

The industrial development of Greece is necessary for three reasons: in order to increase the present low income per head of population, in order to improve the balance of payments, and in order to solve the problem of employment.

The lack of sufficient opportunities of employment has led in recent years to emigration, which, if continued at the present rate, will result in a fall in the country's population.

For all these reasons, the Government is engaged in an intensive industrialization effort. Its policy is to create a sound industrial infrastructure and the proper conditions for the development of industry, while leaving the establishment and efficient operation of individual concerns to private initiative.

The Government attaches great importance to cooperation with foreign capital and it has taken and is continuing to take, all the necessary steps to facilitate foreign investment and cooperation by foreign capital with Greek business and industry, in the establishment of new concerns or the modernization of existing ones.

Thanks to the Government's policy, there was substantial progress in the industrial sector in 1964 and the first few months of 1965.

In 1964, industrial production rose by 10.6%, as compared with an average of 7.5% over the previous five years. The maintenance of this rate of increase during 1965 testifies to the beneficial effects of the Government's policy.

There was a rise of 36.6% in private investment in industry in 1964, as compared with the preceding year. The growing interest of foreign capital is reflected in the figures for the approval of applications for its import. In 1964, their total value amounted to \$60,655,694 and \$60,195,466 during the first five months of 1965 as compared with \$40 million in 1963.

It is Greece's hope that cooperation with foreign business

and financial quarters will help to create industrial concerns which will not only meet the country's own needs but will also make substantial exports, enabling her to take advantage of her geographical position and of the high reputation which Greek businessmen enjoy, particularly in the countries of the Middle East and Africa. The rise of 36.6% in Greece's limited industrial exports in 1964, as compared with the preceding year, is a promising sign in this respect.

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