

ABOUT THE PRESENCE AND ROLE OF THE SOCIALIST CIRCLES IN THE AGRARIAN MOVEMENTS FROM BANAT AT THE END OF THE XIXth CENTURY AND THE BEGINNING OF THE XXth CENTURY

SUMMARY

In the preparation and leading of the agrarian movements in Banat at the end of the XIXth and the beginning of the XXth centuries, an important part was played by the reading circles and reading societies from the villages. Under the influence of the working-class movement and of socialist literature, these reading circles actually turned into socialist circles. Documents kept in the archives and the socialist press of the time stress the activity of these circles in the villages of: Igrış, Vălcani, Checea, Sînnicolau Mare, Jecca Mare, Satchinez etc.

On the eve of the peasants' revolt of 1907, the territorial Committee of the agrarian trade unions from Timișoara, with their organizations in over 75 localities from Banat, played a decisive part in the organization and leading of the „agrarian-socialist“ movements. These actions of the Transylvanian socialists were followed and popularized in Old Romania by I. C. Frimu in the paper *România Muncitoare*.