

NEW ALBANIA

4
1976

ON NOVEMBER
THE SEVENTH REGULAR CONGRESS OF
WILL BE

THE DRAFT DIRECTIVES OF THE 7TH CONGRESS OF THE PARTY
OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMY AND CULTURE
YEARS FROM 1976 TO

FROM THE 19th TO THE 20th OF JULY, 1976, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PLA, COMRADE ENVER HOXHA, THE 9th PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PLA MET, WHICH DECIDED TO CALL THE 7th REGULAR CONGRESS OF THE PLA ON THE FIRST OF NOVEMBER, 1976 WITH THE FOLLOWING AGENDA;

1). REPORT ON THE ACTIVITY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PLA TO BE DELIVERED BY THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CC OF THE PLA, COMRADE ENVER HOXHA.

2). REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND AUDITTING TO BE DELIVERED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF CENTRAL COMMISSION OF CONTROL AND AUDITTING, COMRADE IBRAHIM SINA.

THE MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FIFTH FIVE YEAR PLAN, 1971 TO 1975 AND THE MAIN TASKS OF THE 6TH FIVE YEAR PLAN, 1976-1980

The Plenum of the CC of the PLA stressed that during the 5th five year plan, 1971 to 1975, proceeding from the revolutionary principle of self reliance and the other marxist leninist principles of the development and running of the economy, great progress has been made in different branches and sectors of the people's economy and culture, which developed at rapid rates.

Total industrial production in 1975 was 52% larger than in 1970, increasing at an average annual rate of 8.7%.

The production of the means of production rose by 57%. The production of mass consumer comodities rose by 45%.

Total agricultural production in 1975, as against 1970 grew by 33%, at an average annual rate of 5.9%.

The volume of state investments for the development of the economy and culture during the fifth five year plan as against the fourth five year plan grew by 53% and of construction by 54%, 155 new and important projects were set up and put into operation during this period.

The volume of the goods transport rose by 45% and that of the transport of passengers by 38%. The railway network was extended further.

The national income grew by 38% in 1975 as against 1970, at an average annual rate of 6,7%.

The real income per head of the population rose by 14.5%. Important steps were taken for the further narrowing of distinctions between town and countryside. The real income per head of the population in the towns rose by 8.7% and in the countryside by 20.5%. Retail trade rose by 35%. The care for the protection of the health of the people, mother and child, especially in the countryside was improved even further.

Further progress was made in the development and revolutionisation of the schools, science, culture and art, deepening their socialist content and national popular spirit.

Based on the results achived in the allround development of the country, on the revolutionary drive and lofty patriotism of the people, on the material-technical base created to date and on the socialist relations in production, the Central Committee of the Party, abiding by the general line of the Party for the complete construction of the socialist society puts forth as the main task of the economic-cultural development of the country, for the period of the 6th five year plan, 1976 to 1980;

«The continuation of the rapid rates of the socialist construction of the country to transform socialist Albania into an industrial-agricultural country with an advanced industry and agriculture, in compliance with the principle of self reliance. . . ; to raise to a higher degree the self sufficiency of the people's economy . . , to further improve socialist relations in production and the entire superstructure, to increase the defence capacity of the homeland and the strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat . . . to further raise the material and cultural level of the working masses, further narrowing the essential differences between town and countryside. This must be achieved on the basis of the consistent development of the class struggle and the mobilisation of all forces and energies of the people under the leadership of the Party.»

The main indices of the people's economy in 6th five year plan will increase as follows,

(In percentage)

	1980 as against 1975.
Total industrial output	41-44
Total agricultural output	37-40
Total investments (in the 6th five year plan as against the 5th five year plan for the five years taken together), including the agricultural cooperatives.	35-38
Total goods transport	30-32
Labour productivity in industry	15-17
Labour productivity in construction	13-15
The lowering of the cost production in industry	8-10
The lowering of cost of construction work	8-10
The national revenue	38-40
Real incomes per head of the population.	11-14

During the 6th five year plan industry must develop at more rapid rates, giving priority, as always, to the industry of the production of the means of production,

a) The production of the means of production (group A), must be increased about 60% in 1980 as against 1975.

The oil and gas industry must be developed even further. In 1980 as against 1975 crude oil extraction will increase about 11%, while natural gas extraction will increase by about 48%.

The production of electric power will increase about 2.2 times in 1980 as against 1975. In 1980 as against 1975, the total output of the engineering industry will increase by 40-42%. About 95% of the needs of the economy for spare parts will be met in the country in 1980.

The production of the chemical industry will increase about 2.3 times, in 1980 as against 1975. The demands of agriculture for chemical fertiliser must be better met and the production of caustic soda increased.

The output of the material building industry in 1980 will be about 58% larger than in 1975. The different kinds of building material will be increased, the technological processes, the structure of the products and their quality will be improved . . .

The output of the timber industry and the paper industry in 1980 will rise about 20% as against 1975.

b) The production of mass consumer goods, (Group B), will be raised to better meet the needs of the people.

For the development of the light industry a better exploitation of the production capacity must be ensured, efforts must be raised for a substantial improvement of the quality and for the extension and improvement of the structure of products. In 1980, as against 1975, the output of the light industry will rise by about 25%.

THE FIRST, 1976, THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA CONVENED

OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA ON THE SIXTH FIVE YEAR PLAN OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA FOR THE 1980 PUBLISHED

3). REPORT ON THE DIRECTIVES OF THE 7th CONGRESS OF THE PLA FOR THE SIXTH FIVE YEAR PLAN OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMY AND CULTURE OF THE PRA FOR THE YEARS FROM 1976 TO 1980 TO BE DELIVERED BY THE MEMBER OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE CC OF THE PLA AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE PRA, COMRADE MEHMET SHEHU.

4). ELECTIONS TO THE CENTRAL ORGANS OF THE PARTY.

THE 9th PLENUM OF THE CC OF THE PLA ALSO APPROVED THE DRAFT DIRECTIVES OF THE 7th CONGRESS OF THE PLA FOR THE 6th FIVE YEAR PLAN FROM 1976 TO 1980.

The production of the food processing industry in 1980, as against 1975, will rise about 24% securing the accumulation and the processing of agricultural and livestock raw material, on schedule and without loss. The production of several main articles of this industry by 1980 will rise as against 1975: edible oils by about 80%, sugar by about 80%, fishing 83% etc.

In the sector of agriculture the following objectives are envisaged;

Beginning from 1976, self sufficiency in bread grains must be attained to fulfill all the needs of the people and to create the necessary bread grain reserves in the agricultural economies. In 1980 as against 1975 bread grain production will increase by 55%.

In 1980 as against 1975 the production of industrial plants will increase as follows: sugar beet 64-66%, sunflower 20-22%, cotton 30-32%, potatoes 48-50% and vegetables 50-52%. Olive production will increase by 50% for the five years of the 6th five year plan taken together as against the 5th five year plan.

Livestock production must be increased, in 1980 as against 1975, meat production will rise by 40-41%, milk 35-36%, eggs 35-37% and wool 34--35%.

To achieve these tasks, measures must be taken to increase the number of heads of livestock, to raise the productivity and improve the structure of livestock raising.

Besides the increase of the draft animals and pedigree cows with a high production rate, the number of heads of sheep and goats must be increased at more rapid rates and their pedigree raised.

In 1980, the production of fruit will rise by 68-70% as against 1975, the citrus fruits by 58--60% and grapes by 63-65%.

During the sixth five year plan, the agricultural economies will further increase the area planted to vines, with blocks of trees and olives, exploiting, for this aim, in the first place, the hilly and mountain land.

During the 6th five year plan the volume of state investments will increase by about 43% and construction by 48% as against the fifth five year plan. Investments in the capital constructions must first of all ensure the priority development of the branches of the material production.

The volume of goods transport in three kinds of transport will increase 32%, while the transport volume of enterprises, depending on the Ministry of Communications will increase by 35%. In the development of transport, care must be taken on the fulfillment of the demands of the people and the economy for the uninterrupted movement of goods and passengers.

From the rise of the production rates during the fifth five year plan about 50% of the addition of the industrial output and the entire addition of the volume of construction must be ensured.

To carry out a more studied work in planning and the distribution of the sources of work in town and countryside, always preserving correct proportions between the productive and non-productive spheres, between the workers of the main sectors and auxiliary sectors etc. A broad scale educative work will be carried out with the youth to work and live wherever the Homeland needs them and especially in the countryside. The revolutionary intitiatives linked with this field will be summed up and implemented more broadly.

In the distribution of the national income, the accumulation fund will increase in accordance with the demands of the development of the economy, the increase of the reserves and the allround strengthening of the defence potential of the Homeland.

At the same time, the consumption fund must be further increased, placing priority on the faster increase of the social consumption fund.

On this basis, the further wellbeing of the broad working masses will be attained in the sixth five year plan. Important steps will be taken to narrow the essential differences between town and country, and between the incomes of various catagories of the working people.

The retail goods turnover will increase by about 22%.

Every possibility must be exploited to raise exports and lower imports. Every enterprise, cooperative and institution will take measures to raise production for export, to improve their structure, quality and presentation, especially in the mining industry, agriculture and the light and food processing industries.

Special care must be devoted, first and foremost, to the further strengthening of the educative role of the school, to the deepening of the ideological Marxist-Leninist axis and to the organic links between the three components. lessons, production work and physical and military education.

In the sector of education, the most important task is the drawing and the preservation of the contigents of pupils to the eight year schools.

Secondary schooling must be extended further, especially the professional and lower professional schools and the qualification courses, to train qualified workers for the different branches of the economy, especially for agriculture, mining, oil, geology, drainage and land reclamation projects etc.

Higher education will train the future specialists educated with the Marxist-Leninist ideology and professionally capable of better meeting the growing demands of the country.

Art and culture will be further developed, publications will be increased and also the production of films, thus showing the care for the sound ideopolitical content, for the spirit of proletarian partisanship and the national popular character, for the raising of the artistic level and the further development of the mass character of art and culture.

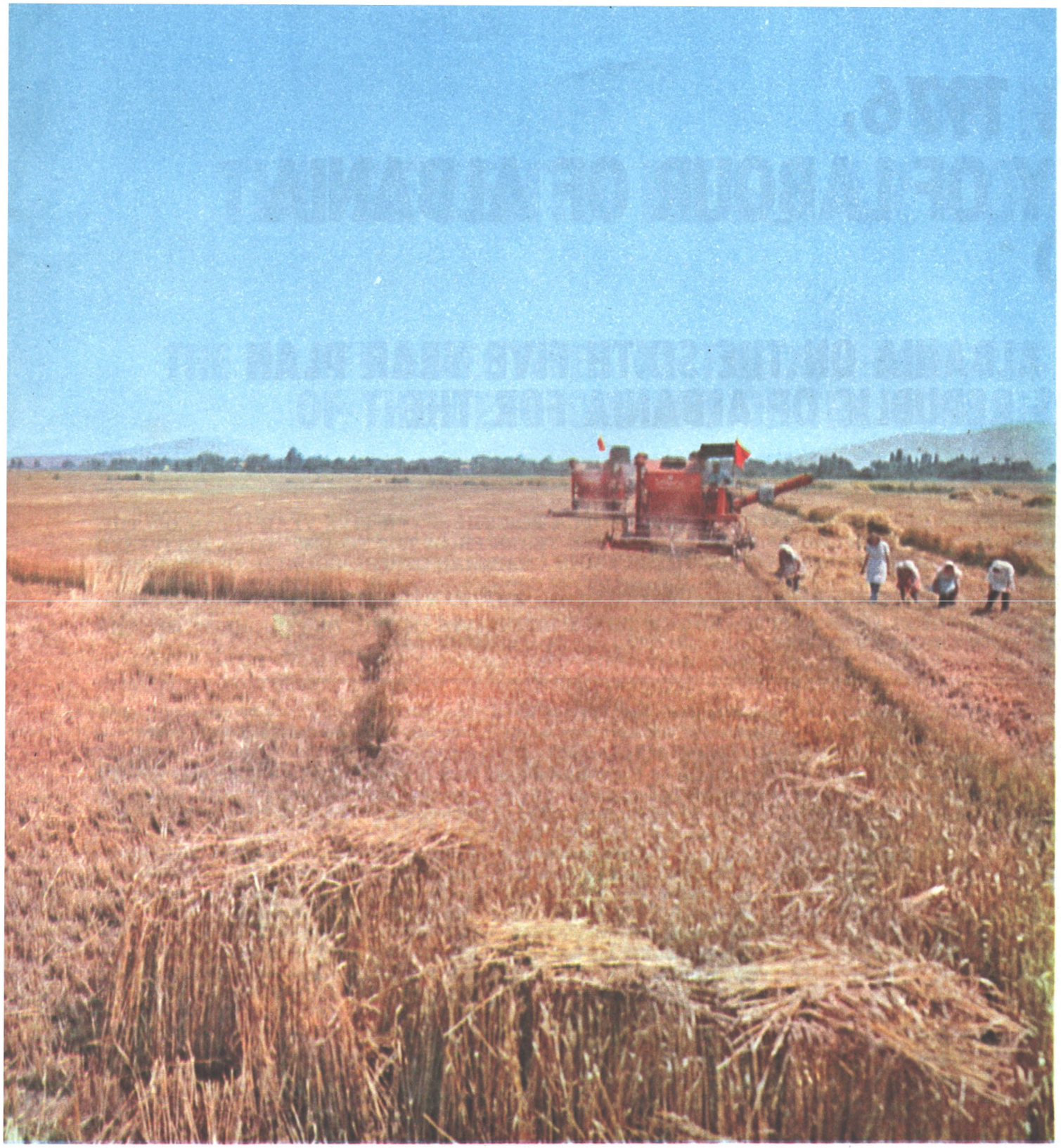
The technical scientific revolution must be deepened further in all branches of the economy and culture. The cadres of science, specialists and other workers will become even more closely linked with the workers.

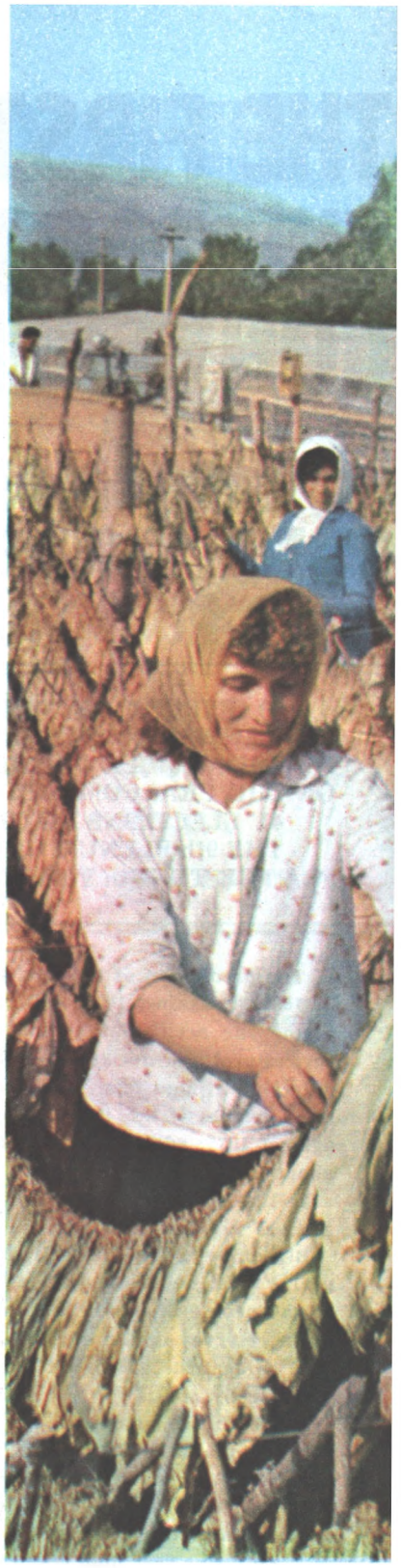
Physical education and sports must be developed further, ensuring the mass character and their qualitative rise, for the physical tempering of the broad working masses.

By developing and extending the health service even further and in particular in the countryside, extensive work must be done for the implementation of the prophylactic measures and mass hygiene. The service for the protection of the health of mother and child, especially in the countryside for the prevention of contagious diseases and to raise their sanitary education, must also be improved.

During the sixth five year plan the defence potential of the Homeland will be further strengthened, the political and military preparedness of all the people will be improved and the combat. readiness of the country will be raised higher.

The Central Committee of the Party is convinced that the active participation of the broad working masses in the discussion of the draft-directives for the sixth five year plan, 1976-1980 on the development of the people's economy and culture will further improve its indices. The participation in the discussion will help in having a political and idological understanding of the tasks, to make the working people conscious of the work and great struggle which must be waged to realise the tasks of the plan.



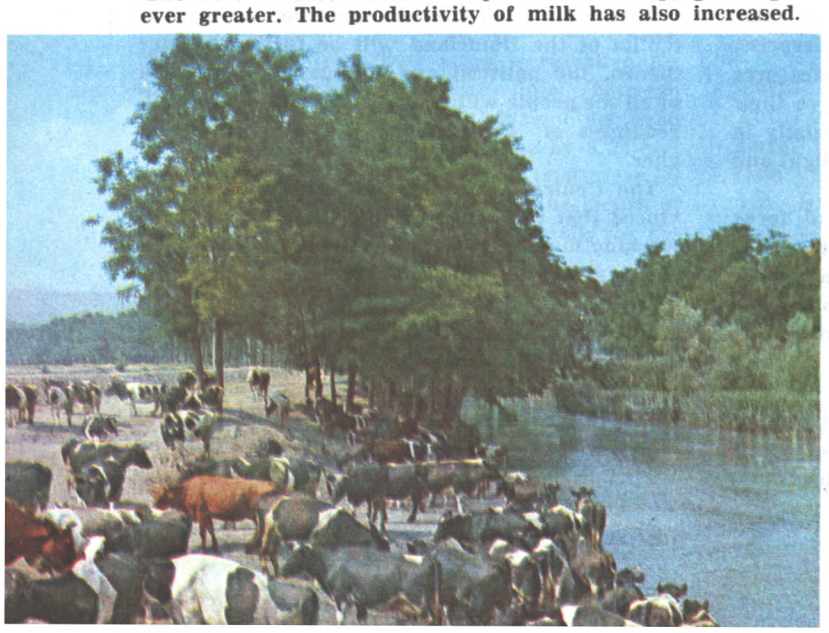


The principal profile of the cooperative of the higher type of Bushat is the production of food grains. This year the production of wheat has been successful. Many work processes have been mechanized.

At the Cooperative of the Higher Type-Bushat

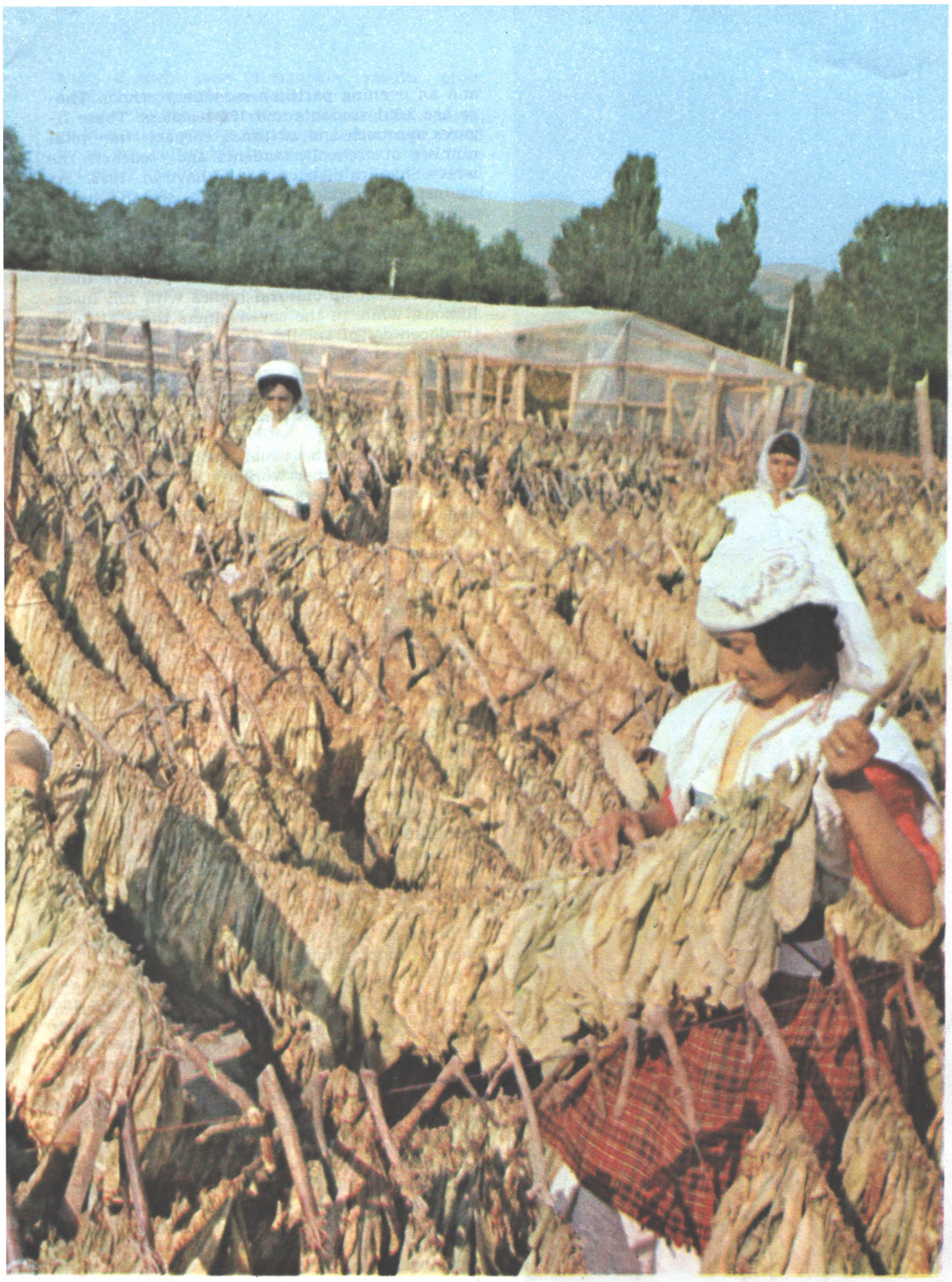
THE WAY TO

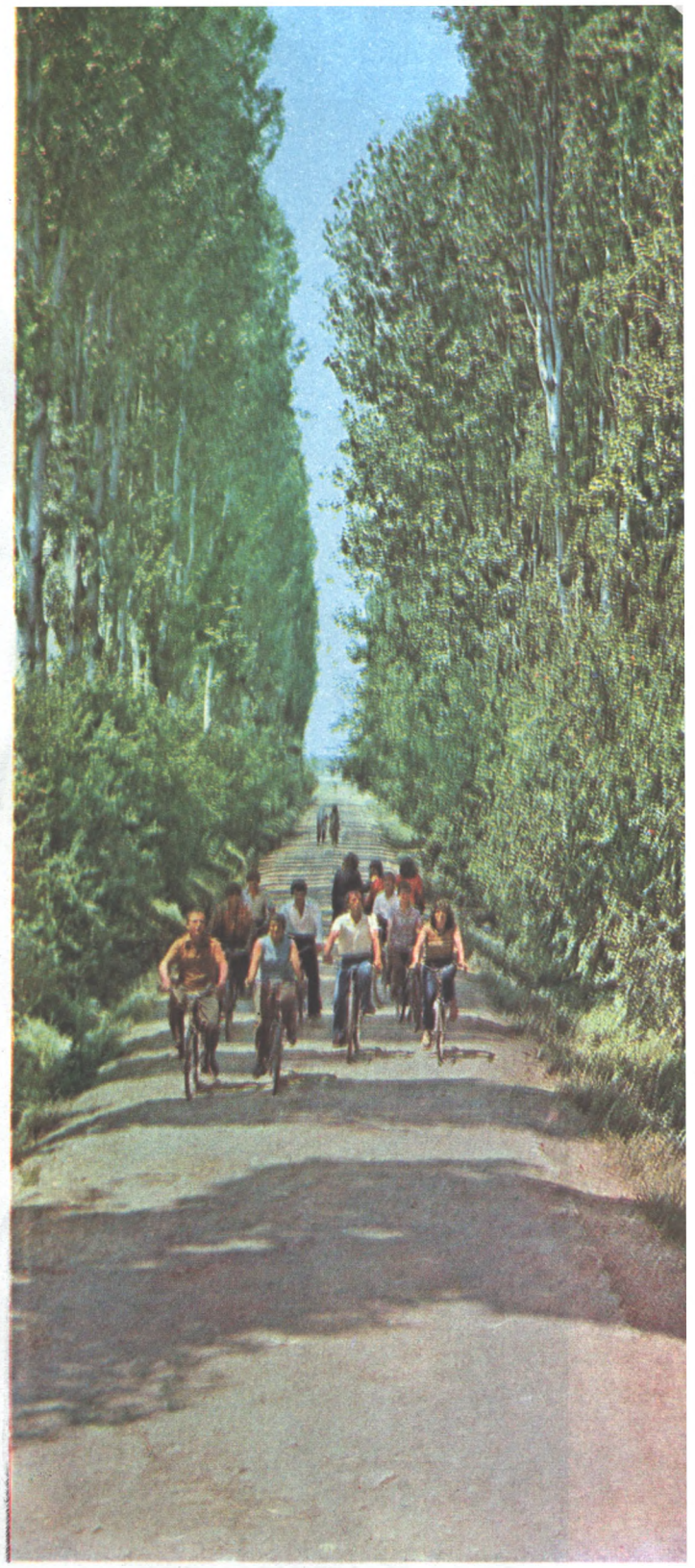
The herd of cattle of the cooperative has kept growing ever greater. The productivity of milk has also increased.



«Turkeys» also occupy an important place in the flock of feathered tribes.







Along one of the streets of the village of Kosmaç.

PROSPERITY

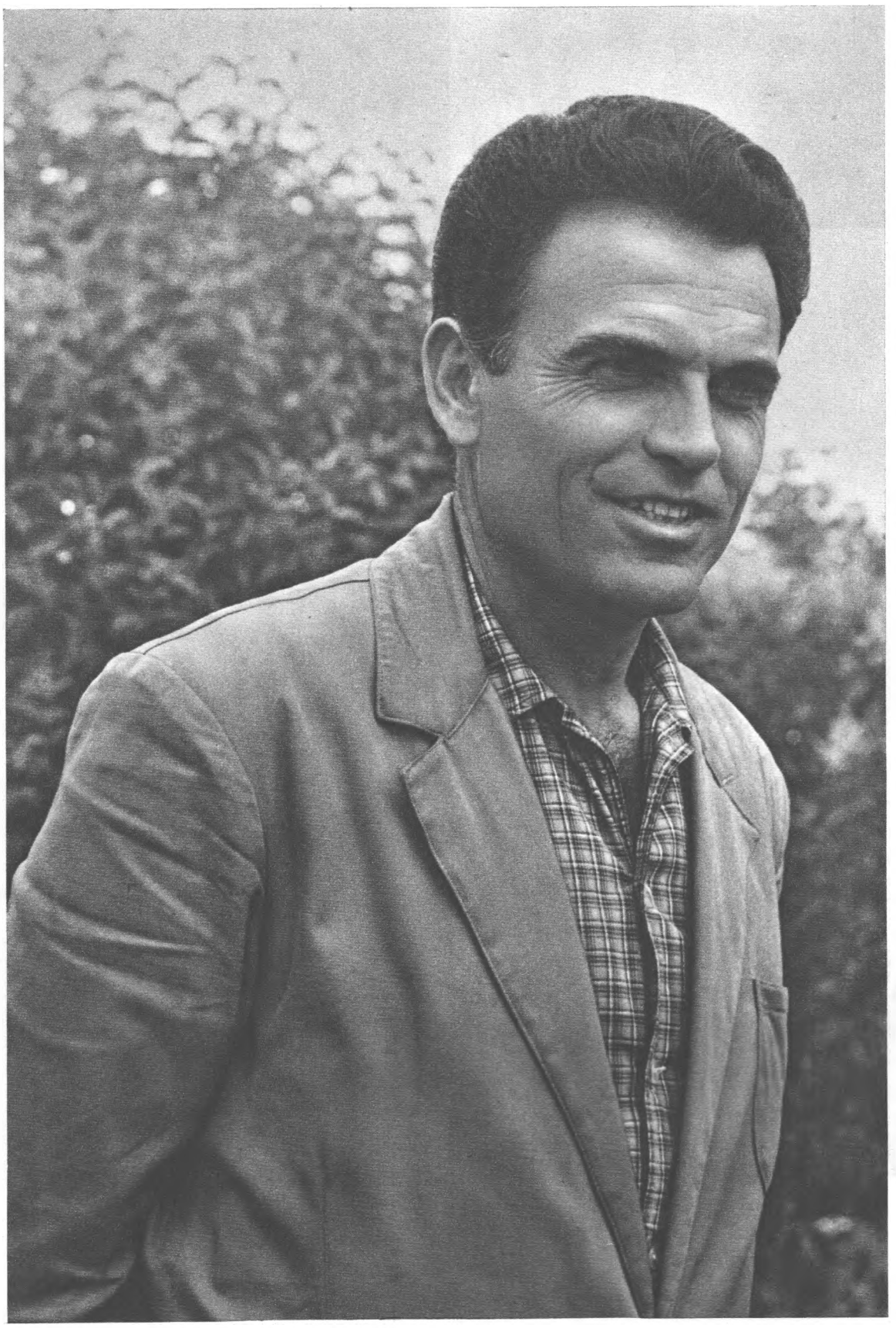
The playground of the 8th-grade school at the village of Bërdica.



South of the city of Shkodra lies a wide plain which, if viewed from above, reminds one of a multi-colored carpet with green in prevalence. Part of this plain is occupied by the fields of the agricultural cooperative of the higher type with its headquarters at the village of Bushat. Thirteen villages with 4.500 hectares of land have joined in what is the largest agricultural cooperative of the Shkodra district.

In the cultural home at Bushat there is also a small museum in which are kept some relics of the past. To the aged these relics recall the miserable life of the past, while the younger generation learn what progress life has made now in these regions. These lands used to be mainly marshes. What little area had escaped from floods belonged to the beys. The peasants'lives were led in misery for they tilled the lands of others, while for their children they could hardly provide food for a few months a year. In certain photographs and objects, one can see the huts where the peasants' families used to live.

This cooperative started in 1955. At that time it was set up on the basis of villages. The union of thirteen villages into a single cooperative did not come about all at once. This was a process



The Chairman of the Cooperative, Mark Ndou.

which lasted for eighteen years: in 1968 these villages formed eight cooperatives; two years later they formed four cooperatives; then two and at the beginning of 1973, they formed one single cooperative. At the same time, it turned into a cooperative of the higher type which constitutes the highest form of group ownership. Today there are 41 cooperatives of this kind in our country. The principal aim for setting them up is to step up the development of agricultural and dairy production which the economy of the country needs through intensifying production, by placing it on a scientific basis and raising to a higher level its organization and management. In addition to this immediate task, the organization of these cooperatives solves another important problem of the future, that of raising the property of the group to a higher level and preparing the conditions for the collective to gradually change on a voluntary basis into the property of the whole society.

In these cooperatives, society, through the State, makes investments and in conformity with the quantity of these investments, becomes a co-proprietor. The cooperative of the higher type uses these investments to add to its inventory (to reclaim virgin land, to systematize its lands, to buy draft animals and different machinery, and to set up installations to help production and so on). Traces of these investments appear in every sector of the cooperative of Bushat: a complex of stalls has been set up, wide areas have been drained and systematized, the hills have been put to the service of the people raising large quantities of wheat and tobacco. Today, as compared with 1972, the inventory of the cooperative has increased by fifty eight percent. Thirty four percent of its basic capital represents the share of society as a whole.

Another distinctive feature of the cooperative of the higher type is that it turns over to the State all of its products except the seed and animal feeds at the price set by the State. The State, on its part, supplies to the cooperative all it needs ranging from bread to medical service, kindergartens, creches, retail shops and so on.

In the cooperative of Bushat there are 7 eighth grade and 12 primary schools, a secondary school and an evening parttime secondary school. There are 2.891 students and 124 teachers. These figures approach and, at times, surpass the total number of schools, students and teachers the whole Shkodra district used to have in 1938. As against 7 physicians this district used to have at that time, today this cooperative alone employs six physicians in three public health centers and has six ambulances and maternity homes.

In six larger villages of this cooperative there have been set up cultural homes with full installations, while in the seven others there are cultural centers of smaller size. Under such conditions, the amateur movement of arts and letters has marked great progress never met with before. The various artistic groups of this cooperative have often won first prizes in contests in the Shkodra district.

Different from the usual cooperatives, where workers are paid per workday the wages of the cooperative members are guaranteed here according to the targets they have reached. Their amount depends on the incomes of the cooperative and is guaranteed up to 90%; they should not be higher than those of agricultural enterprises. If by the end of the year a brigade has over-reached the plan target, its member are entitled to up to ten percent above their salaries and wages. During 1975, the cooperative membres of the cooperative of the higher type of Bushat received for over-reaching the plan targets a sum equal to one-fourth of the total payment of 1970.

Today, this cooperative has the following economic specializations: over fifty percent of the cultivated area is planted to food grains: wheat and maize. The other part is planted to sunflower, tobacco, vegetables and fruitculture. This cooperative is famous also for its development of animal husbandry with pedigree cows, swine and poultry prevailing.

All these branches resemble a platoon marching at the same pace: they have made the same rate of progress. Last year this cooperative over-reached all its plan targets.

Everywhere on the plots of land one can see groups of persons engaged in measurements and reckoning. In these groups one comes across specialists of higher training as well as experienced workers in the field of agriculture. These are groups engaged in scientific studies. The whole scientific work in the cooperative is run by the scientific council, most of the members of which work in brigades.

It must be said that very valuable work has been done in this big collective economy in studying the soil. It can be said that now all these plots of land have been through «radiography». Pedological and agricultural studies have been already completed. On this basis, the profile of the land and the efficient use of fertilizers have been set and the circulation of plants have begun putting an end to spontaneity. Add to this the constant professional uplift of the masses of cooperative members through courses of qualification, seminars and various analysis. The meetings which are held at the



end of each year to compare results often resemble scientific sessions.

— As the members of the cooperative declare, on the basis of studies that have been made, food crops are cultivated in every sector since the necessary conditions have already been created for them, while the production of rice has been concentrated on two sectors and the same thing happens with vegetables which are cultivated in the other two sectors. Knowledge of the soil, providing irrigation and fertilizers for them have made it possible for the cooperative to mark the following increases in 1972: two and one half times as much maize, nearly two and half times sunflower and vegetables, over five times as many eggs, nearly two and one half times rice and so on. From half of the entire area there has been received average yields of 55 quintals per hectare.

From the products of this economy, thousands of quintals of vegetables and tobacco are exported to foreign markets.

The successes achieved sofar indicate that there are reserves and new ways of achieving good results in the days to come

In the six sectors into which the cooperative is divided we met poeple of different ages and professions. They spoke with enthusiasm and optimism about their life. Over 70 percent of the houses of all the villages of this economy have been built during the years of our State Power. Their life marks already no pronounced differences from that of the urban areas especially after the complete electric reticulation of the country and, in a special way, after this economy was organized into a cooperative of the higher type. Through them and the chairman of the cooperative Mark Ndou (a very energetic man who has just completed his forty years of age) we learned that a great future lies ahead of the cooperative of the higher type of Bushat. At their general meeting, which is the highest organ of the cooperative, its members had decided to increase by 48 percent the production of food grains above 1975. They have set to work to come up to the agricultural enterprises in all indices. To this purpose they spoke to us about their plans for the years to come: they will continue to drain the soil with ceramic tubes, to level and systematize the hills so that they may receive higher yields also from them. They will increase their herds of high breed cows to nearly two times while the animal husbandry workers have promised to receive higher yields of milk from every cow.

During those June days when we were at the cooperative we saw crowds of people on the plots of land planted to wheat. Everyday at dawn over five thousand cooperative members were out to harvest the wheat from the fields.

— The thirteen villages of this cooperative like thirteen brothers and sisters march towards prosperity. These twenty years have taught them that the stronger the economy of the cooperative becomes the better will become life in each household.

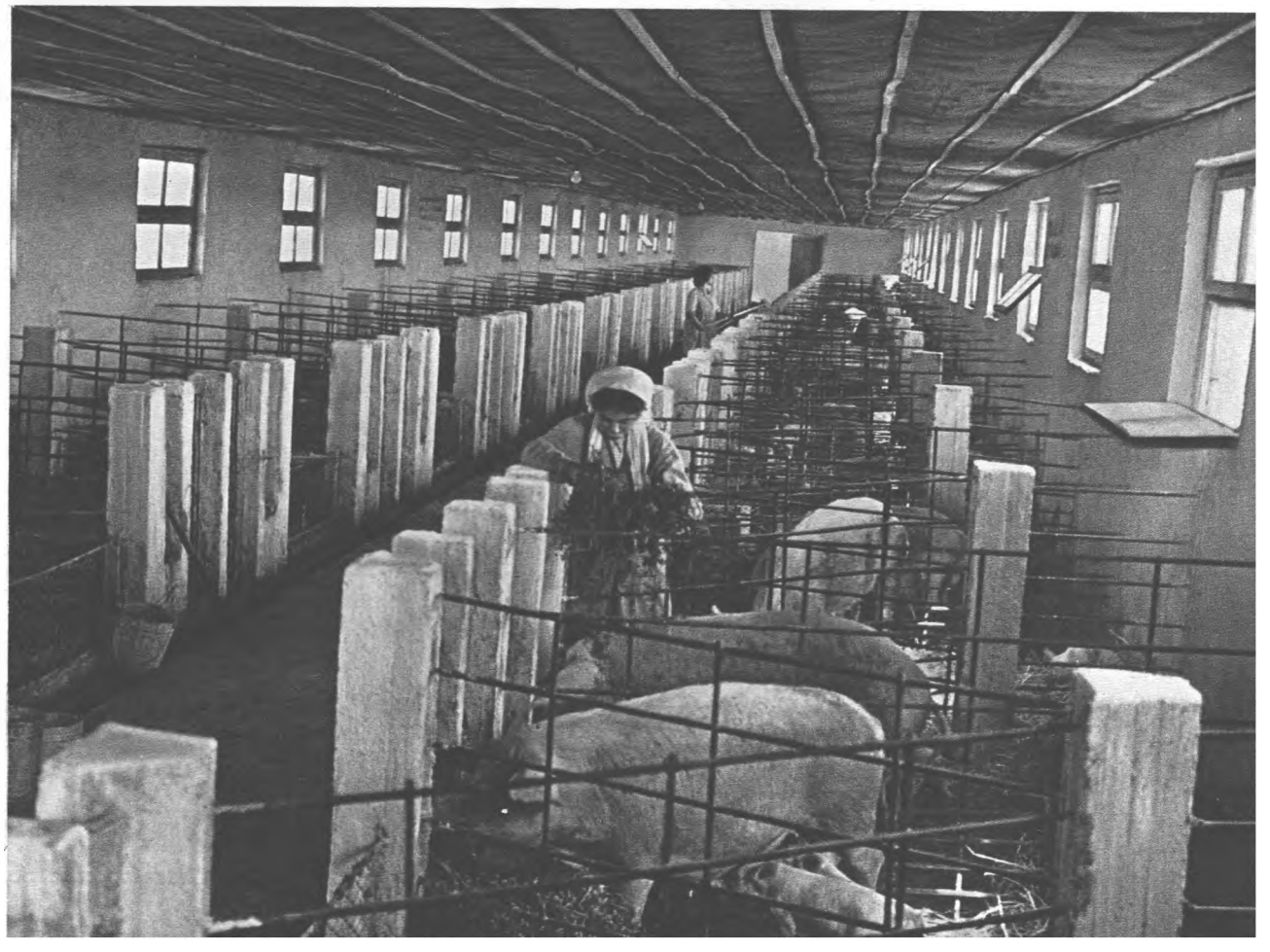


The youth of the Kosmaç village when work is over.

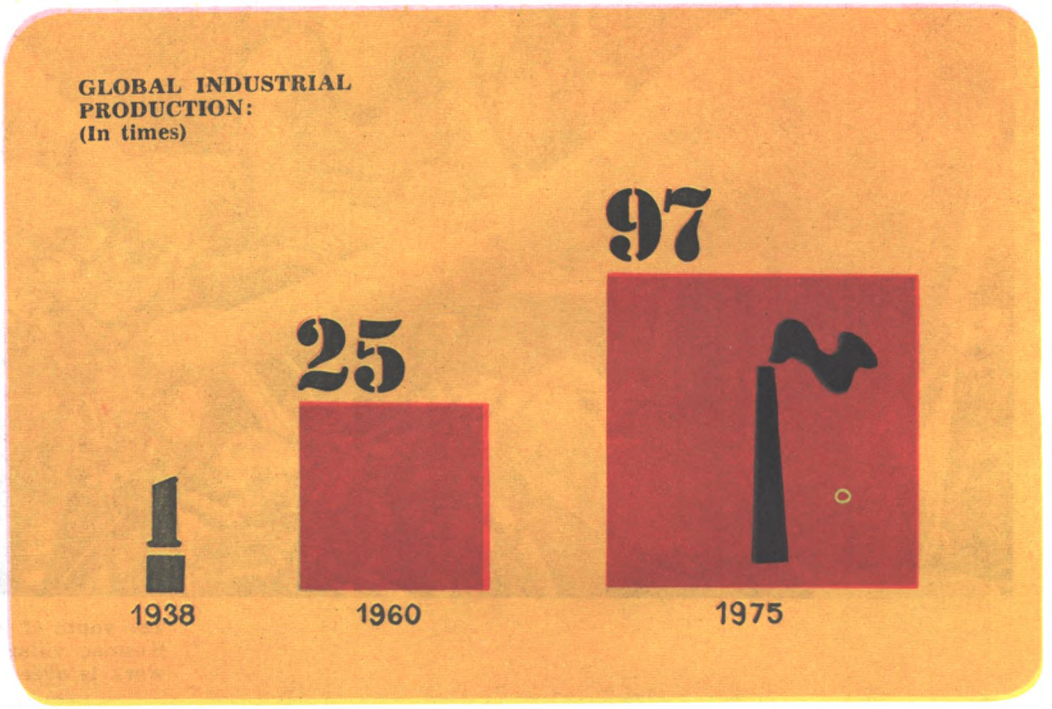


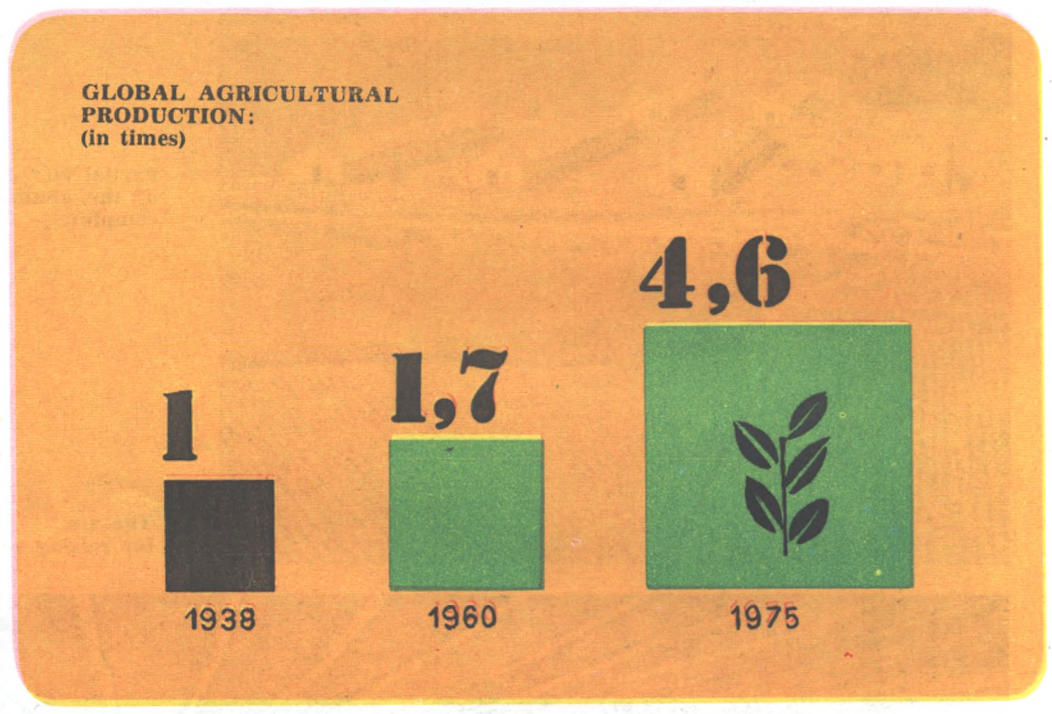
Partial view of the animal husbandry complex.

The sty for raising swine.



New houses at the village of Bushat.





THE ELOQUENT LAN

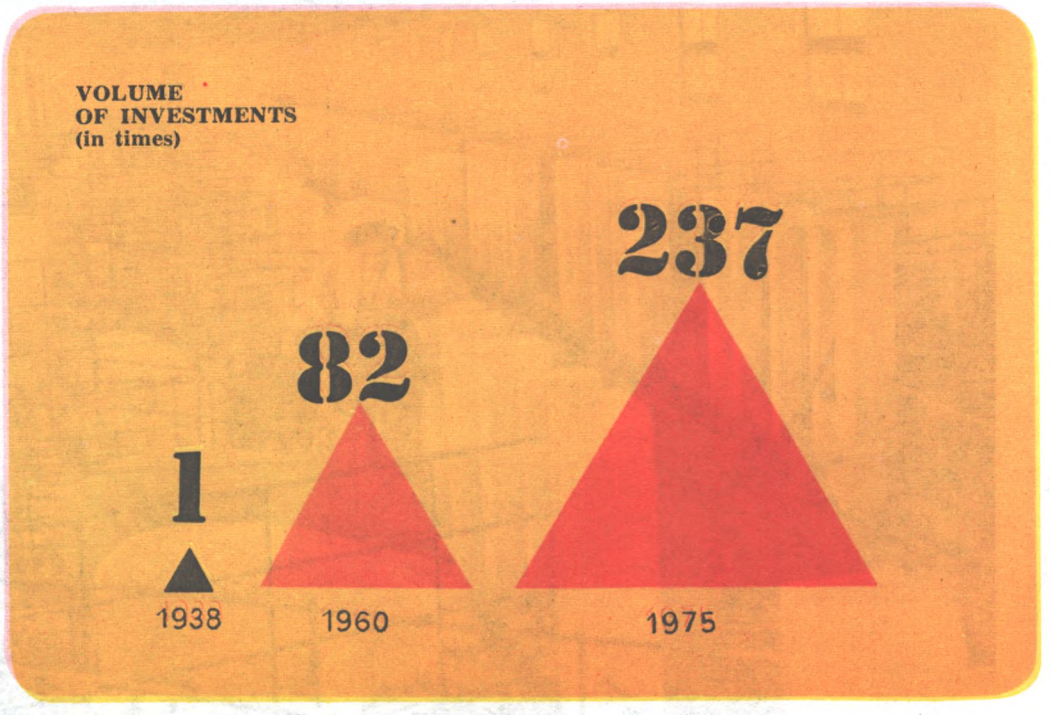
— Investments and capital constructions make up one of the keyproblems of the economic policy of our socialist State. They occupy one of the principal places in the State plan of economic and cultural development.

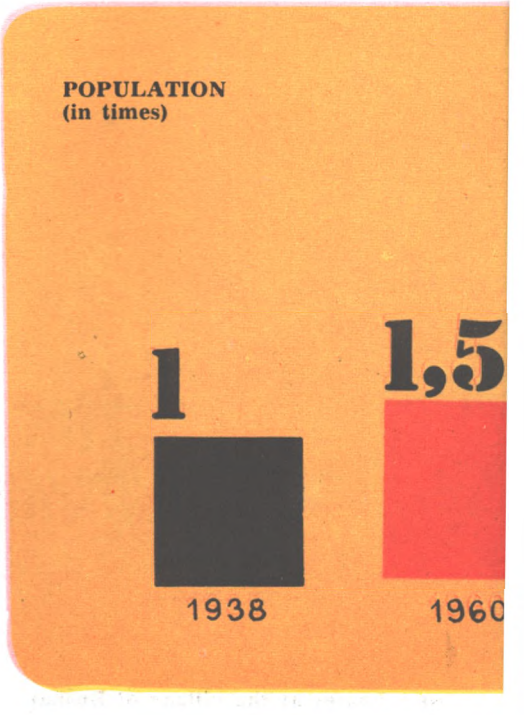
— The volume, structure and distribution of investments and capital constructions have notably increased and improved from one five-year plan period to another which has led to the growth of the principal funds of the country. In 1974, as against 1938, the general volume of investments increased 259 times or 3,2 times more than in 1960, and 2 times more than in 1965. During the same period the volume of capital constructions increased 118 times as against 1938; over three times more than in 1960 and 2 times more than in 1965.

— In the distribution of investments and capital constructions priority has been given and continues to be given to the sphere of material production which has been allocated more than 4/5 of investments made in our people's economy.

— There was a particularly notable rise in investments and capital constructions during the 5th five-year plan period from 1971 to 1975. They were from 70 to 75 percent higher than during the period from 1966 to 1970 and 31 percent higher than the investments of the first, second and third five-year plans taken together.

— The basic characteristic of the last five-year plan period from 1971 to 1975 was the increased volume of investments



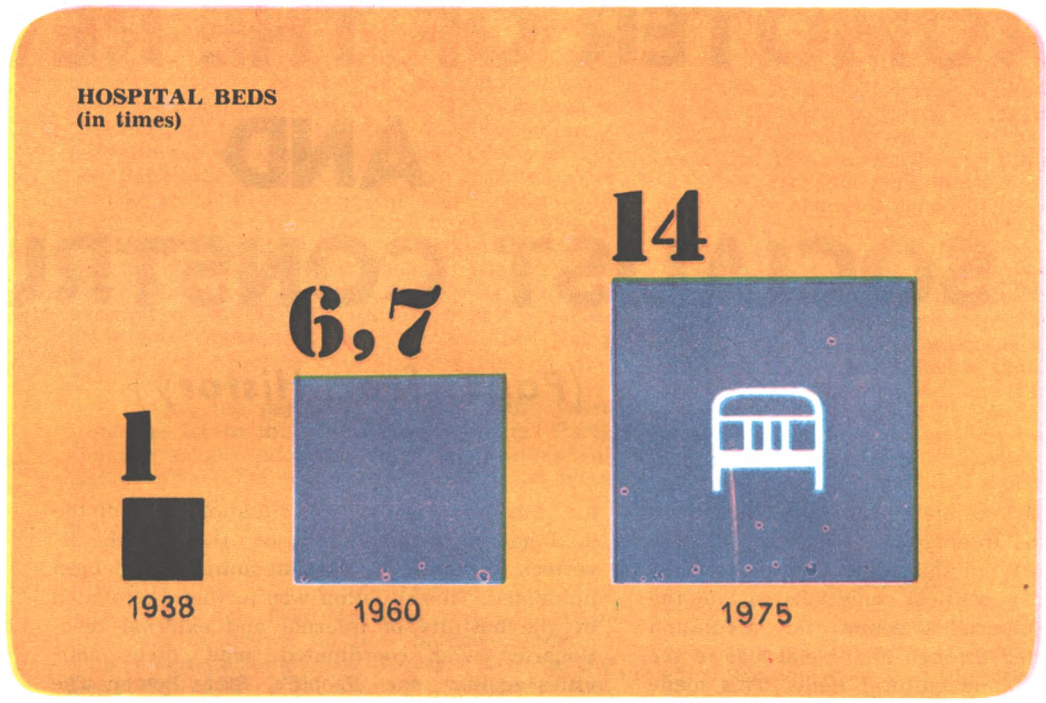


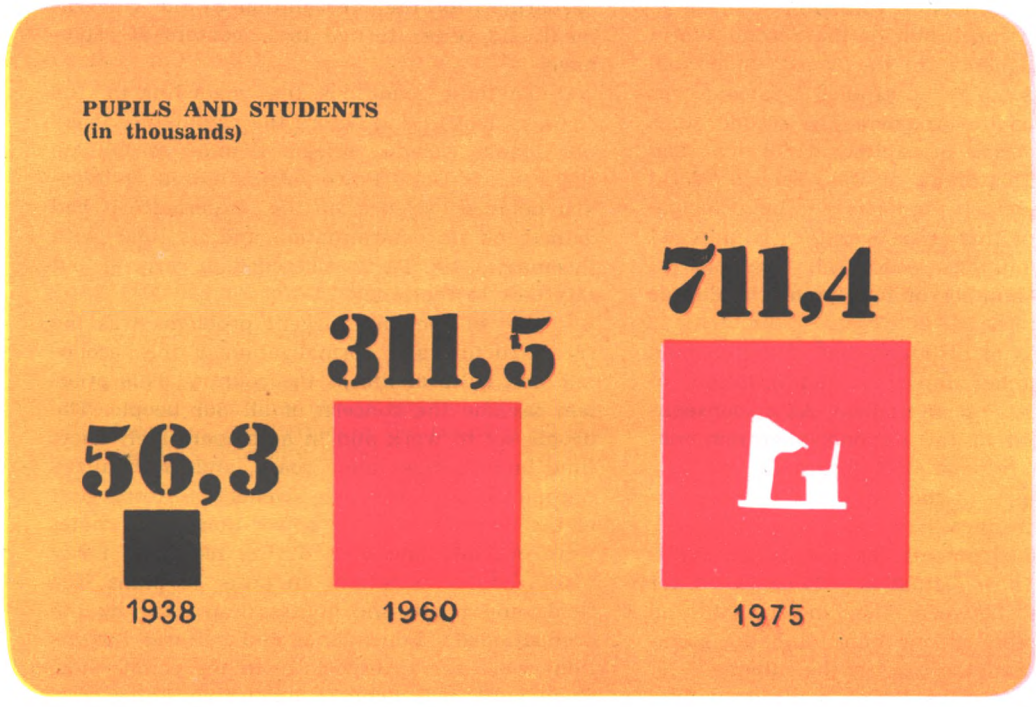
GUAGE OF FIGURES

for the development of the heavy industry. Major work was done in such projects as metallurgy, the power industry, the non-ferrous industry, the chemical industry and others, with a technique and technology of advanced standards, with a high level of concentration and productive and processing capacities. The volume of the work being done on the building and installation of the metallurgical complex under construction and of the plant for the deep processing of oil, is estimated to be equal to the combined volume of the building — fitting work of about 30 major industrial projects which were built in our country up to 1970.

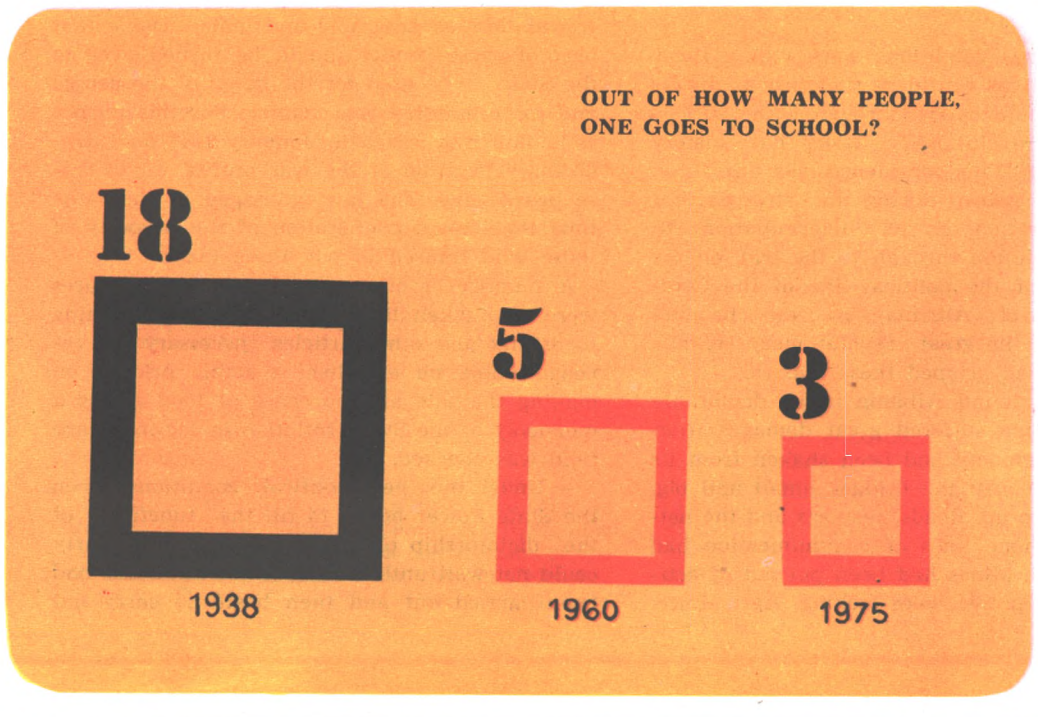
At present Albania is already engaged in setting up major industrial projects in such branches of the economy as the metallurgical industry, the chemical hydro-power and other industries which require relatively larger investments and longer terms than the projects of industry which have been set up in the past. Large investments have been and continue to be made in agriculture for drainage, irrigation, mechanisation and chemical engineering work to increase the fertility of the soil and improve the breeds in livestock, to increase agricultural and dairy products.

— Parallel with investments made in production sectors, large financial funds are allocated for the development of social and cultural sectors (education, health, housing, public services and so on).









PROMOTER OF THE REVOLUTION AND SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION

(Pages from History)

– The People's State Power established in Albania and the inseparable leadership of the Communist Party in this State Power fulfilled all the necessary political conditions so that the people's anti-imperialist democratic revolution should be carried through to the end also in the economic, social and cultural fields. This made it possible at the same time for the revolution to develop without interruption passing, at once over to the socialist revolution.

– After the conclusion of the Second World War the physiognomy of the world underwent transformations. The capitalist system was deeply shaken and weakened. The second stage of the general crisis of capitalism, which had begun at the outbreak of the Second World War, assumed wider proportions. The principal manifestation of this crisis was the triumph of a series of revolutions which split the imperialist front in a number of new points in Europe and Asia.

– The process of disintegration of the colonial system was another important manifestation of the general crisis of capitalism. As a consequence, the weight of the national-liberation movement of the colonial and oppressed peoples, as a direct reserve of the world socialist revolution, was greatly increased.

The imperialist powers dis not adapt themselves to the new situation. Thus, a bitter struggle began between the imperialist and reactionary forces, on one hand, and the socialist and democratic forces, on the other.

Such were the international conditions under which the Communist Party of Albania assumed the heavy task of governing the country.

– The internal conditions were very critical. But the Party was confident that just as during the war, it would carry through with success also the new revolutionary tasks that history charged it with. This confidence was based on the experience gained during the struggle for national liberation, on its determination to carry the revolution through to the end, on the firm backing of the political line of the Communist Party of Albania, by the people's masses and on the great revolutionary enthusiasm, which had gripped these masses.

– Liberation found Albania in a deplorable situation. Albania suffered great damages from the war. Its economy had been shaken from its very foundation. All the bridges, small and big, had been blown up. Roads, seaports and the network of telephone lines of communication had been destroyed. Mines had been put out of action. Sources of power were lacking. Agriculture, too, was in a very critical situation. Part of the land had been left fallow, one-third of the livestock, particularly, draught animals, had been liquidated. This situation was further aggravated by the hostility of internal and external reactionaries, who coordinated now their activities against our People's State Power. The Anglo-US missions, which had been left here since the days of the war for the purpose of preparing for the recognition of the Government had been turned into centers of espionage.

Under these conditions, the main link in the chain of tasks lying before the communist Party of Albania was to safeguard and consolidate the People's State Power. And, based on Marxist-Leninist science, on the experience it had gained, on its determination and its links with the masses, the Party succeeded in carrying out this task to the letter.

– One of the most urgent problems was the reconstruction and normalization of the economic and cultural life of the country. This problem became the concern of all our people. The people set to work and in a comparatively short time built bridges and roads, and normalized communication. Through strenuous efforts, part of the factories, electric power plants and mines were put into operation during 1945. The Party mobilized the peasantry in order to plant the fields and repair the houses destroyed by the occupationists. Educational and cultural institutions were set up especially in the countryside. Good work was done in abolishing illiteracy.

– From profiteering during the war, the capitalists had amassed big capital in their hands. It was deemed advisable and indispensable that part of these profits should be turned over to the State, to be used for the needs of the people and for rebuilding the country. For this purpose, a law was issued in January 1945 on extraordinary taxation of the war profits. Taxes were progressive. The law envisaged at the same time the unpaid confiscation of the property of those who refused to pay these taxes.

A number of other revolutionary measures were also taken like the law on requisitioning foodstuffs and other articles necessary to reconstruction, on establishing stable prices, on making the sale and purchase of food grains a monopoly of the State. Inflation in the monetary field was checked.

– Under the new political conditions, when the State Power began to fill the functions of the dictatorship of the proletariat, the Party could not wait until all the democratic tasks had been carried out and then begin to carry out the tasks of a socialist character. The ratio of class forces in Albania made it possible to carry out the transformations of a socialist character simultaneously with and immediately after the establishment of democratic transformations. Of these, the most important, the decisive change was the collectivization of the principal means of production through State ownership.

In December 1944, the State took possession of mines and of the property of political fugitives. A month later the law was issued to confiscate the property of Italian and German citizens in Albania. Thus the State took over the national bank and other banks, and the property of 111 share-holding companies of the foreign capitalists. In April 1945, the State requisitioned all the means of transportation of private owners towards a given remuneration.

In this way began the establishment of the socialist sector in economy, which was accompanied with other measures like the establishment of the 8-hour workday, that of equal pay for equal work for each worker without distinction and that of the right for yearly leave of absence for all the workers.

– In agriculture, the most acute and urgent problem was to do away with the old agrarian relations. Following a number of preliminary measures, which alleviated to a certain extent the deplorable situation of the peasantry, there was issued in August 1945 the law of agrarian reform. This brought about the socialization of the State Farms, the property of the religious institutions and all the private owned lands beyond the size established by law. This confiscation was done without recompensation. They were distributed free of charge to the landless and land poor peasants. In order to carry out this reform, there were set up committees of poor peasants.

In order to further consolidate the state of People's Democracy, the Communist Party of Albania issued guidelines for elections to the Constituent Assembly. Internal and external enemies, especially the Anglo-US governmental circles tried to obstruct and sabotage the elections.

In spite of this, faced with reality and the determination of the people, guided by the Party, the attempts of the reactionaries failed. The Democratic Government of Albania was given recognition by a number of states.

The elections took place on December 2, 1945. 90 percent of the electorate took part in the election and 95 percent of them cast their ballot for the candidates of the Democratic Front.

– On January, 1946, the Constituent Assem-

bly unanimously proclaimed Albania a People's Republic and elected the new Government headed by comrade Enver Hoxha. Immediately after this, the draft-constitution of the Poeple's Republic of Albania was drawn up by the Government which, having been widely discussed by the masses, was approved by the Assembly on March 14, 1946. Above everything the Constitution set forth the motto: *«Power springs from the people and belongs to the people»* as the basic principle of the construction and activity of the People's State Power.

— In order to solve the problems dealing with the directive of the Communist Party of Albania, to deepen the revolution and build socialism, the Vth Plenary Session of the Central Committe of the Communist Party of Albania was called together in February 1946. The Plenum attacked a number of opportunist manifestations and issued clear-cut directives in order to proceed more rapidly along revolutionary lines. Following the Plenum, a new phase of nationalization was sparked off. Bringing the principal means of production under socialist collective control put an end to the economic domination of the bourgeoisie. It laid the economic foundations of the dictatorship of proletariat. The cooperative sector of economy was set up side by side with the State socialist sector.

The directives of the Vth Plenum of the Central Committee were reflected in the Constitution of the People's Republic of Albania. At the same time a new stage of State ownership was reached. The electric power stations, the industry of the materials of construction and the whole light and food-processing industry were brought under State control. By the end of 1947, the production of private capitalist industry came almost to an end. Confiscation proceeded at a rapid rate and without recompensation. Thus were laid the economic fundations of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

In May 1946 amendments were made to the land reform laws imparting to them a more thorough revolutionary substance. The property of absentee landlords was confiscated. A ban was implosed on the sale and purchase of land under any title or mortgage. These ammendments applied in full the principle that «the land belongs to him who tills it».

All these revolutionary amendments were carried out in bitter battle with the enemy of the class, a battle which was waged in all fields.

— The intervention of the leadership of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia into the internal affairs of our Party and our country through their agents continued also during the early years after liberation. It created a critical situation and obstructed progress towards the revolution. In June 1946, comrade Enver Hoxha submitted to the Politbureau of the Communist Party of Albania a special report on re-examining the Ilnd Plenum, which was held in Berat in 1944. But these theses were not approved because of the backstage dealings trumped up by the Titoite agents. The Yugoslav intervention created very critical conditions for our Party and people. The Yugoslav leadership and its agents within our Communist Party through a number of measures intended to turn Albania into seventh Republic of Yugoslavia.

— Under these conditions, when our Party and State were facing critical situations, they were informed of the letters of the Bolshevik Communist Party of the Soviet Union which disclosed the treason of the Yugoslav revisionists. In the light of these letters, the character and intention of the Yugoslav intervention in Albania became very clear to the Central Committee of our Party. At the XIth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Albania, a broad analysis was made of the political line of the Party, and steps were taken to eliminate the grave mistakes which had been made as a result of the hostile activity in the political and organizational line of the Party.

— Of special importance in the history of the Communist Party of Albania was its First Congress which was held from November 8 to November 22 in 1948. The report on the activity of the Central Committee was submitted by the Secretary-General of the Party, comrade Enver Hoxha. Analysis was made of all the activity of the Party eversince its founding, assessing the achievements attained and the stages which our country and Party had passed through, disclosing the circumstances and cause of the mistakes which had been made in carrying out the line of the Party. As the main economic task, the Congress set forth the problem of pulling the country out of its major backwardness through the rapid development of the forces of production. The quintessence of this task was the socialist industrialization and electric reticulation of the country. At the same time, major importance was attached to pulling agriculture out of its backward state. This would be done through the socialist reorganization of the countryside.

In addition to these tasks for building the bases of socialism, the Party took very important decisions to further democratize State Power, to strengthen the People's Army and State Security. Of special importance to the organizational problems of the internal life of the Communist Party of Albania was the approval by the Congress of the Constitution of the Party. It was also decided to change the name of the Communist Party of Albania into that of The Party of Labor of Albania. This was connected with the social make up of the country and of the Party itself. The Congress expelled the Trotzkyite elements from the leadership and from the Party. The leadership of the Party was strengthened and Enver Hoxha was re-elected its Secretary-General. In this way the Party Congress crowned with success the triumph of Marxism-Leninism over opportunism and Trozkyism, and armed the Party with major experience in fighting against modern revisionism.

— During the period of nearly four years from the Ist to the IInd Congress, the Party and our people accomplished very important tasks both on the economic as well as on ideological and policital fronts, in the battle against the internal and external enemies who attempted to overthrow the People's Stafe Power even by the use of armed forces.

The IInd Congress of the Party of Labor of Albania was held from March 31 to April 7, 1952. After having drawn up the balance sheet of achievements attained, the Congress sized up the possibility of bringing about the economic and cultural development of the country based on a long term plan. The Congress approved the directives of the First Five year Plan for the period from 1951 to 1955, which had been widely discussed by the working masses. The main targets of the First Five-year Plan were: to step up the construction of the economic base of socialism, to develop the forces of production so that by the end of the Five-year period, Albania will have turned from a backward agrarian to an agrarian-industrial country, to strengthen the alliance of the working class with the laboring peasantry, and to raise the material and cultural level of the working masses.

The plan was based first and foremost on our own efforts, on the internal resources, on the experience gained and on the skill and ability of the cadres of the country. It was based at the same time on the aid of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries. The aid given to Albania at that time aimed mainly to develop the forces of production in the country, so that our people's economy could stand on its own feet.

Very important steps were taken after the Congress in order to improve the method of political management by the Party against opportunist manifestations, against bureaucracy, against the method of doing perfunctory work, which had been observed. The Congress emphasized the principal motto of the activity of the masses during the post-liberation years, namely *«To build socialism holding the pick in one hand and the rifle in the other»*.

The Party attached importance to narrowing down the disproportion between industry and agriculture, and to improving the living conditions of the workers.

On the ideological front the Party took steps to raise revolutionary vigilance to a higher level against the penetration of revisionism.

— In spite of difficulties due to its being at the initial stage, the Ist Five-year plan was accomplished with success. In 1955, global industrial production was 179 percent higher than in 1950 and 11 times as much as in 1938. Its average yearly increase was 22 percent. Important results were attained also in agriculture. As compared with 1950, the production of food grains was 53 percent higher. On the front of culture and education, too, important results were attained. The network of schools, students and teachers increased a lot. Illiteracy up to 40 years of age was generally done away with. Thus, Albania turned from a backward agrarian into an agrarian- industrial country.

— At the beginning of the second decade after liberation, the Party of Labor in its capacity as the leader of the Albanian people set forth new tasks in order to complete the construction of the economic base of socialism. For this, in December 1955 the Central Committee of the Party of Labor of Albania decided to call together the IIIrd Party Congress which would set the tasks for the coming five-year plan period. The Central Committee came before the Party and the people with a rich balance sheet of successes, with a resolute struggle of principle to carry out the Marxist-Leninist line and with clear-cut prospects for the future. During preparations for calling the Congress, the Party of Labor of Albania was faced with the very acute problems which the XXth Congress of the Comunist Party of the Soviet Union raised before the international communist movement as well as under the pressure the Soviet leadership exerted on it in order to impose its own revisionist course.

— The revisionist course of the XXth Congress of the Communist Party of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics gave heart to and set in motion also the anti-Party and hostile elements in Albania. Tito's clique came to the direct assistance of these elements especially through the Yugoslav Legation in Tirana. The revisionists took advantage of the Party Conference of the city of Tirana, which was held in April 1956 in order to launch its attack against the Party's Marxist-Leninist line and leadership. The Central Committe sized up the situation as very serious and drew at once the conclusion that the enemies of the Party and of socialism had a hand in this business. It sent to the Conference comrade Enver Hoxha, who exposed on the spot the aims of the revisionists and submitted the determined attitude of the Party of Labor of Albania to safeguard the purity of its revolutionary policy and practice. The delegates expressed full backing for this stand.

— Contrary to the attempts of the enemy to postponethe proceedings of the IIIrd Congres in order to gain time, the Congress was opened according to the timetable decided upon, on May 25th, 1956 and lasted up to June 3rd of the same year.

The Congress examined the activity of the Central Committee and of the Party as a whole, amended the Party Constitution and approved the directives of the 2nd five-year plan. The Congress decided to give full approval to the political line and practical activity of the Central Committee as well as to the proposal and conclusions contained in the report submitted by comrade Enver Hoxha. Any attempt to revise the political line of the Party of Labor of Albania was condemned.

In this way, the tension which was being created in the international communist movement after the XXth Congress of the Communist Party of the USSR had been forestalled.

In matters concerning the 2nd five year plan, the Congress set as the main task: *the development of industry, ecpecially the mineral industry, relying mainly on the full use of the productive forces, the utilization of putting into operation the internal resources, stepping up the development of agriculture, mainly through the socialist reorganization of agricultural production, improving the standard of living and raising the cultural level of the people to a higher degree.*

On the basis of these tasks it was envisaged to increase global industrial production by 92 percent. The problem raised in agriculture was to speed up collectivization so that the construction of the economic base of socialism may be completed throughtout the country and a rapid and allround development of the countryside may be brought about.

— Following its 3rd Congress, the Party of Labor of Albania was faced with a dangerous situation in the international communist movement, a situation which was created as a result of the XXth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Khrushov's group, taking advantage of the high prestige and authority of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet State, exerted continuous pressure on the leaderships of the other Communist Parties in order to replace the former Marxist-Leninist course with the revisionist course of the XXth Congress. The Yugoslav revisionists, too, launched their offensive raising a hue and cry about «the triumph of the Yugoslav way» and intervened by all manner of means and wherever they could. The imperilalists took advantage of this situation to concoct plots and undertake counter-revolutionary armed activities in socialist countries.

Under the conditions created, the struggle against revisionism became of primary importance. The Central Committee of the Party of Labor of Albania instructed that under the conditions of that time the war on the ideological front was on the first plane. At this time the Party directed its main attack against Yugoslav revisionism, which held the banner of the fight against Mar-

MASS ACTIONS OF OUR YOUTH

TH. KËRKESHI

When travelling through Albania, one often comes across these words written in large letters and partly effaced through the years on abutments of bridges or supporting walls of railroad tracks: «The young volunteers of n brigade have worked here».

These words spark off memories amog the passersby who might have been builders of these projects themselves.

Mass actions to build railroads by voluntary work are one of the finest traditions of the Albanian youth. They began as far back as the early years of our People's State Power and continue to this very day.

So far our younger generation has built some hundreds of kilometers of railroads. They start from the coastal regions and are stretching ever deeper into the mountain regions of the interior.

Such a one is the new Prenjas-Gurikuq railroad which the youth of Albania has taken over to build. It will be 30 kilometers long on a mountainous terrain rising to about 700 meters above sea level. Most of it runs along the beautiful Pogradeci lakeside, and it will serve for transporting the iron-nickel ore from the Gurikuq mine (southeast Albania) to the new Metallurgical Complex which is under construction in Elbasan (central Albania).

These summer days the whole lakeside is hustling and bustling with activity. Every morning you see rows of young men and women volunteers walking along it to their fronts of work. The camp of volunteers seems to be in constant festivity. It is full of activity especially during the evening hours.

Up to now there have passed through this camp ten thousand young men and young women from all the districts of Albania. Their work is being



The new railroad track is continually extending through hills and rocky mountains.



Friends and well wishers from Finland spent some building the new railroad.

xism-Leninism. It went without saying that in this the battle was waged against all modern revisionism.

The determination of the Party of Labor of Albania not to accept the course of the XXth Congress, to keep intact its general revolutionary line, gave rise to uneasiness in the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. They tried by all manner of means – by demagogy, blackmail and open menace to force the Party of Labor of Albania to its knees. But the Khrushchevites failed to reach their objective. Our Party stood firm on its Marxist-Leninist course.

– The internationalist revolutionary stand of the Party of Labor of Albania was expressed also at the meeting of the communist and workers parties which was held in Moscow in November 1957. At this meeting the delegation of the Party of Labor of Albania, headed by comrade Enver Hoxha, rendered an important contribution to exposing the anti-Marxist views of Nikita Khrushchev's group, who tried to legalize the revisionist course of the XXth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union as the general line of the International communist movement But the 1957 Moscow meeting checked revisionism only for the time being, but failed to stop spreading and intensifying it in the international communist movement. The Party of Labor of Albania grieved to see the spread of revisionism. It considered the fight against revisionism as one of its most important tasks. And in accomplishing this internationalist obligation it fought with determination resorting to all means and rejecting all the pressures and demagogy of the revisionists.

– Khrushchev's revisionist group tried to deal a surprise decisive blow on the back of the socialist camp and the international communist movement at the meeting which was held in Bucharest in June 1960 with the delegations of the communist and workers' parties which took part at the Congress of the Rumanian Workers Party, At this meeting the Soviet delegation quite unexpectedly and a few hours before the meeting distributed a document with attacks and trumped up charges against the Communist Party of China. Khrushchev tried to bring these slanders up for discussion at the meeting, to condemn the Communist Party of China and to expel it from the international co-

crowned with success. There we meet undergraduates of the Tirana University, students of the higher classes of the Gjirokastra secondary schools, young workers and peasants from Gramshi and others. Taking part in mass actions, they carry out in practice one of the requirements of our new school, namely the participation of the young directly in production work. I saw them working side by side with other young men and women from the countryside and the sectors of economy. This is of major importance for these future cadres. Here they are imbued with correct concepts on work and on the working people.

On this project are employed also many workers of different specializations. Working and living together with them the younger people profit a lot from the simplicity of the working class, its readiness to overcome all obstacles, from the conscience, spirit and discipline of the working class.

Living and working together cultivates the sense of collectivity. In one sector of the railroad they told us of a young man who was hospitalized and stood in need of blood transfusion. Tens of comrades of his brigade presented themselves at the hospital to give blood from their own bodies. At mass actions there are formed many friends, whose friendship lasts for life.

The youths have organized groups of amateur artists and there are various literary circles in every brigade. We attended a concert of young voices. Young volunteers mounted the stage and sang many songs. We also watched a football match and a swimming contest organized by the young men and women volunteers themselves.

They run the life of the camp skillfully under the guidance of their youth organization. The brigades and sectors are headed by the best activists of the organization. There they learn how to organize and direct the work in practice. If he or she wishes, the young actionist may attend courses in order to master the profession he or she wishes. It is worth remarking that many of the young men and women who have been through the great school of mass actions have now become gifted cadres of the various sectors of economy and culture.

At present the brigades of young volunteers have hoisted their flags also in the remotest regions of the homeland — building railroads, workshops, hydro-electric plants, motor highways, opening reclaiming virgin lands, building terraces on hillsides and planting fruit trees and forests. Thousands of young volunteers work in building irrigation schemes on the mountainous regions of the districts of Gjirokastra, Kolonja, Kukës, Berat and systematizing the hills and planting lemon, orange and olive trees along the Ionian seacoast in the south.



hours among the young volunteers working in



At mass actions the young men and women are educated with correct concepts on working men.

mmunist movement. The delegation of the Communist Party of China rejected the Khrushchevite accusations. The Central Committee of the Party of Labor of Albania, having been informed at once by its delegation, considered the situation very grave and drew the correct conclusion that the socialist camp and the international communist movement were faced with a major plot concocted by Khrushchev. Our delegation opposed the discussion at the meeting of the so-called «mistakes» of the Communist Party of China, and was against condemning it. The principled stand of the delegation of the Party of Labor of Albania was backed by a number of delegations.

This principled stand of our Party enraged Khrushchev's group. They launched an attack against the leadership of our Party, against our Party and people as a whole. They did not even hesitate to take such economic steps as to place socialist Albania into a critical situation. In spite of this the Khrushchevites did not achieve their objective, but strengthened the determination of our Party to defend Marxism-Leninism through thick and thin.

— This determination was expressed in a special way also at the second Moscow meeting in November 1960. The delegation of the Party of Labor of Albania headed by comrade Enver Hoxha dealt a hard blow to the attempts of Khrushchev and his companions to force the revisionist course worked out by them on the meeting and the international communist movement. The speech delivered by comrade Enver Hoxha laid bare the revisionist essence of Khrushchev plan, exposed the business-like maneuvers to which Krushchev's group resorted in order to compel our delegation to keep silent and not to reveal the truth.

The attempts of the revisionists failed. It became ever clearer that two opposing lines, — the Marxist-Leninist and the revisionist lines — had been crystalized in the internationl communist movement. The fight between these two lines had become inevitable. The Party of Labor of Albania, loyal to Marxism-Leninism, continued its battle against the revisionist line even after the Moscow meeting. It continues it today and will continue it always side by side with the other Marxist-Leninist Parties up to the final triumph of socialism and communism.

THE NORTH OF LIGHT

ISMAIL KADARE
writer

When you travel north of the country, willing or unwilling, you recall the rhapsodies of knights. However well informed you may be about geography, economy or customs, the information given by people's epic on the north, is irreplaceable. This information helps you to better understand the reality of things, their continuity.

And look! Fierza comes before you, the forefront of the struggle for the construction of socialism.

In the rhapsodies of the North, only mythological beings: the fairies and the heroes related to them could perform such colossal work (removal of rocks, conversion of rivers into lakes, etc.) In fact, by creating heroes with such abilities, the people have but embodied in songs their desire to conquer nature: rocks, avalanches, running rivers. Viewed from this angle, Fierza in a simple way, has lived in the minds of the people also before. I say in a simple way, because it might have been imagined like a powerful removal of rocks or conquering of the river, but not connected with its great objective: the production of light. It was only the revolution, the Party of Labor, which gave the centuries long energy of the people this great meaning and this clarity of purpose.

That which in rhapsodies was performed only by the fairies, is being performed now in the big hydropower station by tens of working teams. And it is not a literary configuration, but if the heroes of rhapsodies Muji, Halili and others would work together in a legendary team, they would not do more than the vanguard brigade «Ismet Sali Bruçaj».

It is the revolution which has turned such dreams into reality in our country.

Our men in the North have often been participators in great events: wars, uprisings, national actions. Fierza is a monument of a new nature. It enters magnificiently into the history of the North and the history of all the homeland, side by side other with great deeds. The experience of our men in the North in stopping the Ottoman or Montenegran hordes with their blood, has not been little. They knew very well how defence is organized, where the ambush must be laid, how the fury of the enemy can be brought to a halt. But they could not know and could not imagine how to harness a wild river.

The place where Drini and Valbona rivers meet, has been one of the most isolated places of the North. Three regions meet there. Lek Bibaj, Puka and Tropoja, Separated from the river, the villages — although in a short distance from one another, were entirely isolated. Thus, Fierza village and Brega Lumasi village, for hundreds of years could see each other but could hardly get into touch. In those rare occasions when they made efforts to cross the waters, grave accidents occured. So they tell of a wedding between the two villages and the crossing of the river by the bride.

To prevent the bride from getting dizzy, they placed her on her back, on a raft, on whose flanks they had tied wind bags. Two skilled raftsmen undertook to carry the bride to the opposite river bank. But the river was reckless. Its fury grabbed one of the raftsmen. Only one remained. He fought with the wild river, while on both river banks, those accompanying the bride shot in the air and shouted «don't let go of the bride».

Such phantasmagoric scenes have been frequent in the daily life of the North. The isolation created by nature, and deepened by the reactionary orders, was turned into a means of domination, along with police, prisons and black religious propaganda.

It is very meaningful that in the centuries long North of the canon, backwardness and medieval darkness, powerful hydropower stations are being built. There where night was darkest, shines now the brightest of light. Being also a school of education, Fierza is already giving light before its turbines are put into motion. It is the inner light which runs through the working people in the days of their battles.

In addition to workers voluntary brigades come here from all over the country. Here, hundreds of youth pass their period of probation, before entering life, hundreds of party candidates pass also their period of probation before meriting the name of the member of the Party of Labor of Albania.

Fierza's capacity surpasses the power of its turbines many times.

Just as darkness has been turned to light, the former isolation of the North has been turned into its opposite, into unity.

All the country feels close to Fierza. It is not the 6 thousand workers working here. Tens of thousands of other people are working for it. They are working in the plants of the country, in big and small cities, even in the remotest villages. Thousands upon thousands of people are thinking of it, are concerned about it, write its names in letters, telegrams, poems or songs.

The fact that Fierza workers are aware that they are working for all the country, increases their spiritual ties with the working people in all fronts of socialism.

When we recall hydropower stations, the first thing we imagine is their dam. The construction of a hydropower station includes big works which are not less in difficulty and importance than the construction of its dam, but the dam remains the dam. It is the most conceivable, the most perceptible part of a hydropower station. The magnificence of work there strikes one's eye. While many a part of the hydropower station will function always covered by water, the dam will be always outside it, a mountainlike testimony of what was done here among the mountains.

The dam means the direct check of the fury of waters. It is the giant holding the lake, the doorkeeper. It is natural, the people with the dam mean the hydropower station. The dam expresses in the best way and most concretely their combat with nature. From this angle it takes a symbolic meaning. This symbolic meaning becomes more understandable for our working people, who for years are braving successfully every pressure of the bourgeois-revisionist world.

168 meters high, the dam is a real mountain of the landscape. The pyramid of Cheops, which is still considered as one of the miracles of human work, and with which dams are often compared would look small if placed in its stead. Besides that being useless, the pyramid, even if considered from its dimensions, would be completely included inside the dam. As for its force and resistance, the pyramid looks funny before the dam. The water would destroy the pyramid within a short time. While the dam is indestructible. Day and night, brigades of builders, lorry drivers, crane drivers, volunteers from all over the country work on it. Day and night, everything is in motion here. The gigantic dam is going up inch by inch. Every inch, on which so much toil is spent, has its own chronicle.

The Party candidates on their probation there, working at the dam, will have it at the foundations of their lives. Its height, its strength will have their influence even later in their lives and the character of a communist.

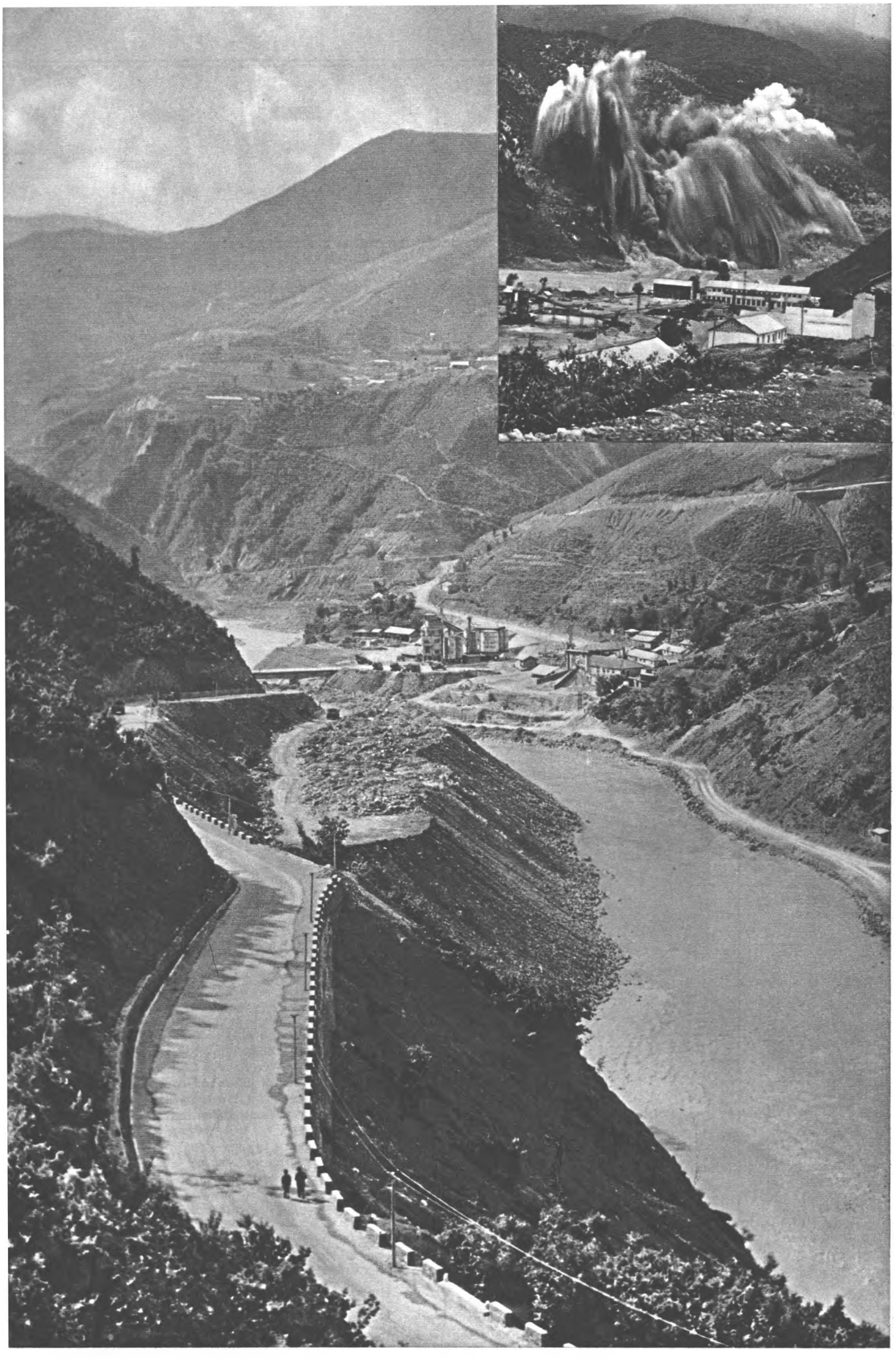
* * *

In old folk legends on the building of bridges, or castles, there is always to be found the motive of the sacrifice. Under the foot of a bridge somebody should be sacrificed so that the bridge would stand and the river would flow quieter. How magnificent is the building of our hydropower stations if we think that it is not somebody to be sacrificed for the sake of the river, but it is the river which is sacrificed for the sake of the hydropower station. After some years, after the hydropower stations will have been built on it, Drini river together with Drini i Bardhë, will not be found on the map of Albania, because they will have been turned into lakes. They will be found only in old songs and in the poems of the poets of the National Revival and other poets. And if they would see their absence, they would ask us: Where are Drini and the Drini i Bardhë, what have you done with them? We would answer: «Don't worry, we turned them into light.»

The people have a very beautiful wish they use whenever a very good job is done. They say «May your road be turned to a mirror», or «May your road be turned to light!»

Rarely can a wish coincide with the reality. In Fierza's case they coincide one hundred percent. Everybody who gets acquainted with Fierza and its workers, by making the ancient wish «May your work be turned to light, comrade workers!», feels a profound joy when thinking that this is not a mere wish, but this will happen and there is no force or superforce in the world to hinder it.

It is precisely this clairvoyance for the future, for the aim of the work, which constitutes the



A NEW HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER-PLANTS IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON THE COURSE OF THE DRINI RIVER AT FIERZA IN TROPOJA (ON THE NORTHERNMOST CORNER OF ALBANIA) WHICH WILL BE THE LARGEST IN ALBANIA AND ONE OF THE LARGEST IN EUROPE. IT WILL GIVE 1.7 BILLION KILOWATT HOUR ELECTRIC POWER A YEAR. THOUSANDS OF WORKERS FROM ALL OVER ALBANIA HAVE COME TO BUILD IT AND THE MOST MODERN MEANS ARE BEING USED. THE BUILDING WORK HAS ENTERED A VERY IMPORTANT STAGE. THE DAM WILL BE 160 METERS HIGH; IT IS CONTINUALLY RISING HIGHER AND HIGHER EVERY PASSING DAY. THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A GREAT SCHOOL OF EDUCATION. MANY WORKERS THERE HAVE ACQUIRED VARIOUS PROFESSIONS AND BECOME CAPABLE CADRES FOR THE OTHER SECTORS OF OUR ECONOMY.

source of the revolutionary optimism of our working people. They know that the days full of work and efforts, unexpected difficulties, bad weather and mud, and an engine failure and the leaking tunnel, and the occasional hot temper and all other small things which accompany great work, they know that all are overshadowed by the great heroism of the work, will be turned to light.

From this point of view, Fierza, just like all the big construction projects of our country, enable people do away with trifle things, petty-bourgeois and pettiness, increase them spiritually and morally, and make them ever more conscious as fighters for the new communist world.

In front of Fierza and the big construction projects of socialism, their reality, their dimensions, all our working people in one way or another, ask themselves if they are doing enough for socialism, if they are good contemporaries of the vanguard of our working class. The workers, peasants, school pupils, writers, do it.

Fierza is included among the big projects of the epoch of the Party. In the 30 years these epoch-making projects have an unprecedented density. It is precisely their magnificence, which incorporated in the magnificent political and ideological actions of the Party, gives us the right to call our time, the time of socialism in Albania, most naturally: a great time.

FOR SELF A

COLLECTIVIZATION IS THE BASIC FEATURE WHICH CHARACTERIZES ALL THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RELATIONS IN OUR SOCIALIST ORDER OF THINGS, WHERE SOCIAL OWNERSHIP ON THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION PREVAILS. COLLECTIVITY IS THE UNITY OF OBJECTIVE WILL POWER AND ACTIVITY OF EVERY MEMBER OF OUR SOCIETY FIGHTING FOR SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM. IT IS THE READINESS OF EVERY INDIVIDUAL TO SUBJECT PERSONAL INTERESTS TO THE INTERESTS OF THE COLLECTIVE – IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL TOWARDS THE COLLECTIVE, AND OF THE COLLECTIVE TOWARDS THE INDIVIDUAL.

ADEM GOLEMI – Mechanical engineer at the technical bureau of the «Drini» workshop in Shkodra.

The work of a mechanic had attracted me since. I was very young. 22 years ago I began my work at a workshop. At the same time I attended evening courses at a secondary vocational school. In the same way I completed my studies in mechanical engineering at the affiliated branch of the University in Shkodra. I completed these studies while being employed by this workshop, which repairs motor vehicles of the worksite of the hydro-electric power-plant under construction on the Drini river.

Problems arise almost every day. Even small details are of great value. Here, among other problems, I had also to crack my brains to create spare parts and equipment so as to erase them from the list of our imports. From a formal point of view, this is not the task



of any one of us. But our new society relies on socialized ownership. We were brought up precisely under these special circumstances.

As such we can in no way see ourselves, our personal interests detached from society, from its interests. Why is this so? Because every day shows to us that by serving the collective we serve ourselves. The making of spare parts or of equipment bring about not only the stepping up of the work process in production but also sparing considerable sums of hard cash from the coffers of our society. These sums gained by the improvement of the processes of production as well as by saving hard cash in various ways, improve the economy of each one of us.

Therefore, can we stand with our hands crossed behind before the problems facing our workshop, our homeland as a whole? Some time ago we completed the work on a 400-ton hydraulic press. It was a problem which went beyond the boundaries of the Shkodra district. At first it looked so difficult that some went so far as to say that it could not be realized. But after some months of efforts, the press was successfully completed. We have recently prepared also another machine to dry sand used in our foundry. At present we are working to manufacture other machinery which will also be used in our workshop.

MARIETA THEMELI – a teacher at the secondary part-time school in Lezha.



Eight years ago I completed my studies at the department of History and Geography of the University of Tirana on a partial scholarship of the State. From that time on I have been working as a teacher. Teaching has been my dream as far back as when I sat on the benches of the first class. . .

In our school we teach those who are employed at work. Most of them do well in their clasroom work. But, as it always happens, there are students who, for one reason or other, lag behind. These are so few that even if they have to repeat the class , we are formally in order. But can we feel ourselves satisfied? No! These students have become our principal concern. We want and try to have all our students pass their exams. Therefore, we teachers come always to school earlier or leave it later than schedule. We devote these extra hours to these backward students, reappraising their knowledge and re-explaing the lessons they feel themselves weak in.

We often go also to the enterprises and institutions where our students are employed. In this way we have reduced to the minimum the number of absences from class recitations.

Of course, we lose some part of our free time, but when we see that our efforts serve our society, we feel pleased enough to recompence every thing.

By serving others, we actually serve ourselves. I say this because we, too, have our own children in creches, kindergartens or schools. The educators in creches and kindergartens, the teachers in the schools our children attend do the same thing. They come to our homes and are interested in our children also during their free hours. If our boys or girls do not do well in their schools, they come and help us. Hence everything in our society is inter-related. It goes without saying that the fulfillment of these tasks presupposes sacrifice on the part of individuals towards society, towards the collective . But our experience goes to show that the majesty of the moral image of our new man lies preciselv in his ability not to place his own personal inerests above those of society.

ND SOCIETY

HAXHI DELIU — Chairman of the Trade Union Committee of the department of furnaces of the cement factory in Fushë-Krujë.

Man is not born an individualist. He is made so by the social environment in which he lives and works. Individualism is the offspring of private property, of the relations of exploitation of man by man and not of his own nature. The basic distinction of our socialist order is that in socialism there exist the material economic and social conditions which provide an harmonious combination between personal and general interests.

This is noticed also in the life of the collective of the factory where I work. For instance, during their free time our men build new apartment houses. Most of them need no apartments; they work for the purpose of meeting the needs of those who lack sufficient



dwelling space. Some of them work knowing that they will not receive apartment house in the building they are setting up. Nevertheless, they sacrifice part of their free time in favor of society. And they do it with devotion because as their comrades receive apartments so will they receive additional space in the apartment buildings their comrades, society, will be building for them in the days, to come. How many such examples can be cited in our life where each works for all and all work for each. Let us recall also the cases of earthquakes and other misfortunes of nature. The whole society steps up to aid those who have incurred damages without remuneration.

BUKUROSHE HOXHA — Physician at the Pediatry Hospital in Durrës.

It is six years since I have been working at this hospital among the younger patients of our society. I have always been fond of dealing with children.

The work of physicians is of a special humanitarian nature. It deals directly with the life of man. I wanted to say that this humaneness has never been on such a high pedestal as it is now, among the workers of this sector in our country. I will mention an example among the usual ones: the time is up for the physician to leave the hospital and turn over the job to the physician on night duty. But at once a child is brought in with a high temperature. What am I to do under such circumstances? Am I to look at may watch in order to blindly carry out my right to go home? Can I feel at ease if I quit in this way? I say this taking into consideration all the personnel of our hospital ranging from doctors down to the wardens.

Why does this happen? Because our life is enriched day in day out with acts of heroism of men in various domains of their activity. In addition, each one of us views with admiration all this extension of the network of public health service. For instance, our hospital alone employs as many doctors and nurses all our city boasted before liberation. And all this concern which is shown in our public health institutions is paid for by society, by the State, the citizens paying nothing.



I have been born, brought up and trained to be a doctor during the years of our People's State Power. As far back as when we were in the kindergarten we have received the rudiments of the education our new society calls for. The harmonization of general with personal interests is the groundwork of this education. At school, in various books, on stage and television performances or in radio programs this harmonization is embodied in hundreds and thousands of examples from the life and work of our people.

LILIANA KOTE — Worker at the jewelry shop of the «Migjeni» Artistic Enterprise.

It is ten years since I started working at this shop. Here we are keeping up the traditions of our best masters in the delicate crafts. We produce plates, vases and other ornamental articles. Our products have always been welcomed in the foreign markets.

There are seven work brigades in our shop. The slogan «One for all and all for one» which has entered deep into every aspect of our life, and which they adhere to, may be unreservedly attributed to them.

The workers of our department have been noticing time and again that the daily plan could be realized within six or seven hours; thus it was almost always overfulfilled. We felt that the existing quotas were very low; hence there existed inner reserves. So we



ourselves demanded that the existing quotas should be raised, although this was not to our material advantage. This has happened a number of times not only where I work, but also at other sectors of our enterprise.

Why did this happen? We have all of us grown up during the years of our People's State Power. Our society has done a lot for each of us: some have attended school on scholarships, others have been treated for a long time in hospitals without having to pay anything, and so on. Why, then, not compensate society? Further more, why should we try to receive from society more than what pertains for this to us?

Our life is full of such examples. We have grown up in and are used to them. On behalf of this general interest, our best sons and daughters gave their life in the struggle for the liberation of our fatherland and, today, on behalf of the general interest, our people are making sublime sacrifices. A member of society, whic builds socialism, should by all means look beyond his narrow personal interest.



Photo by A. Kruti

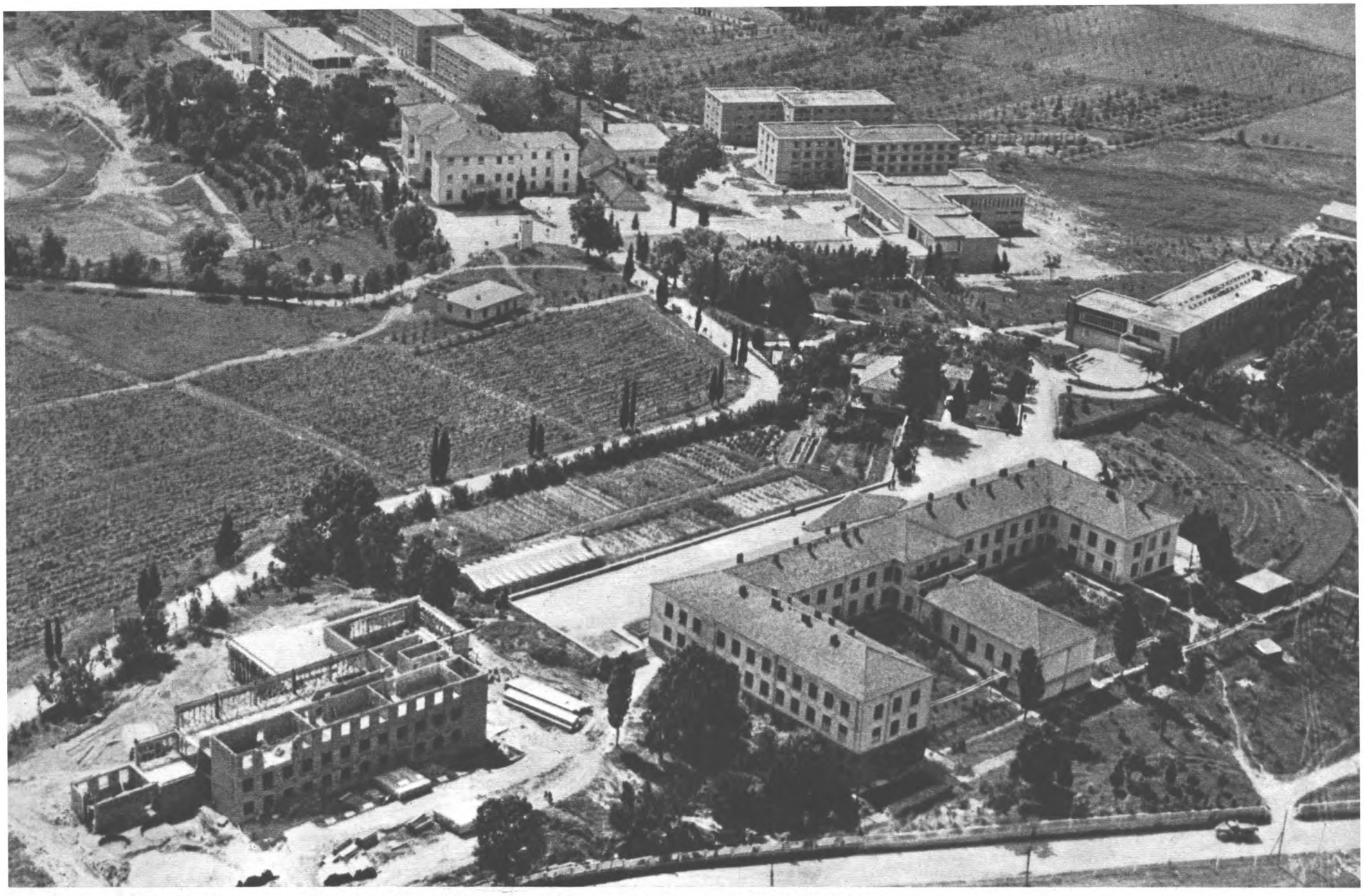
CHEMISTRY AND AGRICULTURE

Parallel with the intensification of agricultural production demands have increased also for chemical preparations in fighting diseases and pests of plants as well as weeds. The use of these preparations has increased from one year to another. If we compare it with 1960, Albanian agriculture uses today 8 times as many chemical preparations.

The first Albanian enterprise to produce pesticides was set up in Durrës in 1966. The objective is not to import these preparations from abroad. And, although the quantity of pesticides used in agriculture is continually increasing, their imports have continued to decrease. Over 13 assortiments are now produced in the country.

During the years of the 6th five-year plan (1976--1980), it is envisaged to greatly increase the production of pesticides. New sectors and lines of production will be set up. This will make it possible for the growing needs of agriculture to be fulfilled almost entirely in the country; by 1980, ninety percent of all the quantity will be produced by our enterprises.

Our agriculture has also been equipped with the most up-to-date devices to spray plants in wide fields using also aviation.



View of the Tirana Upper Agricultural Institute, photographed from the airplane. Photo by V. Koçi.

FIGURES AND FACTS ABOUT THE UPPER AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE

In this picture you see the complex of the Upper Agricultural Institute set up at Kamëz, in the vicinity of Tirana. We take this occasion to give some information dealing mainly with this Institute.

Among other early higher institutes of learning there was opened in Tirana also the Upper Agricultural Institute. It started its work with two faculties, that of agronomy and that of zootechny.

* * *

It started its first year work with only 43 students and 7 teachers. In 1956, the number of students increased to 480 and the number of its graduates was about 108, a figure this which is double that of all the agricultural cadres our country boasted before liberation. In 1975-76 it was attended by 3.000 young men and young women students, about one third of whom by correspondence in its affiliated branches.

* * *

In the first year after inauguration, this Institute had three chairs, that of agronomy, zootechny and industrial plants. Today there are 29 chairs incorporated in four faculties: in agronomy, veterinary, agricultural economy and forest engineering. In order to train highly specialized cadres, the following branches function in these faculties: protection of plants, fruticulture, general agronomy, the agrarian branch, accounting, zootechny, veterinary, woodworking, silviculture, forest utilization and others.

* * *

At present, the graduates of one year of this Institute alone surpass the number of cadres of higher training Albania had (in all the branches of economy and culture) before liberation, Today our country has about 50 times as many agricultural cadres of higher training and 4 times of middle school training as prior to liberation.

— At the beginning, girls made up only 7 percent of the total number of students of this Institute. During the 1975-76 school year they made up 60 percent of them.

* * *

The Upper Agricultural Institute began its activity in a three-storyed building, which served for classrooms as well as for dormitories; whereas today it has passed the size of a little town. There are five buildings for the faculties; the science laboratory, a whole range of buildings as hostels, messes, restaurants, the architectonic complex of the Cultural Home with all cultural and artistic installations, the science library with more than 100.000 volumes, the playgrounds, the centers of municipal service, cater shops and others.

All of this little town is covered in green.

* * *

Now in our country there are two Upper Agricultural Institutes with about 250 secondary agricultural full time and parttime schools with over 23.000 students and undergraduates.

* * *

— Ten central scientific institutions and 26 agricultural stations in various regions of the country engage in scientific work in agriculture.

* * *

— During one year alone over 170.000 persons attend lower agricultural schools, courses of qualification and agrotechnological circles.



Zef Shoshi: «Founding the Agricultural Cooperative in the North»

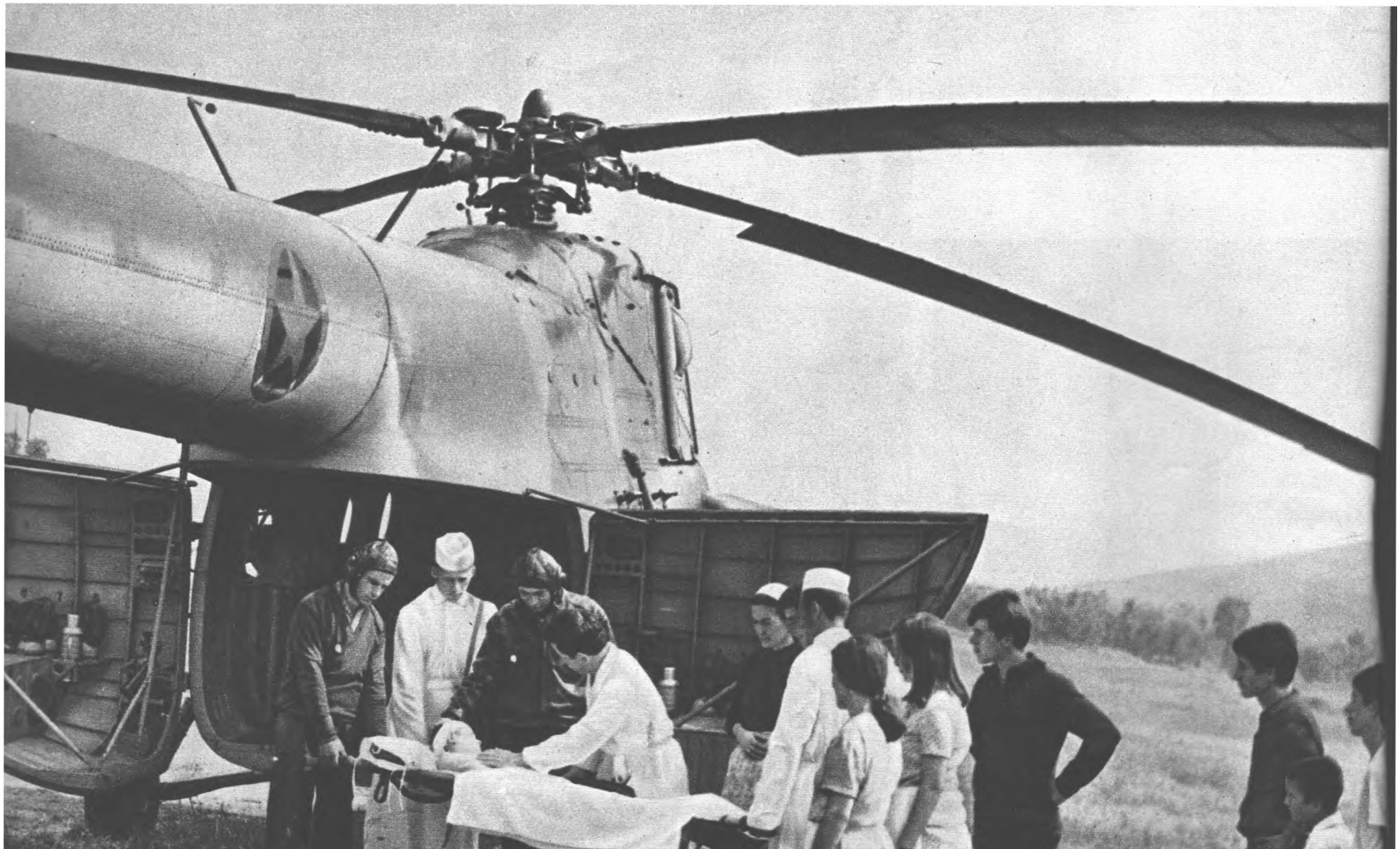




Ksenofon Dilo: «Let the rifle turn to a cannon»

Sali Shijaku: «The Village Landscape»





Albanian aircraft go often to the aid of the peasants in the remote regions when they need first aid. For the expenses incurred in such cases, the peasants pay not a single lek because medical service in Albania is free of charage. In the picture: **The helicopter has flown to take a grave sick person from the village to the hospital in town.**

TO SAVE THE LIFE OF MAN

JORGO TABAKU

aviator

I preserve many reminiscenses from my work as aviator. I want to tell some of them to the readers of the «New Albania» magazine.

In January this year I made a very difficult trip to the most montainous district of Albania — the Alps of the North. The weather was bad. It was raining in the lowland areas, while it was snowing in the mountains. We were informed that in the village of Markaj in the Bajram Curri district (the remotest part in the North), a woman was very ill and a cooperative member was injured at the same time. The road was full of snow and it was impossible to transport them with vehicles. The life of the two sick people was in jeopardy.

Which one of us would go to the assistance of the people? All the members of the collective of the aviators expressed their desire unanimously to fly, although the weather condition were very difficult. The crew of the helicopter where I serve was charged with this duty.

The village at which we should land was about 1000 meters above sea level. Visibility was weak because of the clouds and dense mist. Nevertheless, we landed well at one of the squares of the village. The highlanders — men, women, young men and young women hailed us full of love and treated us. Both they and we were deeply moved. We became friends and comrades as soon as we met them. And this because both sides felt the force of socialist solidarity, the love for each other with which our Party of Labor had taught us.

We would like to have stayed longer among our hosts, but it was impossible: the sick had to be brought to Tirana as soon as possible. We started. After some weeks we learned that they had turned back safe and sound to their homes.

My colleagues and I have often had to carry out such missions, and we feel the same emotions, the same expression of the gratitude of the rank and file peasants for the people' s power. Once, in very difficult weather conditions, too, we went to the assistance of a pregnant woman in Shengjergj village, Tirana highlands. The midwife of the village had sounded the alarm: the sick should be brought by all means to the Tirana maternity home. We performed our duty. Later on, we were informed that we had saved the life of three people: the young woman had given birth to two children.

The reader may pose one question: what do these people, to whose assistance the helicopter is sent, owe to the State? The answer is very short: no money! In our country the medical service is free of charge however great the expenditure for this or that case of illness.

THE VOICE OF ALBANIA IN THE WORLD

The Portugal-Albania Association Of Friendship which was founded two years ago is doing praiseworthy work in strengthening the friendship between the Portugese and the Albanian peoples. It has published a number of valuable books and has organized different activities to acquaint the Portuguese workers with the socialist achievement of the Albanian people.



A GOOD INITIATIVE OF THE PORTUGUESE FRIENDS

A number of books and booklets, published in Portugal have come to our editorial office on the initiative of those revolutionary forces who see in Albania the country which is successfully building socialism. The Friendship Albanian-Portugese Association, set up two years ago, is carrying on a praiseworthy activity for the strengthening of the friendship between the peoples of the two countries. It has organized many activities for making known to the Portugese workers the victories attained by their Albanian friends under the leadership of their Party of Labor with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head.

Among the latest publications published in Portugal about Albania are, first of all, a number of publications revealing the revolutionary Marxist-Leninist line followed by the Party of Labor of Albania, from the day of its founding to the present. Here are included many speeches, articles and talks by comrade Enver Hoxha since the founding of the Communist Party of Albania. Writings by other leaders of the Party of Labor of Albania, or publications on problems of the National-liberation War, or of socialist construction are also included.

In Nr. 14 of the series of publications «Maria da Fonte» in a book of 260 pages, are included writings of comrade Enver Hoxha during the years 1942-1944. The fourth book of the series of 250 pages, contains writings of the leaders of the Party of Labor of Albania and materials of the National Conference on social Studies, held in Tirana on November 1969. Two other books, Nr. 7 and 17 of the series of 350 pages all in all, is dedicated to the fierce struggle waged by the Party of Labor of Albania against modern revisionism and especially Khrushchevite revisionism.

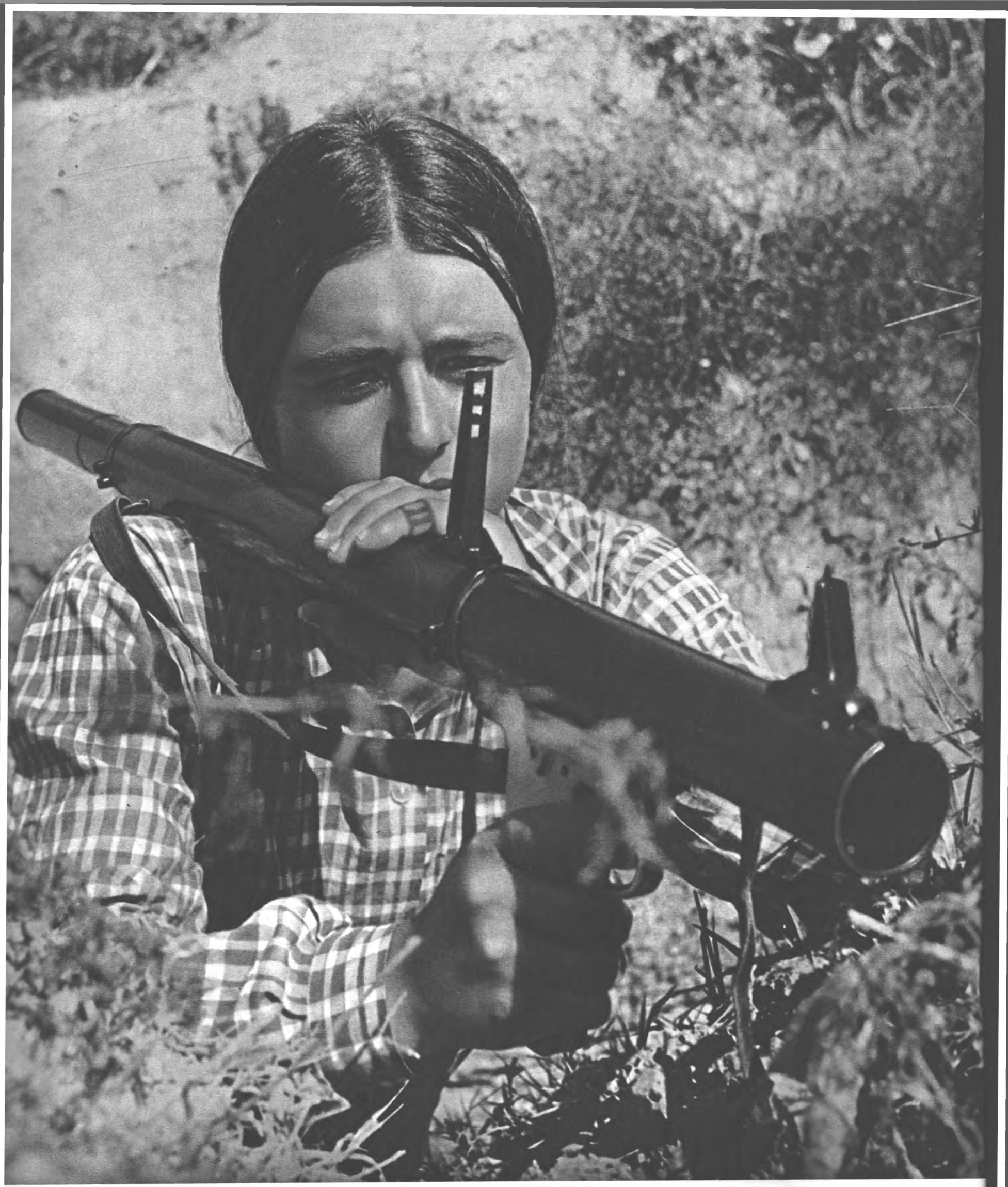
A short summary of the Albanian history and of the struggle of the Albanian people for freedom, democracy and socialism, is given in the introduction of book 7. The book Nr. 4 of the series has 300 pages and is titled «On the Leninist method and style of work». 11 different materials like speeches, talks and writings of comrade Enver Hoxha, on the theme mentioned above, are included here.

In series «Documents» of the publications «Maria da Fonte», numbers 6,7,9, are dedicated also to documents on Albania. The book Nr. 6 contains comrade Mehmet Shehu's book «On the Experience of the National liberation War and the development of our National-liberation Army». A summary of the history of the Albanian National Liberation War is given in book Nr. 7. Comrade Enver Hoxha's report on the activity of the Central Committee of the Party of Labor of Albania, submitted at the VIth Congress of the Party, is published in book Nr. 9 of the series.

Problems from the life of our country are treated in five booklets published by the Association of Friendship between Portugal and Albania. These are original materials, translations or summaries taken from Albanian publications like the magazine «New Albania», journal «Puna» ect. «The draft Constitution of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania», including materials like «The struggle of the Albanian people for the emancipation of women», «On Education in Albania», «On Public Health Service in the People's Republic of Albania», «On the reduction of Differences in wages», are published in these booklets. .

Ismail Kadare novel «The General of the Dead army» is also translated in Portuguese and is put into circulation.

No doubt these publications and the various activities organized by the Friendship Association, and by all the friends and progressive forces in Portugal, will contribute to the streng thening of the friendship between the two peo ples of the two countries, in the spirit of proletarian internationalism.



The Albanian women militate with dignity not only in the sectors of production and eulture but also in defending the homeland from the enemy. In line with the slogan: «Build socialism hold:ng the pick in one hand and the riflc in the other»,
all the people are armend and trained in order to protect the socialist achievements. Photo by A. Kruti

THE ALBANIAN POPULAR PRESS DAY

The first issue of the newspaper «Zëri i Popullit» (The People's Voice), the organ of the Central Committee of the Party of Labor of Albania, appeared on August 25, 1942. This date marks at the same time also the day of the founding of the Albanian popular press.

The Albanian popular press is the work of the Party of Labor of Albania, the work of its founder and leader comrade Enver Hoxha, who is at the same time the architect, organizer and inspirer of this press its first newsman and publicist. The 34 year course of the «Zëri i Popullit» and of all the Albanian people's revolutionary press is the revolutionary course of the Party of Labor of Albania itself. This is the course through which the press has grown and has waxed strong, has increased its militant spirit, its revolutionary content, its role as collective informer, agitator and propagandist.

During the years of the National-liberation war, the Party press though under critical material conditions and clandestinity under which the few comrades of this sector worked, taking its clue also from the best traditions of the former Albanian press, played a great role in mobilizing the people in the war against the invaders and traitors to the country. «Zëri i Popullit» and the clandestine press of the years of the National-liberation war chased by the enemy, published and distributed under many hardships, stood always by the people ready to clarify them on all critical situations, ready to give them fresh force and courage during the critical moments of our war, ready to expose on every occasion the maneuvers, propaganda and demagogy of the enemy and traitors, ready to spread the truth and light where the enemies of the people had spread lies and darkness.

During the National-liberation war in addition to «Zëri i Popullit», there appeared also other clandestine press organs like «Bashkimi» (organ of the National liberation Front), «Clarion Call For Freedom» (organ of the Communist Youth), organs in districts and military detachments.

While preserving and further developing their revolutionary traditions of the war period, our popular press organs increased in number and became more combative during the years of socialist construction. There were more newspapers, reviews, books, programs of Albanian radio and television, informations of the Albanian Telegraphic Agency and others.

There appear in Albania today 25 newspapers with a general annual printing of about 47 million copies. Before liberation there were published in Albania only 6 newspapers and they were all in the service of the antipopular regime in power. The largest newspaper at that time «Drita» was printed only in 4.000 copies a day, while «Zëri i Popullit» is printed now in 105.000 copies a day. The number of copies of the newspapers which are distributed today all over Albania, both urban and rural areas, is twenty times as high as before liberation. Local newspapers alone (14 newspapers are published in centers of administrative districts) have a general circulation of 50.000 copies for each issue. Today in Albania there are published 9 times as many reviews as before liberation; thrice as many as in 1950 and twice as many as in 1960.

In addition to newspapers and reviews, there are published over 800 titles of books every year in 8,5 million copies. Today there are published 100 times as many titles of books as before liberation.

But what is more important, the Albanian popular press is characterized by a high ideo-political, scientific and cultural level, by a revolutionary militant spirit. As a result it has turned to an ever powerful means in the hands of the masses of the people, to a powerful means of educating and mobilizing the workers in building and defending the country. Our press attaches special attention also to international affairs portraying with consistency the principled struggle of the Albanian Party and people against imperialism and revisionism, against oppression and exploitation of various peoples.

For some years now, there has appeared the review «Albania Today», which publishes material both on the development and socialist transformations in Albania as well as on the determined struggle of the Party of Labor of Albania against imperialism and modern revisionism. Its materials have aroused great interest among its foreign readers. This organ is published now bimonthly and in five languages. The illustrated review «New Albania», which has a wide circulation, continues to be published for the last thirty years. This is published in nine languages with a circulation of 170.000 copies for each issue.

The distinctive characteristics of the popular press in Albania is that it is firmly based on the broad masses of the people. And this not only because the press, radio television, publications and so on are the property of the masses, the rostrum from where they express their revolutionary ideas, but because they are of their own making and express the revolutionary line of the broad masses of workers directly. Through the voluntary correspondents and collaborators of the press organs and radio-television, the masses bring to the press the thoughts, experience and the beautiful language of the working people. The newspapers or reviews are not turned out by the professional newsmen alone, nor are the radio-television broadcasts filled by the effective editors. The press organs, radio-television and so on carry the writings and words of people of various categories, professions from the city and from the countryside, who are in closer contact with life, production and the daily struggle of the working masses.



THE HERO OF THE NEW ALBANIAN LITERATURE

DALAN SHAPLLO
Editor-in-chief
of the «Nëntori» review

The speciality of art and literature is to detect and portray man as a social and psychological being with his actual life and activity, his rational and emotional world. But man can be viewed from various class and aesthetic angles and, consequently, the objective truth, either emerges or is covered up, either the progressive or retrogressive aspect prevails. Of course, art which lasts, which prevails through the centuries, is the progressive art with heroes, who express according to the time, positive ideals or a bitter criticism of the reality in the name of a true social and aesthetic ideal.

The trends which proclaim the position of man in literature as outdated, are in essence, formalistic and fall into the morass of decadence and agnosticism; they deviate from the noble objective which progressive literature has always had to serve mankind, the freedom and happiness of the peoples.

The present day Albanian literature has followed and follows progressive national and world traditions, respecting these and, simultaneously blazing new trails.

The important distinguishing feature of the Albanian literature of socialist realism is its popular character, which is closely linked with its partisan spirit. It places the people, the creators of history and the man who emerges from the people at its center. This new standpoint emanates from Marxist-Leninist philosophy, from the Albanian socialist reality and from the world-wide experience of proletarian art. The workers, peasants, people's intellectuals, the ancient heroes of history who represent the nation in its progressive periods have become the objects of reflection in the works of our writers. Of course, the positive heroes in the different kinds of art come into conflict with negative characters, defend revolutionary progressive and democratic ideas (particularly when referring to the past), they throw themselves into the fight and triumph morally. Sometimes these heroes also act in tragic situations, lose physically, but their ideas are morally superior and remain immortal. In the cases where their death is described, although it causes human pain, it does leave the reader in moral despair but gives rise to heroic and life-giving sentiments.

What are some of the fundamental features of this hero in the present day Albanian literature? This problem could be broadly dealt with, but here we will limit ourselves to a summarized presentation.

First, regardless of the theme, or the historical period described in the work, the positive hero of Albanian literature is the artistic embodiment of the man closely linked with the people, with the fate of the people and the nation at a given period. The typical example of our literature heroes is the man with lofty ideals who fights for the homeland, for freedom, for land and for communism. This man places the social ideal above narrow personal desires, but remains a man with his intimate inner world. He should not be transformed into a rigid norm, but he should be dynamic and full of life.

Such are the lyric heroes of the first partisan songs like those of the martyr poet M. Meto, of the authors of today Sh. Musaraj, F. Gjata, A. Varfi, Ll. Siliqi, and others. Other such heroes but who have been further developed in the epic genres of art, are those created by J. Xoxe, S. Spasse, Dritëro Agolli, I. Kadare and many other authors. Popular origin is typical for the commissars of the National-liberation War, the figures of the ordinary peasants and workers. The heart of this man is filled with love for others, for the happiness of the people for which he is ready to lay down his life.

This principle is applied also in historical works. S. Godo's historical novel «Skanderbeg», which dwells on the National hero, who, at the head of the people, fought against the Ottoman occupiers, describes Skanderbeg as a feudal leader who played a positive role by uniting the forces, the principalities at a definite moment and leading them in a twenty--five year long war to defend the freedom of Albanian soil.

Second, the positive hero of present day Albanian literature represents a fighter who does not reconcile himself with the bad but carries his ideal through to the end even against heavy odds. Moulded with the Marxist-Leninist world outlook, this hero is portrayed in literary works as an active fighter for the socialist construction in Albania, against imperialism and revisionism in the world. Our hero is of a very sensitive nature and reacts at once towards events in the world, sympathizes and upholds the struggle of peoples, hates and condemns agressive wars and the blackmail of the super-powers, hates treason and deceit.

The hero of the present Albanian literature strives to implement the ideals of the Party of Labor, for they express the high interests of the people and provide a stable future. The progress forward, the victory over fascism, over the vanquished classes, over the old ethics is not a simple victory without its ups and downs. Life proceeds along contradictions and our people's progressive writers should know how to detect these contradictions through a given materialist philosophy, to describe the struggle and harmony of persons of the same ideal, to solve without confounding antagonistic with non-antagonistic contradiction, the latter of which occur among our men predisposed to improving and developing. Thus, for instance, a recent novel by T. Laço, called «Confrontation» describes the situation of the countryside and the city during the post-liberation years when efforts were made to establish new norms in production, when hardships were met with in the mentality of private ownership, and it was necessary to do a lot of work to introduce the sense of socialist ownership, which was just taking root in the new Albanian life. The positive heroes of this novel, the communists betake themselves to the countryside, live with the people, get into closer contact with their anxieties and persuade them to adopt the new course they are to take. Good educational work is done by the commissars, commanders and plain partisans, who under the personal example they set and the genuine wise directives of the Party, hearten the people and make them more conscentious.

This happens also with the works dealing with our own times, with the years that roll on reflecting the struggle for the emancipation of women, for inculcating among the people socialist and communist features. Typical for our literature is the great concern about the destiny of women, about the great role they play in life and in the family. More images of women are described in our literary works. Women authors write also with success bringing something new in our literature, portraying thoroughly the world of women and girls, their spirit of selflessness and fine and delicate sentiments.

Third, by describing militant positive types, who do not reconcile themselves with evil, our literature does not neglect the problems of the family, the problems of intimate life of friendship and love. These aspects of socialist life and ethics are treated correctly in literature regarding life, regarding society, away from bourgeois individualism, away from meanness and in battle against red-tapism and dogmatism. Thus, our poets sing praises to work, to nature and love. But his is not the love filled with sentimental sighs and pessimism. Genuine love passes also through its hardships and thus, from a simple intimate problem turns to an important social one. Realism requires a knowledge of truth and a definite stand to indicate the trend of the phenomenon and not to remain at the crossroads.

Lastly, it must be said that the methods of style of building the positive figure differ in accordance with the substance and individuality of the writer, but the method is that of socialist realism, a thing which presupposes the social-phychological motive of the personages and the historical perspective. Therefore the genuine construction of the personage requires living material, deep observation and all-round materialist philosophical interpretation. This leads to truth against falsity and formalism.

The hero of our present literature is the creator of new society, a patriot and an internationalist: he is a worker and a revolutionary fighter. No vicissitudes of time nor the bourgeois-revisionist tricks and frauds can force this man to his knees. He proceeds ahead with lawful pride and sense of reality.



A snapshot of the hall where the National Conference of Ethnographic Studies held its sessions.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDIES

Prof. ALEKS BUDA
Chairman of the Academy of Sciences of the People's Republic of Albania

The National Conference on ethnographic studies took place in Tirana towards the end of June 1976. Reports, communications and discussions were made at the Conference by a large number of scholars from the institutes of the Academy of Sciences, from the Tirana University, from the other scientific research centers and higher institutes as well as from the scientific circles at the grassroot. 17 foreign scientists also took part at the Conference.

The National Conference on ethnographic studies had as a base many years of scientific research, intensive and serious work. The little heritage of the past, the high rates of development and the economic-social transformations in Albania, charged the new Albanian ethnographic science, since the early years of liberation, with great and urgent tasks: to accumulate, preserve, study the people's culture in all its aspects, to make its progressive heritage property of all the working masses and an active element in the socialist culture.

The almost 30 year-long road of the new Albanian sciences turned it into a resolute militant in the ideological struggle led by the Party of Labor of Albania and allowed it to achieve a chain of successes, with which it was presented at the Conference. Ethnographic studies have been and are being made not only in the ethnographic sector of the Institute of History, but also in a series of other scientific research institutions, in the higher schools of the country and in one or other regional museum. Scores of students attend ethnographic university courses every year. Hundreds of co-workers in districts constitute active nuclei to trace, gather and study the wealth of the creations of the people. A wide network of museums, beginning with the central ethnographic museum under the Academy down to the museums of the districts and villages, have accumulated a very great and invaluable wealth, of which only a small part is exhibited. Suffice it to say that over 15.000 objects of the material culture, about 600 volumes with reports from the expeditions at the grass-root, over 10.000 photographic documents etc., are preserved today only in the funds of the sector of Ethnography. This rich documentary base created the possibilities to undertake a series of **scientific** studies on the material, social and artistic culture of our people, studies that constitute a contribution to the solution of a series of historical and actual problems. This science has today its own scientific organ, the periodical publication «Albanian Ethnography».

Estimating the people's arts and culture, comrade Enver Hoxha has stated: «Through the storms of the time, fierce and endless battles, our people created a culture and art with a clear national physiognomy, that constitutes an invaluable wealth. These values of the progressive art of our nation are for us an object of a lawful pride; they are our contribution to the treasure of the progressive world culture:»

Proceeding from such a high estimation based on a deeply scientific concept, our Conference through its four main reports and with about 50 communications and discussions, analysed and illuminated in its special aspects the idea that our people's culture has high progressive values, on which our new socialist culture will be based more and more powerfully and will increase. The Conference, through a critical estimation of the heritage in the field of ethnographic studies made in Albania and abroad, showed that our Marxist-Leninist ethnography is not merely a descriptive science of remnants and retrospective, as the representatives of the bourgeois and revisionist science consider it today, denying its active role in the social and cultural progress of the peoples. Attacking, on the one hand, the nationalist and romantic viewpoints, that deny the class aspect in the cultural creativeness and idealize the past, the conference directed its spearhead especially against a very dangerous reactionary trend that prevails in the capitalist-revisionist world today, acoording to which, the small peoples, with their economy and culture, already form anachronist units, which should be considered as an obstacle in the development of the «modern» society, that allegedly is marching towards the forming of bigger units, that allegedly represent the highest result of the development and in which the spe-

cial national culture ought to be merged. It is not difficult to understand that behind these viewpoints lies the chauvinistic hegemonistic concept of the two superpowers, despite the various means in which it is disguised. Relying on the experience of our socialist construction, the Conference once more reaffirmed the correct line of the Party of Labor of Albania, that is fully based on the thought of the classics of Marxism-Leninism that the period of the transition from capitalism to communism is precisely the period of the consolidation and flourishing of the socialist nations and of their culture. The processes connected with the elevation of the cultural level of the working masses in Albania are fully turning down the saying of bourgeois and revisionist «culturologists», who claim that the three spheres that constitute our socialist culture — the peasants culture, the people's city culture and the studied culture-allegedly is fatally being merged into a «culture of amorphous masses», to which they give a negative meaning and estimation. Our ethnographic studies show that these three spheres will be more and more in a process of mutual fruitful and close exchange, in which there is being noticed ever more brilliantly the creative genius of the working masses.

An important place in the Conference, occupied the problem of the historic forming of our people's culture, as an expression of the ethnic features and a characteristic of our cultural forming, in which is noticed the harmonious interlacing of the homogeneous features, formed historically, with the regional diversity and difference. The Conference dwelt especially on the presentation and the analysis of the social, material and artistic culture of the people and on the problem of the development of our socialist culture on this people's ground as well as on the role of the artistic people's creativeness in our national culture. The materials of the Party and the teachings of comrade Enver Hoxha are a powerful ideological and theoretical basis to correctly treat of these problems that are as much interesting as they are actual.

Our new socialist culture, treating of the connection with the most positive values of the past, has at the same time a new physiognomy, is based on the Marxist-Leninist world outlook, is permeated by the class spirit and proletarian partisanship and, as a consequence, it is in a new democratic, popular form; it has at the same time a national character, because it expresses the originality of the life of the people and of the development of our nation: as a socialist nation.

In opposition to the bourgeois and revisionist viewpoints that reduce the value, originality and vitality of the present people's artistic creativeness, the Conference, through a series of communications, reaffirmed the idea that this creativeness, in the new conditions of socialism, is not only not exhausted, but it is included in the animated and active life, and represents a very important part of the artistic socialist culture, alongside the cultivated art and the amateur art. The impetuous development of folklore in our country testifies to this in the best way, and constitutes a positive experience on an international scale.

On the occasion of this Conference, there was organized a great ethnographic Exhibition that accompanied the Conference as a scientific activity. In this Exhibition there were pointed out the great wealth of traditions, the antiquity and high level of the development of our people's culture in all its territorial extension and in the process of its development, including the peasant life, the agriculture, dwelling flats, the clothes of this sphere, the city with various aspects of its economic, technical activity, the way of living, etc. The Exhibition gave a broad presentation of the artistic creativeness of our people in the city and countryside. In this way it materialized in the best way the questions treated by the Conference and presented in the most vivid way and through documents this precious wealth of our people's culture.









Within the context of the National Conference of Ethnographic Studies there was opened in Tirana an Exhibition «The Albanian Popular Culture». It handles in a scientific way the rich heritage of the Albanian popular culture from the end of the XIXth century to the early years after the triumph of the people's revolution in Albania. The photographs on these two pages give some aspects of this Exhibition.







Photos: Nikolin Baba.





As many children so much joy

On hot summer days, there is much movement at the interurban and railway stations. Groups of children of various ages fill these stations with their young and joyful voices. Some have just returned home from the mountain or seaside resorts; others are about to follow an itinerary, unknown to them.

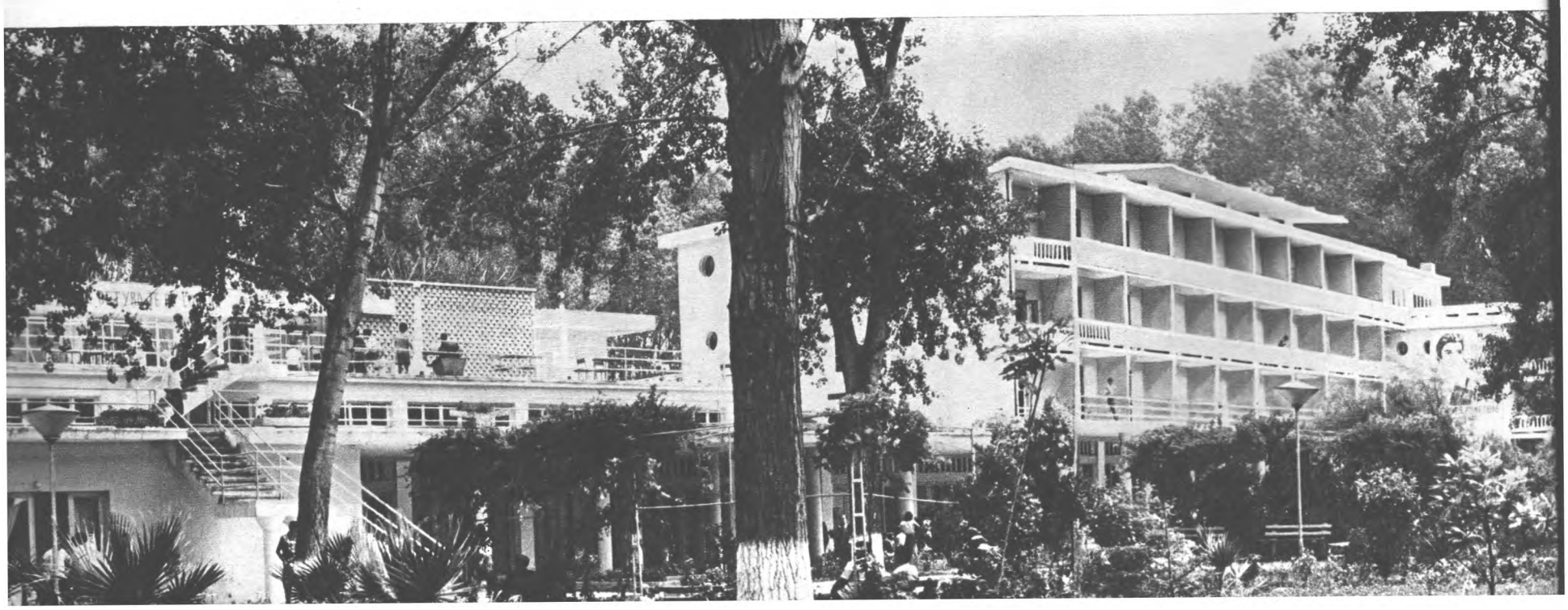
«Where are you going to?»

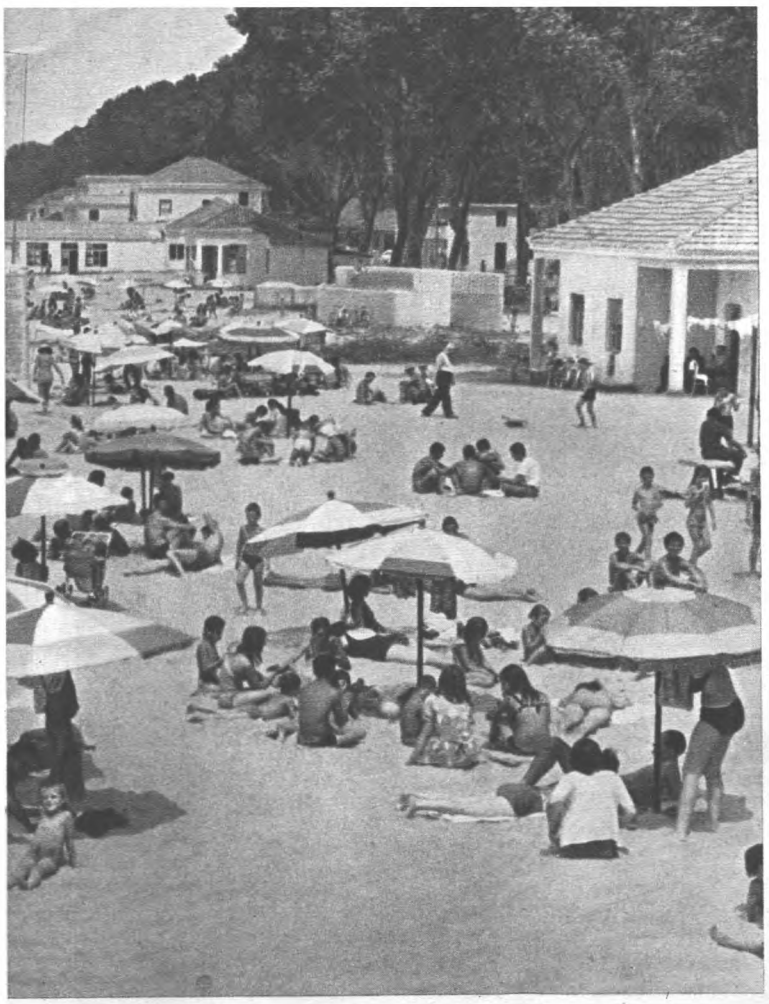
«To Vlora, on the Adriatic seaside.»

«Why, I am just back from there. It was very nice in Vlora».

Besides Vlora, we hear similar impressions from Durrës, Shëngjin, Divjaka, Shiroka, Pogradec, Voskopoja... every year the young pioneers' rest homes of these beautiful places open their doors to the children from all over Albania. They have become part and parcel of the children's life. Therefore the number of children resting there keeps growing every passing year. This summer almost 20% more children rested at these centres than during the summer of 1975.

Life in these homes is so colorful that no day resembles another, as the saying goes. Equipped with all accomodations, they have become centers of active recreation. Games, excursions, the sun and water baths are part of the activities carried on there. These photos reflect some aspects of the pioneers' life in these resorts.

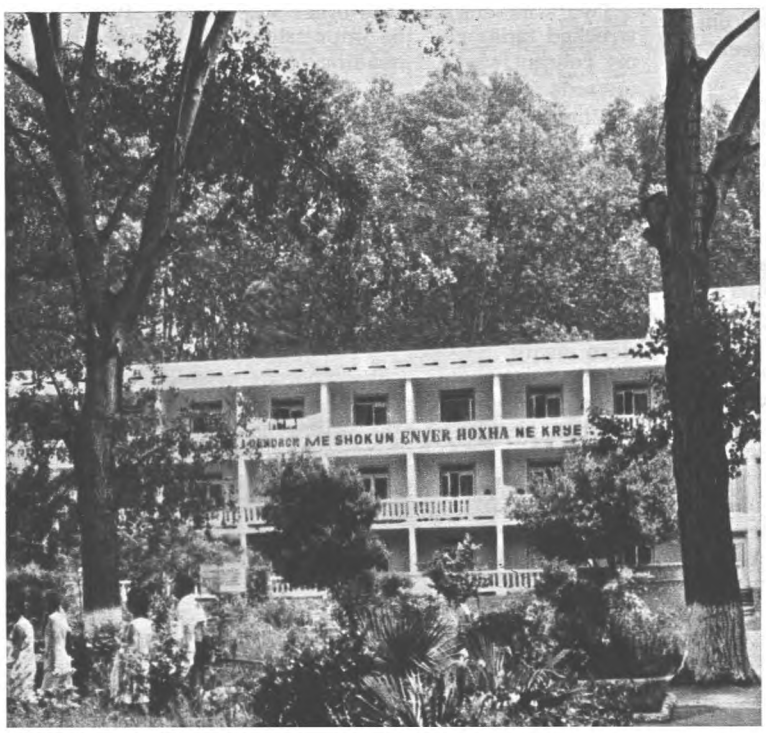






The pioneers stay there about 20 days. Parents have to pay only one fifth of the expenses whereas the State defrays the rest. The quota paid by the parents constitutes only one seventh of the monthly wages of a medium worker. The quota paid by the parents for the maintenance of their children at the day camps set up every summer by enterprises, workshop and agricultural cooperatives all over the country is symbolic. These camps are opened in the suburbs or near the villages. Their aim is that in the hot summer days the children may pass their time with interesting educational and recreational activities, such as excursions to historic places or places of rare natural beauty, and games and talks. The children pass only part of their time (they have luncheon there), while in the evening they return home. A great number of teachers are engaged at these rest senters, so as to deal with the organization of activities and education of children. What the parents pay for the maintenance of their children at these rest centers constitutes only one twelfth of their monthly pays.

In the first day of school, before the first bell rings, the theme of the children in the schoolyard is about their impressions of the summer holidays. Their stories vary, but one thing is comon for all: they bring with themselves their best of impressions.





WHAT DOES THIS MONUMENT STAND FOR?



Monument by H. Dule

This monument has been raised at the village of Mushqeta, some ten kilometers south-east of Tirana. It has been raised in memory of the battle waged in this village on the 14th and 15th of November 1944 against the German forces of occupation.

The forces of the Albanian National-liberation army were waging the decisive battle for the liberation of the capital. The entire garrison of the Hitlerite troops in Tirana had been surrounded from all sides. To avoid total disaster the German command sent a contingent of 2.000 soldiers, tanks, artillery and other armored means from Elbasan (a city 50 kilometers south of Tirana) which were to attack the partisan detachments from the rear and, together with the forces of another German column which would come from Durrës (in the west), were to surround and liquidate the partisan forces fighting for the liberation of the capital.

On November 14th the enemy column is attacked by the detachments of the National-liberation Army lying in ambush at Mushqeta. The fighting continued fiercely all through the night. In the morning of the 15th the nazi column is completely surrounded with the exception of a small part which managed to break the siege during the night with the aid of tanks. Seeing that they had no way out, the Germans launch a desparate counter offensive using their artillery tanks and all other means of warfare. Bloody attacks and counter attacks continue during the whole day. By 5.99 p.m. that day, the nazi columm had been completely liquidated. The enemy left on the battlefield over 1.500 dead, many wounded and prisoners together with all their military equipment.

On November 17, 1944, Tirana, the capital of Albania, was completely liberated by the Albanian National-liberation Army. The victory at Mushqeta was the forewarning and forerunner of the liberation of the capital.

To give a better idea of what happened during that battle, we are reproducing a description by a military correspondent of the First Division of the National-liberation Army, who passed over the field of battle straight after the fighting had ended. Here is what he writes:

«From the New Palace on the outskirts of Tirana to the village of Bërzhitë one can imagine that this great defeat of which so much is being spoken, especially when you see, besides the wrecked vehicles, the quintals of dynamite the enemy had abandoned on the Erzeni and Farka bridges because they had no time to blow them up. Here you can see destroyed vehicles, carts, horses and corpses. You say to yourself that this must have been the greatest defeat of the enemy. After passing this zone, you are faced with a pile of dead horses and overturned wagons, vehicles upturned in ditches, others in good order, wagons loaded with booty the Hitlerites had plundered in Greece and Albania, and armaments you had never seen before. You can count the equipment and corpses as far as Berzishta, but from here on it is impossible to count them even if you walk slowly.

Wherever you look, from right to left, you see real riverlets of blood, decaying flesh, very heavy armaments hurled off the highway as if by some extraordinary physical force, almost impossible to imagine.

You think this slaughter will continue as far as the corner of the road, no matter how great the battle had been fought. It could not possibly continue any further. But on rounding the bend, the heaps become more numerous. It seems as if the vehicles and wagons had wanted to push one another. Overturned material lying all over the place in complete disorder as if there had been a particularly heavy earthquake.

Further away from the road, on the side of the small hills on the banks of the river, 4 high calibre field guns have been abandoned facing each other even though they were used against our army. Further away, there are the number of mobile cooking houses enough for a whole division. Transport trucks complete with trailer, long wagons, vehicles carrying anti-aircraft guns directed towards the sky, small cannons, light and heavy machineguns, cars, rifles, medical supplies and a pile of other things of every colour and kind. Among them is a baby's pillow undoubtedly stolen by the army from some family at Elbasan.

Again corpses and dead horses and larger streams of blood. In the distance on the edge of the fields bordering the river bank, one sees horses which have escaped from this slaughter. They say there are also a number of hidden enemies who are giving themselves up to the surrounding villages. Further on, a colonel killed inside a car, the vehicle is completely wrecked, motor cycles abandonned on the road and the same scene as before.

You still walk through trails blocked by material, transport vehicles, dead horses and so on. You walk along the trails of the clearing, and then you are stuck on a sharp bend, below your right, where a small stream flows, the material and bodies are piled up in disorder. The horses lying prostrate on the ground and the bodies give the impression as if they had been knifed rather than killed by bullets. The stream looks like the channel of a slaughterhouse, the body of an enemy has fallen into the water.

Further across, the same scene over and over again. Horses, bodies, innumerable motor vehicles and wagons, war material and stolen booty in one great mess. The road looks as if the garbage of the city has been strewn along it.

Further on, guns, armaments and amunition. The flag with the swastika lies hidden inside a wagon like some stolen article barely distinguishable. It reflects the present situation of nazi Germany which tries to hide its criminal objectives now that the onslaught let loose against the peaceful and innocent peoples is rebounding on its own head.

Two kilometers on the other side of Ibë, two wrecked tanks give the impression as if the enemy column was not heading towards Tirana but towards Elbasan.

When you walk through the place you can't believe that there had been only 2 to 3 thousand enemy troops. On the basis of the war material and the means of transport, it is calculated that there must have been at least a German division. The booty is so big that it gives the impression not of an army but of a savage horde of barbarians. This is a complicated scene, which reflects the character of the nazi bands, pirates with modern means.

The destruction of these forces saved Tirana from the peril of devastation and mass massacres.

When comparing the numerous and heavy means of the enemy, their huge army on the march, the ruggedness of the terrain and their fortified positions with our armaments and positions, one wonders how it was possible to smash up and liquidate more than 2 to 3 thousand Germans by only 1.200 partisans.»

MOSAICS



THE ALBANIANS IN THE EYES OF HISTORIANS

During the centuries in various historical studies and works or reports and chronicles of events, historians have expressed many opinions about our people. Thus, for instance, in 1332 the French historian Guillaumme Ada, among other things, wrote: «The Arbëreshi can turn out more than 15.000 mounted fighters to wage any war according to the customs and way of the country. They are robust men, brave and good fighters». The Turkish chronicler Dursan bey (XVth century) points out: «Those who have seen the land of the Albanians have deeply felt its ruggedness. For those who have not seen it, is enough to know that not even Alexander the Great was able to penetrate into that country of insurgents».

According to a book published in Venice in 1745, the following phrase of Skanderbeg to foreigners has been cited: «... Even if I lack oratory, you will find it in my sword». In his book «Turkey, Old and New», published in 1882, Suferlan Munzier wrote on page 365: «The Albanians are robust, muscular, very handsome and dexterous. They are strong and full of life. Their common characteristic is their love for independence.

In his work «The History of the Growth and Decay of the Ottoman Empire» 1666, Demetrio Kantamiri wrote among others: «The Albanians are brave, engineers and surgeons by nature. They built the Istanbul acqueduct. The Albanians measure the height and depth of waters without knowing mathematics...».

THE ANCIENT SEAPORT OF DURRËS BEGINS TO REVEAL ITS SECRETS

Fishermen, amateur subwater divers have often unexpectedly come upon unusual scenes in the depths of the Durrës Bay. Many of these young people from Durrës have noticed not altogether natural forms, elevated points, underwater mounds as if moulded by human hands, off the north-western shore of the city. These devoted «visitors» of the subwater regions have not remained indifferent. They have discovered bowls, architechtonic or ceramic fragments.

These opportune discoveries sparked off organized research work by the archeological museum of the city of Durrës. It is studying the northwestern coastal zone of the city and the underwater zone of Currillas. In the future the zones of Kalmi and Porta Romana up to the Rodoni cape will also be studied.

The first expeditions found ancient bowls in their complete form, fragments of bowls, and fragments which resemble building material and so on.





Illustrations by N. Progri

AMONGST THE SECRETS OF OUR ANTIQUITY

West of the city of Elbasan the relics of an ancient building have been discovered. Observations have revealed that it was an ancient nymph built on the old Egnatia* highway.

Continuing research work towards the west, a thermal building was discovered, the environment of which was almost completely intact. The nymph and the thermal building constituted the one architechtonic complex, which, as it seems, served travellers journeying along the Egnatia highway.

In front of the nymph there was a small clearing used by people to gather and fill their vessels with water for themselves or for the thermal baths, but it also served as a place for clients to walk in.

West of the nymph lie the thermal baths which occupy an area of about 130 square meters. The building here is in quite good order. One can distinguish the oblong shaped changing room, which is connected to the east with the fresh water room and through another two doors, it also opens into two hot compartments to the west. Running parallel to these rooms, are the hot baths. Also attached to the building are rooms used for the personnel, the oven and another corridor shaped environment.

Proceeding from certain facts, it has been affirmed that these thermal baths were built during the second half of the Second century, or the early part of the Third century of our era.

* — The Egnatia highway was built during the early centuries of our era. It began from Durrës and Apollonia, reached Salonica and continued to Byzantium.



ON OUR TRADITIONAL COSTUMES

We have a great and varied wealth of traditional costumes. They were worn by our people right up to the beginning of the XXth century, when the number of their various forms had reached 140, something which is very rare in comparison with the number of inhabitants of the country. The greatest variety of costumes is seen among the women rather than the men, more in the northern part of Albania than in the south.

Besides their great variety, we also find common elements, strong links in our people's folk costumes, which allow us to distinguish two main types, namely «The cloak type» and the «petticoat type».

Both of these types have their variants and derivates. The variants do not affect the form or general line of the morphological structure of the type, while the derivatives have differences which transform this structure.

The cloak type was used by all our people while the petticoat type by several groups of people, who lived in the Northern Alps.



CINEMATOGRAPHY

«THE END OF

Winter 1944. Aided by Albanian renegades the nazi forces of occupation have launched a major campaign against the National-liberation Army with the aim of completely routing it. The determined resistance of the partisans and of the people enrages the enemy, which tries to cover up their defeat and take revenge by sowing death everywhere.

This film treats precisely the heroic resistance put up to the aggressors by the heroic women and girls of a mountain village during this winter. The occupiers enter the village after a fierce and resolute battle which the women of the village wage in supporting the removal of the wounded who had been sheltered there.

Having been informed about the wounded, the nazis gather the inhabitants of the village and demand with insistance their whereabouts. No one utters a word. Then they shoot the few men and boys whom they have captured, because the others have taken to the mountains with rifles in hand. Still no one speaks. The German commander orders all, women, children and the elderly men surrounded by the armed guards to remain out in that drizzling snow and gale until the whereabouts of the wounded is discovered. This lasts a whole day and night, but all keep silent, proud and stoic like marble statues.

— Unable to achieve their ends by force, the nazi think of resorting to tricks. Their argument runs in this way: the wounded partisans will need food and clothing, and they will for certain demand the women and girls of the village to fullfil this task. Then let the movements of the latter be followed in secrecy until the cue is found of the partisan hospital.

— And true enough, the inhabitants of the village are anxious to know how the wounded heroes are faring. The attempts of some young women to come to their aid failed because the whole village is surrounded by armed guards. A communist partisan sneaked one night through the guards of the enemy lines and told the village women to do their uttermost to come to the aid of the partisans.

Finally, they all find it advisable to take this decision, namely, that all the women and girls should set out together for the forest near the mountain in order to cut firewood. In their bags they were to take food for their personal use and put on two or three flannels, which they would take to the partisans. The decision was taken and they set out.

The Germans, who hesitated at first to let them leave the village, were ordered by their commander to let them go, provided they are numbered and followed secretly, for this was the precise right occasion to discover the whereabouts of the partisans.

The long, difficult and perilous journey began and the German units follow from a distance and in secrecy the journey of the mothers





A WINTER»



and daughters of the village. The women who suspect this «good behaviour» of the nazi detect they are being followed. They hurriedly inform one another. They find a bypath and sliding down a slope, gather near a creek in order to escape for a few minutes the sight of the nazi beasts. In a hurry they collect the provisions in a few bags, put off their flannels and gather them in a bundle and give these bags and bundle to three of the youngest girls, who walk up a path leading to the cave where the partisans were to be found. The others return to the forest and begin cutting firewood. Meanwhile the nazi surrounded the forest and follow the harmless work of the peasant women. Finally, they lose their patience. Consulting one another and finding nothing to suspect, they decide to gather and count them.

Meanwhile, the young girls have reached the cave of their comrades, have informed them that the partisan detachments would soon launch an attack against the forces of occupation and have left flannels and food to them. A wounded partisan girl is in danger of becoming very sick if she stayed in that cold and moist cave. Then one of the village girls puts on the partisan uniform of the wounded and the latter the clothes of the village girl and, together with the other two village girls sets out for the forest to join the women cutting firewood. The journey is difficult under the drizzling weather of snow and cold wind and with the wounded partisan girl to be carried on the shoulder by the other two peasant girls up to the neighborhood of the forest where the nazi were stationed. The latter have gathered all the women and girls and notice that some were missing. They start to threaten, their passions run high, they load their rifles and point their bayonets at them. But the women's faces are unperturbed, calm and undaunted. In the meantime, some strokes of the ax are heard coming from the forest. The girls have returned and give the signal of being there. The Germans look at each other and when all are gathered, they notice that the number is complete. The enemy have been beaten, beaten in battle, beaten in spiritual force, beaten by the intelligence of the heroic girls of the small Albanian mountain village.

The film, which is run through by pronounced epic notes and powerful dramatic art, is the work of three new performers. namely young scenarist N. Tafa, young producers K. Mitro and I. Muço. It is not considered as a success of the authors alone, but also as a very good piece of work of Albanian cinematography, which sings praises with passion and emotion to the glorious heroism of the Albanian women and girls who, under the guidance of the Communist Party, threw themselves heart and soul into the revolution and bore on their shoulders a heavy weight of unprecedented sacrifice and toil which the great job of national liberation and social emancipation called for.



CRAFTS PRESERVED ALL ALONG THE CENTURIES

Sometime ago The Albanian Association for Cultural Relations with the outside world organized the opening in Tirana of the Exhibition of the French artistic carpets. The exhibits have been selected from among the most beautiful productions, some of which have been woven according to the cartoons or drawings of outstanding painters and decorators.

These works have been realized so fully, so successfully and with so fine feeling, that they can very well tally with the imitative art, with painting. Although few in number, they impart to the spectators the emotions and the atmosphere of the architectural environment, which embellish the aesthetic sense of the epoch in which they have been produced. The specimens exhibited, selected from those of the XIVth to the beginning of the XVth century, reflect the style of art of each epoch so much so that some of them reproduce wellknown works of painting of their time. Woven with wool and silk, and often interwoven with silver threads, the visitors saw there representative exemplars of all the periods, carpets conceived as merely decorative, but especially as figurative tableaux.

The Exhibition was followed with interest by the Albanian spectators for they saw in it the original national artistic qualities, which distinguish in general the French classic and realist art: its deep thought, psychologic feeling, mellow plasticity, silver coloring and the poetic atmosphere.

FOREIGN FRIENDS VISIT ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELIC

The National Conference of Ethnographic Studies was attended also by 17 foreign scholars. They followed with interest the proceedings of the Conference, took part in the opening of the Exhibition «The Albanian People's Culture» and visited many different institutions in the capital and the various districts of the country. In the picture: **The foreign friends visit the ancient city of Butrint and the archaeological museum of Durrës.**





THE VALBONA VALLEY

Prof. Pandi Geço



The Valbona valley is in the northern Alps. The surrounding mountains stand like gigantic castles covered with age long forests. The Valbona river runs through the valley. Photo **by V. Koçi**

Albania is renown for its beautiful natural scenery. In this direction a special place is occupied by the Alps. Their beauty lies in the variety of scenes and especially in the contrasts between the very steep mountains which rise vertically like pyramids with their jagged summits and deep narrow valleys down which run swift flows of crystal clear water. Of all these valleys a special place is occupied by the Valbona valley, which receives its name from the Valbona River. This valley stands out for its great variety of scenery and colour. It rises from the very heart of the Alps and ends in the Drini river, with a length of about 50 kilometers.

The surrounding mountains are densely covered in forests, particularly with beech and evergreen pine trees up to 2.000 meters above sea level. Above this altitude they are barren. High up on the clearings of the summits snow lasts till summer. The Valbona river which flows down the bed of the valley is distinguished by its limpidness and beauty. From this standpoint, it has no equivalent in our country. At times it reflects the green colour of the vegetation of the valley, the rays of the sun, in other places it is white, throwing up flakes of froth where the flow of water is particularly rapid. The Valbona does not run dry in the summer because it is fed by thawed snow. Because of the steep slope of its bed, the current of the river is extremely swift.

The valley also attracts attention because of its shape. In some places it widens to hundreds of meters, while in other places it becomes so narrow that it looks as if the rock has been cleft by a sword for the water to run through. At the head of the Valbona lies one of the most beautiful lakes, about a 1.000 meters above sea level. It is from one and a half to two km long. On its edge the mountains rise, like fabulous castles, almost perpendicular. They are almost 2.700 meters above sea level, that is up to 1.800 meters above the bed of the river. Then the valley becomes narrower up to Kukaj, where Valbona is joined by the waters of Cerami stream. In this zone the valley becomes wider again. The same happens at Dragobia. At the exit of the Dragobia basin, the valley forms its narrowest pass up to 2 or 3 meters. Because of the great speed of its flow, the water here forms a strip of white, gushing foam. From here the river flows into its last and largest basin, that of Tropoja, which is up to 14 kilometers in length and 5 kilometers in breadth, and looks just like a big basin hued into an iceberg surrounded by mountains. The climate of this basin is milder than that of the others. This is the most important and densely populated zone of the Alps of Albania. Its center is Bajram Curri, a completely new town with over 4.000 inhabitants built during the years of our People's State Power.

Before liberation, the Valbona valley had been left in its natural state, isolated from the rest of the country. Its economy was almost entirely based on livestock raising. It was only during the years of our People's State Power that it was linked to motor roads. Agriculture and fruit growing assumed ever greater importance when virgin lands were opened. Today the production of bread grain in the Tropoja basin overfulfills the needs of its inhabitants. The waters of the Valbona are exploited for irrigation purposes and for the production of electric power. Now 85 per cent of the area under cultivation is irrigated by the waters of this river. Several small power-stations have been built to serve the villages. The biggest hydro-electric power-plant built so far in the country is now under construction on the Drini river, before it runs into the Valbona, namely, that of Fierza.

Valbona is renown for its wealth of high quality fish such as trout.

The Valbona valley is one of the most popular resorts to which our workers organize excursions, every summer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

XHOU ÇIN TUN — P.R. OF CHINA.

I am a regular reader of your magazine «New Albania», and every issue of this magazine brings special joy to my friends and me. Through it we get acquainted with the brilliant successes attained by our closest friends in the construction of socialism. The magazine «New Albania» serves to link us more closely with our comrades-in-arms. With your struggle against imperialism and revisionism, our love and respect for you is increased.

I am a fuel worker. I wish that in the future issues of your magazine you dedicate some place to fuels like gas etc.

TAMACHET AMER-KOSTANTINE--ALGERIA.

It was a surprise for me to find in a library of the city a copy of your magazine «New Albania» Nr. 1 — 1976 with a suplement containing the speech of the great fighter, comrade Enver Hoxha, delivered at the meeting of 81 Communist and workers parties in Moscow, in 1960. Many important facts which the revisionists have tried and are trying to cover up, are treated in this speech. They are attempting to conceal from us the experience of the People's Republic of Albania and its vanguard example in the construction of socialism.

I wish you could help me to find speeches and works of comrade Enver Hoxha, in Arabic or even in French, so that I may learn how the Party of Labor of Albania has solved the problems of the revolution and socialist construction in Albania.

WALTER AND DARIO — BELGIUM.

It is a long time that we have not written to you, but we are as always friends of socialist Albania and its courageous heroic people. It is several years since we have subscribed here in Belgium to your magazine «New Albania».

...We are filled with enthusiasm to see Albania always forging ahead along the revolutionary path, building socialism by relying on its own resources, despite the imperialist-revisionist encirclement. We are deeply affected that the fraternal Albanian people led by the Party of Labor and comrade Enver Hoxha have transformed their country, formerly oppressed, poor, backward, within 30 years of pepole's power, into a powerful bastion of Marxism Leninism, proletarian dictatorship and revolution. Another thing we admire is that Albania has done away, once and for all, with the authority of religion, liberating the people from its burden. This is a great encouragement for the other peoples of the world. We are filled with joy to hear all these... We are from Abruzza, an Italian zone, where the power of the clergy and the priests weighs heavy upon the shoulders of the masses...

Accept our best greetings.

PIERRE GOUSOLLE — FRANCE.

I want to congratulate all those who work on the magazine «New Albania» for their enlightening work and for the variety of articles. It is a year since I have subscribed to your magazine. This magazine shows us how the Albanian people have advanced along socialist lines. The progress of your hard working people has been kept from us here in Europe. By turning their eyes towards your country full of light, many people will discover socialism in its true sense, as it is being applied there. For the future I wish greater victories to the Albanian people, so that your country may set an example to the workers of the whole world.

I am learning Albanian. Could you send me one or two copies of your magazine in the Albanian language?

ANTONIO VARRASSO — ITALY

... Through your magazine «New Albania» I got acquainted with the achievements of the socialist revolution in the different fields of the life of the Albanian glorious people... Be proud of your history, of your contribution to the revolutionary movement, to the oppressed peoples fighting for their freedom.

We cherish a great respect for the glorious Albanian people, the builders of the socialist motherland which is an impregnable bastion of communism.

ADRIAN ALPENDRE — U.S.A.

It is a great pleasure for me to read your publications which tell us so much about the new society you have created under the direction of your great Party of Labor of Albania, which follows a correct Marxist--Leninist line.

It is two years now, I have been receiving your publications, and I assure you that each new issue is better than the preceding one. My relatives and friends, living here, rejoice at the marvelous articles published in «New Albania» and always want to know more about your country...

JEAN DONZEAND — FRANCE.

...The pages of your magazine make it possible for us to follow the great achievements of socialist Marxist-Leninist Albania and ascertain that when the leadership and the people are closely linked, general happiness is possible.

Subscriptions to «NEW ALBANIA»

«NEW ALBANIA» appears in Albanian, English, Chinese, French, German, Russian, Spanish, Arabic and Italian.

Subscription rates for one year are:

3,60 U.S. dollars

8.25 German marks

15.56 French francs

2.52 Roubles or their equivalent values in other currencies.

Send your subscriptions to: «N. LIBRIT», TIRANA, ALBANIA

«NEW ALBANIA» Nr. 4-1976
YEAR XXX

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE

- ON NOVEMBER THE FIRST, 1976. THE SEVENTH REGULAR CONGRESS OF THE PARTY OF LABOR OF ALBANIA WILL BE CONVENED 1
- THE WAY TO PROSPERITY 2
- THE ELOQUENT LANGUAGE OF FIGURES 6
- PROMOTER OF THE REVOLUTION AND SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION 8
- MASS ACTIONS OF OUR YOUTH 10
- THE NORTH OF LIGHT 12
- FOR SELF AND FOR SOCIETY 14
- THE UPPER AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE 17

TO SAVE THE LIFE OF MAN 20

- A GOOD INITIATIVE OF THE PORTUGUESE FRIENDS 21
- THE ALBANIAN POPULAR PRESS DAY 23
- THE HERO OF THE NEW ALBANIAN LITERATURE 24
- NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDIES 25
- AS MANY CHILDREN SO MUCH JOY 28
- WHAT DOES THIS MONUMENT STAND FOR? 30
- MOSAICS 31

CINEMATOGRAPHY: «THE END OF A WINTER» 32

- THE GEOGRAPHY ANGLE – «THE VALBONA VALLEY» 35
- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 36

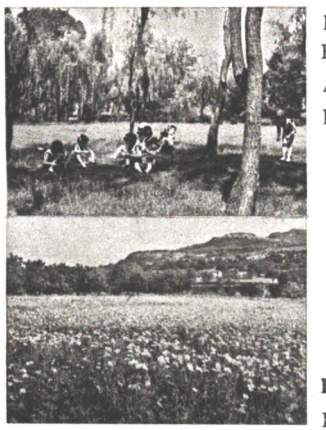
NEW ALBANIA

An illustrated political and social periodical. It appears once in two months in Albanian, English, Chinese, French, Russian, Arabic, Italian, Spanish and German.

ADDRESS OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD

«SHQIPËRIA E RE» Rruga Labinoti 7, Tirana, ALBANIA.





FRONT COVER The milker Hyrije Zagani, in the Higher Type Aglicultural Cooperative of Bushat.

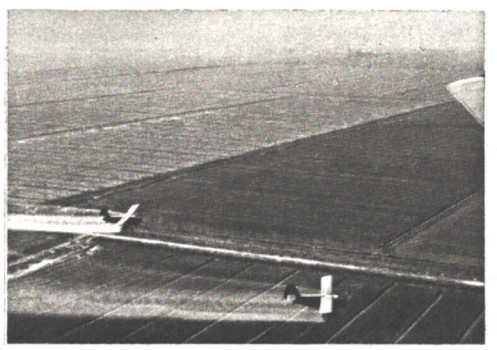
BACK COVER Children and Poppies



Page 2



Page 13



Page 16



Page 20



Page 28



Page 32



