

a- agendl. Discussions with the late Governments will begin again, Ait while attempting the task, the Jomm baton if facing again its basic problem the inadequacy of be organisation in face of its responsibilities. The weakness is likely to prove crippling when the Commission has to grapple with details.

Some of the administrative gaps, however, are being filled. For instance, an Adviser on Oil has just been appointed. But it would be futile to expect that the diligence of Its officials woxild all the time make up for the paucity of their number. Of course, the key personnel oi' the Commission will never work less than 12 hours a day. By and large, nowever, expansion of the Commission's organisation vvoukl become inevitable, if it has to combine the functions of a watch-dog of the nation's development with those of an author or its detailed blue-print'. \nd very soon the need of a persportive planning unit may be felt: he Commission has proved itself quite receptive to foreign opinions m the technical aspects of planning nd it is unlikely Uiat the seed dropped by M Mikoyan has fallen on aigether barren soil.

The Commission's other problem is likely to be more ticklish. How will it acquire an ideology or at least some kind of cohesion and clarity in the definition of its basic concepts and objectives? It would be futile to expect the harrassed Chief of the Economic Division to accord unity and a semblance of social idealism

everytime without Injury to the sub-idealism without injury to the sub- sist ing economic pattern. He did that for the Second Plan by stringing delicately balanced sentences over the whole length of first four chapters. At some stage the differences at the top may overwhelm even men of his calibre.

The Plodiv Fair

THE Plodiv Fair is not only a major event in Bulgaria's economic life, helping as it does to extend Bulgarian commercial relations with other countries, but the international importance of the Fair has increased greatly during the past few years. This is because of the vastly expanded export and import potentialities of Bulgaria, which has within a short period of time overcome her backwardness and haw become a modern industrial-agrarian country. The nation's industrialisation and electrification as well as the mechanisation of agriculture have vastly increased the demand for plant, equipment and machinery, for industrial raw materials and chemicals as well as for consumers goods.

In addition to the traditional agricultural produce, the export list now includes machine tools, farming machinery, electric equipment and materials, such as electric motors, transformers and radio sets, ores and concentrates, caustic soda, soda ash, penicillin etc.

The Plodiv Fair offers plenty of opportunities for economic co-operation as well as for the exchange of technological experience and scientific knowledge. This was strikingly demonstrated by the XVI Plodiv Fair, held in September 1955, in which twenty countries, i.e. almost half of the countries with which Bulgaria trades, took part.

Henceforth the Plodiv Fair will be held annually. The XVII Fair opens on September 2 and will continue until September 20.

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