

# Albania today



**“THE YOUTH OF OUR COUNTRY  
SEES THE FUTURE WITH CONFI-  
DENCE; THE FUTURE IS IN ITS  
HANDS, ALL THE ROADS ARE OPEN  
TO IT... THIS IS WHY IT IS  
REVOLUTIONARY AND RESOLUTE  
FIGHTER FOR THE CAUSE OF  
SOCIALISM.”**

**ENVER HOXHA**





The cover of this issue is devoted to the happy youth of our country that has gathered at its 6th Congress in Durrës to see the road traversed in socialist construction and the prospects of the future. On the first page photo Nr. 1 shows the leaders of the Party and State on the tribune together with a group of young pioneers. Photo Nr. 2 shows the portrait of a young foundry worker and in front (3) of him the photo of a young woman engineer. Photos 4 and 5 show a group of young people working in the construction of the Elbasan-Përrenjas railway and another group of youth taking a rest. Cover 2 represents little children playing. Cover 3 shows youth executing a folk dance. In cover Nr. 4 a young artist working the portrait of a highland woman.





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### Note:

The article about the State Social insurances, announced for the present issue, will be published in the next issue due to lack of space.

PUBLISTEKA KOMBETARE  
TIRANE



# Youth-Active For Of The Country's

by **RUDI MONARI**

The 6th Congress of the Albanian Labour Youth Union (ALYU) held its proceedings in the coastal city of Durrës in October. This was an important event for our organisation. This great assembly of our youth drew up the balance-sheet of the work and activity carried out by the rising generation of socialist Albania in all the fields of our dynamic life since the 5th Congress of the ALYU, laid down new tasks and approved the programme for the coming years. During this period great revolutionary transformations have been made in the life of the whole country, and consequently in that of the younger generation of Albania as well. The youth have been a shock force in the struggle guided by the Party of Labour of Albania (PLA) for the further revolutionisation of the country's life. Wherever they work and militate, in plants, agricultural cooperatives, production and construction centres, in educational, cultural and other institutions, the youth are in the vanguard of the work fronts and they struggle to promote the ideas of our revolution. There is no field of Albanian social and political life in which the younger generation does not leave traces of its activity. It has become an initiator in the struggle for the formation of the new man, in the

RUDI MONARI – alternate member of the CC of the PLA,  
first secretary of the CC of the ALYU



# ce In The Revolutionisation Life

## The role of youth in the country's social-political development. Its education through work and revolutionary actions

struggle against petty-bourgeois remnants, bourgeois and revisionist influences, in mass actions against backward customs and religious prejudices and for the complete emancipation of women and girls, as well as in the broad movement for the further revolutionisation of our school, etc. Tens of thousands of young men and women, of all categories of youth, are volunteering to help in the construction of the Rrogozhinë-Fier and Elbasan-Përrenjas railway lines, in opening the Malësia e Madhe (Great Highland) highway, in the work for terracing hills and mountains, and in other projects. Actions of voluntary work have become an arena of the work and efforts of youth for the transformation of nature and, at the same time, schools for their revolutionary education. A broad movement which has recently burst forth is that to «Perfect the moral figure of youth in the struggle against manifestations of petty-bourgeois psychology», a struggle which has swept over all sections of the younger generation of our country. In the field of the development of the technical-scientific revolution the youth have thrown themselves in to the struggle against narrow craft-consciousness concepts and bureaucratic practices in production.

In the field of the socialist organisation of work for the radical transformation of the countryside, our youth are providing their example of maintaining a resolute stand against difficulties and of persisting in their efforts to conquer any manifestation of the old world. The young pioneers, rallied around their organisation, are striving to continually improve their results in studies, to temper themselves through useful social work, and they undertake initiatives and actions of political and social educative value.

### THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN THE COUNTRY'S SOCIAL-POLITICAL LIFE

Comrade Enver Hoxha said at the 6th Congress of the PLA: «Our younger generation, rallied in its militant organisation of the Albanian Labour Youth Union, under the guidance of the Party, has come out into the arena of the ideological class struggle as a bold initiator and staunch fighter, as a revolutionizing, motive and shock force in the field of social, ideological and cultural transformations».



It has always been clear to our organisation that the success achieved in the political and ideological formation of the youth has been determined by the systematic mastering of Marxism-Leninism, under the specific conditions of the struggle for socialist construction. "Study-analysis-action" - this has been the motto that has permeated the whole activity of our organisation in struggle to master the ideology of the PLA, the theory of Marxism-Leninism. Its study is connected with the fundamental problems that have preoccupied the ALYU and has been accompanied by mass undertakings and initiatives, with concrete revolutionary activity. All the ideological movements and actions of youth, such as the movement against religion and backward customs, the movement for the complete emancipation of women and girls, and against patriarchalism and conservatism, etc., have been a combination of the revolutionary practical action of the masses of youth and people with their theoretical preparations. Practically, the entire youth of our country was involved in the so far unprecedented broad movement for the study of the history of the PLA, of its documents, and of comrade Enver Hoxha's works. Tens of thousands of young people are involved in the movements: "Learn from the working class", "In the footsteps of the glory of the work and struggle", etc. The Party of Labour and People's Power in Albania have created all the necessary conditions for the youth to actively participate in the socio-political life of the country, in the discussion and solution of its important problems and in the activity of the elected State and social organs. The younger generation is drawn into socio-political life in an organized manner and en masse from an early age, through the young pioneer and youth organisations, the school and the family. Thus, hundreds of thousands of young men and women took part in the huge popular debate on the revolutionisation of our school and in the broad discussion for the drafting of the new five-year plan. They discuss and carry out the decisions and plans that emerge from these popular debates. Under the present conditions, when the general ideological, political and cultural level of youth has greatly risen more and more possibilities have been created to increasingly draw the broad masses of youth in to the running of the country, preparing and training them in the affairs of political power and the management of various economic and social sectors. Now, young cadres are an important weight in the leading organs of all levels. Thus in the people's councils of cities and villages young men and young women







Comrade Enver Hoxha is a frequent and very much beloved guest among the youths, young pioneers and children. He is here in their midst, after an art performance given in the Opera Theatre by the best groups of the kinder-gartens of Tirana

make up 34,2 percent of the councilors, in the people's courts they constitute 26,6 per cent of the judges, and so on.

Drawing the youth into running the country has been a great help in the struggle against bureaucracy. By electing young men and women to work in the organs of political power and having them fulfill their role and tasks in these organs, in the best possible way, presenting voice of the youth and the masses who have elected them, the ALYU at the same time, aims at having them fight against any bureaucratic manifestations and stands in the fold of these various organs and links of the state power.

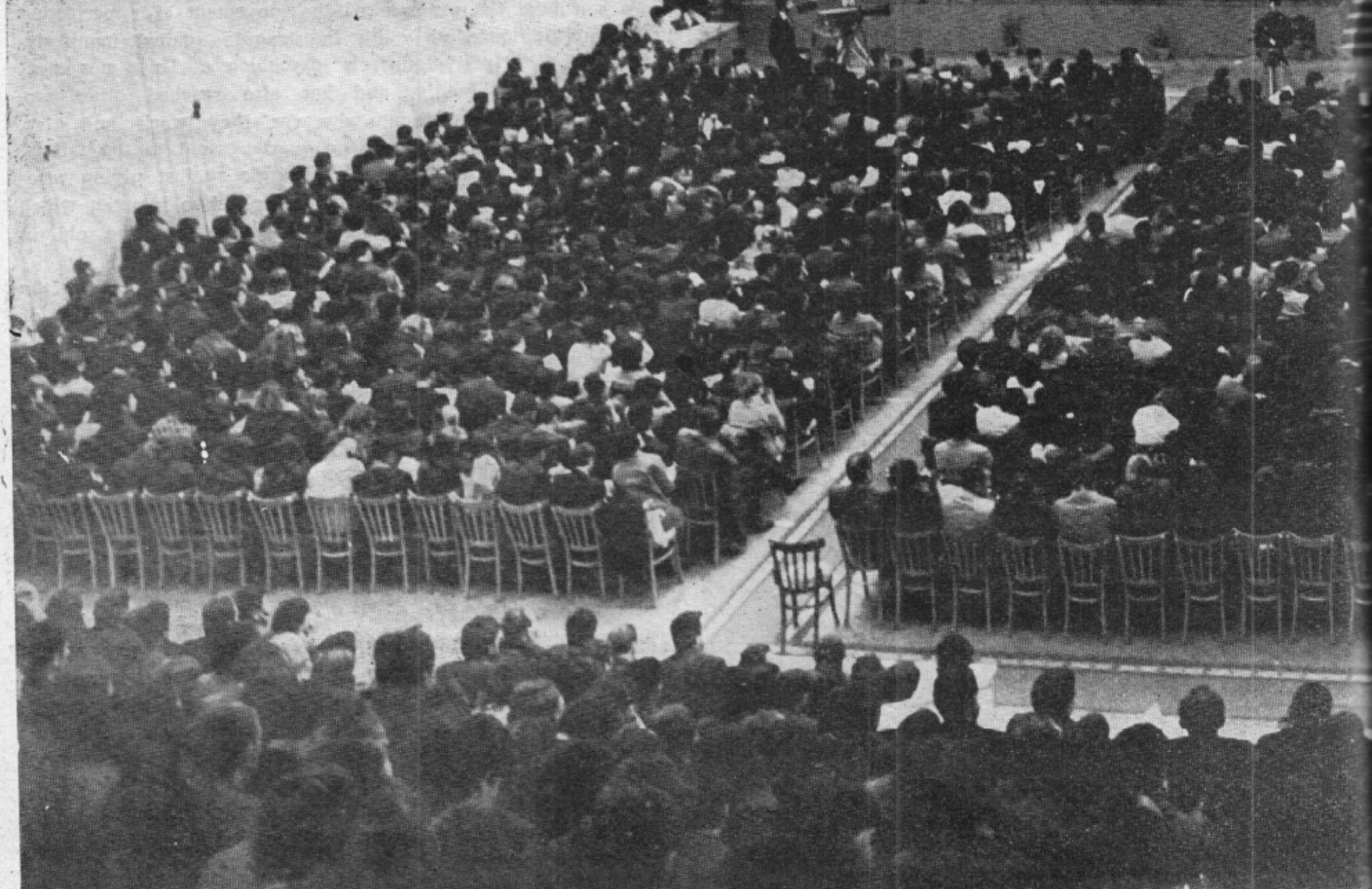
The extension of the political and social activity of the youth is not confined within the limits of its organisation or merely to those fields of life which are more directly connected with the interests of youth. In this direction we can take the example of the movement «For perfecting the moral figure of youth in struggle against manifestations of the petty-bourgeois psychology». This movement has extended broadly, and has also reached other sections of the population, wherever they work and live, in collectives town and village quarters, and in the family, directing the spearhead of its struggle against giving priority to individual interest over the collective interest, which constitutes the pivot of all the remnants of the old in the consciousness of men.

One of the important fields of ALYU's activity is in the front of art and culture, of the aesthetic education of youth. The discussions and debates that are held on problems arising on this front, the mass participation of youth in the artistic and cultural activities and creativity, and the struggle against alien manifestations and influences, particularly the exposure of bourgeois and revisionist art and culture, are effective means for the healthy aesthetic education of the youth, because they are based on the Marxist-Leninist theory of art and culture.

The experience of our struggle teaches us that the education and up-bringing of the moral and political figure of youth would have no value without the physical and military training and tempering of the younger generation. The Albanian Labour Youth Union has never seen these two important fields of its activity as separated from one another or as aims in themselves. The youth does not consider its physical training only as a means for cultured or entertaining rest, or only for the strengthening of health and for increasing abilities to work. Not only that. Physical training has been transformed at the same time into a way of tempering abilities for mi-



RI KA DALE NE ARENEN  
TES KLASORE IDEOLOGJIKE SI NIE FORCE  
OLUCIONARIZUESE SHTYTESE DHE GODITese



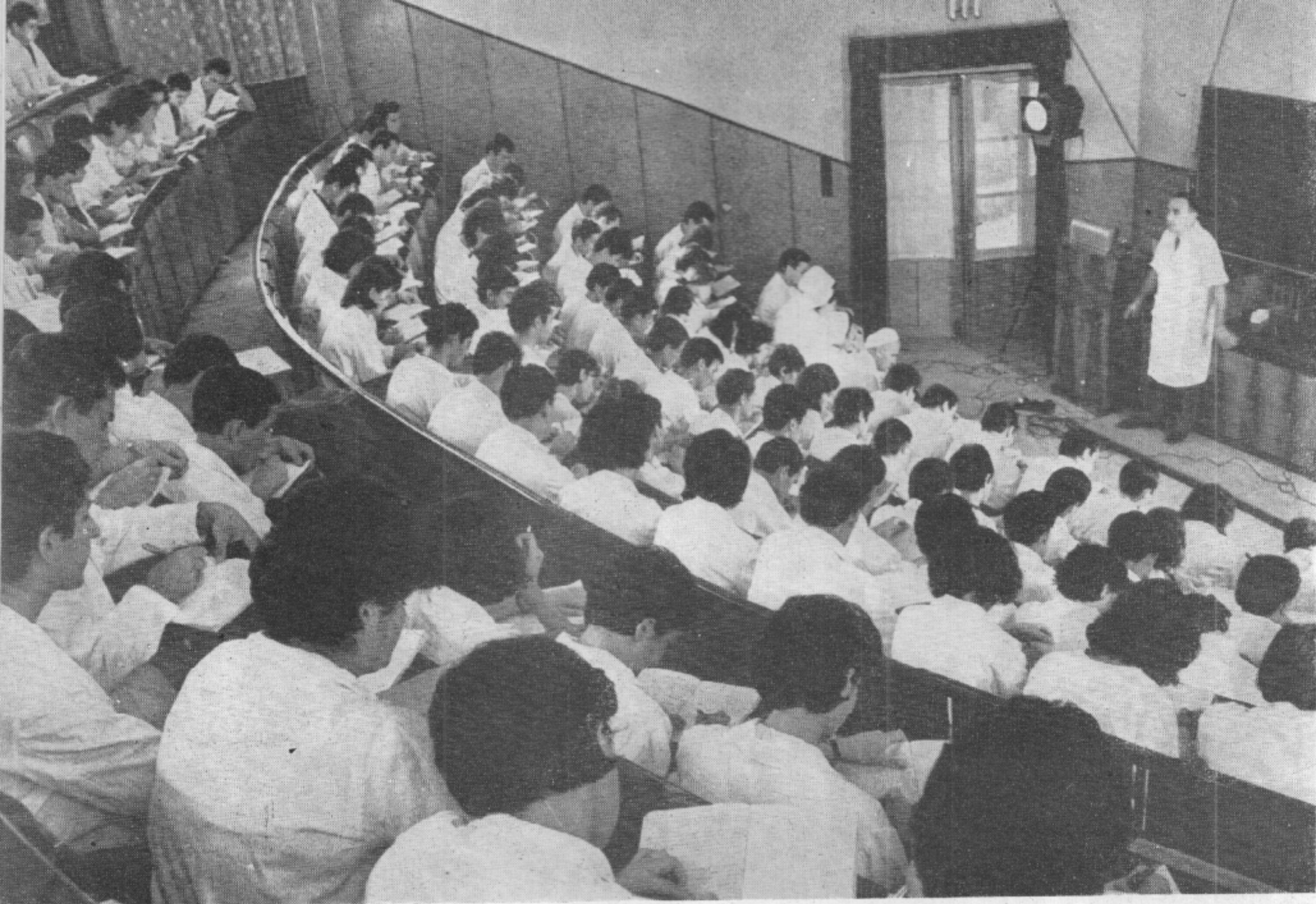




KONGRESI  
R P S H

PROFTE PPSA  
KOMITET  
SHOKUN





Our youth is being educated with the love for the people and the Fatherland, for work and culture. In the auditoria of the universities and institutes they acquire the knowledge of scientific disciplines and they become acquainted with the latest achievements of science and technology. In the photo — students attending a lecture at the Faculty of Medicine of the S.U.T.

litary training, which is seen as a task of primary importance for the defence of the homeland and the victories of socialism in our country from the threat of imperialist-revisionist aggression.

#### **YOUTH IS EDUCATED THROUGH WORK AND REVOLUTIONARY ACTIONS**

Here, too, on the front where material goods are produced, a distinctive feature of the mobilisation of youth is the launching of a series of revolutionary actions and initiatives.

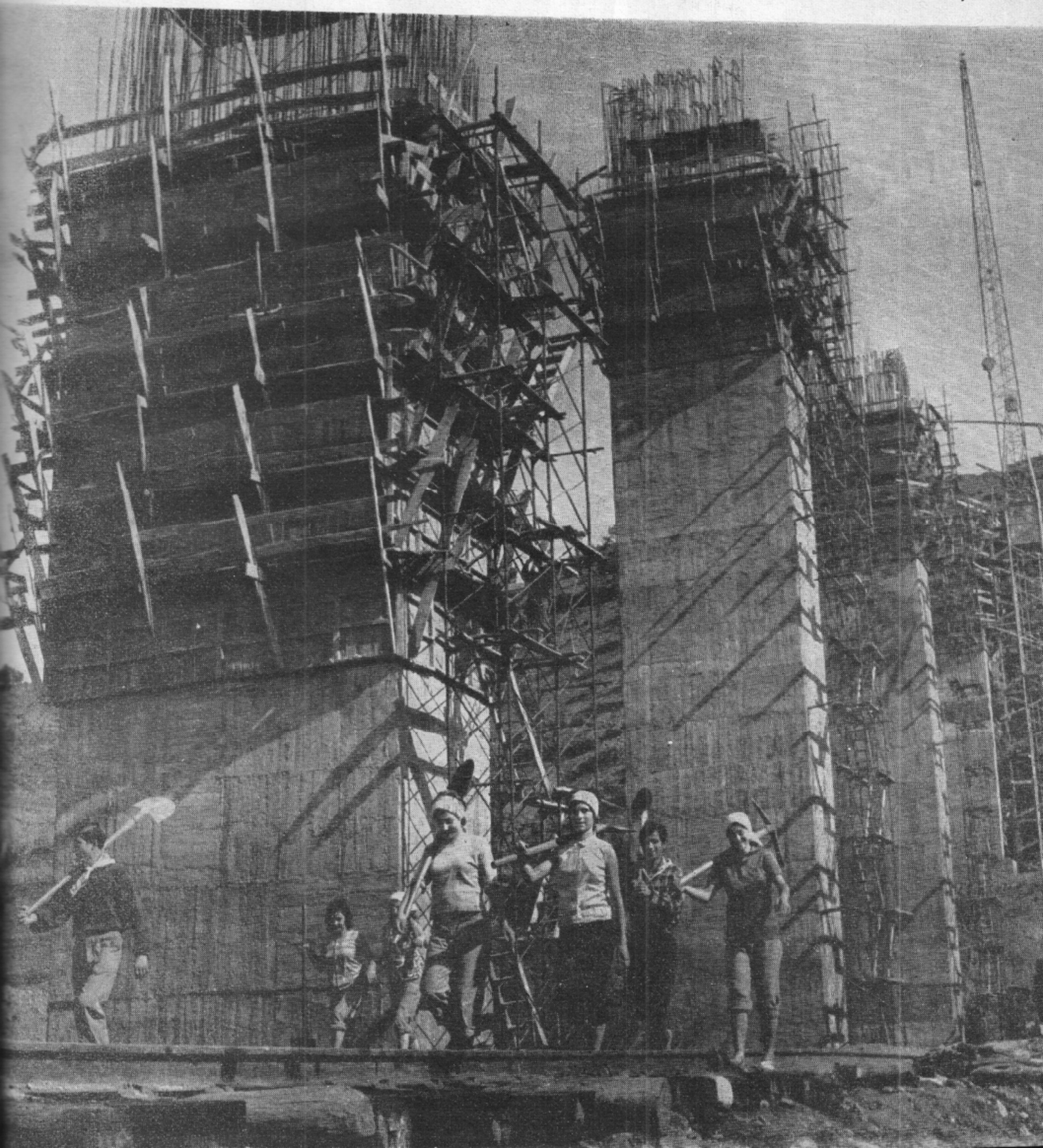
Alongside the systematic efforts being made for the scientific organization and management of production as well

as for the largescale introduction of modern technology, the labouring youth has become an initiator in establishing technical norms in the main processes, without which we cannot speak of a scientific management of production. The youth of the textile industry, such as those of the «Stalin», «Mao Tse Tung» and other textile combines have claimed particular distinction in this field. While the co-operativist youth of the countryside and the youth of the state farms has initiated a broad movement for producing high yields in farming and livestock raising where modern agrozootechnology and scientific organisation of work have been introduced. This movement aims at extending the new methods of high yield plots to all the main sectors of agricultural and livestock production.

The rising generation of our country is aware of the times it is living in. The great progress in various branches



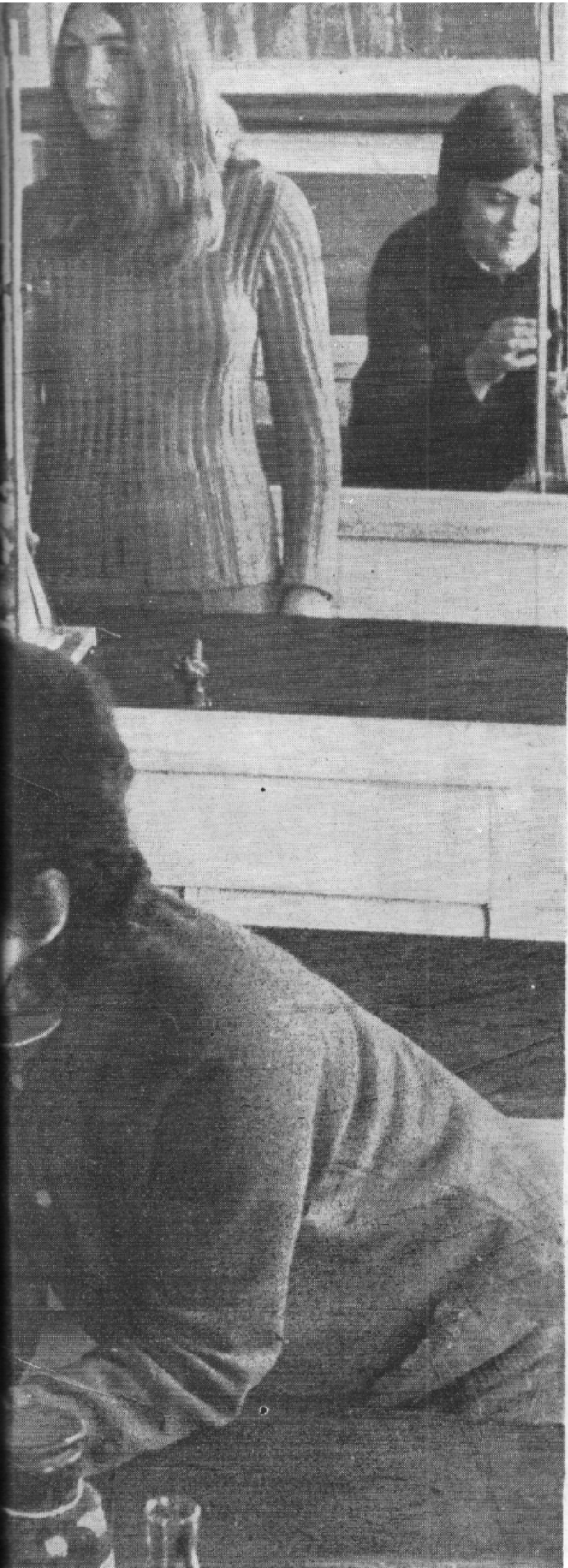
Work in production  
is one of the main components  
of the revolutionary education of the youth. —  
In the photo: a group of youths of middle school,  
builders of the Elbasan — Përrenjas rail way











of science and technology is directly promoting production. For the younger generation, outside the sphere of production as well as within it, all the necessary conditions have been created to master and apply science. During the current school year, 720.000 young girls and boys, representing nearly one third of the population of our country, are attending our schools, the University and other higher institutes of learning. During this five-year plan period, which ends in 1975, some 60.000 middle and higher cadres will be trained a figure which is equal to the total number of cadres trained during the 26 post-liberation years. It must be pointed out here that for the first time during this five-year plan the major part of these cadres will graduate from part-time courses. Ten of thousands of other young men and women, in the town and the country-side, are attending qualification courses and lower professional schools.

The all-round scientific and technical education of the younger generation constitutes one of the principal aims of the further revolutionisation of our school which is based on the triangle: Study, productive work, physical-military training. This triangle expresses, in a concentrated manner, the fundamental objectives of the revolutionisation of life in our country for the preparation and education of the younger generation: mastering of theory and its direct connection with production, with useful productive work, with the revolutionary practice of the cooperative workers and peasants and with physical and military training, which is an important component connected with the defense of the country and socialism in Albania. Thus, our younger generation is trained right from the school desks with revolutionary habits not only from the theoretical viewpoint, but also from practical viewpoint, taking part directly in the revolution.

The revolutionary situation has also greatly enlivened the internal life of ALYU. The most visible results in this revolutionizing process can be seen in the improvement of the essence of the work and methods of management of the youth organisations, which have given wide scope to the successful struggle against officialdom, formalism and departmentalism, as well as against bureaucratic manifestations in the day to day activity, to the further increase of the spirit of debate and struggle of opinions in the fold of the organisation and to the deepening of democracy. Consequently, the ranks of our youth organisation have been increased by 100.000 members during the last five year. Now, in the mobilization of their members and their activation concerning various problems the youth organisations know better and proceed from the specific and requirements increasing wishes and interests of the youth, adapting themselves to the times and transformations of our society, and, in particular, taking stock of the changes in the way of life, world outlook and tastes of the younger generation.

The ultimate aim of the ALYU is, through its educative work and revolutionary activity, to train devoted fighters

*In the chemistry laboratory of the «Qemal Stafa» middle school in Tirana, conducting some experiments – as school work*



A deserved rest after the work for the opening of terraces which will be planted with citrus fruit trees in Jonufër, Vlora







for the cause of the Party and socialism in Albania and in the world, who in the future will carry further the torch of socialism and communism in resolute struggle against the class enemies and their agents at home and abroad – the imperialists and modern revisionists.

The revolutionary organisation of the rising generation of our country, the ALYU, in all fields of its international activity and active collaboration with progressive and revolutionary youth and student organisations throughout the world, has had the Marxist-Leninist line of the PLA and comrade Enver Hoxha's teachings as its shining beacon. Implementing the principles of proletarian internationalism in the youth sector, the ALYU, as a vanguard detachment in the anti-imperialist and anti-revisionist front, has consistently fought against the aggressive policy and plots of the U.S.-led imperialists and their allies, the Soviet-led modern revisionists, and against the divisive and undermining activity of their agents and tools in the world youth and student movement. The ALYU continues to unreservedly support the struggles for liberation and national defence of the peoples and youth in Asia, Africa and Latin America, as well as the struggle of the working class, youth and students of the capitalist world for political, democratic and other rights.

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The 6th Congress of the ALYU has been convened less than a year after the 6th Congress of the PLA, which, by its programme, opened new vistas to the Albanian people and youth and raised the revolutionary spirit of the working masses to a higher level. It has been placed at the centre of the attention of the organisations, inspiring and guiding them for new revolutionary actions and initiatives. Formed and tempered under the care of the PLA in the heat of the work and struggle for the building of socialism, our youth once more pledged itself at its 6th Congress to be prepared to undertake new tasks and still greater responsibilities, so as to be worthy of being highly appraised as a motive and shock force in the struggle for the all-round revolutionisation of life in our country.

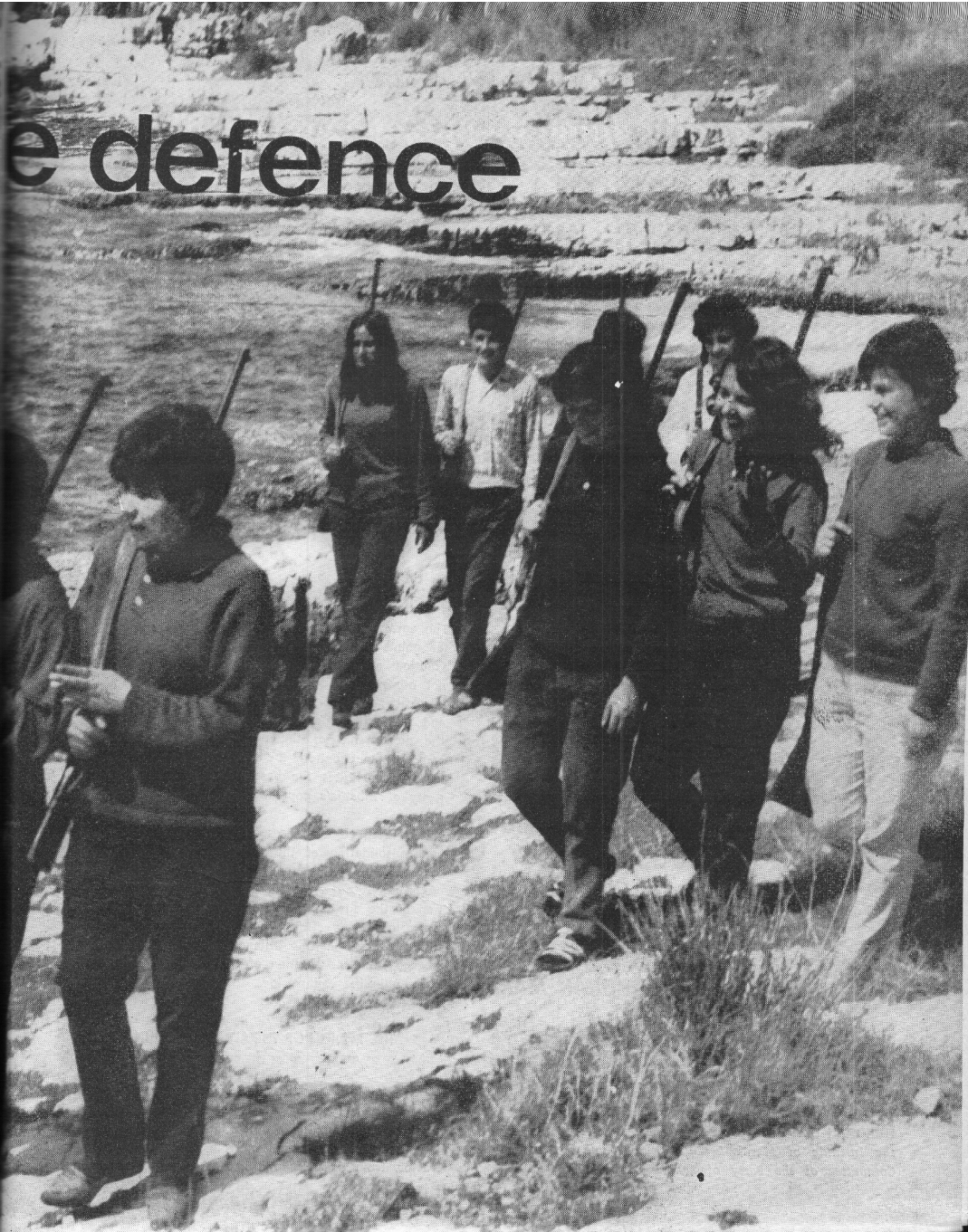


# Youth training themselves for the of the fatherland





e defence





Before the beginning of the work of the Bureau for

# The Working Class And Socialist Construction In The Country-Side

**Problems and prospects  
of the reborn Albanian  
countryside, the development  
of the productive forces and the  
creation of equal conditions  
in both town and country-side**

**by professor HEKURAN MARA**

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HEKURAN MARA - economics professor, section-chief at the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Studies under the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania.

The agrarian question has constituted one of the fundamental points of the strategy and tactics of the Party in revolution and in our socialist construction. And this has not occurred accidentally. The Albanian peasantry has been a great active revolutionary force in fighting for national and social liberation, for the establishment and defence of the dictatorship of the proletariat. It has made an outstanding contribution to the building of socialism. Agriculture constitutes the base of our economy and the majority of Albania's population is still made up by the peasantry.

Under these circumstances the working class has considered the consolidation of the alliance with the peasantry as a task of vital importance for the destiny of socialism in our country, as an essential condition for the correct solution of the agrarian question. Therefore the Party has been unsparing in its efforts to give to the leading role of the working class in this alliance the content and goals that emerge from the solution of the problems of socialist construction in the countryside.

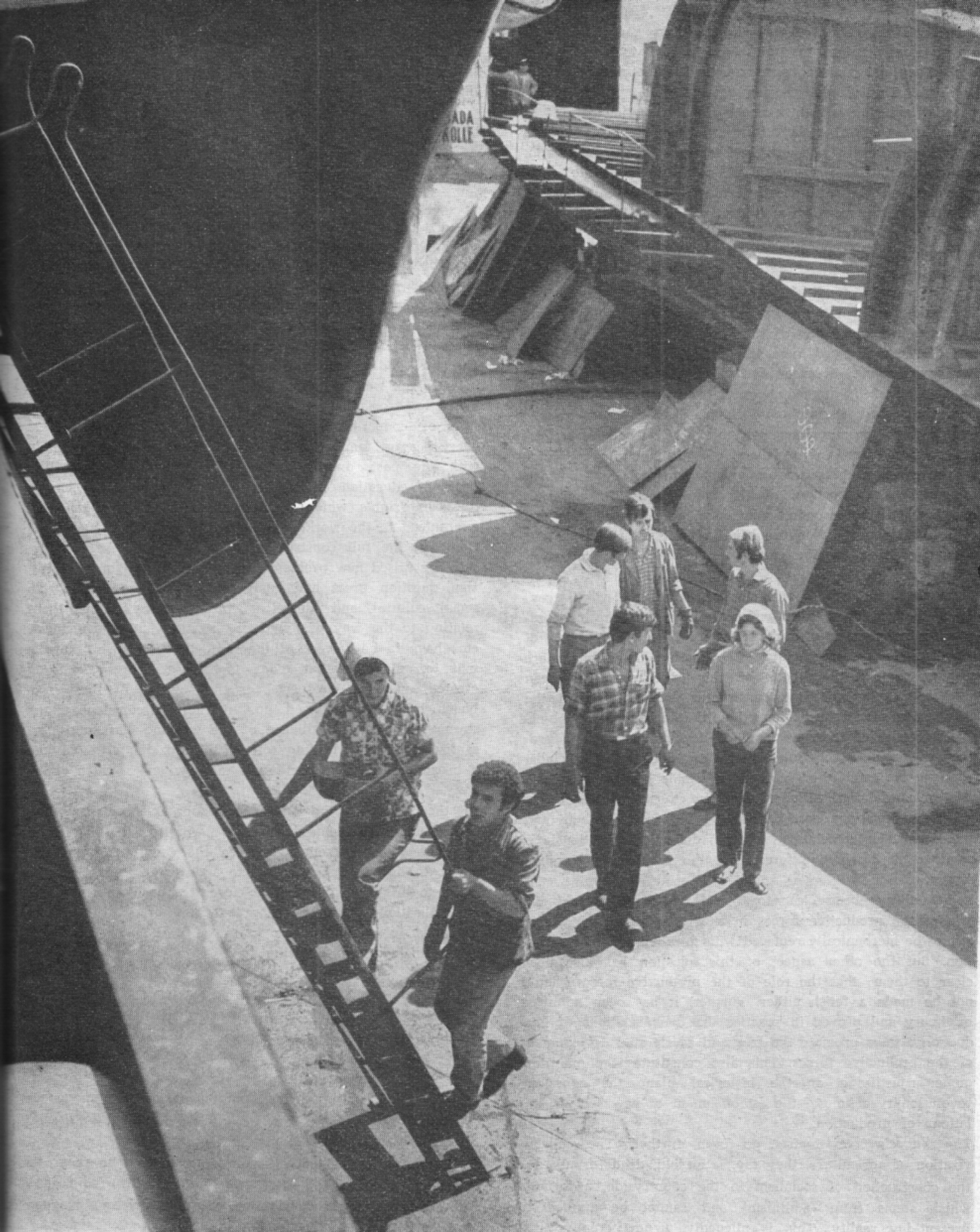
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## THE REBIRTH OF THE ALBANIAN COUNTRYSIDE

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Numerous transformations, and deep economic, social, ideological and cultural upheavals have taken place in our countryside. The Albanian countryside has passed from a semi-feudal condition to socialism, from the wooden plough to the tractor, from darkness and ignorance to socialist culture.







Under the leadership of the working class party, the peasantry won freedom through struggle and took over the land. They got rid of oppression and exploitation by the landlords. The people's power gave the countryside great material aid. It made investments in the mechanization of agriculture, in land reclamation work and the irrigation of lands, helped with chemical fertilizers, selected seeds and pedigree animals, with qualified cadres, etc. Public education and culture were greatly extended. But all this marked only the starting point of a process which was to be completed with a series of other important measures for the complex solution of the agrarian question. To proceed constantly on the road of this dialectic required the creation of certain conditions.

The principal condition, that would mark a radical turning-point in the solution of the agrarian question by stages, was the embarking of the countryside on the road of socialist development. Because of its confidence in the Party, its conviction, its immediate and future interest, the peasantry detached itself from private property and private work. «from unscrupulous private interest» and embarked on the broad road of socialism, of collective property and collective work. This was a great victory in our history of socialist construction, of the solution of the agrarian question. On this occasion was once more proved that the collectivisation of agriculture can be successfully carried out without waiting for the completion of the industrialization of the country.

Although there exists an historical experience which confirms the teachings of Marxism-Leninism on the cooperation of the peasantry as the only road for the building of socialism in the countryside, the modern revisionists are seeking to turn their back on this experience. They can be heard saying that the construction of socialism in the countryside should be postponed until it arises as «an objective necessity of the new level of development of the productive forces». According to the revisionists, «if socialist relations are established in the countryside before the appropriate material and technical base for them has been created, these relations cease to exist». This is a vulgar and anti-Marxist interpretation of the dialectical relationship between the productive forces and the relations of production.

It has always been clear to the Marxist-Leninists that the role of the productive forces in the development of society cannot be mechanically replaced with new relations of production. But the other aspect of this question has also been clear to them: that the role of the productive forces should not be made a fetish either. Further, it has been admitted in theory and proved in practice that new relations of production always promote the free and accelerated development of the productive forces. This also constitutes the main argument justifying on the historical plane the conscious revolutionary action of the establishment of new socialist relations of production.

The Yugoslav revisionists go even further. The collectivization of agriculture, they say, is an old, dead formula for the construction of socialism in the countryside, a formula which stems from «Stalinism» and cannot be applied to present-day reality. This is allegedly a new creative dis-

covery of the renegades to Marxism-Leninism. In reality it is a justification to legalize in the eyes of the peasantry the capitalist oppression and exploitation which are prevalent in the present-day Yugoslav countryside.

## NEW PROBLEMS, NEW PROSPECTS

Many of the radical problems of the agrarian question have been correctly and successfully solved by our socialist revolution. The socialist social order has been established in the countryside. Agriculture is developing at a fast rate and being intensified and modernised. Antagonism between the town and the countryside has been liquidated. The ties and relations between industry and agriculture, between the working class and the peasantry have been established on socialist bases, and are developing under the sign of cooperation and mutual aid. The livelihood of every peasant family has changed in a manner incomparable with the past, and it is improving unceasingly. In the fields of education, culture and health the peasantry enjoys the same rights which the building of socialism has also guaranteed to the workers in the town.

However, the full construction of socialism in the countryside has raised new problems. In the framework of the agrarian question great and complicated economic, ideological, social, cultural, and educational problems, as well as those relating to the way of living organization and management, etc., have to be solved. At the same time it is very important to point out that today new possibilities have been created, and new prospects for the solution of these problems have been opened up. In these circumstances, the strengthening of the alliance of the working class and peasantry and of the leading role of the working class assume a broader significance, and aims at new and greater objectives.

In the stage of the full construction of socialism one of the main problems is the narrowing of the essential socio-economic differences between the countryside and the town. In order to make concrete and further work out the ways to bring the countryside closer to the town study and generalisation of some theoretical and practical questions is called for.

These include the following:

- 1) The narrowing of differences in the level of development of the productive forces in the town and countryside, in industry and agriculture.
- 2) The development of the two forms of socialist property into a single one and the creation of social homogeneity in the socialist society.
- 3) Reaching social and economic equality between the working people of the countryside and the town as regards conditions of work distribution, organisation and management.



4) Narrowing the differences between the working class and the cooperativist peasantry in the field of ideology, culture, education and living standards, etc.

The results achieved in narrowing the differences between the countryside and the town show that our Party has followed a correct Marxist-Leninist line on this question, it has always been attentive, it has never bypassed stages but neither has it been dominated by the feeling of complacency or of marking time. According to the conditions created by the socio-economic and ideopolitical development of the country, it has striven to set forth new tasks of socialist construction in the countryside and to work out the measures to be taken to carry them out in practice.

### THE MAIN QUESTION — THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRODUCTIVE FORCES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

In examining the differences between the countryside and the town and the ways to narrow them, it is essential to start in the first place from **economic differences and their causes**. The examination of this question also requires the consideration of various factors, taken in their many-sided interaction.

When Albania began the construction of socialism a great and all round backwardness characterized the economic development of both town and countryside. In these conditions the speedy building up of industry with intensified efforts constituted an historical necessity, and required the drawing of definite economic and material means from the countryside, relying on a correct financial policy which favoured the poor peasantry. This was in the interest of the entire society and also directly promoted the development showed unexampled conscientiousness and readiness, and a high feeling of responsibility in facing the task incumbent on it in relation to the question of industrialization.

In the field of the development of industry our country has made a truly historic leap. Today the total volume of industrial production is over 60 times larger than before the establishment of the people's power. In industry a whole complex of new branches have been created which have promoted the development of the productive forces in the town in an unprecedented way.

Great and unceasing efforts have been made during the whole period of socialist construction for the development of the productive forces in the countryside. As a result, total agricultural production has increased 4 times more than during the pre-liberation period. For this purpose large investments have been made. During the last 20 years alone (1951-1970) 3,429,000 leks from the state funds have been invested in agriculture. Parallel with this, the rapid development and strengthening of industry itself have also made possible the reduction from one five-year plan to another of the contribution of the peasantry to the centralized social accumulation fund. Thus, in the fourth five-year plan, the agricultural cooperatives contributed 55 per cent less to this fund than in the third five-year plan, and in the fifth they will contribute still less.

Therefore it is very important to point out that the main cause of the economic differences existing today between the countryside and the town is to be sought in the first place in **the level of development of the productive forces and of labour productivity in industry and agriculture**.

At the present time, 63 per cent of the country's active population works in agriculture, and 37 per cent in other branches of the economy. But agriculture accounts for only 45 per cent of the national income, whereas the other economic branches represent 65 per cent of it. The same is true to total industrial and agricultural production in which industry contributes 62 per cent, and agriculture only 38 per cent. If we exclude the effect of the influence of the level of prices of industrial and agricultural products on these proportions their main cause remains the fact that in agriculture labour productivity is lower than in industry and the other branches of the economy.

The significant differences which exist in the productivity of labour in industry and agriculture are the cause of the economic inequality between the working people of the town and the countryside. A condensed expression of this inequality are the per capita incomes of the population and of every employed person in town and countryside. In this respect, the policy of the Party has aimed at a faster rate of growth of the per capita incomes of the population in the countryside than in the town. And in fact statistics show that the dynamics of the increase of the per capita income of the peasantry in the last decade (1961-1970) has been higher than of the increase of the per capita incomes of manual and office workers. During this period, the per capita incomes of manual and office workers have grown by 19.5 per cent, whereas those of the peasantry have grown by 26.6 per cent. Despite this, a worker's income today is greater than that of a cooperativist. What will lead to a new and greater increase of the incomes of the peasantry is undoubtedly the consistent implementation of **the long term programme worked out by the Party for the intensification of agriculture**. This programme envisages the use of a complex of factors and elements of an economic, social, ideological, technical, biological and organisational character to increase crop yields and livestock productivity, to extend the arable area by opening up virgin lands, and placing the whole work of the organization and management of agricultural production on a sounder scientific basis.

### THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY AND OTHER BRANCHES OF THE ECONOMY IN THE SERVICE OF AGRICULTURE

Another main factor in bringing the countryside economically and socially closer to the town remains the development of industry and the other branches of the economy. Now that country's industrialization is entering a higher stage, industry can and must be placed more directly in the service of agriculture, and give the latter and the countryside in general greater and more effective aid in every direction. For this purpose, beginning from the fifth-year plan, special attention is being devoted to the development of







industrial branches producing chemical fertilizers, agricultural machines and implements, electric power, means of transport and building materials, which directly supply the material-technical base of agriculture. During this period the countryside will also be supplied more and on the same basis as the town with industrial consumer goods. Besides other things, this will serve as an encouragement for the cooperativists to work and produce more agricultural and livestock products, to ensure the necessary incomes to purchase industrial commodities.

The development of industry and of the other branches of the economy as well as the increase of their specific weight in the national income, create new possibilities for lightening the contribution of the countryside to the centralized social accumulation funds. This can be done in different ways.

It began, for example, with the unification of the prices of industrial products for reproduction sold to the state enterprises and agricultural cooperatives. Such a measure means that the countryside will benefit during the fifth five-year plan alone by about 80 million laks more in incomes. In the same way, in the future, when the conditions are created, the cooperatives can be assisted by lowering the prices of the commodities the state sells to them.

A new experience has begun to emerge in the case of the creation of the cooperatives of a higher type. The State is directly investing social means for this purpose. In the future, according to the possibilities, many of the important investments needed for the development of agriculture, which are today made by the agricultural cooperatives themselves, may be made by the State on the account of the centralized social funds.

Another feature of the development of industry should also be seen as a very important factor in bringing the countryside close to the town. This is the question of the integration of industry with agriculture, the objective of gradually turning agriculture into an industrial branch of the people's economy. This is a trend which must be encouraged and supported according to the concrete conditions and possibilities which will be created in the immediate and more distant future. Under the present-day conditions of the development of science and technology, the integration of industry with agriculture is increasingly being expressed in the form of the creation of industrial-agricultural complexes. Because of this, in the future in our country, too, a better coordination has to be carried out in establishing some branches of industry in the town and the countryside.

A special aspect of the union of industry with agriculture is the extension of auxiliary activities to cooperatives. These activities are supported by our State, for they contribute to the increase of agricultural production and the exploitation of the potential resources of the countryside, to the best possible use of manpower and the solution of certain social problems. However, any extension of the auxiliary activities to the agricultural cooperatives must always be in harmony,

with the needs and development of agriculture, which is the fundamental field of production in the countryside.

Moreover, it is necessary to make efforts to achieve, on a district scale and wherever possible, a specialization among the agricultural cooperatives on their auxiliary activities, too, just as is the aim with regard to agricultural and livestock products.

### THE CREATION OF IDENTICAL SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE.

The essential social distinctions between the countryside and the town today include the relations of ownership, the organization and remuneration of work, the planning and managing of production, the regulating of discipline at work, the use of the social consumption funds, etc. These differences stem in particular from the existence of the two forms of socialist property — state and cooperativist property.

The narrowing of these differences and the subsequent creation of identical social conditions in the town and the countryside is achieved through the turning of the cooperativist property into the property of the entire people. Although this objective cannot be achieved at once, but only by stages, it must be continuous and uninterrupted. What will be the road followed by the transformation of cooperativist property into the property of the entire people?

Life, and the revolutionary practice of our socialist construction, shows that the creation of the cooperatives of the higher type represents one of the forms to bring the cooperativist property closer to the property of the entire people. «These cooperatives, — comrade Enver Hoxha teaches us, — will represent a higher degree of socialization of the group property on the road of bringing closer to the property of the entire people».

The distinctive feature of the cooperatives of a higher type is the direct participation of the state in the with nonreturnable social means. As a consequence, a property is gradually created in these cooperatives, which contains elements of the merger of the cooperativist property with that of the state. Later on, as a result of other measures to be taken, it will develop, and gradually eliminate those features of group property which today distinguish it from state property.

The course of this process can be neither spontaneous nor artificially accelerated, but it will be carried out in an organized, planned and guided way. It will be dependent on economic and ideological factors, such as:

- a) the development of the productive forces in the cooperatives themselves, and the growth of their economic powers on this basis;
- b) the increase of the measure of participation of the state with centralized social funds, as a consequence of the de-

The pupils of the senior class of the middle school at the «Zonja Çurre» agricultural cooperative are getting acquainted with the initial secrets of technology



velopment of industry and the other branches of the economy;

c) the merger of the funds of the cooperative with the state funds in order to make the transition in the future to the guaranteed remuneration of work at the level of the workers of the state sector, and to fulfil the social needs of the cooperativists at the same level;

d) the reduction of the individual plot of land after the creation of the conditions in which the cooperative can fulfil with its own products those needs which the cooperativist family fulfils through its individual plot of land.

And above all these factors, it will be the cooperativists who will decide on the transformation of their property into the property of the entire people, after having been convinced by their experience of the superiority of this property to that of the group.

The reaching of social equality between the countryside and the town cannot be conceived without bringing work in agriculture closer to work in industry, with regard to their content and their technical character. What we know most about this problem today, consists mainly in the material aspect for its solution. Complex mechanization and the raising of the level of the electrical equipment for work in agriculture, the application of entirely new techniques to field crops and livestock as well as the development of chemical aids represent indispensable factors in changing the character of work in the countryside, and drawing it closer to the work in industry. But for these factors to be used with due effect and to yield the desired socio-economic results, they must be accompanied with the raising of the qualification of the working people of the countryside, with a closer integration of the work of the cooperativists with scientific knowledge, with the strengthening of agrotechnical discipline in every production process, etc.

The dialectical and complex application of the material factors of work in agriculture, taken together, will make it possible to raise productivity in the countryside to the level required by the approach of agricultural work to industrial work. It will be decisive for our cooperativist to revolutionize their concepts of work and its organisation in modern agriculture, for the present-day heavy work in agriculture to be lightened and made more attractive to the peasant youth.

The increase of agricultural production and the strengthening of the economic situation on this basis have already made it possible for many cooperatives to make the transition to the remuneration of work with guaranteed and regular pay. This has brought the form of payment for work in cooperatives close to that of the state enterprises. Despite this, in individual cooperatives the same quantity of work is paid at different rates. This stems from the very character of group property and the economic power of each cooperative. But irrespective of its size, guaranteed pay can be established in every cooperative.

With the transition to the remuneration of work with guaranteed pay is created the possibility of doing away with the

workday as an economic category of the cooperativist order. Parallel with this another question arises: should the pay of the cooperativists be related to the final results of production or should it be given at a set level irrespective of them. If it is to be related, then how in what form and to what extent, is this to be done. This is a question deserving of study.

It has become an urgent need and the time has come for work in the agricultural cooperatives to be organized and guided on a more sound scientific basis, for order and discipline at work to be strengthened. For this purpose various technical and economic measures must be applied. Of special importance in this direction is the use of the classification of cooperativists and remuneration according to their work and qualification, relying on the system of tariffs and a basic hourly pay.

In this case there arise two main questions which call for solution: how broad will be the extent of classification for the various sectors of agriculture (field crops, stockraising, fruitgrowing, etc) and what will be the proportion between the pay of the highest and lowest categories. Both these questions are of principled and practical importance.

### SOME SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PROBLEMS

In the conditions of our society, we must consider as an important factor for bringing the countryside closer to the town, the creation of identical conditions in the fulfilment of the social and cultural needs of the population of the countryside and town. A special role in the attainment of this objective is played by the use of the social fund of consumption.

A distinctive feature of these recent years is that social fund of consumption has grown more rapidly than the personal consumption fund. Under the fourth five-year plan the social fund of consumption increased by 79 per cent whereas the personal consumption fund increased by 31 per cent. A considerable part of the social fund of consumption was used chiefly to fulfil the cultural and social needs of the countryside, such as the completion of the electrification of all the villages, the extension of the trade network, the fulfilment of the needs of education, culture, health communal services, etc. The fifth five-year plan, too, envisages an increase of the social consumption fund which will increase by 55 per cent.

After embarking on the road of socialism, the cooperativist peasantry also began to enjoy many social gains (aid from the cooperatives for cooperativist families lacking manpower, the setting up with their own means in some cooperatives of old age pensions, paid leave for expectant

The working class is the vanguard of socialist construction and revolutionary transformations in Albania. Snapshot from the work of a brigade in the construction of the urea factory in Fier







mothers, etc.). Despite this, the countryside was still far from the level of the town with regard to these social problems. Therefore, it was only natural for the cooperativists to show concern for their solution. The establishment of pensions for the cooperativist peasantry too, with the means of the State and of the cooperatives themselves, is a great social victory. The main problem remaining for the future in this direction is the increase of the contribution by the state from the centralized social fund, the increase of the level of the minimum pension of the cooperativists and the equalizing of the pension age for the working people of the countryside with that of the working people of the town.

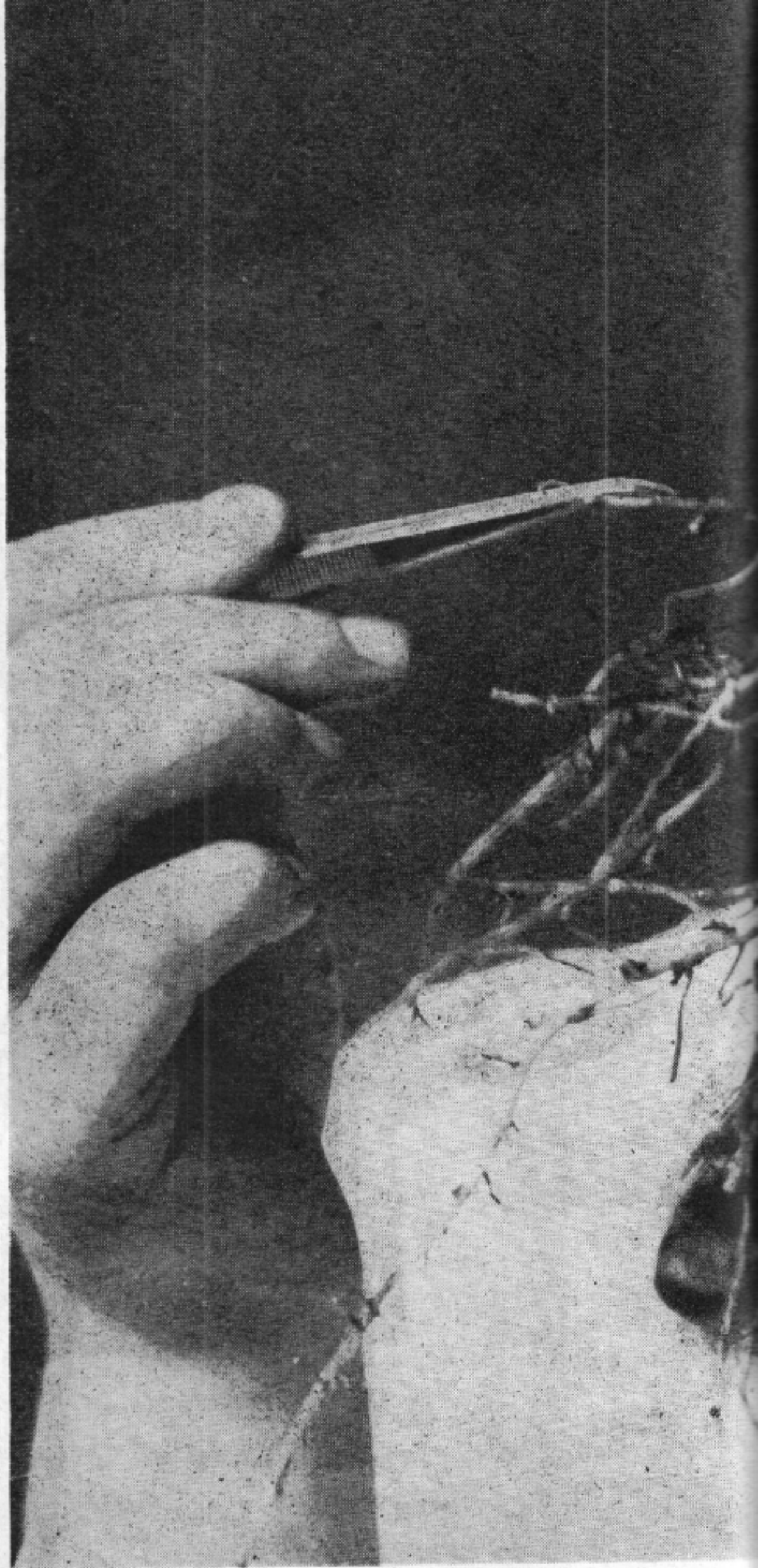
Important progress has also been made in the countryside during the years of socialist construction in the sphere of communal services and living conditions. In the countryside about 9.000 homes have been built on the average every year, compared with 7000-9000 apartments built in the town. Every home is supplied with electric light. A total of over 17.000 handicraft units, bath rooms, laundries, ovens, dining halls and other units have been set up, which help in the improvement of services and living conditions of the peasantry.

Under the fifth five-year plan too, a new impetus, is given to the question of the improvement of the living conditions in the countryside. During these years 40.000 new houses will be built. The State will invest 130 milion leks in building water pipelines alone. Other investments will be made from social means, for telephone links and building roads in the countryside, to increase the transport of passengers from the countryside to the town, etc. Only the working class State which serves the entire people through to the end and remains loyal to Marxism-Leninism, can aim to carry out such popular undertakings. This is possible to achieve only in a trully socialist society, where all the people of the town and countryside can enjoy a happy life.

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Even this general view of the situation and tendency for the narrowing of the essential differences between the countryside and the town shows that the general line pursued by the Party and our working class for the building of the socialism in the countryside has been and remains a correct Marxist-Leninist one. It has served the strengthening of the alliance of the working class and peasantry and the raising of the material and cultural level of the working people of the countryside and the town.

The elimination of the essential differences between the countryside and the town, as a manysided and complicated problem, cannot be fully solved for five or ten years. It requires putting into operation over a long time, during the entire period of socialist construction, of all the ideopolitical, social, material, financial, organisational, technical and other factors that our society has at its disposal. It goes without saying that the solution of this problem is in the first place dependent on the material possibilities created by the whole national economy and, especially, by the development of agriculture, and the countryside.







In the laboratory of agrarian microbiology  
at the higher State Institute of Agriculture  
of Kamza in Tirana.

In the photo: the laboratory worker Klementina Hysi  
during the selection of fava tubercles  
needed for the production of a preparative



The nature and functions  
of our trade, which is an  
important link in the constant  
improvement of the living  
standard of our working  
masses

by **KIÇO NGJELA**

# Socialist Trade

All the programmes of our Party and Government have aimed and continue to aim at making the life of the people as happy and prosperous as possible. Our socialist trade has always served precisely this lofty aim of the Party and Government.

Being nourished by socialist production, by the planned production of our industry and our intensive agriculture, a production which is organized on the basis of the requirements of the people, our socialist trade also helps at the same time in the development of production and in fulfilling the demands of the people. It is not purely an administrative link or an intermediary factor, but a form of the economic ties in the field of goods turnover between industry and agriculture, between the working class and labouring peasantry, between the town and the countryside. «Socialist trade» – comrade Enver Hoxha has said – «has never been considered by the Party as a purely technical apparatus for the distribution of commodities, but has always been valued by it primarily as a branch of great economic and social importance».

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In compliance with the general line of the construction of the socialist society in our country, the PLA has set forth for every year of the five-year plan and for every stage of socialist construction clear and important tasks and objectives for the increase of social production and, consequently, for the gradual raising of the material and cultural standards of the working masses. These tasks and objectives, which in general have been successfully realized, also include the key problems of the economic policy in the field of trade. The tasks that have been laid down in the field of trade have expressed the growth of the effectivity of social pro-



# de In The Service Of The People

duction, they are based on the objective laws and take account of the positive trends of our socialist development. They are analysed and carried out, in conformity with the ratio between production and consumption, as the two principal aspects of extended socialist reproduction, and in all the annual and five-year plans.

In the whole course of our 28-year socialist development, our socialist trade, developing and strengthening alongside all the other branches of the country's economy, has always played an important role in the improvement of the material and living conditions of our people as well as in the development and perfecting of the country's productive forces.

The successes of socialist trade are mirrored not only in the strengthening and development of its material-technical base, expressed in the large network of shops, department stores, warehouses, workshops, social catering units, etc., equipped with various tools and machines, but also in the constant improvement of the supply to the people, in the study and the better fulfilment of their requirements, in the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the plan targets from one five-year period to the next.

The successes registered by our socialist trade during every stage and period of socialist construction in our country are of importance, but the successes achieved during the last decade are of special importance due to the very conditions and circumstances under which they were realized. As is known, from the beginning of the 60-s onward, the Soviet revisionists organized their savage economic blockade against our country. In this way they joined imperialism in a common front hatching anti-Albania plans, thinking that they would thus realize their subjugating and enslaving objectives. But our Party, headed by our great leader and teacher comrade Enver Hoxha, defeated this blockade and successfully overcome all the difficulties created, mainly relying on its own forces. Within this whole framework

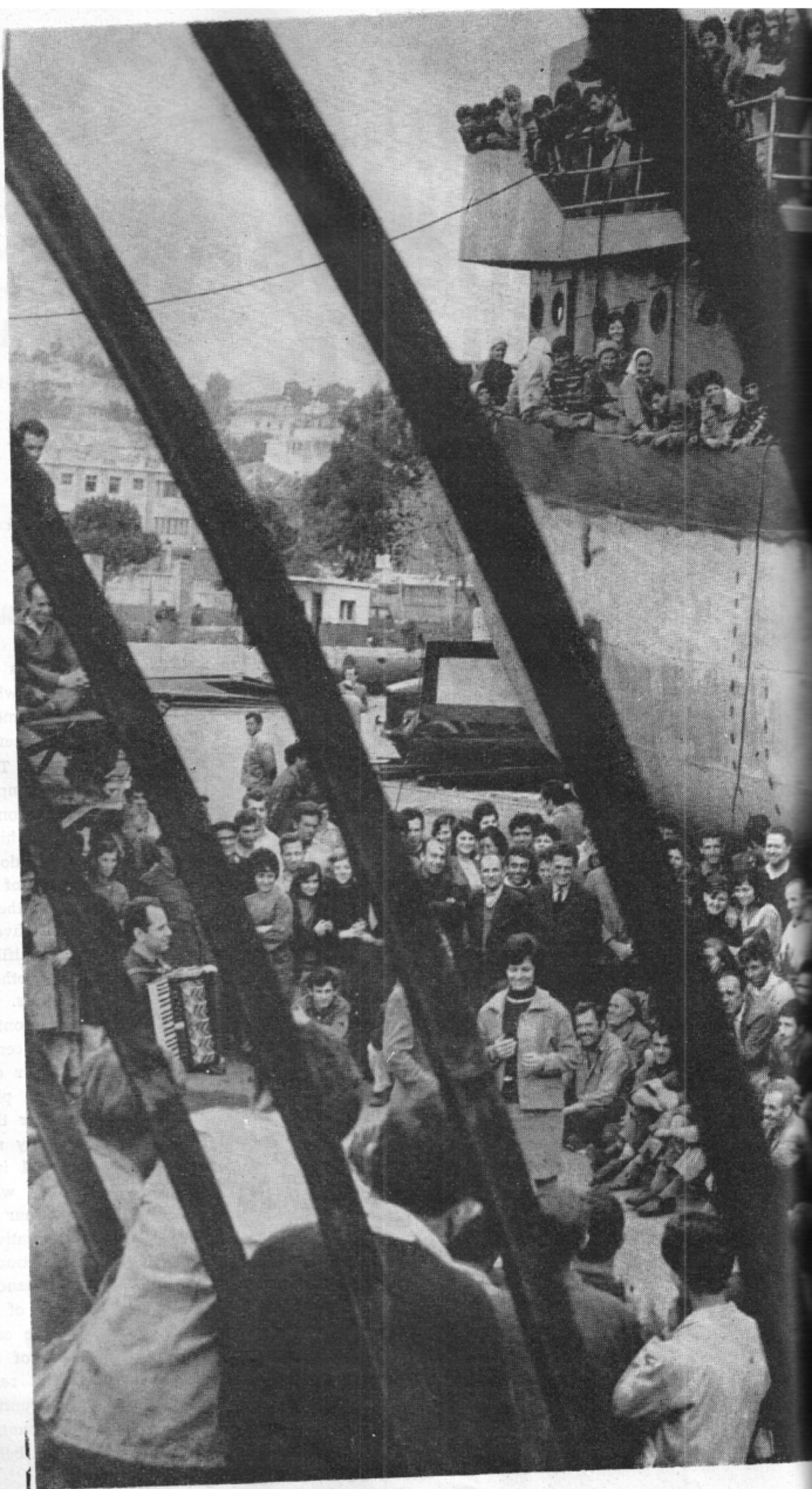
visible progress was also made in the trade sector. This period, just as the whole period of the development of the economy of our country, can be rightly characterized as a period of the further quantitative and qualitative rise of our socialist trade. This finds expression, among other things, in the unexampled development of the trade network, in its fuller extension through the country's territory, including the distant highland villages. At present there are no villages which do not boast trade units. This is an important indicator of the increase of the wellbeing of the working masses of the town and countryside.

Under the fourth five-year plan (1965-1970) our socialist trade still better fulfilled its tasks in the field of goods turnover and in other politico-ideological and technico-organisational indices. It fulfilled the plan for the fourth five-year period 4 months ahead of schedule, exceeding it at the rate of 9 per cent, whereas for the countryside this index reached 13 per cent. In 1971 our trade also fulfilled the goods turnover plan to the tune of 102 per cent, whereas the plan for the first half of the current year has also been successfully realized and exceeded.

The success achieved in the electrification of all the villages of the country, which became possible thanks to the economic power of our country and the revolutionary enthusiasm of the cooperativist peasantry, still further increased the tasks for the trade sectors. With the gradual rise of the level of the demands of the peasantry, which is connected with the raising of its cultural and living standards, the trade workers in the countryside are striving to fulfil ever better the demands of the cooperativist peasantry. The tasks in the field of the removal of agricultural and livestock products from the countryside, as well as in fulfilling the requirements of the countryside for machines, tools and other equipment are also being carried out better than in the previous periods.



Artists are always favourite guests of the workers. At the Durrës shipyard the workers are listening with pleasure to the songs of young artists







Under the fourth five-year plan social catering developed further, thereby contributing to a large extent, to the creation of conditions to make it easier for the working woman to take part in productive work and in the active life of socialist construction in Albania, and helping her further in her complete emancipation.

New and greater successes have also been achieved in the rise of the level of culture and service to the people, in the strengthening of the trade ties with the broad masses of buyers and in listening to their voice, in the increase of the abilities and conscientiousness of trade workers, etc.

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The 6th Congress of the PLA opened new horizons for the building of socialism in Albania. The fund of consumption in the national income will increase at the end of 1975 by more than 50-55 per cent, as compared with 1970. As a result of the increase of production and of the purchasing power of the population, the turnover of mass consumer goods will increase by over 40 per cent.

Speaking at the Congress, comrade Enver Hoxha said: "In the struggle to fulfil in the best possible way the tasks in the field of the increase of wellbeing, a great role belongs to our socialist trade. The whole activity of trade must be directly submitted to the regular and uninterrupted supply of the people with the commodities they most need and demand, to the distribution and delivery in due time to consumer of everything produced by industry and agriculture which fulfils the needs of the people, to the service of the working people in as cultured a manner as possible."

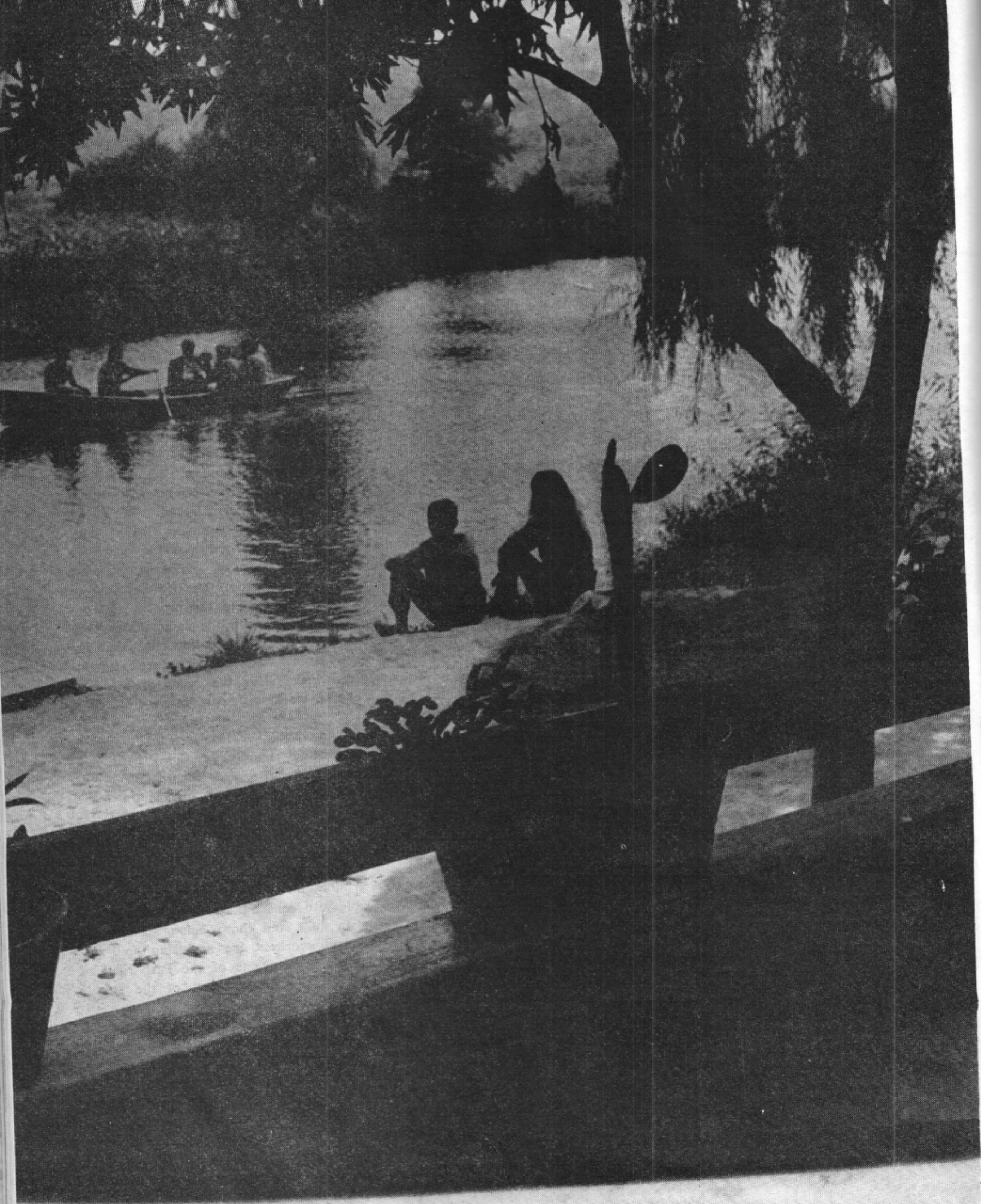
These instructions of comrade Enver Hoxha actually constitute the pivot of the whole activity of the organs and workers of socialist trade in town and countryside.

Striving to carry out these instructions in practice the trade workers are doing a big job and are playing an active role in the increase of production as well as of consumption; in the extension of the range and the improvement of quality as well as in the improvement of the structure of consumption, and in the introduction of as many new commodities as possible into consumption.

The results achieved in 1971 and those being achieved in 1972 show that the trade workers are analysing and successfully implementing the instructions of the Party and of comrade Enver Hoxha on the improvement of the supply to the people.

In 1971, in comparison with 1970, there were increases in sales to the people of the following items: sugar 12 per cent, rice 14 per cent, macaroni 4.9 per cent, fats 5.9 per cent, cheese 18.4 per cent, meat 9.7 per cent, vegetables 7.3 per cent. The supply of milk is improving from year to year. In the first six months of the current year, in comparison with the same period of the past year, 22 per cent more milk was sold to the people. With regard to industrial (non-food) articles in 1971, also compared with 1970, the







goods turnover increased by 10.7 per cent, while the sales of some main articles increased as follows: readymade garments 10.2 per cent, hosiery 15.8 per cent, footwear 4.9 per cent, glass products 29.2 per cent, aluminium and laminated utensils 117.8 per cent, etc.

In recent years there has been an increase of the articles related to the raising of the material and cultural standards of the people, such as washing machines, sewing machines, refrigerators, bicycles, radio and TV sets, etc. The specific weight of these articles in the total value of the industrial (non-food) articles has grown in a satisfactory way and shows a continual growth.

Our Party and Government in this five-year plan have laid down new and greater tasks for the all-round development of the countryside, for the increase of agricultural production, the improvement of the supply of the peasantry and of the accumulation of agricultural production. The development of trade will still better respond to this great development of agriculture. Socialist trade has been charged with the task of radically improving the level of service and supply to the countryside, thereby contributing to a large extent to the narrowing of the essential differences between the town and countryside, contributing to the strengthening of the alliance of the working class and cooperativist peasantry.

With the establishment of the socialist relations of production in our country the contrast between production and consumption has disappeared, and everything is produced for the people and serves the people. There exists in our country "extended production for very broad consumption". Therefore, the increase of production and of the variety of mass consumer goods and the constant improvement of their quality constitutes one of the important tasks not only for production workers but also for trade workers. Every product of our socialist enterprises is guaranteed for its good quality, for its usefulness in promoting the health of the people. In our country there is no competition and struggle for markets: therefore there is not and cannot be any fraud concerning quality. Any action running counter to this principle is severely punished by the State laws. The pivot of our socialist production is the realization of use-values and not merely of profit as in the case in capitalism. Production in our country covers not every commodity but in the first place and only those commodities which have a use-value which fulfil the demands and needs of the people. There is no production, and no thought of organizing production outside these demands.

New tasks have also been laid down in the fifth five-year plan in the field of the further development of social catering. Through the complex development of this sector, under the fifth five-year plan forward strides will be made to extend it on a mass scale, to lighten the job of the working woman of the town and countryside, in

the improvement of the structure of the network of restaurants, dining halls, kitchens, units with semi-processed products, self-service stores, etc., and of an ever broader and more organized extension to the territory of the cities and villages.

Social catering in the summer season is developing broadly. At our beautiful beaches, in the numerous health resorts and picturesque sites, the social catering units are fulfilling ever better and at a high level of quality the requirements of the buyers and numerous visitors to these centres. The large and beautiful hotels with the necessary tourist comforts, at Durrës beach, in Shkodra and Korça, in Elbasan, Fier, Berat, Vlora, Gjirokastër and Saranda, also receive every year, from all parts of the world, various tourist groups, which leave this country with very good impressions of the welcome, service and the picturesque environment of our country.

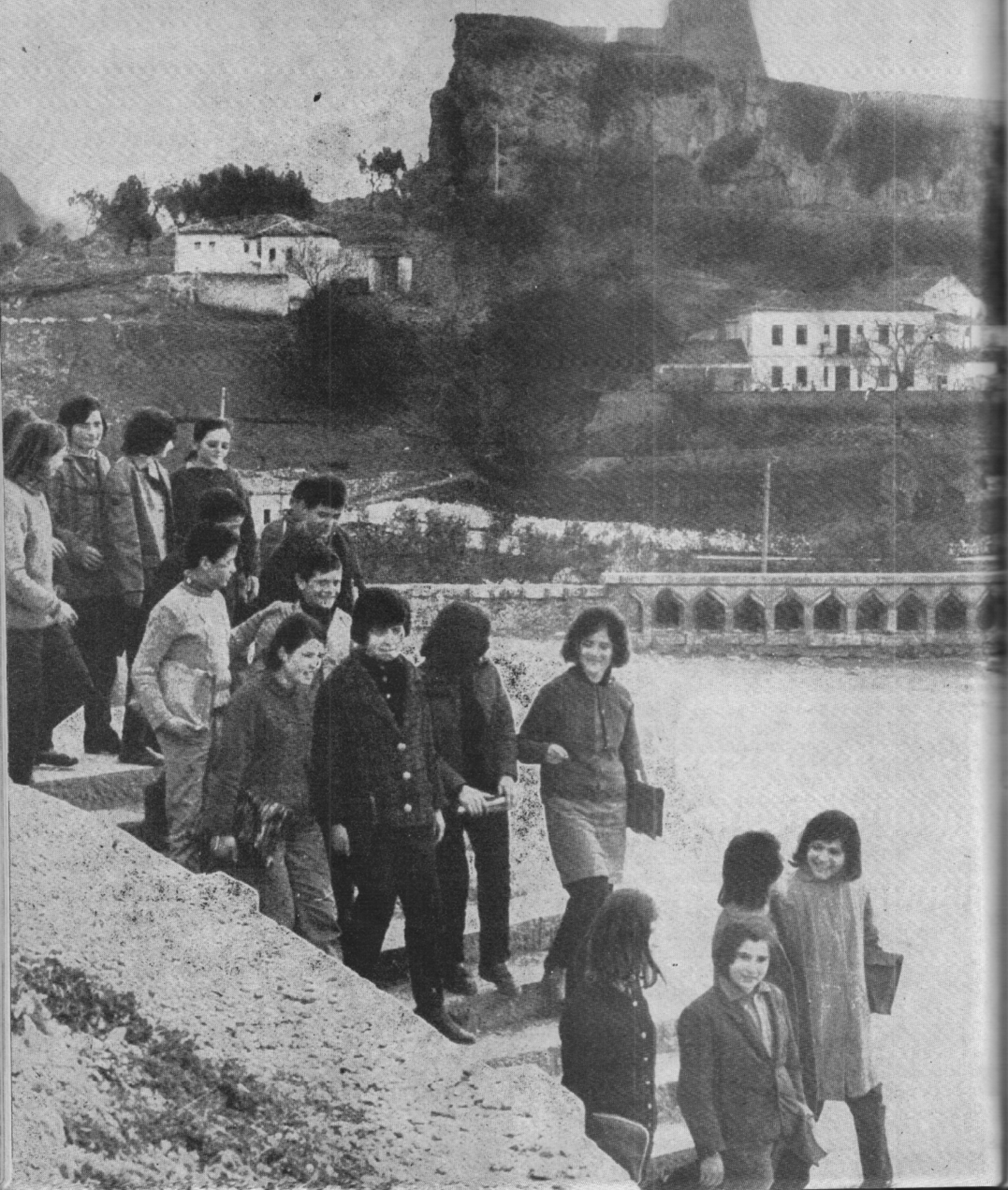
The supreme aim of our party, of our socialist order, is the continuous raising of the wellbeing of the people. The workers of socialist trade are continually guided in their work by this lofty principle of our party. The party describes the trade workers as servants of the people, as those who take the revolutionary line of the party to the masses of the people. Great ideopolitical and professional work is done with the trade workers in order to further raise their conscientiousness and capabilities at work, to raise the level of their service to the people and the quality of their trade. The advanced trade workers, by their example at work, are a great force drawing over the mass of the other trade workers to raise the level of service to the people.

The trade workers do not measure their work by turnover, or by profit. The main thing for them is to speed up the supply of the people, to fulfil their requirements better and more quickly, to strive for the increase of production and the improvement of the quality of commodities. The problems connected with the improvement of the supply of the people are numerous and multifarious. They are closely interwoven with each other as well as with the other problems of an ideological, political and social character. Therefore, the trade workers have based their work on the instruction of the party that, in order to serve the people in a highly conscientious way, it is necessary for them to raise to a higher degree their ideological and professional level. The profound ideological and political understanding of the tasks by each trade worker is an indispensable condition for the fulfilment of the tasks laid down by the Party and Government in the fifth five-year plan, 1971-1975.

The preservation and administration of socialist property is another main task of the trade workers. They know that this property belongs to the people in power, that it is the economic base of our people's power. For this reason, the trade sector, too, like all the other sectors of the people's economy, has been placed under the direct control of the working masses. The placing of trade under the control of the masses, rendering account to them, is one of the features distinguishing our socialist trade which provides it with the possibility of always developing in harmony with the ever growing demands of the people.

**The Albanian environment is rich in attractive and beautiful sites and corners where our men and women have a possibility to rest, entertain themselves and engage in their favourite sports. A snapshot from a new rest center run by the Trade Unions in Tushemisht, Pogradec**







# Illyrian Studies At The Present Stage

**The South Illyrians and their historical, ethnic and cultural ties with the present-day Albanians in the light of recent studies and researches. The first symposium of Illyrian studies, its conclusions and prospects**

**by SKENDER ANAMALI**

*The first symposium of Illyrian studies was successfully held in Tirana in September this year. This symposium is of great importance as it affirms the Albanian scientific thought in the field of Illyrianology and opens new prospects for its further advancement, contributing to the elucidation of many key problems in the ethnic, socio-economic, political and cultural fields. This first symposium of Illyrian studies was attended by Albanian archaeologists, historians, linguists and ethnographers and also by many scholars from various European countries.*

*It cannot be said that the Illyrians as an archaeological problem have only recently drawn the attention of scholars; researches to discover their civilization began almost two centuries ago. But they have developed in a relatively intensive way mainly in the northern Illy-*

*rian regions, and their results have been of considerable interest to Illyrianology. But for various reasons, the southern part of Illyria, more or less as an Illyrian territory inhabited today by the Albanians, remained uninvestigated for a long time. The ancient written tradition has provided important historic information about this territory. Whereas the problem of the early Albanians, of their ethnogenesis, had for a long time been taken up only by the linguists, and, for lack of archaeological material, remained their "privileged" fields of investigation. This is why the young Albanian archaeology, as soon as it began to take its first steps, gave priority in its research work to the two above-mentioned problems. In reality they constituted one single but complicated problem, because they concern the ancient inhabitants of the territory inhabited by the Albanians, and therefore they concern their predecessors, the very genesis of the Albanians. The fact that the Albanian territory is also the territory*

SKENDER ANAMALI — Archaeologist. Director of the Institute of Archaeology in Tirana.



inhabited by the Illyrians proper and that here the Byzantine chroniclers of the early Middle Ages mention for the first time in the 11th century *«les arbanoi»*, a name which replaced that of the Illyrians, could not fail to have a positive influence.

It is only over the past two decades that the archaeological researches about this problem have been developing in Albania. With patience and persistence, traversing not only the lowland coastal regions and the river valleys, but also the highland areas, the archaeologists have worked an archaeological survey of Albania, choosing every year the centres where the research work was to be carried out. A person who becomes acquainted with the archaeological centres of Albania, which was described by the French archaeologist Salomon Reinach, at the beginning of this century, as *«une tache blanche»* finds it difficult to specify which region deserves the greatest attention, for he will find prehistoric settlements, early Illyrian fortified settlements, tumular graves, ruins of ancient and medieval cities. Encouraged by the results of the archaeological research and excavation work, the Albanian archaeologists have organized scientific sessions at which they have discussed broadly the fundamental problems raised on the basis of the recent discoveries. It is the recent archaeological discoveries and the conclusions drawn from them that created the conditions for and the necessity of organizing the first symposium of Illyrian studies, a symposium which is of national and international character.

1. - As a symposium devoted to the Illyrians it was but natural that it had as its first theme the problem of the formation of the Illyrian ethnos, broadly discussed by archaeologists, historians and linguists. This time the problem is discussed against a broader archaeological documentary background derived from the recent discoveries. Such a situation naturally justifies the need to revise the old thesis of the origin of the Illyrians and at the same time to the appearance of the antithesis. According to the old thesis it is accepted that the Illyrians had inhabited the western part of the Balkan peninsula - having the Thracians as their eastern neighbours, and Hellenes as their southern neighbours -

from the beginning of the first millennium before our era (i.e. in the iron age) and that they came somewhat earlier - towards the end of the bronze age - from Central Europe or from some other northern area where they had formed as an ethnos. But alongside this thesis was also formulated the opinion that the Illyrians, or rather the proto-Illyrians, also inhabited the Balkan peninsula during the 2nd millennium B.C., but without acknowledging the absolute autochthony of the latter.

Albanian archaeology began the discussion on the origin of the Illyrians and their autochthony in the Balkans after the excavation work carried out on the tumular graves of Vajza (Vlora, South-West Albania) and Pazhok (Central Albania), and following the discovering made in the prehistoric dwellings of Maliq and Treni or in the Korça area (South-East Albania). The above discoveries, which at the beginning indicated a continuity of settlement, culture and ethnos from the bronze to the iron age indicated that the Illyrians were inhabitants and bearers of the discovered material culture, led archaeologists to the conclusion that the culture of the Illyrian ethnos was formed in the Balkans during the second millennium B.C., and to the thesis of the autochthony of the Illyrians. By further investigating this problem, especially the ties with the Indoeuropean palaeobalkan population, which settled down several centuries earlier and belonged to the bearers of the Balkano-Anatolic cultural complex, by properly determining the road of the formation of the culture of the Illyrian ethnos, it was established that at the end of the bronze age there already existed in Albania a broad Illyrian community with clear cultural and linguistic features.

2. - While looking for the features of the Illyrian culture during the first millennium B.C., in which as a result of the introduction of iron metal and of the general economic and social development the Illyrians entered the stage of their greatest flourishing, it became possible to distinguish two important archaeologically and historically well defined stages. The first stage is that of the beginning of the disintegration of the order of the primitive community and with it are connected the numerous tumular

graves and the fortresses built with so-called cyclopean walls and the appearance of large Illyrian tribal and federal formations. It is interesting to point out that the archaeological material discovered in the tumular graves with strong local features contradicts a new opinion which tries to see in the Illyrians not a single ethnos but a population formed by tribes of different origins and cultures.

3. - A problem which the Albanian archaeological discoveries have the merit of having placed on the correct path to its solution is that of the urbanization of South Illyria, in the period of its independent political development. Certainly, a great contribution to this has been made by the excavation work carried out both in the ruins of the known Illyrian cities such as Amantia, Lissus, Dimallum and Antigoneia (the last two mentioned have recently been identified on the basis of epigraphs) as well as in the ruins of the Illyrian cities of Lower Selca, Pogradec, Irmay, Zgërdhesh, Hollm, Xibër, etc. The multifarious character of the archaeological discoveries, beginning with the architectural monuments, such as the surrounding walls with their additions or the construction works of historical importance such as the stadium of Amantia, the portico of Dimallum, the monumental graves in Lower Selca, the houses of Antigoneia, and ending with the mass-scale productions of the cities - ceramics for household use, weapons and work tools, decorations and works of plastic art, have allowed the archaeologists to pursue the development of the Illyrian cities from their birth to their fall or destruction. Being aware of the difficulties of the problem of its genesis, they have followed the road of the birth of the Illyrian town as an economic and social phenomenon, which helps also in discovering the basis of the Illyrian state. Some documentary data have shown the investigators of this problem that in the life of the Illyrian cities, especially in the first period, two stages must be distinguished: the V-IV centuries (the first half) as the stage of the birth and formation of the Illyrian town, and towards the end of the IV-II centuries the stage of their greatest prosperity. A third stage is the period of the Roman occupation.

The second stage is better known. At this time the archaeological ma-



terial indicates a lively building activity, a great development of handicraft production, an extended trade activity, assisted also by the appearance in the market and in circulation of Illyrian currency (besides the Illyrian cities of Amantia, Bylis, Olympe, Skodra, Lissus and Foinike, money was also coined by the Illyrian king Monuni, Mytih, Genti and by the Labeat and Daors communities); and indicates too a special administrative organisation and a development of art. All these are testimonies to a rich urban life. Such an economic, social and cultural development was encountered by the Romans in South Illyria when they started their battles for the occupation of the Balkan peninsula.

4. - Also connected with the Illyrians is the problem of the early Albanians; in other words the problem of the preservation of the Illyrian population during the Roman occupation, and of the Illyrian-Albanian continuity. In this field, too, archaeological researches have made a valuable contribution. In placing the Illyrians in the forefront of the history of the Albanian people, the historians have above all taken into consideration the results of archaeology for a period of almost a thousand years.

In the first place they have become acquainted with the material and intellectual culture of the Illyrians during the Roman occupation, especially in the very difficult 4-century period of the empire. The archaeological material, the Latin inscriptions (in the Latin-speaking areas), the cults and religion, the handicraft and artistic products, have continually shown the presence of the local, Illyrian, element. This element was seen in anthroponymy, in funeral rites, cults, in clothing, art, etc., until the end of the IV century of our era when the Roman Empire was divided in to two parts. While at the end of the fourth century B.C. the danger of romanization disappeared, and the romanization had not been such as to liquidate the Illyrian population, as some scholars have suggested without thoroughly investigating the archaeological material, a new danger appeared in the Balkan peninsula a little later: the great invasion of the peoples coming from the North. While the earlier invasions caused damage because they were followed by plunder and destruction, the invasion of the Avars and especially of

the Slavs after the VII century brought about consequences in the composition of the ancient Balkan population. This latter event brought to light the theory of the "slavization" of the Illyrians, but without basing it on the archaeological material.

The discovery of a series of graves pertaining to the early Middle Ages in North and Central Albania, as well as the fact that many ancient Illyrian cities continued to exist in the Middle Ages and the birth of new cities in the early Middle Ages, gave rise from the beginning to a debate on the question of the Slav colonization of the Illyrian territories and at the same time placed in a different historical background the question of the "focus" of the preservation of an ancient Illyrian nucleus. In other words, the archaeological findings showed a continuity of settlement and culture, of the Illyrians, Roman-provincial cultural elements, and Byzantine influences, but nowhere the presence of Slavs. On the other hand, the discovery of the Illyrian-Albanian cultural ties, the uninterrupted continuation of urban life, did not support the suggestion that the Albanians are the successors of those small groups of Illyrians who sheltered in distant highland areas, even in "the closed Mati valley". The evidence of a continuity of settlement and culture also refuted the theory of linguists and of some historians, according to which the Albanians, as successors of the Illyrians or Thracians or Thraco-Illyrians, are not autochthonous in their territory, but immigrants.

In face of these recent archaeological facts, the thesis most clearly substantiated from the linguistic and ethnographic viewpoint too, remains that, according to which the Albanians are successors of the Illyrians and autochthonous inhabitants of their land. A further testimony to this is the name they bear, which draws its source from the Illyrian Albanoi who, according to the Alexandrine geographer of the second century B.C. - Ptolemy, were living behind of the city of Durrës.

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These are not the only problems that were discussed at the first symposium of Illyrian studies. Outside the field of ar-

chaeology remained the problems of the Illyrian state and of the place of the formation of the Albanian language. In general, following the extension of the Albanian researches it can be said that these problems are on the way to their correct solution. They were examined in an allround way in the numerous lectures and papers delivered during the proceedings of the symposium of Illyrian studies, which was a success of Albanian scientific thought. No doubt, at coming scientific forums they will be more enlightened by the new discoveries and jointly with them our archaeology will also discuss other problems with regard to which it has already started to have its say.