

- (1) There was discontent with the whole regime for a long time and particularly in the last years. In 1952 I worked in the Georgiu Dei shipyards. When talking with ~~workers, they~~ always expressed dissatisfaction that the Russians took out everything from the country and Hungarians had to live a bad life.
- (2) There was such general discontent that everybody felt it couldn't last long any more.
- (2b) I would not tell that anything specially contributed to the revolution-what happened during the last few years. The reconciliation of Moscow with Tito made people feel that events will turn to worse because now even Tito will have closer ties with the Soviet. The replacement of Rakosi made people feel that things would be better now, but soon it came out that there was no real change. I was a sub-tenant in the apartment of a Communist Party secretary in Blathy Otto Utca; the street's former name was Szapary Utca. I shared a room there with a friend. Previous to the funeral of Rajk the Communist Party secretary, our landlord, had many disputes with my friend who was the son of a Kulak. At the time of the Rajk funeral the Communist Party secretary told us that they expected much more from the regime and he thought now that many things were only bluffs. He was about 40 or 45 and he worked as a foreman with the Ganz Foundry. Both he and his daughter of 21 were formerly convinced Communists but appeared to be much less sure in their convictions after the Rajk funeral. During the revolution the party secretary was very silent. He remained at <sup>home</sup> ~~his~~ and listened to the radio.
- (2c) The whole thing was entirely unexpected. Nobody would have thought that a revolution would start.
- (2d) I did not have such a feeling.
- (2e) I don't know anything about it.

- (2f) The Stabad Nep wrote two or three months before the revolution already and since then more often that heavy faults were committed in the Party but they will ~~would~~ be straightened out. Agriculture ~~would~~ be developed and mechanized, heavy industry reduced and more opportunities ~~would~~ be given to artisans in the small industries.
- (2g) I don't remember ~~which~~ <sup>such</sup> articles poems or lectures.
- (3) The whole thing started with a street demonstration of the university students. Many workers joined them. On October 23, at two p.m. I had lunch in the Sabaria restaurant, Marx Square, and I saw the masses marching. In a window in an upper floor of a home I saw an army officer cutting out the Communist coat-of-arms from the Hungarian tricolor.
- (3b) Even Communist Party members ~~in~~ <sup>and the army</sup> the joined the masses and/Russians could see that practically the <sup>only men on whom they</sup> could rely were the AVH members.
- (3c) A better life, national independence as voiced first by the student and then by the many workers joining them. Later intellectuals voiced much farther going demands. When during the first demonstrations one shouted that Rákosi would perish, <sup>many</sup> even more people joined him as a wave to voice the same demand.
- (3d) My friend with whom I was a sub-tenant in Blathy <sup>Otto</sup> ~~utca~~ <sup>utca</sup> (Street), and another friend of mine were present on the night of October 23rd at Bródy Sándor utca in front of the radio building. They related to me that AVH men shot into the masses from the radio building and killed two young men and also probably a girl. This was after tear gas bombs which they used did not have any effect. Because of the senseless shooting of the AVH men, the demonstrations turned into a fight. Policemen and soldiers arriving at the radio building handed over their firearms to the revolutionary masses. All these things happened about midnight.

- (3e) I don't think so. Everybody accepted the sixteen points of the revolutionary youths including ~~the demands of~~ complete independence, severing ties with the Soviets, Rus-aki ~~xxxx~~ go home, better living conditions, raising of wages, reducing prices.
- (3f) I did not know anybody.
- (3g) The party secretary in the apartment where I lived planned to move with his family to the countryside joining a daughter living there. During the last summer already he did not attend party meetings.
- (3h) Rusaki go home, <sup>Rajosi</sup> ~~xxxxxx~~ should perish, Imre Nagy to the government.
- (3i) In the first eight or ten days the main demand was to sever ties with the Soviet Union and revolutionary people were not directly anti-Communist. But after several days armed fighting, people ~~thought more and more really the~~ remembered more intensively what the last twelve years meant and turned to be anti-Communist more and more.
- (3j) Requesting private ownership instead of common property according to the slogan: everything belongs to us.
- (3k) When they saw that the Russians were moving from the country, they found it more opportune to join the revolutionary masses. I was told by acquaintances that many Communists remained simply in their homes during the victorious days of the revolution. For example I have a friend who lived in ~~xxxxxx~~ in an apartment which was owned by ~~xxxxxx~~ a policeman. He was a strong Communist before the revolution. He caused my friend to be punished with ten years in prison previous to this time for ~~xxxxxx~~ alleged anti-Communist activities. Two of my ~~xxx~~ friend's brothers were punished too, at the same time also due to the things told against them by the policeman. The latter just remained home during the revolution.
- (3l) There were not.  
would
- (3m) We ~~should~~ have obtained national independence and I hope also private ownership.

- (4) On October 24th in the early morning hours I called on a friend who was a worker with the Georgiu Dei shipyards. I went to him with my friend with whom I lived as a sub-tenant, and the other friend who was sentenced to ten years in prison as related before. Our host told us that he spent the night already in the former Communist Party house in the 13th borough of Budapest. He added that there were many armed revolutionary people in the Party house. We decided to join those people and went to the quarters. In the beginning only some fifty but later about one hundred and fifty young people were assembled there under the command of an uniformed officer who was told by the others to have been a former army captain. There were plenty of arms of different kinds. Rifles, pistols, sub-machine guns, hand grenades and even a Maxim machine gun. Since then I slept there for several days. In the first days we went out to carry food for Freedom Fighters and their families. We wore arms and had an arm band indicating that we are national guards. We had a permit given by some revolutionary authority to wear arms. Meat and other foodstuffs were brought into a cellar connected with the Party house and several among us went out to distribute them. Bread was baked in a baker's shop close to the house and it was distributed too. Our people were in an enthusiastic mood and felt that they had to join the revolution to make an end to Russian rule. On the first days of November our commander ordered us to go out to bring in AVH men from their homes. I went out to the workers district called Tripolis and tried to find there an AVH man. But his home was being closed. I broke out the gates, but could not find anybody there. His neighbors explained to me that they saw him in the morning still, but I could find out that he was likely to have been escaped through the walls of his house behind a mirror in his home. His wife was brought in later to our quarters by others but I don't know what happened to her afterwards.



not permitted to be harmed by us. The AVH men were carried away from our quarters during the night. The captain also strictly ordered that nothing should be taken from store windows or open houses. When it happened once or twice that young boys brought such things, the captain immediately ordered that they be returned from where they had been taken. In the nearby Orion radio factory there was a storeroom for phonographs, radios and disks. I saw that some youngsters went in and tried to take home such things, but the masses standing around the factory immediately forced them to return everything <sup>explaining</sup> ~~explaining~~ that those living close to here did not take anything away and nobody is permitted to do so.

- (5) On October 25 at night we went out by two trucks carrying revolutionary pamphlets. About fifty people were in each of the trucks. After about one hour's ride we reached a village the name of which I don't know. While on the way we shouted Rakosi and the AVH ~~is~~ should perish, every Hungarian has to join us. I think similar things were on the pamphlets but I don't know their contents exactly. When we reached the village, we met armed soldiers. They still wore the Communist Red Star on their caps though they were removed already from the caps of soldiers we met in Budapest. Soldiers at the village told us that they are not permitted to let us in, but suggested to us to take another way to the inner part of the village. We ~~had~~ found this way and entered the village where masses of people were on the streets and women were crying. We distributed pamphlets, took off the Red Stars from the party house and the firemen's barracks. Local firemen helped us to do this. Then we collected the Red flags from the village and took them to Budapest in the truck.

During the revolutionary days there was no work in my working place, the factory

of mining

/ machines named for Ducles. It was 77 or 78 Baress Utca in the fourth borough of Budapest. I just picked up my salary there on a day early in November after the second return of the Russians but did not work there any more since the revolution. I was not a member of any revolutionary council.

- (6a) I belonged to the armed group organized in the former Communist Party house of the thirteenth borough of Budapest.
- (6b) When I ~~was~~ entered the quarters, there were about fifty people in it. The <sup>who</sup> captain/was the commander made a list of them. Workers of different enterprises were in the group. I used to live once in the thirteenth borough and therefore I was acquainted with the surroundings. Therefore, I decided to join this group.

The number of the fighting group amounted soon to seventy or eighty and not much later a hundred and fifty. It ~~fluctuated~~ <sup>fluctuated</sup> permanently as several of the Freedom Fighters were permitted to go out to fight at another place where they thought that their friends or brothers were fighting. Feed had been carried in from the countryside to the stores, ~~transported to~~ <sup>of</sup> our headquarters by motorcycle and trucks. <sup>R</sup> The night before the Russians returned to Budapest the second time we were sent out to the ~~marshalling~~ <sup>marshalling</sup> railroad yards at Rakes. At this time there was a scarcity of feed in Budapest and ~~many people~~ <sup>many people</sup> tried to break up the railroad ~~cars~~ <sup>cars</sup> to get feed. Therefore, guards were needed. There were three Freedom Fighters, three railroad men and three soldiers as guards. In addition to guarding the railroad cars we had to check the cars passing the railroad bars mainly for firearms. I did not find any firearms at this time in cars. It was mainly the soldiers among us who checked the identity cards and the car driving permits of people. I went out with two other Freedom Fighters at mid-

night and we were told that we would be relieved at 2:00 a.m. However, we had to stay there until 6:00 a.m. In the morning the Russians came.

- (6c) The group I joined on October 24th was formed by people who found out that they could do it by friends or acquaintances. When we were on duty with armbands and firearms in the city, it happened several times that people asked us where they could join a revolutionary group. When they were told, they came to our headquarters and reported to the captain who was the commander. He interrogated them and admitted them to join. My friend ██████████ was asked why he was sentenced to ten years in prison. After he had given an adequate explanation, he was admitted by the captain. I was not interrogated by him for I had two friends there who identified me.
- (6d) On November 4th we left the Party House for a school building nearby. Here the captain told us that the revolution had been betrayed and then he disappeared. We did not see him anymore. After this fifty or sixty of us, still armed, went to the borough headquarters of the Smallholder Party and then to the Rakosi Kulturhas, House of Culture, located also in the 13th borough. On November 5th or 6th we went out to the "Ordögárok at Váci Ut and found out there that soldiers in uniform probably in the number of four, as well as several civilians stood there armed. They told us they were waiting for the Russians and they are ready to attack against them. Up to the night about eighty people assembled there. Earlier already they were told by a man to carry guns from barracks also in the 13th borough of Budapest in front of the Kossuth movie. I think the name of the barracks was Dönsz György Laktanya. At this time already Russian airplanes were over our heads. We went out in the number of eight or ten to the barracks and carried three machine guns with ammunition by trucks. Hand arms and hand grenades were with us already. After we returned with the guns, a man arrived in a luxurious motor car carrying a sub machine gun and took the command



of third  
 /the group. He ordered us to take the ammunition to the seventh floor of the building in construction where we stood. He directed us how to place the guns, saying that he was a soldier for a long time. He was in civilian clothes. He was about thirty years of age. He gave a speech saying that we would fight up to the bitter end. Guards were placed around the guns and more elderly people tried to operate the guns, but it seemed that nobody understood it. Some  
 Seen ~~about~~ six Russian tanks came from the direction of the western railroad station, passed us in a distance ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> about an hundred meters and ~~then~~ <sup>were driven</sup> an additional five hundred to six hundred meters only to return after about fifteen minutes. After about thirty more minutes eighteen to twenty Russian tanks came from the direction of the western railroad station. Eight of them stepped close to us. The others went away. Airplanes were still over our heads. Most of us went up to the building, about fifteen to twenty people remained ~~there~~ <sup>below</sup> with a machine gun and at the guns. The man who took the command ordered who should stay and who should go up to the building. Older people were ordered to remain with the guns and the machine gun as it was supposed that they knew something about how to operate them. About fifty five minutes later our commander disappeared. The Russian tanks started to fire at the building and the surroundings. Those staying on the ground shouted up to us to carry out ammunition, but no one could do it because of the heavy fire. After about thirty more minutes Russians also came in armored cars. They stepped on the Vací Ut close to us and started to approach us on feet. While the men on feet were in advance, the tanks did not fire on us, but it was only the footmen who fired by sub-machine guns or carbines. We started firing from the third floor of the building and about fifty or sixty Russians fell to the ground killed or wounded. Then they returned to the tanks and the latter started firing again. The building where we stood became ruined so much that it was impossible to stay there any more. Therefore, we left the building and ran away in different direc-

tions. The next day about three or four of us returned there and found only the dead <sup>body</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ Russians. People who lived in the neighborhood told us ~~that~~ that the Russians carried away the other dead and wounded and the only dead body we found there was of a man who went in a house while ~~leaving~~ <sup>leaving</sup> the other Russians were ~~in~~ <sup>leaving</sup>. We did not find the guns either. I think they were carried away by the Russians.

- (7) As to other revolutionary groups I knew only <sup>that</sup> /at the Cervia movie in front of the <sup>their</sup> Kilian barracks the Freedom Fighters ~~was~~ elected a manual worker from ~~the~~ ranks as their leader.
- (7a) In our group there was always complete unanimity. If someone ~~was~~ <sup>anything</sup> told/to do, the other men did ~~something~~ <sup>it</sup> immediately.
- (7b) I never was together with students during the fight.
- (7c)d) No.
- (8) I refer to my previous statement about the ones in front of the National Theater building.
- (9a) I did not read the papers.
- (9b) During the revolution I went to our home twice together with my friend with whom I lived and with the same friend I was ~~about~~ <sup>out</sup> about three times on the boulevard to look around. While on route we talked with people and found out happenings.
- (9c) I listened to Radio Free Europe in the home of my friend ~~once~~ <sup>once</sup> and I listened several times to Radio Free Europe in the <sup>explained</sup> Rakosi Culture House. I ~~can~~ remember only the first listening when it was ~~explained~~ <sup>explained</sup> how to fight against tanks.
- (9d) From fellow Freedom Fighters and people I met in the streets.
- (10a-b) I don't know.

(10c) They did not harm revolutionary people. They did not carry arms during the revolution and removed the Red Stars from their caps. ~~They~~ <sup>They</sup> appeared to be with the people.

(10d) I only knew about this as related under point four.

(10e-k) I don't know anything about it.

(10l) When I went in to my working place for my wage, I found the election list of the Workers' Council. Fellow workers known by me were on the list. Istvan Varga, the general manager of the factory, and the Communist Party secretary <sup>not</sup> were/en it. But I was told by fellow workers that the party secretary was offered to work as a simple skilled worker.

(10m) A government system build up on the Workers' Councils.

(11a) It is deplorable that so many youths lost their lives in the revolution without reaching its goals. But anyway the revolt was useful for we made clear in the eyes of the whole world that we want to get rid of the Russians and the slave drivers.

(11b) Yes, without Russian interference.

(11c) In the beginning we expected armed help from the West and later at least that some people from every state would come in to help to restore order and to force the Russians to leave the country.

(11d) I can't ~~XXXXX~~ <sup>give an</sup> answer.

(11e) From the first moment it was a revolutionary demand that he take part in the government. Everybody had confidence in him.

(11f) I can mention only the name of Malóter.

(11g) University students, Intellectuals, Manual Workers, Soldiers, and those who came out of the prisons. It happened that university students liberated even

prisoners who were not political prisoners. I was told about this by ~~friends~~ friends who added that some of them tried to pillage. Peasants were of much help by bringing in feedstuffs to Budapest. When I was on my escape, I was told in Tatabánya that peasant and miner youths wanted to come up to Budapest, but Russians and AVH men shot among them thus preventing them from carrying out their venture. Five to six of them were slain. Even at this time ~~they~~ <sup>people</sup> still carried arms and when the police tried to collect ~~them~~ <sup>them</sup> they fought the police.

(11h) I would not have imagined this.

(12a) I was afraid that I would be reported to have been seen as a National Guard with arms. Many people <sup>knowing</sup> ~~knowing~~ me could see me.

(12b) I escaped together with a friend. We decided to escape and did so on November 24th.

(12c) I had no other plans.

- (1) Iron turner.  
worked
- (2) In 1950 I ~~was~~ worked with the construction of army barracks in Hűvösvölgy at Budapest. I worked there for about two or three months. There were about one thousand workers there; only from Hajdúderég, my native village, we were in the number of seventy among them. There were four or five buildings to be constructed all from brick and stone; five or at least four stories high. Fellow workers told me that either army barracks or prisons were to be constructed. I could not tell the exact place of the construction. One or two years after I stopped working there I passed the area and saw that the construction work was still being done but at this time ~~that~~ <sup>by</sup> soldiers of working battalions. ~~In~~ <sup>P</sup> 1951 I worked with the Haas & Semegyi factory for about five or six months. It was in the thirteenth borough of Budapest but I don't know the street. I was an unskilled worker there and had to carry material <sup>power</sup> by small hand carts. Iron doors and gates, u-shaped pillars for ~~the~~ lines and other things of iron were produced and stored here. Several thousand workers worked there in three shifts. There were several one and two story buildings where production went on permanently. ~~Still~~ <sup>P</sup> in 1951 I went to <sup>work with</sup> the Ganz shipyards which was ~~was~~ renamed at this time Georgiu Dei Shipyards. It was in Váci Ut at Budapest. In addition to barges also bigger ships to be used on the sea were constructed. When I quit my job in '52 after working there for about eight months, it was the 63rd sea ship built there. I had to clean the ships and to help them in landing when they made their first tentative trips. While I worked there, also a <sup>luxury</sup> yacht was built there for Mátyás Rákosi. I helped to clean this, too. It was good for twenty to thirty people. A sea ship was built there in a period of one month. I don't know how much time <sup>were</sup> was needed to construct a barge. The ships in construction ~~were~~ on the Danube

on stands and the shops of the locksmiths, turners, welders and other on the shore in small buildings. There was a five to six story building for the offices. Work was being done in the shipyards in three shifts. <sup>P</sup>In 1952 I became an apprentice. For one and a half years I worked with an incandescent lamp factory (Egyesült Iszo). I was ~~then~~ an iron turner apprentice there. This was a big factory constructing electric bulbs and other appliances for electricity. I was not permitted to look around much. About five to six thousand workers were working there in four, five or even more big buildings in three shifts. It was in Ujpest, a suburb of Budapest, Váci Ut. number ~~seventy~~ <sup>seventy</sup> ~~berxszxxy-seven~~. I think <sup>skilled workers</sup>. The apprentices were on the fourth floor of a five story building. <sup>iron turners</sup> worked on the third floor. <sup>P</sup>In 1953 I left Egyesült Iszo for the mining machine factory named for Ducles. I graduated as an apprentice here and remained there as a skilled worker up to my escape from Hungary. There were several thousand workers here. Gondolom, assembly lines to carry out <sup>the mines,</sup> coal from <sup>cars</sup> machines to cut the coal were being constructed there. The factory was in Ujpest Baross Utca. About six buildings were there. One of them was a five story building for offices where about <sup>noted</sup> a hundred office workers were working. We ~~thought~~ among each other that there were more office and technical workers than manual workers. Work was being done in three shifts.

- (3) In the Ducles factory I liked to do the work for which I was trained, but I did not like that the work was always sped up and that earnings were small <sup>because arms</sup> ~~before~~ <sup>raised.</sup> were permanently ~~fixed~~. When I was a skilled worker for one year already, I get a raise where I could make two thousand <sup>forints</sup> ~~forints~~ per month, but this was only possible by giving three to a four hundred <sup>forints</sup> ~~forints~~ monthly to ~~an~~ analyzer

of the shop for giving me additional working time to my prescribed time of work on account of pretended additional work due to the alleged fact that I had to work on faulty material. For example it was told that it was longer in diameter as it should have been.

(3c) In my previous working places I could earn much less as I was only an unskilled worker.

(3d) I operated in the factory named for Duclos a "Milano" type machine, a "Russian" turn-bench, and an EV type machine. The latter was probably a Hungarian make. All of them were electromotored, the same being the case for all machines in the shop in which I worked. In another shop of the factory there were machines driven by handbelts. The shop where I worked was 100 by 20 meters' in size. Maybe the width was 30 meters. It was two stories high. Five built-in moving cranes, three of them bigger and two of them smaller ones, were worked ~~in it~~ <sup>it.</sup> An electric fan of the size of half gate cooled the air when the weather was warm and warmed it by cold weather. It, however, was not sufficient for the big room. Half of the shop was occupied by iron turners, in the approximate number of 100 for each of the three shifts, as well as by planers, grinders, slotters, millers, screwcutters and other skilled workers. Their combined number in each of the shifts was about 100, too.

Our shop of 100 meters length was directly connected with a locksmith's shop of another 100 meters and the same width as ours. There was no dividing wall between the two shops. Together with them the combined number of manual workers of three shifts working in the building was some 1500 or 1700. In addition there were some 500 white collar workers placed in the part of the building where the locksmiths worked. Along the two aforementioned shops of the combined length of 200 meters there was another building of the same size

3d continued/

as the former. The two buildings were not separated by walls either, and they had a common roof. Welders, locksmiths, and grinders worked in the second building. I think they were more in number than in the first building.

When I started working with the factory named for Duclos, there were five new Wollmann type lathes here. Later a horizontal lathe of 6 or 7 meters length, and time and again modern turner's lathes arrived.

~~For a degree of~~ <sup>were</sup>  
~~About 10 % of~~ the products ~~was~~ <sup>were</sup> rated faulty in cases of newly employed workers. As to products of better trained workers it was less than 10 percent. However, about 99 % of the products was considered as faulty ~~for~~ <sup>in</sup> some or another ~~reason~~ <sup>degree</sup> altogether. For instance, pistons were not accepted as adequate ~~if~~ their size was greater or smaller than the standard stipulated for. Often, the percentage rating was lowered even if they would not have been useless but the man in charge of control was still displeased with the output. All this meant additional unpaid work in the piece rate system.

For each ~~xxx~~ shift of 100 hundred workers there were 4 to 5 MEOS /technical checkers/, 15 dispatchers and 6 foremen in control. Foremen ~~check~~ <sup>ing</sup> the iron turners were not in charge of other types of workers. The latter had foremen for their own. The other controlling people cared also for the work of locksmiths and others than iron turners. Dispatchers controlled fitting together of products, and they were in



charge of fixing the time when products were to be completed.

/3e/

While I lived in the 8th borough of Budapest, I had to take a trolleybus for half hour with additional one hour by streetcar for each trip. This meant three hours daily for the roundtrip. Previous to this, one trip took me half hour by streetcar if I got it well. However, there was only one track for the streetcars and a passing track to wait for the streetcar arriving from the opposite side. It happened that we had to wait for even 15 minutes on the passing track. This was at the time when I lived in the 13th borough.

/3f/

Eight hours per day. Dinner or lunch time was not included. It was paid calculated on half hours working time, amounting to some 30 forints monthly. When I worked with the morning shift, that is from 6 AM through 2 PM, I had my lunch after completing my day's work. When working with the shift from 2 to 10 PM, I had my lunch before starting work and ate again after 10 PM. The late night ~~work~~<sup>shift</sup> was not interrupted by dinner break either.

/3g/

Monday through Saturday.

/3h/

Never.

/3i/

Yes: April 4th and May 1st. I don't remember others.

/3j/

While I was an apprentice I had 24 days. When I had been a skilled worker, a list told how many days I had per month. In most of the cases it was only one day monthly. I had to take

it as ordered.

/3k/

It was the same in each of my jobs except <sup>building</sup> construction work done in the Húvösvölgy. There I had to work more than 8 hours on several days. In the beginning I claimed for overtime but did not get it. Later I did not even claim it as I saw that it was in vain. The problem of paid holidays could not be raised in my other jobs than the last one due to the short time I passed in them.

/3l/

The whole monthly amount calculated for eating time had been reduced for being late once. One days absenteeism was punished by ~~reducing~~ <sup>dropping</sup> the monthly amount for eating time plus one day's vacation.

/3m/

One year after my started my job with the factory named for Duclos, the norms meaning the term to complete products were reduced by 30 to 40 % on the average. This was carried out in a way <sup>to the worker the</sup> handing over ~~work~~ sheet indicating the shorter time. It happened that two workers having to do exactly the same work got different times to have the product ready.

/3n/

Time analysers brought out the raw material and checked the time of output. At this time they fixed the wage according to the effective working time they checked. At a next occasion they earmarked less time for completeing the same work. This happened more than once. It depended on their daily mood whether they were more or less liberal. Permanent tendency was to speed-up the work in this way. When I started

working with the factory named for Duclos, 60 minutes were given to make a chain-~~wheel~~<sup>wheel</sup> hub ready plus additional 5 minutes for boring. As a skilled worker I had to do the same work in 24 minutes boring included.

/30/ Accident insurance, free medical care. As to vacations: a list was brought in our workshop and the names of workers were read from it who had to take out vacation. It happened that half of the workers were forcibly given vacation time when production stopped for a while. On the other side, when a machine was to be made ready during the month, there was no vacation at all.

As an apprentice I got free streetcar and theater tickets. They were no more available for me when I was a skilled worker. Workers who lived outside of Budapest and worked in the city received reduced fare railroad tickets.

/4a/ Most of the iron turners were teenagers who graduated as apprentices in the factory. Bigger machines, <sup>say</sup> horizontal lathes, planes, grinding machines and cog-milling machines, were operated by workers in the age of 40 to 50. I was put to operate a Milano type turner's lathe. This was a bigger machine, too. In spite of my youth I got this assignment because I was a good worker. Practically all of the workers had eight years primary school education plus two, or one and half years in apprentice school. Some young people became

apprentices after one or two years of studies in high school because they decided or were forced to give up high-school studies. About 60 % of my fellow-apprentices were peasant boys from the countryside. They either came from more distanced parts of the country and became Budapest residents as in my case, or rode by train to Budapest every day from their country home closer to the city. The rest were from industrial workers' families. Several workers of the factory named for Duclos owned houses and lands in nearby towns and villages. (They did not come in to work occasionally, at the time of hoeing or harvesting, facing measures taken against absenteeism /see point 3 1/. I have to mention here that too much absenteeism was even punished by courts by prison terms. Toilers leaving their working place arbitrarily were returned in a forcible way. For example, it happened so to a youth working with me on the same lathe, after he had been absent for about two months.

Among the iron-turners there were women, about 3 or 4 %.

/4b/ I was in good terms with almost all of the workers. This refers also to the MEOS /technical checkers/, and at least half of the foremen. The foreman in chief and his two substitutes were not in good friendly terms with the workers and often sought to speed up their work. We tried to correct their demands through the time-analyzers. They wished to explain to us knowing that the time earmarked for the output <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ not

sufficient, but added that it was ordered so and that they cannot help it. I was in <sup>fairly</sup> good terms also with the dispatchers but they only could answer complaints about speeding up work: it is to be done, it is urgent.

/4c/ In the shop I was in friendly terms with fellow workers, but I used not to meet them privately or socially. This was rather with those with whom I shared an apartment where I had a room as a subtenant.

/4d/ We discussed among each other that in America people have to work less and they still have a better life. We could talk over such things even with better known foremen meeting them sometimes in inns when having a drink. There was no change in this up to my escape from Hungary.

/4e/ Communist Party members were given a better machine where they could make 3000 or 4000 forints earning per month. The rest of skilled workers made 1000 or 2000 forints, some of younger workers only 300, 400 or 500 forints. I could make more.

/4f/ I joined the trade union, but never had a membership card and did not pay membership fees. In 1955, the foreman in chief, by the name Sziklai, removed me from a lathe where I could make 1500 forints monthly. At this time I was the youngest among the iron turners and he wanted that one of his relatives earns the 1500 forints. I complained about it

with the trade union secretary and called even upon the general manager. Neither of them could be of help.

/4g/ I don't know.

/4h/ I did not.

/4i/ I don't know anything about it.

/4j/ They were permitted to work but could make less money than Communist Party members.

/4k/ The two substitutes of the foreman in chief owned lands in the countryside and lived there. When they tried to explain some working procedure to apprentices they were unable to do it. The latter ridiculed them. Both were Communist Party members and attended night school in the factory. Some of the workers spent four years in the night school and became dispatchers and foremen afterwards. I would not say that they were all incompetent people. Nevertheless, I suppose that in many cases they were promoted only due to their Communist Party membership.

/4l/ Communist Party secretaries came from the office into the shop to control work. Once we had to prepare a turning lathe through several days in order that the assistant general manager be able to cut spindles on it. When he came he showed us the work to be done for about 10 minutes. He could not do it longer because the machine started to vibrate. It happened that the foreman in chief gave us a stupid order. When we referred about it to our foreman he answered laughing-

ly: Do it the best way you can.

/4m/ Not, as far as I know.

/4n/ I guess that those being Communist Party members.

/4o/ Communist Party membership was of the greatest importance for that matter. Good work accomplishment was being requested. This was available for party members because they were given advantageous working time. Foremen and dispatchers were good kaders. All of them were Communist Party members.

/4p/ It was told about one of the dispatchers and several skilled workers of being informers. We tried to avoid to have talks with them. The workers were locksmiths fitting products together. The dispatcher was in charge of controlling the work.

/5a/ When doing <sup>building</sup> construction work in the Húvösvölgy I had low wages. In addition, I did not like to carry mortar and brick I had to do.

I had to work too hard in the Haas and Somogyi Factory by carrying out scrap-iron or big iron-gates from the factory, or else to carry heavy iron bars to carts.

I wished to leave my job with the Georgiu Dej Shipyard because I wanted to become an apprentice. Also, I had a fuss with a foreman in connection with cleaning and sweeping.

From the Egyesült Izzó /Incandescent Lamp Factory/ I had been transferred to the factory named for Duclos together with 23 other apprentices.

/5b/

I would not have left this job by my own will. In the factory's workshop there was much opportunity for skilled workers.

My sister who was two years older than I, was a mechanic apprentice in Budapest in 1950. It was she who persuaded me to come to the capital and become an apprentice here. I liked to do it because I was told that eventually I will have a good earning. My father was not against it either. He once made good money as a self employed shoemaker but this was not so any more. He had to join the KTSZ /kisipari termelő szövetkezet/ or producers' cooperative together with the other former self employed shoemakers in Hajdodorog. He was paid only 400 forints monthly for his work as he was handicapped having only one eye. He was not hopeful that I would have a good earning should I take over his workshop. Neither was I.

/5c/

Not much. I would have liked to become a time-analyser. But it would not have been possible before long. I was born in 1936 and, therefore, in 1956, I should have been enlisted in the army thus giving up my worker's job for a longer time.

/5d/

Workers having a family started earlier their daily work to make more money. I think this was a fairly general trend.

/5e/

To have a good life, nice clothing and home, as well as a motor car and amusement: going to movies and having drinks.



I would read in my leisure time.

/5f/ Virtually every youth had such imaginations in Hungary. So had I.

/5g/ No. I would have preferred that they do some intellectual work. I did a nice work but it was not paid well.

/6a/ I was not a bread earner before the war ended. My father had a nice earning before 1945. As a self employed shoemaker he could sell his products in markets for good prices. Even after he was forced to join the KTSZ /see point 5b, second paragraph/ he made good money for a while, but it became worse more and more.

/6b/ Since the time I had my own earnings, I could afford to pay for my home and food. In addition, I could buy a summer suit, two all year suits, an overcoat, three pairs of shoes, a sandal and body linen. I could not afford, for instance, to buy a motorcycle or a wrist-watch.

/6c/ Yes. Many people were envious of me. Yet I told to several youth the way how to make <sup>more</sup> ~~much~~ money.

/6d/ Yes. In the factory I worked, as in other nationalized enterprises, inadequate time was given in the task wage system <sup>to</sup> ~~for~~ get a product ready. Thus, due earnings were reduced.

/6a/ In 1947, I was only 9 years old and thus I had no earnings for myself.

In 1952, I made 600 forints monthly in the shipyard named for Georgiu Dej.

In the Mining Machines Factory named for Duclos I made 1000 or 1200 forints monthly most of the time, in 1955. It happened that it was only 800 forints, because I was not able to do rush-work at every time. My year's earning was some 12,000 forints.

/7b/

Locksmiths had approximately the same income. Grinders, millers /marósok/ and those operating horizontal lathes made 2000 to 3000 forints monthly. Welders could not even make 1000 forints per month. My friend with whom I lived in the same apartment, worked in the May 1st Clothing Factory. He was glad when he could make 1000 forints in a month. He was about six years older than I. Another friend I mentioned /see point 3k in Section "R"/ of having <sup>had</sup> been sentenced to 10 years in prison, worked as a toolman with the MSZHRT /Hungarian-Soviet Steamship Company//Shipyard <sup>and</sup> made 1200 or 1300 forints monthly. His father was carrying lumber by cart or on his shoulders for pitsawing. He wished his son and me to figure out his earnings. It seldom was found to have been 1200 or 1300 forints monthly.

/7c/

Skilled workers in the <sup>first</sup> year after completing apprenticeship generally did not make more than 500 or 600 forints per month doing the same kind of work than I. Skilled workers <sup>trained</sup> for a longer time earned 1000 to 1200 forints monthly.

/7d/

I was single, living as a subtenant in Budapest.

## /8/ BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE DATA:

Page No 1:

- /1/ /A/ Own, /B/ 19 years, /C/ Heavy industry, /D/ Iron turner,  
/E/ Peace loan subscription 70 forints, Social security 2 to 5  
forints monthly, /F/ 1800 forints, /G/ some 1725 forints,  
/H/ Noone, /I/ 8 hours per day Monday through Saturday = 48  
hours per week, /J/ 200 to 300 forints monthly.

Page No 2:

- /1/ Subtenant: 150 forints for one furnished room. Wine other  
persons lived in other rooms of the same apartment.  
/2/ 600 forints  
/3/ 1700 forints from savings  
/4/ Paid only for electricity: 100 forints  
/5/ 300 forints  
/6/ & /7/ nothing  
/8/ 60 forints  
/9/ Only newspapers: 85 forints  
/10/ Streetcar only: 100 forints  
/11/ & /12/ nothing.

/9/

As a subtenant in Budapest, I shared my room with a friend. There was plumbing, gas and electricity in the apartment.

/9a/

Sometimes there were difficulties in Hajdudorog, my native village, to get bread. Either my mother or my younger sister used to spend about half hour waiting in queues for bread every second or third day. The baker, however, often reserved bread for shoemakers in the producers' cooperative of the village thus making them available bread without waiting in queues. There were no specific difficulties to get other foodstuffs.

/9b/

It did not.

/9c/

My friend, a tailor, with whom I shared my room in Budapest, used to make my suits. I bought the material in state stores, as well as food for breakfast and dinner. I had my lunch in the canteen of the factory.

/9d/

As a building construction worker I got free quarters and food. Otherwise there were no considerable changes during my stay in Budapest. In Hajdudorog I lived with my parents.

/10/a/

In Hajdudorog there were farmers' cooperatives using combines. ~~It~~<sup>They</sup> did not work well. Agricultural production went back as compared with the times when peasants owned their lands as individual farmers. In the beginning industrial development was all right and reasonable, but later this was too much to the prejudice of agriculture.

/10b/

Youth swarmed to Budapest from the countryside. The latter

remained without workhands. Therefore, there was very difficult to get a residence permit in Budapest. In this way the government wanted to restrict crowding in Budapest. Nevertheless, those sticking to get a residence permit could manage to obtain it by paying 1000 or 2000 forints to private persons who found their ways to get them for the applicants. In factories it used to be advertised that workers are being hired. Once I called on the hiring office of my working place with two youth from the countryside. They wanted to work as unskilled workers but were not taken. Only iron turners were needed.

- /10c/ Older people told me that it was better both before 1941 and between 1941 and 1944.
- /10d/ They were an improvement in industrial branches but a deterioration in the agriculture.
- /10e/ I did not.
- /10f/ In 1953, I went home to Hajdudorog for a short ~~time~~<sup>leave</sup> as an apprentice. Then I heard that the private sector re-emerged in the village in a restricted degree among artisans. I do not remember any detail.
- /10g/ It was rather worse. Commodity prices were very high.
- /11a/ Material conditions were of first importance because earnings were not adequate when compared with high prices.
- /11b/ All people whom I talked to complained about this.
- /11c/ I met only fellow-workers of industry.

- /1a/ From 1942 through 1950 elementary school. For 8 years.  
From 1952 through 1954 apprentice school. For 2 years.
- /1b/ Public schools.
- /1c/ Elementary school in Hajdudorog. It was an old building. Some 30 pupils were in one class, all boys. Apprentice school in Budapest, connected with practical training in Egyesült Izzó /Incandescent Lamp/ Factory for one and half years in 1952 and 1953, and in the Mining Machine Factory named for Duclos, for the rest of the time.
- /1d/ In the apprentice school I was trained to be an iron turner.
- /1e/ To be trained in a specific occupation in the apprentice school. Elementary school was compulsory.
- /2a/ As much as I wanted.
- /2b/ My interest was for industrial worker's training.
- /2c/ No.
- /2d/ Average in the elementary school and in the second year of my apprentice school studies, above average in the first year of my apprentice school studies.
- /2e/ Yes so far I wanted to study.
- /3/ Yes. Principles of constitutional law /Alkotmánytan/ in the apprentice school.
- /3a/ Geography and history were my favorite subjects in the elementary school, geometrical drawing and technical studies /szakmai ismeretek/ in the apprentice school. I disliked studies on constitutional law.
- /3b/ Yes, in the elementary school. I don't remember any more in which year they started.

/3c/

Yes, in the courses for constitutional law. Things were told about bourgeois exploitation and the imperialist powers were degraded. On the other side, the glorious Soviet Union was praised. Everybody disliked it knowing that we ~~are~~ <sup>were</sup> taught lies. Even the teacher sneered while teaching.

/3d/

As an apprentice school student I had some shooting training in the first year of studies and regular military training including camouflaging, orientation by compass and on maps, target-shooting, and being familiarized with parts of the rifle in the second year.

/3e/

No.

/4a/

I can refer only to my own experiences and those made by fellow students and fellow workers. All felt strongly against the regime. However, the students were disciplined and learned the subjects of their courses adequately. Uniform was compulsory for apprentices.

/4b/

It was ~~fairly~~ ineffective for ~~new~~ political courses. The teacher for principles of constitutional law was a young man of about 27. He talked with us about other things in his class. As he was a wrestler, the main talk was about wrestling. He used to say: should the principal come on, we will talk about the subject to be studied.

/4c/

In the elementary school we did not talk about politics. In the apprentice school we liked to talk in recess time between

classes /bižperc/ about good life in America and the West. Nobody felt for the regime.

- /4d/ Nothing.
- /4e/ The whole system.
- /4f/ Not, as far as I could know.
- /4g/ Having been a youngster by myself I could not tell a difference.
- /4h/ Both I and fellow-students were against Communism more and more.
- /4i/ I don't think that it depends much on a specific age. Parental influence could be effective in every age. If the parents got a better job, they reared children to be content with conditions and to be successful in a similar way.
- /5a/ My father had been a self-employed shoemaker. In 1953 or 1954 he, as others of his profession in Hajdudorog were forced to join the local KTSZ /- kisipari termelő szövetkezet or producers' cooperative/. Nobody liked to do it, but this was the only way to get sole leather, uppers and other material and thus being able to make an earning.
- /5b/ I considered it a fine one. I could observe that he made <sup>good</sup> ~~could~~ money doing nice work and selling shoes on markets and costumers <sup>to</sup> in general while he was self-employed and even later for a time.
- /5c/ I think that 8 years of elementary school and junior highschool, and probably 3 years of apprentice school.



No.

The house where my parents are living was owned by my father's father who is still living. He transferred the ownership to my father. The house is still owned by him. There are one room and a kitchen in it.

Better off because my father had a relatively good earning as a shoemaker.

My mother, father, his father and three children.

My grandfather living with my parents is now 85 years old. He had been a pig-dealer, but does not work any more. He lost his right arm long ago. My father ~~is~~ <sup>has been</sup> payed 400 forints per month by the producers' cooperative. This small earning is due to the fact that he has only one eye, <sup>thus hindered in work</sup> My mother is housewife. My older sister, 23, is married and lives in Budapest. She is a mechanic working in a factory producing measuring and precision instruments. Her husband is a truck driver with the TEFU enterprise /means trucking/. My younger sister, 15, completed elementary school in 1956, and stays now at home. The mother of my mother, at least 75 years old, lives in Hajdudorog with another daughter. Her son in law is a blacksmith. His wife and my grandmother are just housewives.

Living quite a bit far away from my parents I found to be the best solution to share a room with a friend as a subtenant.

Those enumerated under point /5g/.

It rather hurt me in a sense to assure a good living. As to

political screening /káderezés/, however, I had no difficulties my father having been considered as a laborer earning his bread by his own work.

/6/

Not in Hungary. We got married in Austria after both escaping the home country.

/6a/

She was a textile worker. I don't know where she worked.

/6b/

We got married in May, 1957.

/6c/

Noone.

/6d/

Not applicable.

/7-10/

Not applicable.

/11/

Definitely.

/12/

No.

/13/

No.

/13a/

They agreed with me to prepare for becoming an industrial worker.

/13b/

There were no troubles.

/13c/

It was not talked over.

/13d/

We followed the same attitude and ideas in general.

/13e/

My parents did not oppose my courtships in Budapest.

/13f/

Nothing.

/14a/

The members of the family felt close to each other. Since the time I had been living in Budapest I was able to help my parents by giving them 1000 forints in turn. I did it twice or three times. My father was glad to take it but was not anxious for it. He used to say: it is the most important that I fend for myself and become a real good sort of man, he does not need my

money. It was the same with my sisters.

/14b/ I would not know. I was at home since 1950 but very seldom and thus did not have experiences in my native village. I did not talk over such things with acquaintances either.

/14c/ In addition to some reading I strolled around with boy and girl friends in the Városliget /Town Park/ in the Margaret Island, on the Gellért Hill or in other places. I went out to dance.

/14d/ I carried on correspondence with my parents.

/14e/ While I was an apprentice in Budapest, I used to go home once per month or every second month. It was the same in the first year after the end of apprenticeship. Later I went home once a year. It always was only for one or two days. Since 1952, my father stayed in Budapest about three times, my mother twice, just for a few days at every occasion.

/14f/ There were not such things.

/14g/ I was free.

/15/ They have loosened due to the fact that parents and children had to live in different communities and family members often had to take commissions to work outside of their residence.

/15a/ Yes.

/15b/ I don't know.

/15c/ Rather yes. In 1949 and 1950 youngsters were enrolled in Hajdudorog to work in Budapest. Even a film was made about

the campaign. Many youth quit for Budapest. Certainly this did not make to keep them close in feelings to their parents.

/15d/ I think this is more true for the country.

/15e/ I did not have any experience of that matter.

/15f/ I knew about several divorced people among fellow-workers. A friend of mine, now about 21, divorced her wife right before the revolution after having been married for two years.

/16a/ Boys used to marry in the last years ~~at~~ the age of 17 or 18, girls as early as ~~the~~ the age of 16. This is certainly earlier than before, though I could not tell what was the average age earlier.

/16b/ There is not much courtship. People get married soon after being acquainted. On the other side it is easy <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>get a</sup> divorce. My parents explained <sup>to</sup> me that marriages are likely to be more stable when youngsters don't marry ~~in~~ <sup>at</sup> too early age and get acquainted <sup>with</sup> ~~to~~ each other after a longer time. Otherwise I have no opinion as to the role of parents.

/16c/ I can't form a judgement.

/16d/ There was. I don't know why. It was to be observed <sup>at</sup> ~~by~~ dancing parties and outings of boys and girls.

/16d/ Yes in a clandestine way. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ was a well known place to meet prostitutes in 1953 and the following years. <sup>It was in front</sup> ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ of the Western Railroad Terminal in Budapest. After it was prohibited here, a similar meeting place started in the nearby Kiss József utca, in the

so-called [REDACTED]

were

/16f/

They ~~was~~ less strict. In the apprentice school there was a coeducation for boys and girls. In the iron turners' class there were 10 girls, or about one third of apprentices. Friendship with them developed into sexual ties soon. Good occasion was made for this by taking girls to movies and beaches. I was told that men often went up with girls after dancing parties to the Blaha Lujza girl's home somewhere in the 4th borough of Budapest.

/16g/

I don't know how far it was done by official consent. In the house where I lived in Budapest I was told that a girl <sup>residing there</sup> paid 1500 forints for bringing on an abortion.

/16h/

We never cared for it whether anybody was an illegitimate child or not. I don't now how many illegitimate children there were.

/16i/

Women are freer in their talks and manners than before and they are considerably more numerous among working people. However, they often used to complain, explaining that previously they could subsist without being forced to make their own earnings. Anyway, they feel themselves less dependent from males. The latter liked to tell them: all right, you are free, and you have to work.

/17/

It deteriorated.

/17a/

[REDACTED] was a fellow-apprentice of mine in the school. He demanded money from a prostitute in the [REDACTED] restaurant. She refused his demand. Therefore, [REDACTED] pushed her below

a local train in motion. The girl died. The story was written in <sup>news</sup> papers. Also, the photograph of [REDACTED] appeared in a paper when reporting the case.

/17b/ I was told that stealing of food by employees occurred in several KÖZÉRT food stores in the 13th borough of Budapest.

/17c/ I mentioned already cases in connection to get residence permits in Budapest.

/17d/ I never heard this term.

/18/ In Hajdudorog we were close neighbors. His father was my godfather; he owned some 50 cadastral acres as a farmer. My friend had seven brothers and two of them were my class-mates in the elementary school. At this time the latter were my best friends. In 1947 or 1948, an execution warrant had been carried out against my godfather for charges of non-delivery of agricultural goods to the state. Virtually everything was taken off him, even clothing. Two years after my godfather committed suicide and died.

/18a/ When in Budapest, I became best friend with the older brother. We shared a room as subtenants. He worked as a tailor in the May 1st Clothing Factory, and later in the Children Dress Factory in the 13th borough of Budapest.

/18b/ He was 6 to 7 years older than I.

/18c/ We went out together for dancing parties or made excursions, both of us having a girl friend joining us. When at home, we used to play cards, and got one and other's paper or sometimes

book to read. 7

/18d/ Yes, fairly often.

/18e/ In the first year we were in better friendship than later. The reason for this change was lack of money. Also, we courted one of two girls who lived together. It came that either the one or the other of us came to loggerheads with his own girl. The result was that only one of us went out to see his girl at such times.

/18f/ I did not write him since I left Hungary.

/18g/ To give his last farthing to help his friend and to stay out for him at every possible occasion.

/18h/ Yes.

/18i/ Another friend was [REDACTED] the man I mentioned of having been sentenced to ten years in prison. I several times went out to him and with other friends to dancing parties organized by the factory named for [REDACTED] the Tavas /Spring/ restaurant, once Rajna restaurant, in front of the Szikra /Spark/ movie close to the western railroad terminal. [REDACTED] was a toolmaker, the other friends were turners, tailors and locksmiths.

/18j/ We helped each other in many different ways. My friend I mentioned under point /18a/ used to make my suit.

/18k & l/ It would have affected it, because <sup>I</sup> we would not have been able to have confidence in him. All of my friends were non party members.

- /19/ Both of my parents are Roman Catholic.
- /19a/ The father of my father and both of my sisters were religious people. My mother and my father did not care for religion.
- /19b/ I don't have religious feelings either. While I was a pupil of the primary school I attended classes of religion in the home of the village priest together with school-mates. That was all.
- /20a/ In Hajdudorog I could observe that many people attended religious service on Sundays. There was a widespread religious feeling in the village. In Budapest I could observe that churches were full on Sundays when passing before them. This refers to every denomination.
- /20b/ They tried to stamp out religion. There is a place of pilgrimage: Pócs, about 30 or 40 kilometers from Hajdudorog. In 1947 or 1948 I was told by pilgrims who went there at this time that policemen and Communist civilians blocked their way, the former made identity checks and people threw them with stones. Teaching of religion was being made utmost difficult throughout the whole country.
- /20c/ I don't know anything about them.
- /20d/ It did not harm priests in Hajdudorog. I heard vague rumors that priests were removed and jailed in different parts of the country. I don't know which denomination they belonged to.
- /20e/ I don't know anything except the case mentioned under point /20b/.
- /20f/ Yes, as far as I know, except the case mentioned above.
- /20g/ I don't know any specific instance.
- /20h/ I did not.



/20i/

In Hajdudorog almost everybody in our neighborhood, especially elderly women. In Budapest ~~also~~ mainly the latter according ~~to~~ my observations. However, I was acquainted with several young girls, too, who attended church services. I guess this was on account of religious feeling. My boy friends and fellow workers did not go to church. We never talked over this question.

/20j1/

Jewish people adjusted to the regime fairly well personally. I don't know anything about the attitude of different faiths.

/20j2/

I did not have any experience.

/20k/

In Hajdudorog my friends used to attend church services regularly. They were bound to do so by their parents. In Budapest most young people I knew did not attach importance to religious practices. I think the reason was Communist indoctrination.

/20l/

I think that churches in Budapest took the middle way, neither fostering nor objecting political opposition. I can give no examples.

/21/a/

I would have suggested to become a waiter because no hard physical work is needed in this occupation. For a really capable young person I would have suggested to become an engineer for they used to be well paid.

/21b/

To study and to become Communist Party member.

/21c/

Those who were good in their studies.

/22/

Groups of people whom I regarded as worst off I would put in the following order: unskilled manual workers, <sup>char-women,</sup> many of skilled factory workers, teachers. Best off: factory managers, AVH men.

- /22a/ Skilled workers.
- /22b/ Skilled workers.
- /22c/ They were placed in jobs where they could have good earnings.
- /22d/ I don't know.  
Manual
- /23/ ~~Industrial~~ workers, peasants, intellectuals.
- /23a/ I could not tell any reason.
- /23b/ I don't know anything about it.
- /23c/ I don't know.
- /23d/ It does not among young people.
- /23e/ I think more equal.
- /23f/ It is good.
- /23g/ It depended upon people. In the factory where I worked there were both mannered and polite, as well as boorish and harsh people.
- /24/ No.
- /24a/ No.
- /25a/ They jockeyed themselves more toward the regime.
- /25b/ There were many Jews both in the Party and in the government.
- /25c/ At my workshop there were two MEO-s /technical controllers/ and about as many foremen who were Jews. Their attitude toward the regime was about the same as that of other people.
- /25d/ I did not see Jews during the revolution.
- /25e/ There were no revelations of this kind. However, people among each other liked to tell that they ~~disliked~~ <sup>disliked</sup> Jews.
- /25f/ I did not observe any change.
- /25g/ I only know that there were several Jewish grocers in Hajdudorog

who could get along well.

/25h/

I don't think that they would have any specific trouble. During the revolution there were no signs of antisemitism at all. Should the Communist regime continue in Hungary, nobody would dare to make <sup>even</sup> statements against them. Should things change people would not be prepared to be aggressive.

- (1a) I talked about good Western life with my friend and roommate but otherwise I did not have any interest in political developments. When politics was talked over somewhere both my friend and I ~~dispensed our-~~ <sup>wished to remain</sup> ~~silent~~ selves. We did not like to have part in such talks.
- (1b,c) No.
- (2-2a) I was too young to have any feeling.
- (2b) I think to the Smallholders' Party.
- (2c) I refer <sup>to</sup> my answer under points 2 and 2a.
- (2d) Having been a child, I did not have any feeling.
- (2e) My father could not continue his work as a self-employed artisan. I always expected a change.
- (2f) Never interested in politics.
- (2g) I only knew that people liked to talk over politics.
- (2h) They were bound to do so, one could not have a livelihood if he did not work. Nobody could do anything. Nobody wanted to start a revolt or something like that.
- <sup>1</sup>  
(2a) It was to be reported who was the father and the grandfather of the worker. What was his origin. Whether he has relatives ~~abroad~~ abroad, where and whom. When anybody went to another school or changed his working place, their loyalty sheets were sent to the new school or the new enterprise. It was hard to get a job when somebody was a kulak's son or had relatives in Western countries. Therefore, people often did not write such data in the kader dossiers. Two of my fellow apprentices had to leave the apprentice school for such reasons. A teacher's ~~meeting~~ conference was held and of course other reasons were

given, such as they influenced other people in a bad sense and they did make poor progress in studies. But I was told about one of the two that his father was an army officer.

- (3a) <sup>Overwork</sup> ~~Other-work~~, inadequate housing, fear of arrest and terror.
- (3b) Interference with family and religious life, overtaxation. I did not have to pay taxes.
- (3c) I think that the presence of Soviet troops, disagreement with political ideas and boredom.
- (3d) Overtaxation, ~~interference~~ <sup>interference</sup> with religious life and inadequate opportunities to get ahead.
- (3e) Overtaxation, inadequate housing and inadequate opportunity to get ahead.
- (3f) Over-work was a permanent grievance for me since I was a skilled worker.
- (3g) Yes, with fellow workers. When norms were reduced, several fellow workers went home to their parents to do agricultural work. Such things did not vary in time.
- (3h) The only thing I could do to arrange with a time analyzer to earmark more time for my work.
- (3i) I could not go to better places, restaurants, dancing places. I had arguments with foremen especially with the foreman-in-chief. It occurred that I had to leave the work I did and start on other work according to their orders. It was bothersome that I did not have enough money. Also I worked much.
- (3j) Strolling with friends, picking up girls, playing ping pong.
- (4) Rakosi and the other Communist ministers.
- (4a) Orders concerning the work of the factory were given by ministries.

Offerings were to be done to ministries and reports to be sent to them when such and such work would be ready. <sup>Subscription to plan</sup> ~~Plans~~ <sup>loans was</sup> ~~loans were~~ ordered <sup>bonus</sup> ~~bonus~~ by them. The general manager got ~~premises~~ <sup>premises</sup> from the ministry and he was a member of a council organized <sup>there</sup>.

- (4b) The ministers were also Communist Party members. I heard that everything was directed by the Party.
- (4c) I don't know.
- (4d) Plans were discussed there; sometimes Communists admitted in the Parliament that they committed ~~big~~ faults and promised in a <sup>stereotyped</sup> ~~stereotyped~~ way that this would not occur in the future.
- (4e) They wanted to make it believed abroad that everybody wanted Communism. But voting was possible only for the Communist Party.
- (4f) Yes, there was. My sister had to go from one office to the other <sup>for about</sup> ~~through~~ <sup>half year</sup> ~~harsh~~ air to get an apartment.
- (4g) I was told that those who paid money for officials got apartments easier.
- (4h) Good Communists and good cadres. People of worker, peasant and intellectual origins went there alike.
- (4i) Most of them were peasant boys. It was attractive for them to get a good salary and free food and quarters.
- (4j) The most important thing was to be a Communist Party member. <sup>with</sup>
- (5) The DISZ was rather unimportant. Practically the only advantage in DISZ membership was free recreation ~~and~~ at the Balaton Lake. Some ~~many~~ months before the Revolution young people who were DISZ members could have their vacations in Czechoslovakia while paying three hundred forints.

- (5a) Membership fees were to be paid.
- (5b) It was compulsory.
- (5c) Two or three others and I ~~was~~<sup>of those working</sup> ~~worked~~ in the factory which was my working place could manage not to become DISZ members by telling that we made our applications in another workshop.
- (5d) I was supposed to be a DISZ member, but I never had a membership booklet.
- 5  
(5fgh) Not applicable.
- (5i) I was called upon to become a member but I did not join.
- (5j) I did not like to go for a vacation and therefore ~~my~~ I did not feel any disadvantage.
- (5k) There was a DISZ secretary in the factory named for Ducles. I don't know anything about the organization otherwise.
- (6) Party members were placed to a better working place and ~~the~~<sup>it</sup> housing opportunities ~~to~~<sup>were</sup> ~~for~~ them was made easier.
- (6a) I don't know whether Party membership was compulsory.
- (6b) Those whose parents or other relatives were Party members. Nobody among fellow ~~apprentices~~<sup>workers</sup> expressed the wish to become a Communist Party member.
- (6c) To attend Party meetings, to make other people join the Party. Communist Party members canvassed for subscribing peace loans. There were no specific rights connected ~~in~~ with Party membership.
- (6d) One of the ~~brothers~~<sup>brothers</sup> of my mother joined the Communist Party in Hajdudorog in 1945. At this time he was a mason and shoemaker. After two years membership, he left the Party. Presently he is a welder in

Budapest. I know that some of the skilled workers at my factory were Communist Party members. However, I did not hear that anybody joined the Party since I worked there. I could observe at ~~my~~<sup>working</sup> place that it was the trade union's secretary who collected the membership fees from Communist Party members by selling them the stamps.

- (6e) I did not observe such a change.
- (6f) Both in Budapest and Hajdudorog I heard that people who joined the Communist Party did it with the hope that they ~~will~~<sup>would</sup> fare better. However, they were often disappointed because they were replaced by younger people.
- (6g) A better working place where he can make more money. Skilled workers were asked whether they were Party members and since when and whether they paid their membership fees regularly. All these influenced their placement to work.
- (6h) I was not.
- (6i-0) Not applicable.
- (6p) I <sup>c</sup>would not become a Party member for I was too young for this.
- (6q) No.
- (6r) There was some kind of a central committee, but I don't know what its name was.
- (6s) I can't tell anything.
- (6t) I don't know anything about it.
- (7) I was not a member of any.
- (7a-f) Not applicable.
- (7g) Many youngsters of my age were DISZ members at my working place, but



less of them were also trade union members. They tried to avoid membership in order not to pay membership fees. Thirty or thirty-five persons of skilled workers at my working place paid trade union membership fees regularly. The foreman handed them their wages and immediately reminded them to pay the trade union fees. Less often also the DISZ fees were asked for in this way. I always could avoid to talk over such reductions by referring to the fact that I did not have any money.

(7h) There were no specific ties among trade unions or DISZ members.

(7i,j,k) I don't know anything about it.

(7l) I did not hear anything about trade union or DISZ meetings. I knew that dancing and tea parties were held by them. Sometimes it happened that three of them were held in one month and then no more for ~~for~~ four or five months. Only members were permitted to participate.

(7n) They did not feel sympathy for ~~it~~ <sup>the trade union</sup> because they knew that it couldn't do anything important in their interest; <sup>it had to do everything</sup> depending completely ~~on the~~ according to the orders received from the Communist Party.

(8) In no case more than forty ~~persons~~ <sup>percent</sup> of Party members.

(9) I did not see DISZ groups fighting on the side of the Revolution. Anyway DISZ membership was only a formality and the whole organization was of no importance.

(10a) Everybody suffered for not having an opportunity to speak out freely.

(10b) They protected and defended Rakosi and the Party. They were the hirelings of the Party. I don't <sup>know</sup> specific things about it.

(10c) No.

- (10d) I don't know anything.
- (10e) I don't know anything about it. When I became a Budapest resident, the AVH already existed.
- (10f) There were several ~~my~~ peasant boys among them. I saw AVH men <sup>in</sup> from the ages of 25-27. I think they were persuaded to join by the hope of making good money.
- (10g-j) I don't know anything about it.
- (10k) I heard that the AVH had more authority than the Party but I did not hear anything specific about relations between the two.
- (10l) I did not know any.
- (11a-b) As I mentioned already, there were three brothers whom I knew still from Hajdurog. They are now <sup>in the age of</sup> about 30-32, ~~xxxxxxx~~ and <sup>years-of-age</sup> 28 and 21/~~xxxx~~ respectively. All of them lived in Budapest in 1954. Out of a quarrel with policemen, a political charge had been formed against them and they were sentenced to different prison terms. The prison term of the youngest was originally ten years, but it has been reduced to five or five and a half years by the appellate court. The two older brothers were sentenced to three or three and a half years in prison each. All of them were ~~h~~ jailed first in Marko Utca, Budapest. Later they were ~~is~~ transferred to a coal mine as forced laborers. I don't know in which mine.
- (11c) I was told by the boys and their parents that when arrested they were <sup>chained</sup> ~~checked/and later~~ in their home at the police they were kicked and beaten with the butt of a pistol .
- (11d) People who scolded the regime and talked against Communism.

- (11e) I don't know of such cases.
- (11f) I wanted to see them at the police and in the prison before they were sentenced by the court. I went there with their mother, sister and a friend of mine with whom I was a sub-tenant. We were not permitted to see them. The parents of the boys told me that they could send letters to them or visit them once a month and that their mother and sister saw them several times, I don't know how often. Christmas and Easter they sent them packages and the boys got them.
- (11g) The youngest was released about two months before the Revolution. The two others by the Revolution. I talked to all of them. They related to me that while in the forced labor camp, they were beaten by the wardens and were ordered to carry firewood for the wife of the warden. Those carrying out a better percentage of work were permitted to talk for a longer time with relatives. A great ~~xxx~~ number of people died because of being beaten heavily. Medical care was practically non-existent.
- (11h) I don't know anything.
- (12) Not applicable.
- (13) To avoid AVH men <sup>should they see them</sup> ~~in-seeing-his~~ in a restaurant.
- (13a) People working in their trained ~~paid~~ profession are relatively the safest.
- (13b) I think it <sup>helps</sup> ~~was~~. Even simple Party membership can be of some advantage. A man <sup>in the</sup> of the age of about 27 worked on my side on a lease. He was a Communist Party member and thus could avoid being enlisted as a soldier. I was told that even the general manager helped him to avoid it.
- (13c) I think an influential party member can ~~may~~ be of much help.
- (13d) At my working place it didn't seem to have been of great importance.

Sons of intellectuals could work there undisturbed.

(13e) I don't think so.

(13f) Of course.

(13h) There is no difference of such kind.

(14a) I can't recall such ~~purges.~~  
purges.

(14b) In 1954, there ~~was a~~ *police raided* in the Westend coffeehouse at Lenin Körut (Boulevard) close to the Western Railroad terminal. There used to be dances there and I was present in the coffeehouse at this time together with a friend, the one who had been sentenced to ten years in prison as told above. Thirty or forty youngsters were taken there to the police for one night. The identity of each of them was checked and those who could prove that they had regular work were permitted to leave the police after one night, but others were kept there. I and my friend belonged to the former ones. We were released after explaining that we had to work the next morning.

(14c) I don't know anything about it.

(15a-b) I don't know.

(15c) Every product has been taken out to Russia from Hungary. For example at <sup>a</sup> ~~this~~ time there was no lard in Budapest.

(15 d) I remember only one case. It was in the summer of 1954 that Russian visitors in a number of seven or eight also with two women <sup>2</sup> among them, ~~visited~~ visited our workshop with the general manager and the Communist Party secretary. They spent about half an hour in our workshop, they looked at the machines, but did not tell anything to working people.

(15e) I don't know.

- (15f) At the time when I worked in Egyszült Izzó incandescent lamp factory, I was told that Russian advisers passing on working methods were there.
- (16a) They concealed their sentiments because they felt terrorised.
- (16b) *hardly*  
It ~~did not~~ occur that a Communist Party member talked to another who was not a Party member because the latter avoided such talks.
- (16c) With people with whom I was well acquainted. I never was disappointed by doing so.
- (16d) When among friends we talked over having too much work, bad wages and *that we are* seeking to go out for the West. We avoided such talks in the workshop when several people were present as well as on streets and in street-cars.
- (16e) They did not *vary* ~~worry~~.
- (17) I think there was not such a possibility.
- (17a) I did not manage it <sup>at</sup> ~~with~~.
- (17b) From 1945 through 1954 government officials *checked* ~~went up~~ in Hajdudorog even to the attics and took away everything even the *portions needed to feed the family. I* ~~don't~~ know how it was after 1954.
- (17c) I don't know.
- (17d) I never heard about such a transfer.
- (17e) I don't know.
- (18a) The Communist Party and the AVH.
- (18b) Street demonstrations and the demands of university youth immediately before the Revolution. But *it was even of greater importance* that the whole people became tired during twelve years of so many lies and not seeing any improvement in life.

- (19a) I don't know.
- (19b) Mostly people living in the countryside. They were forced to join farmers' cooperatives and everything they produced was taken from them as state delivery and taxes.
- (19c) Industrial workers were not hostile <sup>it is</sup> or/better to say they did not dare to express hostility. They were accustomed to it, that some of them could earn more, others less. Certainly ~~the~~ unskilled workers felt the most hostile among manual workers.
- (19d-e) Not so much direct opposition but bitterness grew.
- (19f) I don't know anything about personal or group opposition.
- (19g<sup>s-p</sup>) I don't know.
- (19l-a) I don't know either.

- (1a) The most important was news I heard from friends.
- (1b) Exceptionally I read news from a daily paper.
- (2a) I subscribed for a daily paper, I don't remember the name. Its title was written by red letters. It was published for young people. Subscription propaganda was made for it in one of the workshops of the factory where I worked. I subscribed to it to have paper at home. Also I read Ludas Matyi a comic. It was a weekly paper.
- (2b) Most of them I read fairly regularly.
- (2c) In Ludas Matyi I liked to read jokes. In the other paper I read a serialized novel. However, when I did not like one part of it, I did not continue reading.
- (2d) Answered under point 2c.
- (2e) There were not, but it was put on the blackboard what promises were made and what results were reached in working competition. It was put on month to month.
- (2f) The paper I mentioned before substituted the wall newspapers. It was written in it how much various workers produced, who of them were sick and also soccer and ping pong results were published in it <sup>as well as</sup> photographs of those who did a good or poor job, and those who were back in their work were scolded as well as latecomers. All this referred to the factory ~~workshop~~ only.  
sixty.
- (2g) No better. Never.
- (2h-1) Not applicable.
- (2j) I did not see such publications.
- (3) About twice per week.

- (3a) I preferred to see French and Italian comedies. As for an example: My Wife Is a King's Daughter. I did not like most of the Russian films, but one or two of them were fairly good.
- (3b) They were mostly entertainment films. If no others were to be seen, I saw Russian and Hungarian ones, but I did not like them much because there was much propaganda in them.
- (3c) In addition to those mentioned under point 3a, I saw Russian films as: The Capitulation of Berlin, Attack at 6:25.
- (3d) More Western films were performed in 1954 and the following years. At this time I saw RED AND BLACK and another film <sup>Earlier</sup> ~~before~~ to the flood (YIZÖZÖN ELÖTT).
- (3e) Almost never.
- (3f) I saw Cyrano, but I did not like it .
- (4a) I read few books in recent years, a little bit more while I was a student.
- (4b) All the twelve TARZAN books and several cowboy novels, as for example: THE FLOWER OF THE WILD WEST, THE COWBOY WITH THE LASSO, THE MYSTERIOUS ACE OF CLUBS, MAN, HORSE, AND DOG, THE MAN WITH WOODEN LEGS, THE MAIL COACH.
- (4c) I was interested in them.
- (4d) We changed books with each other for reading. It was too expensive <sup>for us</sup> to buy them. ~~I-mean-under-each-other-youngsters.~~
- (4e-f) I refer to my statement under point 4b.
- (4g) I was not a subscriber to any public library and never tried to get books from them.
- (5) No.
- (5a) I was not interested in it.



- (5b) I did not own one.
- (5c) When I was in my bed at night I heard ~~from~~ <sup>from</sup> the neighbor's room that ~~our~~ our landlord, the Communist Party secretary, listened to them.
- (5d) I don't ~~remember~~ <sup>remember</sup> to what problems.
- (5e-f) Not applicable.
- (6a) To Radio Free Europe in the Communist Party house where we quartered as Freedom Fighters. Everybody listened to it.
- (6b) I did it about twice or three times for some half hour before going out as guard. It was also during the Revolution that I listened once to RFE broadcasts in the home of my friend [REDACTED]. Then it was explained how to fight tanks. I don't remember what things were told by RFE when I was in the Freedom Fighters quarters.
- (6c-d) I did not have any specific opinions.
- (6e) I did not hear about it.
- (7a) Yes, from more elderly people as for example from the family of my friend [REDACTED] and from girls in the house where I lived.
- (7b) For example they talked over the Suez problem.
- (7c) I could not form a judgment, I was not too much interested in it.
- (7d-e) I don't ~~remember~~ remember any.
- (7f) There were no specific localities, I talked about them with friends when I met them.
- (7g) Yes, some of the workers at my working place. I never knew whether they really heard such things or simply invented them.
- (7h) Mostly at my working place when working with only one fellow worker and even more at home.

- (7i) I don't know anything about coffeshouses. Political talk, however, used to go on in inns, in ~~the park~~ <sup>corners</sup> where no policemen or AVH men used to come.
- (8a-e) I could not tell it as I never was a regular reader of newspapers.
- (8f) Never.
- (8g) Almost never.
- (8h) Never.
- (9a) When I went home to Hajdudorog, 2 peasants tried hard to hear news from Budapest and other parts of the country. There was <sup>a</sup> young fellow among fellow workers <sup>in my working place at Budapest</sup> who knew much about prices of consumer things.
- (9b) No categories ~~can make for~~ people who did or did not ~~can be made~~.
- (10a) I heard that it was dropped and that it caused many victims. I thought that it was alright to make an end to the war.
- (10b) I don't know.
- (10c) I did not hear anything about it.
- (10d) I heard that Germany got modern firearms to make her fit for fighting.
- (10e-i) I don't know anything about it.

- (1 a) Hardly anything. Entirely new leadership and programs are needed.
- (1 b) I don't know, probably nothing.
- (2) Yes. It is not permissible that ~~there~~ there should be only one political party.
- (2 a,b) Yes, without any exception.
- (3) Yes.
- (3 a) There should not be any limits.
- (3 b) Not applicable.
- (3 c) No. Free criticism is necessary.
- (3 d) I don't think it should be forbidden.
- (4, 4a) Yes.
- (4 b) If people are oppressed and there are very hard conditions of life.
- (5) Lands and enterprises are to be returned to their owners.
- (6, 6a) I cannot answer.
- (6 b) Yes, there would be a better industrial development and production would be better.
- (6c ) It is good.
- (6 d) I don't have any opinion.
- (6 e,f) I am against them.
- (6 g) Kőzért should be abolished.
- (7) No, I am in favor of private ownership.
- (X 8 a) It is a bad idea, good only to chase after people.
- (8 b) In the way mentioned above, under Q. 8 a.

- (8 c) Not applicable.
- (8 d) Factory owners, peasants, but some kind of control commission would be a good thing.
- (9) The state should not interfere with family and religious life, conditions of work and life.
- (10) Yes, there are certain duties, but I cannot enumerate them.
- (10 a) Paying taxes is all right, but only insofar as it is needed to have an organized life where everything goes in order and to care for old age insurance.
- (10 b) It should be compulsory.
- (10 c) They must be obeyed.
- (10 d) Only if there is a non-oppressive government.
- (10 e) Yes, to help them by ~~XXXX~~ *loans* ..... and to care for housing.
- (11) Yes, because there is now free medical care. Anyway, private physicians care better for their patients than physicians in the social security service.
- (11 a) There is no difference among groups of population.
- (11 b) People who have enough earnings to pay 100 or 200 forints to the doctor, can have better medical care.
- (11 c,d) I refer to my general statement under Q.11.
- (11 e) I cannot.
- (12) I don't know.
- (12 a) I used to go to the movies, but almost never to the theater.
- (12 b) Yes, they are taking advantage of opportunities.

- (12 e) I cannot emmerate specific groups.
- (12 d) Most people have.
- (12 e) Manual workers are short of money, but nevertheless they can go to the theater sometimes.
- (13 a) In 1946 I lived in the countryside and at this time we had pretty good food. It is worse now.
- (13 b) It is about the same.
- (13 c) There are not.
- (14 a) Better now than in 1946.
- (14 b) In 1950 it was worse, too.
- (14 c) Many unskilled workers and horsecart drivers were seen in rags and tatters, thus revealing that they had difficulties in getting themselves proper clothes.
- (15 a,b) I know it only about the iron industry. In this industry production increased.
- (15 c,d) I don't know.
- (16) It should be up to the factory owner, workers should not have word in it.
- (16 a) To protect working people.
- (16 b) Completely.
- (16 c) No, everybody should decide by himself whether he wants to be a trade union member or not.
- (16 d) The factory owner and the people he puts in charge.
- (16 e) To the factory owner.
- (17 a) They are all bad.

- (17 b) They should be dissolved and the lands given to individuals.
- (17 c) They should be returned to their former owners.
- (17 d) All of them should be dissolved.
- (17 e)f) They should be returned to their former owners, however, no estates bigger than 1000 catastral acres should be permitted.
- (17 g) Yes, and the government should decide about problems which cannot be solved simply, as I told before.
- (17 h,1) Yes, according to my previous statements.
- (17 j) They should be distributed among individual farmers.
- (17 k) There should not be.
- (17 l) Yes, by money grants and loans.
- (17 m) Their stock should be distributed among individual farmers.
- (17 n) No.
- (17 o) I would sell or transfer them to individual farmers.
- (17 p) Answered under Q. 17 m and o.
- (17 q) Yes.
- (18 a,b) Yes, without any difference.
- (18 c) No, they should care for themselves by their own efforts.
- (18 d) No.
- (18 e) Yes, but only facultatively.
- (18 f) To a denominational school.
- (18 g) They should be returned to the Church.
- (19) It should depend on the position he held.
- (19 a) X Unimportant people should be excused, but those who were

seeking for money or power should be punished. They should be deprived of their jobs and those who committed crimes should be jailed.

- (19 b) They should be expelled to the Soviet Union or imprisoned for an adequate time. Also they should be sent to mines for hard work.
- (19 c) They should be treated according to Q. 19 a.
- (19 d) Nothing. DISZ membership was of no importance.
- (19 e) Imprisoned and executed if they have committed great crimes.
- (19 f) Simple policemen in general should not be held responsible, as to the officers it should depend ~~NEW~~ on the degree in which they committed criminal acts.
- (19 g) They should be pardoned.
- (20) I could not tell anything.
- (21) Yes, there is. Hungarians are eager to fight and flare up easily. On the other hand, many Hungarians are ready to compromise and to be reckless if a better job is promised to them and anybody stays in their way.
- (21 a,b,c) Hungarians are more modest than Germans and Americans, and more cultured than Russians.
- (21 d) I don't know.
- (21 e,f) I don't know either.
- (22) I don't know.
- (22 a) Older people told me that it was best to live in the Hungary that existed before the first World War. <sup>They</sup> We had cheap money and

inexpensive life.

(22 b,e,d) I don't know.

(22 e) I did not hear anything about it.

(22 f) There was much.

(22 g) I don't have any opinion.

(22 h) She should not have participated in the war, and should have stayed apart from the Germans. The war did not make any sense for Hungary.

(22 i) Peasants were enthusiastic about the fact that lands were distributed among them. In any other way, conditions between 1945 through 1948 were much better than later and ~~perhaps~~ probably better than before.

(23 a) It would be better should it be possible to cross borders without difficulty.

(23 b) Territories taken from Hungary at the end of the first World War should be returned to her.

(23 c) I do not think so.

(23 d - h) Hungarians are angry about Rumanians because they let ~~through~~ the Russians at the end of the second World War through their country to Hungary. Otherwise/<sup>the</sup> people in question get along well.

(24 a) Some kind of federation would be a fine thing, but I could not tell anything about the form.

(24 b,e) I don't know.

(24 d) Not.



- (24 e) There should not be.
- (25 a) I saw many drunk and stupid people among them. Officers are more cultured and better dressed. I observed that simple Russian soldiers were much afraid of their officers before the Revolution. Mongolians are a specific type of Russians.
- (25 b) About ten to twenty percent of them are good people. Others are rather bad.
- (25 c) There are very few among them who are not Communists.
- (25 d) I did not.
- (25 e) Their behavior was very unsympathetic to Hungarians, especially the Cossacks behaved in a manner that was shocking to everybody. Many drunkards were among the Russian soldiers at this time and they drank even eau de cologne when they could not drink any other kind of alcoholic drink. They wore civilian clothing, Russian, German, Hungarian uniform parts.
- (25 f) Many women were raped by Russians in 1944 and '45. Even my mother was attacked by one, but my father could manage to call on the Russian military command and other Russian soldiers came out who took the Russian aggressor away from our home. Pigs, cows, horses were taken by the Russians in Hajdudorog from everywhere, as well as wrist watches.
- (25 g,h) Nobody liked them, but everybody was anxious to avoid them, so as not to get into trouble.
- (26 a - h) I don't know anything about it.

- (26 i) When lands were distributed.
- (26 j) I don't know. I never was interested in politics.
- (27 a,b) I don't know.
- (27 c,d) I did not hear anything about it.
- (27 e) They are incompatible.
- (28) Hungary would have become neutral. There would have been a better standard of life, workers would have needed to work less, and they would have got better salaries.'
- (28 a) I heard that he stood out for the people.
- (28 a) Yes.
- (29 a) It is a good thing because it means to care for working people.
- (29 b) It is wrong. It means that people are exploited by another people and the latter takes out everything from the other's country, or at least earns too much to the detriment of a less developed people.
- (29 c) It is a wrong thing. Classes should not fight against each other. Everything should be solved in a peaceful way.
- (29 d) I think this means that the people revolt against an aggressive rule. It is a good thing.
- (29 e)f) I don't know.
- (29 g) I don't know either.
- (29 h) They should not have too much land, say 2000 or even 5000 catastral acres.
- (29 i) I only know that he is a good Hungarian.
- (29 j,k) I don't know anything about them.

- (29 l) I did not hear this name.
- (29 m) She is a good Hungarian politician, a woman who cares for the cause of the Revolution abroad now.
- (29 n) He is the Catholic Primate of Hungary, a good Hungarian.
- (30) Should foreign observers be present at the elections, the Communists would not win in any case. Probably a people's party or a workers' party would be the winner.
- (30 a) Imre Nagy.
- (31 a- d) Less.
- (31 e) I don't know.
- (31 f) I think rather less.
- (31 g) More than they deserve.
- (31 h, i) Much less.
- (32) Manual workers were better off, at least between 1945 and '48. Peasants were better off before the second World War and probably also during the war. I don't know anything about other groups, except the tradesmen and artisans, who were better off before 1948 than after.
- (32 a) I guess that manual workers were worse off before 1945 than in *the years between 1945 and* after 1948. This was not right. Otherwise I cannot give an answer.
- (33) a. Coincide; b and c, I don't know; d, they conflict; e and f, they coincide; g - j, I think they conflicted.
- (34) There was nothing.

- (35) Not more than ten percent of the population would fight for the Communist regime. Most of them would be higher party officials and AVH-men. Ninety percent of the population would fight against them.
- (36) It did not change.

- (1 a) I think it was an interesting and useful thing.
- (1 b) Certainly very much.
- (1 c) Nothing.
- (1 d) Yes.
- (1 e) There is nothing.
- (2) Yes, should circumstances change so that I can do it safely.
- (3) I have no suggestions.

#### Impressionistic Portrait of Respondent.

Respondent is a simple-minded man of small culture and very little interest in political matters and social life. He was well trained in his work and did it well. The information he gave about working conditions in Hungary are fairly useful.

By nature, respondent was not likely to get into ~~XXXXXX~~ major political troubles before the Revolution. He cared only for strolling around with boy and girl friends of his age and had no wish for any more important activities beyond this. Many of the opinions he expressed appear to be platitudes and improvised rather than really pondered. Not being interested in literature and ideological matters, neither his ideas about work<sup>ed</sup> conditions and about events, nor his attitude towards the long years of Communist rule could reveal many characteristic

features in a positive sense. His historical ~~aspects~~ aspects were very poor, too. Negatively, however, it is noticeable how far the Communist regime in Hungary stood in the way of developing any specific attitude concerning these matters in simple people.

In addition to work conditions, the interview seems to be important also concerning revolutionary events. It seems revealing<sup>s</sup> how far young people leading a simple life were suddenly attracted by other youngsters and by the mood of the whole population, making them active participants.