



YOU COMRADES, YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG WOMEN, HAVE A BEAUTIFUL LIFE BEFORE YOU, BECAUSE FOR BOTH THIS BEAUTIFUL LIFE WHICH WE HAVE BUILT, AS WELL AS FOR THAT OF THE FUTURE WHICH WILL BE EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL, YOU HAVE SHED YOUR BLOOD, AND YOU ARE GOING TO POUR OUT YOUR SWEAT, YOU HAVE EXERTED THE STRENGTH OF YOUR YOUTHFUL MUSCLES, YOUR CREATIVE THOUGHTS, YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND THE LOVE OF YOUR ARDENT HEARTS.

ENVER HOXHA

(from his speech at the 7th Congress of the Labour Youth Union of Albania)



NEW ALBANIA

5
1977

THE YOUNGER GENERATION OF SOCIALIST ALBANIA

The 7th Congress
of the Albanian Labour
Youth Union has been
convened.

From the 26th to the 29th of September, 1977, in the city of Elbasan, the 7th Congress of the Albanian Labour Youth Union, (ALYU), was convened. The Congress held its proceedings in the light of the decisions of the 7th Congress of the Party of Labour of Albania which was held in November last year. The Congress was held in an atmosphere of great revolutionary enthusiasm, of steel like unity around the Party of Labour, its Central Committee with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. Besides the 2180 youth delegates, the Congress was also attended by many guests, including the parents of heroes fallen during the National Liberation War and the construction of socialism in the country. Leaders of the Party and state also attended the proceedings of the Congress. The Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania sent the Congress a message of greetings signed by comrade Enver Hoxha, the First Secretary of the Central Committee.

The Congress heard the Report entitled, «To Educate the Youth With Communist Ideals and With a Healthy Revolutionary Spirit» which was delivered by the First Secretary of the ALYA, Lumturi Rexha.

At the closing session of the Congress, comrade Enver Hoxha was also present. Deeply moved by the enthusiastic and ardent reception of the delegates, amidst the cheering and powerful ovations, comrade Enver Hoxha took the floor. Greeting the delegates, he said among other things:

«You, young comrades have a beautiful life ahead of you, because both for this beautiful life which we have built and for that of the future which will be even more beautiful you have poured out your blood, you will pour out your sweat, you've given the strength of your young muscles, your creative thought, your knowledge and the love of your ardent hearts. Here you spoke about only some of those great works which you have given the people. You were modest in what you said, but it is very good to be modest. I congratulate you because your works are innumerable, the Party recognises them, the people recognise them and are proud of them. You are the most beautiful blooms of the Homeland but you are also as strong as steel, stronger than any steel that could be poured by any of the most modern combines of the world. You are of those special steels just as the communists are of a special steel, you are unbreakable, just as the communists, you are such because you are the sons and daughters of an heroic people, you are such because the Party of Labour nurtures you every day with the immortal ideology of Marxism-Leninism which tempers you in work and life so that you learn to link theory well with practice. And see what you have achieved with your deeds. Our whole people see them, our friends and enemies see them.

The Party has entrusted you young men and women to manage the affairs of the state, the economy, the army, culture and science. The Party has great confidence in you and the fact is that hundreds of thousands of young men and women are managing the construction of socialism marvellously and with their work and high vigilance are defending the dictatorship of the proletariat.

We see here how proletarian internationalism, which Marxism-Leninism teaches us, is developing and growing stronger. Friends and

In the hall of the 7th Congress of the Labour Youth Union of Albania.





Comrade Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania attended the last session of the 7th Congress of the Labour Youth Union of Albania. In the picture: Comrade Enver Hoxha at the rostrum of the Congress together with comrade Lumturi Rexha, First Secretary of the Labour Youth Union of Albania.

comrades from many countries have come to this Congress. I heard them speak from this tribune with fire and love for the Albanian people, for the Party of Labour, for our youth and we love them with our whole heart and soul and with our whole heart and soul we shall always assist them and collaborate with them in our common struggle for the cause of the revolution. We assure our Marxist-Leninist friends and comrades that we will perform our duties to the end. In the name of the Central Committee of the Party I thank them for the great and unlimited assistance which they give us in the international arena, assistance which we prize and greatly appreciate. They are fighting in difficult conditions and they are advancing, spreading the Marxist-Leninist ideas, fighting for socialism and the triumph of the revolution. I express my heartfelt thanks to all these delegates. In the message of greetings of the CC of the Party of Labour of Albania sent to the Congress of the Youth, it is said among other things: In our socialist Homeland, the youth are surrounded by the great care of the Party and the people. The Party has opened brilliant prospects to them, has created all the possibilities for them to work, study and live like revolutionaries.

Today the Party, the working class and all the working people of our country are more than ever engaged in the great struggle to solve the problems of the further development of socialist society by their own efforts, to cope successfully with the continuous pressures and blockades of the imperialist and revisionist encirclement as they have always done, to defend Marxism-Leninism from the attacks of the bourgeoisie and reaction, from the attacks and distortions of the old and new revisionists. By taking part in this struggle, as a shock force and an assault detachment the younger generation embellishes its socialist present and its communist future, is educated and tempered so that it will always remain a generation of indomitable revolutionaries.»

Analysing the activity of the organisation of the youth since the 6th Congress to date, the Report of the Central Committee of the ALYU said among other things:

«The youth come to this Congress with great victories. The period since the 6th Congress of the Labour Youth Union of Albania has been characterized by the heroic work of the youth on all fronts of the construction of socialism, to put into practice the magnificent programme of the Party. Armed with the ideals of the revolution and communism, they have studied, worked and fought, undaunted by any difficulty. Wherever the Party has called on them, wherever the Homeland has needed them, the youth have always responded readily.

The communist ideals have inspired our youth to march enthusiastically on the road which the Party has shown them, have trained them as an organized detachment to attack wherever the greatest cou-

rage and valour, the greatest selflessness and sacrifices are called for, to stand always in the front line of the revolution, of the socialist construction and the defence of the Homeland. The younger generation of our country is determined to keep these ideals always ablaze in their minds and hearts and to be guided by them in every step.

Our young men and women have always found the inexhaustible source of their communist ideals in the Marxist-Leninist ideology, in the great work of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, in the teachings of the Party and comrade Enver Hoxha. All this invaluable treasury is in the hands of the youth, who, wherever they study, work and live, are nourished and inspired by it, continually preparing themselves so that they always remain a revolutionary youth, and unyielding fighters for the great cause of the Party, socialism and communism.»

Speaking about the spirit of proletarian internationalism which characterizes the youth of Albania, Lumturi Rexha said:

«Convinced, as always, of the correct Marxist-Leninist and internationalist line of the Party, our youth fully approve and energetically support the assessments, conclusions and stands of the Party on international problems and foreign policy. Shoulder to shoulder with the people, as always, they will fight untiringly to make their contribution to the struggle which the Party of Labour and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania are waging in the international arena, and to discharge their internationalist duties with honour.

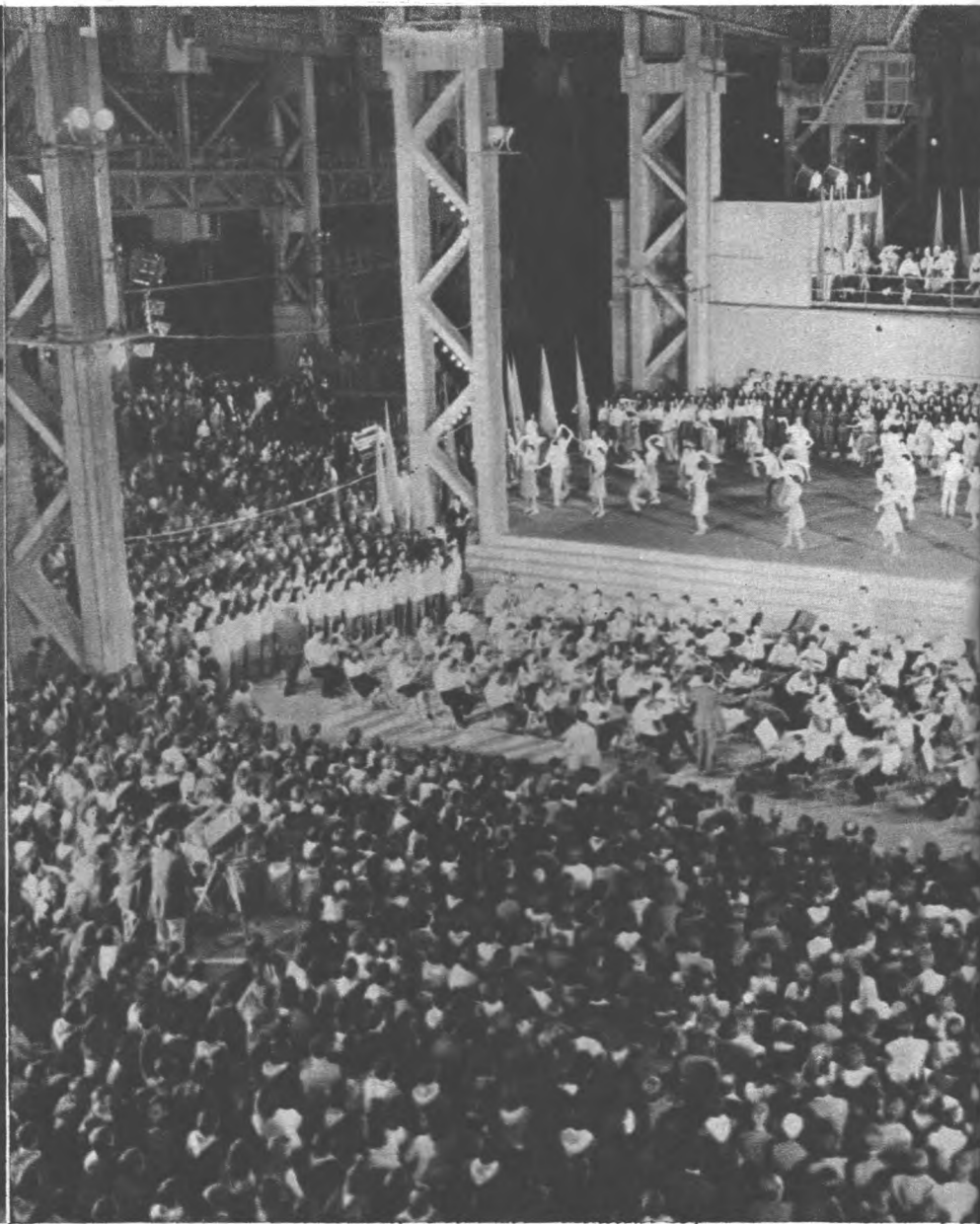
The younger generation of our country and its militant organization, the Labour Youth Union of Albania, have always been in solidarity with, and given strong support to, the struggle and efforts of the progressive and revolutionary peoples and youth for social and national liberation, against US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, and their collaborators — the monopoly bourgeoisie and reaction, modern revisionism and every type of opportunism.

We rejoice over the fact that millions of worker, peasant and student youth are taking part in the great battles of the working class and of the working masses of the oppressed countries and nations, against capitalist exploitation and national oppression, against the policy of expansion, hegemony and instigation of war by US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, against the bourgeoisie and the international monopolies. We hail the revolutionary stand and determination which the youth and students in many countries of the world are displaying in their just struggle.

The movements of the youth and students have become an important part of the class struggle which is being waged in the capitalist and revisionist world, a powerful revolutionary force of our time. Faced with the upsurge of this mighty wave of irresistible revolutionary potential, the monopoly bourgeoisie and reaction, the modern revisionists, and the opportunists, are resorting to all their means of

At the close of the proceedings of the 7th Congress of the Labour Youth Union of Albania a grand concert was given by some hundreds of professional and amateur artists from various parts of Albania.

Delegates to the Congress.



violence, corruption, and ideological and cultural subversion, in order to halt and extinguish the revolutionary drive of the youth, to disorganize them and to set them on a hopeless course.

They have created an entire industry specialized in brainwashing and poisoning the consciousness of the masses of youth. The press, radio, television, literature and the arts, school and church, are working feverishly every minute of every day in order to spread degeneration and disorganization among the youth. All the bourgeois-revisionist propaganda is designed to create a feeling of spiritual emptiness and the uselessness of life among the youth, to encourage vice and base instincts, in order to ruin them physically and morally, and to render them harmless to the capitalist state. Apart from the propaganda of degeneration, the bourgeoisie and reaction are also carrying out large-scale political diversion, by creating opportunist and pseudo-revolutionary trends and tendencies, the purpose of which is to drive the youth in wrong and hopeless directions.

The modern revisionists, too, are working with great zeal to assist the bourgeoisie and reaction in their fight against the revolutionary movements of the youth and students; they have become the greatest extinguishers of the revolutionary spirit among the masses of youth.

The struggle of the youth and the peoples is damaged and undermined by the theories of the «three worlds», that of the «non-aligned countries» and so on. These theories hinder the peoples, the masses of the working people and the youth to become acquainted with the fundamental contradictions of our time and their solution in a revolutionary manner, they hinder them from distinguishing friends from enemies and really fighting against imperialism, social-imperialism, reaction and all the oppressors and exploiters. They serve the strengthening of the imperialist and neo-colonialist domination, the preservation of the positions of reaction. If we were to believe such theories, this would bring great damage to the cause of the revolution and the liberation of the peoples.

The stand towards imperialism, in general, and towards the two superpowers, in particular, towards the big bourgeoisie and neo-colonialists, is a question of principle and of fundamental importance for the victory of the peoples, for the realization of the revolutionary aspirations of the youth. Our younger generation give full support to our Party's correct thesis, which life has confirmed with daily events, that the two superpowers, US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism, are the greatest enemies of the peoples, that they are equally dangerous and aggressive, that no illusion whatsoever be entertained about either the one or the other.

The youth of the world, who are fighting for social and material liberation, for democracy and progress, for education and culture, can never reconcile themselves to the bourgeois, revisionist and opportunist

sermons, which preach reconciliation with the imperialists, colonialists and neo-colonialists, with the bourgeoisie and the reactionary cliques dominating the peoples, with the multi-national companies and all the oppressors and exploiters. This is what the various theories about the division of the world into «three worlds», the «non-aligned countries», etc., etc., lead to.

The presence at our 7th Congress of 19 foreign delegations, the representatives of organizations of the Marxist-Leninist and anti-imperialist youth from many countries of the world, as well as the many messages of greetings that have come from the youth and student organizations of various countries, are a powerful expression of this support and a great encouragement for the youth of our country. We take this opportunity to thank them for their participation in our Congress and wish them successes and victories in their just struggle.

We assure our friends and fellow fighters that in our youth and their organization, the Labour Youth Union of Albania, educated and led by the glorious Party of Labour with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, they will find reliable friends and comrades, and resolute internationalist support, both now and in the future.»

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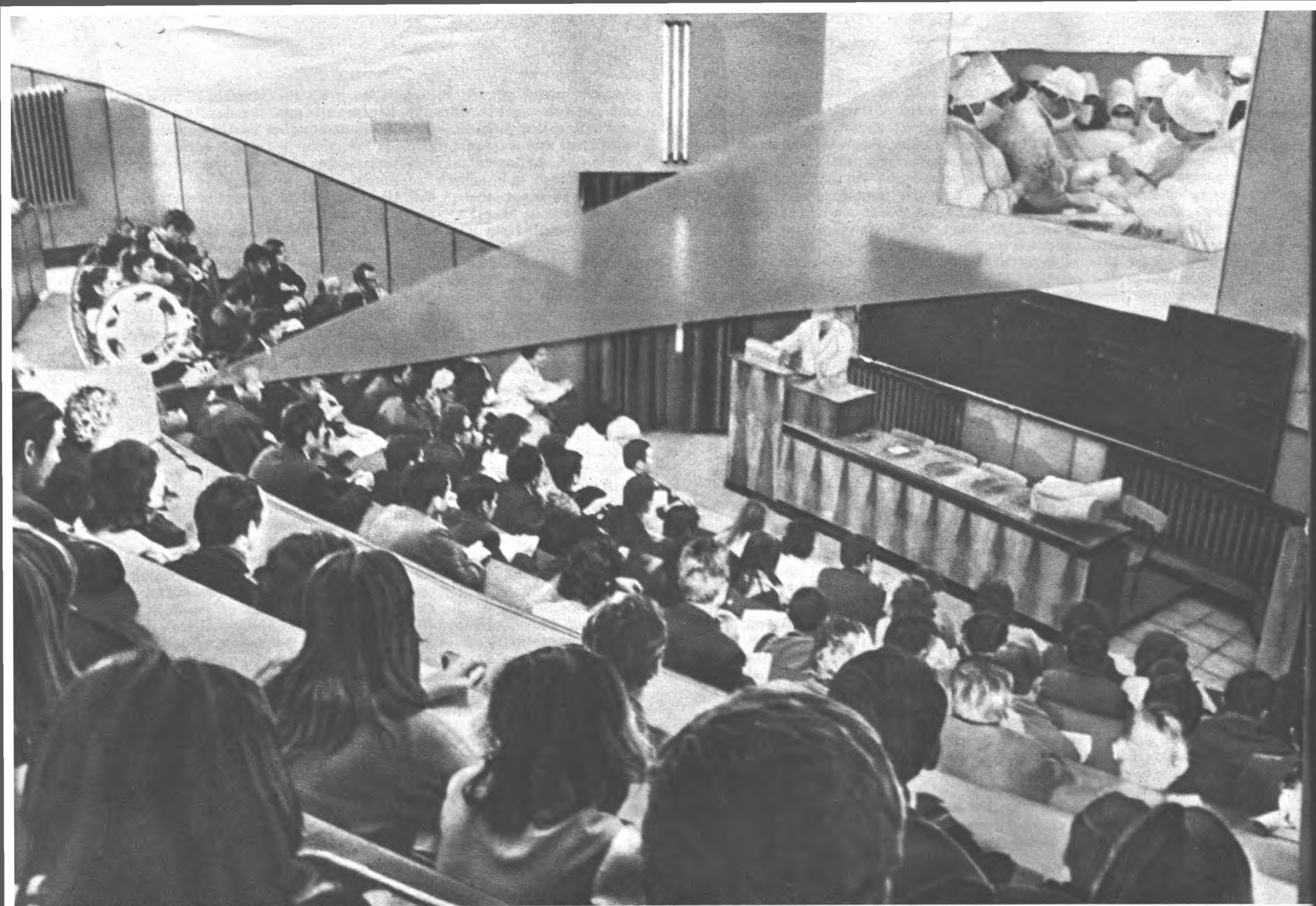
The 7th Congress of the Labour Youth Union of Albania was attended by the following delegations of youth of foreign countries, namely, the Delegation of the «Ho Shi Min» Communist Youth Union of Vietnam, the Delegation of the Marxist-Leninist Youth of the Communist Party of Brazil, the Delegation of the Communist Youth Union (M-L) of Italy, the Delegation of the «Rote Garde» Youth Organization of the Communist Party of Germany (M-L), the Delegation of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth Union of Japan, the Delegation of the Communist Youth (M-L) of Spain, the Delegation of Youth of the African national Union of Zimbabwe, the Delegation of the Portuguese Revolutionary Communist Youth Union, the Delegation of Youth of the Communist Party of Ecuador (M-L), the Delegation of Youth of the Communist Party of Britain (M-L), the Delegation of the Federation of Black African Students in France, the Delegation of Youth of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile; the Delegation of Youth of the Communist Party of Ecuador (M-L), the Delegation of the «Tufan» Communist Youth of Iran, the Delegation of the Union of Students of Malgashi origin in France, the Delegation of the «Red Youth» Organization of Sweden, the Delegation of Youth of the Marxist-Leninist Party of Austria, the Delegation of the Association of the Trainees and Students of Comoro, the Delegation of the Federation of African Students in Italy.

«FLAMING RED AS FIRE, PURE AS CRYSTAL AND STRONG AS STEEL»

Through their delegates to the Congress, the younger generation of Albania addressed a fiery message to the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania in which we read:

«The powerful voice of the younger generation which comes through this message is this: We, the young men and young women of Albania, endowed with the ideals of communism, will always set an example in work and struggle for the complete construction of socialism, for the defence of our Homeland. No bourgeois-revisionist blockade, however savage, will make us yield or break us; no foreign influence, however camouflaged, will ever turn us from the correct Marxist-Leninist course. Our main objective is the construction of socialist and communist society, the defence of the achievements of the revolution. The only compass for us will be Marxism-Leninism, the teachings of our Party and comrade Enver Hoxha, which clear our minds to make correct judgments, which give us greater courage to fight and sharp eyes to remain vigilant and which give us ever greater confidence in victory.

The youth of socialist Albania, raised with great care by the Party, flaming red as fire, pure as crystal and strong as steel, will remain for ever the loyal sons and daughters of the Party of Labour, its shock detachment, which has as its supreme law the guiding of the Party, and which goes from action to action to make our life happier, our Homeland more prosperous and always invincible».



In the auditoriums of the Faculty of Medicine audio-visual means are used in the teaching. The films used in this instance are produced by the University itself.

CENTRE OF OUR NEW KNOWLEDGE AND SCIENCE

20 YEARS OF TIRANA UNIVERSITY

Twenty years have gone by since the University of Tirana was founded. This is a very short period in the life of such an important institution. However, it has grown and developed at a very rapid rate. Today in general, our country trains its own highly qualified cadres. This is a great achievement if we bear in mind that before the triumph of the people's revolution (1944) 85 per cent of the population was illiterate.

Over these twenty years in the life of the University, great work has been done for the revolutionization of the teaching and educational process for preparing new specialists with the proletarian spirit, who are ideologically and politically developed, and at the level



TODAY ALBANIA TRAINS ITS OWN CADRES WITH HIGHER SCHOOLING. THE PROGRAM OF STUDIES OF OUR UNIVERSITY IS MADE UP OF THREE COMPONENTS, LESSONS, WORK IN PRODUCTION AND PHYSICAL AND MILITARY EDUCATION.

TODAY THE UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA HAS EIGHT FACULTIES WITH FORTY-ONE SPECIALTIES. IN ADDITION EIGHT AFFILIATES FUNCTION IN SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRES OF THE COUNTRY. DURING THE 1976-1977 ACADEMIC YEAR THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY WAS MORE THAN ELEVEN THOUSAND OF WHICH 45 PER CENT WERE GIRLS.



The students of the University of Tirana carry out their work in production on projects in various parts of the Homeland. A very happy atmosphere prevails when the students set out for these jobs.

required by modern science and technology, by the development of the economy, culture and defence of the homeland. The teaching programs of the University, as throughout our whole educational system, are made up of three components: lessons, productive work and physical and military training. The whole process of the teaching and educational work is permeated by the Marxist-Leninist ideology. Since lessons are the main component, they occupy the bulk of time. The aim is to prepare the students ideologically and scientifically as cadres with a broad theoretical horizon and with the practical abilities and habits of their professions. The work in production as an integral part of the education

process, is intended to temper the students ideologically and develop their love for productive work, whereas the physical and military training prepares the students as able and conscientious citizens for the construction and defence of the socialist homeland.

In the struggle and work to carry out these tasks, bourgeois revisionist concepts as to the place and role of school in society and the purpose of attending the University, have been refuted and rejected. Revolutionary socialist concepts about the school have been formed in the minds of teachers and students and persistent work is going on to further strengthen the socialist and national character and educational trend of the school. As a re-

sult, the University has become an institution to transmit and inculcate the soundest cultural and spiritual values of our people, created in the course of centuries and in the people's revolution.

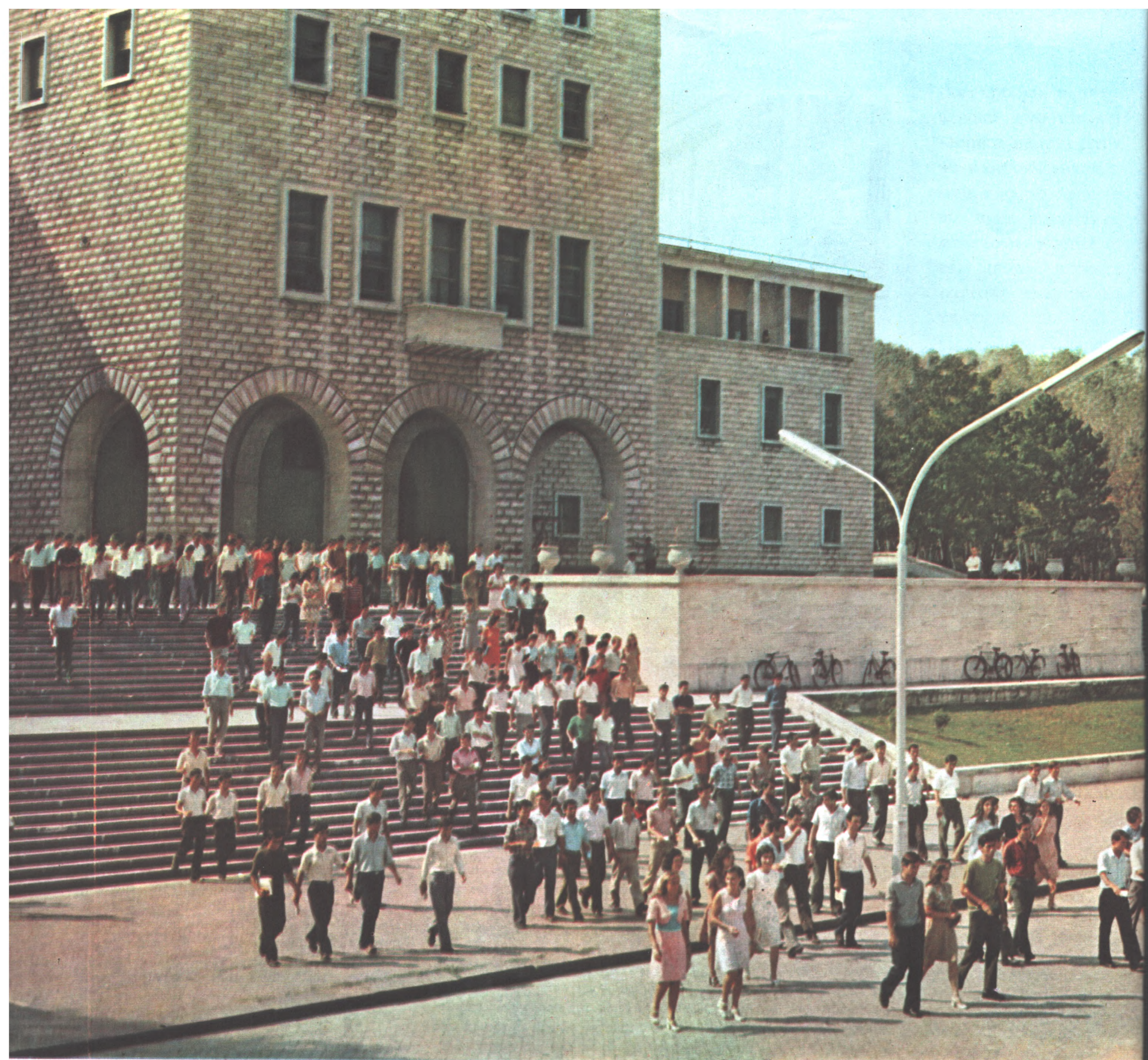
In its initial stage, the University had six faculties with 15 specialties. Now it has eight faculties with 41 specialties. There are also eight affiliates functioning in the main administrative centres of the country.

In the first academic year there were 3,613 full-time and part-time students. In the academic year 1976-1977, the number of students rose to 11,099, 45 per cent of whom are females.

In those 20 years 21,269 specialists of different professions have graduated. Now in just

These buildings are the hostels for the students of the University of Tirana. This complex is usually called «The Student town».





CENTRE OF OUR NEW KNOWLEDGE AND SCIENCE

one school year, the University turns out 4 times more cadres than the whole country had before the triumph of the people's revolution in 1944. An outstanding success was achieved in 1960. That year, all the students who had to break off their studies and return home as a consequence of the arbitrary and discriminatory measures taken against our country by the Khrushchevite revisionist clique of the Soviet Union and its followers in some other countries, were successfully trained.

Since the first year of its foundation, the whole staff of the University has devoted special attention to scientific and research work, as a very important activity, inseparable from the teaching process. With their own forces, or in collaboration with various scientific institutions and organizations, particularly the Academy of Sciences, the staff of the Univer-

sity have coped with a series of important and complicated problems in the field of social and economic sciences and technical progress. Such are the studies on the history of political-social thought in Albania (pre-Marxist and Marxist), on the history of the State and Justice in Albania, on various problems of the birth and consolidation of the people's state power; important scientific work on behalf of the government, the text-book of the history of Albania and the history of Albanian literature. A great contribution has been made in the field of the application of mathematical methods using the computer in solving many problems of different spheres of the economy, in studying the problems of the contemporary capitalist and revisionist economy, in the evaluation of the mineral-bearing capacities of many areas of the country, as



well as to studies and experiments in the field of exploitation of oil and gas fields, and other problems.

Special attention is paid to the activation of students in scientific-research work as an important activity for their education and development, which raises the ideological and scientific training of the new specialists to a higher level.

In the University, the principle of the participation of students in its activity is widely applied, both in the teaching-educational process and in other activities. Students have their own representatives in all the pedagogical, scientific and administrative structures of the University, faculties and chairs. All these organs seek the opinions of the masses of students and render account of their activities to them. All this work is guided by the organization of Labour Youth Union of Albania, under the leadership of the basic organizations of the Party of Labour of Albania.

Over these 20 years of its life, the University has established and maintains contacts and correspondence with universities, academies and institutions of many countries of the world, as well as with the specialized organs of the United Nations. These contacts are being extended from year to year. Agreements of cultural and technical-scientific cooperation have been reached with many of these institutions.



The square before the main building of the University of Tirana is again full of life.

Photo H. Gjiriti

Lesson in histology (Faculty of Medicine).

At the production centre of the department of electronics the students prepare electronic apparatuses like TV sets, radio receivers.

Students of the fourth year of the Mechanical Engineering Faculty at the laboratory of thermo-technical measurements. Photo: P. Kumi

The students of the fourth year of the Faculty of Geology take their practical lessons at the oil wells. Photo H. Gjiriti

SEVEN QUESTIONS ABOUT EDUCATION

Our editors receive many letters from readers in various countries in which they express their interest in, and desire to know more about, the problems of the school, and the teaching and education of the school and student youth in Albania. Here are our replies to a number of their questions.

Question: We have heard that people go to school in Albania *en masse*. Can you give us concrete figures about this?

Answer: On the first day of the school year, 1st September 1977, over 700 thousand pupils and students sat at their desks in various categories of schools. The population of Albania is about two and a half million. On the basis of published world statistics, in proportion to its population, Albania ranks among the first countries in the world in regard to the number of persons attending school.

Question: In many countries the existing legislation envisages compulsory attendance at school. But in practice many countries are far from applying this legislation. How is compulsory schooling realized in Albania and do you have problems in enforcing the law in this direction?

Answer: The eight-year school is obligatory in Albania. This is the school of general education, compulsory for all, and the same all over the territory, town and countryside. Although in essence it is a school of general culture, it contains elements of the polytechnic schooling, education for work, and so on, which the students receive in a systematic way in the four further classes of the secondary school.

To ensure that all the children of the respective age are included in the compulsory

schooling is no light job. Overall, this is successfully solved in Albania because all the forces of society, ranging from the organs and organizations of the Party, the state organs at all levels, the social organizations, and the family, to the teaching staff in the schools concentrate their efforts to see that no child of school age is left out. It must be emphasized that a powerful public opinion has been created on this problem. However there are cases when children lose interest in school before completing their 8th-grade studies (because they are repeating the class and lack the will to do the systematic study the course requires, or because they are keen to start in a job, and so on). In these cases, even if there is only one such pupil in a school of 800, great care and attention is paid to him to ensure that he completes his studies at all costs. To make the matter clear in figures, these pupils comprise 0.2 to 0.5 per cent of the total number of pupils in our country. But, as we have stressed, they are under the continuous pressure of the whole society to complete their studies at all costs. In conclusion, we can say that overall, the problem of obligatory school attendance is solved.

Question: What is done with pupils who have various physical and mental defects?

Answer — There are special schools for this category of children. The institutes for

teaching the deaf and dumb, for instance, are separate, and for children with such defects there are special teaching programs designed to enable them to become fully integrated in society, so that they may feel satisfaction in work and in life in spite of their defects. There are special programs of teaching and education also for feeble-minded children. Such a child, for instance, may complete the 4-year course of the elementary school in about double that time, according to the level of his concrete capacities (understanding, memory, level of habits acquired etc.). As a rule, their programs include the teachings of a trade suitable for their condition.

The progress of these children at school is followed closely by the teachers as well as by the specialized medical personnel (in connection with this category of school see the special article in the N° 3, 1977 issue of our magazine).

Question: — In the different capitalist countries attending secondary school is left completely to spontaneity. This creates great chaos for students who graduate from this category of school in connection with adapting them to life, to work. There is spontaneity, especially, in the ratio between schools of general culture and those of professional and technical training. How have you, in Albania, solved this problem? Are the students inclined more

**On september 1, 1977,
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In Albania the eight-year
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culture is compulsory.
Secondary schooling in Albania
is for 4 years. The State
plans the contingents**



to the schools of the gymnasium type (general culture) or to vocational schools?

Answer: — Secondary schooling in Albania is for 4 years and follows on from the eight-year schooling. It has had its own development in line with the development of the economy and culture in Albania. In the early years, when we opened the university and other higher schools which did not exist before liberation, priority was given to general secondary education which prepared the pupils for the higher schools. That situation no longer exists, since secondary schooling itself has greatly developed in all its profiles. Now the vocational secondary schools occupy 90% of the total number of secondary schools, over the whole country. In the category of vocational schools we include the schools which, all told, train students in about fifty profiles, ranging from the industrial, mining, building, and other trades to the secondary schools of art, teacher training, etc.

On the basis of the general plan for the future development of the economy and culture, the State plans the contingent of qualified workers and technicians of medium training which it will need for each five-year period. New schools are opened and the size of their contingents are determined on this basis. With the educational work of the whole society, as many students as possible are persuaded to enrol in these schools. This is for the general good as well as to their own advantage. In practice, as soon as they complete their vocational secondary schooling they have jobs guaranteed.

What are the students' inclinations? Especially in recent years, we notice the trend to attend industrial secondary schools of various profiles, and this is explained by the rapid development of industry in Albania and by the high level of technology in industry and the other branches of economy. There are applications also, for teacher training, artistic and other schools. Attendance at agricultural secondary schools has also become a mass phenomenon. These schools have spread all over the country. To receive your secondary school certificate in the village is becoming

commonplace in our country. We stress that boys and girls from the countryside show an interest in the techniques, technology and high level of mechanization in industry, for which they have a great flair. The objective of our state is that the masses of village youth, from conviction and their own free will, should learn, acquire culture, knowledge, science and technique in order to put agricultural and livestock production on a thoroughly scientific basis.

In the current school year a great proportion of the village youth has enrolled in the agricultural schools. But this is not all. In many city schools branches of agricultural secondary education have been opened or new agricultural schools have been established, for children from the city. This is a positive new phenomenon which has appeared especially in recent years, expressing the growing desire of the city youth to settle permanently in and populate our socialist countryside, in which conditions have already been created not only to work, but also to learn and live there.

Question: — One of the reasons that vocational secondary schools (especially in certain profiles) in capitalist countries do not get mass enrollments is because they give the young men and women no possibility of acquiring higher education. Do you have this problem and this anxiety among your youth?

Answer: — In general, no. And this is the reason: the programs of vocational secondary schools are constructed in such a way as to give the students approximately the same volume of general education which they would have acquired in the general secondary school. This has two advantages: first, the student who goes through a vocational secondary school and becomes an electrician, mechanic, economist, technologist, violinist or pianist etc. etc. has a good general culture, so that he can succeed in becoming qualified in the course of his work, and, second, the vocational secondary school fully prepares him to pursue higher studies if he so desires. Obviously this is easier for him in his own profile (for instance, the electrician in electrical engineering, the mechanic in mechanical engineering,

the technologist in technology, in industrial chemistry etc.).

Question: — In the capitalist countries, this phenomenon occurs: higher specialists, in a number of profiles, such as accountants, economists, engineers, jurists and others are trained, but only 30 or 50 per cent of them can find jobs, and that with difficulty. What is done about this problem in Albania?

Answer: — Before he receives his diploma, every higher specialist, without exception, has already been appointed to a job. Thus, this problem does not exist in our socialist social order.

In order to clarify the problem we are adding a further question: Can it be that only a few higher specialists are trained in Albania and that's why they have guaranteed jobs? No, it is not true that few higher specialists are trained. On the basis of world statistics, in comparison with its population, Albania ranks among the leading countries in the world as regards the number of specialists of higher training. The secret is this: like the whole problem of the training and distribution of cadres, this is regulated by the state plans. The socialist order, its culture and economy, place no limits on the cultural, scientific, and vocational uplift of the masses, especially, of the youth. In Albania there is no graduate unemployment just as there is no unemployment in general.

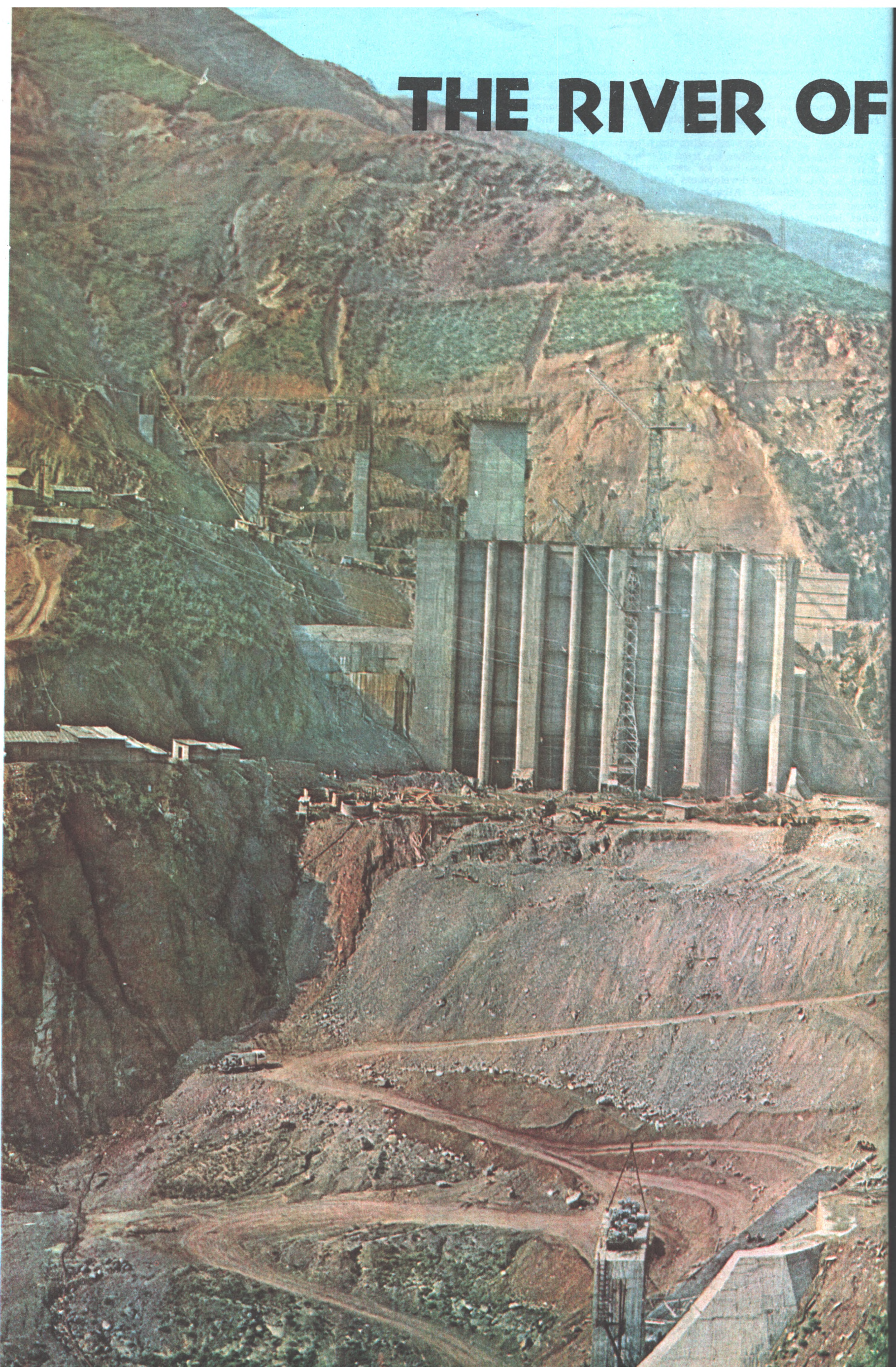
Question: — On what criterion are State funds allocated for bursaries?

Answer: — If we speak in understandable language, our State, as a matter of fact, does not allocate funds for scholarships within this or that limit allowed by the budget. The right to a bursary is determined on the basis of another criterion, on the basis of the per capita income of the family. The state grants bursaries to all those pupils or students it needs, to ensure there is no encroachment upon the minimum income for each member of the family. From this point of view, the funds of our State for bursaries are «unlimited».

The most beautiful flowers-for the teacher.

of qualified workers and technicians of medium training that will be needed in the future, on the basis of the general plan of the economy and culture. In comparison with its population Albania ranks among the first countries in the world as regards the number of graduates from the University and other higher schools. Every student completing his higher studies is appointed to a job even before he has received his diploma.

THE RIVER OF



LIGHT

These two photographs give views of the Fierza hydro-power plant which is under construction in the northernmost corner of Albania, on the Drin river, at a place called Fierza. The work for its construction is already well advanced. The first turbine will be put into operation in the coming months. The designed capacity of the station is 450 thousand KW. This is the second hydro-power plant on the Drin river. The first one, of 250.000 KW capacity was commissioned in 1971. Two others will be built on the Drin river in the future.



GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROJECTS IN HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER

Interview with professor PETRIT RADOVICKA.

Question: Professor, what are the fundamental directives in the development of power resources in our country?

Answer: In drafting the five-year plans there are two directives defined by the Party of Labour of Albania on the development of power resources: first, the development of electric power resources must proceed at higher rates than the development of other sectors of the economy; second, the development of the energy resources must be based, in the first place, on the utilization of the country's reserves of hydro-power.

These two directions have been the basis of the entire development of the power resources in our country, during the drafting of the five-year plans.

Question: Why is priority given to the development of the hydro-power? What is the basis of this directive?

Answer: Important studies have been carried out already in our country in the field of hydro-power, on defining the reserves we possess in this direction. Thanks to natural conditions Albania has important potential hydro-power reserves. They are many times greater than those of every other country in Europe (with the exception of Norway), both per head of population and per square kilometre. Another favourable factor is that the level of the technical possibility to utilize these resources is higher than in the other European countries. The economic benefit in the utilization of hydro-power resources is considerable too: we need only mention that almost without exception all the hydro-power stations built during the past 20-30 years in Europe have a volume of work per unit of power produced at least 2-3 times higher than our hydro-power stations

which have been built or are under construction on the Drin river.

Another positive aspect of hydro-power constructions is that they allow a very high level of regulation of the flow of rivers. For example, when the Fierza hydro-power station with about 450 thousand kw capacity, is fully commissioned, (the work is now in its final stages), the energy produced by our hydro-power stations will no longer be subject to seasonal differences, (in Albania there are great seasonal differences in the rainfall — ed.). With the construction of the Skavica hydro-power station, which will be built in the coming five-year plans, the electric energy produced by the hydro-power stations on our rivers will not fall by more than 10 per cent of the average over many years, even in case of a drought lasting several years in succession. Few countries in the world have such a possibility to regulate the electricity production of all the hydro-power stations on a national scale.

Question: What can you tell us about the biggest hydro-power projects which have been built, are under construction or will be constructed in the future?

Answer: The first hydro-power scheme built during the years of people's power was the «Lenin» station in Tirana. This is not a major station but it has the merit that it paved the way to majestic projects later. After this, the utilization of the energy of the Mat river began, with two stations, named «Karl Marx» and «Frederik Engels» with a combined installed capacity of about 50 thousand kw. In the South of Albania, two other hydro-power plants were set in motion with the waters of the Bistrica river, the bigger one, named after Joseph Stalin, with a capacity of 25 thousand kw.

But the biggest hydro-power projects began to be built on the Drin river, during the past 15 years. This river is the greatest resource of hydroenergy in our country. The first hydro-power station, on this river, the «Mao Tsetung» at Vau i Dejës, with a capacity of 250 thousand kw has been already completed, and another, with a capacity of 450 kw, is under construction. In regard to many parameters the hydro-power stations on the Drin river, especially that of Fierza, are of European and world calibre. Following the Fierza station, another, the most powerful in the country, called the Koman station will be built on the Drin river during the next five-year plan. It will be followed by another at Skavica. At the same time the building of hydro-power stations of small capacity, which feed power into the national grid, is continuing on the smaller rivers, thus increasing the production of electric energy. It should be pointed out that while these great projects on the Drin river and smaller ones are under construction, our institutions of various branches of science and technology are continuing their studies for the solution of major many-sided problems, which emerge in the field of hydro-power construction.

Question: What are these many-sided problems and how are they solved by our new science?

Answer: The all-round studies, designing and construction of the powerful hydro-electric projects cannot even be thought of without a sound economic basis and advanced science. Thanks to the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, our new science has been raised to the level of the tasks it has to face and today is able to cope with major problems in the hydro-electric field too. The study and



Every design is the result of the collective thought of the collective. Photo: S. Xhillari

construction of the hydro-power stations on the Drin river at Vau i Dejës and Fierza, have been and still are a great school for our cadres. The scientific and technical problems which have been and are being solved for Fierza are among the most difficult problems of present-day science and technology. The problems of the Koman station and especially that of Skavica, will be of this scale, too, and in some cases even greater.

As is known, the first step in the construction of hydro-power schemes consists of hydrological and climatic studies. On the basis of the results of these studies — data about the climate, rates of flow of rivers, rates of flow of gravel and alluvium etc., we have designed our hydro-electric projects. A very delicate problem is that of the maximum rate of flow of the Drin river. Our scientists are using the most modern methods in this direction, such as those of plot analysis, unit hydrography and the most profound statistical methods.

The geological, hydrogeological and engineering geological problems have been studied in detail and at the necessary scientific level for all our hydro-power stations. Thus, more concretely, the physical and mechanical qualities of the formations on which the hydro-electric projects are constructed or which are related to them, have been determined, the qualities of the formations in regard to water filtration, karstic phenomena and the danger of them, the crushing strength of rocks, the level of development of the new movements of the land surface, and the susceptibility to landslides, have been studied.

The geological studies for the Fierza and the other hydro-power stations have been completed successfully. Many difficulties had to be overcome in this direction as our cadres' experience on such big projects was inadequate. The geological studies on

the Koman hydro-power station are being and will be carried out at a higher level and in a shorter time.

In the context of geological studies, seismic studies constitute a special problem, both to establish the susceptibility of the region to earthquakes and the data necessary for the calculations, and also to follow the seismic activity in the future. For this purpose two necessary seismic stations have been established in the Fierza region.

The determination of the power of hydro-stations, the bank of turbines which should be or will be established, the water levels above and below the station and their fluctuations, the method of utilizing the lake to regulate the power of the station and to ensure the best possible coordination of the maximum production of energy with the greatest efficiency in water control in order to avoid seasonal floods in the plains, — all these problems were and are a most important field for studies by our scientific cadres. In this direction, too, we are advancing confidently, relying on the abilities of our cadres and the favourable scientific and technical conditions which have been created in our country.

All these above-mentioned fields are, of course, important, however the main problems for study in hydro-power stations are the hydrotechnical works, especially the dams. In this field our science and technique have made great progress. The hydro-technical works at the Fierza station are especially great. The dam at this station, which is built with a core of clay, with gravel and rock, is the highest of this type in Europe. It is known that it is no more than 30 years since dams of this type of such height have been built in the world for the first time. The technology of the Fierza dam was determined in general after 5-6 years of study in our special soil mechanics laboratories and directly in

the field, on experimental dams. Deep-going studies have been carried out for the first time in our country to determine the parameters and define the technology of filling the dam with rock. Computer technique, which gives the possibility of reaching more profound conclusions more rapidly, is proving of ever greater assistance in the solution of many problems in this field.

At the Fierza station, the towers at the entry to the discharge and intake tunnels reach a great height. The penstock tunnels carrying the water to the turbines, are the biggest tunnels in Europe and among the biggest in the world in regard to their dimensions and internal pressures. The Koman station will have tunnels of even greater dimensions than those at Fierza.

The special work of grouting with cement to strengthen the rock formations and create anti-filtration curtains, both in rock and gravel formations, is a problem in itself. Our building workers have thoroughly mastered this technique. The data provided by special apparatus, established on the anti-filtration curtain at the Vau i Dejës station show that after 6-7 years it is completely in order and fulfilling the functions for which it was designed.

Important successes have been achieved in studies in the field of the hydro-power constructions thanks to wide-ranging cooperation between the respective institute of the Ministry of Construction and many institutions of the Academy of Sciences and other institutions of construction studies, several chairs of the University of Tirana, the General Directory of electric power stations, and especially, thanks to close collaboration with the great mass of engineers, technicians and workers on the construction sites. This close collaboration is a sound basis for further advances in building new hydro-electric projects and the utilization of the great reserves our country possesses in this field.



In September this year, the 35th anniversary of the Albanian National Liberation Conference was commemorated with grandeur at the village of Peza in the district of Tirana. On this occasion the monument dedicated to heroic Peza (the work of the sculptors Mumtaz Dhrami and Kristo Krisilo) was unveiled. It symbolizes the struggle and glorious history of the people of this region led by the Communist Party (now the Party of Labour of Albania) in the war for the liberation of the country.

THE ALBANIAN NATIONAL LIBERATION CONFERENCE

(THE CONFERENCE OF PEZA)

One of the most important problems on which the Albanian Communist Party centered its attention was the problem of the creation of the unity of the people in the fight against fascism. In the first months after its founding in 1941, the Party carried out extensive propaganda work in this direction. It made it clear that only in struggle against the occupier would the unity of the people be formed. And this is how the foundations of this unity were laid. To strengthen these foundations, to put the unity of the people on a sound political and organizational basis on a national scale, the CC of the Albanian Communist Party organized the Albanian National Liberation Conference.

This Conference was held on the 16th of September, 1942, at Peza, a village situated less than twenty kilometres southwest of Tirana.

Besides the communists, nationalists also took part in this Conference. Here the pro-

blem of the unity and organization of the Albanian people in the fight against the fascist occupiers was thrashed out. The Conference elected a council, which was called the National Liberation General Council, and unanimously approved the platform of the National Liberation War, drafted by the Party. The principal orientations of this platform were: to wage uncompromising war against the fascist occupiers and traitors, for a free, independent and democratic Albania; only in struggle against the occupiers would the unity of the Albanian people be strengthened; the people must be organized without distinction as to class, political beliefs, religion or district, in a joint national liberation front; national liberation councils must be set up as organs of the people's power; the general armed uprising must be prepared.

The decisions of this Conference were of great historic importance in the anti-fascist national liberation movement and the war.



This tableau, by painter Lec Shkreli, is dedicated to the demonstration of the women of Tirana in 1942.

WOMEN IN A DEMONSTRATION

In the summer of 1942 the National Liberation Movement had assumed broad proportions. The prisons were full of patriots. To ease the situation, the fascists exiled some of them to the desolate islands of Italy. In conformity with the instructions of the Albanian Communist Party the secret anti-fascist organizations of the prisoners which operated inside the prisons organized protests and resistance to the fascist measures. Protests were held in February 1942, in the prison of Elbasan, in May and August in the prison of Tirana, and later, in Vlora. The biggest demonstration was the one held by the prisoners of Tirana, which took place in the afternoon of the 17th of September, 1942, just one day after the opening of the National Liberation Conference at Peza. This demonstration was of particular importance because it was coordinated with a demonstration held by the anti-fascist women of Tirana, in support of their imprisoned sons and brothers.

The events took place as follows: the prisoners refused to give up their comrades who were to be deported. Fighting with the carabinieri broke out in the prison. The prefect of Tirana was called to the scene. Meanwhile, about 100 women began a demonstration outside, in front of the prison. The fascists were in a critical situation. The order was given to break up the demonstration of the women by force. From their fortified posts, the guards opened fire on the women. Several were wounded, while one of them, the Heroine of the People, Mine Peza, was mortally wounded. Her comrades lifted her and carried her through the city streets. Mine Peza died while the demonstration was still going on. The people have dedicated a song to the heroism of Mine Peza and her comrades: Down with the terror, out the occupier, we Mothers can no longer bear it! Let us smash the cruel iron bars!



Hero of the People Asim Vokshi.

A HERO WHO FELL AT THE EBRO

Forty years ago, the internationalist Albanian fighter, Asim Vokshi, was killed on the banks of the river Ebro in Spain.

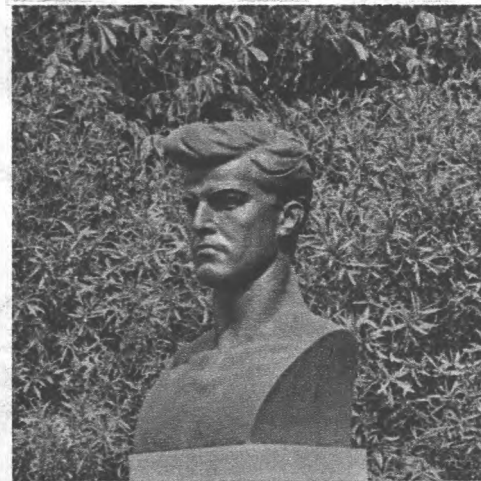
During the War in Spain, at the time when Madrid issued the call: «Proletarians of the whole world, help us because Italian and German fascism is drowning us in blood», Asim, like many other young Albanians set out for the front where Spanish revolutionary brothers were fighting. There they joined an international brigade. Other fighters from many parts of the world, united by the ideal to fight for the just cause of the Spanish people against the fascist hordes, also took part in the International Brigades.

In the Autumn of 1937, Asim Vokshi left Albaceta for the Aragona front. The train's whistle was drowned out by the singing of the Garibaldi Brigade. Asim was singing, too...

Some days later the news reached Madrid that Asim Vokshi had fallen like a hero at Fuente del Ebro, fighting at the head of his company. The fighters of the Garibaldi Brigade wept for the twenty-eight year old Albanian from Kosova, who radiated courage, optimism and revolutionary spirit wherever he went. Asim was the fourth Albanian to fall in the fight for freedom in Spain. Later, other sons of the Albanian people would fall in battle.

Our people will always treasure the heroic act of Asim and their other sons as something sacred... They fell at the common front, on Spanish soil, and will remain for ever in our memory as examples of bravery, internationalism and heroism.

Asim Vokshi has been awarded the title of «People's Hero».



Hero of the People Vojo Kushi

VOJO KUSHI AND HIS COMRADES

In one of the streets of Tirana there is a monument which portrays a young man with a bomb in his hand, hurling himself upon a fascist tank. The monument perpetuates an heroic event, which occurred thirty-five years ago, on October 10, 1942.

The young man, Vojo Kushi, commander of partisan groups, had become the terror of the fascists. He carried out executions of fascists and spies in the cities and organized the youth in the liberation war. One day the enemy tracked him down. Vojo was in an unpretentious Tirana house, together with his two comrades, Sadik Stavaleci and Xhoxhi Martini who were also tireless in any action against the enemy.

A whole army, armed to the teeth, was deployed against the three partisans. The volleys of gunfire aroused not just the part of the city where the battle took place, but the whole of Tirana. Three against hundreds... The fight went on for six hours. The encirclement was complete. The fascists had cut off all the escape routes. Vojo, Sadik and Xhoxhi decided to fight to the last drop of their blood. The three comrades embraced in a last farewell.

Sadik and Xhoxhi were killed in the fight. Only Vojo was left. When they saw that they were not getting the better of him, the enemies set fire to the house and brought up tanks. The battle continued, but in the end Vojo ran out of ammunition. There was nothing else for it but to fight the tank, that was pouring out fire, with his bare hands. He jumped on the tank and was shot dead at the very moment when he was lifting the hatch to throw in a grenade.

ONE DAY IN THE KINDERGARTEN



This day started like all the other days in kindergarten nr. 5 of Elbasan. After saying goodbye to their parents, who are going to work, the children embrace their educators who welcome them with smiling faces.

The kindergarten is a preparatory school. Every morning 120 children come here. There are 8 educators besides the other staff, from the director to the cook and the cleaning woman, who surround the children with every care. All the year round the day here is 13 hours long: at 7 o'clock in the evening, the children return to their parents.

The time is programmed in conformity with the needs and psychology of the children, and in such a way that days vary from one another. We went there in the morning. After the children had eaten their breakfast, «the arithmetic lesson» began. Here the children acquire their first knowledge of arithmetic up to number 10. For the first time, the little ones learn that the ten fingers of the hand serve not just for eating and playing, but also for finding out that two and two make four.

At their age this is a «great discovery». Therefore like every other discovery, it fills them with joy.

The kindergarten is equipped with various toys and teaching aids. Through them and stories suitable to their age, the teachers encourage

the children to develop a logical flow of speech, how to behave in society etc.

The city of Elbasan is now known throughout Albania, as a great construction site, and first of all for the Metallurgical Combine. In the imagination of the children of this kindergarten, this combine has been extended to infinite proportions. A visit to this major project of the 6th Five-year Plan is included in the kindergarten program. There the children saw and learnt that the combine of their imagination is simply a big city with many factories and chimneys. Some of the children saw the place where their parents work. Acquaintance with the various projects, with life, occupies an important place in the program of the kindergarten. In this way they get their first knowledge about the country's past and present-day life, learn to love this present, and know they must defend it when they grow up.

At 12 o'clock the children are served lunch with a varied menu. This lively, noisy hour is followed by two hours of quiet when the children go to sleep. The dormitories shine with cleanliness.

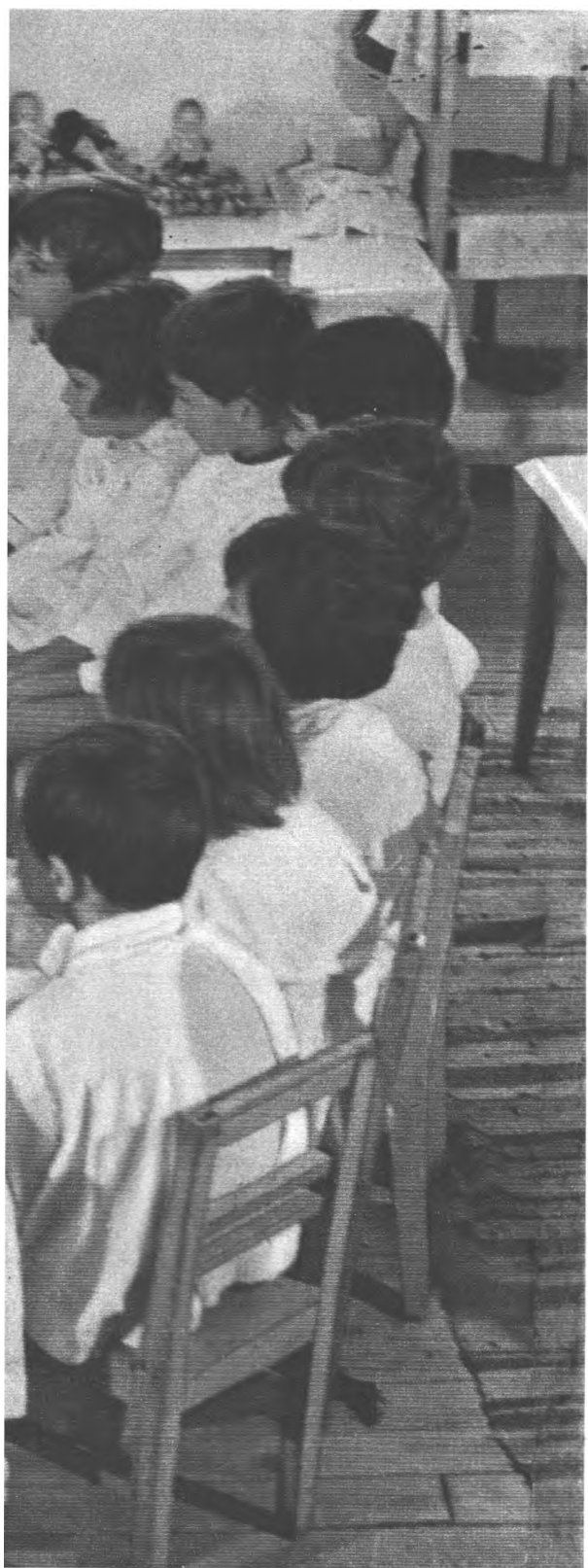
The afternoon hours are free hours. The children play with their favourite toys. In the course of the afternoon hours, a trained and

attentive eye may discern not only the desires but also the inclinations of the children: some play with carpenter's tools, some with those of a mechanic... Many of them are busy drawing even in their free hours. Hung here and there on the walls of their rooms one sees the children's drawings in coloured crayon. Some of them are displayed in the children's exhibitions organized by the Pioneer's house of the city.

Usually the afternoon hours echo with the children's songs and dances. The kindergarten's artistic groups perform outside these walls too. It often happens that the first promise of talent in this field is discovered here.

The kindergarten's experimental plot has many admirers. There the children get to know the plants. Almost every day during the warm weather the children may be seen tending the plants they have planted, together with their teachers. Watering flowers is one of children's favourite occupations.

This was only one day in that kindergarten. Tomorrow you may meet these children in some museum, on a walk outside the city, gathered round a veteran who has come to tell them about the stormy years, or clustered around a hero of Socialist Labour talking to them about the great work of construction.



Photos B. Fusha.



IN THE GALLERY
OF FIGURATIVE ARTS

Fatmir Haxhiu: «BOUNTEOUS SUMMER» (oil), 220 x 200 cm;





Niko Proгри:
«NEWS OF THE MORNING»
 (oil), 132 x 102 cm.



Arben Basha:
«MOUNTAIN LANDSCAPE»
 (oil), 60 x 70 cm.



Fresh air and evergreens. In the picture: Partial view of our capital, Tirana.
Photo: S. Xhillari

HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Among the main measures for the prevention of disease, a primary place belongs to those concerned with providing a healthy environment in which man lives and works. The cleaner this environment, the more it is freed from harmful biological, physical, chemical, and climatic factors, the better man can protect and strengthen his health.

People are obliged to be in contact with the air, soil and water. But in these three main natural elements there are biological organisms and physical and chemical elements which may be harmful to the health. For example the air contains microorganisms which cause diseases, substances which may provoke allergies, (dust, pollens, moulds), it is polluted by the carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, vapours of lead, hydrogen, sulphide, chlorine, etc. Soil, too, contains parasites and bacteria, various poisons from production waste, pesticides etc. Water may be polluted by decomposing organic substances, by poisonous heavy metals, by many microorganisms which cause epidemic

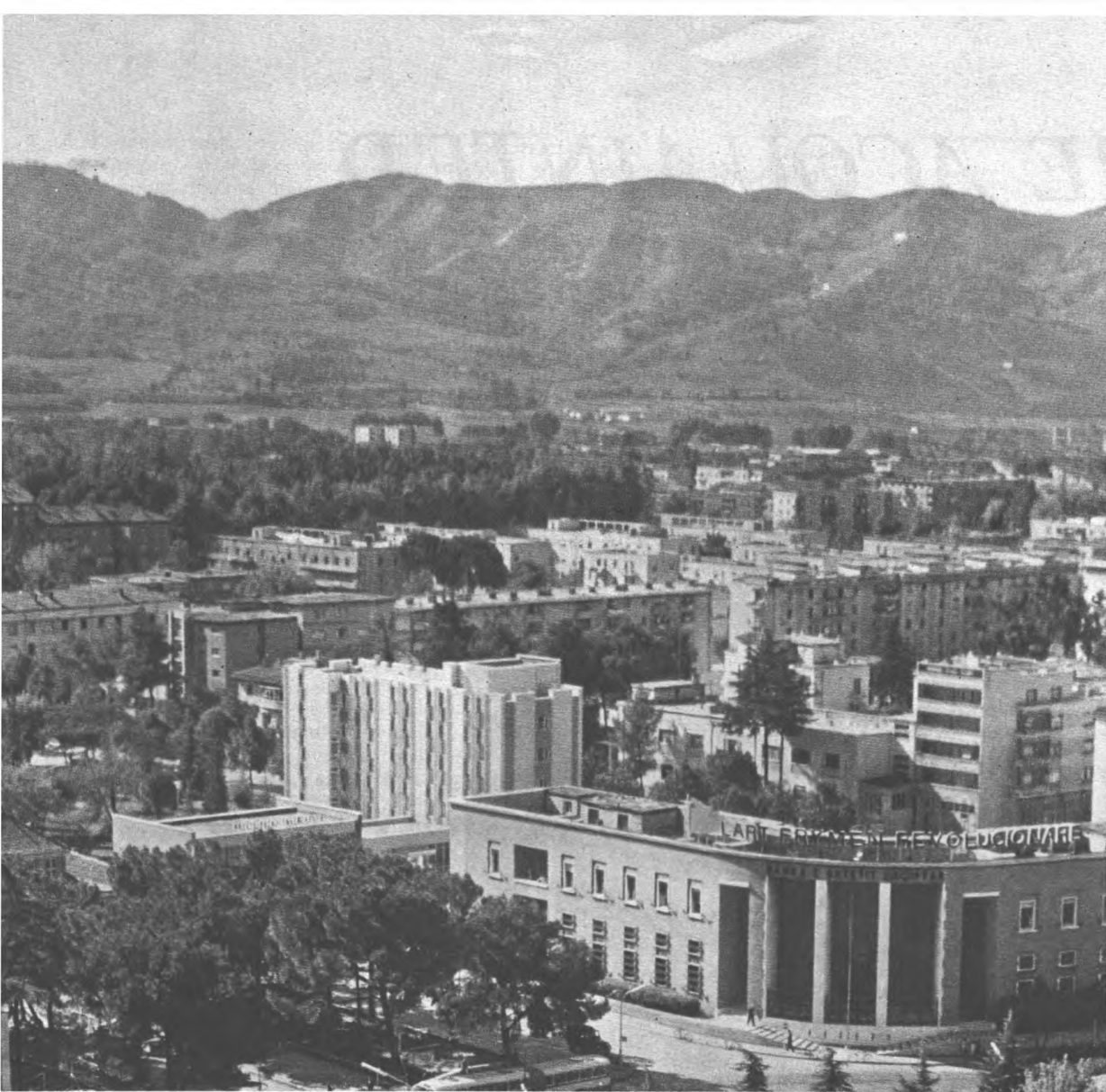
diseases such as salmonellosis, hepatitis, typhoid fever, etc. Sources of drinking water, fountains and wells may be easily polluted when not protected in compliance with the regulations laid down, the waters of rivers, lakes and the sea are polluted by the indiscriminate discharge of industrial waste, the discharge of sewage, from cities, ships, etc.

Bearing in mind these many factors which may be harmful to health, the great importance of establishing an appropriate ecological equilibrium between the man and environment is easily understood. All the social and health measures taken in our country since liberation (1944) to this day to clean up and protect the environment from pollution have served this. Before liberation, because of generally bad conditions of hygiene in both town and countryside, especially the latter, infectious diseases headed the list of incidence of disease. Whereas today, as a result of the all-round progress in our country and thanks to the continuous improvement of living conditions, including

conditions of hygiene, infectious diseases have undergone a considerable reduction and they now occupy seventh place in the list of incidence of diseases.

Having been raised to a constitutional norm, the problem of the protection of the environment from pollution has become obligatory for all. Therefore any inhibitory concept that since the protection of the environment from pollution has to do with health, it is the task of the organs and workers of health service, only, to follow up this problem and take the respective legal measures, is being done away with.

Good work is being done, also, to clear up the idea that is sometimes expressed, that allegedly the pollution of environment is caused mainly by gaseous, liquid or solid industrial waste and if proper measures are taken against these things, then everything will be right. This too is a narrow concept of the problem. A great deal of work is being done to implant the understanding that there is a potential danger of pollution of the environment everywhere in and around dwellings, the places where people work and rest, if the standards of hygiene and sanitation are not respected by everyone. To this end, special attention and importance is being given to health education, for the people, so that everyone will be very concerned to maintain a clean environment where he lives and works and thus contribute actively to protecting the cleanliness of the whole surrounding environment. This is the aim of the initiatives and efforts that are being undertaken continually throughout the country, both in the towns and the villages, to improve the local hygiene. All the mass organizations, the schools, the army, the



Fier have been made, the concentrations of gases, harmful vapours and dusts that pollute the environment (in the oil enterprises, copper plants and the Metallurgical Combine) have been reduced to permissible levels, studies on the methods of handling and utilization of off-cuts and remnants have been made.

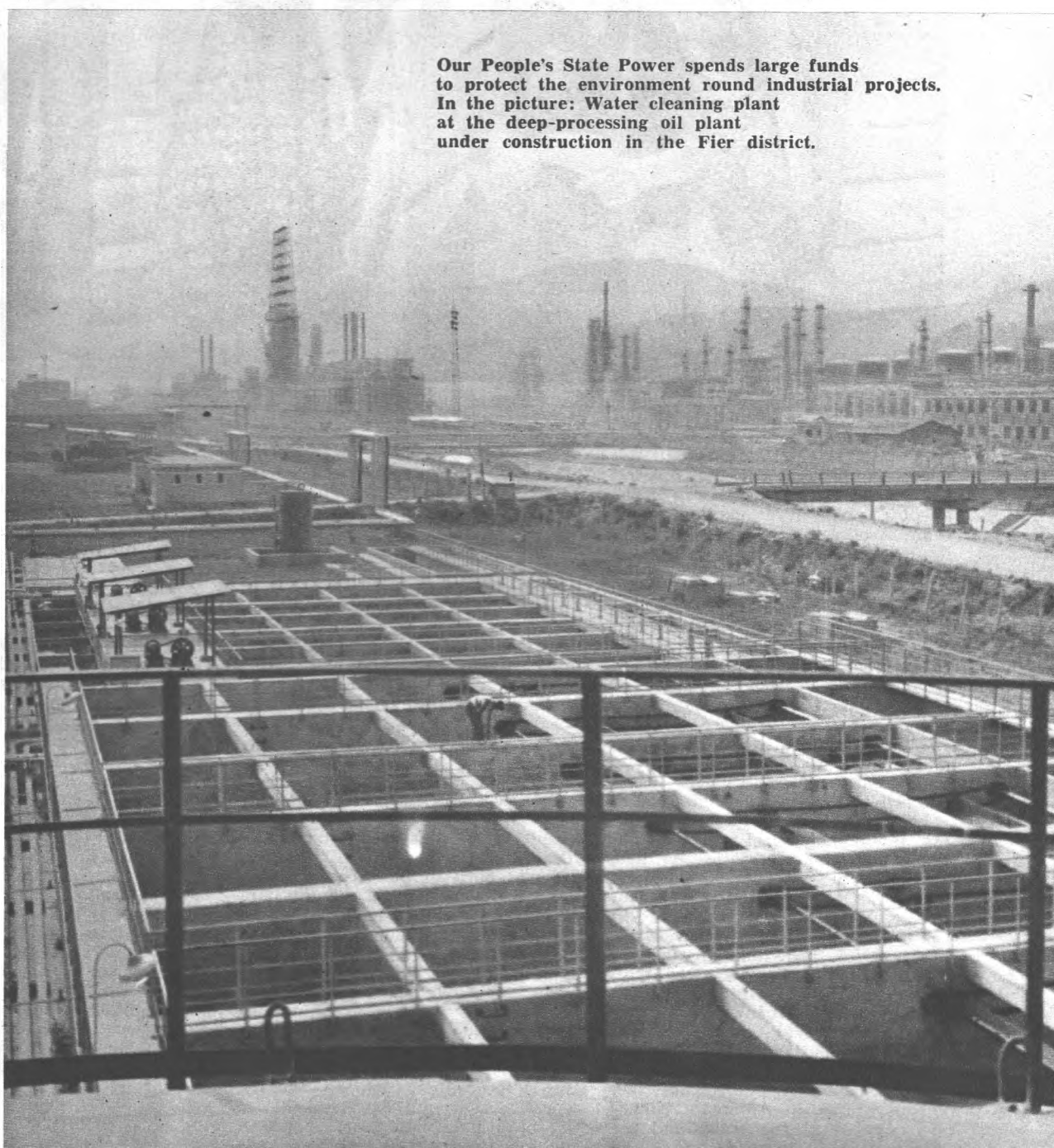
Over the past four years, since the Presidium of the People's Assembly issued the respective decree, all the central government departments and institutions, executive committees of district people's councils, all kinds of economic enterprises, the agricultural cooperatives, and social-cultural institutions have taken a series of measures for the protection of the environment from pollution and good results have been achieved.

Combined studies by the specialized health organs and institutions and those of other interested departments have begun. To this end, the ministries and central institutions are taking all measures to set up laboratories, and ensure their full efficiency in connection with the analyses of pollutants discharged into the surrounding area. From this angle, special attention is paid to important problems of occupational hygiene in order to recognize and combat the causes of occupational diseases concentrating on harmful factors as dust, toxic substances, smoke, vapours, noise, etc. The doctors of the outpatient service, and especially those of the work centres and villages are playing an important role in this.

social-cultural institutions have made and are making a fine contribution in this direction.

However, although the work to convince and educate people is the foundation of the work for keeping a clean environment, our health legislation, which sanctions a series of norms that are obligatory to all occupies a very important place. For about 25 years now the organs of the health service, armed with such powers as the law on the health inspection service, have had the hygiene and sanitation of the work and residential centres under continuous supervision, and when they have found flagrant violations of the sanitation standards, they have taken the appropriate measures of compulsion.

In comparison with other countries of Europe, we can say that our country has a generally clean environment. But bearing in mind the great and vigorous development of our industry and other sectors of the economy, the possibilities for pollution of it are increasing. Under these circumstances, protection of the environment, especially from the various industrial discharges into the air, soil and water, is no light task. Often considerable funds must be invested in order to make these discharges harmless. Our state spares nothing to implement the necessary measures for the protection of the environment by ensuring the necessary anti-pollution means and equipment in the industrial projects. During recent years a series of studies have been carried out in this field to discover and define the sectors of production which influence the pollution of the environment with liquid, gaseous and solid substances. Accurate analyses of the physical and chemical qualities of industrial waters discharged into the rivers of Tirana, Berat,



Our People's State Power spends large funds to protect the environment round industrial projects. In the picture: Water cleaning plant at the deep-processing oil plant under construction in the Fier district.

«WE BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH THE LAND OF OUR ANCESTORS»

In August this year, a group of Arbëresh students and their professor Francesco Solano, of the Faculty of Philosophy and Literature of the University of Cosenza (Italy), paid a visit to our country. During their stay in Albania, they visited many cities, factories and agricultural cooperatives. Before their departure from Albania, our correspondent interviewed the members of the group. The conversation was conducted in the Albanian language.



A group of Arbëreshi students of the University of Cosenza (Italy). Amongst them Prof. Francesco Solano.

Professor FRANCESCO SOLANO: I was born in the Arbëresh village of Frasnita (Frascineto) in 1914. I am Arbëresh in origin from both my parents. I attended elementary school in my birthplace, Frasnita, general secondary school in the city of Alessandria, and graduated from the Faculty of Literature at the University of Rome. For a long time I have worked as a teacher of the Albanian language. The chair of Albanian language was opened in the 1975-76 academic year in the Faculty of Philosophy and Literature at the University of Cosenza, where I work as a professor. I learned Albanian as a child, because, as I told you, it's my mother-tongue. In 1975 I published a book of stories entitled, «Tales from the Threshing-Floor», while this year, a volume of poems entitled «At the Door» came off the press. I have also published the grammar of the Albanian language (1972), which is used at the University where I work, and «The Guide to the Albanian Language» (1974). Normally I use the nom de plume, Dushko Vetmo. In 1975 I republished Santoris' work, in July 1976 I started to publish the magazine «Vija» in Albanian. Now I am engaged in the study and publication of a number of Santo-

ri's works. This is the second time I have come to Albania.

The University of Cosenza was opened in 1972. Amongst the 3,500 students, 300 are Arbëresh.

The Chair of Albanian is included in the language department of the Faculty of Philosophy and Literature. Its aim is the teaching and use of the present-day Albanian language and the training of teachers for the secondary schools. At present, this Chair, in collaboration with the Arbëresh students, is preparing a linguistic atlas.

FRANCESCO ALTIMARI — student of the fourth year in the Faculty of Philosophy and Literature at the University of Cosenza.

I was born in the Arbëresh village of St. Miter. My parents are Arbëresh by origin, thus Albanian is my mother-tongue. In order to master it better I have attended special courses. The opening of the Chair of Albanian in our faculty is giving us further assistance in this direction.

The theme I have chosen for my diploma thesis is «Albania of the 15th century in the literary works of Jeronim De Rada.»

I have published some poems in the magazine «Vija», which is pu-

blished in Cosenza, and in the Albanian paper «Drita». I have also published some articles on several authors of Arbëresh folk poetry in the magazine «Zjarri», which has been published in our community, in Italian and Arbëresh since 1969.

SICILIANO GIUSEPE KARLO — student of the second year of the Faculty of Philosophy and Literature. For me, as for the 11 other students of the University of Cosenza who are here, this is the first visit to Albania. We have visited many cities, factories, agricultural cooperatives, museums. Therefore, we have acquainted ourselves with the past and the present of Albania. Two things have pleased me especially: the level of organization and the fact that here there is no differentiation between people.

In our villages, we preserve the traditions of our ancestors. Every village has its own folklore group which is continually rejuvenated with young boys and girls. Apart from ancient songs, they have also adopted poems by Arbëresh poets.

In the village of Frasnita, a celebration is held every year on the occasion of one of Scanderbeg's victories over the Turks. On these

occasions traditional dances are performed in the main square. Then comes what you could call, the parade of the fighters, headed by a man representing Scanderbeg. He and his fighters wear white «qeleshe» (brimless felt hats).

In some villages, wedding ceremonies, too, are organized in the traditional way; with flags, family representatives, etc. Every Arbëresh village has named its main street after Scanderbeg. In St. Miter and Unger, there are statues of the national hero, while in the college of St. Miter there is a bust of De Rada. These have been brought from Albania.

As you can see, on account of all these things, our visit to Albania is an important and unforgettable event for us.

ANA-KAZOLARO — I am a student of the fourth year of the same faculty. I was born in the village of St. Miter but I have lived mostly in Italian villages. I learned Albanian six years ago. My ardent desire has been to learn my mother-tongue as perfectly as possible, therefore, my studies at the university to deepen my knowledge in this direction will not end with my graduation. Radio Scander-

beg, which was opened on the 1st of January this year in St. Miter, is helping me to master the Albanian language. Many of its broadcasts are in the Albanian language. I work there as an announcer.

When I learned that I was going to visit Albania, I was overcome with emotion.

MARIA ANITA BABA — For me, as a child of Arbëresh parents, Albanian is my first language. I am overjoyed with my visit to Albania. Apart from anything else, it has helped me to gain first-hand knowledge of the present-day Albanian language. I want to express my most sincere thanks to all who helped us come to Albania.

ENRIKO SARPA — The Albanian language, the songs, dances, games and tales my mother has told us have not allowed our love for Albania die.

The visit of the Albanian artistic group to our country, was an outstanding event for me and for all other residents of Arbëresh origin. Never before had so many thousands of Arbëresh gathered together as on that occasion. It was very moving for all of us who still preserve the Albanian language and culture. But our visit to Albania will be even more unforgettable.

ANA MARIA TROTA — Albanian is my mother-tongue. Although, like the others I went through elementary and secondary school in the Italian language, my university studies (I am a second year student) are helping me to learn the language of my parents better.

Before I came here I had a more or less gloomy image of Albania. My coming here has changed that opinion. I saw a very good situation in Albania. We visited Gjirokastra, Fier, Saranda, Kruja, Tirana, Durrës, Shkodra and everywhere we were warmly welcomed and we are very pleased.

FIGORELA MILANESE — I was born in the Arbëresh village of Vakarijo Albanese. My mother is an Arbëresh. Now I am a fourth year student and the theme I have chosen for my diploma work is about the problems of the Albanian language, with which we grew up. During our visit in Albania, (and I am immensely pleased with this) we have seen many things. Kruja has left the greatest impression on me. Perhaps, this because of the connection of this city with the name of Scanderbeg, the name we have heard first, and about which, our mothers have told us their first stories.

MARIO KALABRIA — My father is of Arbëresh origin. I was born in the village of Çerzeto, but when I was a little child the family moved to Cosenza.

In Albania I was impressed by the hospitality and by the fact that people live well. During the visits, I was especially impressed by the Scanderbeg museum in Kruja and by the «Museum of Arms» in Gjirokastra. I want this visit to be a starting point for closer contacts in the future.

SANTA ROSELI — I have had closer contacts with Albania because, during the time I was attending secondary school in Milan, I was active in the Italy-Albania Friendship Association. I became acquainted with many aspects of its life; including Albanian literature (Migjeni is my favourite). Besides this, I visited Albania for

the first time in 1974 with a group from that branch of the Association. That time too, we visited many cities and workplaces. We learned a great deal about the control by the working class. Now, three years later, after making many visits together with my colleagues, I see that Albania has advanced even further. This is interesting from both the political-economic and the social viewpoints.

I hope that Albania will always keep its heart red.

ANA MARI PATITUÇI — For me as a person with the self-imposed aim of preserving the language and traditions of my ancestors, this visit to Albania is a very important event, because I am the first of my family to return to the country of our forefathers for 500 years. Kruja has remained as our symbol. That is why it impressed me so deeply. During visits to factories and agricultural cooperatives, I was impressed by the level of organization of the work, while as a person who is interested in language, the fact that in the Albanian spoken here I have come across many words which were formerly used among the Arbëresh, attracted my attention.

MARIA SAVERIA MOLINARO — I am from the village of Kavalerio. I graduated from the university this year. My parents are both Arbëresh by origin. Indeed I have often heard that my mother is from the village called Golem. So, I am the happiest of the six members of my family because I have had the chance to come to Albania.

I have been extremely pleased with the warmth and hospitality in Albania. The people are united and working all for one and one for all.

I have set myself the task of learning my mother tongue well. I say this because we are not really familiar with many specialized professional terms. I have bought several books, in order to extend the bounds of my knowledge of Albanian professional language.

I am very keen on handicrafts. As such I like many of your handicrafts in which I see elements in common with ours. From this point of view the ethnographical exhibition in Tirana made an indelible impression on me.

GIUSEPPE KAKOXA — For me too, our coming to Albania has been a great joy because we became acquainted with the Motherland of our ancestors.

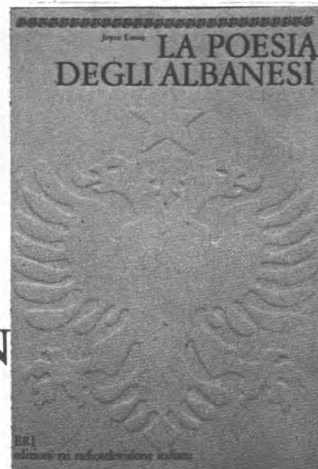
During our stay here I have learned things which I had never imagined before. The fact that there is no differentiation between the people impressed me. To give you a concrete example: Our Albanian guide is a man who is engaged in studies. He ranks with professors who engage in linguistic studies, but he was so friendly with us that it seemed as if we had grown up together.

1) *The Arbëreshi are displaced Albanians, who emigrated to Italy in the 15th century.*

2) *Antonio Santori (1813-1894) — Arbëresh writer.*

3) *Jeronim De Rada (1813-1903) — Arbëresh writer, one of the central figures of Albanian literature.*

A BOOK ON ALBANIAN POETRY IN ITALY



Recently, a volume of poems by some of our authors, entitled «The Poetry of the Albanians» (La poesia degli albanesi) prepared by **Joyce Lussu**, was published by the ERI publishing House, in Italy.

The volume includes 40 selected verses and poems from the work of Migjeni, Aleks Çaçi, Lllazar Siliqi, Fatos Arapi, Dritëro Agolli and Ismail Kadare.

The volume also includes a long introduction written by Joyce Lussu, which starts with a short description of the origin of the people and the history of Albania. This description stresses our people's great capacity for resistance to every enemy and occupier with savage aims of denationalization and extermination, beginning from the Illyrians down to our days, with the preservation of the language, customs and specific character of the Albanian nation.

Speaking about Albanian folk poetry, the author gives a brief presentation of it, from the earliest legends to verses from the National Liberation Anti-fascist War, where it began to see the close connection of cultivated poetry with folk poetry, the utilization of the finest poetic heritage of our people by the first poets of socialist realism.

Following a brief biography of each of the authors included in this volume, Joyce Lussu speaks about the incomparably greater possibilities which the Party of Labour of Albania has created for our writers, about their close links with the readers, the broad masses, who are, at the same time, the judges of the value of the work of art.

Speaking about the close ties of the artist with the masses, of their mutual benefit, the author writes:

«By continually discussing the works of writers and artists in general, many workers become artists and writers themselves. Apart from professional artists, who dedicate most of their time to poetry and art, there are innumerable amateur groups, which engage in artistic activities in their leisure time, everywhere in Albania».

The fact that the writer or artist in socialist Albania is completely free from any kind of commercialism, the fact that he is creating for the people, conscious of his social duty without being impelled by narrow financial motives, as he is in the bourgeois-revisionist countries, has especially impressed the author who writes:

«In our country (Italy), the poet is an isolated individual. The book is offered to the publisher like any other market commodity, the value of which is measured solely on the basis of the profits from the copies sold. To be able to create, the writer is obliged to submit to the laws of the market thus becoming a dealer of his own wares from which, he too, expects a profit. But in Albania it is different. There, like every other worker who produces material blessings, the writer is considered a citizen who creates useful things in the service of the society to which he belongs, without being subject to any law of the market».

In regard to boundless possibilities for creative work by the writers and artists in our country, the author lays particular emphasis on the favourable conditions which the Party and State have created for our art workers in all directions, down to the organization of literary circles and artistic groups, as centres and inexhaustible reservoirs of new talents, in which workers, peasants, students, army men, etc., who desire to express their feelings and thoughts in art and literature, take part.

Recently too, the Italian publisher, Pier Luigi Rebelato, published in the column «Foreign Poets», the poem, «On What Are These Mountains Meditating», (A Che Pensano Queste Montagne), translated by Maurizio Caprile. The poem was accompanied by drawings by various artists.

«THROUGH THE ANNALS OF BRITISH DIPLOMACY»

Arben Puto's book «Through the Annals of British Diplomacy» was published last year.

The author researched the British archives during 1972. Because the records up to 1944 were available, he centred all this attention on the documents about Albania on the eve of and during the Second World War, and especially on the documents dealing with the National Liberation War of the Albanian people. The result of his work is the above mentioned book which, although, quite small, (it contains 222 pages in small format) presents much interest not only to our historians, but also to those of other countries, who specialize in the problems of the Second World War. Thus, apart from the documents taken from German archives some years ago, our historians now have at their disposal a great number of documents from British archives.

It should be pointed out here that the Albanian people themselves, with the communists at the head, made the history of their liberation war. The archives of that war, in both the figurative and the concrete sense, are found in Albania. However, it is not without interest to know how this war was seen by the other side, what were the problems it caused the enemies, the measures the enemies took in the field of concrete military operations, as well as in that of political action; what were the stand of various chancellories in regard to our country. From this angle the plans of British diplomacy have great importance while about the plans of the fascist powers, there is little more to be known, because they were implemented in practice. After a detailed study of the archival material, Arben Puto gives a vivid picture of the plans and activity of British diplomacy in that period, which were none other than the old ones for the partition of Albania. He also brings out the way British diplomacy had to evolve, the more the flame, kindled in Tirana on November 8, 1941 by comrade Enver Hoxha with the foundation of the Communist Party of Albania, extended throughout the whole country ruining the plans of British diplomacy, one after another.

The author is a good guide competent to lead us round the dark twists and turns of the labyrinths of the Foreign Office.

The stand of the Western democracies, concerning the Italian fascist aggression of April, 7, 1939 against Albania is already known. Also known are their efforts, up to the declaration of war in September that year, to turn the fascist military machine against Soviet Union, which continued also during what was called «the phoney war». In these efforts British diplomacy, devoted special attention to Mussolini's Italy. The duplicity, hypocrisy and machiavelianism of British diplomacy, emerges very clearly in the archival documents. Although at war with Mussolini's Italy, British diplomacy held, or rather thought it held, Albania in its hand as a token to be bartered over, to be awarded to, or rather left, in the hands of Italy,

or to be partitioned among neighbouring states. In the plans, the person of the former king Zog, a complete nonentity in himself, and the way he is treated, sometimes as a private person, sometimes as a mercenary, and sometimes again, as a possible political card, already beaten, but one that might be played again, throws light on two aspects: on that of the British plans towards Albania and on the «consideration», which the Foreign Office, and no doubt the other chancellories, too, had for the person whom the Western press called «the Comic Opera King». A. Puto has divided his study into two main parts. The first gives an extensive and detailed presentation of the whole diplomatic aspect of the Albanian problem, with all its scenes, and especially, the behind-the-scenes deals of the British diplomacy. The second part deals with the question of the British military missions in Albania during the National Liberation War and the new developments in British policy. This part begins with the chapter entitled «The beginnings of the espionage activities of the military missions». The activity of British missions in Albania is one aspect that strikes the eye in the British documents. But the other aspect is the activity of British diplomacy at all levels. From a country of no interest to Britain in 1939, Albania gradually becomes of great interest during the development of the Anti-fascist National Liberation War. This is apparent, not only in the number of documents of the Foreign Office, which become ever more voluminous, but even more in the direct involvement of the highest representatives of «his British majesty's diplomacy and government» in the Albanian question. In this way we see here an indirect proof of the dimensions of our National Liberation War and its impact on the world. Our Party knew not only how to guide the people in this war with a sure hand, to defeat the foreign occupiers and internal enemies and to foil the plans of the allied power, Britain, for the partitioning of Albania, but also how to impose recognition of this war at international level.

When the British diplomacy saw that the liberation war of the Albanian people could not be contained, its main concern became the overthrow of the National Liberation Front, the overthrow of the democratic government set up in the mountains of Albania, and to bring to power somebody else, perhaps even Zog, although this card had already been trumped. To this end there was no lack of effort, either through pressure, the activity of secret agents, or diplomatic pressure at the international level. But both English diplomacy and all the other enemies of new Albania were defeated.

Arben Puto: «Through the Annals of British diplomacy». Published by the «8 Nëntori» Publishing House, Tirana, 1976, (222 pages).

THE ALBANIAN GUILDS

(15th - 16th century)

In the series of scientific monographs of historiography, the latest study of the historian Zija Shkodra occupies an important place. It is a study which presents in this first place, a synthesis of his scientific research over many years about the associations of Albanian craftsmen-guilds, in the second place, the evolution of urban life and the Albanian market during the many centuries of Turkish rule.

From the introduction, the author undertakes the task of throwing light on the material culture of the Albanian people, through a thorough investigation and detailed analysis of a rich fund of source material and bibliographies drawn, first of all, from the local archives and then from those of Western Europe and Turkey, and based, also, on a sound background of the oral tradition of the country as well as on a bibliography from ancient times to the most recent period. These extensive historiographic sources have provided the author, Zija Shkodra, with a powerful documentary basis to criticize the anti-scientific and anti-Albanian distortions of the European and Balkan bourgeois historiography, old and new, and the modern bourgeois authors about the so-called incapacity of the Albanian people for productive labour, about their nomadic shepherd character, their mercenary features, and other such falsifications of the historical-social reality of the Albanian people. The detailed treatment of the main problems of the guilds in this monograph, enables one to create a clear picture of the creative and productive genius of the urban masses, whose wide range of products occupied a place of honour not only in the home market but also in many foreign markets in Europe, Asia and Africa. This extensive monograph is useful to many branches of the social sciences, making a valuable contribution to defining the political-class forces of Albanian society during the above mentioned period.

The monograph contains an introduction to the problem about the historiographic criticism of the questions dealt with; four chapters: 1. «The situation of the Albanian towns during the 15th-16th cent», 2. «The organization and structure of the Albanian guilds», 3. «The functions of the guilds», 4. «The development of the home market. The declined and complete destruction of Albanian guilds»; general conclusions, the main sources and bibliography, the index of names, the French translation of the introduction of this book, and a very rich fund of illustrations with 16th century engravings and photos from 19th and 20th centuries which have made the monograph more understandable and attractive not only to the expert but also to the ordinary reader.

Zija Shkodra, «The Albanian Guilds» (15th-16th cent), published by the Academy of Sciences (Institute of History), p. 390.

CONCERTS OF MELODIES AND SONGS OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE

From August 19 to September 3 this year, the folk instruments orchestra of the People's Republic of China Radio, made a tour and gave a number of performances in various districts of our country. The orchestra came at the invitation of the Ministry of Education and Culture and the General Directorate of Albanian Radio-Television.

The Ensemble was outstanding for its harmonic unity and artistic discipline, its inspired and lively interpretation, its original national tone and professional skill.

These qualities reflected in the interpretations both of the instrumental pieces and of the songs which were performed with professional mastery with a logical flow of musical variations, with colour and temperament.

A good part of the program of the concerts was occupied by instrumental performances. Among other things, one is impressed by the ability of the instrumentalists whether jointly or as soloists, to express the national individuality of the respective pieces performed. This is not accidental. Chinese art with its ancient traditions has always aimed at preserving and developing its finest national features. It has also aimed to be as close as possible to the rich



folklore of its country. Relying on this experience extending over many years, the folk instruments orchestra of the People's Republic of China Radio also bases itself on the rich folklore and popular music, as the concerts they gave showed.

At the same time, the concerts were admirable for their variety of genres and themes. While listening to the works performed our audiences also admired the wide range of folk instruments. On the basis of this range of instruments, a number of musical formations have been constructed, including the whole instrumental orchestra, the string orchestra, etc., of an

outstanding artistic level, both in group performances and in accompanying vocal or instrumental soloists.

The program included items from the different provinces and nationalities which further enhanced the artistic richness of the concerts.

The warmth of the response of our art-loving public to the concerts by the folk instruments orchestra of the PR of China Radio testifies to the respect our people have for the culture and art of the talented Chinese people, and contributes to strengthening the feelings of revolutionary friendship of the two peoples.

THE GREEK ARTISTIC ENSEMBLE «MARINELLA» IN ALBANIA

Upon the invitation of the Albanian Committee for Cultural and Friendly Relations with Foreign Countries, the Greek artistic ensemble «Marinella», stayed in our country from the 12-19th of August and gave a number of performances in various cities of Albania.

The performances given by this ensemble are part of the cultural exchanges between our two neighbouring countries.

Our art-loving public who have great respect and appreciation for the efforts of other peoples to preserve and strengthen their national culture in struggle against tendencies of the two superpowers to encourage cosmopolitanism and assimilation, warmly applauded the interpretations which preserve the originality and beauty of the Greek national and folk songs. The folk songs as well as creations like «The boys of Piroeus» etc., which were interpreted full of feeling and warmth, by the talented singer Marinella, opened up to our audiences the rich poetical spirit of the Greek people, the joyful and optimistic tones of folk festivals, the beautiful blue skies and



clear waters of the Mediterranean.

The best Greek music, going back through the ages, like all the progressive and democratic culture of this talented people, has been cultivated and developed century after century, on the basis of sound national and folk traditions. The rich Greek folklore itself, presents special interest, both for the ancient traditions preserved in it and links with the culture of antiquity, and for its valuable aesthetic and educational values.

In general, the ensemble was outstanding for the precision of its execution and for the well-studied musical structure of the

songs. This enabled our audiences to feel the musical thought embodied in the Greek folk songs, through their emotions.

The evening of Albanian poetry and the Albanian Film Week organized in Athens last year, the evening of the Greek poetry which was held recently by the League of Albanian Writers and Artists, the tour of the «Marinella» ensemble etc., help our two neighbouring peoples to know each other and their art and culture better, to respect and appreciate each other's traditions and customs. These culture exchanges serve to strengthen the friendship between our two neighbouring peoples.

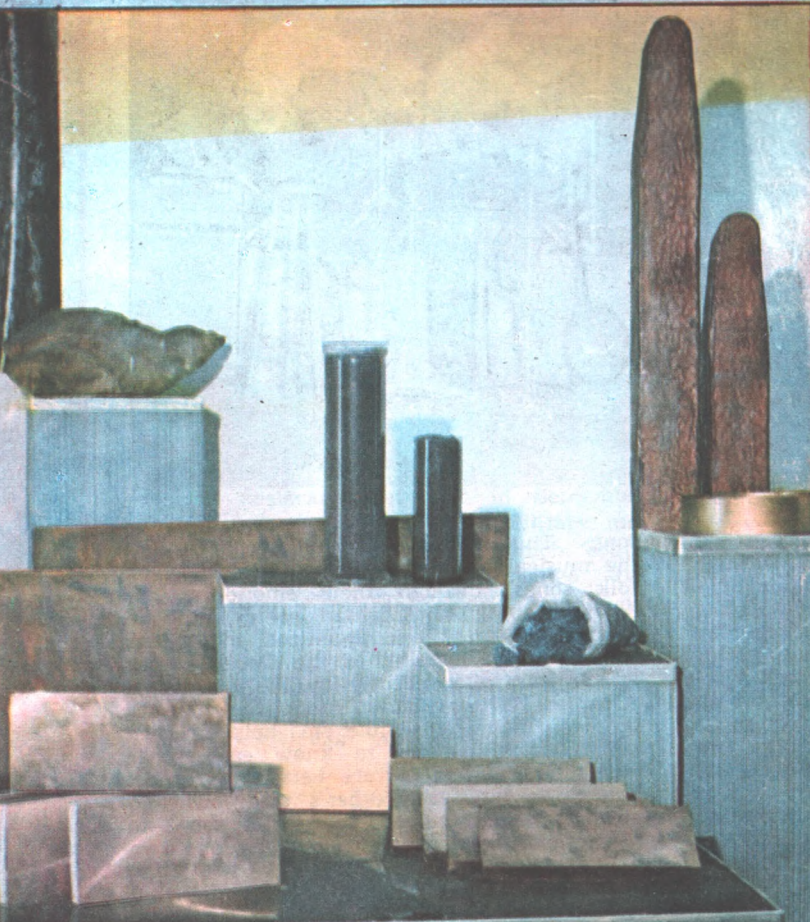
ALBANIAN MINERALS



**MINERAL
K R O M I**



**MINERAL
B A K R I**



**SHKRIFERIME
MINERALE TE
RENDA**



MINERAL HEKUR - NIKEL

Chromium, copper and ferrous-nickel ores.

Copper ore and products.

Smelting heavy minerals.

Manganite, nickel silicate and titanomagnetite.

Marble, ornamental stone.

Building ores.

ALBANIA IS RICH IN MINERALS. DURING THE YEARS OF OUR PEOPLE'S STATE POWER UNINTERRUPTED STUDIES HAVE BEEN AND ARE BEING CONDUCTED TO DISCOVER THEM AND MANY MINES HAVE BEEN OPENED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

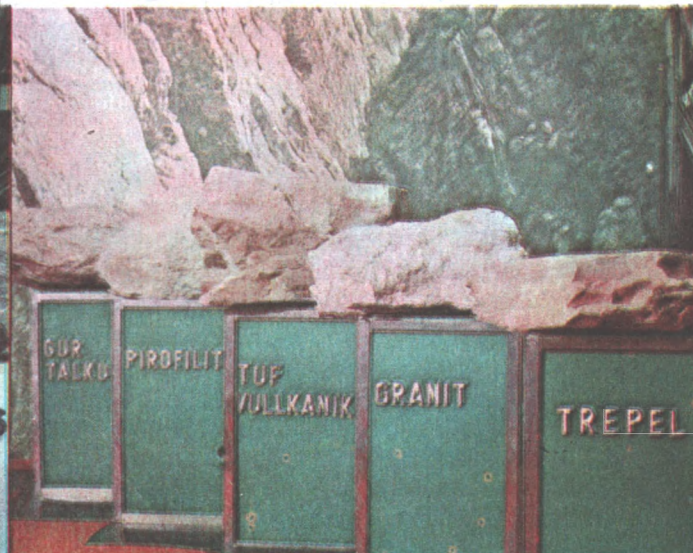
FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO CHROMIUM, COPPER AND FERROUS-NICKEL.

ALBANIAN CHROMIUM IS CONSIDERED A MINERAL OF HIGH CONTENT OF USEFUL COMPONENTS AND OTHER FAVORABLE QUALITIES FOR SMELTING. IN ORDER TO ENRICH IT A PLANT HAS BEEN SET UP FOR THAT PURPOSE AND OTHER SIMILAR PLANTS ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. A MODERN PLANT IS ALSO UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR SMELTING IT.

COPPER IS ALL PROCESSED BY OUR INDUSTRY. OUR COPPER PRODUCTS ARE OF A HIGH QUALITY AND FIND READY MARKETS ABROAD.

A METALLURGICAL COMPLEX IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN ELBASAN FOR PROCESSING THE FERROUS-NICKEL ORE. THE PLANT TO SMELT BOG IRON AND STEEL HAS ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED AND HAS BEEN PUT INTO OPERATION IN THIS COMPLEX. WHEN THE COMPLEX WILL BE FULLY COMPLETED AND PUT INTO OPERATION MOST OF THE ALBANIAN FERROUS-NICKEL ORE WILL BE PROCESSED IN OUR COUNTRY.

IN ADDITION TO THESE, ALBANIA IS ALSO RICH IN BITUMEN, SEASIDE SAND, MARBLE AND OTHER MINERALS WHICH STAND OUT FOR THEIR GOOD QUALITY.





THE CINEMA

«THE FALL OF IDOLS»

by LUAN DIBRA

Two men are toiling over a difficult, seemingly endless path, winding dangerously above icy precipices, through the mountains under a heavy mantle of snow. The young Highlander, Martin Cami, is guiding the idealistic and patriotic teacher, Naim, to a village in the Highlands of Kalca. For the first time a teacher is going to that poor forgotten, remote village ringed by mountain crags like some extinct volcanic crater.

...The period 1938-1939, the final years of the feudal regime of King Zog. This regime has striven to keep the people under its domination, not only through threats and terror, but also through hunger and especially, ignorance. To assist it, in this remote village, as everywhere else, it has the representative of religion, father Engjëll, a cynical

and cunning man; the brutal despotic local chief, a defender of the system; the illiterate headman; and the ignorant and cruel gendarme, a blind tool of the regime.

This horde of enemies of the people try to keep the Highlanders in subjection, not only by means of the prison and the noose, but also by means of prejudices and savage customs, religious dogma and hunger. Hence the coming of the teacher to the village, disturbs them greatly. When they hear about the decision of the teacher and many poor, but honest Highlanders to set up the school, the priest and the chief leave no stone unturned to hinder it, and if need be, to do away with the patriotic and progressive teacher. Not only do the state and its officials in that region not give any material aid for the

establishment of the school, but during the night, and supported by the priest, they destroy the walls of the school built by the inhabitants, spreading the rumour that this has been done by ghosts. But the Highlanders, represented by Kalosh and his son, who enjoy the respect of the village and the entire region, for their courage, patriotism and honesty, rise in defence of the school and the teacher. By day the Highlanders build the walls, and by night they defend them. Unable to stop the commencement of lessons, the priest cunningly seeks to take over the running of the school and the spiritual guidance and education of the children. But once again the teacher refuses. For him the question of education is closely linked with

the question of awakening the people, who are brutally oppressed and exploited by the clergy, the local chief and the King, with the question of social and spiritual emancipation and the creation of a life and society based on more justice.

An endless intrigue is hatched up in a diabolical collaboration between the priest and the chief. Its aim is to split the inhabitants of the Highlands of Kalca, to turn them against the teacher, the brave Highlander, Kalosh Cani, and the other honest people of the region. The Church and state authorities need such a struggle now also, because they are preparing to serve a new master: the Italian occupier. The fascists, too, are interested in keeping the people down by the same means: threats, hunger, igno-

THE JOYOUS LANDSCAPE OF ALBANIA

Notes of a Geographer

ALEKSANDËR QEMAL VLORA¹⁾



Two frames from the feature film «The Fall of Idols», one of the newest productions of the «New Albania» Film Studio.



Aleksandër Qemal Vlora with his wife.

On the road to Shkodra, as soon as you cross Hoti Pass, in the north of Albania, you immediately get the impression that you are facing a construction site where work is going on at full speed. This impression is reinforced the deeper you go into Albanian territory.

Through the plains, through the river valleys, wide or small, through the terraced hills and mountains sides, there is not an inch of arable land which has not been planted. The crops of maize and sunflower alternate with crops of wheat, vineyards, tobacco, cotton, fruit trees etc., going on and on. In certain places there is a more or less evident concentration of the one crop, the agricultural landscape assumes a specific appearance. You can see the broad expanses of wheat fields of fertile Korça the no less extensive orchards of Berat, the big cotton crops in Fier, and so on.

On these broad fields of the agricultural cooperatives high average crop yields are often attained: in the agricultural cooperative of Plasa near Korça, for example, the last harvest yielded 52 quintals of wheat per hectare, 60 quintals of maize, 452 quintals of sugar-beet and 260 quintals of potatoes per hectare. What strikes the eye here is the good competent management of the land (the programmed crop rotation, manuring, irrigation etc.), the will of the people, the agricultural machinery, the schools, medical clinics, libraries, museums etc.

This broad panorama of vegetation which covers the whole of Albania is broken here and there by artificial reservoirs created for irrigation purposes, and also by the rivers which wind like silver ribbons through the whole of Albanian territory. The important industrial projects are also dispersed all over the country, usually on the outskirts of inhabited centres. It is precisely industrial Albania, which, by perfectly combining the main activities with those of secondary importance, is advancing rapidly in one economic sector which did not exist at all at the end of the Second World War: here we refer to the really magnificent combines where thousands and thousands of workers are employed. For example there is the copper wire factory in Shkodra, the Tractor plant in Tirana, the glass factory at Kavaja, the fertilizer factory at Fier, the electric lamp plant in Vlora, the textile plant in Berat, the precision instru-

ments plant, the cotton yarn and ready-made clothing factories in Korça. These are some of the factories I have visited.

Besides the important achievements of the last thirty years in these fundamental sectors, magnificent progress has also been made in other sectors. One of these sectors is communication. In this direction the youth has made and is making a great contribution.

It is really astonishing when you see the faces of these young Albanians always happy and laughing. The consciousness that with their work the volunteers are raising the wellbeing of the whole society and laying the foundations of an even more prosperous future, gives them the endurance and determination to march steadily forward.

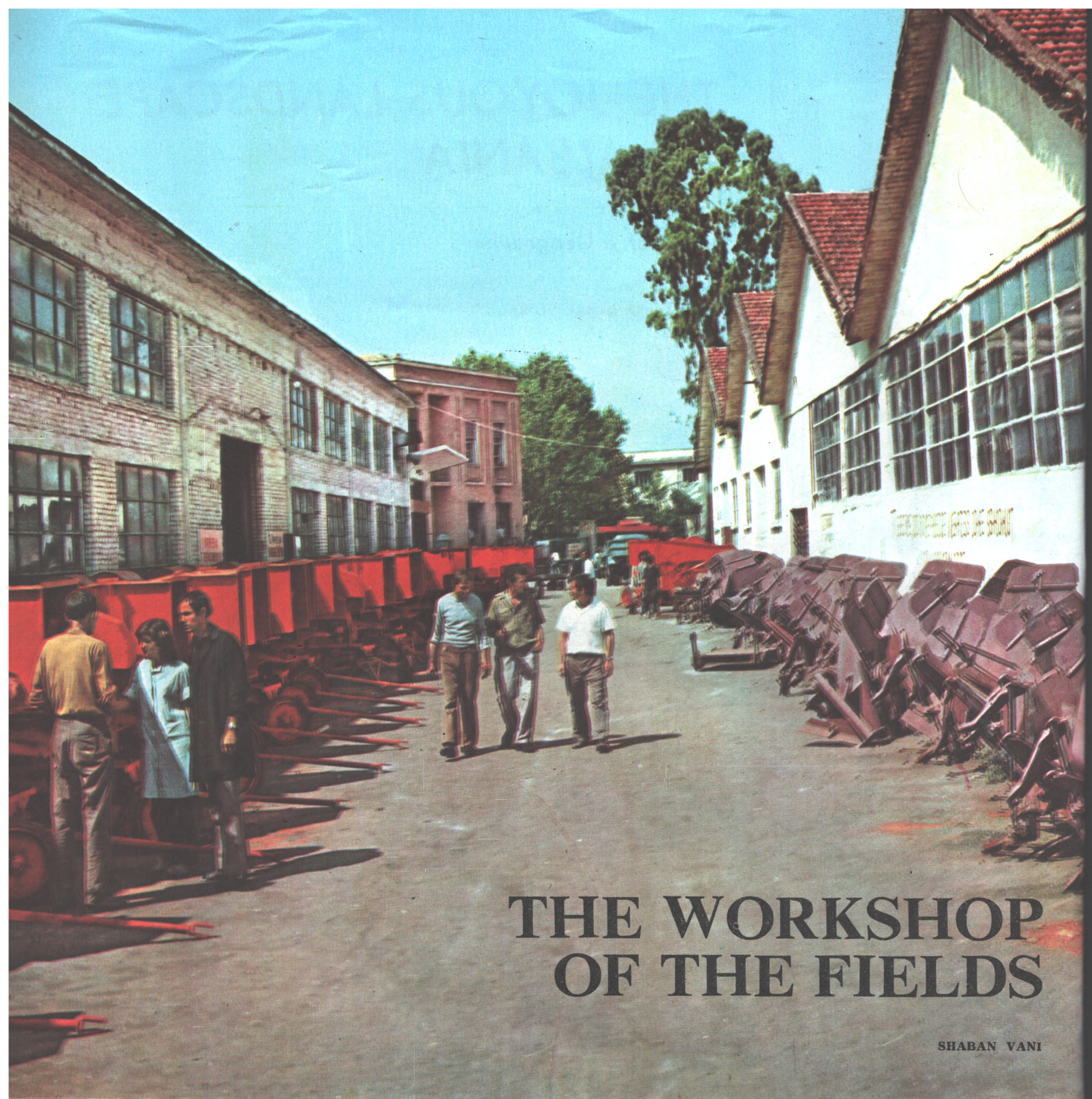
The appearance of the cities has changed completely. It is often very difficult to distinguish which are the oldest parts of them. Life in these cities has assumed a completely new colour, and they look very like the other cities of Europe. What especially strikes the eye of a foreign visitor to Albanian cities is the presence of museums of history, archeology, ethnography, art galleries, libraries, houses of culture, exhibitions. Here, the youth in their spare time, become acquainted with the past of the country, with all its suffering. This becomes a stimulus to carry the Homeland ever further forward.

This is only a rapid incomplete synthesis, like a painter's unfinished picture which still needs to be completed and enriched with colours. The geographer is like an artist, too, with the difference that his landscapes are not static; in them we see the evolution of the past, present, and future. It is precisely to this vital landscape of Albania that I want to dedicate all my forces as a scholar, because the vitality of this rejuvenated Albania deserves far more than just a static painting.

1) Aleksandër Qemal Vlora visited Albania in summer this year. He is a professor, author of several books on general geography. He is the nephew of the great patriot Ismail Qemali who together with other Albanian patriots proclaimed Albania's independence on November 28, 1912 and headed the first Albanian government.

rance and the spiritual domination of religion.

But the seed sown by the teacher has fallen on fertile ground. The honest Highlanders are thirsting for freedom and a better life. Although they have to cope with much more powerful enemies, they do not submit. Finally, the priest and the chief concoct a slander and create a pretext to arrest the teacher. But Kalca does not leave the teacher in enemy hands, because it loves freedom and knowledge. The brave Highlander, Kalosh Cami, and his son save the revolutionary teacher, kill the lackeys of the oppressive regime, and turn their eyes towards the high mountains, the refuge of brave fighters. There they will fight for the true freedom that awaits them.



THE WORKSHOP OF THE FIELDS

SHABAN VANI

The series of threshing machines has just come from the Assembly Plant. Photo: N. Kodheli

An exhibition of spare parts for agricultural machinery has long been set up at the premises of the Design Bureau of the Agricultural Machine Plant at Durrës. These are imported parts. Today, near the entrance to this plant we see a big hall in which the agricultural machinery produced by the collective of this plant is on display. These two exhibitions reflect the past and the present of this work centre. Now this plant turns out complete machinery for working the land (ploughs of various types, ditch diggers, discs, harrows, graders etc.), machines for harvesting and handling bread grain (threshing machines of various capacities, winnowers, driers, and so on), as well as for transport (trailers, manure-spreaders and others). At this plant they also produce spare parts for all the agricultural

machines which have been or still are imported.

Today about 50 per cent of the agricultural machinery in use has been produced in the country. There are great perspectives in this direction. Work is under way on production of a five furrow plough and a threshing machine of very high capacity is under experimentation. Within the next two or three years double furrow plough for deep tillage will be produced and the production of harvester combines for maize will be mastered. This will gradually lead to the production of tractor-drawn harvester combines for wheat.

For a visitor who has been here before the new sectors and the mechanization of work processes attract attention. With the reconstruction carried out during the last Five-

year Plan this plant now has a full cycle of production and is the main national centre for the production of agricultural machinery. Production is based on a scientific discipline in which the latest world achievements, from designing to production, are taken into account. For the four sister plants established in other districts, the plant at Durrës has become a real school. It is justifiable to call it the workshop of the fields.

Thoma Sallaku is one of the founders of this plant. He came here when he was quite young and grew up together with the plant. Now he is a very good technician. Xhelal Haxhiu has worked here more than twenty years, too. When you meet these and other veteran workers they like to tell you about their plant and the people who work there

with the same affection with which one talks about his own home and family.

Tens upon tens of threshing machines are lined up in the assembly department, awaiting delivery. Thoma told us:

«These are the «Tomorica» threshing machines designed for mountain zones. Now we are turning out similar machines with three times the capacity of those produced five years ago».

It is the same story with graders .

Today the Design Bureau designs complete machines, follows the technology of production, and studies future developments in collaboration with the experimental sectors. Under its supervision, experimental models are built and tested, and their performance is studied in the field, where suggestions are received from their operators. The Agricultural Machine plant at Durrës, like all the plants and factories of our country does not consider its production as an end itself, as a source of profit. It turns out agricultural machinery in order to assist agriculture in accordance with the varied zones and terrain of Albania. Last year, during performance trials on threshing machines suggestions came from some agricultural cooperatives of the Durrës and Kruja districts that these machines should be made more universal, that is, that they should be able to handle all varieties of wheat. In line with these suggestions, the Design Bureau made the necessary modifications. In this way, the serial production of these machines turned out well.

In addition, this plant maintains other close connections with countryside. From time to time, it organizes consultations both in its own departments as well as in the villages, sends questionnaires to various agricultural cooperatives and so on. These have had an influence on the steady improvement of the products of the plant.

It must be said that the innovators of the plant also make their contribution to this progress. One finds them in every department. The fruit of their efforts can be found in the whole complex of the improvement of technological processes, in the production of spare parts, etc.

Polikron Pina is one of these innovators. He is a technician in charge of the experimental brigade and author of many new spare parts. In the die-making department they single out brigade leader, Xhafer Kulla. Connected with his name are the dies for the production of discs and ploughshares. Esad Papici and Niko Korani, two innovators of this same department, are waiting to see the result of their latest innovation: they have turned out the first oil-cooling radiators for header-harvesters. Now they are undergoing field tests.

The Agricultural Machine Plant at Durrës is known all over our country. And it has a good reputation for its products. It started as a small workshop for repairing motor vehicles, while eight years later it was turned into a national base for repairing tractors. In 1955, it assumed the name and profile it has today. In 1960, under the conditions of the imperialist-revisionist blockade, a broad discussion took place among the collective of this workshop. The subject was: we must go over to the production of agricultural machines bearing the Albanian trade mark. And they set out on this course by producing machines for cleaning and selection of seed grain. In 1962, the first 62 «Dumreja» and «Adriatik» threshing machines were produced. From that year onward no more threshing machines have been imported.

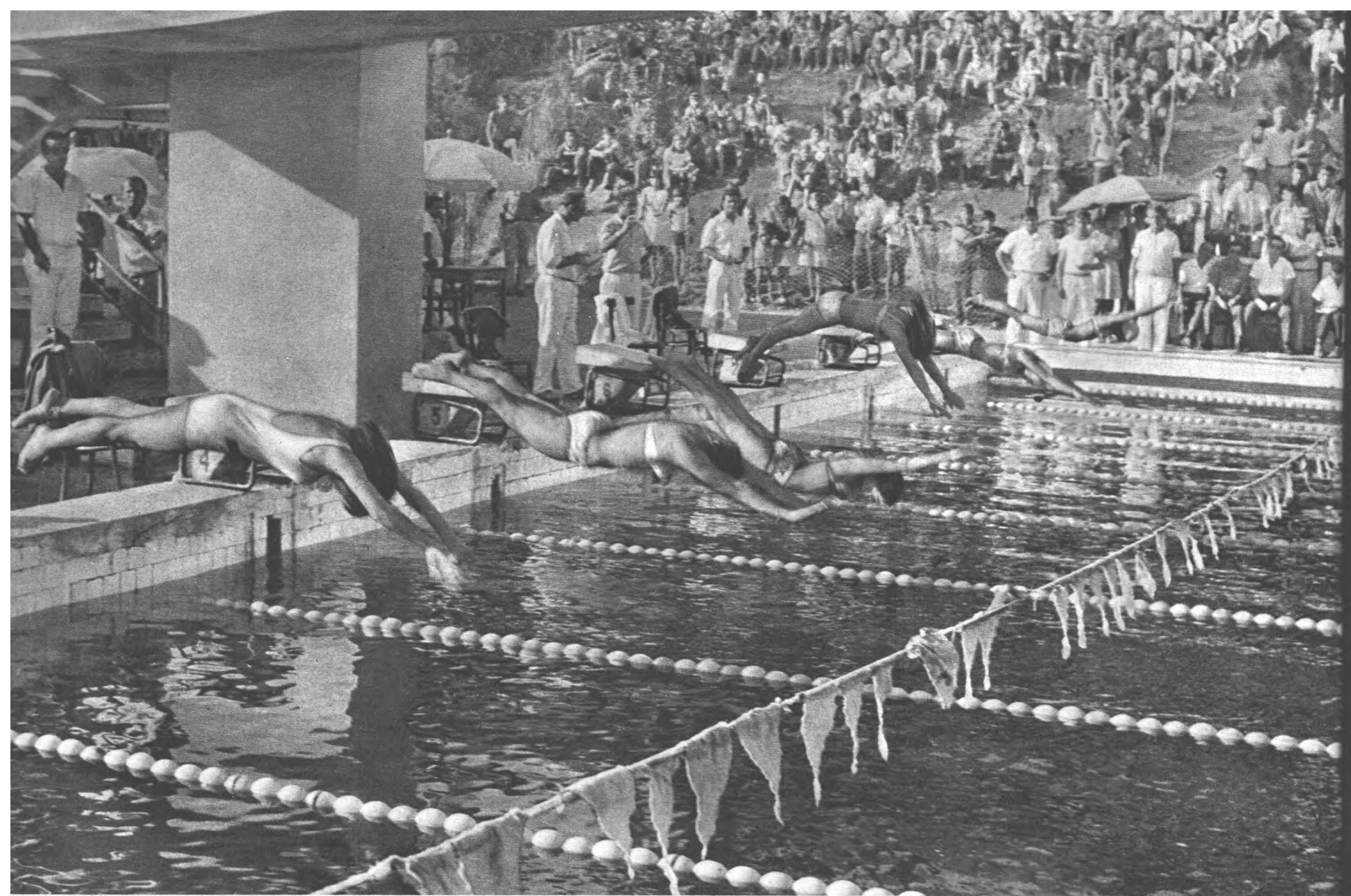
In 1967 the plant ceased its repair operations and has now become the most powerful base, which with its products, is meeting the principal needs of agriculture for mechanical equipment.



The Foundry.



These agricultural machines are ready to be sent to the agricultural cooperatives in mountainous zones.



SWIMMING – A SPORT TO TEMPER THE MASSES

AHMET SHQARRI



The shores of Albania are washed by the waters of the Adriatic and Ionian seas as well as a number of large natural lakes. These, and tens of artificial lakes, as well as many rivers create favourable conditions for the broad masses of the youth to engage in swimming. Visitors who happen to tour Albania in summer will be impressed by the large crowds heading for these waters. By the seaside, on the beautiful sandy beaches at Durrës, Vlora, Himara, Seman, Divjaka, Saranda and on the other beauty spots beside rivers and lakes, swimming occupies an important place in the daily life of the normal residents and thousands of others who go to these places to spend their holidays. The beautiful sunny days also greatly favour this mass participation. From April to September all over Albania the days are clear, with warm sunshine.

When the swimming season opens, the institutions of various services which have been established to assist those who visit the beaches of the country, begin their activities. Scores of well-appointed hotels, summer camps have been built, as well as many villas for children who go spend their vacations at these centres. For children, especially, there are many facilities and concessions. Thousands of them go to the sea or lakeside at the expense of the State or pay only part of the cost.

Schools, too, assist the wide participation in swimming. In many schools there are sports classes teaching swimming, where special exercises are practiced to train future masters, champions and record holders.

In the National Swimming Championship for children held in August this year at the swimming pool in Durrës the most talented swimmers from 10 to 11 years of age took part. The young swimmers, representing 9 teams, competed hard in splendid contests. Many of them showed promise of becoming first-rate swimmers in the future. For instance, Raymonda Kamberi from Vlora (butterfly), Edgar Mustafaraj from Durrës (backstroke), Fatmir Vrapit from Lushnja (free style) and others, set the first records.

S. Shyti who holds the national record this year over several distances is only 18 years old. When only 13, he succeeded in breaking the adult records first for 100 metres free style and then for 200, 400, 800 and 1,500 metres free style in turn. At this year's competition at the city of Lushnja pool in July, he again broke the national 200 metres free style record, in 2 minutes, 10.7 seconds.

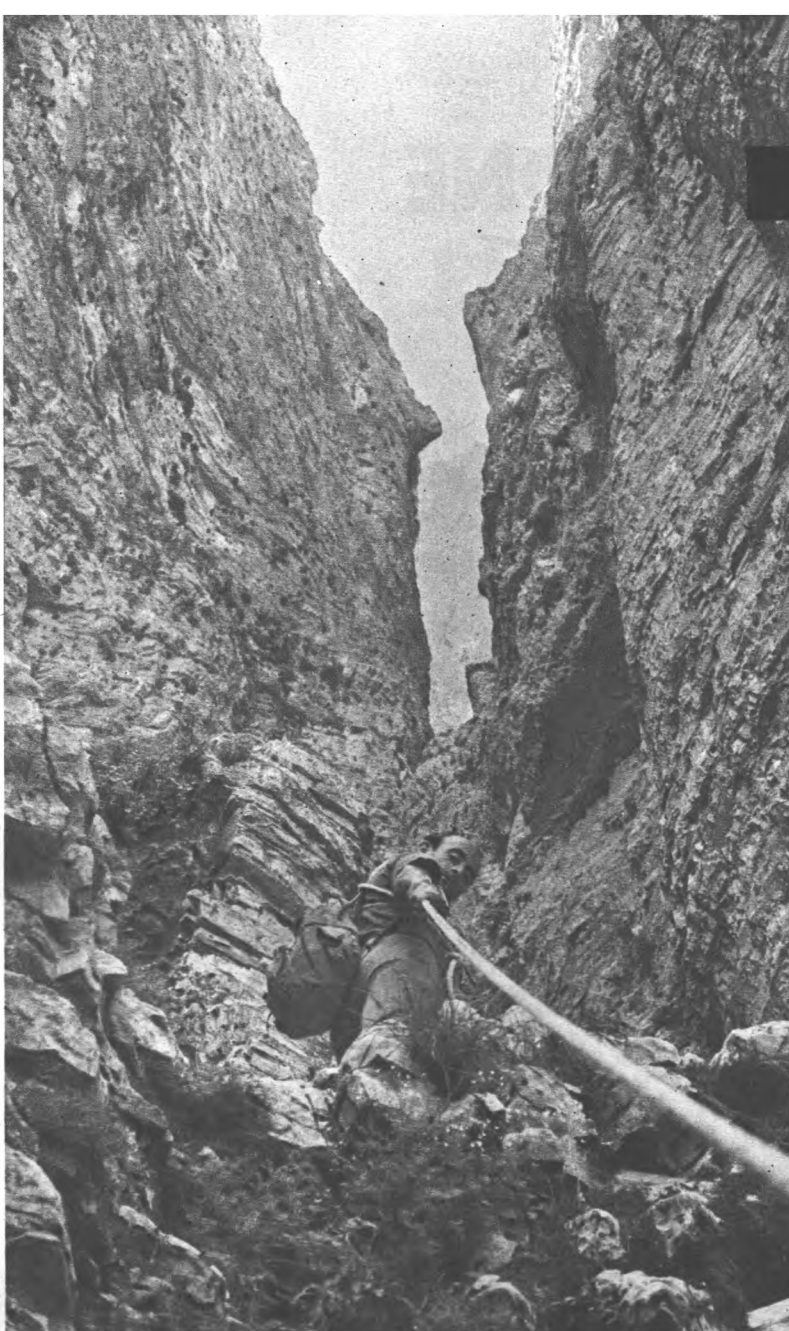
Records were broken at the junior championships too.

In addition to the national championship, there are many other activities like physical and military relay races, swimming with full accountment and swimming marathons. They are attracting more and more enthusiasts of all ages.

Aspects from the events at 1977 Swimming Championships.

Shpëtim Bejko, member of the Durrës team, and winner of the title of champion.
Photo: Ali Topi

ALPINISM

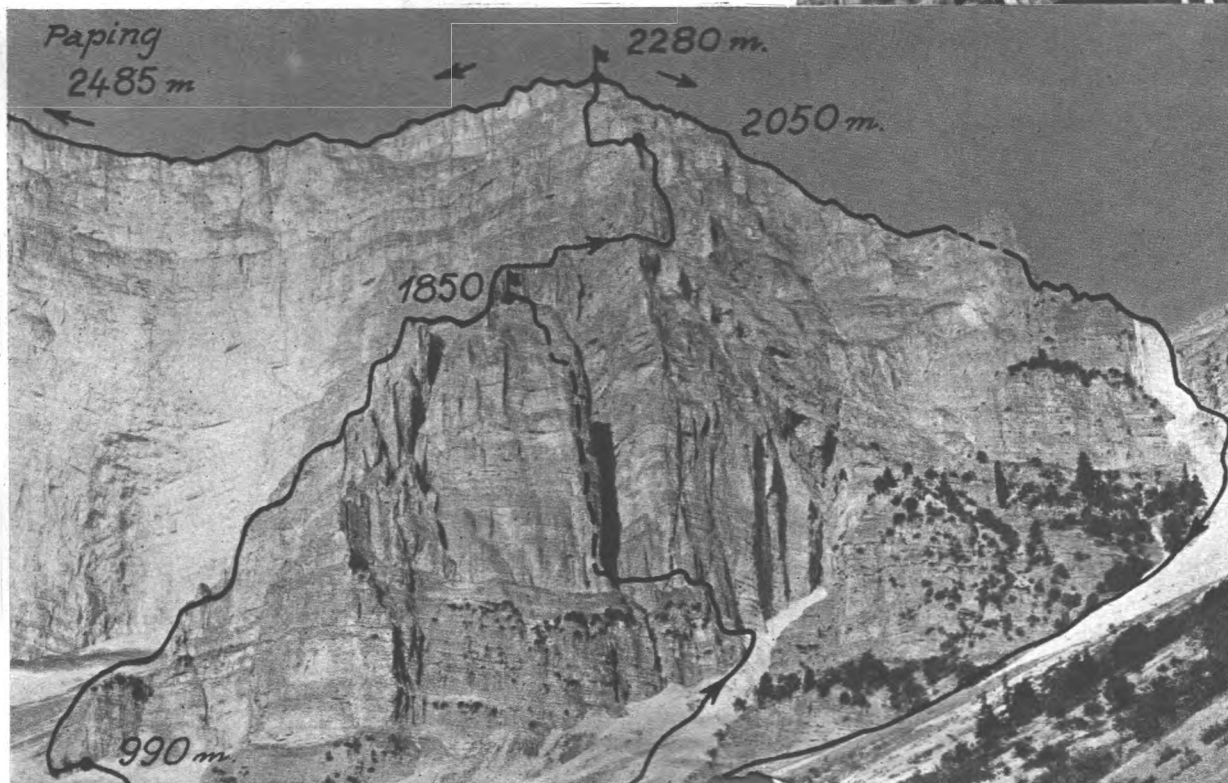


Photos by Master of Sport Vasil Stamuli and Azem Hyka.

ROCK CLIMBING IN THE SOUTHERN MOUNTAINS

A group of more than 90 alpinists made an ascent of the rugged faces of Mt. Nemerčka 2,485 m, in the southern mountains. Due to the very difficult terrain — almost vertical faces with overhanging outcrops, with horizontal traverses and crawling, up rock crevices over 20 m high, above chasms hundreds of metres deep, — this ascent was of international level (sixth degree of difficulty).

These three photos were taken during this climb. The photo below shows the route the climbers took.



«ALL FOR ONE ONE FOR ALL»

In Spring this year, as a result of the slipping of the earth, the village of Zall-Bastar of the Tirana district became uninhabitable. The walls of the houses were split and in danger of collapse. When the working people of the capital learnt of this misfortune, they immediately volunteered to go to take part in the construction of the new village. Thirty-five economic enterprises and several agricultural cooperatives set up and sent building teams. The work for the construction of the new village, based on an entirely new plan went on for 42 days. The village of Zall-Bastar as

seen from this photo was built in a safe place. The villagers took over, free of charge, 36 flats, the 8-year school, the house of culture, the health centre, the trade and other economic units. All the costs of the construction of the new village were defrayed by the state.

This is one among many such instances. In Spring this year, as a result of earth movement, the village of Moglica in the Korça district was heavily damaged and became uninhabitable. The villagers of Moglica did not feel alone in the face of this misfortune. The collectives of tens of economic enterprises and

members of agricultural cooperatives of the district went to the aid of these villagers. Thus within a short period a completely new village was built in a suitable near-by place.

The day the peasants moved into the new houses and institutions was a day of fraternal celebrations for thousands of inhabitants and the builders.

Some years ago several regions of Albania were heavily damaged by an earthquake. Some villages were totally destroyed. But the villagers of these regions had the immediate aid and solidarity of their brothers from the four corners of the land. The complete rebuilding of these villages was carried out within a few weeks by the state enterprises and volunteer forces from all over the country. The villagers whose homes were damaged by the earthquake moved into new houses for which they paid absolutely nothing. On these occasions, the revolutionary slogan «All for one and one for all» finds full application, as it does in all social relations in our country.

A new panorama of the village of Zall Bastar. The picture is taken when the tents of builders had not yet been removed. Photo N. Xhufka



«BUILDING WORK GOES ON HERE NONSTOP»



The village of Velipoja lies west of Shkodra on the Adriatic coast. It is one of the west villages of the country. Seven years ago the villagers displaced from the banks of the Drin river as a result of the construction of the Vau i Dejës hydro-power plant, came and settled here. The village is entirely new — houses, agricultural secondary school, medical centre, maternity home, shops, and so on. The economy of the village is in full development. Important work has been done in draining the fields which extend over hundreds of hecta-



res. Two pumping stations are almost completed. This year's harvests of wheat and maize are very good.



In the picture above is Merita Leka, one of the girls of this village. Having graduated from the building technical school in Shkodra, she returned to her home village and works here as a technician. «We have a lot of work to do» she says, «Building work goes on here nonstop». Merita is photographed on the background of the new modern hot houses of the Velipoja agricultural cooperative.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BALLOUCHE AZIZ — Morocco

I subscribed to the magazine «New Albania» only a few months ago, and I am convinced of its value as a means of communication between Albania and the Albanian people on the one hand, and all the friends of Albania in the world, on the other. The magazine is helping me to gain a better knowledge of your country, about which I have read a good deal, and particularly from the works of comrade Enver Hoxha which are full of lessons. But apart from my admiration, for the correct policy of the Party of Labour of Albania, I am interested in the culture of the Albanian people. Therefore, I would like to have some data and information on the Albanian language, which would allow me to study Albanian publications in the Albanian language. If possible, please send me a book from which I can learn the Albanian language.

WILFRIED HORNS — Federal German Republic

Through your beautiful magazine I have learned many things about your country, hence I read it with pleasure. I also appreciate the vivid presentation and the beautiful photos. The main themes have been handled very beautifully, profoundly and extensively in individual issues, which are a valuable source of data and knowledge.

QUARANTA MAURIZIA — Italy

I am an Italian girl and have just taken my diploma as a technician, a diploma which here in Italy, unlike in your socialist Albania, does not provide you with scientific and practical training.

Here is what I ask of you: from your beautiful magazine and other publications on Albania, I am learning more and more to appreciate the anti-revisionist activity of comrade Enver Hoxha, a simple and courageous man, who always sides with the oppressed. In order to acquaint myself better with his activity, I would be grateful

if you could send me a copy of the courageous speech comrade Enver Hoxha delivered at the Meeting of the Communist and Workers' Parties in Moscow in 1960, in the Italian language. If this is not possible, I would be satisfied if you could send me a photograph of comrade Enver Hoxha. I thank you in anticipation.

Accept the congratulations of a young Italian girl on your magazine and on the progress achieved in your country, which I hope to have the chance to visit in the future.

Militant and internationalist greetings.

RAGNAR DANIELSSON — Sweden

On the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th of July I listened to Radio Tirana broadcasting the very important article from «Zëri i Popullit» of the 7th of July.

I have discussed the article with my communist friends but I regret that we do not have it in print. We would be very happy to have a number of copies of that article if it is available in the English language.

If it is possible, please send me several copies of this splendid article.

SCARDI GIUSEPPE — Italy

I am interested to know if comrade Enver Hoxha's Works, as well as other publications, are available in the Italian language. I would be grateful to you if you could send me the earlier issues of the magazine of the year 1977. I would like to subscribe to your magazine. Please inform me how to go about these things.

MARK SELTZER — Canada

I subscribe to your magazine and have just received the edition Nr. 2 - 1977. As a student of computer science, I was very interested in the photo of the computer centre shown on page 14. I have two requests and I would be very grateful if you could fulfil them. Under the title

«Letters to the Editor» Nr. 2-1977, the reader Z. Blake, from Ireland, thanks you for the «History of Albania» and the records with Albanian songs. I am much interested both in Albania and in the music of the world, and I would be very pleased if you could send me these things or tell me where can I order them. Thank you very much.

I have read about an article of «Zëri i Popullit» of the 7th of July which explains the ideological position of Albania on the international situation. I do not know if that article has been published in the English edition of the magazine, but if so, it would be of great interest to have a copy. I hope to visit Albania one day. But until then, I shall have to be satisfied with what you, «Radio Tirana» and «New Albania» send me in response to my interest.

PAUL PEFFETIN — Canada

I am reading the book «Albania, general information», published by your magazine in 1976. I am deeply moved by the great successes which your country has achieved in the construction of socialism by always adhering to the line of class struggle and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

J. NEIMAN — USA

I want to thank you for your kindness in sending me the novel «The Bronze Bust» and the supplement «Albania, general information», published by your magazine. I have just finished reading this informative publication. Today, I shall begin reading the novel. These materials will help me a great deal to study the history of your wonderful and beautiful country.

The more I read and study about Albania, the more I am amazed and moved by the Albanian people and their fight for the preservation of national identity, culture and glorious traditions. I am very proud and honoured to associate myself with such a great people. I thank you once again for the novel and the booklet. I am extremely appreciative to your attention.

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CORRECTIONS

On Page Three, Column four of the article, «The Younger Generation of Socialist Albania», the word, «Material» in the last paragraph should read, «National».

On Page 12, Column Three in the article, «Great Achievements and Projects in Hydro-Electric Power», the figure, «450» should read «450,000».

In the text of Page 27, 12 lines from the end, the word «bog iron» should read, «Pig Iron».

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NEW ALBANIA

An illustrated political and social magazine. Appears bimonthly in Albanian, English, Chinese, French, Russian, Arabic, Italian, Spanish and German.

ADDRESS OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD

«SHQIPËRIA E RE» Rr. LABINOTI, 7,
Tirana, ALBANIA

FRONT COVER: View from the proceedings of the 7th Congress of the Labour Youth Union of Albania

Photo P. Kumi

BACK COVER: Mass actions of youth. Views from the work of building the Prrenjas-Guri i Kuq railroad as well as that of building terraces for planting fruit trees on the southern coast.

«THE FLUTE AND THE SPRING»



Sketches by Naxhi Bakalli

There was once a peasant lad who played the flute beautifully. Everybody listened with delight to the melodies he played while guarding his flock in the pastures or when it rested in the shade. Often, when they heard his flute, the women of the village would forget their pitchers and water casks by the spring. They danced when he played a merry tune and sighed when he played a sad one. But many times the hot breathe which the musician poured into his instrument split the flutes made out of walnut, brier, or lilac wood. For this reason, our musician asked the copper smiths to make him a flute of brass. He took his new flute and went to play it by the spring where the young maidens and brides of the village were filling their pitchers. They stayed listening with delight for a long time, until a jealous man came, seized the flute from the boy's hands and threw it into the spring. The musician was greatly offended and very angry, but that instant they all turned their heads and listened with astonishment because the flute, lying at the bottom of the spring, began to play a gurgling melody of its own.

Perhaps this is why the gurgling of springs is so pleasant, because they carry the melody of that wonderful flute.

PAN AND SYRINX

The so-called «Panpipe» was one of the most widely used musical instruments of the Illyrians, the ancestors of the Albanians. This very ancient shepherds' instrument consists of a row of pipes of varying length, bound together side by side like a raft. According to mythology, Pan, the protector of the herds, pastures and shepherds (even though he filled the latter with «Panic», with his voice and ugly appearance whenever he was seen in the dells and forests of the mountains) was devoted to music and is even reputed to be the inventor of this instrument. But Pan was devoted even more to a nymph called Syrinx. But she could not bear his ugly appearance with his horns and hooves of a goat and she always fled from him, while he pursued her until one day he caught her on the bank of a river. Terrified Syrinx called for help, but it was no use. The river, moved by pity, engulfed the beautiful nymph and immediately transformed her into a reed. A light breeze began to blow drawing beautiful sounds from the tall reed. The sounds delighted Pan, and there and then the idea struck him to cut several pieces from reed, to join together pipes of different lengths, and to create the musical instrument which bears his name and that of the beautiful nymph (Syrinx).

It is said that Pan boasted so much about his talent for music, that he even challenged Apollo himself, the patron of music and poetry, to a contest. Midas, the king of the Briges was selected as judge of this competition. Showing himself to be a neutral judge, Midas decided in favour of Pan. Apollo became very angry and as a punishment he turned Midas' ears into the ears of an ass. Naturally, Midas was very upset because he could not go out among the people with those ears, therefore he tried to hide them under his Phrygian cap.

However, one day, one of his servants saw his long ears. Midas ordered him to tell no one of what he had happened to see, or he would be put to death. But the poor servant could not keep this terrible secret to himself so he dug a hole and whispered into it, «King Midas has long ears like an ass. King Midas has long ears... Midas has... Midas...» After getting it all off his chest he carefully filled in the hole. But from the soil of that hole, several reeds grew up, and whenever the wind blow, the whispering of the reeds formed the words, «King Midas has the ears of an ass».

The secret was out.

In connection with Pan, worthy of mention is a significant legend about our ancient tradition. Plutarch speaks of a ship which was sailing the Ionian Sea. Towards dusk when the vessel was approaching the shore of the Caones, on the West Coast of Epirus, a thunderous voice from the heavens called the helmsman of the ship by name and ordered that, as soon as the vessel reached the lake of Butrint, in the south of Albania, he was to announce the death of Pan. When the vessel reached the shores of Butrint, from its deck, the sailor announced his message of death, in a loud voice, and immediately afterwards cries, laments and screams were heard from the shore.

What is the essence of this tale? Many different scholars and mythologists have tried to solve its mystery. Why was the news of Pan's death announced precisely here in Albania? Because this was the centre of the Muses, the guardians of the arts. Pan himself was one of the main gods of Ilirian paganism. He figured in the arch of Trajan (In Benevento, Italy), precisely as a representative of Southern Illyria.

Philological science, analysing the name of Pan, claims it comes from the Sanskrit root «pa» which means «watch over», «protect», as the shepherd protects his flock. This word has this perfectly clear meaning even in present-day Albanian.

R. Sokoli

