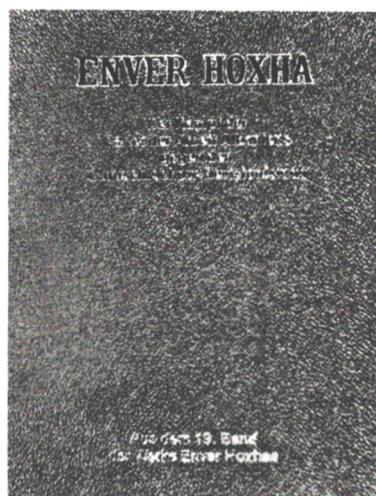




NEW ALBANIA

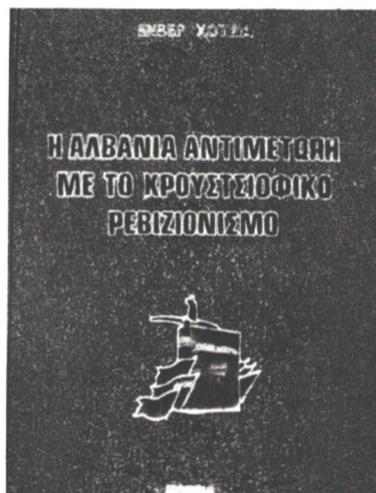
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1976**

**EXCERPTS
FROM VOLUME 19
OF THE WORKS
OF COMRADE
ENVER HOXHA
ARE PUBLISHED
IN VARIOUS
COUNTRIES OF
THE WORLD**



IN GERMAN

In line with a decision by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany (M. L.) a book has been published with excerpts from volume 19 of the works of Comrade Enver Hoxha. The book bears the title «THE STRUGGLE OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA AGAINST KHRUSHCHEVITE REVISIONISM». It is published by the «ROTHER MORGEN» Enterprise, Dortmund, 1976.



IN GREEK

A book in the Greek language has recently been put into circulation under the title «ALBANIA IN CONFRONTATION WITH KHRUSHCHEVITE REVISIONISM», with excerpts from volume 19 of the works of Comrade Enver Hoxha. Publication «Poria», July 1976, Athens.



IN PORTUGUESE

Under the auspices of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party (Reconstructed), a book in the Portuguese language has been published under the title: «The Struggle of the Party of Labour of Albania against Khrushchevite Revisionism» with excerpts from volume 19 of the works of comrade Enver Hoxha.

It is published by the «Bandeira Vermelha». Lisbon 1976.



IN FRENCH

The publishing House «Nouveau Bureau d'Édition, Paris» published a book under the title «Enver Hoxha. The Great Divergence, 1960. The Party of Labour of Albania in Confrontation with Khrushchevite Revisionism».

The book contains 43 excerpts from volume 19 of the works of Comrade Enver Hoxha.

The book has 309 pages, has a handsome lay out, and contains explanatory notes for foreign readers.

THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA

All our people are celebrating the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party (now the Party of Labour) of Albania.

The Communist Party of Albania was founded in Tirana on November 8, 1941, as a result of the merging of the communist groups which existed up to that time. Its organizer and founder is comrade Enver Hoxha.

The creation of the Party marked a turning point in the destiny of the Albanian people. From this time onward our working class and the other working masses had their own leading staff, their own reliable compass which would guide them in their struggle for national and social liberation. The Party was born in the upsurge of the popular anti-fascist movement of the Albanian people during the Second World War as a necessity which the objective circumstances demanded.

From the moment of its founding the Party undertook the great historic mission of uniting, organizing and leading the masses in the liberation war to throw off the yoke of foreign occupation. From the very beginning it undertook the task of guiding the masses in the fight to smash all the shackles which had kept the Albanian people for centuries in bondage, to wipe out the backwardness and ignorance into which the barbarous foreign and internal rulers had plunged the country, to fulfil the age-old dreams of the oppressed and exploited masses, the dreams of the Albanian patriots, progressive-thinkers and revolutionaries. In its very first document it stated that it was a Party of action, a Party of revolutionary struggle. Its strength lay in its links with the masses and in the ideal it was striving for. It had only two hundred communists when it was founded, but with their communist ideas, they aroused a whole people, leading them in the National-liberation War, the most glorious and triumphant war the Albanian people have ever waged. The Albanian Communist Party succeeded in becoming the sole leading force of the people in the struggle for national independence and social emancipation.

The outstanding merit of the Party of Labour of Albania is that it closely linked and merged into a single whole the struggle for national liberation and the struggle to smash the old, antipopular and reactionary State Power, to set up the People's State Power. The Party never allowed the bourgeoisie and large estate owners to deprive the people of the power they had acquired at the cost of so much bloodshed. With the greatest determination it blocked the way to the intervention of the Anglo-American imperialists in the internal affairs of our country. Because of this consistent line, immediately after the liberation of the country, there was only one state power in existence in Albania, the power of the people, which began to carry out the functions of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

After the establishment of the People's State Power, under the leadership of the Party, profound revolutionary changes were

brought about in the political, economic, social and cultural fields of the country, great victories of vital importance were achieved which put an end to oppression and exploitation and ensured the uninterrupted and rapid development of the country on the road to socialism. In all its activity the Party of Labour of Albania has always been guided only by Marxism-Leninism. Loyalty to Marxism-Leninism is the source of its inexhaustible strength, its wisdom and farsightedness, of its courage and determination to surmount the difficulties and obstacles and to forge ahead with unwavering confidence. It has succeeded in solving the great problems which have faced it because it has relied firmly on the people, because it has inherited and carried forward the patriotic and revolutionary traditions of the people. Both in the National-liberation War and during socialist construction, the Party of Labour of Albania brought out and raised to a high level the lofty moral attributes of the people, their vitality as a nation, and turned them into a great driving force. Their love for their country was organically linked with love for and loyalty to the People's State Power, to socialism.

Enlightened by the teachings of Marxism-Leninism and relying firmly on the people who gave birth to it and raised it, the Party of Labour of Albania has always been able to work out and apply a correct general line and find its bearings in any situation. It has always honourably discharged its obligations towards the working class and its own people as well as towards the international communist and workers' movement. Under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, in Albania fundamental problems have been solved, such as the elimination of any political and economic dependence on foreign imperialist powers; the uninterrupted development of the people's revolution; the creation of the alliance of the working class with the working peasantry; the establishment and continuous perfecting of the State Power of the People's Democracy as a form of the dictatorship of the proletariat; the abolition of the exploitation of man by man, as well as the liquidation as classes, of the large estate holders and the bourgeoisie; the elimination of the age-old economic, social, cultural and technical backwardness of the country, the continuation of rapid socialist industrialization; the collectivization of agriculture; the revolutionary education of the workers imbuing them with the scientific Marxist-Leninist world outlook, the strengthening of the defence potential of the socialist homeland.

The entire history of the Party of Labour of Albania, all its activity, both during the National-liberation War as well as during the period of socialist construction, has been pervaded by a stern class struggle. This struggle has been waged in all fields and by the most varied means, political and economic, ideological and cultural, military and administra-

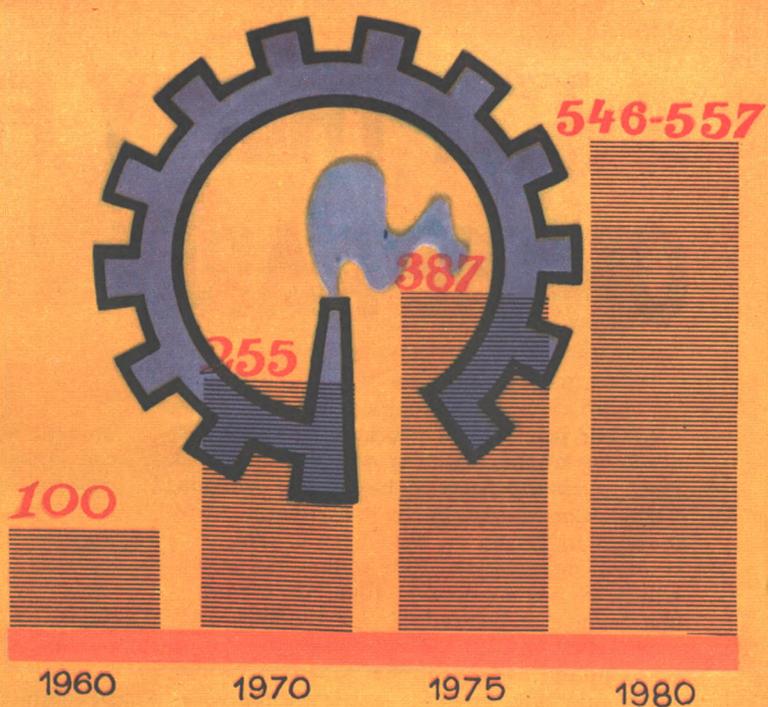
tive, by methods of persuasion and compulsion. In the process of this fierce struggle, the Party of Labour of Albania has maintained the keenest vigilance and has mercilessly unmasked all the enemies of the dictatorship of the proletariat, all their open and secret attempts from abroad or from within, attempts which have aimed at liquidating the People's State Power, either through armed counter-revolution or through «peaceful» revisionist counter-revolution. The experience of the Party of Labour of Albania has shown that if one takes a firm Marxist-Leninist stand, once the dictatorship of the proletariat has been established, it is entirely possible to keep it permanently pure, free of distortion, and unshakeable, while constantly developing and perfecting it. The Party of Labour of Albania and its leader, comrade Enver Hoxha, have waged and continue to wage a constant battle against bureaucratic distortions which, as is well known, serve as one of the main bases of revisionist and bourgeois degeneration. While waging a fierce struggle to the end against Khrushchevite revisionism, the Party of Labour drew lessons and took tangible measures to block all roads to revisionism in Albania, in order to keep the State power of the working class intact and constantly strengthen it. The measures which have been taken to uproot dangerous bureaucratic concepts and practices, placing the State apparatus under the constant, effective and direct supervision of the broad masses of the people implementing worker's control over everything and everybody, abolishing big differences in pay, putting relations between cadres and masses on the right basis, the work of cadres in production, soliciting the opinion of the workers on major problems of the Party and State — all of these constitute a sound guarantee that the dictatorship of the proletariat in Albania will never degenerate into a revisionist-bourgeois anti-popular dictatorship.

The Party of Labor of Albania, in its capacity as the leader of our State of the proletarian dictatorship, has always pursued an open and principled foreign policy, a policy based on Marxist-Leninist principles. It honourably performs its duty in support of the peoples in their struggle for freedom and independence, and against the interference, domination or attempts for hegemony of the two imperialist super-Powers, the USA and the Soviet social imperialists. Through its principled and consistent stand, its unyielding struggle from Marxist-Leninist positions, the Party of Labour of Albania has won the sympathy and solidarity of millions of working people as well as of the revolutionary movements all over the world and has raised high the name of socialist Albania.

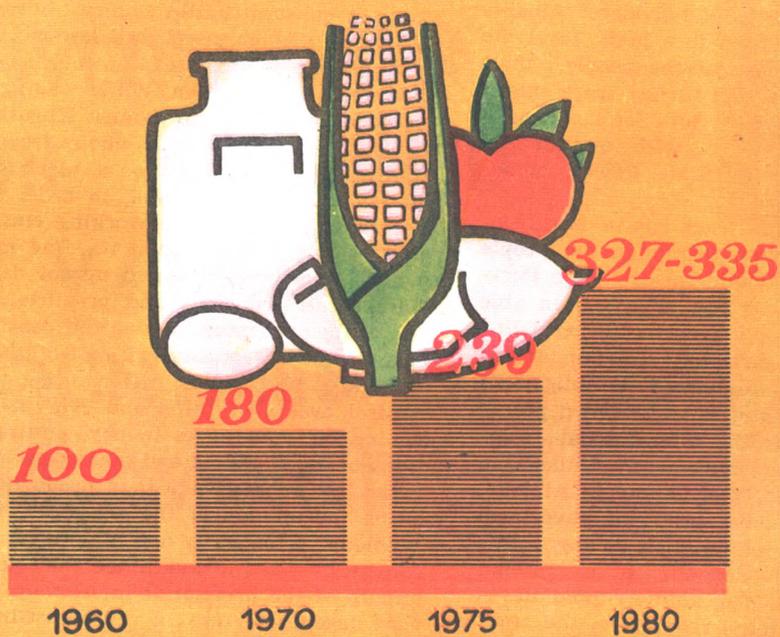
The Party of Labour of Albania comes to its jubilee year and to its 7th Congress with major historic victories. In its red banner the Working class and the whole Albanian people see their glorious path and brilliant future.

ALBANIA IN TWO DECADES

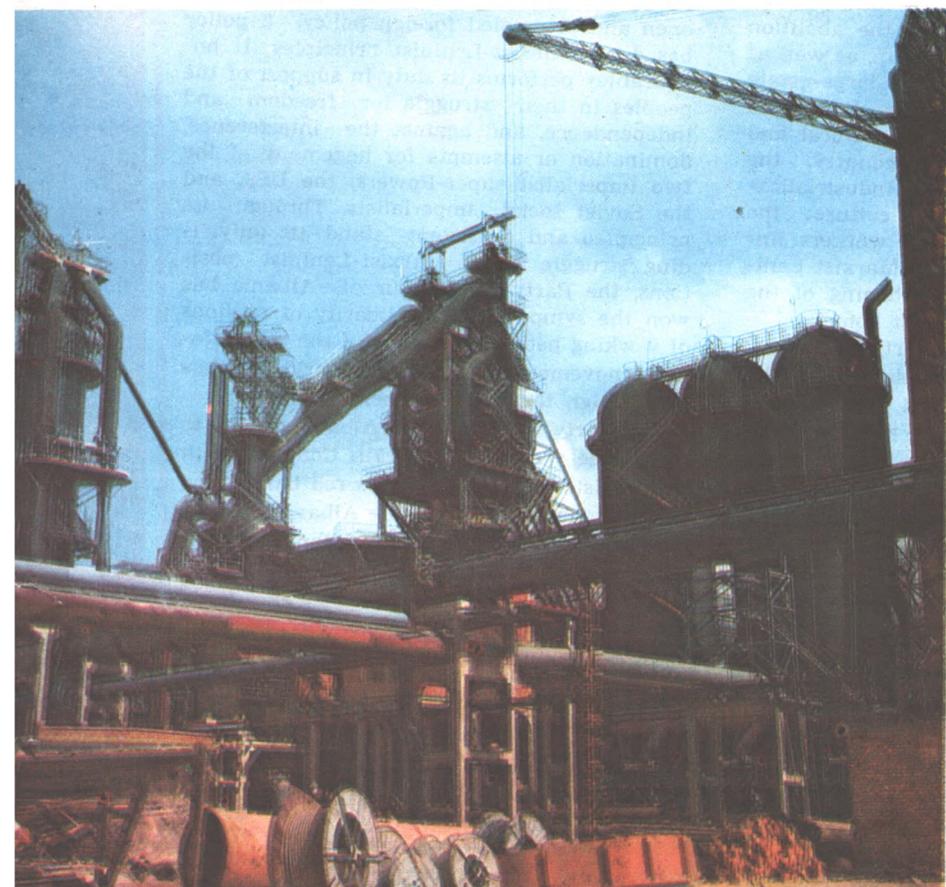
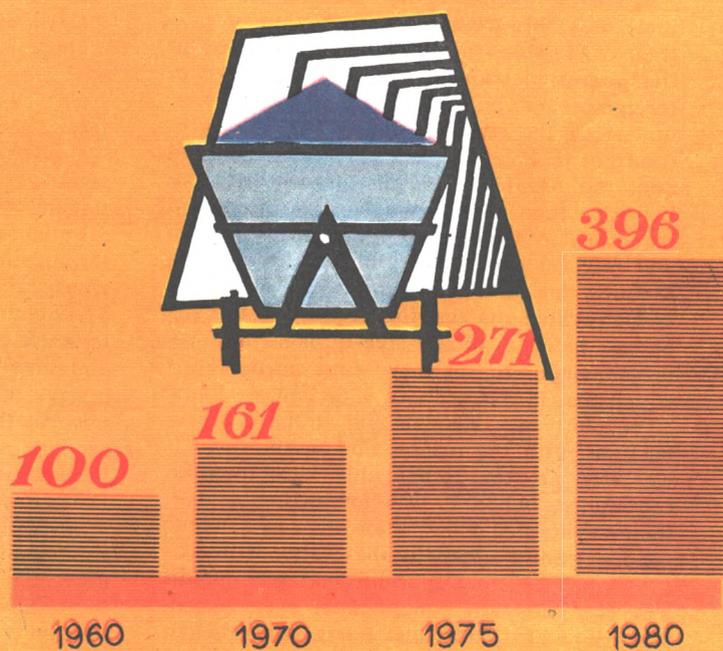
GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (IN %).



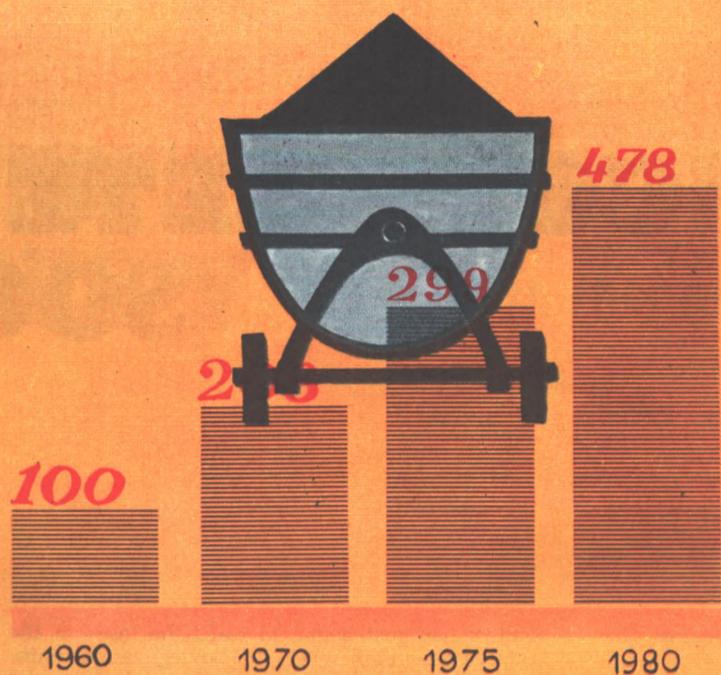
GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION (IN %).



PRODUCTION OF CHROMIUM (IN %).

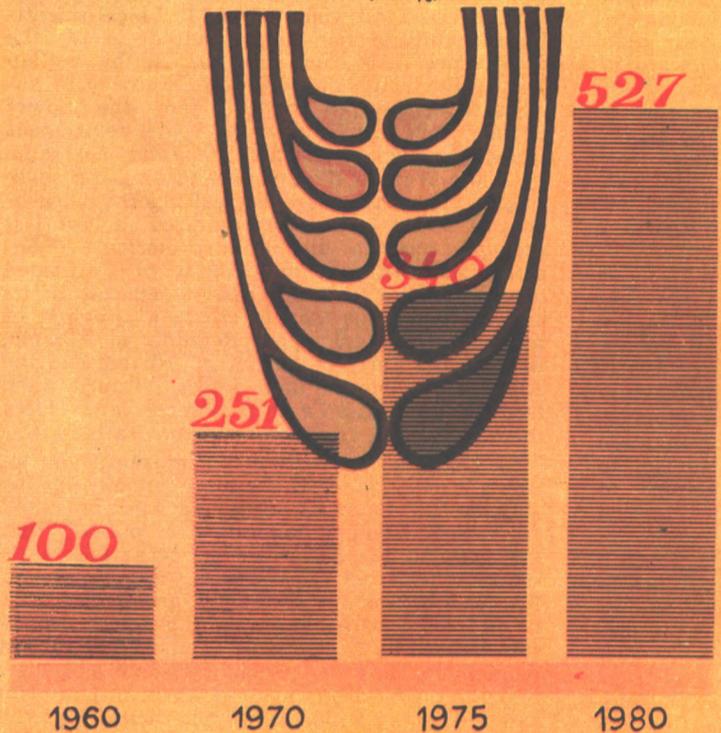


PRODUCTION OF COAL (IN %).

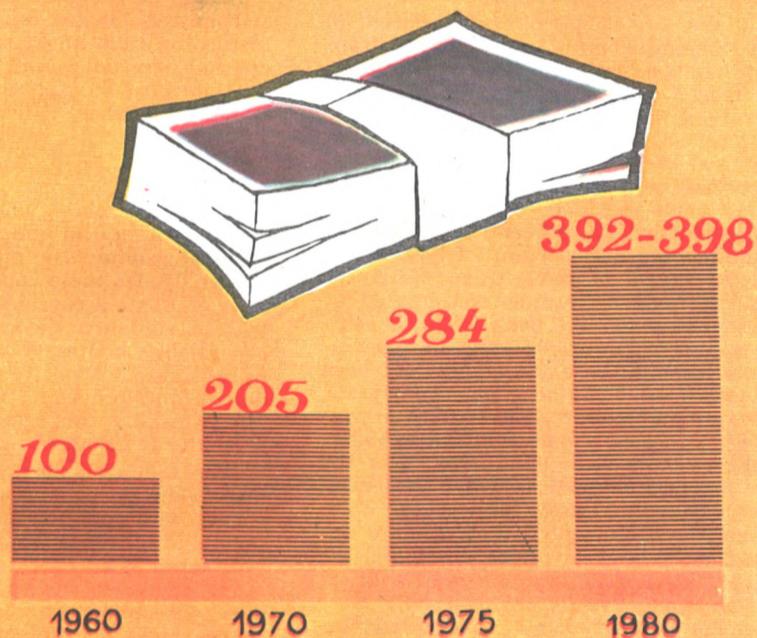


The graphs on these two pages give a picture of the comparative development of certain principal branches of Albanian economy during three five-year plan periods (1960-1975) as well as the targets which are envisaged to be reached in 1980

PRODUCTION OF FOOD GRAIN (IN %).



NATIONAL INCOMES (IN %).



IN STRUGGLE TO COMPLETE SOC

— The 4th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania was held in Tirana from February 13 to 20, 1961. Taking part were 808 delegates representing 53,659 communists (2,857 of them candidates for party membership).

The Congress drew up a balance of the economic and social transformations and defined the direction of the new stage of the socialist construction of the country, approved the directives of the 3rd five-year plan and re-endorsed the revolutionary stand of the Party of Labour of Albania in the struggle between Marxism-Leninism and modern revisionism.

— Up to the 4th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania great revolutionary transformations had been made in the economic field. The main means of production and exchange had been turned into common social property, the multi-form economy had been done away with in general and a single socialist system of the economy had been set up in its place. In 1960, the socialist sector included 99 percent of total industrial production, 80 percent of total agricultural production, 100 percent of wholesale trade and 90 percent of retail trade. Nearly 90 percent of the national income was created by the socialist sector. On the basis of these radical changes, the 4th Congress drew the conclusion that the economic base of socialism *had been built in Albania, in both town and countryside.*

With the triumph of socialist relations in production, the exploiting classes and the exploitation of man by man were eliminated. Now the class structure was characterized by the existence of two friendly classes, the working class and the cooperative peasantry, their alliance under the leadership of the working class, and the and the consolidation of the moral and political unity of our people on this basis.

In 1960, the workers together with their families, made up 22,5 percent of the total number of the population, the working peasants 62,8 per cent and the people's intelligentsia 13,6 percent.

— With the construction of the economic base of socialism Albania entered a new historical stage — *the stage of completing the building of socialist society.* The 4th Congress laid down the guidelines for the development of the country in this new stage.

The completion of the construction of the material-technical base of socialism by developing the forces of production to a new higher stage, was defined as the fundamental task. This would be achieved during a number of future five-year plans and in this way Albania would be changed from an agrarian-industrial to an industrial-agrarian country. The main link in building the material-technical basis would be the further industrialization of the country. The leading role in our people's economy was allocated to industry. The Congress directed that agriculture must be developed at a more rapid pace so as to do away with the disproportion between the development of these two important branches of our people's economy.

— In this new stage of socialist construction, the communist education of the working people assumed major importance. The Congress gave the instruction that the struggle for their communist education should be directed primarily towards a thoroughly socialist stand towards work and social property for the elimination of bourgeois and petty bourgeois concepts and habits, religious prejudices, superstitions and backward customs for the formation of the ma-

terialist scientific world outlook among the workers.

— In the new stage, the defence of the socialist homeland, the securing of the victories achieved and the new victories of socialist construction against any attempts to damage or eliminate them and re-establish the feudal-bourgeois order, remained another fundamental task.

— In the directives of the third five-year plan, approved by the 4th Congress, the fundamental task defined was that the 3rd five-year plan period must mark an important step forward in building the material and technical base of socialism, the Albania must advance more quickly in turning from an agrarian-industrial to an industrial-agrarian country, that agricultural production must be increased at a faster rate, and, as a consequence, the material and cultural level of the working masses would be raised to a higher level.

— The 4th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania took place when the conflict between Marxism-Leninism and revisionism in the international communist movement was becoming fiercer. Under these conditions, the Party of Labour of Albania considered that its primary duty was to vigilantly defend its own revolutionary general line and carry it out with determination to safeguard the purity of Marxism-Leninism, to defend and propagate the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism which were under attack from the revisionists.

The Congress sternly denounced the revisionists' view on collaboration and co-existence of classes with opposing interests, as well as the attempts of all those who tried to present the present epoch as an epoch of general peace and harmony, in which the whole world is going to go over to socialism without revolution, without uprisings and liberation wars. It exposed, the attempts of the modern revisionists to negate the Marxist-Leninist teachings on the socialist revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat and emphasized that these teachings have been and remain universal laws for the transition to socialism and the building of socialist society.

— The working class, the cooperative peasantry and the people's intelligentsia of our country immediately welcomed the decisions of the fourth Party Congress, and mobilized themselves with might and main to put them into practice. The profoundly revolutionary spirit of the proceedings and decisions of the Congress aroused great enthusiasm among the broad masses of the working people in the struggle to surmount, the difficulties and obstacles and to fulfil the tasks of the 3rd five-year plan.

— In order to carry out the tasks of the 3rd five-year plan successfully, the Party concentrated its attention on making the best use of all material and financial resources. The socialist transformation of the national economy, the setting up of socialist property in town and countryside, made it possible to extend the sphere of the regime of savings to discover the permanent internal reserves and turn them into supplementary sources for the development of the economy and culture — The Party predicted that in the future the Khrushchev group and its followers would intensify their activity to undermine the People's Republic of Albania. This made the more extensive and more economical use of all the internal resources, forces and means, even more essential.

— The Party and the working masses of our

country had just begun to fulfil the tasks of the 3rd five-year plan when the Soviet leaders launched a general attack on the People's Republic of Albania in the economic and political fields. The Soviet leadership unilaterally broke off all the agreements concluded between our two countries. It suspended all the credits with which, on the basis of agreements reached, it was obliged to provide Albania during the years 1961 to 1965, severed all commercial, technical-scientific and cultural relations. It withdrew all the Soviet specialists from Albania. All the civilian and military students who were studying in various schools were expelled from the Soviet Union. From that time on the Soviet revisionists in fact expelled the People's Republic of Albania from the Warsaw Treaty disregarding the sovereignty of the Albanian people. Thus the Khrushchevite Soviet leadership organized a *ruthless economic, political and military blockade of Socialist Albania*, accompanying it with all-sided open and covert inimical activity against it. Its aim in doing this was to create a situation of insecurity in the People's Republic of Albania, to force the Party of Labour of Albania and the Albanian people to their knees, to turn them from the Marxist-Leninist course and force them to submit to the Khrushchevite dictate.

— Under such conditions, when the Soviet leadership had launched a public attack against Albania, the Party of Labour of Albania could not remain silent. It made it clear publicly that the cause of the disagreement was the anti-Marxist policy of Great Power chauvinism of Khrushchev and his revisionist group. The Party of Labour of Albania saw the Soviet leadership headed by Khrushchev as an enemy ranged not only against the Albanian people and their Party but, first of all, against Marxism-Leninism and the Soviet Union itself. The activity of the Party of Labour of Albania to expose the Soviet revisionist leadership, so enraged it that it even broke off diplomatic relations with Albania.

— The all-round hostile activity of the Khrushchev group caused the Albanian people great damage. The example set by the Soviet leadership was followed also by the Party and government leadership of several European countries of People's Democracy, who capitulated to Khrushchev's pressure. They also cut off credits to our country, reduced the volume of commercial exchanges, but did not go as far as to sever diplomatic relations.

In this serious situation, the imperialist Powers, on their part, hoped that the time had come to lure People's Republic of Albania into the imperialist camp. To this end they lost no time in offering it credits. But both the Khrushchevite revisionists and the imperialists were gravely mistaken in their reckoning and their hopes. The Albanian communists and the broad masses of the people closed their ranks even more tightly round their Party of Labour and its Central Committee, mobilized themselves with greater energy to fulfil the targets in all fields.

— The struggle to accomplish the tasks of the 3rd five year plan was organically linked with the political and ideological struggle of principle against revisionism, the struggle against imperialism. Holding the pick in one hand and the rifle in the other, our Party, together with the people, broke the blockade and smashed all the plots. Relying on their own resources and having the internationalist aid of the People's Republic of China, all the difficulties were overcome and in

THE BUILDING OF SOCIALIST IETY (Turning the pages on history)¹

general, the targets envisaged in the five-year plan were successfully fulfilled.

— As a result of the resolute struggle of the revolutionary parties and forces, modern revisionism suffered a series of defeats in all fields — political, economic and ideological, on an international and national level. In order to forestall the complete defeat of their anti-Marxist line, the Soviet revisionist were obliged to oust N. Khrushchev from the political scene in October 1964. The Party of Labour of Albania nurtured not the slightest hope that the new Soviet leadership, headed by Brezhnev and Kosigin, would correct its mistakes. It stressed that with the change in the Soviet revisionist leadership, Khrushchevite revisionism had not liquidated the course, the policy and the social and economic roots of revisionism. Therefore, it resolutely continued the struggle exposing every manoeuvre of the revisionists.

— Firm reliance on the masses has been the principal factor in all the achievements of the Party. It was precisely such reliance that created the conditions for the Party to combat Khrushchevite revisionism so successfully, to cope with the imperialist-revisionist blockade and to ensure the accomplishment of the 3rd five-year plan.

In its work to accomplish the economic, cultural, ideological and political tasks in the struggle against imperialism and modern revisionism during the period of the 3rd five-year plan, the Party of Labour of Albania greatly enriched its own experience of the political leadership, organization, and education of the masses. From the practice of the daily struggle of the Party and the masses emerged the need to use new, more skillful forms, a more revolutionary method and style in the work of the Party and the State organs. This was precisely the aim of the call which the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and the Council of Ministers addressed to the people in October, 1965, urging them to take part actively and directly in drawing up the 4th five-year plan. The lofty revolutionary spirit which pervaded the popular discussion helped the Party to see the shortcomings and weaknesses in its own work and the work of the State organs, to analyze its activity up till that time with a critical eye and drew important lessons and to take a series of steps to further revolutionize itself and the whole life of the country.

— For the further revolutionization of the Party, the State apparatus and the whole life of the country, it was essential, first and foremost, to uproot bureaucracy. The Party has regarded and combatted bureaucracy as the greatest evil for its own apparatus and the State organs. The Central Committee issued the directive that the practice of superfluous memos, ordinances, regulations and formalities must be abandoned, maintaining only those, which were indispensable, that the center of gravity of their work must be shifted to live work with the people. Within the context of the fight against bureaucracy, a number of other very important measures were taken which had a big influence in further enlivening and revolutionizing the life of the Party and the country.

— In March, 1966, the Central Committee of the Party decided to write an Open Letter to the communists, workers, soldiers and officers, in which it reported to them on the radical revolutionary measures it had taken in recent months

and called on them to struggle with might and main to carry out the tasks arising from these measures.

This Open Letter became a sound weapon in the hands of the communists and of the working people as a whole. Within a very short time the State and Party apparatuses were reorganized on a more revolutionary basis. About fifteen thousand superfluous cadres in the administration were assigned to production. The work in the field of production became more dynamic. A powerful movement began to link mental work with physical work, with production. Military training was especially enlivened since a number of measures had been taken in the army to further revolutionize its life.

— The 5th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania was held in Tirana from November 8th, 1966. The Congress drew up the balance and made a higher level summing up of the revolutionary experience of the Party and the masses of the people, especially in the recent years. It defined the tasks for the development and intensification of the socialist revolution in all fields, as well as for the struggle against the united imperialist-revisionist front, made some amendments to the Party Constitution, and approved the directives of the 4th five-year plan.

So that the revolution continue without interruption, the Congress designated as the Party's most important task, *the waging of the class struggle more vigorously and undeviatingly until the ultimate victory*. Thus, the Party seized on the ideological revolution, the class struggle for complete defeat of bourgeois and revisionist ideology, as the main link for the complete triumph of proletarian ideology. The ideological revolution had to include all the spheres of life and all the masses, the workers, peasants, army men, pupils and students.

The constant strengthening and perfecting of the People's Army, the organs of security and other armed forces, remained, as always, another, main direction for the strengthening of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

In order to deepen the revolution, in the economic and social field, the Congress laid down that the course mapped out for turning the country from an agrarian-industrial to an industrial-agrarian one, must be followed persistently. The Congress launched the slogan «take to the hills and mountains, beautify them and make them as fertile as the plains.»

The Congress also took important decisions on the further strengthening of the Party itself.

The directives of the 4th five-year plan defined as the main task *«The complete construction of the material-technical basis of socialism must be accelerated by continuing the socialist industrialization and by increasing industrial production through making fuller use of existing productive capacities and through building new projects, by concentrating the forces for a more rapid development of agricultural production, especially of grain, first and foremost through the intensification of agriculture. The well-being and cultural level of the people must be raised and the defence potential of the homeland increased. The socialist relations in production must be further improved in a revolutionary way and distinctions between town and countryside, between industry and agriculture, between mental and manual work must be gradually narrowed.*

The profound scientific analysis which the

5th Congress made of the major problems of the time, of a national and international character, the directives which it gave, opened new horizons to the complete construction of socialist society. The whole Party with its levers, was mobilized to make the directives and the tasks set by the Congress as well understood as possible among the people, to put them as extensively and completely as possible into practice. In this direction comrade Enver Hoxha's speech delivered on February 6, 1967 at the joint meeting of several party branches of Tirana, played a special role.

The decisions of the 5th Congress and comrade Enver Hoxha's speech on February 6, 1967 imparted a new powerful impulse to the revolutionization of the Party and the life of the country as a whole. There was a new revolutionary upsurge. A number of revolutionary movements covering every sphere of the life of the country burst out. Such were the movement *to put the general interest above personal interests everywhere, the movement against religion, religious prejudices and backward customs, the movement for the complete emancipation of the woman, the movement to revolutionize the school and so on.*

— The 6th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania commenced on November 1, 1971. As in former Congresses, a balance was made there of the victories achieved during the five-year period from 1965 to 1970. The great process of all-round revolutionization which developed vigorously especially after the 5th Congress had further strengthened the positions of socialism in Albania, enhanced the militant spirit and enlivened the whole life and activity of the Party, and imparted an unprecedented impulse to the initiative and creative spirit of the masses, and the rapid development of the people's economy and culture. These victories were achieved through a great class struggle to block the way to any possibility of the emergence of revisionism or returning back of society, through an all-round struggle to carry the revolution and socialist construction consistently forward. In the report of the Central Committee submitted to the Congress by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania, comrade Enver Hoxha, a clear Marxist-Leninist class analysis was of the international situation, pointing out the fundamental trends of social development in the world at the beginning of the '70's and of the perspectives of this development.

The directives of the 5th five-year plan were discussed and approved at the Congress. They envisaged a more rapid development of industry, agriculture, science, culture and art. Important decisions were taken for the further strengthening and invigoration of the organs of our People's State Power, and for the strengthening of the Party.

— On November 8th this year, the Party of Labour of Albania completes 35 years of its existence. During the days of this glorious anniversary, the 7th Congress of the Party will be held. The Congress will draw up a balance of the victories achieved during the last five years on the ideological, political and economic fronts, and in increasing the defence potential of the homeland. It will open new perspectives for the further development of socialism in Albania.

1) See «New Albania» Nr. 2,3,4, — 1976.

The uninterrupted development of our power industry has been and remains one of the main directions of the program of the PLA for the socialist construction of the country. As in the fifth five year plan which has just closed, in the sixth five year plan 1976 to 1980, the output of electric power occupied first place, from the viewpoint of the rates of increase, as against the rates of the development of the other branches of the economy. This is done with the aim of opening the road to the uninterrupted development of material production and also in the social and cultural sphere. Therefore the rates of the increase of electric power, from one five year plan to another, have reached figures which speak of colossal work in this direction.

Let us make a few comparisons, proceeding from the objectives defined for the new five year plan which were recently published.

If we take the year before the war, 1938 as the comparison, during the years of the people's statepower the output of electric power has risen as follows; in 1955 it rose 7.9 times, in 1965 — 39, 3 times, in 1975 — 175 times, while in 1980 it will rise by 380 times. In the new five year plan conditions will be created to make an unprecedented stride forward in this branch of our indus-

try. In 1980 it is envisaged that 1.8 times more electric power will be produced than during the 15 years of the first three five year plans, 1951 to 1965 taken together, or 20 times more than in 1960.

During the five years of the new five year plan, the production of electric power will rise 2,2 times, as against 1975, the last year of the last five year plan.

This will become possible with the exploitation of new resources of electric power. Parallel with the increase of the installed capacity of the hydropower stations, the thermal stations will also be strengthened. Suffice it to mention that the increase in the power of the thermal power station at Fieri alone will be greater than the entire installed capacity of all the hydropower stations of 1962.

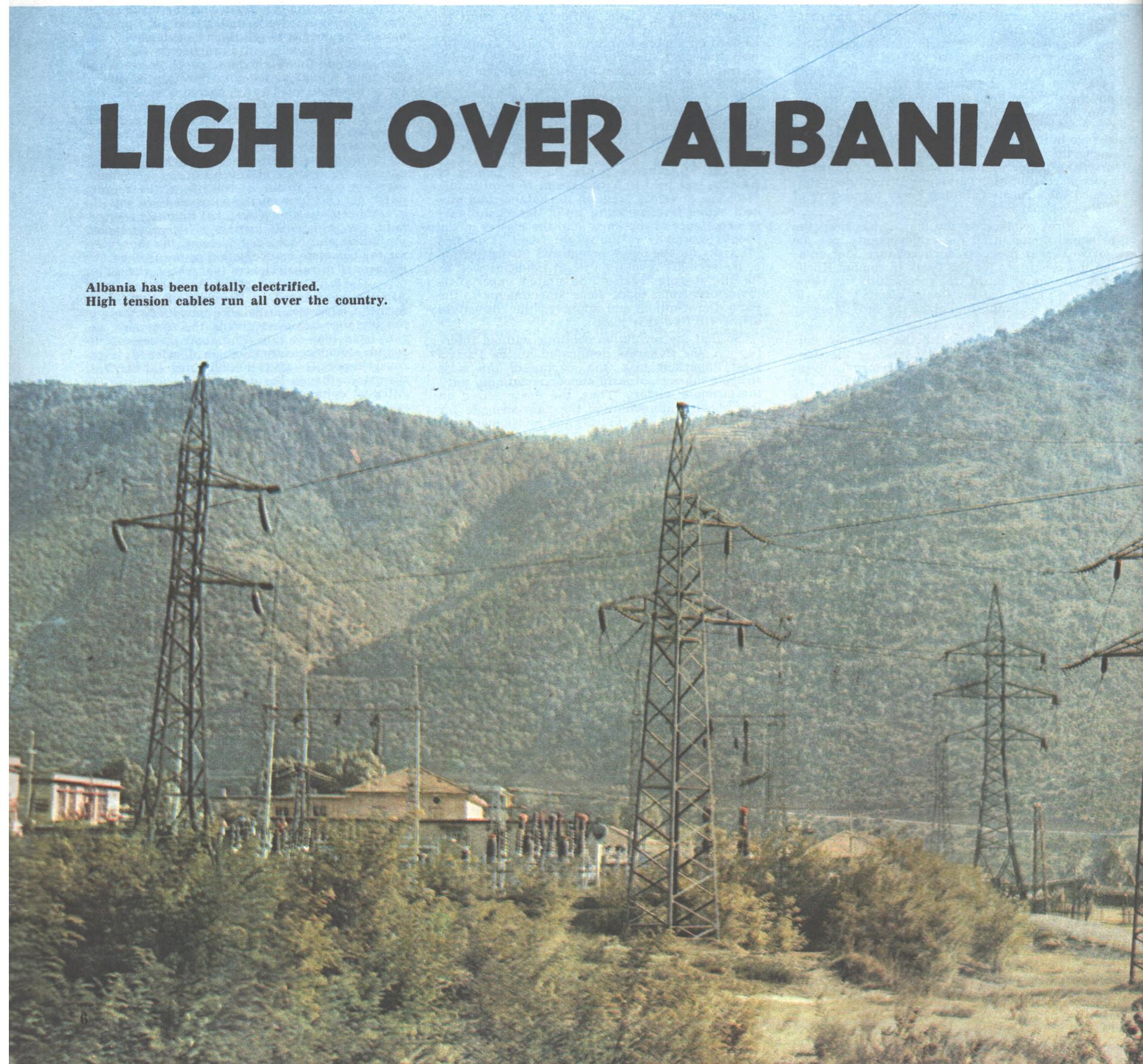
For the first time in the country, high pressure boilers will be set up in our country. So far in our country, about two thousand kilometers of high tension line have been laid, thus creating a unified network of the distribution of electric power throughout the whole of Albania. The substations of this network have an installed capacity of the transformers which is 11 times greater than what it was in 1960.

An important place in the construction of the projects of the power industry during this five year plan is occupied by the Hydro power station at Fierza, the second power station on the Drini river, in the north of Albania. It will be a great source of electric power. When Fierza begins to operate, the electric power industry in Albania will make a big stride forward and new conditions will be created for the qualitative and quantitative development and extension of all the branches of industry. The electric power industry will be used on a more broader scale in the everyday life of the Albanian families. To understand just what Fierza means to our economy suffice it to make this comparison; the installed capacity of one aggregate of the Fierza power station will be bigger than the entire installed capacity of all the power generating sources in 1960 taken together.

It is several years now since the electrification of all the villages of Albania was completed and electric light now shines in every house in our country. During the new five year plan it is envisaged that the use of electric power be increased to further mechanise industrial and agricultural production and also those sectors which are directly connected with the raising of the wellbeing of the working masses.

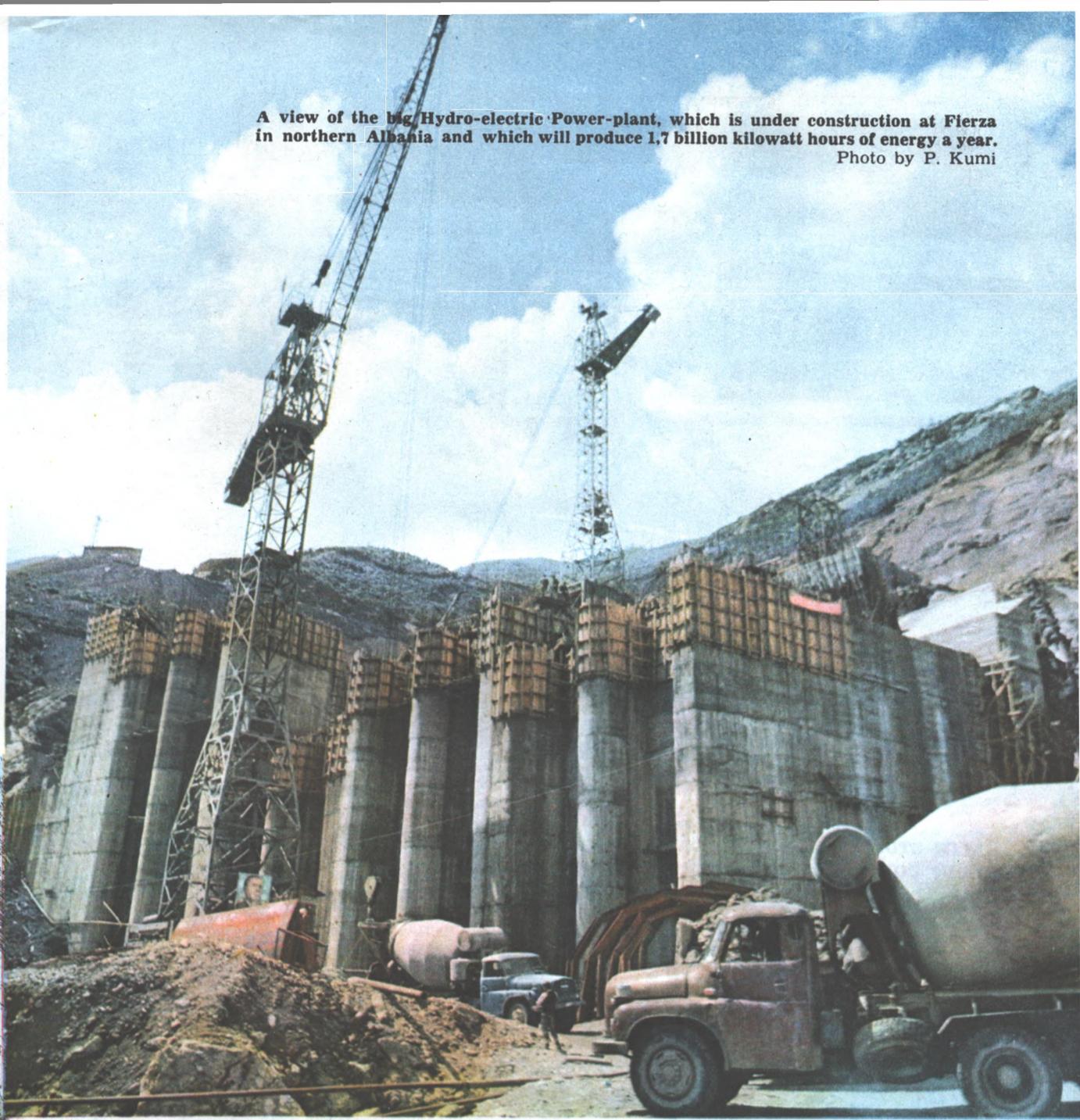
LIGHT OVER ALBANIA

**Albania has been totally electrified.
High tension cables run all over the country.**



IN 1980 THERE WILL BE PRODUCED 1,8 TIMES AS MUCH ELECTRIC POWER AS WAS PRODUCED DURING THE THREE FIVE - YEAR PLAN PERIOD (1951-1965), TAKEN TOGETHER WHILE IN COMPARISON WITH 1960—20 TIMES AS MUCH. THE ELECTRIC POWER, WHICH WILL BE PRODUCED IN 1980, WILL BE 380 TIMES AS MUCH AS IN 1938.

A view of the big Hydro-electric Power-plant, which is under construction at Fierza in northern Albania and which will produce 1,7 billion kilowatt hours of energy a year.
Photo by P. Kumi



The Albanian cadres perform a great deal of qualified scientific work for the construction of hydro-electric power-plants. In the picture; Undergraduates of the Tirana University doing experimental work at the hydraulic laboratory. Photo by M. Xhufka.

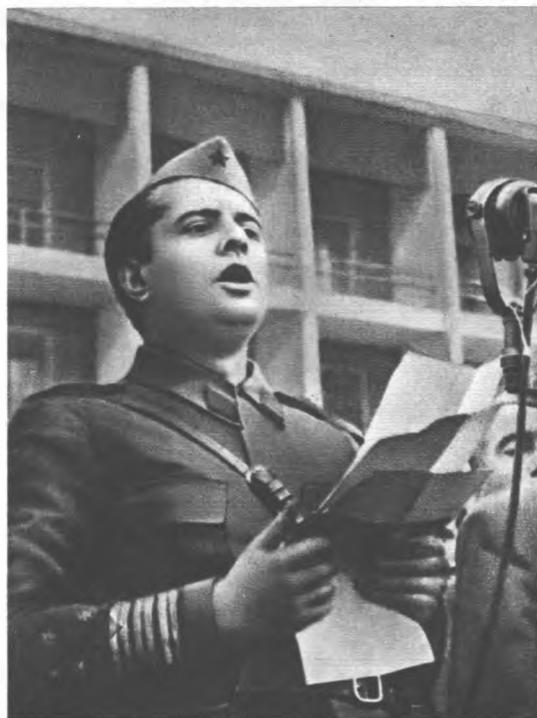




Tirana today viewed from the upper storey of the 15 storey hotel. Photo by S. Xhillari

HALIM STOLIA
MEDIN ÇOLLAKU

«RED TIRANA»



November 28, 1944.
Comrade Enver Hoxha speaking
at the military parade of the units
which took part in the liberation of
Tirana and the manifestation of the workers.



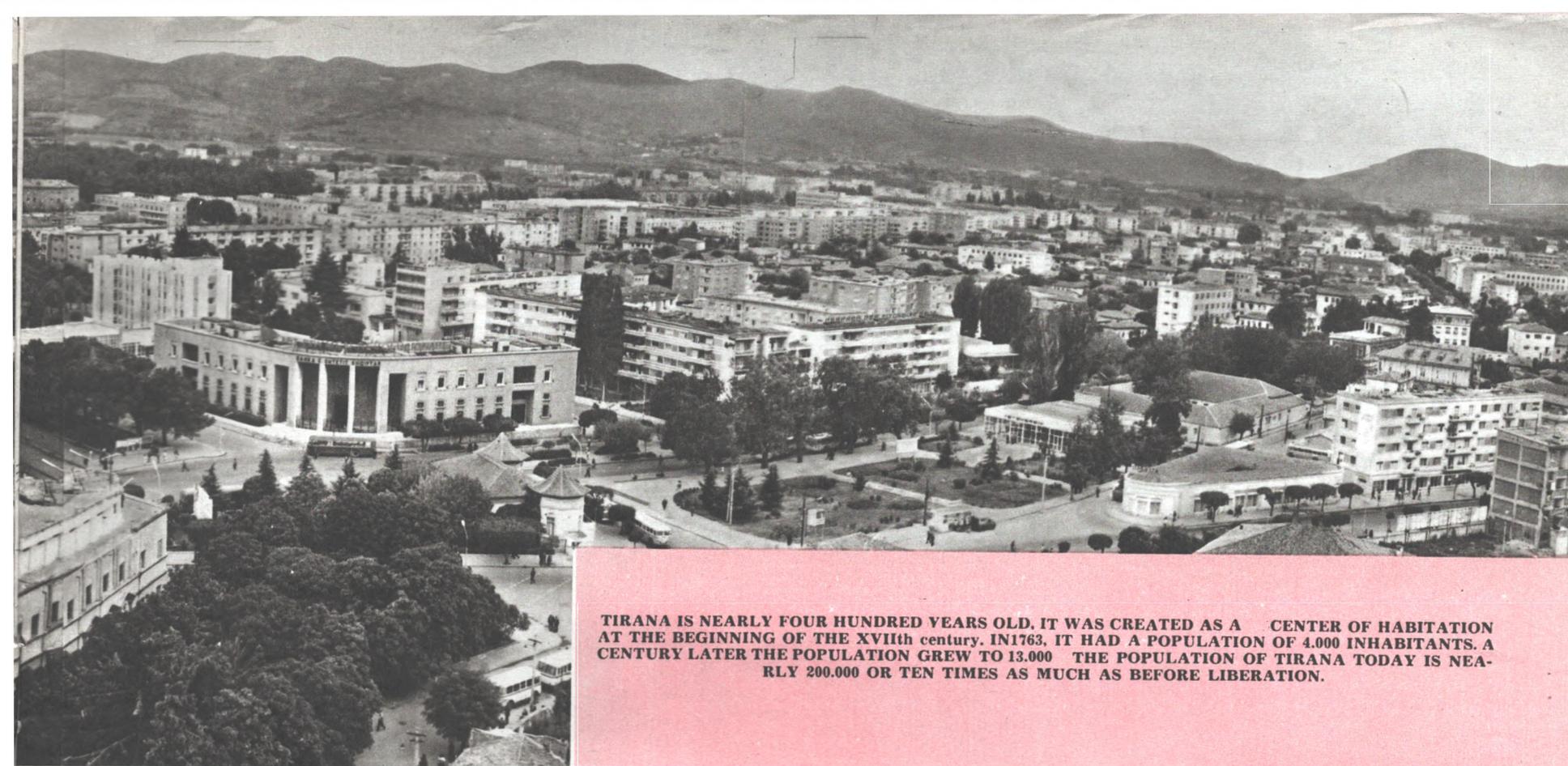
The representatives of the Communist Groups
held their meeting in this small
room on November 8, 1941. It is here
that the Communist
Party (now the Party of Labour)
of Albania came to being.

No one knows for certain when and why Tirana, the Capital of Albania, was called «Red Tirana». Anyway, this is a question of etymology. But, as a matter of fact, this appellation is very appropriate for it today. Tirana is the hart of our new Albania Its palpitations regulate the pulse of life of the whole country.

FROM AN INN AND A MOSQUE TO THE PRESENT CAPITAL OF ALBANIA

The name Tirana is met for the first time in the documents pertaining to the XVth century. At that time, this name was applied to the plain of the Erzeni valley between the ancient cities of Scampa, Dyrrach and Kruja. Later on, a place of habitation sprang up at the center of this plain which was given the name of Tirana and which began to grow and develop. Hearsay evidence has it that a local feudal chieftain, Sulejman Pasha Bargjini from the village of Mullet,

southeast of Tirana, built at the beginning of the XVIIth century a mosque, a bakery and a bathhouse on the spot where Tirana is today. Later on he built also an inn and his mansion. The Pasha called this city Tirana and, as the saying goes, in memory of the victories he had scored in the battle for Teheran in Persia (today Iran). But as can be seen this legend of the name of the new town does not hold water since the name Tirana is met with in historical documents two centuries before. The Venetian Ambassador, Lorenzo Bernardo, for instance, on his way to Constantinople in May, 1591, noted that during the two days he



TIRANA IS NEARLY FOUR HUNDRED YEARS OLD. IT WAS CREATED AS A CENTER OF HABITATION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE XVIIth century. IN 1763, IT HAD A POPULATION OF 4.000 INHABITANTS. A CENTURY LATER THE POPULATION GREW TO 13.000 THE POPULATION OF TIRANA TODAY IS NEARLY 200.000 OR TEN TIMES AS MUCH AS BEFORE LIBERATION.

tracelled through the Tirana Plain and the Kërriba Pass, he met a caravan of 500 horses transporting grain from Struga to Lezha. This statement and other materials go to show that during the early centuries of the Ottoman occupation the Tirana valley had become an important junction of roads which linked some of the large seaports of the eastern shores of the Adriatic with the other Balkan regions of the Empire as well as with the capital of the Ottoman Turks itself. Thus, the first buildings by Sulejman Bargjini were set up at the appropriate time and place. Within half a century, precisely in 1662, according to the famous Turkish traveller Evlia Chelebi, who visited various districts of Albania at that time, Tirana was not only an administrative center but also a city. In 1703, 90 year old Tirana had nearly four thousand inhabitants or more than ancient Durrës.

Important historical events take place in Albania towards the end of the XVIIIth and the beginning of the XIXth centuries. Two big feudal families, the Bushatllis in Shkodra and Ali Pasha Tepelena in Yannina, try to detach themselves from the Ottoman Empire, Tirana, which at that time was the domination of Ibrahim Beg Bergjinolli, sided with the Bushatllis against the Sultan. In an armed conflict with the Ottoman forces Ibrahim was captured and executed in Constantinople in 1788. The city fell into the hands of his rivals, the Toptani chieftains of the city of Kruja.

In spite of the repeated expeditions of the imperial armies, Tirana continued to grow and develop. Commerce and the arts and crafts marked a good progress during the first quarter of the XIXth century. During this period the population of Tirana rose to 13,000. But later on, towards 1830, an epidemic reduced the population of the city to nearly one half.

The last decades of the XIXth century mark the most important and glorious stage of the history of Albania. It was during these decades that the great national movement which in the history of our country is known by the name «National Revival» was rapidly developing. In 1879, a big meeting of the representatives of the Albanian people took place in the city of Prizren which set up a wide organization called the «Prizren League». Tirana took active part in this movement and became one of the important centers for spreading patriotic ideas. Mention is made of patriot Murat Toptani who, for his political and literary activity holds an important place in the movement for the rights of the Albanian people. The Sublime Porte arrested and deported this Tirana patriot.

On November 28, 1892, an Albanian school was opened also in Tirana in the wake of that opened in Korça. The school enrolled children from the three religious communities, Moslems, Eastern

Orthodox and Roman Catholics. And this was a hard blow dealt at the divisive propaganda of the Albanian people.

During the first decade of our century, the patriotic movement made rapid progress in Tirana just as everywhere else in Albania. New schools and clubs of patriots, like the «Bashkimi» and others were opened. The Istanbul Government tried to curb this powerful movement. In 1910, Shevqet Turgut Pasha with his army perpetrated a wave of terror in Tirana. The schools, Clubs and every patriotic institution were closed. Mass arrests and ruthless tortures were resorted to against the patriots.

At the time of the decline and disintegration of the Ottoman Empire, Albania had become the object of covetousness not only of its Balkan neighbors but also of the Big European Powers like Italy, Austro-Hungary and others.

On the post-war maps Albania figures as a small State crippled as a result of the intrigues of the big Powers. At the beginning of 1920, a National Congress was held in the city of Lushnja for the purpose of consolidating national independence and organizing the life of the country as an independent State. The Lushnja Congress proclaimed Tirana as the capital of the State since it was in the center of Albania with about 17 thousand inhabitants. On February 11, 1920, the people of Tirana welcomed the authorities of the Albanian State coming from Lushnja.

A TWENTY—YEAR LONG MALADY

Tirana became the capital of Albania. The residences of the higher organs of the State were set up. But from the very beginning a bitter battle started between the progressive forces, on one side, and the forces of reaction made up of the feudal-bourgeois circles of the country, on the other. During the period from 1920 to 1924, it became the principal field of battle between these forces. An active political battle was waged during this period in the parliament, in the government and the other central organs and in the press. But the reactionaries, unable to stand before the broad popular movement for democracy and progress, resorted also to every other means in order to consolidate their own State Power. The feudal bourgeoisie turned out from their ranks also the man they need to achieve their objective. He was Ahmet Zogolli or, as he called himself, Ahmet Zog. Occupying an important post in the government, Ahmed Zogolli launched a furious campaign of persecutions, arrests and murders against progressive elements. In April 1924, Zog's agents killed the wellknown patriot Avni Rustem on the sly. Avni, who long stood out for his patriotic and democratic ideas, enjoyed great popularity among the masses. His death sounded the signal for a broad popular movement which reached its height in June, 1924, with the outbreak of the

democratic-bourgeois revolution. The reactionary government was overthrown. Zog fled to Yugoslavia. In Tirana there was set up a democratic-bourgeois government headed by Fan Noli who was wellknown for his progressive ideas. But Noli's government had its days numbered. In spite of its progressive program for that time, it failed to rely on the broad masses of the people. Six months later, with the help of the forces of the King of Yugoslavia, Ahmet Zog attacked and overthrew Noli's government. Three years later he proclaimed himself the King of the Albanians.

For Tirana just as for Albania as a whole the years of Zog's royal regime were years of a serious malady, of suffering and misery. The regime of the wealthy landlords and the bourgeoisie had no other concern but to add to their own propertyfleecing the people to the narrow and paving the way to the penetration of the capital of fascist Italy.

What Tirana and Albania as a whole could expect from Zog's regime can be seen also in these data published in 1938 in a book bearing the title «Ten Years of a Kingdom» in which we read: «The sum of 11 million gold francs was shared out in this way:

Military installations — 3 millions and 300 thousand; Palaces of the Ministries — 2 million and 740 thousand; Residence for his Majesty and Royal family — 2 million and 210 thousand; schools — 430 thousand and so on...».

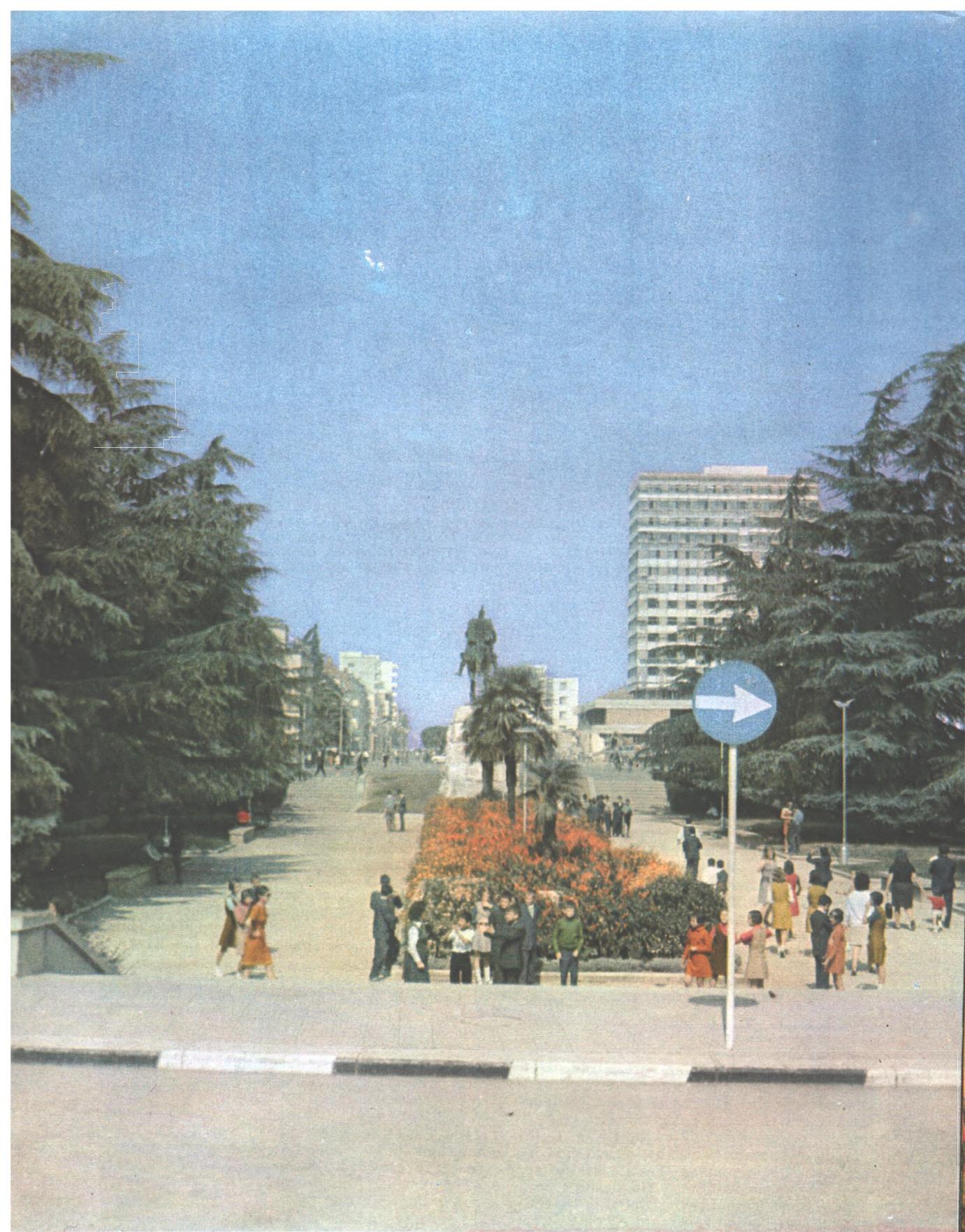
This publication writers a lot about the big loans the King had received from Italy about the construction of bridges and highways but nothing is said about industry. Up to 1939, Tirana had an industry consisting of some olive presses, soap producing factories, flour mills, tobacco, brick and woodworking workshops and a small electric power stations.

In the field of education and culture Tirana did not cut a better figure than in the other fields.

The oppression and obscurantism of the Zogite regime did not damp the spirits of the people of Tirana for freedom and progress. The revolutionary, communist ideas spread in Tirana, as throughout Albania, in the most varied, legal and illegal forms. The oppressive apparatus of the Zogite dictatorship strove to suppress these ideas. Of prominence is the trial of 75 communists at the tribunal held in Tirana in January 1939. But the communists held their ground. Communist Enver Hoxha came to Tirana from Korça and began his revolutionary activity in the capital.

On April 7, 1939, Italy attacked Albania. The rotten regime of Zog's kingdom collapsed within a matter of hours. King Zog fled to «warm countries» in Egypt together with his suite. Bersagliers, grenadiers, alpine troops and Mussolini's blackshirts entered Tirana.

TIRANA, AS A CITY AND AS A DISTRICT, IS A BIG CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC CENTER. IN ADDITION TO ACTIVITIES ON A NATIONAL LEVEL, THE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS PERFORM ALL-ROUND ACTIVITIES. DURING 1975, THE TRADE-UNION ORGANIZATION ORGANIZED THE OLYMPIAD OF THE THEATRICAL GROUPS OF THE PRODUCTION CENTERS IN WHICH COMPETED 122 AMATEUR ARTISTIC GROUPS WITH 1830 PARTICIPATORS. THEY GAVE 854 PERFORMANCES ATTENDED BY 256.500 SPECTATORS. THE 9th FESTIVAL OF THE VARIETY SHOW THEATERS WAS ATTENDED BY 210.600 SPECTATORS. IN ADDITION TO ACTIVITIES IN THE CENTER, THE BIG PALACE OF CULTURE HAS PERFORMED ACTIVITIES ALSO IN AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES LIKE PETRELA, NDROQ, MARIKAJ, VAQAR AND SO ON.



At the center of Tirana. Photo by S. Xhillari.



The Gallery of Figurative Arts.

SPEAKING IN TERMS OF FIRE

But Tirana did not cease to exist. On the contrary, it shook like an earthquake and ruptured like a volcano. It spoke in terms of the fire of rifles and bombs.

The Italian fascists had long aspired to turn Albania into an Italian province beyond the Adriatic. To this purpose they had poured out millions upon millions. But they were aware right at the beginning that their dreams would never be realized in Albania. This was made clear to them, among others, also by the armed uprising and the powerful anti-fascist demonstration of April 1939. On November 28, 1939, the National Flag Day of Albania, the people of Tirana led by the communists launched other powerful demonstrations. They came to grips with and were arrested but the drive for liberation could not be checked. The King Emperor of Italy, Vittorio Emmanuel himself came to Albania in May 1941 in order to appease the Albanians. But in one of the streets of Tirana bullets showered over him instead of flowers. Taking his aim at Victor Emmanuel, worker Vasil Laçi expressed the power-

ful resentment of the Albanian people against the fascist invaders.

Tirana won its greatest honor and glory in its history on November, 8, 1941 when it became the cradle where the Albanian Communist Party, the leading staff of the Albanian people in its fierce battles for liberation and socialism, was born and rocked.

The meeting of the representatives of the communist groups was held from November 8 to November, 1941 in a modest house in a city quarter of Tirana. That house, as the poet has it, became the first residence of the Party Central Committee and is preserved as a house museum of the founding of the Party. The mud-brick walls of the narrow lane, the courtyard and the interior environment are also preserved in the state they were that November day 35 years ago.

If you take a walk in Tirana today, if you watch carefully the memorial plaques, the names of streets, of public squares, of schools and many institutions, if you visit the museums you will feel, as if you are reading the history of Albania and, especially, the history of the glorious period of the National-

-liberation War, Qemal Stafa's bust, the school or street bearing his name, you are reminded of the Political Secretary of the Communist Youth Organization, the Secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Communist Party, the twenty-year old youth who fell on May 5th, 1942 fighting the fascists in one of the streets of Tirana. In a street somewhere you read that in front of you is the building which used to be the base of the National-liberation movement. The leader of our Party and people Enver Hoxha, has worked there. The tracts, proclamations and pamphlets of the Party were mimeographed in the cellar of this house. The communist, members of the guerrilla units used to meet in another hideout to take decisions for political and fighting actions. The houses of Ije Farka, Haki Keta, Xhemal Shijaku are famous for communists in Tirana.

From the creation of the Party up to liberation, Tirana was a field of ceaseless battles. Hundreds of freedom fighters, communists and patriots, boys and girls, men and women fell fighting in the streets of Tirana. The commander of the guerrilla unit Vojo Kushi, Misto Mame, Shyqri



Another view of Tirana.

Ishmi and a host of others fell fighting here. Tirana will never forget February 4th, 1944. That night the Hitlerites broke through the doors of houses, turned out whomsoever they found, lined them against the walls and fired on them. In those days the enemy press organs wrote: «Blood should run in streams in the streets of Tirana if we intend to reestablish order and tranquility...».

But Tirana was not downed either by the fire or sword of the enemy. Nor did the blood shed by its sons and daughters dishearten it. It brought together its forces for the final battle. The Peza, Shëngjergji and other districts became strongholds of the partisan units. From these bases came the attacks against the enemy in the city, against the residences of the invaders and their collaborators, depots of arms and ammunitions were blown up and lines of communication were cut from these strongholds.

The fierce battle for the liberation of Tirana lasted nineteen days, from October 29 to November 17, 1944. The forces of the First Shock Division of the National-liberation Army as well as other brigades surrounded and fighting from

Parks and flower gardens embellish the center as well as the outskirts of Tirana.
Photo by M. Xhufka

one street to another, from one house to another against the invaders, caused them the loss of thousands of dead and wounded. A beautiful monument has now been raised at Mushqeta on the Tirana — Elbasan highway commemorating the decisive battle of the partisan brigade against 2,500 Hitlerite troops coming to rescue the garrison surrounded in Tirana. These troops were totally made short work of. On November 17, 1944, amidst an atmosphere of the cinders, smoke, and blood shed in the war, the banner of victory, the banner of freedom was hoisted and flapped its wings at the «Skanderbeg» square. The capital of Albania was freed by the Albanians themselves.



On November 28, 1944, the Democratic Government of Albania headed by Enver Hoxha, the Government which emerged from the nozzle of the rifle, in the heat of so many battles, entered in Tirana.

THE PANORAMA OF OUR DAYS

It would be impossible to describe the step by step transformation of Tirana within these 32 years from its liberation and the establishment of the People's State Power. Today Tirana has grown a lot. In 1974, the city has a population of 190,000 inhabitants. Together with its outlying villages it reaches the 276,400 mark. This is an

increase of about tenfold in comparison with the pre-liberation period. Two have been the main factors for this rapid increase of the population of Tirana: first, the flood of new dwellers from the outlying districts and, second, the natural increase of population. The rapid development of economy; culture, science and the arts required manpower. During the early years after the liberation of the country, whole families came mainly from the countryside in order to work in factories, combines, trade and transport. Young people who had been through secondary or higher schools began working as pioneers in the various institutions which had newly been set up. On the other hand, the improvement of standards of living, the concern for the health of the people, the improvement of nourishment, of lodging, of housing, work conditions are to, account for the fact that the average lifespan and the natural increase of the population have kept rising from one year to another. Before liberation the average lifespan of the people, did not exceed 38 years, while at present it is about 69 years. As for the natural increase of population, in 1973 it was about 19 per cent.

Today, Tirana has become a new and beautiful city bustling with socialist life. It has developed step by step on the basis of five-year plans. It began to rise and flourish on the ruins of old Tirana, on the ruins left behind by the ruthless war of the fascists. After the city had been put back on its feet, there began other rapid construction.

Time ago the capital was plagued among other maladies also by the lack of drinking water and electric light. The people drank water drawn from wells or from tanks hauled to the market on pack animals and sold in cups like beer. Many families lighted their gloomy rooms by petroleum lamps. One of the first concerns of the Party following the liberation of the country was precisely that of providing Tirana with drinking water and light. Work began to bring the water from sources of the Mali me Gropa, tens of kilometers far from Tirana. Canals and tunnels were opened and many works of art were built and by early years of the 50's Tirana received fresh water from mountain sources. But

this water set in motion also the turbines of the first Hydro-electric Power — plant «Lenin» Tirana received also electric light.

At present Tirana is a large industrial center. The «Enver» machine-manufacturing plant, the «Stalin» Textile Mills, the tractor repair workshop, the «Ali Kelmendi» Food-processing complex, the «21st December» building enterprise make up the pride of the industry of the capital. Tirana, which before liberation had only a few workshops, had in 1974 over 70 workshops, factories and industrial enterprises, employing about 80.000 worker. During the thirty years after the war the population of Tirana increased tenfold while industrial production increased 86 times. Now it takes four days to the industry of the capital to turn out what the industry of Tirana turned out during the whole year in 1938.

In 1974, Tirana turned out about 21 per cent of the industrial production of the country. It holds first place in Albania for the production of the machine manufacturing, materials of construction, light and food-processing and the poly-graphic industries. In the process of industrial development what is most fundamental is the increase of the working class in numbers and structure. It stands out for its broad scientific concepts, the revolutionary Marxist-Leninist ideology which guides it. The working class headed by the communists takes active part both in production as well as in the political, social and cultural life of the country. From the ranks of the workers emerge directors of workshops and factories, leaders of the Party and of the People's State Power. You find them on the stage or in sport activities, you find them in worker control teams which hold to account the employees of the Departments and Institutions for what they have done.

It is a wellknown fact that the basic principle of socialist construction is to rely on one's own resources. More so under the conditions of our country which the imperialists and revisionists have intended to force to its knees through the economic blockade. Among hundreds and thousands of cases we will mention only two. In recent times, the geological machine manufacturing plant turned out the first Albanian bo-

ring device for geological drilling up to nearly 700 meters in depth. At the plant we talked with the comrades of the bureau of the Party organization and of the director «Since the beginning of the 60's, when the Soviet revisionists suspended the delivery of the necessary materials for geological research, we have come up against many problems which we have solved relying on the ingenuity and determination of our workers». And they added: «Recently it became necessary to construct a hydraulic drill. The collective of our workers studied carefully what had to be studied and set to work. It goes without saying that the difficulties were great and diverse. But we, under the guidance, of the Party grassroot organization, surmounted them. We produced the first Albanian hydraulic borer and now it has been put into operation».

Following the same course, the workers of the «tractor» plant produced the block of cylinders of the engine of heavy trucks. «Now» they said to us at the Party Committee of the plant «we can produce the complete engine».

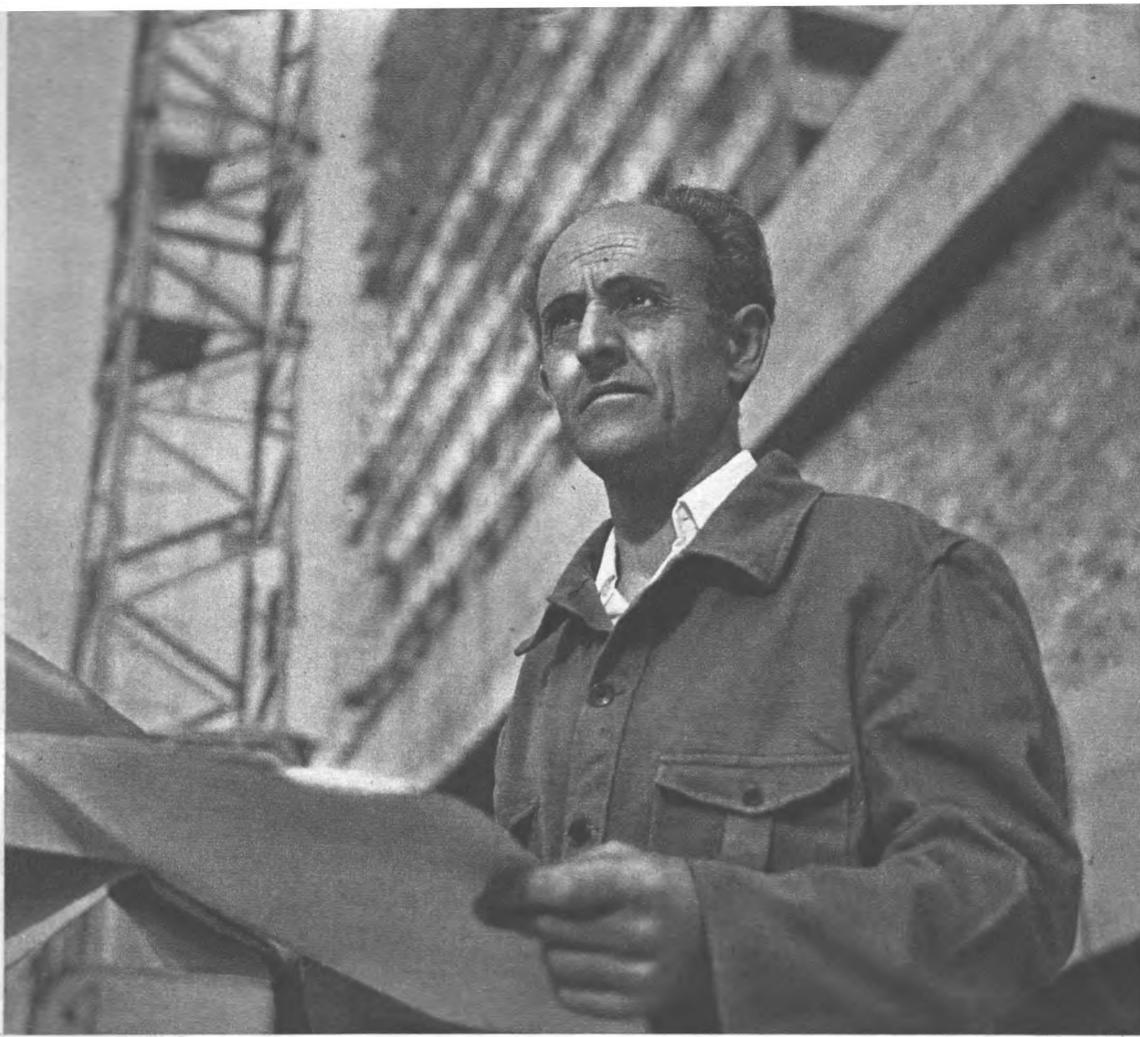
Agricultural production, too, organized along socialist lines has been increasing year after year. There are 16 joined cooperatives in the Tirana district, two of which of the higher type. In the same way there are also two State Farms. Many steps have been taken to increase arable land and systematize it. A number of large reservoirs and a dense network of canals provide the necessary amount of water for irrigation. The city of Tirana is like an island surrounded on all sides by a circular network of irrigation canals. A green belt of vineyards and olive groves also surrounds the capital. The modern greenhouses with internal heating supplies fresh vegetables all the year round. While the high breed cows of the «Red Star» agricultural enterprise provides the city with large quantities of milk and meat, the poultry complex turns out millions of eggs a year.

We met Hero of Socialist Work, Trajce Mazniku, at the worksite of the new 15-storey hotel of the capital. Trajce Mazniku is a veteran builder in Tirana. During the early post-liberation years he had seen Tirana from the scorched roofs of the houses burnt down by the war and then from the rafters of the «Stalin» Textile Mills, from the columns of the Palace of Culture and now from the terraces of the 15-storey hotel. With the hands and under the eyes of this distinguished master builder has Tirana grown with many storeyed buildings to house the inhabitants and the scientific and artistic institutions, with broad streets lined with trees, with parks and flower gardens, with stadiums and playgrounds. The streets named «New Albania», «the Permeti Conference», «the Peza Conference», «Qemal Stafa», «Labinoti» and others, all converge at the beautiful «Skanderbeg» Square where stands the bronze bust of National Hero «Gjergj Kastrioti, alias, Skanderbeg». Monuments and busts of distinguished patriots, brave fighters of the period of the National-liberation War, monuments of important events are to be seen everywhere in the streets, parks and squares of the capital. A hill commanding the capital is reserved for the tombs of the martyrs of the National-liberation War. And in the midst of this marble graveyard covered with flower and rosebushes stands the monument «Mother Albania», the work, of a group of gifted sculptors.

The construction of the new socialist economic basis is connected also with the new superstructure of our order of things. This is beautifully reflected in the cultural, scientific and artistic world of the capital. The city which used have only one kindergarten has now 104 of them. Neof different categories. Before liberation Albania had no higher schools. The Tirana University arly at the same rate have increased the schools has now become the nursery of thousands of cadres of higher training working in all the sectors of the economic, political and social life of

The number of industrial establishments has kept increasing from one five-year plan period to another. One of these is the «Tractor» Plant. In the picture: View of the interior of one of the sectors of this plant.





Master mason Trajçe Mazniku, Hero of Socialist Work.

the country. Over 17000 students pursue their studies in the various departments of the Tirana University. The Upper Agricultural Institute trains higher cadres for agriculture, the Higher Institute of Arts gives the country the necessary cadres for this field of the social life of the country while the «Vojo Kushi» Institute of Physical culture cadres for physical culture and sport

Not many years ago the Academy of Sciences of the People's Republic of Albania was also set up in Tirana. A number of scientific institutions engage in studying and solving many important scientific problems which the development of the country faces. Such are, for instance, the Institute of Marxist-Leninist Studies at the Party Central Committee, the Institute of Economic Studies, the Institute of Linguistics and Literature, the Institute of History, the Institute of Nuclear Physics, the Institute of Geologist-mineral Research, the Institute of the Monuments of Culture, that of Folklore, the Center of Accounting and many others.

«The People's Theater» «The Opera and Ballet Theater», the «New Albania Film Studio» are all the work of the People's State Power of Albania. Before liberation there was only one small power Radio Broadcasting Station in Tirana. While at present the Radiotelevision Broadcasting Station of Albania is a very powerful institution. The voice of Albania is heard today all around the world. In addition to broadcasts in Albanian, Radio Tirana broadcast every day programs in eighteen languages of the world. Newspapers and periodicals are published in Tirana among which «The People's Voice», the central organ of the Party of Labor of Albania, has a daily circulation of nearly 100,000 copies. Our periodical «New Albania» which is destined for foreign readers is published in 9 languages and is printed in 170,000 copies. It is printed in printing presses of the capital. In addition to the offices of the higher organs of the Party and the State, in Tirana there are the central offices of the organizations of the masses, those of the Trade Unions of Albania, of the Labor Youth Union of Albania, of the Women's Union of Albania, of the League of Writers and Artists, of the Union of Newsmen, of the Organization of the Veterans of the National-liberation War and so on.

The physiognomy of socialist Tirana would not be complete if we fail to refer to the concern for public health, to the various municipal services. Let us refer again to some facts and figures. Before the people's revolution the state of

health in Tirana was deplorable. Grave diseases like malaria, tuberculosis and others raised havoc among the people of Tirana. In 1938, there was only one hospital and one polyclinic in Tirana. In Tirana there were 48 medical doctors all told. In 1975 Tirana had 11 hospitals some of which specialized like those of pediatry, contagious diseases, of oncology and so on. In the city and the surrounding villages there are 178 polyclinics, 34 dental clinics and 52 clinics in the centers of production. In 1975, 697 physicians of higher training in addition to the other personal medical service serve in these institutions. From a publication of 1938 we notice that in 1936 there had been made 133,070 doctors' visits throughout Albania. In 1975, there had been 1 million 41 thousand doctors' visits in Tirana alone. Here is a minor explanation: this large number of doctors' visits in Tirana alone. Here is a minor explanation: this large number of doctors' visits is not a consequence of diseases but the result of the prophylactic is not a consequence of diseases but the result of the prophylactic concern for the health of the people. Our workers pay nothing for the doctor's visit. Therefore, for their slightest disorder or when they feel it necessary to undergo physical examinations they turn to pathologists or specialists to make laboratory analyses that cost them nothing. This concern is to account for the fact that mamaria, syphilis and other similar diseases have been wiped out leaving no trace behind.

Prophylactic measures, keeping the environment clean, public flower gardens and evergreens are of special service to the health of the people. In addition to the «green belt» of vineyard and olive groves surrounding the capital, there is a big national park and an artificial lake, there are flower gardens and parks in Tirana itself and the streets fill the air with the aroma of roses and linden trees. Mimosas bloom as early as mid-January.

The principal concern of our Party of Labor is to continually improve the well-being of the working masses. Trade and municipal and urbanistic services in the capital uphold the same principle in their orientations. We can give figures also in this case but let us confine ourselves to some basic factors: the network of trade and of various municipal services is spread out so that each family has near it the bakery, the catering shop, the bookstore, the vegetable stand, the butcher's shop, the restaurant, the refreshment-room, the shoemaker's shop, the carpenter's shop, the polyclinic, the post-telegraph offi-

ce, the savings bank and the moving picture theater. The basis of communication in the city are the buses. One pays only 0.03 leks for riding from one place to another within the city.

Tirana is the capital of a socialist country. It is free of the big social conflicts which are characteristic of capitalist cities and capitals such as strikes, class scrambles in the street, bank looters and pickpockets, stock-exchange rivals, contrabands of narcotics and so on. And this because the bases of these conflicts have been done away with in our country, because the dictatorship of the proletariat is in power. Our workers have their employment guaranteed. The right to retire on a pension has also guaranteed to the workers in urban and rural areas. They are deposed of the greed to accumulate capital and wealth by exploiting others. What our people aim at is to have their country step up its development, striving to complete the construction of socialist society? They look forward to the building of communist society. With these ideals the working class marches shoulder to shoulder in alliance with the working peasantry and the stratum of the popular intelligentsia. We see this alliance every day more concretely in the life of the capital and the agricultural cooperatives. We often see factory workers, department employees or artists and writers in buses headed for heroic Peza where they work together with the cooperative members in cutting maize and talk and sing with them. The amateur group of artist of the Cultural Home at the «Red Star», on their part, come and give concerts of songs and dances on the stages of the capital.

Here is another case which proves that the essential differences between people who work in cities and those who work in the countryside, in a workshop or the laboratory of an institution are being narrowed: In an apartment building on the «Përmet Congress» we asked of what social standing are the families who dwell in it and we received the following information: four families of workers, a patriot who had come back from his exile abroad, a Deputy-Minister and a retired partisan commander whose daughter is a physician. All of them live like good neighbors. We said a family of workers and a family of the Deputy-Minister but the definition is not accurate. In the family of the brick worker, one of the daughters has been through a commercial school and is a dealer in textile fabrics while another son studies at the conservatory and is a gifted violinist. This worker's elder son is a master mason. This shows how heterogeneous is the make up of a family. But they live in harmony and deep mutual love and respect.

But are there no conflicts in the social world of the capital? Yes, there are! And serious conflicts at that. Class conflicts. Some time ago an open session of judgment took place in one of the blocks of houses at the 5th city quarter. The Organization, of the Democratic Front of the block had taken this initiative. One of the residents maltreated his wife. As a result of this conjugal disharmony, one of their children did not behave well. Criticisms and advice had yielded no result. The Session took the necessary decisions in conformity with the laws of the State. The class struggle against the remnants of the old feudal-bourgeois society, against backward customs and prejudices against the influence of bourgeois and revisionist ideology is very sharp in the capital. We are in a small socialist country surrounded by many enemies. Therefore, the dweller of our capital is also vigilant. He protects socialist property from those who jeopardize it, he sees to it that the enemies of the class, the agents of imperialism and revisionism do not infiltrate into our ranks. At the same time he is aware of the fact that the enemy shakes his fists at us. Therefore, he is on the alert. Our life is such that we should hold fast the *pick in one hand and the rifle in the other*. It is under this motto, that the people of our capital strive to build socialism.

It is in triumph that we come to the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Party of Labor of Albania and its 7th Congress. The Congress will map out for the country, hence, also for our capital, Red Tirana, a program of further development, the guidelines of the new five-year plan of economic and cultural development. And this program will turn the color of our Tirana into a redder one.



Young volunteers on their way to mass actions. Photo by H. Gjiriti.

THE GENERATION OF BUILDERS OF SOCIALISM

After 17 months work, the younger generation of Albania completed the construction of forty kilometers of the new railway network within the precincts of the Metallurgical Complex which is under construction at Elbasan in Central Albania.

The First Secretary of the Party Central Committee, comrade Enver Hoxha, received a letter from the young builders, who with a legitimate sense of pride, informed him of the victory achieved and pledged themselves to undertake a series of new actions.

Comrade Enver Hoxha sent the young volunteers a letter in which he says inter alia:

«On behalf of the Central Committee of the Party and on my own behalf, I congratulate you and hail this further great success achieved through your tireless efforts.

The Party was fully convinced that, just as on every other project, you young comrades would emerge successful and would surmount every obstacle and difficulty, because you are a great and inexhaustible revolutionary force. You find this force in the teachings of Marxism-Leninism, in the teachings of our heroic Party of Labour, in our socialist reality, in the great, clear and reliable prospects which the Party has opened before our youth and people as a whole.

Every project of the youth today is linked with their former projects and actions, a continuation of the glorious tradition of actions which they have undertaken and carried through to the end with success. Their actions are part of the nature of our youth whose life cannot be thought of without them. Through actions, the youth are not just building important economic projects. First of all, actions are a great school for tempering the younger generation, for educating it with revolutionary concepts about work and life, for inculcating among young men and young women the spirit of collectivism and the struggle to surmount difficulties, of love for one's comrade, pure friendship and revolutionary determination.

I am firmly convinced that you will carry out in practice the pledge you have made to serve the Homeland, wherever you are needed and on the most difficult fronts, just as you have always done. It is a great honour to work and defend the Homeland, over every inch of it, wherever it is most difficult, to toil and sweat, and, if the general interest of the Party and socialism require it, even to lay down your life.»

The participation of the younger generation in the communist work carried out through actions, is one of the finest traditions of the Al-

banian youth. It began from the first days following the liberation of the homeland from the fascist invaders and the local traitors. At that time, Albania was devastated by the war, poor and very backward economically and culturally, but free and sovereign. The younger generation, with their energies completely released, turned their eyes to the brilliant horizons of socialism and dreamed of great projects. With this ardour kindled in their hearts, in 1947 the younger generation of Albania, began the glorious marathon of building the railways of the country. Thus, after eight months of tireless and heroic work, 30,000 young volunteers successfully completed the construction of the first railway line, 43 kilometers long, from Durrës to Peqin. The Durrës-Tirana railway was completed in 1948, that between Kashar and the industrial zone in 1949, and so on, in turn Peqin-Elbasan, Rogozhina-Fier, Elbasan-Përrenjas, the most difficult project of this kind, being entirely through mountainous terrain, the railway between Fier and Ballsh in 1975 and, finally, the most recent, the railway network within the precincts of the Metallurgical Complex.

Today, thousands of young volunteers are engaged in building the Përrenjas-Gurikuq railroad, which runs entirely through mountainous

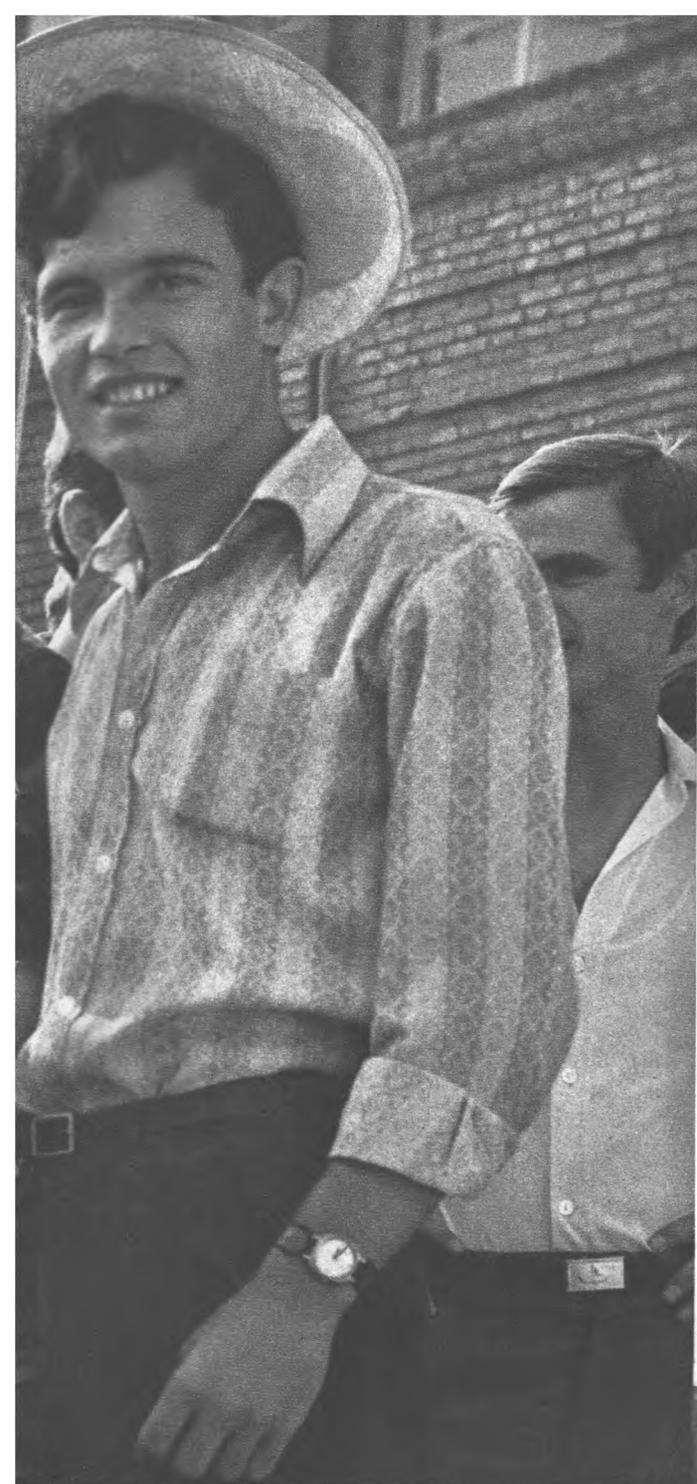
THE VALUE OF MASS ACTIONS IS NOT MERELY ECONOMIC AND MATERIAL, BUT FIRST AND FOREMOST POLITICAL AND OF A THOROUGHLY IDEOLOGICAL CHARACTER. MASS ACTIONS ARE A GREAT SCHOOL FOR THE COMMUNIST EDUCATION OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION, FOR TEMPERING AND ENDOWING THEM WITH REVOLUTIONARY CONCEPTS ABOUT WORK, WITH THE SENTIMENTS OF COLLECTIVISM, SOLIDARITY, LOVE OF FELLOWMEN, PURE FRIENDSHIP, LOVE OF COUNTRY.

terrain, as well as in building many irrigation projects in the districts of Saranda-Kolonja, Berat, Fier, Kukës, Gjirokaster and elsewhere.

The members of the younger generation of Albania have made actions their second nature, the basic feature of their lives. The mass actions of youth are of incalculable and all-round value. Their importance is not merely material, economic but, first and foremost, political, of a profound ideological character. Actions are a great school for the communist education of the younger generation, for educating them with and thoroughly inculcating revolutionary concepts about work, the feeling of collectivism and solidarity, of the struggle to overcome shortcoming and difficulties, of love for one's comrade, pure friendship, and love for the Homeland.

At the same time, these actions have been and continue to be a great school for training cadres from the ranks of the youth. Thousands of the leaders of the Youth Organization and cadres for various sectors of the economy and culture have been and are being trained in the various courses set up at these actions. Thousands of new friendships have been struck up in this healthy environment where the collective life levels out any distinctions as to province, city and village or standard of schooling.

Comrade Enver Hoxha's exchange of letters with the young builders of the railway network within the precincts of the Metallurgical Complex aroused new enthusiasm and a revolutionary drive, created a new situation of mobilization and an exemplary readiness among the worker, cooperative and student youth. The youth of the capital undertook an action to carry out a number of jobs of major importance to agriculture, as well as to complete the terracing on the surrounding hills ahead of schedule. The youth of the Durrës district set to work with enthusiasm planting blocks of fruit trees on the hills of a remote zone, while those of Librazhd are continuing the work of terracing and land protection to turn the Shkumbini valley into prospering farm land. The young volunteers working on projects of a national character have pledged to complete them ahead of schedule.



Snapshots of young volunteers working on the construction of the Prrenjas-Guri Kuq railroad. Photo by P. Omeri



The collectivization of agriculture created a new situation in the Albanian countryside. Thousands of hectares of land which used to be covered with the stagnant waters of marshes and lagoons have now been turned to fertile fields. In the picture: Part of the wide Myzeqeja plain which used to be marshy and swampy land.

The 35th anniversary of the founding of the Party of Labour of Albania finds the Albanian countryside in a process of all-round development. In a little more than three decades of the People's State Power, the Albanian countryside has overcome its age-old backwardness and embarked wholly on the road of all-round socialist development.

The complete collectivization of agriculture, the establishment of socialist relations was a second revolution in economic and social relations in the countryside.

The Party of Labour of Albania did not wait to begin the collectivization of agriculture after the creation and consolidation of the material-technical basis of socialism in industry and

other sectors. Collectivization was carried out along with the creation and consolidation of industry and the whole people's economy.

The program of the socialist transformation in the countryside was carried out through a stern class struggle against the kulaks and other enemies of the People's State Power. In this battle the labouring peasantry had the powerful backing of its ally, the working class.

Cautiously, step by step, the process of uniting the cooperatives set up at the beginning on the basis of one village into bigger cooperatives made up of a number of villages was carried out. This process was indispensable because it created new opportunities for consolidating it organizationally and economically, for a more

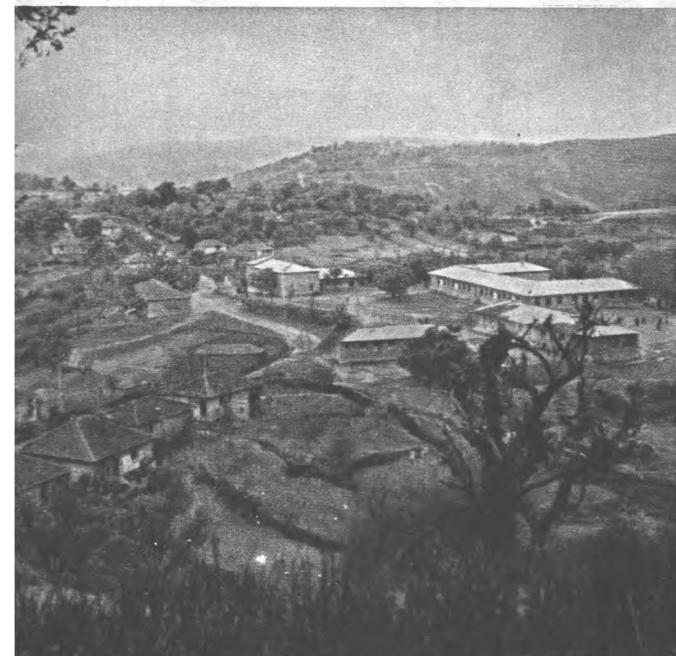
correct use of investments and other aid from the State, for the concentration of production and general utilization of the advantages which larger collective property creates, for placing agriculture on a better scientific basis.

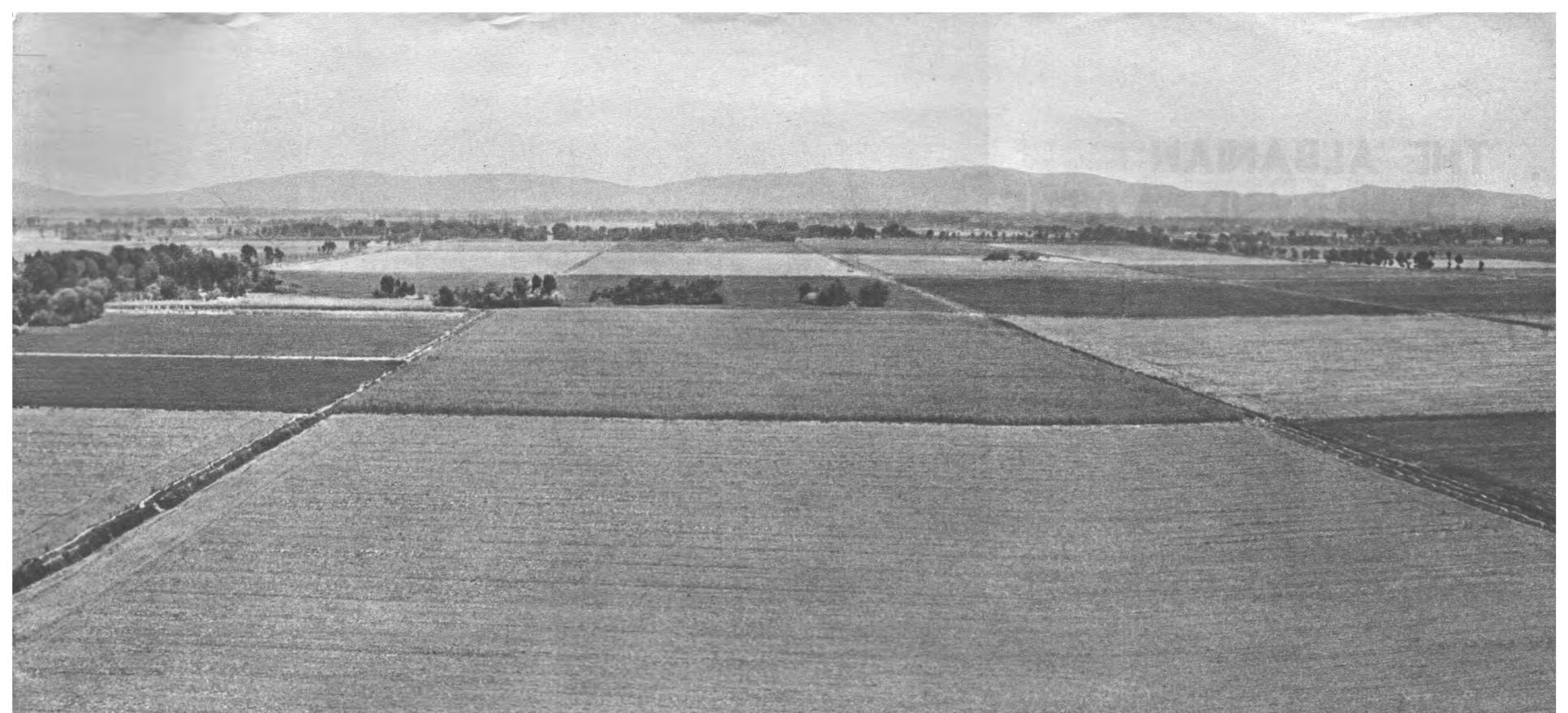
Today the agricultural cooperatives have an average area of over 1000 hectares of land each. In the lowlands the agricultural cooperatives have usually from 2000 to 3000 or more hectares of land, while in the mountains they have from 600 to 800 hectares of land each. Uniting smaller cooperatives into enlarged agricultural economies also created possibilities for a more harmonious development among villages of the same cooperative, thus narrowing the differences in the field of production and the social-cultural field.

The new Albanian socialist countryside is under a rapid process of development and transformation. In the picture: One of the new villages of Mallakastra.

This is a picture snapped during the recitation hour at the 8th grade school at the agricultural cooperative of Seman in the Fier district.

Such irrigation canals run through all the lowlands of our homeland. Today, 56% of the arable land in Albania is under irrigation.





THE ALBANIAN COUNTRYSIDE AT THE 35th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA

In recent years, on the basis of the more prosperous united cooperatives of the lowlands, cooperatives of the higher type have been set up in our country. Now the cooperatives of the higher type occupy about 18 percent of the arable land of the Republic. They represent a new higher stage in the development of the cooperative order in our country.

The collectivization of agriculture and the work to intensify and modernize agriculture brought about a new revolutionary situation in our countryside. At work and in life our cooperative peasantry are being educated and tempered with the features of communist morality, with the socialist attitude towards work and the collective property.

The increase of mechanization, the big drainage and irrigation projects, the wide use of chemical substances, the ever better application of advanced agricultural technique, the extension of the network of communications, and so on, the increase of the number of specialized cadres and the general educational uplift of the peasants, have created suitable material conditions for modern agriculture intensive in breadth and in depth, for raising the cultural level and the standard of living of the masses of cooperative members, for bringing the production and life of the countryside ever closer to that of industry and the city.

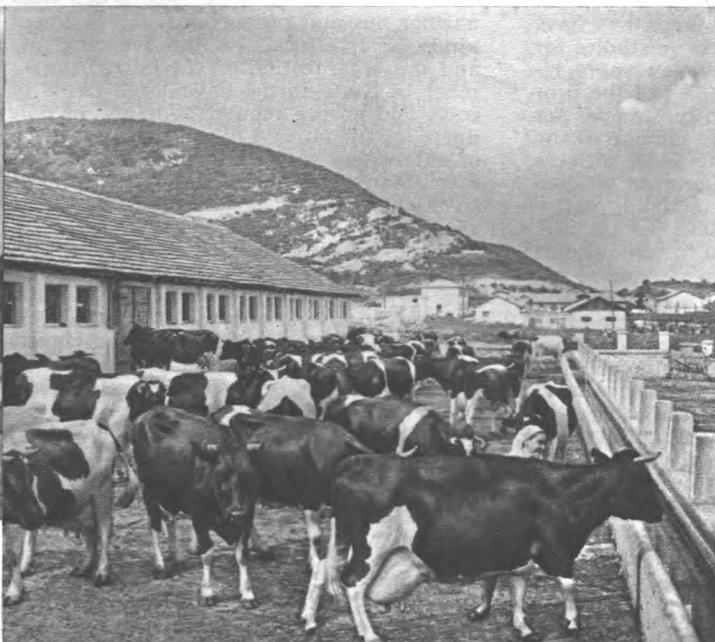
During the last three five-year plan periods, total agricultural production has increased at a

very rapid rate. Taking the production of 1960 as one hundred, in 1970 it rose to 180, whereas in 1975 to 239. The production of bread grain increased at even higher rates. This is how it increased: in 1960 — 100, in 1970 — 251, in 1975 — 340. In 1976 production of bread grain in our country is setting a new record. The new five-year plan envisages that beginning from this year our country will, for the first time, meet all its own needs for bread grain grown in the country. In 1975 the production of milk was almost double that of 1960. From 1960 onward big steps forward have been made in the mechanization of the processes of farm work. During this period the number of tractors increased about fourfold. The use of chemical fertilizers

A wide network of buildings has been set up in the countryside for social and cultural purposes.

The farm of the agricultural cooperative of Kashar in the district of Tirana, which raises breed cows.

At the Agricultural Cooperative of Gore in the Lushnja district.

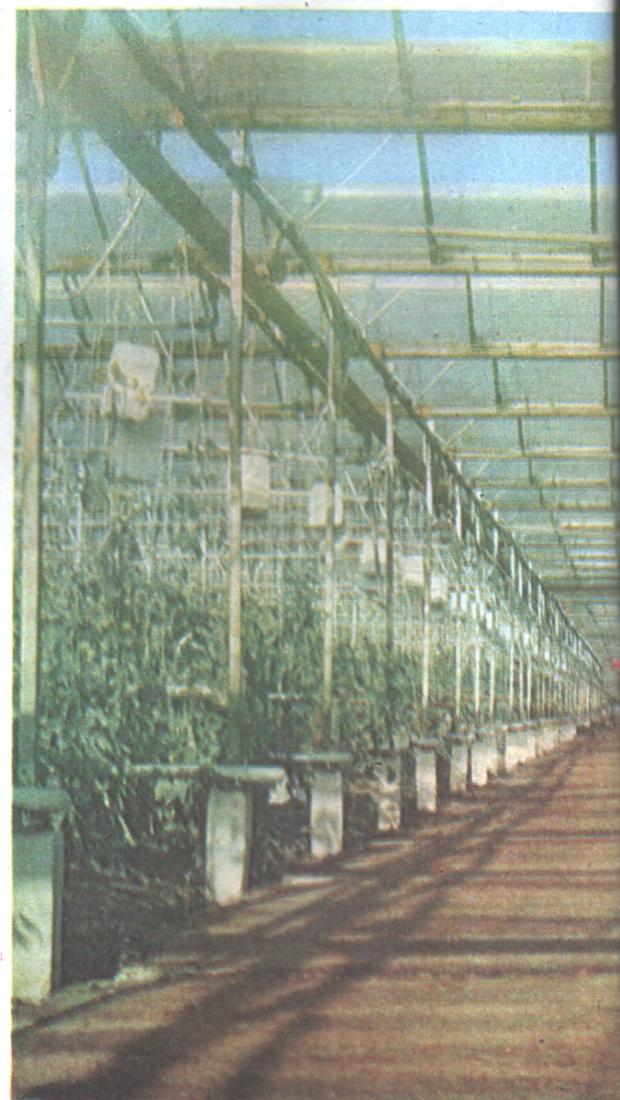


THE ALBANIAN COUNTRYSIDE AT THE 35th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARTY OF LABOUR OF ALBANIA

These lands belong to the Agricultural Cooperative of Vërria in the Fier district. They are completely drained and systematized.



These high hills of the Skrapari uplands have recently terraced.



increased even more. In 1975, our agriculture used nearly eight times as much artificial fertilizer as in 1960.

An extensive network of scientific agricultural institutions has already been set up all over the country. Within record time, they have helped to carry out a number of decisive studies for the modernization and intensification of agriculture. Such are the study of soils and the production of pedological-agrochemical maps for each cooperative, the study on the climate of the country and of the kinds of plants most suitable for them, the production in the country of selected seeds for all agricultural crops, including varieties of wheat which yield 40 quintals per hectare, of hybrid maize yielding from 80 to 100 quintals per hectare, blight-resistant tobacco, and so on.

In 1973, the agricultural sector employed fifty times as many cadres with higher and four times as many with secondary school training as before liberation. In Albania today there are two Higher Agricultural Institutes and about 280 agricultural secondary schools. Ten central scientific institutions and twenty six regional agricultural stations engage in scientific work in agriculture.

The larger agricultural economies have created very favorable advantages also for the deve-

lopment of animal husbandry. Now a modern complex animal husbandry has been set up and is constantly developing on the basis of correct technological and scientific criteria. The main characteristic of the successes in this field is the harmonious and proportional development of all kinds of livestock, the improvement of breeds and the organization of specialized units. A number of State farms have large herds of dairy cows and ensure regular supplies of dairy products for the cities. Likewise there are a number of enterprises specialized in raising livestock for meat. Many State farms and agricultural cooperatives have specialized sectors for raising pigs, sheep, goats and poultry.

Today the new socialist countryside of Albania is undergoing a process of rapid development and transformation which affects both the field of production and the social and cultural field. This revolutionary process of the development of the forces of production in agriculture and of the improvement of socialist relations in the countryside will lead, in the future, to the transformation of the agricultural cooperatives from the property of a group to the property of all the people, to the elimination of the differences between the agricultural cooperatives and the



State farms in order to bring about in this way the complete construction of socialism in the countryside, to gradually reduce and then to do away with the essential differences between town and countryside; between the peasantry and the working class. This has been and continues to be one of the fundamental problems of the general line of the Party for the construction of socialism in our country. For this purpose the Party of Labour of Albania has implemented and is implementing a broad program of measures of a profound ideological, political, economic, social and cultural character. The continuous aid of the State to the countryside in the form of agricultural machinery, chemical fertilizers, credits, cadres of higher training, in setting up the complete network educational and public health services in the countryside, in building up a wide network of social-cultural institutions and in extending the system of pensions to the countryside, too; the extension of scientific research work, the electric reticulation of all the villages, connecting them with motor roads and the telephone network and many other measures are important steps towards

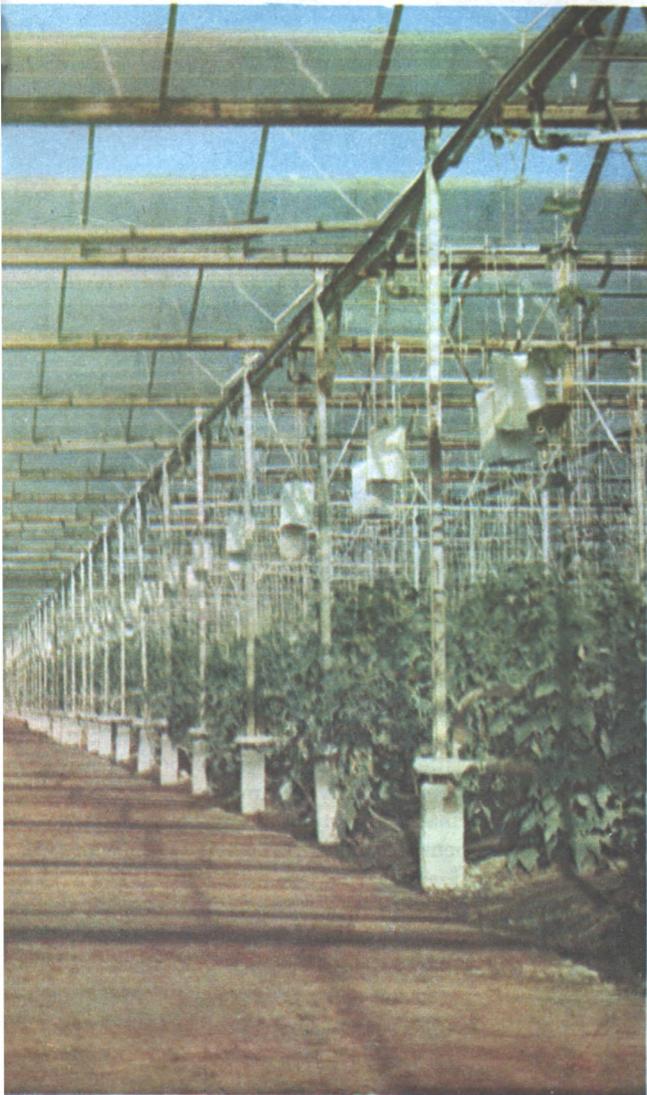
realizing this great objective of the Party of Labour of Albania in connection with the countryside.

The decisions taken on April 1, 1976 by the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania, comprise a very important step in this direction. Basing themselves on the new stage of development of the socialist production in the country and the new relations between town and countryside, between the working class and the peasantry, the leading organs of the Party and of the State worked out a program of new measures which would carry the Albanian countryside further along the road of socialism. Amongst others the April 1st decisions included these measures:

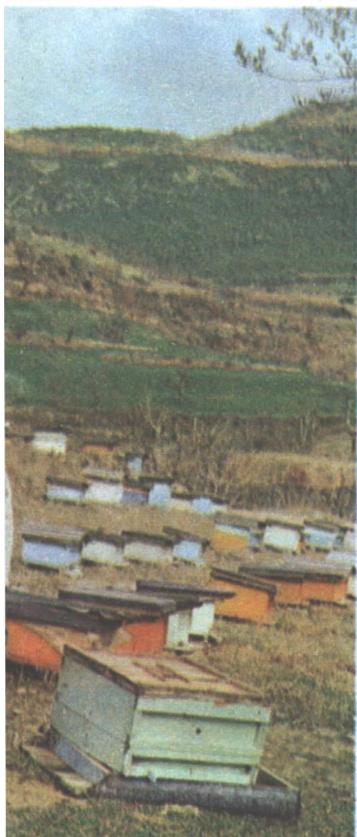
«In order to further narrow the differences between town and countryside, and between the lowland, hilly and mountain regions, to raise the economic, social and cultural level of the peasantry more rapidly, as well as to further improve the working and living conditions in the countryside, the State will take over also in the countryside, the expenditure incurred for out-patient treatment centres, consultation centres, maternity

homes, kindergartens and nurseries for children; the salaries of the personnel of the houses of culture at the headquarters of the enlarged cooperatives; the investments for building schools, kindergartens and nurseries in the countryside, as well as the houses of culture and health institutions at the headquarters of the agricultural cooperatives; the expenditure for the maintenance of the electric power line network in villages and of the telephone lines up to the headquarters of the enlarged cooperatives».

«To increase State investments in the hilly and mountainous zones for building irrigation projects, for opening secondary canals and extending the existing irrigation network; for irrigation projects; to cover partially or wholly the value of workdays in opening and systematizing new land and for creating new orchard blocks and vineyards; for financing by the State up to 50 percent of the value of workdays spent in radical pruning of olive trees, in building retaining walls around olive trees and, planting olive saplings. In order to increase the number of draft animals, the State is to help the coope-



This is a tangible expression of the militant motto: «The pick in one hand and the rifle in the other».



Modern greenhouses have been built all along the coastal regions of Albania, in which are grown plants also during the winter months.

The agricultural cooperatives are being turned into many-branched economies. In addition to developing animal husbandry, attention is being attached also to apiculture. Many agricultural cooperatives have their sectors for raising bees.

ratives of the hilly and mountainous regions with financial means to buy them to lower the price of nitrate-genous fertilizers for the agricultural cooperatives of the hilly and mountainous regions from 9 to 15 percent.»

«The Tractor and Motor Stations to meet the expenditure made by the agricultural cooperatives for the transport and storage of fuel and protection of agricultural machinery. Investments to build sheds for the Tractor and Machine Stations on the agricultural cooperatives to be financed by the State.»

«The agricultural cooperatives of the hilly and mountain regions to be exempted from paying bank interest on all the credits they have received and will receive in the future and the percentage of this interest for all the other cooperatives to be reduced.»

Referring to the policy of the Party of Labour of Albania towards the countryside, comrade Enver Hoxha has said: «While attaching primary importance to the industrialization and mechanization of labour, at the same time, we in no way under-rate the countryside, and we are not proceeding to depopulate it, but are developing agriculture in harmony with it. While

speaking of high yields in the plains, we do not overlook the rapid development of agriculture in the hilly and mountainous regions. Maintenance of the right proportions in this direction is very important to the cause of building socialism in our country; while allowing the creation of disproportion is fraught with disorder and grave economic, political, class and ideological consequences.»

The application of such a line is to account for the fact that in Albania the countryside is not abandoned but, on the contrary, it is being constantly developed both in the low and uplands. Carrying out the call of the Party «to take to the mountains and hills, and make them as fertile as the plains» the peasantry with the assistance of the State and the volunteers from the ranks of urban youth, have created wide plantations of fruit trees and of other agricultural crops on hills, mountainsides and seashores which used to be fallow and wastelands. The creation of new villages, of farms in newly reclaimed lands has given a new aspect to the map of the country and has placed agriculture on the road to its speedy development and prosperity.

Mother Caliope sees her children and her heart is filled with joy. Each of them is doing something in the home: Niko, Piro, Janet and Alexander are busy preparing the meals for next day, Luljeta is arranging the curtains, while the younger ones are doing their school homework. They are ten in all, five boys and five girls, of whom, the eldest, Budi, is 28 years of age and the youngest, Majlinda, is 9.

To bring up ten children seems a difficult job, but for Mother Caliope, as for many other Albanian mothers, this is not so complicated as it seems. She has travelled many roads through Albania. For three years she has been here, in the port suburb of the coastal city of Vlora. They came from Korçka. Everywhere she has found a wide network of nurseries and kindergartens for children, hence, she has never had difficulty in finding a suitable place in which to bring up her children.

They call the youngest child, Majlinda, the «joy of their old age». Now she is in the fourth class at the «Avni Rustemi» 8 year school. Everyday she brings her mother a new poem or song she has just learned. She loves school and her lessons and homework come first. When she has completed them, she does what the others do, her share of the household chores. This atmosphere of diligence in Vangjel Zguro's family accounts for the fact that everything is done well and quickly, and all the members of the family have free time at their disposal. When the seven children are sitting at their homework and lessons, the room looks like a study hall, while Vangjel, with his big frame, goes from one to the other to check up looking like a supervisor. It must be said that in this family it is hard to tell which one is the most devoted to school. Over three hundred exercise books are used up here every year. The only costs for their schooling are for text and exercise books.

The two elder children, Budi and Niko, have long mastered the professions of their own choice. For years now, the former has been working in the engineering section of the truck depot, while Niko is a mechanic at the cement factory. He is studying mechanical engineering at the part-time industrial school. Last year, Budi completed his studies at the part-time secondary school of economics. The third son, Piro, completed his studies three years ago at the «Vojo Kushi» Higher Institute of Physical



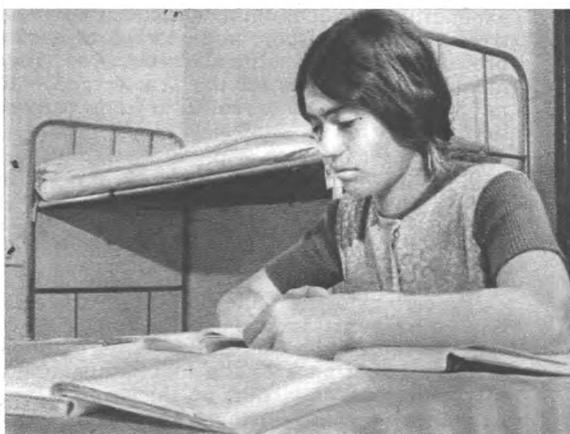
Vangjel Zguro.

HAPPY P

Culture on a State bursary, Now he is a teacher of physical education at the «Halim Xhelo» secondary school in Vlora. The eldest daughter, Dolly, followed in his footsteps. From early childhood she had a flair for gymnastics. This summer she completed her studies on a State bursary at the same Institute from which her brother, Piro, graduated. Now she is a teacher of physical education at the «May 24» 8 year

school and at the same time coaches the girl's gymnastic team.

These two are professionals in physical culture, but we see the passion for physical culture among all the children of this family. Niko and Budi are wrestlers and as such have been members of the representative teams of their city. Luljeta, who has just graduated from secondary school, is a member of the volleyball team, while



1. Vangjel, although he has retired on a pension he does not fail to go to his former work center to help his mates.
2. Budi, the elder of the ten children of the family, during his recitation hour.
3. Niko at work at the cement factory.
4. Luljeta Apostoli surnamed «the eleventh child» of the Zguro family.
5. Luljeta at her military drill.



Mother Caliope.

A R E N T S

Janet, who works on the State farm and attends evening school, is a member of the Vlora basketball team Alexander has just turned 18th years of age. He is in the third class of the «Ali Demi» secondary school, and we often see him on the football field as member of the city's youth representative team.

Robert is the youngest of the five sons. He is a pupil in the 6th class of the 8 year school. We

see him day after day in afternoon going with his two brothers, Niko and Budi. He never misses a wrestling match or a training session. From this we can very well say that he, too, has made his choice in the field of sport. At home he has two very important tasks: bringing home the bread and cleaning the shoes of all the members of the family.

Up to a little while ago, one often saw Luljeta

Apostoli here. She was brought up at the orphanage but among the ten children of the Zguro family she has been called the eleventh. She got to know Dolly and they became such close friends that you could say they were sisters. She has now completed her course at the higher Institute of Physical Culture on a State bursary and has become a teacher of Physical Education at the secondary school in the oil workers' town, Patos. She spends her summer vacations and holidays with this family.

On warm days, the thirteen members of this family may be seen somewhere on the picturesque outskirts of the city where they spend part of their free time.

At these moments, while gazing at the mountains, Vangjel and Caliope often recall the years gone by. In 1942, Vangjel forsook the plough in the village of Polena in the Korça district and joined the partisans. There he became squad commander in the third battalion of the Fourth Brigade. One year later, Caliope, born and brought up in the village of Vuno of Himara, joined the partisans. Some time later she, too, became a squad commander in the Fifth Brigade. Caliope fought the Hitlerite hordes in the territory of Yugoslavia as well. During the early post-liberation years, when Vangjel Zguro was serving as an officer in the Vlora district, he became acquainted with Caliope, then in charge of the Women's Organization.

Thirty years have elapsed since the day of their wedding. Now they have retired on the pension. The years have left their mark, but Vangjel and Caliope do not allow time to go in vain Vangjel often goes to the enterprise in which he worked, and lends a hand especially to the younger workers. In the afternoons you see him with his shotgun on his shoulder. He is an enthusiastic hunter.

Mother Caliope has been elected chairwoman of the Women's organization of her suburb. Often her friends come and share their joys, as well as their problems with her. She meets them everywhere, at the educational center of the suburb, at her home or in their homes.

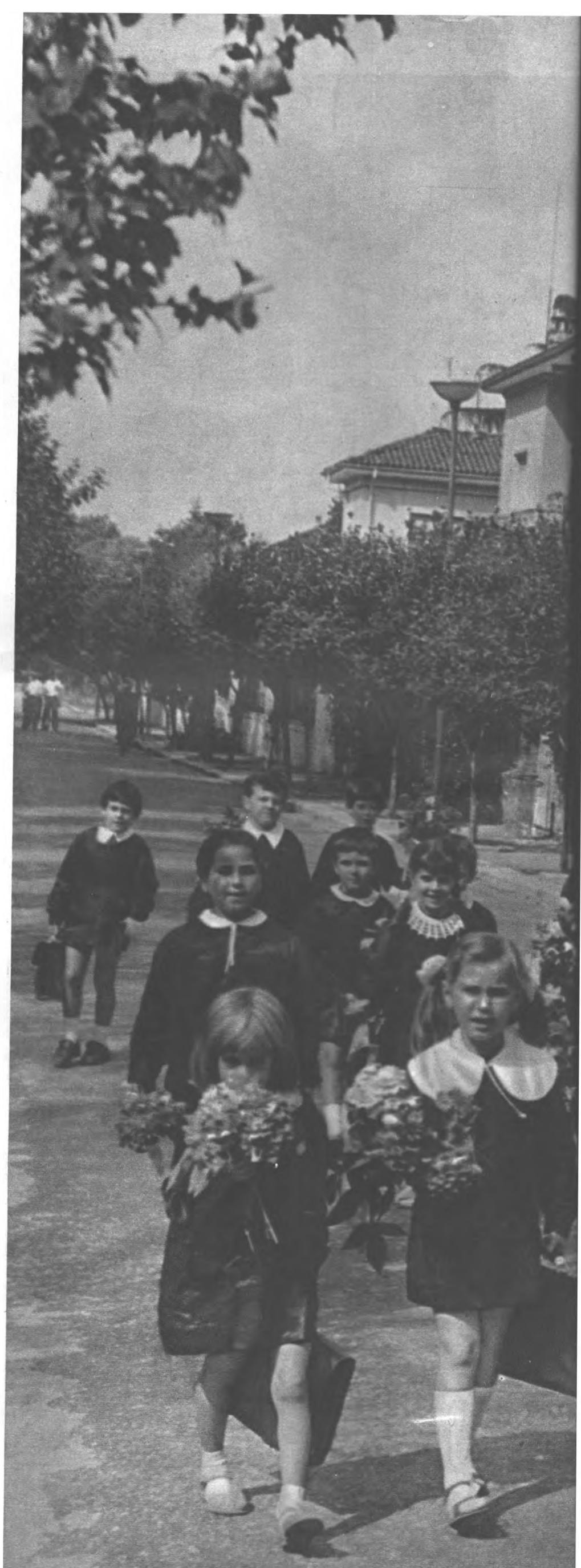
How mother Caliope's children are emerging into the world... One after the other, they will be creating their own families. But the love and respect which they have for their parents will always be with them.



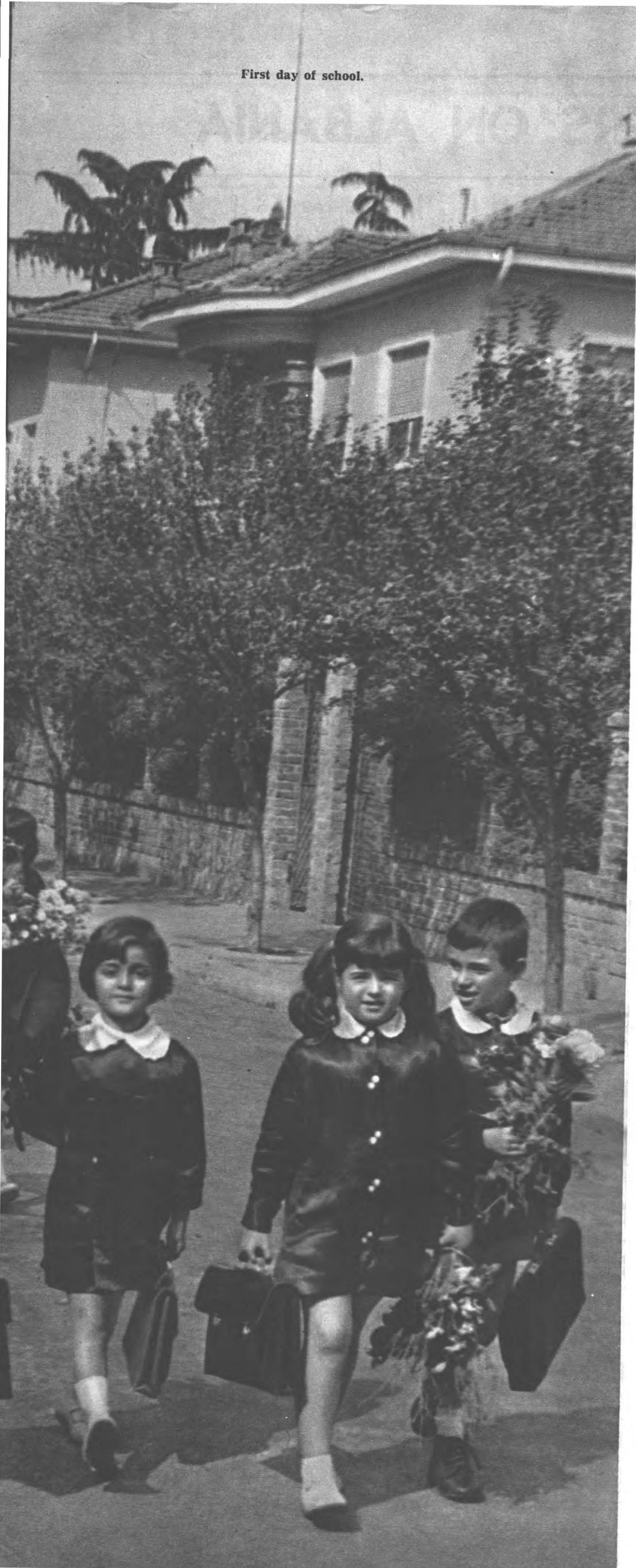
6. Kozeta's main concern are her class duties.
7. 12-year old Robert at his work.
8. Majlinda — the youngest of the family.
9. And through her contacts with teachers, mother Kalliope learns about the progress of her children in their class recitations.
10. The Zguro family on a picnic.

ONE-THIRD OF THE POPULATION AT SCHOOL

In proportion to its population, Albania ranks today with the first countries in the world as regards the number of persons who attend the various categories of schools. In every three persons in Albania one attends a school. This year pre-school education increases by 20 percent. Secondary education majoring in production increases 67 percent above that of last year. The number of secondary agricultural schools is doubled. More secondary technical schools are opened. The number of students pursuing their studies at the Tirana University or the Upper Agricultural Institute and the other Higher Institutes has increased.



First day of school.



On September 1st, one third of the inhabitants of our country took their seats at school desks. Now Socialist Albania has a complete school system with a broad network of full-time and part-time 8 year and secondary schools and many higher schools, in addition to a large number of kindergartens for pre-school children, which make up the first link in our educational system (this year pre-school education increases by 20 percent). As concerns the number of persons who attend the various categories of schools, in proportion to its population, Albania ranks today with the first countries of the world. Today in Albania one in every three persons attends school. The University of Tirana has eight faculties with forty-five separate courses, and about 16,000 students, besides those of the other higher institutes and its affiliated branches in other centers of Albania. Every year, the University of Tirana and its affiliates turn out about six times as many cadres of higher training as Albania had all told in 1938.

The Albanian school is continually strengthening its socialist features and physiognomy, its revolutionary character both in content and structure. The reform which has put the school on the basis of three components, lessons, work in physical and military training all pervaded by Marxist-Leninist ideology, is being successfully carried out.

This school-year has certain distinguishing features. In the first place it is the first year of the 6th five-year plan. As for all sectors of the economy and culture in this new five-year plan new and higher targets have been set for education as well. Second, this year vocational education in all fields, especially in agriculture, is very greatly extended.

The draft directives of the 6th five-year plan (1976-80) set the important task of enrolling and maintaining a full contingent of students in the 8 year schools. All the pupils that have been through elementary school, must complete 8 year schooling. 8 year schooling is compulsory. The draft directives also set the task of further extending secondary schooling, especially vocational schooling, as well as the number of lower vocational schools, and qualification courses in order to train qualified workers for the various branches of the economy. In carrying out these tasks, starting from this year, about two-thirds of the students of the secondary schools will attend vocational schools. Secondary schooling with a production profile marks a very pronounced increase; it increases by 67 per cent as compared with last year. In all the districts of the country, agricultural secondary schooling will be extended, doubling the number of the existing schools in order to train qualified workers and cooperative members. In the same way the number of technical secondary schools is increased in order to train workers for the mines, geology, construction, the mechanical engineering; etc., making it possible for the overwhelming majority of those who have completed 8 year schooling to enroll in secondary schools.

In the villages, the secondary schools have the profiles required by the countryside; agronomy, zooveterinary, fruticulture, horticulture and so on. For the other profiles which the countryside needs in limited numbers, like mechanics, electricians, midwives, farm accountants, building technicians etc., pupils from the villages are sent to city schools. In the vocational secondary schools of the Republic, pupils from the countryside make up more than half of the total contingent of pupils today. This is done in order to give a greater impetus to secondary schooling for pupils from the countryside who, up to now, have not had nor could have had the same opportunities as those of the town. The programs of the vocational secondary schools have been constructed in such a way as to include the same subjects of general education (mathematics, physics, chemistry for those of the technological profile and literature, history and geography for those of the social-cultural profile) as those of the secondary schools of general education. This prepares these students effectively to continue higher schools if they chose.

The number of students studying at the Tirana University, the Higher Institute of Agriculture and other higher institutes has been increased in conformity with the requirements and needs of the economy and with the general rise in the level of the education and culture of the working masses.

FOREIGNERS ON ALBANIA



**JOSHIE JODA — historian
Professor at the University
of Waseda, Japan**

NEW PEOPLE WHO BELONG TO THE FUTURE OF MANKIND

On the invitation of the Albanian Committee for Friendly Relations with the Outside World, I had the opportunity to stay a month in Albania and visit a number of districts.

The object of my visit as a specialist in social sciences was to study the building of socialism in all fields in Albania and to inform the Japanese people about this. It is of major importance for peoples who live far apart, from the geographical standpoint, to get to know one another.

During my stay I was able to visit factories, agricultural cooperatives, schools, archaeological excavations, and museums. I had opportunities to meet advanced workers, members of agricultural cooperatives and to attend lectures by cadres of various levels. Through these visits, meetings and lectures I observed the fact that under the leadership of the First Secretary, Enver Hoxha, and the Party of Labour of Albania, the Albanian people lead a free and happy life. At the same time, the archaeological centers which I visited showed the long history of the Albanian people since the time of the ancient Illyrians.

What is most important is the fact that the Albanian people are building socialist society upholding the principles of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the continuation of the class struggle and opposing the hegemony of the two super-Powers. Here in Albania you will meet a new type of man who heralds the future of mankind. Despite the fact that the Japanese people live far away from the Albanian people, I am certain that the new man in Albania will enjoy the sympathy and backing of our people.

The Japan-Albania Friendship Association has translated the History of the Party of Labour of Albania, and this was published in 1974. In my capacity as one of the translators I wanted to see the reality of Albania with my own eyes. Through my visit I was able to see the achievements of the Albanian people and formed a more accurate concept of their efforts.

When I return to Japan, I want to tell as many as possible of my friends what I learned in Albania, through my studies and writings. I believe that this will be some small help on my part to extending the friendship between the Japanese people and the people of Albania.



UBALDO BUTTAFAVA

AN EXEMPLARY COUNTRY

In Italy, too, interest in, respect and love for your heroic country is constantly increasing among the workers, students and people of culture.

I saw the major transformations in your country, the new factories, the flourishing plains and mountains. The recent decisions taken to aid the agricultural cooperatives and to reduce higher salaries show that socialism is forging ahead in Albania.

Albania, the country with no taxes, where big differences in wages and salaries have been done away with, the country where the ideology of the working class holds away, where crises and price increases are not known, is being talked about more and more by the workers and students of our country.

In the newspapers, even in those of opponents, in tens upon tens of conferences, the Albanian Constitution, this fundamental Charter which sanctions your successes and points the way to the future, is being discussed in tones of astonishment and enthusiasm.

I am certain that the VIIth Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania will be a Congress of victories, and will be of major importance for the triumph of socialism in your country.

I SAW A THOROUGHLY TRANSFORMED COUNTRY

MARCO BARBERIS

After six years I returned to Albania with great interest and curiosity.

Again I saw a country profoundly changed, both in its agricultural regions, the villages, as well as in its cities. New and more extensive cultural activities are combined with the setting up of new industrial projects of every kind.

Cities and towns show building developments which are wiping out the appearance of the Albania of the past.

All these things show how positive and how correct is the choice of the political, economic and social order the Albanian have made.

The new Metallurgical Complex in Elbasan, although still under construction, could very well figure as the cover picture for a book about the New Albania.

AN IMPORTANT EXPERIENCE FOR US

THE DELEGATION OF JURISTS OF THE FRANCE-ALBANIA FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION.

During its sojourn in Albania, the Delegation of the Jurists of the France-Albania Friendship Association, whose purpose was to study law and justice, was interested in the theoretical and practical problems which the law raises and the way conflicts are settled in the State of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

This was our first visit to Albania. And it must be said that we were astonished at the achievements of the Albanian people in industry, agriculture, at the policy of public health based on prevention, especially in the field of occupational diseases and accidents at work, and in many other sectors.

As to the aim of our visit, we were able to meet members of the High Court and the State Attorney's office, judges of the people's courts, jurists and militants of the organizations of the masses.

During our discussions in depth, a number of important problems emerged. In the early post-liberation years, Albania lacked trained socialist juridical cadres to implement the new forms of justice immediately. Neither did it have the personnel to ensure the functioning of the new State. By utilizing the experience of patriotic cadres trained under the old regime, the transition was ensured up to the formation of the new generation of jurists, capable of setting up a system, the theoretical importance of which is very great for us.

We noted the constant efforts to have the masses to take over the task of settling juridical conflicts and for the people to master the problems of justice ever better: all the lower level courts are made up of non-professional persons elected locally, and their competences are being steadily extended. More and more problems are being settled by conciliation procedures within the organizations of the masses.

We were especially impressed by the quality and level, of conscientiousness of the Albanian jurists and their analysis about the nature and function of justice, especially, in the State of the dictatorship of the proletariat during the various stages of socialist construction.

PUBLICATIONS ON ALBANIA

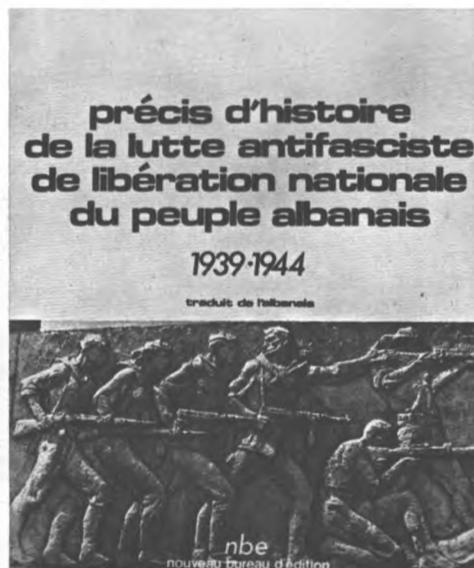


«ALBANIA»

The Sweden-Albania Friendship Association has recently published a book in Swedish under the title «Albania». The book contains about twenty articles with facts and geographical and historical information, such as: comrade Enver Hoxha's conversation with our friend Nils Holmberg; articles about workers' control, the draft-Constitution, on the struggle for the emancipation of women, on the economy, literature, music and so on. These materials have been written by various friends who have visited Albania during recent years, such as Jan Myrdal, Gun Kesle, Jan Stolpe, Nils Holmberg, Elias Kornel, and others. All of them have tried to give the Swedish reader as clear a picture as possible of present day Albania.

At the end of the book the full text of the draft-Constitution of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania is published.

The book is in a pocket format, in 248 pages with photographs of various aspects of the life of the country.

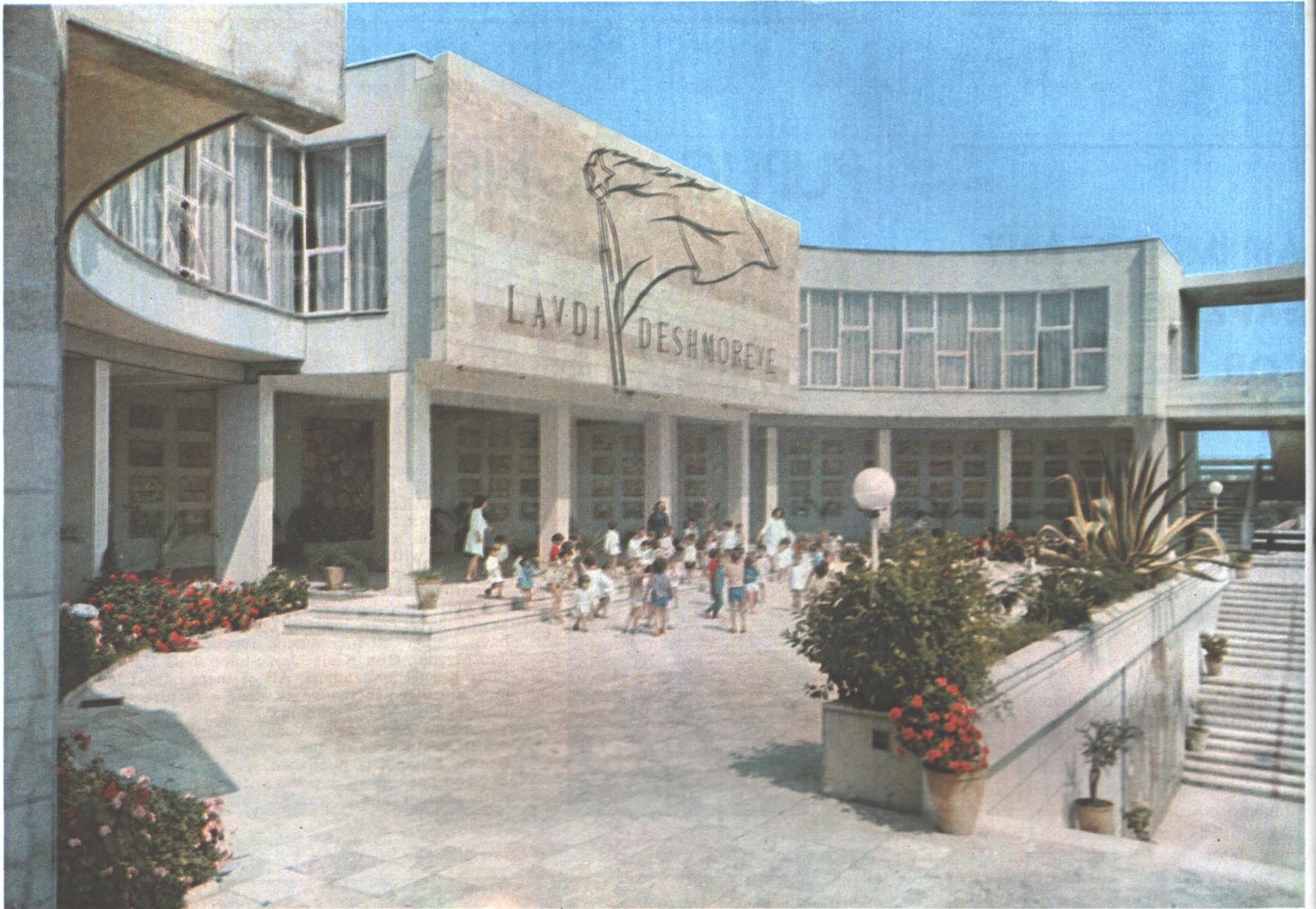


«A MANUAL OF THE HISTORY OF THE ANTI-FASCIST NATIONAL- LIBERATION WAR OF THE ALBANIAN PEOPLE», 1939-1944.

«The Manual of the History of the Anti-fascist National-liberation War» of the Albanian people, 1939-1944 — is the title of the book published under the sponsorship of the friend of our country, Patrick Kassel, in Paris. The book is divided into three chapters covering a period from April 1939, when Albania was occupied by fascist Italy down to the final liberation of our country and the battles of the Albanian national-liberation army in Yugoslavia against the remnants of the Army of nazi Germany.

This book of 143 pages, published on the basis of translation from the Albanian language, is well presented and is accompanied by various photographs of the period of the heroic war of our people.

In a passage of 28 lines on the back cover, Patrick Kassel informs the readers of the sources of this book and the decisive role played by the Communist Party of Albania in guiding its people towards national-liberation and social emancipation.



The Museum of the National-liberation War of the seaside city of Durrës. Photo by S. Xhillari

PERPETUATION OF THEIR HEROISM



The view of the mosaic «The Liberation of Durrës», the works of painters Gavril Priftuli and Nikolla Vasijs. This is placed at the façade of the museum and portays the triumphal entry of the partisans on the day of liberation and the enthusiastic reception extended to the liberators by the people of Durrës.

In the center of the coastal city of Durrës, tens of white steps up a hillside lead to an imposing U-shaped building. It is the Museum of the National-liberation War. Nearly every day one sees here crowds of people of various ages and walks of life. Here they are acquainted with the stormy years of the war for freedom, with the most glorious days, the history of which was written with the blood of thousands of sons and daughters of this land.

The Durrës Museum assumes a special solemn character because the remains of all the martyrs of the district are resting there.

Our people always remember and honour the deeds of those who made the supreme sacrifice, laying down their lives for freedom. And they remain perpetually young amongst us, because our achievements are the embodiment of their dreams. From this standpoint, this museum combines respect for the heroic past with inspiration for the future.

The Museum serves to acquaint us with the past, with the life and revolutionary activity of those who fell as martyrs.

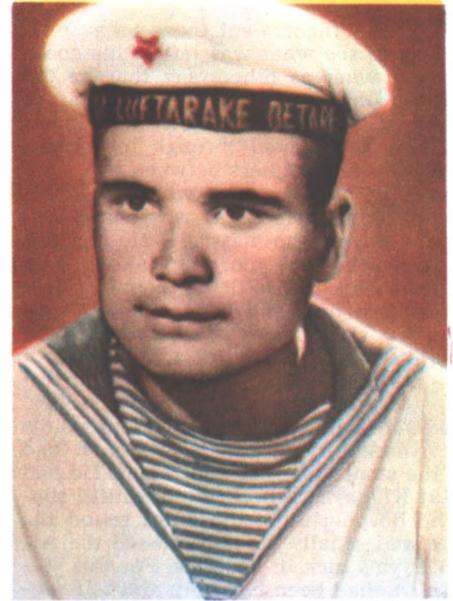
The lecture hall of the Museum is often filled with visitors. Here the veterans of the National-liberation movement speak of the days and events which they themselves lived through; they speak of their memories of the martyrs... Here you will find men and women advanced in age, school pupils from the

most remote villages of the district. Quite often we meet visitors from other cities of the country here. The hall is especially full of life during the days of contests, which the House of Pioneers of the city organizes in connection with the history of the Party of Labour of Albania.

Every year in November (Durrës was liberated on the 14th and the whole country on the 29th of November, 1944) the Museum is the starting point of pilgrimages to the places of commemoration of the district, to the monuments that have been set up wherever important events took place during the National-liberation War.

Many schools, streets, factories and workshops, where they have lived and worked, bear the names of the sons and daughters, who laid down their lives for freedom. From time to time the Museum publishes pamphlets with the biographies and portraits of those who fell during the war and the early post-liberation years, about special events, dates and so on.

Scientific sessions with themes from the National-liberation War are organized here every year. People of various ages and walks of life take part in them. In their reports, papers and contributions to discussion, they evoke those days, which constitute the prelude to the new life of socialist Albania.



SELF-SACRIFICE FOR THE HOMELAND

On August 14 this year, the Presidium of the People's Republic of Albania awarded the title «Hero of the People» (posthumous) to Ilia Kici Dashi, with the following motivation: «Educated by the Party in the revolutionary spirit of selfdenial for the cause of the people and socialism, endowed with the highest sense of responsibility, with conscious iron discipline, with the spirit of initiative and sacrifice, with the revolutionary determination to protect socialist property and to put the general interest above everything characteristic of our new man, with boundless militant affection for his fellow workers and comrades-in-arms, on 19/VII/1976 in tackling the flames of the fire which suddenly burst out on the warship on which he served, by throwing himself bodily on to the seat of the flames, he fell heroically in the performance of his duty while saving the warship and protecting his comrades from the danger of the fire».

... The Albanian warship «Sami Frashëri», in which Ilia Kici Dashi was a member of the crew, had just covered the last miles of its journey on the high seas. This young sailor stood at his fighting post. At this moment a fuel pipe suddenly split causing great danger. Fuel flowing through the pipes gushed out everywhere and, coming in contact with the very hot tubes, caught fire. All this happened in a flash.

With his eyes closed Ilia dashed through the narrow flame-filled passage, pressed his chest against the crack through which the flaming fuel was pouring and, with extraordinary effort turned of the stopcock. His body was in flames.

All his mates rushed to his aid. But even under these critical conditions, Ilia shouted to his mates:

«Go and save the ship!»

At lightning speed and with quick maneuver the flames on the ship were put out. In spite of prompt first aid and all-round medical assistance, Ilia died. But with his self-sacrifice, he made himself a symbol of inspiration for all the youth of Albania.



Many people wonder and cannot explain what urged Ligor to go to Borova that day. He took no heed either of the warnings of others or of the categorical order of the German command prohibiting the entry of civilians in to the still smouldering village.

Some say that Ligor went there because he was anxious to see what was left of his goods and chattels, whereas others say that he did so because he had had such a shock that he was unable to control his actions and, like a sleep-walker, he plodded through the streets filled with German soldiers between still smoking houses, without realizing what lay ahead. It happened that uncle Ligor was not in Borova on the day of the massacre. He had left the village early that morning taking with him, as usual, his bag with his hammer, trowel, and plumb line, and had gone to Novosel to build a wall. There is no trade in the world that requires fewer tools than that of the stone mason. Ligor was well aware of this because with that bag on his shoulder he had wandered for many years to different points of the northern hemisphere. His hammer had cracked the stones of three continents. He had worked at Khalkis, on both the beautiful shores of the Bosphorus, in the cities round the Black sea and, finally, he had crossed the Atlantic to try his luck in America. For this stone mason life had been hardship and toil everywhere. But finally Ligor had found some consolation in saying that this was due to the bad trade he had chosen. «That's how it is with our trade» he would say, rubbing his hands on his coarse woollen trousers. «Wherever you go, you are dealing with stones and from them you have to earn your daily bread. But is it easy to bread from stones?»

In the end after his long wanderings abroad he returned to his village and made up his mind not to go away again no matter how things might turn out. Life had not smiled on him anywhere. Then where else would he be better off? In the dirty doss houses in Istanbul, in the damp of Odessa or the soot of Detroit where you cough up black mucus as though your lungs are filled with dye. Here at last he was in his own home, where in summer afternoons he could sit in the garden under the trees and watch the people pass by. His house was on a hill and from there he could get a very good view of both sections of the village.

He had built this house with his own hands after he had returned from abroad.

«All my life I have built for others; now, on the eve of my old age, I'll build a house for myself in which to rest my weary bones.»

And so he set to work and built a small house, thinking to himself that this would be the best and the only property that he would leave his children. They would remember him for a long time and then, if they were able, let them build a better and more beautiful house themselves.

For some years now he had been hard of hearing and instead of using his name others had nick-named him «deafy». Ligor was not put out about it and admitted himself that «my ears fail, me, so shout because I can't hear!»

Ligor said that this was due to sticking nails in his ears. Anyone, who has worked with memento stone masons knows this secret. When the nail won't drive in the wood and there is no oil or lard at hand, they smear it with ear wax? The wax serves as a luoricant and the nail goes in with ease.

...That afternoon, while he was working, from the top of the scaffolding he saw a dense plume of smoke rising in the sky over his village.

«What can this fire be?» he said to himself, standing hammer in hand. He shaded his eyes with his free hand and tried to make out which section of the village it was coming from.

«It must surely be the children burning the straw left in the sheds. Or is it St. Peter's Day? How silly of me, St. Peter's Day was a week ago whereas, today it is July 6! But may be the children have found some rubbish in a corner and have set fire to it.» It had been the custom since ancient times to clean out the sheds at the end of June each year and burn the straw and chaff that had been left over from the past year, before putting in the new fodder. These bonfires were the joy the village children. They gathered at the village square or threshing floor, lit the fire and jumped through the mo-

A NARRATIVE

THE STONE MASON FROM BOROVA

IN MEMORY OF 107 MARTYRS

NAUM PRIFTI

unting flames. According to an old belief, those who jumped over these fires burned the fleas left from the winter.

When he was a child, Ligor had done this, too. The memory of those days came back to him through the mists of the past, and he smiled. Was it sixty or seventy years ago?

«However, this doesn't look like a straw fire. The smoke from straw is white, while this is columns of grey and black. This looks as if a house or shed has caught fire. And how will they put it out in this hot weather!»

«Some poor family», Ligor thought to himself, «It is they who meet with such misfortunes; it is their houses which burn so easily. It's hell of a life!»

The fire seemed to come from near the stream and he tried to remember the houses there.

«Well, what's done is done!» he said, «I'll find out when I get back to the village. Now I must get to work to earn my wages.»

He took a trowel-full of mortar from the bucket and spread it on the wall, with quick, deft movements then stepped down from the scaffolding to select a cornerstone.

Like any mason who was master of his trade, he knew that the better the corner is built the longer the wall will stand. That's the whole secret.

Back on the scaffolding with the cornerstone on his shoulder, he gaped in surprise. The smoke over Borova had become a dense cloud as if the whole stream were in flames.

«What's all this? What is happening?»

Instinctively his eyes turned to the hilltop, to his house half hidden by the trees in his orchard and his courtyard;

«Izet, Izet! Leave that mortar and come up here a minute!»

A thin boy in a collarless shirt and red breeches made of the signal flags of the Italian army appeared on the ladder to the scaffold. Ever since his son had joined the partisans, Ligor had been compelled to hire another assistant.

«What do you think's going on, son? Look over there towards Borova. It seems like a lot of smoke, or are my eyes deceiving me?»

Borova was not an hour's walk away from Novosel and although it was daytime, the boy could make out the tongues of flame lapping the sky.

«You're right, boss, several houses are burning.»

The mason pursed his lips and stood thinking. His mind turned to his partisan son, and the war which was becoming fiercer.

«Do those damned Italians intend to burn our village, too, as they burned Vodica? It's

possible. Then the houses of those whose sons have joined the partisans will not go unscathed.»

How much toil it had cost him to build and complete that house! A whole lifetime! And the enemy might burn it and in a few hours everything he owned would be dust and ashes.

«And they might do it» he said to himself. «You can't expect any good from the enemy. My son was right». He recalled the conversation he had had with his son before he joined the partisans.

..It was on a Sunday. Father and son had been working in the garden planting out onions and, when they had finished and were washing their hands, his son had asked:

«Father, have you a rifle hidden anywhere?»

Ligor shook the water from his hands and, from under his grey eyebrows, looked at his son in suprise.

«I have wielded the hammer and have had no time to strut around with a rifle on my shoulder.»

«Oh, I just asked in case you had one?»

«I have no rifle. If you need a hammer I can give you one»

His son hesitated to reply. Then he said slowly:

«I thought of joining the partisans». His father looked him up and down and then, surprisingly, asked only:

«When?»

«Any day, now.»

«Hm!»

Ligor had stood up face to face with his son.

«Have you made up your mind to sneak away like many others or are you asking my permission?»

«I have decided to go, but I don't want to leave home without your permission Father, you understand, our country calls us...»

Ligor did not allow him to finish the sentence. He wiped his hands with his handkerchief, folded it, put it back in his pocket, and then said slowly:

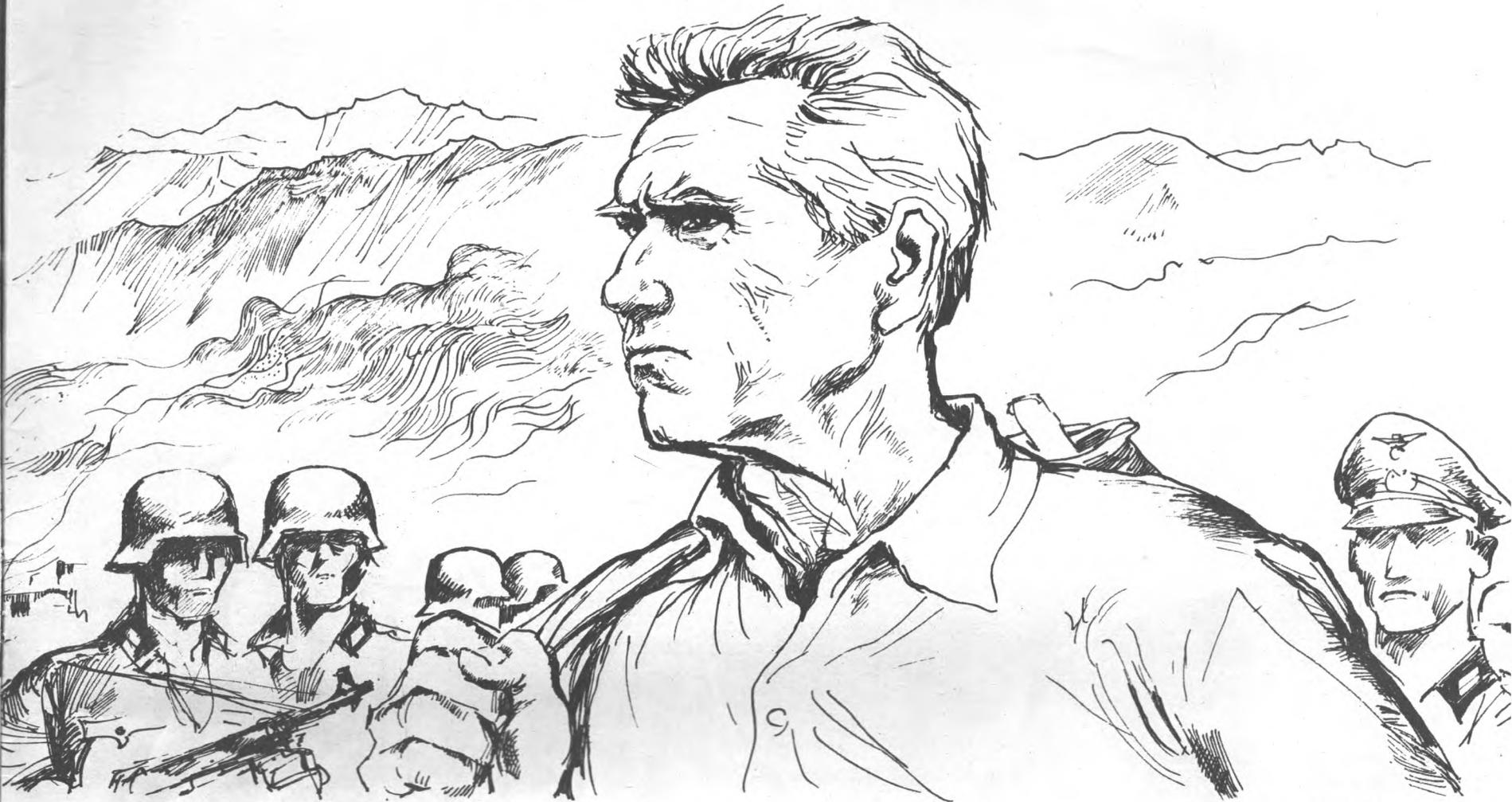
«Have you thought it over well?»

«Yes, I have»

«Well, son, you have thought it over and had your say. Let me think it over as you have done and then I shall give you my reply.»

And after thinking about it all afternoon pacing around the house and darting quick glances on his son, in the evening he had called him aside and asked him:

«Even if I don't give my permission, you will go anyway, will you not?»



Illustrations by Zef Shoshi.

«Yes!» his son replied.

«Good. But if I were in your place, I would have asked my father whether he had any right to stop me if a greater father had called me?»

«You gave me no time. You said you would think it over and walked away,» replied his son, red with embarrassment.

«Had you said this to me, I would have been red with shame as you are now. Poverty is hard, it is bad, but bondage is worse. The hammer doesn't seem to change this world, let's hope the rifle will do it!»

And thus they had parted. Nearly four months had gone by since his son had taken up his rifle. Now and then he managed to come home by night, and Ligor's heart leaped with joy to see his son happy, cheerful and optimistic as never, before. This was not just the joy that springs from youth alone, but from something deeper...

Ligor placed the cornerstone and lining it up with his eye from above and from the side, and tapped it lightly with the hammer to shift it a few millimetres inwards, as if to say, «that's the right place for you, stay here and see how well-placed you are!»

«Boss!» called Izet catching him by the sleeve.

Like all those who are hard of hearing, Ligor Pandoja craned his head forward and met Izet's eyes.

«I hear rifle shots. Listen!»

The stone mason puckered the muscles of his face as he strained to listen.

«I hear nothing!»

«I hear rifle and machinegun shots!»

«Rifle shots? Perhaps the partisans have attacked them.»

The fires were increasing quickly and now the black smoke formed a dense cloud over Borova. This cloud was growing bigger and blacker.

Ligor picked up another stone, but stood with it in his hand. His eyes were turned towards the village.

«I can't work. It's no use.»

He left the stone on the scaffolding, picked up the hammer, the trowel and the plumb bob and line, put them in his kit and stepped down the ladder.

«I'm going to Borova.»

Thus he set out from Novosel to Borova when the cloud of smoke had cast a shadow over the valley and turned the whole sky black. He always walked at the same steady pace. The tools on his back rattled together. He was aware of the noise they made without hearing it, for he was used to it.

The smoke over Borova had become an enormous dense cloud as if the crater of a volcano had suddenly erupted and the setting sun cast the shadow of the smoke for several kilometres over the gravel stretching to the foot of Mount Gramos.

On the way he met the first refugees, his fellow villagers, who had managed to get away amidst the bullets and the fires.

A woman leading a child by the hand, her face deathly pale and wide staring eyes, still filled with terror, began to cross her hands and beat her head as if cursing both heaven and earth.

«The German fascists burned our homes and killed the people! Ohlalah! Words cannot describe what our eyes have seen!»

Her gestures were more eloquent than her words, while the child sat in a daze by her side. The woman turned towards Borova and began to shout and curse at the nazis as if they were there before her: «May you and all you have been wiped out and turned to ashes! May you never reach your homes alive!»

The woman seized the child by the hand and pressed on, not knowing where she was going. The child stumbled along as if half asleep.

Ligor stopped in the middle of the road. Other refugees were emerging from the creek and among them he caught sight of his wife and children.

«They are safe!» he said to himself relieved of the nightmare worry that he might have lost them. From their sketchy accounts, Ligor learned what had happened during those two hours in Borova.

The partisans had ambushed a motor convoy of the German nazis, attacking them in the pass of Barmash. The Germans had turned back, taking their dead and wounded with them. The nearest village to the scene of the attack was Borova and the nazis had decided to wreak retribution in the cruelest and most barbarous way. They had posted up some white sheets of paper near the bridge, they had attacked like mad dogs. What did those posters say? No one knew. They pronounced sentence of death on Borova. Squads of nazi soldiers were deployed throughout the village. Shoot the people, burn the houses!

«We would have been killed, too,» said his wife, but we escaped because we saw the Germans coming and got away through the back gate to the garden and down into the bed of the stream.

«Did they set fire to the house?»

«Yes!» said his wife, «but who cares about the house. We are lucky to be alive.»

«Where shall we go, where will we find shelter when winter comes, what shall we do for food, for clothing?» All these questions crowded into Uncle Ligor's mind and he shook his head in despair. Life had brought them to a very critical pass and there was no ray of hope to be seen anywhere.

That night he went to one of their friends in Novosel.

The host, as if he understood what was worrying Ligor, said:

«Stay here with us until we win. What we have we shall share together.»

«Thank you!» said Ligor, «but these are not the times to be a burden on others. Everyone has his own problems nowadays.»

«It's in bad times you need a friend. And our boys are not fighting in vain. I tell you, the Germans are hard pressed; that's why they are doing such things.»

Amidst the grief, uncertainty, and general distress the short July night seemed to drag on and on.

Next morning Ligor was up early as usual. Could that dozing, interrupted by moans, sobs, and sighs, be called sleep? The heartache, grief and anxiety abated through the night and in the morning it all seemed to belong to another time.

Ligor began to pace the room. Only the children were still asleep. He poked his head out of the window that looked towards the village. He could not sit still, and the idea that he should go to Borova, and see with his own eyes what had happened there, kept tormenting him.

In the end he made up his mind.

«Turn back, Ligor,» said his wife. «there is nothing to see. Borova has been destroyed. There's nothing left but ruins and ashes!»

«I'll not turn back!» said Ligor, and his wife, who knew him well, realized from his tone that he had decided and nothing would turn him from his course.

He had his bag with his hammer, trowel and plumbline on his back. His hearing was not good, but he was aware of their rattling because their melody was like a leitmotif that had accompanied him all his life. Why had he taken his tools along? He himself did not know. Mostly from force of habit since he was used to walking with that small burden on his back.

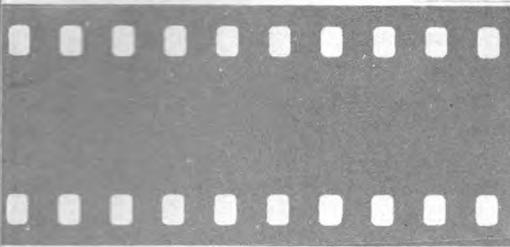
Near the village, he met a group of people. They had set out to bury their dead relatives left lying in the roads and gardens, but the nazis had not allowed this. They had threatened

(continues to page 36)



«CONFRONTATION»





A FEATURE FILM
IN COLOUR
PRODUCED BY THE
«NEW ALBANIA»
FILM STUDIO

The period is the early years after liberation and the triumph of the people's revolution. The more the new State of the workers and peasants becomes consolidated and the new order, the new world assumes form and strength, the more savage and enraged become the overthrown classes, and their hatred and struggle become ever more fierce.

The winter of 1948 comes to a city built on a plateau in the south-east of the country, with a series of problems caused by the shortage of bread. The State grain stores are almost empty and not only is the bread which is rationed out to the people, often hard and unpleasant to the taste, but there is also the danger of supplies running out completely.

The state organs are convinced that there is wheat and maize in the surrounding villages, but a number of peasants, misled and deceived by the kulaks, keep their grain hidden or sell it at exorbitant prices on the black market. The Party is aroused to put the situation in order, and it is backed by the workers, the youth, the poor peasants and all honest people.

The Secretary of the Party Committee of the district, an energetic man, and the personification of the communist militant, goes to the countryside himself. Going from house to house, together with other communist and worker comrades, he sizes up the situation combatting rumours spread by class enemies, who want to set the countryside against the city, enlightening those who had been deceived, exposing the cunning rumours and diabolical policy of the class enemy, awakening the conscience of the deceived peasants, who, in the end, voluntarily take their place in the endless caravan of carts loaded with grain heading for the State depots.

Through the persuasive power of its policy, the Party tears the mask from the merchants, bourgeois advocates, kulaks, feudal lords, gentry and money lenders, and makes clear to the peasants the joyful prospects that lie ahead for the country and the people, renders the representatives of the old world and their struggle more and more powerless, and arouses confidence and optimism among the broad masses of the people.

A profound realism pervades the film, which reflects the acute antagonistic and non-antagonistic contradictions of Albanian society during the period from 1948 to 1949 in a way rarely achieved in Albanian cinematography.

The figures of the Party Secretary, Martin, that of the Director of Procurement, Miti, and those of the workers with their modesty, loyalty, and confidence in their strength, are presented with mastery and psychological depth. One of them, Platon, an ordinary man of the people, an habitual joker but nevertheless wise and mature, as well as many others, from the poor peasants, who are closely linked with the new State, win the sympathies of the viewer.

The negative personages are also portrayed truthfully. They strive to deal a death blow at the revolution by arousing dissatisfaction among the people, obstructing the development of and paralyzing the whole life of the city. In the characters representing the overthrown classes, the authors have revealed the odious and dirty vices of the feudal-bourgeois society with its cynicism, hypocrisy, and moral and spiritual degradation, the great social and national danger which these classes have always represented for Albania and the Albanian people.



THE ALBANIAN STATE ENSEMBLE OF FOLK SONGS AND DANCES

JAKUP MATO

The State Folk Song and Dance Ensemble of the P.R. of Albania made a tour of Sweden and Norway. During two weeks, the ensemble gave 13 concerts which were attended by 35,000 spectators.

This first tour of these to countries by our ensemble concluded with the greatest success. The whole program was very warmly applauded by the spectators and there was encore after encore for many songs and dances.

At all the concerts which were given, the halls were filled to capacity and on several occasions there were more spectators than could be seated. At the third concert which was staged at Stockholm, at the Vitaberg park, there were 12,000 spectators in the summer theatre designed to hold 8,000. Long before the concert began, the seats had been sold and the Swedish announcer who was broadcasting the program asked the public to «squeeze up» because a «river of people were still pouring in». In Oslo we noticed that even the steps of the theatre were blocked with the spectators.

After the concerts, in all the cities we went to, we received big piles of postcards in which the people expressed their thoughts and warm feelings for the Albanian people, the Party of Labour and Comrade Enver Hoxha, they expressed their gratitude for the very beautiful concert.

Various newspapers and especially the progressive press devoted broad coverage to the performances of the ensemble. Before the tour was over we learnt that 80 articles had been written, news items and reports in which very warm words had been expressed about the concerts. In several newspapers the tour was described as «A high level cultural event» and «the tour of a world famous troupe». After the concerts, several newspapers expressed themselves like this, «Albanian Art Enthuses the Swedish».

The newspapers hailed the work done in Albania for the preservation and development of folklore, «the astounding variations» of the Albanian folklore and they pointed out that the «costumes of the women were so magnificent and of such a great variety that it was difficult to believe they were all in one country».

The success of our folk songs and dances on this tour and the very warm reception accorded us by our friends and wellwishers in Sweden and Norway, proved the great authority which Albania has gained among the working masses of other countries.

The authorities of the cities where the concerts were held gave us a very warm reception and made high assessments of our troupe expressing warm words and greetings. But the reception which the Swedish and Norwegian Friendship Associations accorded the members of our ensemble will always remain unforgettable. In the capitals of the two countries, the associations organised evening parties for the members of the troupe where they also staged folk song and dance concerts. In every city we went to we found friends, members of the branches of the association who sold magazines and books in the Albanian language, such as the «History of the PLA», speeches of Comrade Enver Hoxha, Albanian journals, translated works by our authors etc. In many cities we saw



The Swedish and Norwegian press carried about 80 articles on our Ensemble of Folksongs and dances.

IN SWEDEN AND NORWAY





the magazine «Klarte», devoted to Albania being sold and read. In several cities of Sweden and Norway, many friends of Albania made a great impression on us, who, during the days we were there worked tirelessly and were always ready to help us create as warm an atmosphere as possible. The members of our ensemble will never forget the meetings with the workers of the «Linjegods» enterprise. On the request of the workers, our artists staged a concert for them. The representatives of the workers told us that a troupe of the Soviet revisionists had refused to stage a concert for them.

During the tour, all of us felt so proud of our Party, Comrade Enver, who, leading the people, from victory to victory and with a principled marxist leninist policy has raised the authority of Albania in the world so high and who is constantly taking care of the development of a sound art, strongly based on national features and with a socialist content.

In Sweden and Norway, our Ensemble gave 13 concerts which were attended by 35.000 spectators.



Kruja's group of old singers and dancers have won the admiration of all the art lovers of Albania by the original interpretation full of temperament of songs and dances. The youngest of the group is 55 years old and the oldest 72.

THE YOUTHFUL OLD MEN OF ANCIENT KRUJA

SHABAN VANI

The T. V. camera is directed towards a group of elderly singers in Kruja: Albanian television is preparing the film «Cheerful People» In this film the popular veterans complex has an important place, this time in the gay environment of a wedding.

It is not more than four years since the veterans group was formed in Kruja, but it has already become well known even to children, all over the country. Its tours and, especially, its appearances on television, have won the admiration of art lovers.

This group of singers and dancers is made up of fifteen members. The youngest is 55 years old! Haxhi Shagaj is the oldest. He is over 72. Watching him on stage or television

screen, you may think he is young and that his white hair and wrinkles are due to his make-up, not to his age.

We met uncle Haxhi. In life, just as on the stage or TV screen, he is lively and cheerful. With his brimless white felt hat and heavy moustache he keeps up the tradition of the highlanders of this region. He has worked all his life. He recalls that before the liberation of Albania he was a hired servant. He has tackled many jobs during his lifetime. And song has been his closest friend. It has lightened his burdens, bringing him consolation in his most difficult days. Therefore, when the veterans group was set up at the House of Culture of Kruja, Haxhi Shagaj was the first one to support

it. Although he is the oldest in years, he is one of the most active members of the group.

«Today I am younger in heart than ever...»

If you are acquainted with the life of this man, it will be easier for you to understand what he means when he says this to his friends and comrades. It is now twelve years since Uncle Haxhi retired on the pension. He spends his days happily among his grand children. They listen to their grandfather's songs at home and through him they have learned all the rich repertoire of the veterans group. Many are the cities and work centers which Haxhi Shagaj has visited during the tours of his group. His heart rejoices when he sees how far Albania has advanced.

In the film «Cheerful People» there is a difficult dance from the Kruja district, performed by two people. Qamil Qoshja is one of them. He is also a solo singer as well as a member of the veteran group. When you see him dancing or before microphone, you will say «this man from Kruja can't be 65 years of age». His life has been like that of Haxhi Shagaj: before liberation he was a servant, while later he was employed by the Procurement Enterprise. He appeared before the public for the first time in the «Kruja Wedding», a piece composed by a Kruja musician. Today, as he himself says, he is better off than ever. He is surrounded by the care of his sons, daughters and grandchildren. All his children have

good jobs. His eldest son, Tomor, got a State bursary and graduated from the Faculty of Medicine; of the other two sons, one is a plumber and the other a surveyor. Of his daughters, three are married, while the youngest, Kumria, is a Secretary of the Executive Committee of the District People's Council.

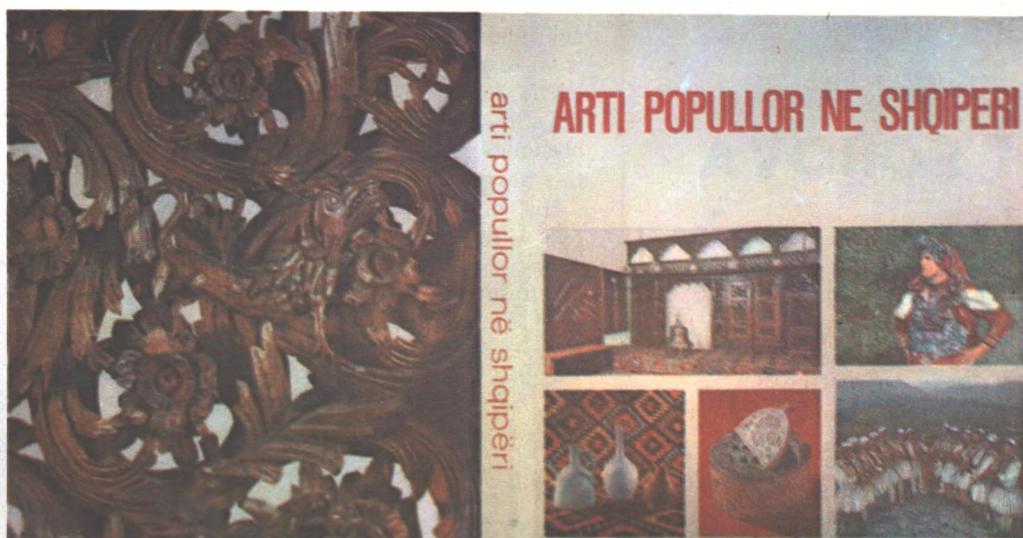
Qamil is one of the most active members of the veterans' group. He is well versed in the songs of Kruja, both old and new. The repertoire of the group also contains songs from other districts of Albania. The members bring out well the nuances in which they are similar to those of the Kruaj songs and those quite distinct from them. During their tours of various districts of the country, the members of the group acquaint themselves better with the way of singing songs which are not from Kruja. One of the most enthusiastic in this direction is Qamil Qoshja.

Rexhep Goga is the youngest member of the group. Song is perhaps the only inheritance of beauty his forebears left behind them. Rexhep kept up the tradition. He sang when he was in the first classes at school and he grew up with them. He first appeared on the stage before a partisan audience when he was in the 8th Brigade. He took part in many battles for the liberation of the country.

Rexhep is the father of five sons and three daughters. His eldest son completed his studies in engineering on a State bursary. The next son is an aircraft technician and Edmond, the third son, is a technician who has gone to work on building the biggest hydroelectric project in the country, the Fierza project; while the fourth son is in the third year of his studies at the faculty of physics at the University of Tirana, on a State bursary. Two of his three daughters are also pursuing their studies — one to be an army officer, the other to be a nurse. A special joy for Rexhep is his youngest son, Mentor. He is nearly six years old, and is, as his father calls him, «the joy of his old age». Mentor has already started to follow in his father's footsteps: he was not yet five years old when he appeared on the stage before an audience of three thousand.

Such is the life, also, of the other members of the group. The House of Culture has become their second home. There they pass the best part of the time with songs and dances. In their performances tradition and the present come together. But for them the most unforgettable moments are when they hear the applause of the audience. And applause follows these elderly men wherever they sing and dance because with their temperament and pathos they have imparted a new vigour to the old songs and an originality to the performance of the new.

It is not only in the ancient city of Kruja, that the members of this group are honoured. They are to be found taking their rest in health resorts or surrounded by the care and admiration of people of all ages.



PEOPLE'S ART IN ALBANIA



A publication of the Academy of Sciences of the PRA, the Institute of History, the Sector of Ethnography, Tirana 1976, 156 pages, size 28 x 31 cm., illustrated with 194 photographs.

«Throughout the storms of time, fierce and endless battles, our people created a culture and art with marked national features which constitutes an invaluable treasure. These values of progressive art of our nation are a source of legitimate pride for us, they are our contribution to the treasury of the world progressive art».

This very significant quotation of Comrade Enver Hoxha opens the album compiled by the ethnographers, Rrok Zojzi, Abaz Dojaka and Hasan Qatipi. The coloured illustrations of the album come after an introduction in three languages, Albanian, English and French, Pg 1 — VI, where it is stressed that the tradition of the popular art in socialist Albania is not something lifeless, but very much alive and developing and it is an important component of the national culture. On this great wealth of artistic expression created over the centuries and handed down generation after generation, the Albanian people, basing themselves firmly on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, are creating a new art with national features and a socialist content. Correctly assessing this heritage, straight after the liberation of the country, the PLA and the People's Statepower paid special attention to the collection and study of the documentary material in existence in the respecti-

ve scientific institutions.

The authors of this album has set himself the task of giving a pleasing summary of the ethnographic treasury of Albania which can quite safely be described as one of the richest and most varied of the whole of Europe. 194 coloured illustrations (photographed by Halit Gjiriti and Nikolin Baba and developed at the photographic laboratory of the Tirana University), are a more or less full and extremely interesting review of the different branches of people's art.

beginin from beautiful scenes of Albanian nature, villages, bridges, facades and characteristic house interiors national costumes from various districts of the country complete with all their accessories, (weapons, pipes and tobacco pouches, saddle bags, other bags etc), and up to household implements and ornaments, (cradles, stools, chests, chairs, wooden spoons and bowls etc), ladles, salt and pepper holders etc, various pottery articles, teapots, trays, pie dishes and other flat metal dishes, to wind up with pictures of folklore groups (instrumentalists, singers and folk dancers). The majority of the items from the different genre of folk art worked in stone, clay, metal, wood, bone, leather, textile etc, are presented linked with the respective environment and with the life of the people themselves. Popular architecture

is represented in this album by the main types of characteristic houses with their rooms, doors, windows copboards, chimneys, ceilings and so on all worked with great craftsmanship. It is very pleasing to the eye to look at the great variety of forms, elements and motives which fully reflect the artistic taste and leanings of the people. The decorations on the ornaments and textiles, carpets and wall drapings, the embroidery and weaving where warm and glowing colours prevail reflecting the Mediterranean character of our country together with the psychology of the people. The features of the artistic conception of the metal work are clear and laconic both on the barrels of rifles or on various clips for costumes or on vessel of everyday use. The features of the engravings and carvings on stone or wood, where the peoples have poured their feelings and thought and expressed their tastes in the most gracious manner are also very attractive. As our beloved leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha has quite dancing, embroidering wonders correctly said, «while singing, on their costumes, the people have written their thousands of years old history, they have shown their ability and power of concentration of the events and phenomena, they have poured into one great fund all their magnificent talent.»

This is a very warmly welcomed publication for art lovers, scientists and the people of culture in general.

THE STONE MASON FROM BOROVA

(continues from page 29)

them with machineguns and had not allowed any one to enter the village. They told Uncle Ligor it was useless to try — «Better turn back before too late» — but they could not convince him.

«I set out for the village and that's where I shall go».

«But they will kill you, Uncle Ligor!»

«And why?»

His question was truly astonishing, but quite sincere and logical. Why should they kill an old man who was coming back to see his people, his village and his home?

The nazis had condemned the village to extermination and they meant to carry the order out. However they did not stop Ligor. Why not? Because he entered Borova with an air of mastery, proud, head erect, disdainng them and entirely unperturbed.

Deafy walked between their vehicles without hesitation or fear, without even deigning to glance at them. He had seen any number of vehicles and armies in those far away countries and their appearance aroused not the slightest interest. Chest out and head erect, he walked firmly down the cobbled road with extraordinary calm and self-assurance. His steps were long and heavy, and echoed on the road. He made no attempt to hurry, to go away or to hide himself. He marched ahead steadily, proudly, like a man who has an important mission to perform, who assumes majesty from the importance of his task.

The German patrol opened the way to him and Ligor entered the village. He saw the burned houses, the blackened beams, the gables and foundations lying together and a knot seemed to gather in his chest. Near the bridge, on the walls around the springs and gardens he saw the posters. «These must be those white sheets of paper they told me about», he said to himself, paying them scant attention.

He left the highway and took the path towards the hilltop. The Germans were watching him from the road. According to them, this man could have nothing to do with the village. He must be some traveller who happened to pass this way.

Ligor stood in front of his house and looked it over carefully. The roof had fallen, the walls were blackened and the windows gaped empty. Some smoke was still trickling skywards from within the walls. A bitter, choking smoke. Everything had come to a sudden and unexpected end. The stones vere blackened and split from the great heat. He knew every one of them, for he had laid them there with his own hands, and it seemed as if the stones knew him, too. Their gaping mouths spoke a language which the mason could understand.

He took the bag from his shoulder and walked around the house. Smoke, sorrow, silence.

Then he turned and looked over the village. The white walls, painted gates, windows with curtains and pot plants were no more. Ruins, heaps of ashes and the bitter smell of smoke that stung the eyes and throat.

From the brigde the Germans followed the movements of this man, who had walked up the hill and was surveying the village.

«We've got to start from the beginning aga-

in», said Ligor, shaking his head. And, like a man, who knows what he is about, moved to one side, took off his jacket, folded it and laid it on the wall.

The July heat was scorching, the stones of the still smouldering houses and even the cobblestones were scorching, but more than all this he was burning with emotion.

His shirt gleamed white against the blackened walls and trees.

Ligor bent down and caressed the golden down on leaves of the tomato plants between his fingers, breathing the aroma. He loved this smell and it seemed as if he were eating fresh tomatoes. The tomatoes were still small, the size of hazelnuts and hidden among the leaves.

Theu he lifted down his bag of tools, took out his hammer and trowel, rolled up his sleeves, and built an improvised scaffolding of some boxes and boards which were lying in the courtyard. He climbed on it and began to remove the ends of half-burned beams. In a little while, his hammer began to beat out the old song on the still hot stones.

The nazis, who all this time had watched in stunned surprize, flared into anger. The challenge of this stone mason infuriated a German officer, and he ordered his soldiers to open fire.

Bullets began to fly towards the hilltop, whistling angrily through the trees, raising chips of stone and dust from the ground. They were tracer bullets which left behind a red, green or blue line. Ligor saw these missiles which flew by like sa many brilliantly coloured butterflies and he was pleased. He did not hear the shots, seeing only the coloured lines the bullets left behind in the air, and he was astonished for it was something he had never seen before. «What are all these butterflies?», he wondered, for he knew nothing of the new inventions in war equipment.

The bullets seemed afraid and avoided him. They flew past, through his clothes, beside him, in front of and behind him. He was like a target which could not be hit.

Then the mason thought he would make a little mortar and water his tomatoes and lettuces. So he went to the brook to fill a bucket with water. On the way back the Germans all fired one after the other, and a bullet punctured a hole in the bucket. The water began to spurt out from each side. «What's happening to me today?» he murmured to himself, «I don't understand. This seemed a good bucket that didn't leak. Or may be it was like this and I hadn't noticed it».

He bent down, gathered some leaves, rolled them in a wad and plugged the holes from which the water was flowing.

From the side of the bridge came a shout of relief for they thought that they had killed him, but Ligor Pandoja stood up again and walked towards the garden.

Orders, curses and shouts in German were heard, but not by the stone mason, and even if he had heard he would not have given them any importance, for he would not have believed they had anything to do with him. And Uncle Ligor walked on with the bucket in his hand up to the moment they knocked him down.

From his garden, wherever you turn your eyes, you see only mountains. Ligor saw the mountains for the last time that July afternoon. They seemed to waver, to rise higher than they were, to sink down, become misty, and be lost to sight. Then they emerged again clear and still. The vision of the mountains remained fixed fast on Ligor's retina, and he did not close his eyes because he wanted to preserve their image forever.

The breeze rustled the grass, the leaves, the tender twigs, and sprinkled his white shirt with the pollen of flowers.

«NEW ALBANIA» N° 5/1976 YEAR XXX

IN THIS ISSUE

- THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARTY OF LABOR OF ALBANIA 1
- ALBANIA IN TWO DECADES 2
- LIGHT OVER ALBANIA 6
- «RED TIRANA» 8
- THE GENERATION OF BUILDERS OF SOCIALISM 14
- THE ALBANIAN COUNTRYSIDE AT THE 35th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARTY OF LABOR OF ALBANIA 16
- ONE-THIRD OF THE POPULATION AT SCHOOL 22
- FOREIGNERS ON ALBANIA 24
- PERPETUATION OF THEIR HEROISM 26
- SELF-SACRIFICE FOR THE HOMELAND 27
- THE STONE MASON FROM BOROVA — NARRATIVE 28
- «CONFRONTATION» — FILM 30
- THE ALBANIAN STATE ENSEMBLE OF FOLK SONGS AND DANCES IN SWEDEN AND NORWAY 32
- THE YOUTHFUL OLD MEN OF ANCIENT KRUIJA 34
- PEOPLE'S ART IN ALBANIA 35

NEW ALBANIA

AN ILLUSTRATED POLITICAL AND SOCIAL MAGAZINE APPEARING BYMONTHLY IN ALBANIAN, CHINESE, FRENCH, ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, ARABIC, ITALIAN, SPANISH AND GERMAN.

ADDRESS OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD

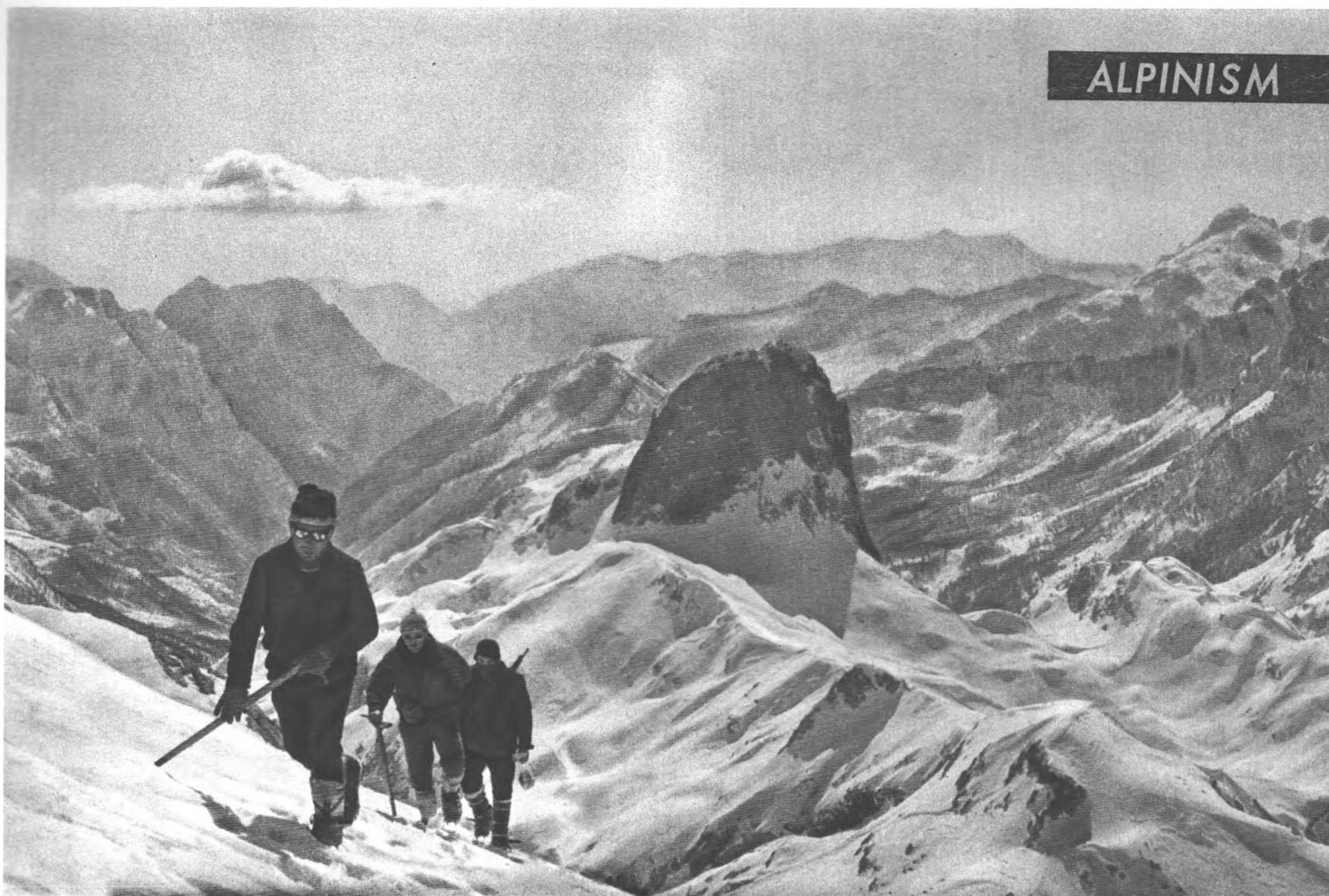
«SHQIPËRIA E RE» R. LABINOTI, 7, TIRANA. ALBANIA

FRONT COVER: FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY OF LABOR OF ALBANIA ENVER HOXHA.

Foto: P. Kumi.

BACK COVER: AUTUMN IN TIRANA.

Foto: S. Xhillari.



A group of alpinists climbing to the summit of the Prozhmi Mt. (2452 meters high). In the background, the picturesque Thethi valley the Arapi peak (2217 meters high).

The group of alpinists taking their breath while climbing the northern Alps of the country. In the background; the peaks of the Llagaj 2400 meters high. Photos by Master of Sports V. Stamulli.



THE SPORT OF THE BRAVE

The greater part of Albania is mountainous. To the north of the country rise the Alps, whereas to the south lie range after range of hills of varying heights. Naturally this is ideal terrain for alpinism.

Twenty years ago the Association of Tourism and Alpinism was set up which gave a further boost to the development of this sport.

Alpinism in our country is in the first place a sport of physical tempering, of preparation for the defence of the Homeland. Besides this, it helps one become acquainted with the wonderful beauties of the nature of the country. Therefore, we can say that today it has become a mass sport. In almost every city alpine groups and circles have been set up, beginning from those of the pioneers houses up to those at different categories of schools, enterprises, plants, many other work centers and sports clubs. Many beautiful touristic and alpine centers have been opened beginning from Theth and Boga in the north, to Tomorr and Morava in the south. The programs of schools, enterprises and sports clubs also include alpine activities. Thus, the young men and women

of the city of Berat climbed the mountain of Tomorr the youth of the Dibra district have ascended the Mountain of Korabi, the youth of Gjirokastra, the Broad or Lunxhera Mountain, while the youth of Tirana have ascended the Dajti Mountain. Under the direction of the Association Tourism and Alpinism of dozens of ascents have been made by qualified mountain climbers. Our climbers have ascended the summits of Jezereca (2,698 meters), Radohina (2,570 meters), the summit of «Grykes se Haour» (2,561), the Iron Mountain (2560 meters) in the Northern Alps of the country, whereas in the south they have ascended the Mountain of Papingu at Nemerchke which is 2,485 meters high, the «Chuka Partizani» on the Tomorri range which is 2,416 meters high.

With their work, many alpinists have won high sports categories. They are making their contribution for the spread of this daring sport.

On the occasion of the seventh congress of the PLA and the 35th anniversary of its founding, the best climbers of the country carried out a series of ascents planned by the Association of Tourism and Alpinism.

