre vânzare cantități importante de arme și echipament militar, pe care urma să le furnizeze în asociație cu fostul general austriac Arthur Reutter, "omul de încredere al guvernului austriac și ungar, în chestiuni de armament militar."

Al doilea document este o scrisoare din 16 Martie 1929, adresată generalului Reutter de către Rehner, care

se afla la București. Ce scria Rehner asociatului său?

"Merge mai repede decât mi-aș fi putut închipui în optimisimul cel mai mare... Am întocmit, după o convorbire cu înaltul meu protector, un nou elaborat, pe care l-a supus și discutat cu unchiul său, ministrul președinte... Am mâine, cu un colonel de stat major, delegat de ministrul președinte, o convorbire amănunțită. după care voi fi primit de d. ministrupreședinte... Socotesc succesul sigur pe toată linia..."

In Martie 1929 "ministru-președinte" era Iuliu Maniu. Iar "înaltul protector" al lui Rehner nu era decât Romulus Boilă, nepotul "ministruluis președinte".

Iată dar dovada definitivă că Romulus Boilă, nepotul lui Maniu, era, încă din 1929 "specialist" în afaceri de armament. Așa cum a tratat cu Rehner, a tratat apoi cu Seletzki, în calitate de nepot și om de afaceri al lui Iuliu Maniu.

(Continuare în numărul viitor)