

ELITE, INSTITUTIONS AND ADVERTISING

INSET PORTRAITS OF THE FOREIGN ADMINISTRATION CLERK OF THE CROWN DOMAINS

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Abstract: The Crown Domains Institution was led by a trustee appointed by the King, among the officials of the Royal Palace, and it had the office in Bucharest from where it was coordinated and overseen the activity of the twelve domains. He was assisted by a team of jurists, accountants and office workers who formed the Central Office. Each Domain was led by a chief of administration, directly subordinate to the central administrator.

The chiefs of administration were forestry or agronomist engineers, depending on the particularities of the Domain where they operated. They were the best in their profession being graduates of some prestigious institutions from Europe: Forest Academy of Schemnitz, Agricultural Academy of Vienna, Forest Academy of Dresden, Munich University but also from our country College of Agriculture from Herastrau, Forestry Department of the Polytechnic School in Bucharest, Forestry School from Branesti. The entire staff was Romanian. Like the other specialists, they benefited of great salaries, annual rewards, a series of amenities: supplying agro-food products for free or with a low price, granting aid in difficult situations, benefits for renting, food, fire woods, quotas, small transport fees on railway, spacious and salubrious houses which clarify the stability for their duty.

Keywords: the Crown Domains, the chiefs of administration, Inset Portraits, Stefan Coltescu, Augustin Berian.

The Crown Domains Institution was led by a trustee appointed by the King, among the officials of the Royal Palace, and it had the office in Bucharest from where it was coordinated and overseen the activity of the twelve domains. He was assisted by a team of jurists, accountants and office workers who formed the Central Office. Each Domain was led by a chief of administration, directly subordinate to the central administrator.

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Europe: Forest Academy of Schemnitz, Agricultural Academy of Vienna, Forest Academy of Dresden, Munich University but also from our country College of Agriculture from Herastrau, Forestry Department of the Polytechnic School in Bucharest, Forestry School from Branesti. The entire staff was Romanian.

Within the tasks of the administration chief there were: the implementation of the work programme, supervising the subordinate staff, the drawing up of the draft budget under the direct supervision of the central office; timely execution of the work; the marketing of products on the best terms to the full extent of the norms and prices established by the Central; following the orders of the central office; hiring, sanctioning and getting fired of the enlisted personnel; organizing and updating the administration dealt with¹. Many of them committed their entire career to the Crown Domains, reason why we considered necessary to make for them short inset portraits.

Alexandru Precup was born on 3rd of May 1878 in Turda². He graduated the Forestry Special School, studies underway in 1896³, he worked as forester at Malini Crown Domain until 1918 when he was appointed chief of Dobrovat Crown Domain (1918–1947)⁴. Over the years he covered all the professional degrees in his field, taking over the position of Forester Engineer General Inspector⁵.

About The Head of Administration of Dobrovat Crown Domain they spoke very highly concerning his activity: “a much trust labourer, an excellent landscaper, a brilliant leader in technical work, of exploitation, lifting in the plan, constructions, regenerations, improvements, etc., serving us also in much greater matters concerning landscaping and forest exploitation from the other domains. Whereas his extensive knowledge in technical-forest matters have ranked his as one of the most distinguished engineers from the Crown Domain for his papers published within professional journals and also for placing the security pole whose projection was introduced into the forestry course and it is taught at Polytechnics, well-worth entitle him to enjoy the rank Forest Counsellor, of his choice, following an activity that is honouring The Forestry Body”⁶.

Alexandru Precup involved in the activity of cultural Society “The Book beneath the icon” as vice president, which for 40 years operated in the establishment released by Crown Domain Administration on Dobrovat Domain, offering gratifications to the villagers who were noted in tree cultivation and also for students with good progress in school⁷.

¹ Narcisa Maria Mitu, *Domeniile Coroanei Regale (1884–1948)*, Craiova, Aius Publishing House, 2011, pp. 46–47.

² National Central Historic Archives Service Bucharest, the Royal House fond, The Crown Domain Administration, Central Administration, file no. 111/1941, f. 166 (quoted as: S.A.N.I.C.).

³ Revista Pădurilor. Organul Societății “Progresul silvic”, tome XI, 1897, București, p. 303 (quoted as: “Revista Pădurilor”).

⁴ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Royal House fond Central Administration, file no. 111/1941, f. 166.

⁵ *Ibidem*, file no. 161/1943, f. 61.

⁶ *Ibidem*, ff. 210–211.

⁷ Idem, Dobrovăț Crown Domain fond, file no. 646/1936-1938, 1940–1941, f. 5.

Into a memo of career, achieved in 1943, addressed to the Bucharest Administration of Crown Domain, Alexandru Precup stated that within his 43 years of activity, 16 years as Forest General Inspector had no sanctions and he served as “old and faithful servant of the Crown “under four Kings who conferred him the following Distinctions: Loyal Service Cross, Labour Retribution for Church, Grade 1, Labour Retribution for School, Grade 1, Commercial and Industrial Merit, Grade 1. By Royal Decree he became Member of the Loyal Service Order in the rank of officer, he was decorated with “Steaua Romaniei” Order in the rank of Knight⁸. He was also decorated with the title of “Steaua Romaniei Officer” (1927) and “Coroana Romaniei Comandor” (1931)⁹.

Eremia Medianu was born on 4th July 1873. He entered into the service of the Crown Domain on 1st of July 1897 as an accountant. At 1st of April 1902 he was appointed as a guarantor of Cocioac Crown Domain and at 1st of July 1903, he led that Administration.

He stepped down on 28th of February 1925 according to the order no. 475/2.02.1925, claiming in the petition that he couldn't move at Sadova, where he was assigned. At that time he was registered with a wage of 5400 lei consisting of: 1800 lei base salary, 2300 lei costly, 1300 quota of food, to which were added benefits in kind. Throughout the period he worked at the Crown Domain he was registered at Pension Services at the Crown Domain, gaining an amount of 21.883 lei, money that were refunded at 12 of December 1931, waiving pension rights, by purchasing receipt for receiving the money¹⁰.

Alexandru Cristescu was born on 3rd of November 1879, at Sarinasu, Tulcea County. He entered into service on 1st of July 1903, as forest assistant. In 1904 he had a wage of 190 lei/month¹¹. He stepped up in his career, becoming a forester engineer inspector. In 1941 he was appointed chief of Administration at Malin Domain, Baia County, one of the most important mountain Domain, with a surface of 20.000 acres and 3 sawmills¹². In his recommendation to be headed as Forester Counsellor he was described as being “an excellent landscaper, skilful, hardworking and spirited in all his works of operation and regeneration”¹³. In 1940 he received a gratification of 50.000 lei¹⁴.

When the Crown Domain dissolved, Alexandru Cristescu worked as forester engineer general inspector, as he was portrayed aside the other forester engineers from Crown Domain on the 1st of January 1947¹⁵.

⁸ Idem, Central Administration fond, file no. 161/1943, f. 246.

⁹ *Ibidem*, file no. 268/F.D., ff. 77–78.

¹⁰ *Ibidem*, file no. 86/1938, ff. 51–52.

¹¹ *Ibidem*, file no. 27/1904, f. 6.

¹² *Ibidem*, file no. 111/1941, f. 166; *Ibidem*, file no. 161/1943, f. 61.

¹³ *Ibidem*, file no. 161/1943, ff. 210–211.

¹⁴ *Ibidem*, file no. 119/1941, f. 219.

¹⁵ *Ibidem*, file no. 235/1946, f. 196.

For his achievements Alexandru Cristescu received the following distinctions: “Coroana Romaniei” Knight (1916) and “Steaua Romaniei” Knight (1921)¹⁶.

Stefan Coltescu was born on 15th of March 1879, in Coltesti, Gorj County¹⁷. In 1897 he started forester special school from Branesti, as scholarship¹⁸. After he graduated he became a forester assistant at Malini Crown Domain (1901–1905). In 1905 he was transferred at Segarcea where until 1939 he stepped up in his career, becoming a forester engineer inspector. He managed the “Forests” section, activity which was finalised in 1939, when he took over the management of Segarcea Domain (1939–1941). He was compelled by the administrator Alexandru Manolescu to retire, his reputation being affected by a love affair, an alleged relationship with the boss of weaving mill shop from Segarcea, called Elena Ghinea. The uproar sprung in the summer of 1942, when he was dismissed¹⁹.

Eight years later, in 1912, after his arrival at Segarcea, Stefan Coltescu drew up a report referring to exploiting and forestation produced on Segarcea Domain for a period of ten years, the report being handed to the administrator of the Crown Domain, Ioan Kalinderu. From this report it turns out that between 1905–1912, under his management there were exploited by razed cutting and deforestation 271,4 ha: 178 ha from Panghis forest, 21 ha from Dalga forest, 25 ha from Cobia-Dalga, and 47,4 ha from Lunca Desnatuiului and 426 ha of forestation. It was also created a stag park on an area of 24 ha which got in 1912 to have 36 animals. In 1908 it was created a pheasant farm which five years later counted 700 pheasants. For watering, to irrigate the nursery from Cobia and also for water supply of the households from the forests, from expenses of “Forests” section were built: a well with pump and a tank which supplied by pipes over a kilometre distance, the machines and cattle from that area, the costs getting to 7000 lei. In Dalga forest in order to irrigate the nursery they built a waterhole whose expense of 300 lei was depreciated by selling the fish. In 1911 he revised the landscape for Panghia and Dalga forests, and in 1927 the forester St. Coltescu offered the most completed situation of the three forests both in formation of brush cutters and the structure of the fields found out in their premises: the natural forest covered 63%, plantations 26%, agricultural land 8% and unproductive field 3%²⁰. On 19 of January 1931, Ioan Popovici, the head of Segarcea Administration transmitted to Central Administration a map made by the same forester, accompanied by a “description” of boundaries of the Domain²¹.

¹⁶ *Ibidem*, file no. 268/F.D., ff. 77–78.

¹⁷ *Ibidem*, file no. 111/1941, f. 166.

¹⁸ “Revista Pădurilor”, tome XI, 1897, p. 303.

¹⁹ Nicolae Șt. Noica, Ștefan Petrescu, *Domeniul Coroanei instituție model a lui Carol I după 130 de ani*, Bucharest, Vremea Publishing House, 2014, p. 55.

²⁰ National Archives Service Dolj, Segarcea Crown Domanin fond, file no. 8/1931, f. 146 (quoted as: S.J.A.N. Dolj).

²¹ *Ibidem*, ff. 302–306.

Beginning with 1933, Stefan Coltescu was sustained in his activity by the forester Dan Hanocean, graduate of Polytechnic School from Bucharest and by the brigadier Gheorghe Parvan, a graduate of the forest brigadier's school from Ghiurgheni-Arad²².

In 1901, Stefan Coltescu became an active member of the "Progresul Silvic"²³ society, being one of the authors of some scientifically papers published within the volumes of "Revista Padurarilor": *In the matter off cubage tariffs*²⁴; *Rebuttable experiences in preserving woods by antiseptics*²⁵; *Exploiting and forestation on Segarcea Domain. A report addressed to the administrator of the Crown Domain*²⁶.

For his entire activity developed on the Crown Domain, the forester engineer Stefan Coltescu has been given by the King Carol the Second the "Coroana Romaniei" distinction in the officer rank (21 Dec. 1931) and the honorary sign "Rasplata Muncii" for the achievement of 25 years serving the Domain (15th of Feb. 1932)²⁷.

The agronomist engineer **Toma Busuioc** succeeded Stefan Coltescu in charge at Segarcea Administration (1941–1944). He was born in 1880 Horezu Poienari, Dolj County. He graduated the boarding school from Iasi and Agricultural School from Herastrau²⁸. On 1st of November 1905 he was hired as newcomer at Sadova Domain where he activated until 1923 when he transferred to Segarcea Administration, as under chief of Administration. In Sadova, in 1921, Toma Busuioc as specialist, helped by the culturing sub chief Florea Ciobanu, led the viticulture section and the winery, having in service 21 people²⁹.

At Segarcea, being the sub chief of Administration he benefited, as the management stuff, of living in spacious and financial means which grown considerable his income. He owned a large place with four rooms, a garden and all the outhouses needed. Regarding his finances, in 1924, he had an income of 5.475 lei/month, consisting of: 1400 lei salary, 1900 costs, 1000 benefits in money, 375 lei for fire woods and 800 lei for servant. In the same year he received a quota of 14.000 lei³⁰. In 1928, during Easter he benefited a bonus of 12.000 lei³¹.

²² Narcisa Maria Mitu, *Aspecte privind organizarea muncii salariate pe Domeniul Coroanei Segarcea*, in "Anuarul Institutului de Cercetări Socio-Umane «C.S. Nicolăescu-Plopșor»", nr. XIII/2012, Craiova, Aius Publishing House, p. 186.

²³ "Revista Pădurilor", tome XV, 1901, p. 352.

²⁴ *Ibidem*, tome XXI, 1907, pp. 79–81.

²⁵ *Ibidem*, tome XXIII, 1909, pp. 343–349.

²⁶ *Ibidem*, tome XXVI, 1912, pp. 387–397.

²⁷ S.J.A.N. Dolj, Segarcea Crown Domain fond, file no. 5/1932, ff. 66, 71.

²⁸ Nicolae St. Noica, Ștefan Petrescu, *op. cit.*, p. 54.

²⁹ S.J.A.N. Dolj, Segarcea Crown Domain fond, file no. 7/1920, not numbered; *Ibidem*, filel no. 24/1921, not numbered.

³⁰ *Ibidem*, file no. 6/1925, f. 120.

³¹ *Ibidem*, file no. 5/1928, f. 150.

On 1st of July Alexandru Manolescu, the administrator of the Crown Domain, appointed him in charge of Segarcea Domain³². One of the relevant measures taken in his activity as manager was to require his workers, starting with May 1942, that every Sunday to take a bath. In order to be sure his decision will take place he provided the necessary woods to warm the water³³. Shortly after he took charge, General Manolescu draw his attention that he received letters announcing him that his wife was mingling in the Domain businesses “I don’t want to cause you any grief, I know you are a hardworking man with sense of duty, but I must point out that I, personally, can’t stand ladies meddling into men businesses[.....] with a first occasion we will talk this side of household things, until then I wish you good luck with your things and plenty of health”³⁴. He led Segarcea Administration until his death registered in 1944, his successor being the forester Emil Solomon, transferred from Bicaz Domain.

Among his distinctions we recall “Coroana Romaniei” Knight (1927), “Steaua Romaniei” Knight (1931) offered by King Carol II, on the occasion of holding a royal hunt on Segarcea Domain on 19–21st of December 1931³⁵ but also the honorific sign “Rasplata Muncii” for 25 years in service (August 1932)³⁶.

Emil Solomon was born at 15th of June 1874, at Blaj. Graduate of Schemnitz Forest Academy (1899), he entered in service of the Crown Domain a year later at 1st of January 1900, at Malini Administration³⁷. In 1904 forester aid, with a salary of 225 lei³⁸ promoted later as general forester inspector, on 1st of January 1927³⁹. In August 1938, with 12 years of work experience in his job but also running two administrations, he was promoted as counsellor⁴⁰.

In 1931 he was appointed in charge of Borca, Sabasa and Farcasa Crown Domain, a job that he would held until 31 June 1941. Simultaneous he led Bicaz Crown Domain, replacing Constantin Armasescu. He was in the lead of Bicaz Administration until 1944 when he transferred to Segarcea, where he took the leadership (1945–1947)⁴¹. At the same time with leading the two Administration,

³² Narcisa Maria Mitu, *Aspects from the activity of the adjutant general Alexandru Manolescu, administrator of the Crown Domain* in “Anuarul Institutului de Cercetări Socio-Umane C.S. Nicolăescu-Plopșor”, nr. XIX, Bucharest, Academy Publishing House, 2018, p. 181.

³³ Idem, *Relațiile de muncă pe Domeniul Coroanei Segarcea: utilizarea forței de muncă la lucrările agricole (1884–1948)*, in “Anuarul Institutului de Cercetări Socio-Umane «C.S. Nicolăescu-Plopșor»”, no. XIV/2013, Bucharest, Academy Publishing House, pp. 133.

³⁴ Nicolae St. Noica, Ștefan Petrescu, *op. cit.*, p. 55.

³⁵ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 268/F.D., ff. 77–78.

³⁶ S.J.A.N. Dolj, Segarcea Crown Domain fonf, file no. 5/1932, f. 79.

³⁷ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 86/1938, ff. 127, 197; *Ibidem*, dosar nr. 111/1941, f. 166.

³⁸ *Anuarul Bucureștilor pe anul 1904*, Ediția XVI, București, 1904, p. 2; S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 27/1904, f. 16.

³⁹ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 86/1938, f. 127.

⁴⁰ *Ibidem*, file no. 86/1938, f. 116; *Ibidem*, file no. 111/1941, f. 166.

⁴¹ Narcisa Maria Mitu, *op. cit.*, p. 236.

engineer Solomon was tasked in 1938 with capitalizing the wood from Malini Administration.

Considerably, it is the fact that in 1942, the king accepted to build a park on Bicaz Crown Domain and even of a wisent farm, the mountain region being suitable for this animal, and also a trout holding. The park had an area of 6 ha forest and 2 ha bare⁴².

He was a member of Retirement of Civil Servants Home Committee from the Crown Domain. The Committee was made of: Nic. Mateescu, the manager of the Crown Domain as president; Emil Solomon, the chief of Borca Administration and Cristian Stefanescu, the retiree as members⁴³.

As many others civil servants he was distinguished with “Steaua Romaniei” Officer (1927), “Coroana Romaniei” Comandor (1931) and the Loyal Service Order, as officer⁴⁴.

Voiculescu Petre was born on 12 July 1904 in Tecuci⁴⁵. He graduated Polytechnic School, Forester Department (1928) and he was hired on 1st of September 1928, Borca Administration⁴⁶. Stepping up in his career, in 1943 he was a forester superintendent and forester general inspector and engineer (Oct. 1947)⁴⁷. He was charged by gen. Manolescu to run and administrate Borca Administration at 1st of July 1941, in succession of Emil Solomon, assisted by chief engineer Mihai Ciuperca, the head of Borca and Neagra Forestry on 20 of December 1943 and sub-engineer Gheorghe Danaila, the head of Sabas Forestry, appointed at 1st of July 1945⁴⁸. He had the leadership of Bicaz Administration until the dissolution of the Crown Domain (1947).

He was decorated by Carol II with “Coroana Romaniei” Order, as Civil Knight⁴⁹.

Constantin Armasescu graduate the Forest Special School from Branesti in 1897⁵⁰. He was hired at the Crown Domain in 1899⁵¹ and he appears in charge of Bicaz Administration until 1933. In 1904 he was the guarantor in charge of the Administration – being a forester assistant with a salary of 300 lei, living in Bicaz, working with the forest assistants Popescu N. And Belinschi Gheorghe, the accountant Popp Gh. as collaborators and Popandron Iacob – the chief of the hacksaws⁵². At 1st of April 1904 he was appointed permanently in charge for that

⁴² S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Bicaz Crown Domain fond, file no. 324/1942, ff. 99, 132, 138.

⁴³ *Idem*, Central Administration fond, file no. 115/1941, f. 4.

⁴⁴ *Ibidem*, file no. 268/F.D., ff. 77–78.

⁴⁵ *Ibidem*, file no. 111/1941, f. 166.

⁴⁶ *Ibidem*, file no. 86/1938, f. 197.

⁴⁷ “Monitorul Oficial”, no. 231/7 October 1947, Part IB, p. 9035 (quoted as “M.O.”).

⁴⁸ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Borca Crown Domain fond, file no. 388/1947, f. 30.

⁴⁹ *Idem*, Central Administration fond, file no. 268/F.D., ff. 77–78.

⁵⁰ “Revista Pădurilor”, tome XI, Bucharest, 1897, p. 303.

⁵¹ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 210/1945, f. 103.

⁵² *Anuarul Bucureștilor pe anul 1904*, pp. 2–3; S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 27/1904, f. 16.

Administration⁵³. During the First World War in 1918, the one in charge with Bicaz Administration was the host for the Royal Family: king Ferdinand, Queen Maria, Princesses Ileana, Maria, Elisabeta and Prince Nicolae accompanied by Lavovary ladies, Richard and personal on duty, at the Government recommendation they retreated at Bicaz.

During the stay they were hosted into the Administration house, the forester's house, the accountant's house, at theatre, bakery house and also private houses in the village⁵⁴. After 234 years of activity, a period in which he stepped up hierarchically in his career, he retired and moved to Bucharest with one of the biggest pensions, registered in 1938 among seniors from The Crown Domain: 7000 lei/ month to which monthly was added a support of 2000 lei⁵⁵. In 1948 he was enlisted in the selection board of retirement files for the employees⁵⁶. His successor was Emil Solomon.

Ioşif Rossman was born on 20 February 1910, Voivodeasa, Radauti County and graduated Superior School for soil cultivation from Vienna (1936)⁵⁷. Until 1942, he activated on Dobrovat and Borca Crown Domains after that being transferred at Sadova Administration. Being a forester engineer, he succeeded Gheorghe Popovici since 1942, at the management of Administration, job that he had until the closure of the institution, meaning 1948. In 1943 being "in charge at Sadova Administration, taking care of an area of 4600 ha of forests and a sawmill" he was recommended to move forward in his career as engineer chief with the following description: "well-trained and with a professional and intellectual capacity, we propose him to put forward of choice"⁵⁸. On 17th of March 1944 he was promoted as forester chief engineer⁵⁹. In October 1947 it was mentioned that Ioşif Rossman had passed the exam to obtain the job as superintendent forester engineer, with a salary of 13,000 lei⁶⁰.

In 1945 at his request he changed his name patronymic from Rossman to Roman⁶¹. As a reward for his activity he received in 1940 the "Centenarul Regelui Carol I"⁶² medal

Nicolae Gr. Lovinescu was born on November 18, 1878 in Radaseni, Baia County. He graduated Forestry Special school from Branesti⁶³. On 1st of January

⁵³ "Revista Pădurilor", tome XVIII, Bucharest, 1904, p. 125.

⁵⁴ S.A.N.I.C., Bucharest, Bicaz Crown Domain fond, file no. 292/1918, f. 3; Narcisa Maria Mitu, *Popasuri regale pe Domeniile Coroanei* in "Stat și societate în Europa", vol. 4, Târgoviște, Cetatea de Scaun Publishing House 2012, pp. 141–142.

⁵⁵ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 84/1938, f. 6.

⁵⁶ Nicolae Șt. Stoica, Ștefan Petrescu, *op. cit.*, p. 53.

⁵⁷ S.J.A.N. Dolj, Sadova Crown Domain fond, file no. 43/1946, f. 95.

⁵⁸ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 161/1943, ff. 210–211.

⁵⁹ S.J.A.N. Dolj, Sadova Crown Domain fond, file no. 43/1946, ff. 95–96.

⁶⁰ *Ibidem*.

⁶¹ "M.O.", no. 203/7 September 1945, Part I, p. 7873.

⁶² S.J.A.N. Dolj, Sadova Crown Domain fond, file no. 43/1946, ff. 95–96.

1903 he was enrolled in Forestry Technical Body and on 1st of April he was employed as forester assistant at Malini Administration with a salary of 150 lei⁶⁴ afterwards being transferred at Bicaz Domain where in 1940 he was a forester engineer. During his 44 years of activity he achieved all the ranks within the forester body of the state. One of the first measures taken by Alexandru Manolescu as Administrator of the Crown Domain was to rejuvenate the higher personal by hiring young engineers. As the county was during the First World War these were sent on Soviet line, fact that made the hiring process difficult. In 1941, being necessary the reform of forester arrangements, gen. Manolescu proposed the reorganization of forester services by bringing younger specialists at the forestry administrations: "it is necessary that forester engineers to be young elements in order to endure the physical effort needed in climbing the slopes from the exploiting places especially for monitoring the revision tasks that will start soon⁶⁵. Engineer Nicolae Lovinescu refused to be transferred to Segarcea Administration, so the general administrator decided to retire him starting with 1st of January 1942, with a pension of 20.000 lei⁶⁶. He was reinstated at Bicaz Administration in August 1944 by administrator Negel who was struggling to find engineers in the field; he maintained his job until 1947⁶⁷.

In his memorandum, written in 1946, Lovinescu mentioned that he was entrusted with his job by Dimitrie D. Negel and that he proposed "Office papers: proposals and budget drafts, instructions, monitory and supervision after their approval. He was the legal representative of the Administrator of the Crown Domain in all the papers referring the Administration. Mailing with authorities. Financial manager holding the responsibility, working between the limits and direct orders given by the Administrator of the Crown Domain. Assisted to do so by the superior forester personal, forester engineers of the two forest grounds, by office clerk and inferior personal of security and forest police.

Field work. Management, directives and surveying regarding applying the provisions for setting up forests at Bicaz Crown Domain, in accordance with current orders and disposals of Ministry of Agriculture and Domains and the Crown Domain Central. Guidance and orders concerning forester grounds, for a good household adequate forestry interests. Applying inspection and checking wood products resulted from exploiting, in accordance with the delivery Conventions approved by the Administrator of the Crown Domain. Proposals and conclusions of conventions undergo ratification and approval for selling

⁶³ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 111/1941, f. 166.

⁶⁴ *Anuarul Bucureștilor pe anul 1904*, pp. 2–3; S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 27/1904, f. 16.

⁶⁵ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Bicaz Crown Domain fond, file no. 319/1943, f. 5; *Ibidem*, file no. 325/1943, f. 16.

⁶⁶ *Idem*, Central Administration fond, file no. 235/1946, f. 200.

⁶⁷ *Ibidem*.

incidentally products to villagers and different buyers. The check out, supervision and orders concerning exploited areas, within the budget provisions etc”.

He continues his memorandum stating that “The activity of the undersigned at Bicaz Administration takes time after 23 of August 1944, when the Administration was subjected to difficult attempts by troops crossing, causing great damages by raids, mining of all kinds, thereby destroying the power station, buildings, railway installations and all sorts of cars, bearing the contentment that nevertheless thanks to the endorsed motions the administrator of the Crown Domain by granting credits of good will and wide understanding, these destructions were today restored”⁶⁸.

The sawmill manager from Piata Corbului told that on August 24, 1944, “Engineer Lovinescu, the chief of Bicaz Administration, accompanied by engineers Andreescu and Voiculescu left towards eviction. At the same day a group of German officers asked to be available for them houses of administration, chancery and all housings of the Domain to install the German headquarter in view of resilience against Soviet army on Valea Bistritei”⁶⁹.

The serious situation encountered at Bicaz Administration in 1946, the high inflation rate, small salaries and also the drought which had destroyed the kitchen gardens, determined Nicolae Lovinescu to make some concessions: sharing a half of wagon of wheat for the necessities of those who could work and due to a slightly price increase for various labours in the wood, as for helping those in need, devastated by war, with different materials from falling which needed for their buildings to make them liveable⁷⁰.

He achieved the following distinctions: “Coroana Romaniei” Knight (1927), “Steaua Romaniei” Officer (1931) and “Casa Domnitoare” Order, in rank of Knight⁷¹.

Augustin Berian was born on July 3, 1865 in Cugir, Hunedoara County and he died on July 16, 1933. His father was a forester brigadier and his grandfather an unit Romanian priest. His primary school was in the native village: gymnasium Saxon Middle School from Sebes, Alba, and high school at Blaj, where he graduated in 1886⁷².

Benefiting from a scholarship granted by Metropolitan Consistory of Blaj from cultural and relief foundations and also support from municipality of Cugir, he enrolled at Forestry Academy of Schemnitz (North Hungary) on 1st of October 1886, for two years, the third year he studied at “Hochschule fur Bodenkultur” from Vienna, forestry department which he graduated in 1890⁷³. After five years of practice as trainee engineer at the Hungarian Forestry Direction from Lipova, in

⁶⁸ *Ibidem*, f. 201.

⁶⁹ *Idem*, Bicaz Crown Domain fond, file no. 330/1944, ff. 91–93.

⁷⁰ *Ibidem*, file no. 336/1946, f. 68.

⁷¹ *Idem*, Central Administration fond, file no. 268/F.D., ff. 77–78.

⁷² Rodica Cristina Florea, *Portrete cugirene. Augustin Berian*, în “Curierul de Cugir” – monthly newsletter edited by city council and Cugir municipality, year V no. 53/September 2010, Alba Iulia Altip Printing House, pp. 1–2; “Revista Pădurilor”, no. 8/1933, p. 849 (obituary).

⁷³ “Revista Pădurilor”, no. 8/1933, p. 850.

1895 he was appointed chief of Borca and Sabasa-Farcasa Domains Administration from Suceava, putting himself into service for the King of Romania: Carol I⁷⁴. His first meeting with the King it is touching portrayed in his memories: it took place on 1st of June 1895 at the Administration office of the Crown Domains in Bucharest, where he was received by Ion Kalinderu who introduced “the young Berian to a General who asked where was he from, where he studied and if he was soldiering and then holding out a finger from the right hand wished him a safe journey to Borca”. Onward he found out that general was King Carol I⁷⁴.

In 1907, after 12 years of working at the Crown Domain he resigned in order to get into forest service of the State, being appointed as chief of Forester Ground at Strehaia, Mehedinti. In 1902 he moved on application at Baile Herculane, then in 1923 he became chief of Cugir Forester Ground, thus coming back to his native village.

During 1921–1931 as member of board of directors of Commercial Public Direction Hunedoara founded forester service of steel factories from Hundoara. Furthermore he laid down into a manuscript an extensive monograph of Cugir in which he elaborates the history of the locality, the beauty and its importance from industrial, forestry, and national cultural point of view.

He was a member of “Steaua” Society⁷⁵.

In recognition of his merits, Carol I gave him “Coroana Romaniei” distinction and King Ferdinand awarded him with “Steaua Romaniei” and “Serviciul Credincios” (Loyal Service)⁷⁶ distinctions.

Nicolae Popescu was born on February 4, 1876, in Hudesti, Dorohoi⁷⁷. Graduate of Forestry Superior School Branesti (1900), was employed at first at Bicz Domain, being enrolled in 1904 as forester assistant⁷⁸. Working as forester engineer inspector he was in charge of Malini Administration during 1940–1941. In 1940 he received a quota and gratifications around 56,000 lei⁷⁹.

Forester Engineer Carol Jauerig (Iauerning) was born on May 11th, 1905 at Sibiu. He graduated the Forestry Academy of Dresda (24 of April 1931)⁸⁰. He was hired at Cocioc-Gherghita Crown Domain on 16th of January 1932 he got to manage the place during 17th May 1941–1947, being appointed chief of administration by general Alexandru Manolescu⁸¹.

⁷⁴ *Ibidem*.

⁷⁵ “Albina”, no. 49/1904, Bucharest, p. 1202 (quoted as: Albina); S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 36/1906, p. 985.

⁷⁶ “Revista Pădurilor”, no. 8/1933, p. 850.

⁷⁷ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 111/1941, f. 166.

⁷⁸ *Anuarul Bucureștilor pe anul 1904*, pp. 2–3.

⁷⁹ S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 119/1941, f. 219.

⁸⁰ *Ibidem*, file no. 86/1938, f. 197; *Ibidem*, file no. 111/1941, f. 166.

⁸¹ Narcisa Maria Mitu, *Aspects from the activity of the adjutant general Alexandru Manolescu*, ... p. 181.

He was decorated with “Coroana Romaniei” Order as civil Knight⁸².

Dumitru Negulescu, the chief of Rusetu Domain administration, was born on October 16, 1882, in Urlati, Prahova. He retired on 1st of April 1941, after 35 years of activity, with a pension of 7462 lei/ month. He worked as wine maker (5th of May 1906–1922) and then he took charge over Rusetu Administration, starting with 1922 until 15th of March 1941, at the age of 59⁸³.

Ioan Popescu Cartianu was in charge at Borca, Sabasa and Farcasa Administration during 1907–1914⁸⁴. There are no information on his hiring on forestry body at the Crown Domain, but there is a fact that in 1906 he published a paper in “Revista Padurilor” where he speaks about fixing with acacia the flying sand at Sadova Domain, where he showed the effects of acacia in protecting oak seedlings in their first years, which proves he was a forester, for one thing, at Sadova Administration, Dolj County⁸⁵. A year later he was transferred to Borca where he took charge succeeding Augustin Berian who resigned. Three years later he published in the same magazine a paper on forestry crane, arguing its necessity in exploiting forests on the Crown Domain by means of which big trees could have been easily removed with a reduced capacity of human effort⁸⁶. The disasters caused by frequent floods on Bistrita river, led I. P. Cartianu to suggest in the article “Rafting on Bistrita and flash floods”⁸⁷ a series of measures meant to diminish their negative effects: imposing a tax of minimum 10 bani/cubic meter roughed and moulded, paid by the rafting owners; the tax being administrated by the “Committee for regulating Bistrita course” made by the owners of bordering forests to proceed picking up the woods only after the party loser have sent a representative; the municipality and all the competent institutions to notify on time the occurrence of any floods to allow the rafting owners and woods to take measures; building bridges over Bistrita river of reinforced concrete and a railway to connect Piatra Neamt to Bucovina.

In May 1914, I. Popescu Cartianu was in charge of administration together with Iulius Puscariu, the vet of Brosteni district and the mayoral. Florescu were the jury which has awarded prizes of 400 lei, offered by Administration of the Crown Domain for the inhabitants involved in the annual cattle competition organised at Borca. There were awarded amounts of 295 lei for 21 cattle owners and 105 lei for horses owners⁸⁸.

⁸² S.A.N.I.C. Bucharest, Central Administration fond, file no. 268/F.D., ff. 77–78.

⁸³ *Ibidem*, file no. 115/1941, f. 8.

⁸⁴ “Albina”, years XVII, no. 36/1914, Bucharest, p. 1442.

⁸⁵ “Revista Pădurilor”, 1906, pp. 369–371.

⁸⁶ *Ibidem*, 1908, pp. 50–51.

⁸⁷ *Ibidem*, 1912, pp. 288–297

⁸⁸ “Albina”, p. 1442.

Through the High Royal Decree no. 47854/ October 21, 1914, Ioan Popescu Cartianu became forester in charge Cl. II⁸⁹. There are no information on his further activity.

As mentioned above, the administrators of forest or culture grounds, were educated people, licensed in higher system at prestigious institutions in Europe or in our country, they all have proved scientifically competences, practical, organisational and managerial skills. Like the other specialists, they benefited of great salaries, annual rewards, a series of amenities: supplying agro-food products for free or with a low price, granting aid in difficult situations, benefits for renting, food, fire woods, quotas, small transport fees on railway, spacious and salubrious houses which clarify the stability for their duty.

⁸⁹ "Revista Pădurilor", 1914, p. 349.