



NEW ALBANIA

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NEW ALBANIA

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FRONT COVER: The driver of an autocombine of the Machine and Tractor Station of the Durrës district, Haki Golemi, working in the fields of wheat which belong to the Shijak agricultural co-operative.

BACK COVER: Theth — a tourist center in the Alps of Northern Albania.

WORKERS AND ARTISTS

Qani Biraci *Artistic Director*

THE "Stalin" Textile Combine in Tirana, is a big enterprise. Here, the workers produce all kinds of fabrics, cotton, corduroy and many other beautiful assortments. The workers have become masters of their profession.

But in our socialist order, the worker is not only a producer of the material blessings, he takes an active part in cultural and social life as well, making a valuable contribution to the creation of the spiritual blessings. In our country, art belongs to the masses and springs from the masses. At our Combine, the amateur artistic movement is a broad mass movement. It has created a beautiful tradition. Every year about five hundred workers are activated in the different artistic activities. Within the club of the Combine, the Theatrical Group, the Variety Show Group, the Song and Dance Ensemble, the Orchestra, etc. have been set up.

The amateur artistic movement is not only concentrated in giving performances at the Club, but throughout all the factories and departments of the Combine. This is organised from below and to the center which is the club itself. During the course of the year a number of competitions are organised between the different factories. The best numbers and selected elements, then make up the ensembles of the Combine which compete with the groups and ensembles of other Combine and work centers on a district or national scale. Thus for example in February, the theatrical competition is organised between the factories and departments inside the Combine. Groups from eight factories with about 130 amateurs take part in the competition. The factory groups stage some of the best plays and comedies, with a very wide range of themes which reflect the all round life of our socialist country. Performances are given for the workers of the factories, for neighbouring production centers, agricultural cooperatives, for the military garrisons. The winning groups also tour other districts of the country giving performances.

The second action after the competitions between variety show groups is the organisation of performances of the song and dance ensemble. This which has now become well-known, not only in the capital, but in the districts too, makes its debut, alongside the professional ensembles, in one of the biggest artistic actions of the country, the ten days of the May Concerts. This ensemble is made up of the choir with about eighty people, soloists, the Girl's Choir, the Men's Choir, the Ballet Troupe, the Dance Group, the major orchestra and the folk music orchestra.

Before mounting the stage, the amateur artists submit themselves to long and systematic rehearsals. In general they do not have the proper musical education. They learn the fundamental rudiments under the direction of the Club. Outside of working hours, all the facilities have been placed at their disposal so that, in accordance with their talents and desires, they can follow the different courses for musical instruments, singing, choreography etc. The rehearsals in preparation for the performances are also organised.

Thanks to the great work which the amateur artists have done, our Ensemble has won broad popularity, not only in the capital, but in the other districts as well, where it has performed. Besides ordinary concerts, the ensemble has also staged major genres of art. For example the choreographic tableau, "The Hero of the Sea", devoted to the heroism of the sailor Adem Reka, who during a storm at the Durrës Port fell heroically to save a ship. This tableau, which was performed by our ensemble in the People's Republic of China as well, has scored great success. Every year, our Ensemble has been awarded different prizes and medals.

The ensemble conducts other activities at the end of the year. Thus, besides the song festival, in which fifteen of the best singers take part, a varied musical tableau is prepared for the children of the workers on the occasion of the festivities for New Year.

One important factor is that in this entire amateur artistic movement, both in the field of creativeness, execution and production, we rely mainly on the internal forces of the Combine. Here we have secured artistic directors for the ensemble, for the different groups of the factory, for the ballet troupe etc.

The compositions of our authors, the texts for songs, occupy an important place in the repertoire of our groups. Many of these compositions have also been included in the repertoires of other work and production centers of our country.

The activity of the ensemble, just as the activity of the other groups of the theatre, variety show, the group for children's performances, are all distinguished by the one feature which characterises all our new socialist art and culture: the firm reliance on national themes, the revolutionary ideo-esthetic content and the national form. Developing these features even further, on the one hand, the ensemble activates the talents and artistic abilities of the broad masses of the workers in the Combine, and on the other hand, it gives a contribution for the ideo-esthetic education of the spectators who are the working people themselves in the factories, agricultural cooperatives, military garrisons, schools and elsewhere.

In Albania all the necessary conditions have been created for the development of the amateur artistic movement. In the budget of the production enterprises, a considerable fund is set aside each year which is used for the equipping of the orchestras with musical instruments, from the instruments of folk music up to grande pianos, for the preparation of costumes, for the scenery etc. The ensembles have rehearsal rooms, concert halls at their disposal.

Rehearsals are usually conducted out of working hours by the amateur artists and they have chosen to do this themselves. Despite this, the state guarantees them ten days a year for rehearsals and six days for giving performances in other districts. For these sixteen days, the workers receive normal wages which is covered by the above mentioned fund. Besides their pay, the amateur artists, while on tour, cover their expenses with a percentage of the income the ensemble draws from its performances.



The Dance group of the amateur artistic ensemble of the "Stalin Textile Combine", on the stage.



Thellenza Akcani, a worker at the "Migjeni Handicraft Enterprise" is also a singer.

Workers of the carpet factory and of the nail and bott factory in Kavaja rehearsing for the coming performance.



The biggest hydro-power station of our country is under construction at the village of Fierza, where the Drin river divides Puka district from Tropoja district (in the north of Albania). This hydro-power station is one of the biggest projects of the fifth five year plan. It is the second hydro-power project built on the Drin river, following that at Vau i Dejës. This station will have an installed capacity of 500.000 kilowats, making it the biggest hydro-power project in the history of Albania todate.

People from various age-groups, occupations, and districts of Albania are working on this project. Not long ago, our reporter met some of them. Here is what they told him:

People and Light

Pashk Gjini, steel-bender at production site No. 1.

I was born and grew up in the village of Fierza. I am 30 years old. I was a farmer till 1968. I started on this job of building the hydropower station right from the initial geological work. The first team of geologists put up in my house. They described to us how the project would be. To us in the family, it all sounded fabulous. But what had seemed fabulous, began to turn into reality. My whole family has linked itself with this project which will supply our homeland with so much light. My brother, Lulash, works in the transport section of the tunnels; and my mother is working there, too. My wife and one of my sisters-in-law work in enterprise providing supplies for the workers, while another sister-in-law works on this same site as me.

My mother, Bardha often tells us about our village. It used to be an out of the way place almost unknown. My father worked on the ferry plying between the two districts. Since he was always soaked with the cold water of the river, he got sick and died. We were raised as orphans. There were no motor roads linking Fierza with

the outside world. It was three days walk to Shkodra. The pine torch was the only means of light for the Fierza people.

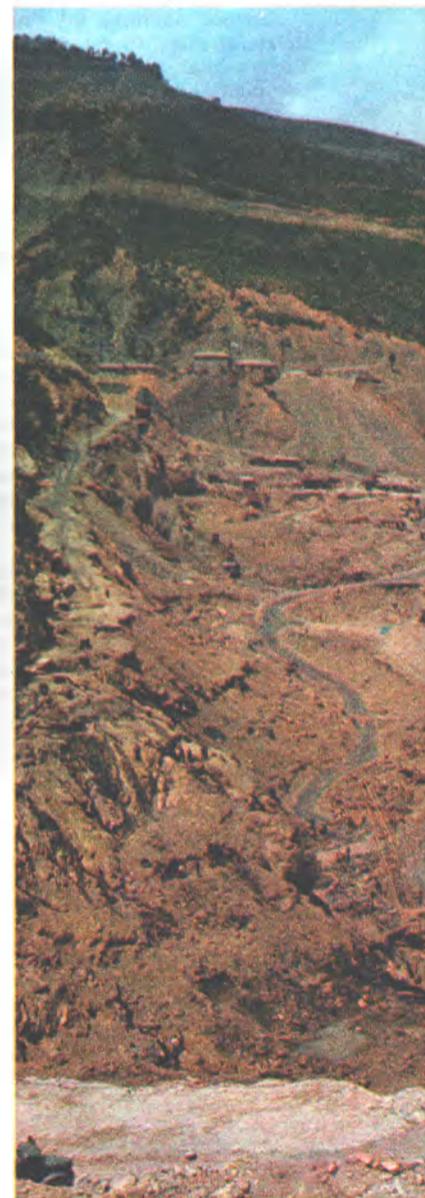
After the establishment of the people's state power, life changed in Fierza. Now, the name of my village is known all over Albania. Fierza has become the symbol of light. People from all over the country have come here to build the new hydropower station. These people work selflessly day and night. They are more powerful than the characters in the tales our mother used to tell us.

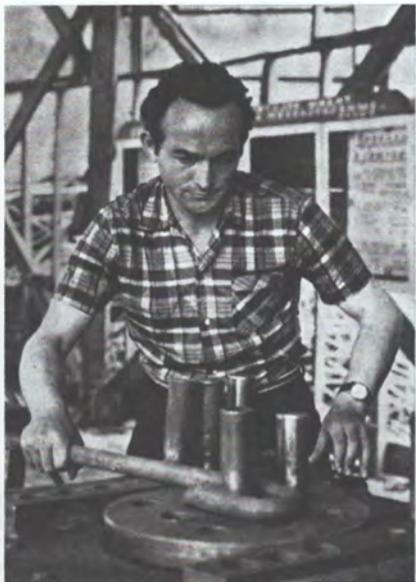
Isuf Kaca, brigade leader of the "30th anniversary of liberation" brigade.

I come from the Dibra district. I have been working here for four years now. I worked on the first hydro-power station on the Drin river, on the Vau i Dejës too. There, I became a miner.

This project we are building now can't be compared with the earlier ones. Here, I have qualified as a plumber, an electrician and a carpenter. Other workers have done the same sort of thing.

The terrain is very difficult here but the heavy work is done with modern machines. Within two years, we have dug five times the





length of tunnel we dug at Vau i Dejës in the same time. The brigade I lead is made up of 40 members. They have come here from various regions of Albania. The hydro-power station has become a great school for all of us.

Ndoc Prela, worker in the dam sector.

I am 24 years old. I am from Mamuras, Kruja district. Years ago I heard about the Fierza hydro-power station and in my imagination I linked myself with it. This is natural for us young people. I came here to work among these mountains, together with hundreds of other young people, determined to harness the Drin, the biggest and most torrential river of our country. This is the desire and inspiration with which my friends and I are working. And we are achieving our aim. In earlier years I worked as a volunteer to build the Fier-Ballsh railway, together with thousands of other young people.

It's a long way from my home but that doesn't matter. Here we are all like one big family working for the same purpose: to give the homeland the maximum light. Tomorrow there will be other

construction jobs in other regions and we shall go from one to the other feeling the joy of doing worthwhile work.

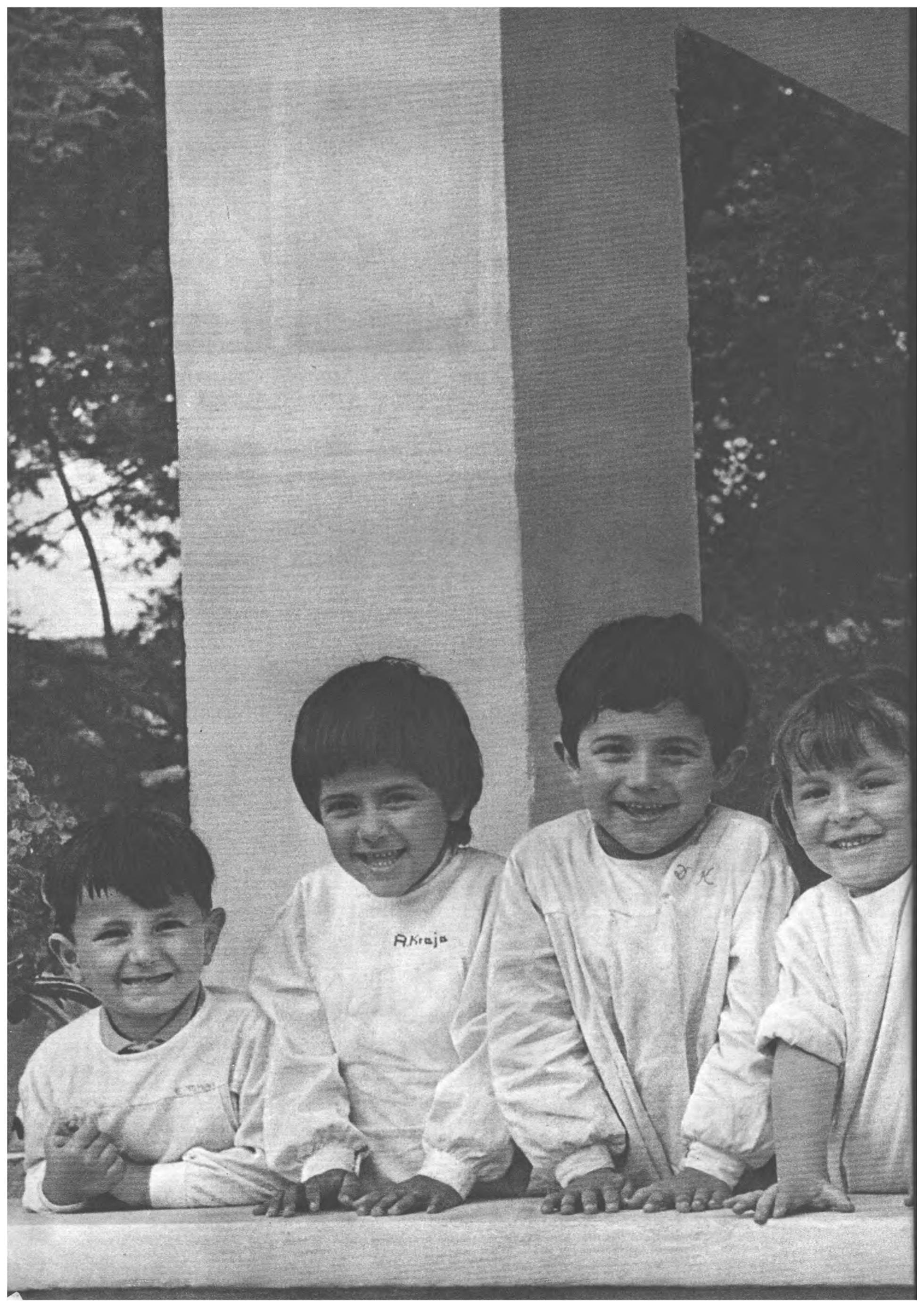
Olga Koçi, a cook.

I can tell you from the start that my family is a hydro station family. My children have been born on the hydro-power projects. Three of them were born in the 50s at the "Karl Marx" station on the Mat river. Then, we went to the Bistrica stations No. 1 and No. 2 where we worked for 6 years. Before coming here, we were at the Vau i Dejës station in the Shkodra district. I have worked as a cook on all of them, while my husband Kasem, is a carpenter. My children have grown up on these jobs and now they are working on them, too. They are turners, mechanics, technicians.

Looking back over the road we have traversed it seems to us that the hydro-power stations where we have worked have been our schools. To us, Fierza is a real University. These men and young people have come from all the districts of Albania to battle with the rocks, to harness the river, and to release the light. And I am happy with my modest work, I am making my contribution to this major project.



The mouth of the Drin River Valley where the hydropower station is being built and pictures of the construction site.

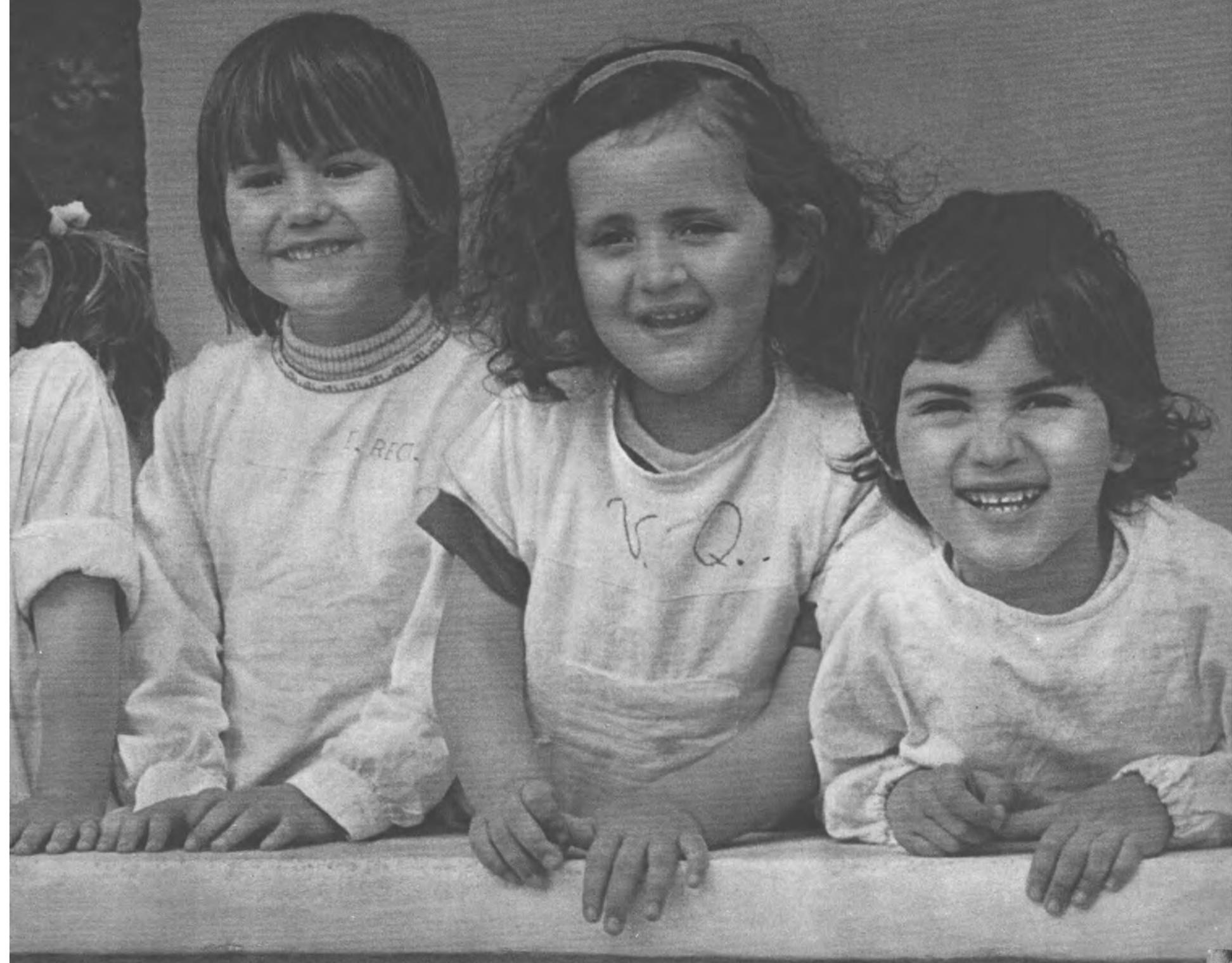


A broad network of kindergartens and nurseries for the upbringing and education of the children extends to all the corners of Albania in town and countryside. The nurseries are institutions which care for feed and raise the children until they are three years of age, while their parents are at work. The number of nurseries has now reached 2700, of which 2340 are located in the agricultural cooperatives.

The kindergartens are pre-school institutions for children from three to six years of age. There are 1615 such institutions.

More than 110 000 children attend these nurseries and kindergartens every day.

Photo: ATA



FIELDS OF PROSPERITY

Faik Labinoti

*The Director of the House of
Agricultural Propaganda*

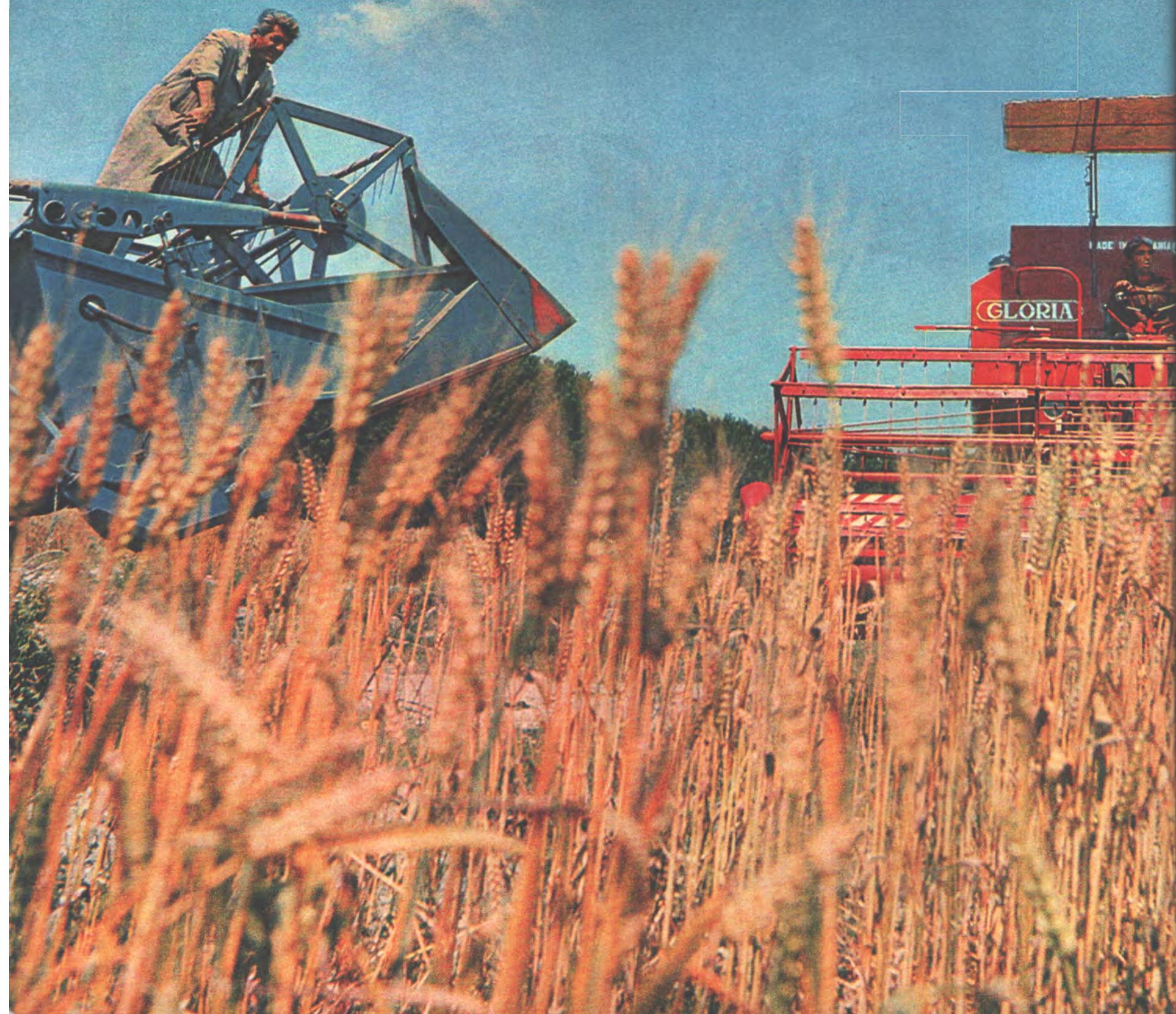
This year's summer brought more prosperity to the fields of our Homeland. The wheat, fruit of the toil and sweat of the cooperativists and the other workers of agriculture, grew healthy and rich in grain. To gather in the new bread, everybody, from the youngest to the oldest, from the pioneers to the old folk rose to take part in the great battle for grain, which is the most essential task of agriculture.

The fields sprung to life. Hundreds of thousands of people, with sickles in hand, with autocombines and motorharvesters, enthusiastically threw themselves into the work to carry out the harvest and thrashing better than any other year, to gather as quickly as possible and with as little loss as possible all the wheat in the storehouses. This is the political consciousness of our new man, this great force which puts people into motion, people who ignore all difficulties and sacrifices, when it is a question of serving socialism and the homeland, to make it more and more powerful.

The great principle of our Party, of relying on our own forces has become the leitmotif of

the activity of every conscientious worker, to make his contribution in the struggle to construct socialism and to defend our victories. This is also the basis of the initiatives which emerged to break all the old norms and methods, in the organisation of this campaign for a higher productivity rate and quality at work. The cooperativists and the workers of the agricultural enterprises pledged themselves to courageous tasks and emerged triumphant. In many of the zones with a rich agricultural production, the harvest ended far quicker than last year. Work was also carried out with an extraordinary mobilisation in other districts of the country.

Under the slogan, "Agriculture the Concern of All the People", hundreds of thousands of working people, shoulder to shoulder with the cooperativist peasantry, took to the fields and hills to aid the workers of agriculture. This is another testimony to the powerful alliance between the working class and the cooperativist peasantry, an alliance which lies at the basis of our people's state-power, the dictatorship of the

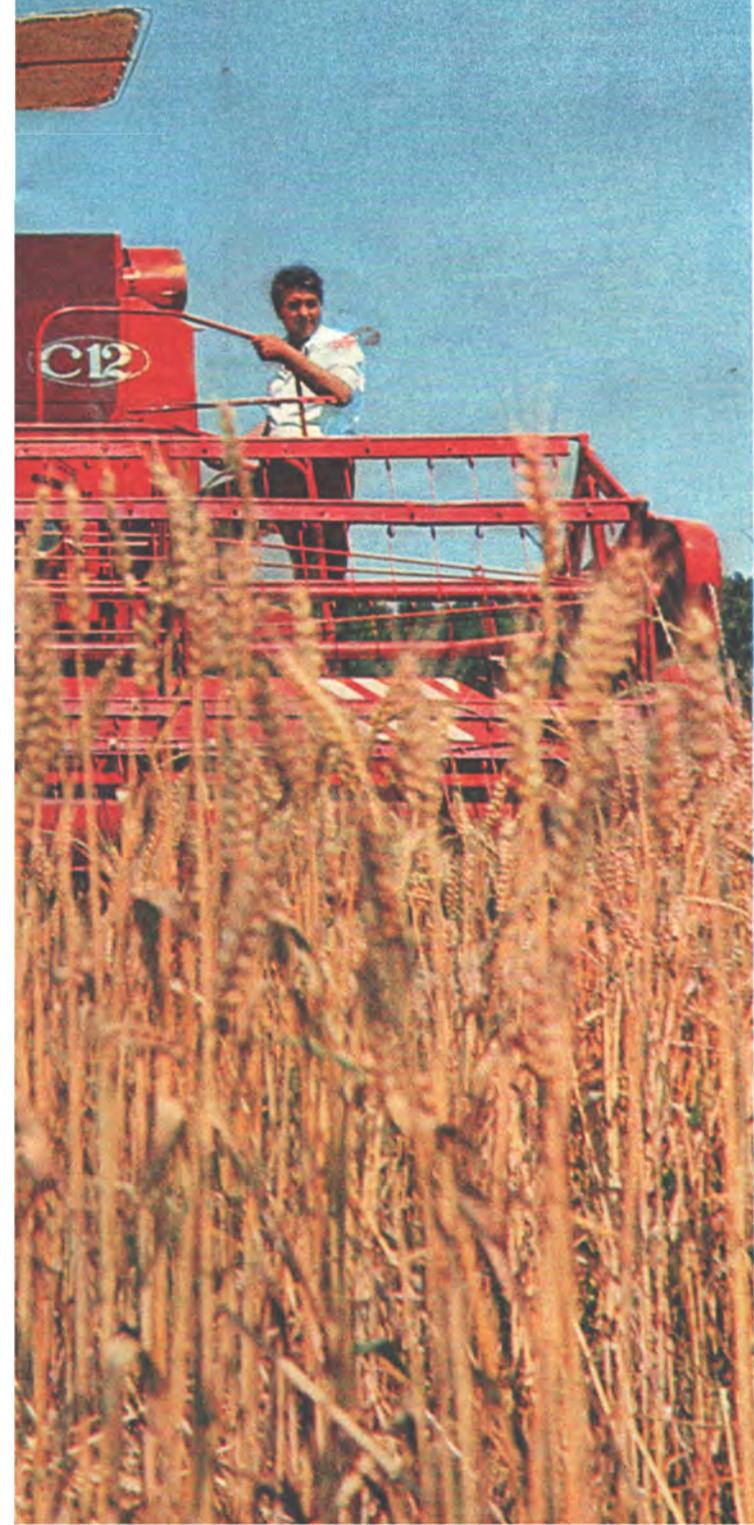


proletariat.

Agriculture is the basis of our people's economy. Its intensive development, the further raising of agricultural and live stock production and in particular, breadgrain, is linked with the strengthening of the entire people's economy.

With feelings of socialist solidarity, the working masses of town and countryside worked to gather in the last head of wheat. Thousands of pioneers, school pupils, workers, cooperativists and employees combed the fields so as not to miss one head of wheat. The tractors followed them up, ploughing the land for the maize crops, as a major reserve to extend the reserves of grain.

During the last few years, there has been an accentuated rise in the production of breadgrain. Today, many agricultural economies reap thirty to forty and even more quintals of wheat per hectare. Now work is forging ahead for a radical turning point in the production of maize, something which will further raise the production of breadgrain.





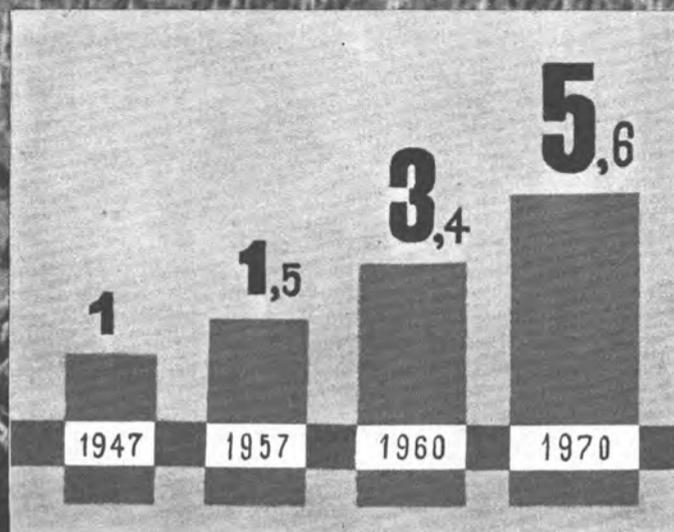
In all the green stretches of every city an important place is occupied by the vineyards.

Photo: N. Xhufka

The Green Belts

Everywhere you go in Albania you will notice these green belts. They begin from the villages or coastal areas and climb high into the highland areas. We are referring to the belts of fruit trees, citrus fruits and vineyards. These places used to be





The rise in the number of fruit trees up until 1970 (for fruit trees, citrus trees and vineyards together).

covered in bush and scrub. After liberation, fruit growing occupied an important place in the country's economy. In 1973, as against the first post liberation years, the number of fruit trees rose about ten times. Despite the rise in the population

there are now six fruit trees per inhabitant in Albania. During the last five years alone, millions of fruit trees, citrus fruits and thousands of hectares of vineyards have been planted.

These hills, in the vicinity of Pogradec used to be covered in shrubs. Today they are planted with entire plantations of fruit trees.



A BEAUTIFUL TRADITION OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION

Shpëtim Çaushi

Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Albanian Labour Youth
Union

Youths and girls wearing volunteer scarves are to be seen all over Albania. That scarf is a sign that the youngster is a volunteer taking part in the work to build some project, a railway, a hydro-power station, or to turn barren land into plantations of fruit trees.

The young volunteers follow the shining example of the partisans during the National Liberation War. The continuation of the partisan tradition, of the work for the sake of the homeland and for the good of the entire people, has been carried on by our youth includes hundreds of kilometres of railroad, hydro-power stations, the planting of many hilly regions to fruit trees, terracing of land, hundreds of irrigation and drainage canals, tens of motor highways and forest roads, as well as many projects to pipe drinking water into cities and villages.

Hundreds of thousands of volunteers from all over Albania have taken part in these actions.

The construction of these big projects has had its difficulties, but the young volunteers have overcome them with their revolutionary vigour.

The construction sites are great schools of revolutionary education and tempering for the youth. Organised work is done there for the study of Marxism-

Leninism. The youth throw off their backward customs and obscurantist prejudices and became frontline fighters against the remnants of the past. Coming from all corners of the homeland to take part in actions, they develop friendship and solidarity and exchange their positive experience over the most varied problems.

Young people from the countryside and the cities, from the plants, factories, schools, the university and higher institutes take part in actions. Living and working together enables them to learn from one another, to get to know one another and make friends. At the actions, the youth work and enjoy themselves together. They discuss and thrash out their ideas about many problems, always gaining from each other's experience, for they come from different sectors.

Thousands of activists and cadres of the youth organisations and the production sectors have been tempered on the anvil of this great work. More than 70 per cent of those elected to the youth forums and organisations are young people who have gone through actions. Action has been of great educative value for the school and student youth, who with their work, sweat, and the results they have achieved, have smashed the mistaken concept that this section of the youth is



A well known folk dancer has come all the way from the highlands of Northern Albania to meet the young volunteers on the railway and to give performances for them.

Photo: N. Xhufi

The youth of our country has built many projects with voluntary labour. These include important industrial projects, the opening of virgin land, the construction of hundreds of kilometers of railway line etc. Now the youth has undertaken the construction of two new railway lines; the line which links the mining centers at Prrenjas with Guri i Kuq, near the city of Pogradec, and the railway line in the interior of the Metallurgical Combine under construction in Elbasan.

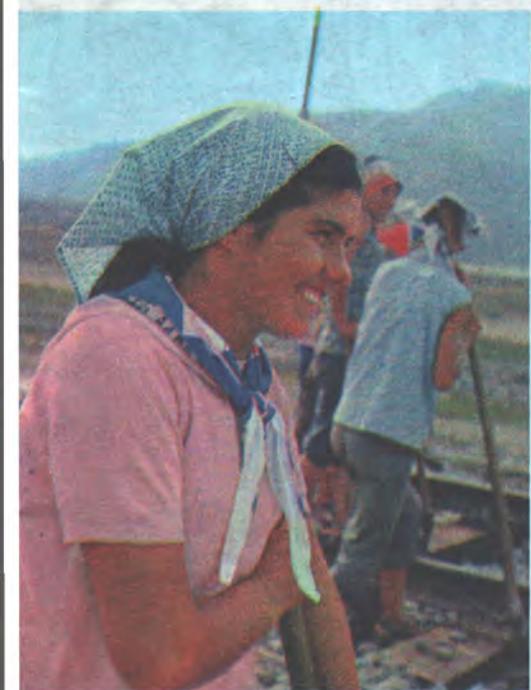
In the Photo: The first lines are laid at the Metallurgical Combine in Elbasan.



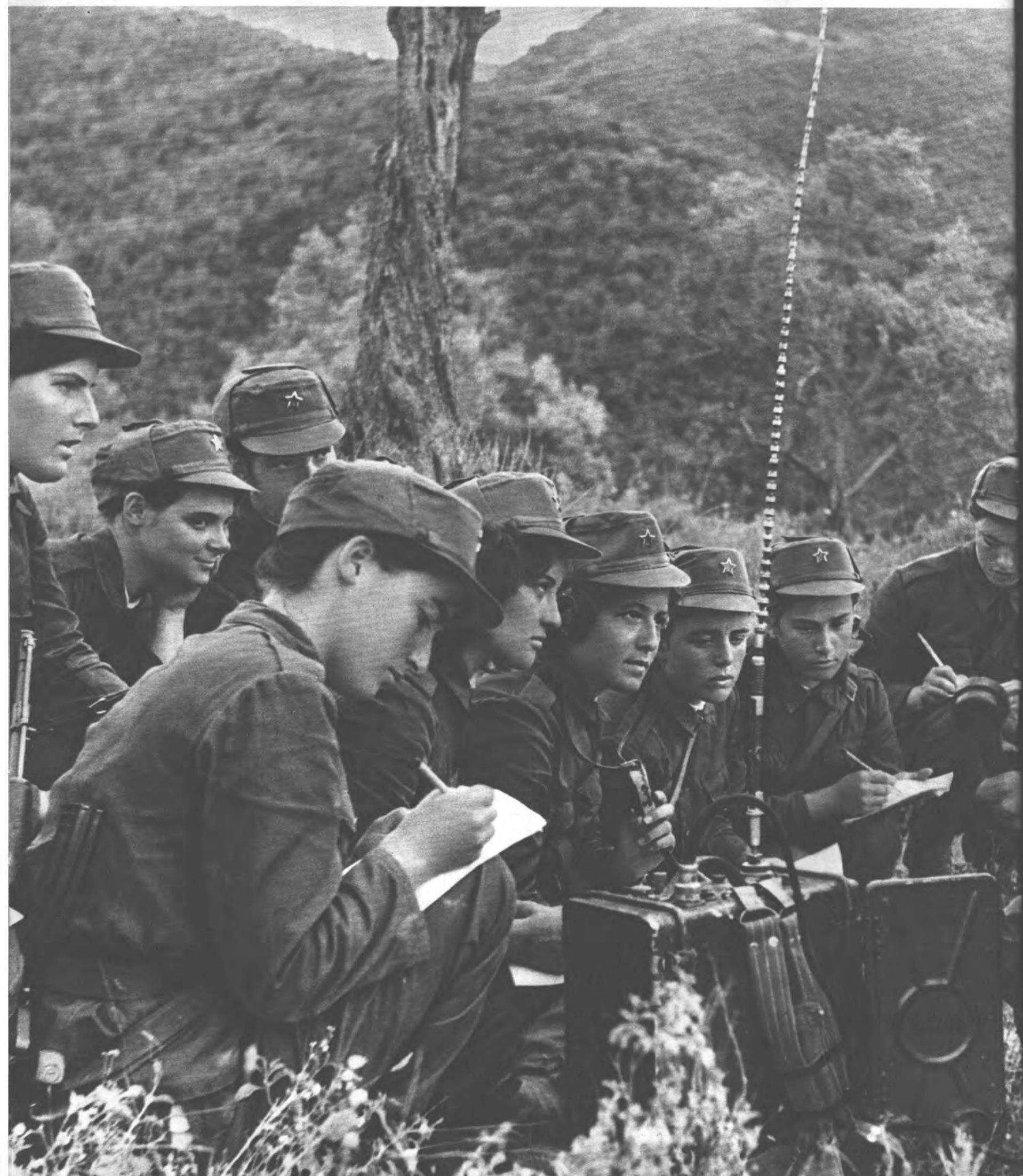
destined for intellectual work and allegedly cannot do physical work. Practice shows that they are just as capable in this field as they are in the field of theoretical training.

Along with their selfless construction work, the young volunteers have also put forward serious useful, and constructive views about improving the technical organisation of the job, the rational utilisation of the machinery, and the increase of productivity. And these are not the views of mere observers, but of active participants in their implementation and the constant improvement of the work.

Especially in recent times, when under the leadership of the Party, all-round struggle is being waged for the further revolutionisation of the country's life, the youth have made a very great contribution. The most important feature of their work on the jobs in schools and on actions is the involvement and active participation of youths and girls in the revolutionary class struggle, to safeguard and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat, to further develop production, culture and art.



Physical Military Tempering



One of the three fundamental components of our school is the physical-military training of the pupils and students.

In the photos: Students of the Higher Institutes during a lesson of military training.



IN the photographs which have been printed above you can see a group of young girls during a lesson of military training. They are students of the Tirana University.

In Albania the entire younger generation takes an active part in the military and physical training. The youth is conscious of the great duty they have towards the Homeland — both in the field of socialist construction and in the field of the strengthening of the defence of the victories achieved from every threat, no matter where it comes from. The staunch builder of socialism is at the same time a staunch defender of the socialist Homeland. The one without the other cannot be conceived. Comrade Enver Hoxha teaches the youth and all the working people that "the defence of the Homeland is the duty above all duties". The motto of every citizen of our People's Republic is, "The pick in one hand and the rifle in the other". The youth in particular have engaged themselves in this task.

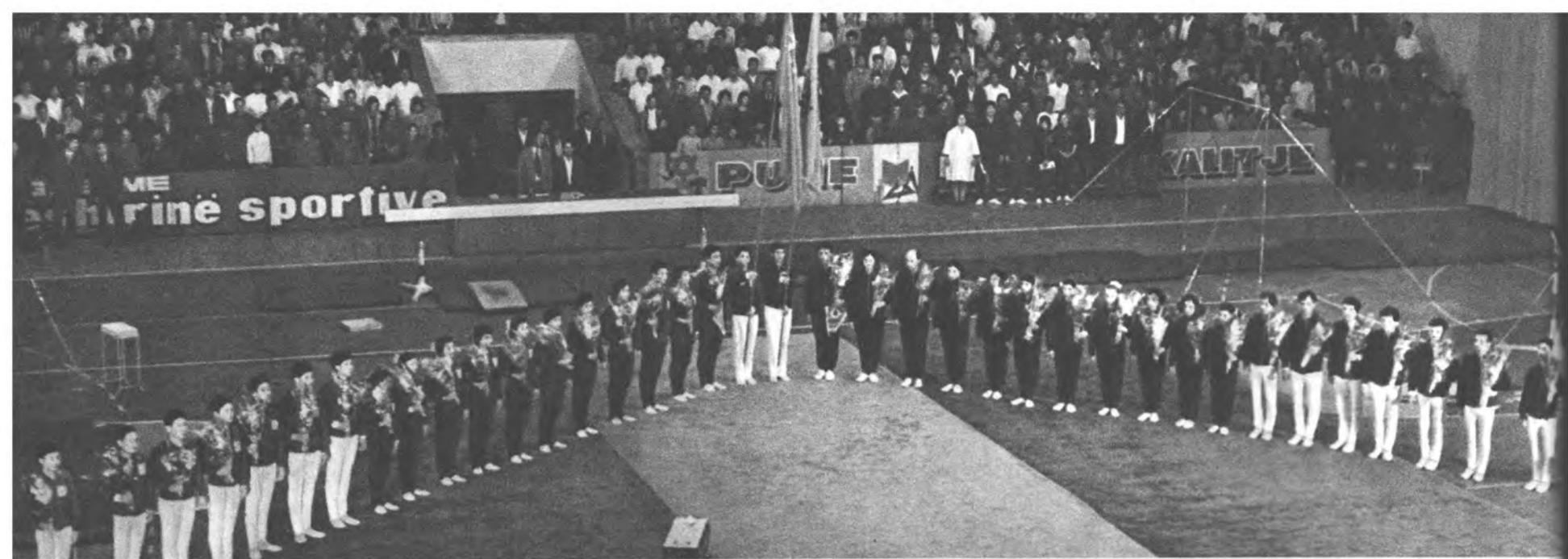
The physical and military training is realised, first of all, at school and in unity and harmony with the teaching programmes along with all the other scientific subjects and besides the participation of the pupils and students in production work. The secondary school pupils and the students of the higher schools do their physical and military training as a special subject. The programmes are escalated every year and they cover a broad complex of norms of physical education, theoretical and practical lessons on popular military art, on the mastery of arms and fighting technique.

During the work to fulfill these programmes, complete unity is realised between political, ideological and the physical-military preparation. In this aspect, the Albanian education system, aims on the one hand, at educating the youth with the spirit of pa-

triotism and readiness to make the greatest sacrifices in the name of the Homeland and socialism, on the other hand, to give the youth a serious physical and military training.

Thousands of young boys and girls, having a correct understanding of the need of the mass development of physical education and sports, enthusiastically participate in the broad sports activities, organised by the different clubs and sports collectives, on a district, school, work center, agricultural cooperative or enterprise scale, in accordance with a national sports calendar, which is drafted annually in consultation with the broad masses of the youth and the physical education cadres. This calendar secures the variety of sports of the big sports movement and its mass character. On other hand, every district, work center, institution, agricultural cooperative and enterprise, have their own sports calendar, drafted in accordance with their own concrete conditions and in coordination with the national sports calendar. The People's State Power has placed extensive funds at the disposal of the youth and it has made many concessions for them so that they can participate in sports and physical education as much as possible. Sports complexes have been built all over the country, along with stadiums, sports grounds, even in the most remote highland areas. The climatic resorts, beaches etc, are all at the disposal of the youth to exploit the natural conditions for marches and excursions, swimming, alpinism, tourism.

The organisations of the Youth Union, in the ranks of which the young boys and girls of our country militate fight uninterruptedly to secure the excellent role of their members in physical and military tempering, so that every young person is formed with all the qualities of a worthy citizen.



BEAUTIFUL SPORTS MEETINGS OF FRIENDSHIP...

B. Dizdari



... A small fourteen year old girl with an almost child like look in her eyes, with a smile playing on her lips, twists and twirls on the equilibrium bar as if on the floor. Her exercises full of turns and somersaults on the narrowness of the bar, left the Tirana public breathless, then they burst out into wild applause.

This was the young Chinese gymnast Li Hiu Ping, a gymnast of world standards who, with her art, amazed the Albanian sports-lovers.

Not only Li Hiu Ping, but all the young gymnasts of the People's Republic of China made a great impression in the joint performances they gave with the Albanian gymnasts. The memory of the fifteen year old Peng Ja Ping, Xhao Qja Vej and others, whose abilities, elegance, daring and skill in the execution of many difficult exercises, made up a rich mozaic of dignified performances, is unforgettable. They once more showed that Chinese gymnastics represents one of the most advanced schools in the world.

Over the last few years, gymnastics, as a result of the good conditions which have been created by the People's State-power, has developed and become very popular in Albania too. During the training sessions together with the members of the teams of the People's Republic of China, the Albanian gymnasts profitted a great deal from the Chinese friends. Kao Tie, the trainer of the



national Chinese team said, "We are very moved and happy to see the apparent progress of the Albanian team within such a short period of time".

In the performances with the Chinese gymnasts, this progress stood out in all its clarity. And it is true, before these meetings, the Third National Spartakiad was held, a very pleasing gymnastics festival, where more than ever, the new talents who will raise the name of the new Albanian gymnastics even higher, stood out.

In the meetings with the Chinese comrades the young gymnasts of Albania presented themselves as more prepared and elegant, more certain and harmonious in the many different kinds of exercises. Many of them realised exercises of a very high level of interpretation. Ilir Tafili's performance was unforgettable, so exact in his exercises on the rings or Merita Shehu, who did such a difficult conclusion of her exercises on the equilibrium bar perfectly, but Merita is not alone. Together with her there is a whole group of young girls who have brought a new freshness with them to the Albanian gymnastics: for example, Elvana Machi, Mariana Pilkati and other girls, who are now known to the whole country.

... It was a long time since the eight

hundred meters race for women had not been permeated with such rivalry, force and beautiful running. The tone of this race was set by the sixteen year old Marinda Preka, who has only just embraced the road of athletics. Right from the very first meters Marinda set a powerful pace. For seven hundred meters she held the head, forcing the other athletes to run at faster rates, record rates. But she lacked the strength to take the home stretch. Her comrades passed her. Nineteen year old Sofija Krepi crossed the finishing line the first and improved the national record for which Marinda made such a big contribution. The chronometer registered the time of 2' 12" 6 minutes.

This new record by Albania was attained in the friendly sports meetings between the athletic teams of the People's Republic of China and the People's Republic of Albania at the national Stadium "Qemal Stafa" in Tirana. In the three step jumping race the Albanian youth Koço Mulla improved the national record attaining the result of 15.56 meters, in the hammer throwing, the talented sportsman Pirro Opari also attained a good result, 62.11 meters. The young Albanian girl Yllka Bylyku sixteen years old gave a fine performance at the long jumping, she jumped 5.82 meters, seventeen year old Tatjana Çavo jumped 1.65 meters at the high jump. For the eighth time, the 19 year old runner, Engjellushe Spaho equaled the national record of twelve seconds in the 100 meters race.

As in all the meetings, this time too, the Chinese athletes demonstrated the high standards of sportsmanship. In the 100 meters race the well known Chinese runner Feng Chen Jen demonstrated an almost perfect sprint, rhythmic, with sure steps and a perfect start and finish. Chai Chan Si also attained a high level in the jumping. He jumped five meters — a very satisfactory result and very near to the Chinese national record.

But more important than the results, during these meetings, and the joint training, the Chinese and Albanian sportsmen and women, gained experience from one another, they got to know one another even better, they expressed once more, the steel like love between the Chinese and Albanian people, a love strengthened by our Marxist Leninist Parties, by our beloved leader Comrade Enver Hoxha and the great leader of the Chinese people Chairman Mao Tse Tung. The meetings between the sportsmen and women of the two countries was yet another very significant expression of this friendship. This is precisely where the success of the sports results, the progress of the Chinese and Albanian athletes lies.

OUR PUBLICATIONS

A METHOD FOR LEARNING THE ALBANIAN LANGUAGE



Recently the first part of *A Method to Learn the Albanian Language* was put on sale. As is said in the book's introduction, for a long time now, the Albanian patriots of the colonies beyond the borders of the Homeland, and their patriotic organisations have been requesting that a method be compiled to learn the Albanian language. This legitimate demand is being met by the Publishing House of School Text Books, and the authors of the book, both for our compatriots and the friends and well wishers of Albania in different countries, who want to learn the Albanian language.

This method could serve as a basis for Albanian lessons with a teacher at schools or in a course, or without a teacher, in an individual manner. It will be comprised of three parts. The first and second parts include different texts with about 2,500 words, with the fundamental rules and main grammatical knowledge. In the first part, the grammatical rules are given without the theoretical definitions in a practical way, through the linguistic structures, illustrated texts, conversations and exercises.

In the second part, besides the enriching of the vocabulary and the linguistic structures, special grammatical themes will also be treated. The authors are concentrating on making the range of themes treated in the lessons as varied as possible, to reflect the new life in our country, the history of the Albanian people, their culture, customs and beautiful traditions.

The third book will include selected pieces for reading, grammatical notes and a rich vocabulary.

The first book, which has just come of the press, is bound beautifully in 223 pages. Most of the illustrations are in colour. This book includes thirty lessons, which, altogether aim at giving the reader the basic information to learn the Albanian language. After these lessons, several pages at the end of the book have been devoted to the answers of the exercises given throughout the lessons, and a grammatical dictionary in Albanian, French and English. The reader will find of great help, a number of tables in the book which treat main questions of the grammar of the Albanian language, such as the formation of genders, the declination of nouns, pronouns, adverbs, the conjugation of verbs etc.

At the end of the book there is a small dictionary in three languages for the words used in the book.

Expressing themselves very modestly about this "first attempt", in the book's introduction, the authors, L. Radovicka, Z. Karapici and A. Toma, write, "Our work is only the beginning. We would be very grateful to all those who would help us with criticism and suggestions, for the further improvement of this method, which will certainly help to strengthen the patriotic feelings of our countrymen, outside of Albania and to promote the feelings of friendship among all the sympathisers of the Albanian people.



Seven Questions on the Medical Service

In the letters our editorial board receives from our readers there have been many questions related to Albanian life. In this issue we have selected seven questions regarding the medical service and its workers.

We addressed our questions to Doctor Zisa Cikuli, Director of the House of Sanitary Education in Tirana who gave us the following answers.

1. *In the case of a child's illness, can a working mother stay home to care for the child?*

When a child is taken ill, the working mother has the right to remain at home to nurse the child for nine days in every three month period or up to thirty six working days a year. For this period she is paid. If the doctor deems it necessary, a mother can be given supplementary unpaid leave to nurse a child through a long illness.

If the child has to be hospitalised, the mother, particularly if she is breast feeding the child, can stay at the hospital to assist the child for as long as the doctor recommends it. For the whole of this period she is paid on the basis of the regulations of social security.

2. *What measures have been taken to prevent professional diseases?*

According to the sanitary legislation of our country, now it is compulsory for every work center to take measures for the prevention of professional diseases of the workers, in accordance with the work sectors and the materials handled by the workers. The work center must secure the respective installations for ventilation or for the suction of harmful gases, smoke, dust during production processes, and to remove in good time, all waste and debris harmful to the environment. The work center must supply the workers with individual means and clothing for protection during production. The workers must also utilise these means during work. They are subject to periodical medical examinations, make the necessary analysis at the laboratory etc. No new worker is accepted at work without having a medical report which proves the situation of his health.

3. *What pre-natal preparations are made and to breast feed a child?*

Every woman, as soon as she suspects that she is pregnant, reports to the women's consultation rooms, both in town and countryside. The consultant keeps the mother to be under constant control, follows the normal development of the child and when any difficulty arises, immediately sends the woman to the respective specialist. The pregnant women prepare themselves to receive their children, following the advice of the mid-wife or doctor who is in charge of them. They go through a health education course called, "The School of the Mothers" where they learn how to bring up their babies. A working mother who is breast feeding a child has the right to leave work every three hours to feed the child.

4. *What action is taken with handicapped children?*

Our state spares nothing for the life of handicapped children. It makes huge expenditure to return them to normal life. Special institutions have been set up in Albania to correct several congenital diseases such as luxatio, coxac etc. In Albania there is also a central institution for mentally handicapped children where they are submitted to a psychological-pedagogical treatment and any other respective treatment.

The results are very satisfactory: many of these children have entered life as all the others.

5. *How do the University students carry out their medical practice?*

The revolutionary triangle of our education system — lessons, production work and military education — operates in the Faculty of Medicine as well. Besides the lessons which are done in accordance with the teaching programs and plans, the students also do practical medical work, beginning from the first year at the faculty. For example, first year medical students do one month practical work of a nurse or sanitary worker. In accordance with their subjects, the practical lessons are done in the laboratories or at the patient's bedside and under the direct supervision of the assistants. The sixth year of the faculty is almost all practical work done at the surgeries of internal surgical illnesses, pediatric and obstetric-gynaecological complaints. The relations between practical and theoretical work are harmonised so that the student is as capable as possible of meeting the demands to properly treat the patient.

6. *What relations exist between the doctor and the patient?*

These relations, being disinterested (in our country, the doctor has no financial ties with the patient) are based on mutual respect and socialist humanism. The doctors respect their patients, they listen to them carefully and do their utmost to alleviate their suffering as much as possible. The patient also nourishes a great respect for the doctors and listens to every word they say. Now it has become a part of the daily practice of our doctors to maintain constant contact with the people, they meet with groups of workers, citizens and villagers and hold talks with them, lectures etc, to raise the cultural and health education of the workers.

7. *What wages do the doctors receive and what measures have been taken these last few years to educate the doctors so that they are considered as workers like all the others?*

A doctor is paid in accordance with the criteria, regulations which are in power for all the other kinds of wages of the employees of our country. The doctors are educated with the spirit of not considering themselves as being privileged for the sole reason that they are doctors. Their wages rise on the basis of seniority at work, and several other criteria which apply to health workers. There is a reasonable relation in the difference of the wages of health workers with low, secondary and higher education.

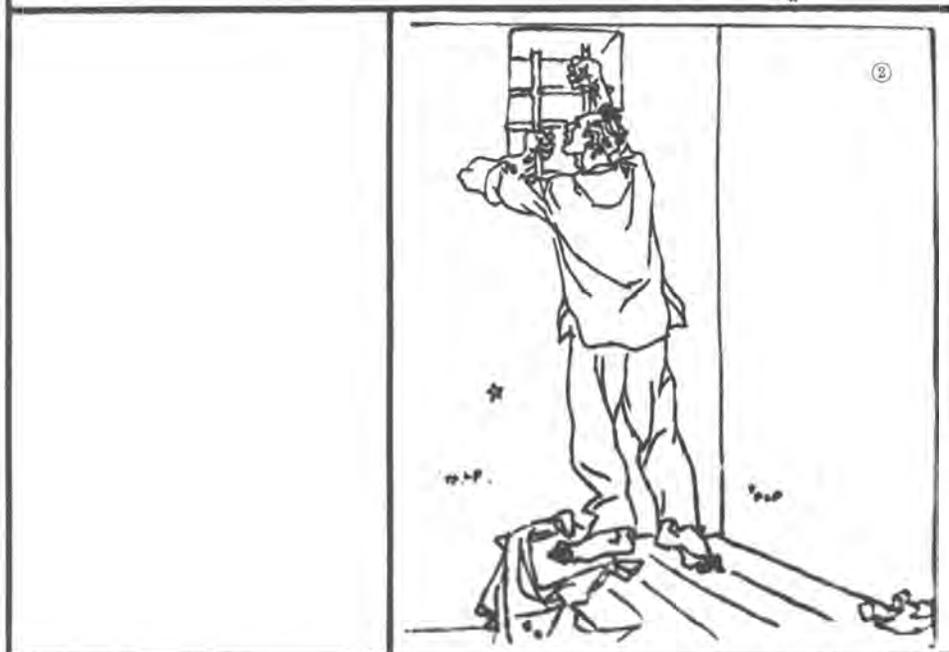
It must be mentioned here that all the expenditure for the training of a doctor is met by the state. The doctor does not spend anything for his education. Therefore, in our country the doctor has many obligations towards society who gave him his profession. Medicine as the all other branches, is not a means of getting rich for those who practice it.

"The Partisan Song"



The partisan song . . . It could be heard everywhere. In the mountains, echoing over hill ridges, in the houses where the illegal workers were sheltered and in the prisons of the enemy. It could be heard in every place which was being fought and laboured for the new day. With these songs on their lips, sons left their mothers to take to the hills, fell on the field of battle and swooped down on the towns and cities like eagles of liberation. During the National Liberation War, every partisan brigade had its own song. This was their hymn, their march. But every one of these songs became sacred for young and old in our country. They are still as sacred today.

The painter Naxhi Bakalli, inspired by these songs has prepared a series of sketches and drawings. We are printing just a few of them here.



- ① The Song of the Seventh Brigade.
- ② On foreign soil.
- ③ "The green covered Mountains" . . .
- ④ The song of Mina Peza, a woman who was shot down at the head of a demonstration before the fascist prison in Tirana in 1941.
- ⑤ Goodbye Comrades!
- ⑥ Comrades, join in the singing . . .





Nestor Jonuzi, "The Joy of Victory."



Sabaudin Xhaferi, "In the new heights."

FRIENDS ON ALBANIA

I came to visit Albania as a member of the Egypt-Albania friendship Association. I had in mind many problems which are carrying the world today, especially after attending a number of international conferences including that on Food, held in Rome a few months ago. These problems are the crisis of growth of the population, energy, food, inflation, and pollution of the environment.

In connection with these problems, it emerges that in Albania the first question of "the population growth" is not looked upon as a problem. There are no restrictive measures, on the contrary, the growth of the population is encouraged. The annual growth rate of the population amounts to 3 per cent, which is higher than in many countries of the world. Population has doubled within a relatively short period, from the liberation of Albania to date. This increase is a result of the raising of the standard of living, of the health service, especially care for children, for their good upbringing and education. The housing problem has been solved with low rents, suitable for everybody. In Albania, encouragement is given to marriages based on love and understanding and not according to obsolete backward customs.

As far as the second problem, "energy", is concerned, Albania has taken big strides forward, by exploiting the water flows and building hydro-power stations on them. One of the biggest hydro-power stations of the country with a capacity of 500,000 kw. is currently being built at Fierza through self-reliance and with the internationalist assistance of the People's Republic of China. Electric power has been introduced into every home in Albania, up to the highest peaks of the mountains, just as it is being used on a big scale in industry and agriculture. Albania utilises coal, too. A metallurgical Complex is now under construction at Elbasan. Albania is also regarded as rich in oil. We saw hundreds of oil wells and the construction of an oil refinery with a capacity of one million tons of oil a year, at Ballsh. In this way, Albania embarks on the road of the petrochemistry, insecticides and chemical fertilizer industries.

On the plains of Albania, we saw a large number modern hot houses as well as other plastic covered green houses, for early crops with continuous supplies and high yields.

If we regard man as the greatest force and main factor in the construction of the country, this principle has been put into practice by the Party of Labour in Albania. In Albania everybody works, without exception. Fifty per cent of the working people are women. The working people of the administration and the intelligentsia work one month per year directly in production, and this includes everybody, regardless of his function.

As to the third problem "food", Albania has taken big strides especially after the 1961 blockade, when it decided to implement the



THE ANSWER TO MANY QUESTIONS

Prof. Dr. Jussuf Wally

the Ain Shems University, Egypt

policy of self-reliance. Good results have been achieved in the production of bread grain and in the increase of the production of sugar beet or other food products such as rice, the production of which has increased 25 times over. The production of potatoes, too has increased several times and they have become a source of food rich in carbohydrates. It is observed that crop yields in Albania are higher than in Europe, especially the yield of wheat, maize, sugar beet, and sunflower. The cultivation of industrial crops, too has increased considerably. The production of cotton has increased 200 times over, thus coming to the aid of the textile industry. Tobacco production has increased 7.7 times over, on the basis of which, the cigarette industry, which not only meets local needs but also provides quantities for export, has been set up. In recent years, Albania has turned to production of tomatoes, cucumbers and other vegetables in modern hot houses.

Growing of fruit, grapes, and especially citrus trees in big plantations and terraces, especially on the coastline of Saranda and Vlora has been greatly developed in Albania. Electric energy has been placed at the service of agriculture, both for irrigation

and for its industrialisation. The entire road network in Albania has been lined with trees which are used for timber. The exploitation of waters and their organised use for irrigation are handled very well. A well studied policy is also applied in the distribution of the specialists of agriculture, of whom only 10 per cent work in administration while the rest work directly in the fields. Special care is devoted to enlarging and strengthening the agricultural cooperatives so that they can develop into higher type cooperatives.

All this is done side by side with the special attention paid to the mechanisation of agriculture, the production and improvement of seeds and use of fertilizers. As far as the mechanisation of agriculture is concerned, the number of tractors alone, has increased 470 times compared with the pre-liberation period. There are special scientific institutions and centers which produce and improve seeds. Large quantities of fertilizers are used: four times as much as in Greece, 3 times more than in Yugoslavia and twice as much as in Italy.

The publication of the soil survey map will help in defining the kinds of soil and the use of chemical fertilizers for every region of Albania. What is more, these analyses will be carried out every four years. In Albania, there are plants to produce super-phosphate, nitrate, and so on.

Special care is shown in Albania for the development of animal husbandry. The number of milch cows and beef cattle has increased 60 times compared with the pre-liberation period.

In connection with the fourth problem "inflation", this word is nonexistent in the Albanian vocabulary. Prices are fixed. Despite the impact of the world crisis on some imported goods, for example, sugar, the state subsidizes them without raising their prices. To raise the general wellbeing, measures have been, and will be, taken to reduce pay differentials, by lowering the highest and raising the lowest, so that the ratio between the highest and the lowest pay will be 2.5 to 1.

As to the last problem, which is the "pollution of the environment" care has been taken in Albania to build the factories and plants far from the residential areas. There are no private cars in Albania. The cities of Albania are outstanding for their greenery, with the large number of parks and trees. They are surrounded by belts of trees and the air is pure everywhere. Besides this, the people themselves take great care of cleanliness in Albania, a thing which we noticed everywhere. During the Summer vacations, the school youth do the cleaning of beaches and the summer vacation centers every day.

Finally, I want to point out that Albania is like one big family, free from antagonistic contradictions, distinguished for its well studied and harmonious planning in all the sectors and its precise implementation. Every worker is ready to work in any sector and give his good example at work.

EXPORT

Albania is rich in marble and other decorative stones. There is especially a great deal of deep red maroon coloured marble with white veins running through it, white and grey crystalline marble, multi-coloured marble and marbled limestones which can be found in big deposits in many districts of Albania.

All this marble is characterised by its high decorative qualities, its massiveness in blocks, its physical-mechanical features, purity, and its beautiful colouring.

The marble is processed in factories under the Building Materials Combine here in Tirana, and also in several districts, for local building demands.

The development of the oil processing industry has made it possible to raise the quantity and quality of bitumen production year by year. Our bitumens with their chemical and physical features which meet international standards, are distinguished for their purity, which amounts to ninety per cent, their high dissolubility capacity and ductility. (The quality of being pressed, beaten or drawn into shape).

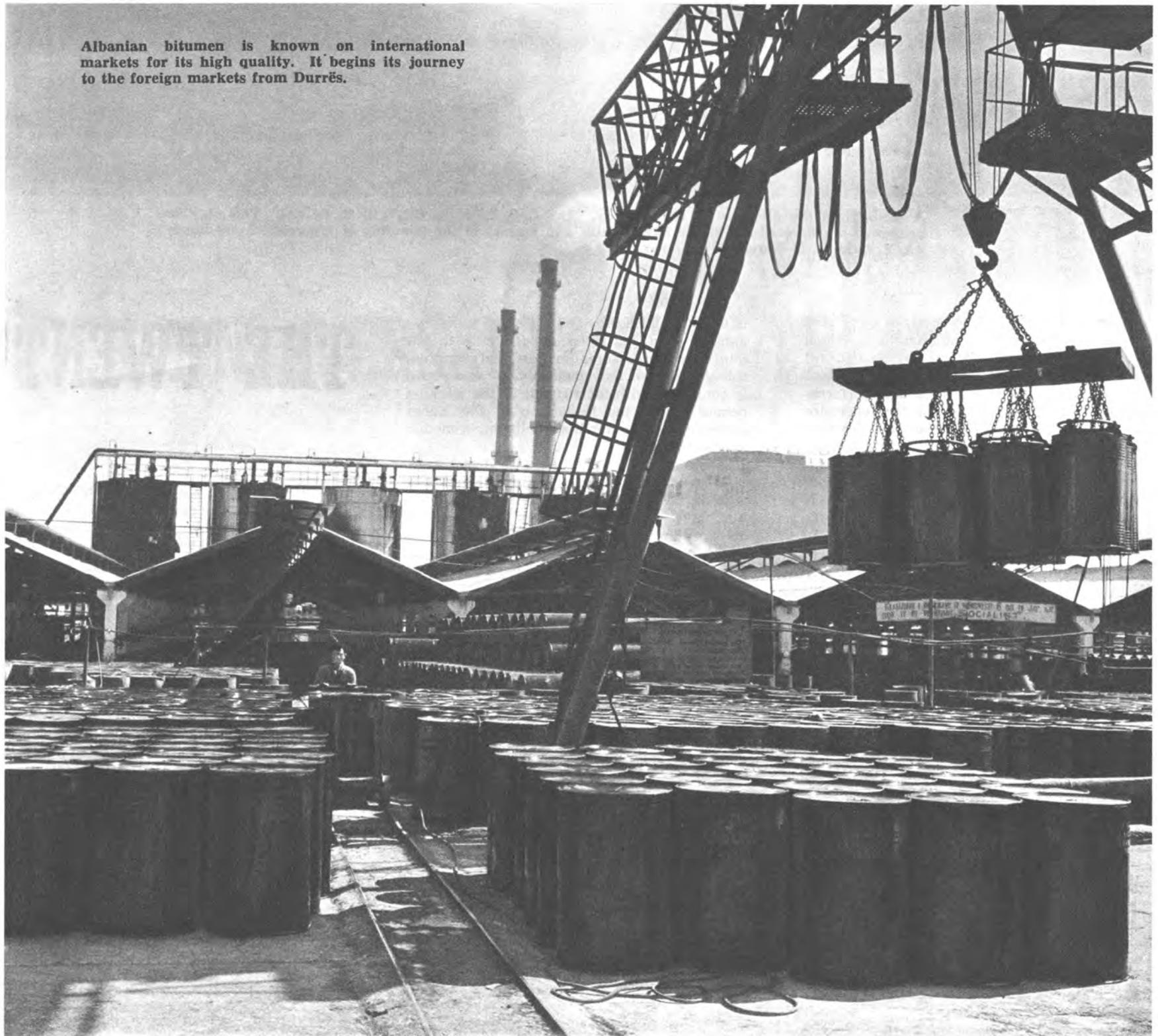
Many countries import albanian bitumen. Foreign firms which have purchased and used our bitumens, place big orders for them.

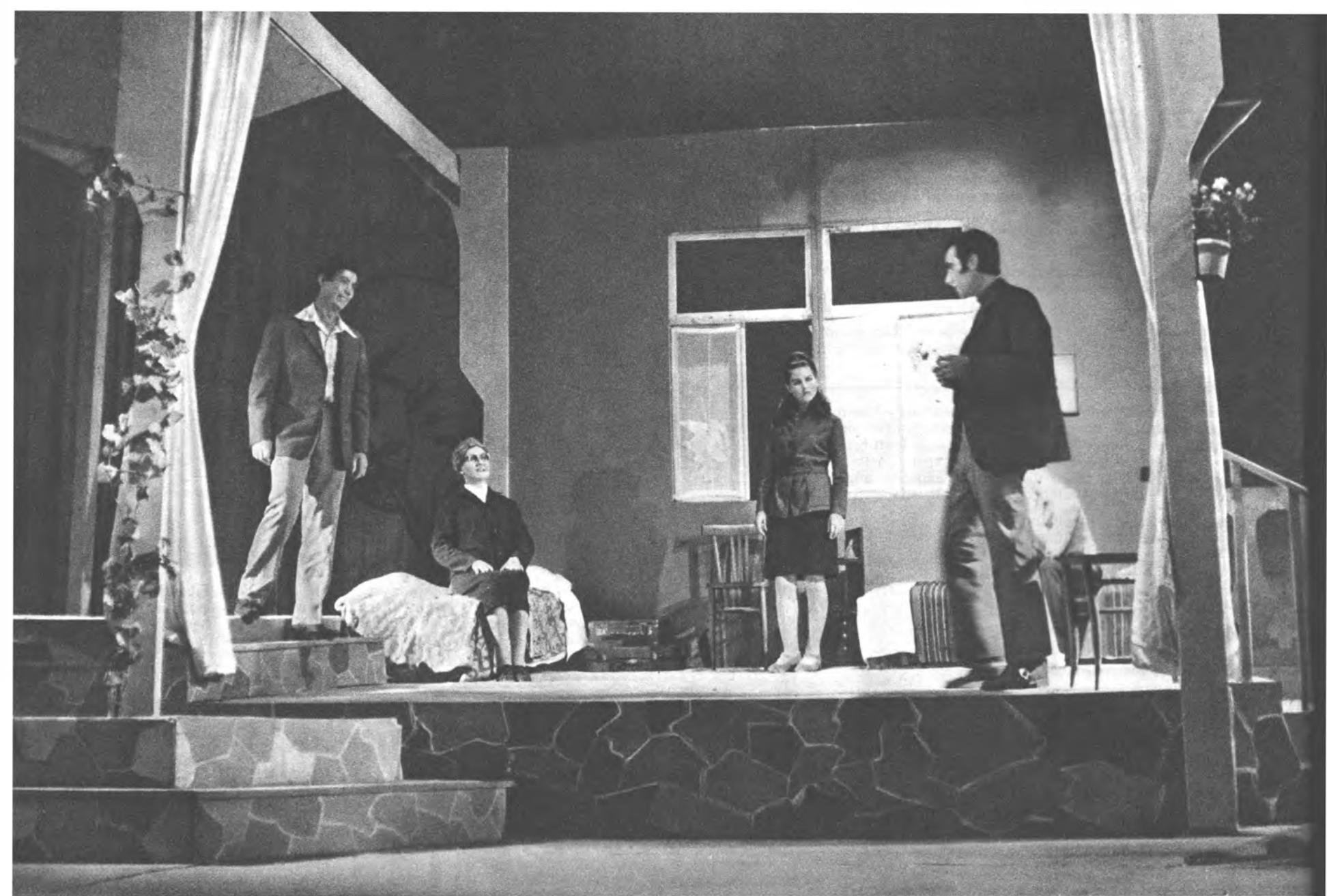
Besides bitumen from oil, our country has been producing natural bitumen for the local market and for export for the last one hundred years.



For centuries on end, many kinds of marble have been lying in the bosom of our soil. Only after liberation was it made possible for these deposits to become the property of the people. Because our marble is of good quality, several kinds are sold on the overseas markets. In the photo: A block of red marble.

Albanian bitumen is known on international markets for its high quality. It begins its journey to the foreign markets from Durrës.





A scene from the premiere of the Comedy, "The Lady from the City", by R. Pulaha. This play was presented on the occasion of the twenty fifth anniversary of the founding of the professional theatre, "A. Z. Çajupi", in Korça.

The twenty fifth anniversary of the "A.Z. Çajupi" professional Theatre of Korça marked an important event in the cultural and artistic life of the city. In the course of ten days, the public of Korça saw performances of the ten best plays of the repertoire of this troupe, and took part in meetings between actors, actresses and their audiences in the factories, cooperatives, and cultural institutions and in debates about some of the theatrical pieces written by local writers. A scientific session was held too in which six papers were read about the traditions of theatrical life of the city and district of Korça, about the various stages of the activity of the troupe since its inception (June 22, 1950), about current problems of the dramatic and stage art, and so on.

All these activities were followed with great an interest by the workers, the cooperative members, and intellectuals of the city and district of Korça.

The city of Korça, one of the most important cultural centers of the country, has a very long tradition in the field of theatre. The first theatrical performance was given by a group of young patriots in the year 1889. The aim of these performances was to keep alive and set ablaze the patriotic feelings of the people who were still languishing under the heel of the Turkish occupiers. After the proclamation of Albania's independence in 1912, various amateur groups continued to give theatrical and artistic performances from time to time. The 30s were characterised by an appreciable increase in literary, publicist, theatrical, and artistic activity. This time too, the emphasis was on questions of a political, economic, and social character. That

is why, the authorities of the obscurantist regime of king Zog often stepped in with administrative measures to ban and suppress this progressive movement, which was closely connected with the struggle of the working people, under the leadership of the Korça communist group, for their political, economic and social rights.

As a general rule, when a theatrical work does not have a second performance this is because the public doesn't like it on the opening night. But in Korça, the situation was often quite the opposite: The performances which were a roaring success among the public were immediately banned by the Zog government authorities, precisely because of their progressive content.

As is known, during the National Liberation War, the Communist Party of Albania attached proper importance to the educative and mobilising power of the theatre, and showed great concern for the organisation of amateur groups in the cities in the occupied and liberated regions, in the partisan units and even in the prisons. These groups put on short theatrical pieces with an entirely new content which was aimed at mobilising the masses of the people in struggle against the nazi-fascist occupiers and the local traitors. We can say, that if it is not unique in the history of the world theatre, at least it is a very rare occurrence, that political prisoners have put on various performances even within the confines of the prisons of fascism.

During the National Liberation War, some of the amateur artists of the 30s, together with new ones, continued their theatrical-artistic activity, giving performances secretly in the occupied regions and or openly

THE TWENTY

in the liberated regions and the partisan detachments. This occurred not only in the Korça district, but in a number of other districts in Albania. Thus were created the first nucleus of the amateur theatrical groups, which, in the new conditions of the post liberation period, were to continue their activity with even greater vigour and zeal. In this manner, at the House of Culture of the city of Korça, right after liberation under the great care of the Party and the people's state power, the amateur theatrical group, composed of elements who "had come down from the mountains" and other elements who loved this art, began its activity.

By decision of the government, on June 22, 1950, the professional theatre group was formed, named after the Albanian patriotic writer, Andon Zako Çajupi. The new theatre troupe came out before the public for the first time, with the play, "Overthrown", which depicted events from the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Now, the former actors of the 30s and the years of the National Liberation War enjoyed the unreserved help and support of the Party of Labour of Albania and the People's State power.



The Artist of the People, Pandi Raidhi, before the play is staged, studies and absorbs the role he plays in the comedy, "The Lady from the City".

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF A THEATRE

Characteristic of the 25 year history of the "A.Z. Çajupi" professional theatre of the city of Korça is its broad and allround activity, not only in its native city but in other cities of the country, too, in factories, villages, construction sites, and other work centers. Figures are the most eloquent evidence of this activity. In the course of 25 years, the "A.Z. Çajupi" Theatre has put on stage a total of 94 plays, 64 of them from Albanian national drama and 30 from past and current world drama. It has given 2.753 performances in town and countryside with audiences totalling 1.033.397 people — a figure almost equal to half Albania's population. The theatre troupe assisted in staging the first Albanian operetta "Dawn" by composer Kristo Kono, while many of its actors have played important roles in many feature films produced by the "New Albania" film Studio. Many of the most outstanding actors of this troupe have been honoured with artistic titles and various decorations for the fine work they have done in the field of dramatic art.

From this brief view of the "prehistory" and history of this theatre, we can rightfully say that it has successfully lived up to its lofty task and has earned the admiration of the art loving public.

Several of the members and also founders of the "A. Z. Çajupi Professional Theatre" on the day of the twenty fifth anniversary of its founding.



HISTORY

125 years are completed this year since the birth of the ardent patriot and outstanding thinker, Sami Frashëri, one of the most important personalities of our National Renaissance. With his activity, he played an important role in organising and leading our patriotic and cultural movement in the last quarter of the 19th century.

At the time when Sami Frashëri lived and worked, Albania was languishing under the centuries-old yoke of the Ottoman empire. The progressive Albanian men of our Renaissance were faced with the need for organisation in the ideological and propaganda fields in order to raise the national consciousness to a higher level. The efforts made in the cultural field were part of the general plan for national emancipation. This was the aim of the founding of the "Albanian Language Printing Association" in Istanbul, in 1879 of which Sami Frashëri was elected chairman. As a patriot and linguist, Sami saw two very important positive aspects in the education of the Albanians in their mother tongue. In the first place, this would mean recognition of our nationality at a time when, by identifying religion with nationality reactionary foreign propaganda was trying to negate the Albanian nationality. Second, the teaching of the Albanian language in schools would serve to increase national propaganda and as a result, to raise the national consciousness among the broad masses of the people to a higher level. Sami did a great deal of work to develop the Albanian language in his time, rightfully considering it one of the main characteristics of the nation.

The miserable situation of Albania in the time of Turkish domination and what had to be done to save the Albanian from this yoke, Sami describes in his political treatise "*Albania, what it was, what it is, and what it will be*" which is also his most important work in Albanian. In this work, he set himself the task of propounding his views as an ideologist about how to save the fatherland.

Living in the Imperial capital and possessing a very broad range of knowledge, Sami was well acquainted, both with the situation of the empire, and with grievances of his own country, with which he was always spiritually linked. His excellent knowledge of these two aspects enabled the ideologist Sami, to draw very important conclusions for our national movement. He arrived at the conclusion that the time had come for the Albanians to fight arms in hand to gain their rights, "*to demand them in words but to have the rifle loaded*". This is what Sami advised, acknowledging that violence is the most effective means in the struggle for independence. In the unity of the Albanians, Sami saw the greatest guarantee of the victory, that is why, he issued the clarion call, "*Men! Hold firmly to mutual trust, ties, and unity for this will save you*". As far as the form of the future Albanian state is concerned, Sami spoke out against a monarchy and pressed for the establishment of a democratic Republican regime. Though it cannot be said that Sami adopted a completely atheist position with his views, he seriously stigmatized the whole obscurantist religious system of the time. He did not hesitate to describe religion as it really was with all its shortcomings and the harm it did. He wrote, "*Most of the people who are no good at anything take up religion to find consolation, hypocrisy is the imitation of religion*".

For many reasons, Sami wrote most of his works in the Turkish language. He turned out more than 50 works in this language, some of which had world importance which they have not lost to this day. The range of problems he tackled was extraordinarily wide. He was a great encyclopedist in the true sense of the term. Sami Frashëri, or Shemsedin Sami, as he is known in the field of Turkology, was the first linguist to write in Turkish about theoretical problems of the language with the responsibility and earnestness of a true scientist. He is the author of several dictionaries in the Turkish language, but Sami's greatest work in the field of lexicology is the exploratory dictionary of the Turkish language, "*Kamusi turki*", which is one of the best of its kind. To judge the importance of this dictionary, suffice it to mention that even today, whenever dictionaries of the Turkish language are compiled, the Turkish dictionary by the Albanian author, Sami Frashëri, cannot fail to be taken into consideration. Today his dictionary is still on the desks of the Turkological scientists and as they say for French, "*look up what Larousse say*" so they say for the Turkish language, "*look up what Shemsedin Sami says*".

Sami compiled the first encyclopaedia in Turkish in 6 volumes, in which he devotes important space to Albania and the history of the Albanian people.

He was an all-rounder an outstanding master of several languages, a talented translator, and a capable publicist. Sami ran several newspapers, and as a journalist, he tried to make the newspaper a medium of communication with the people. It should be pointed out that notwithstanding rigid censorship as a journalist he defended the Albanian cause with all his might. Sami put forward important views about literature, too. "*True literature is that which expresses the grievances and feelings of the people*", he wrote. With his novel "*The love of Telat and Fitnet*", Sami ranked himself besides the leading novelists in Turkish literature.

Sami took up many social problems, too, about which he gave very correct views for the time. Thus, for example despite the limitations of his outlook, Sami's views about the emancipation of women are of great interest. His book "*The Women*" is entirely dedicated to this great social problem.

The encyclopaedic mind of Sami enabled him to engage in many fields of study, but, above all, he was a fiery patriot. Sami wanted to see his country developed, with schools and universities, railways and irrigation canals. "*The Myzeqeja plain alone, is enough to feed the whole of Albania if the rivers are utilized*", wrote Sami.

He dreamt of seeing Albania the master of its own fate, but he died without seeing any of his desires achieved. Many more years had to pass before the aspirations of the patriot Sami became reality. Our talented people translated them into reality only in the years of the people's state power, only under the farsighted leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, with comrade Enver Hoxha at the head.



Sami Frasherri.

A PATRIOT, IDEOLOGIST, SCIENTIST

Shaban Çollaku

THE OCCUPIERS WERE THROWN BACK INTO THE SEA

"The Albanian people have blazed their way through history, sword in hand"

ENVER HOXHA

Ever since ancient times, Vlorë and its bay have been targets of the envy of the foreign occupiers for their strategic position and rare beauty.

This is why Italian imperialism occupied Vlorë, two years after the proclamation of Albania's independence in 1914.

The armed war against the Italian occupiers for the liberation of the country commenced following a great political struggle against them. This struggle began right from the moment that the Italian imperialists set foot for the first time in Vlorë, and later on it extended, especially when the world conflict ended. "We will not relinquish an inch of land of Vlorë, Sazani or Pashalimani" — it was declared at a meeting of the population of Tirana in the summer of 1919. The political struggle reached its highest level with the assembly of the historic Congress of Lushnjë, in January 1920, which, protesting against the bargainings of the Peace Conference, declared to the whole world, "that the Albanians know how to die, and refuse to be shuffled from one hand to another like a herd of sheep and to become the property of those powers which direct the diplomacy of Europe today".

The Italian occupiers, proceeding from their logic of an imperialist, trampled underfoot the national rights of the Albanian people. For the sake of their imperialist activity and also incited by the stand of the representatives of the three main triumphant powers of World War One — Britain, France and the United States, ignored the aspirations and the will of the Albanian people for freedom.

Britain and France had recognised Italy's control of the district of Vlorë and its protectorate over the Albanian state, ever since the twentieth of April, 1915 at the Secret London Treaty. Whereas the United States recognised it "these rights" during the Peace Conference in 1919-1920. Under these conditions, the only way of saving the life of our people remained the armed struggle.

Besides Italy, the neighbouring monarchies of the Balkans did not lag behind in their plundering activity towards Albania. Greece had fixed its eyes on Southern Albania, Yugoslavia, the North. On this basis, the bargainings of the Paris Peace Conference were drafted.

Thus, the armed struggle of Vlorë was directed simultaneously against the anti-Albanian plans of the expansionist bourgeoisie of the neighbouring countries of the Balkans. Therefore our national movement evaluated the Italian occupiers as the main plunderers, against whom, the Albanian people must first of all direct their arms. "Vlorë belongs to Albania, it is ours, we want it, demand it and will take it and Albania will be saved", wrote our national press of those days.

Before the war began, the Italian occupiers were sent an ultimatum from the Albanian liberation forces. "The Albanian people," it stated, "refuse to accept the division of Albania in accordance with the 1915 Secret Treaty . . . and united more than ever, convinced that they will not be sold like livestock on the markets of Europe as Italian-Greek-Serb payment, the Albanian people have decided to take up

arms and to demand from Italy the Administration of Vlorë, Tepelena and Himara, which must be handed over to the National Government of Tirana immediately".

The Italian General Staff completely ignored the request of the Albanians. The Italians were sure that if the Albanians dared to undertake any "crazy" militant action, they would easily be suppressed. The Italians had deployed about twenty thousand troops on the occupied territory, armed to the teeth.

The facts show that the Italian Generals made a grave mistake. The Albanian fighters, poorly armed, with their rifles slung over their shoulders, with axes and other such implements, but with great resolution and bravery, began their struggle, convinced of their victory. The struggle for Vlorë was an anti-imperialist struggle for liberation. And in war, arms are not everything, not even the majority who master these arms are the decisive factor. In war, the decisive factor is man, man imbued with a lofty moral which arises from the just cause for which they have taken up arms. And the Vlorë war is a brilliant example in this direction. "The courage which the Albanians have shown in this war — says a document of that time — climbing over the barbed wire barricades . . . and throwing themselves on cannons and machineguns inside the fortress, amazes the entire world".

This bravery and self sacrifice of the people's fighters is demonstrated in the results of the first days of fighting. Within two to three days, the entire enemy garrison in the district of Vlorë was liquidated, excluding the Tepelena garrison, which fell a few days

later and the garrison of the city of Vlorë. Here, many fighters, fought and fell, including the heroes like Selam Musai, Zigur Lelua and others. In this war not even the local land owner-bourgeois reaction, the representatives of which called it an adventure to rise up against a "forty million" empire, managed to come to the aid of the Italian occupiers. The resolution of the masses of the people in town and countryside for war was so great and the political evaluation of the danger which threatened the country was so clear, that the hostile activity of the representatives of this reaction was liquidated. And the voluntary assembly on the field of battle within a few days, of thousands of people's fighters is proof of this. The triumph of the socialist revolution of October was a moral help for the courageous fighters of Vlorë, who, supported by all the Albanian people, were tightening the grip of the encirclement around the occupiers, closed in the city of Vlorë. The efforts of the representatives of Rome to achieve, on the diplomatic road what they failed to achieve on the field of battle, were unsuccessful. Under these circumstances, the government of Italy was forced at last to accept reality. The Italian forces withdrew from Vlorë, but they maintained the Sazan Island at the entrance to the bay. It was necessary for another war to be fought twenty old years later for the Italian imperialists to be ousted from this island as well. The liberation war of Vlorë which continued for two months on end, showed that even a small people, when fighting for a just cause, can triumph even over a superior enemy.

The 28th of November, 1912 is a marked day in the history of our country. After centuries long enslavement and struggle, on this day, Albania proclaimed its independence. Painter Petrit Ceno, inspired by this event, painted this tableau.



In the M

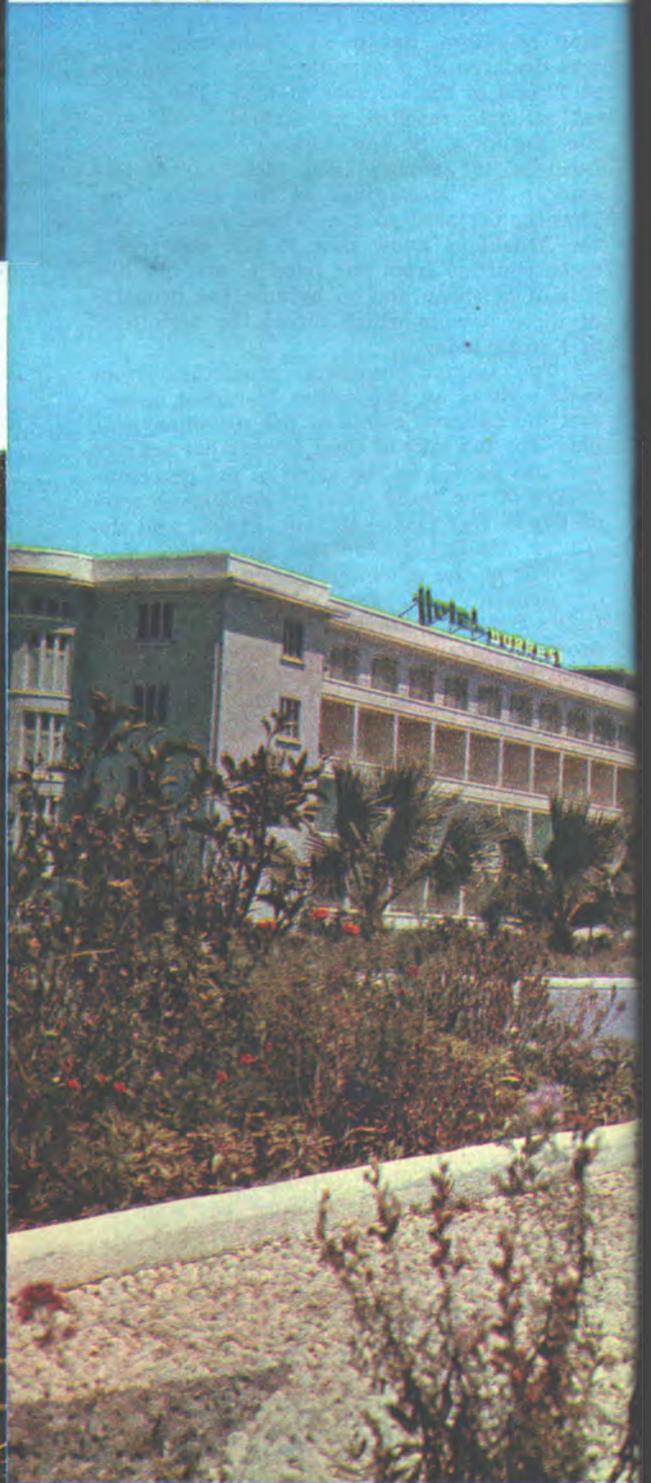
This new holiday season too, brought many new things to the workers and their families who want to spend their holidays at the beach or in the mountainous zones. This year another holiday home was added to the chain of holiday resorts of the workers, administered by the Trade Unions Organisation. It is located on the slopes of the hills overlooking the city of Korcha, in the South of Albania. This is one of the most beautiful and comfortable resorts of its kind. In Shëngjin as well, on the shores



Pogradec is one of the most picturesque cities of Albania. Thousands of workers and children spend their holidays on the shores of its crystal clear lake. In this photo, you can see a view of this beautiful city on a day in July. Photo: S. Xhillari



The workers Holiday Home in Vlora is one of the most preferred all the year round.



Hotel Durrësi on the shores of the Adriatic.

Mountains and By the Seas

of the Adriatic, near the ancient city of Lezha, the workers' holiday home has doubled its capacity this year. All the other centers have also been extended or improved, both those of the workers and those for school age children. Besides the many existing resorts, on the shores of the sea or lakes, in the graceful pine forests or elsewhere, this year the resorts at places like Cërill in Durrës, Patok in the district of Kruja, Veli-poja near Shkodra, Llogora near Vlora etc. have all been extended.

Besides these centers, hundreds of day camps have been opened in scenic spots for the children. These camps have been opened by enterprises and agricultural cooperatives. Here the small children spend their summer holidays, playing different games, going for walks etc.

This year, the number of rooms at the disposal of the workers and their families for their holidays has also been increased.

In the holiday homes which are administered by the Trade Unions Organisation,

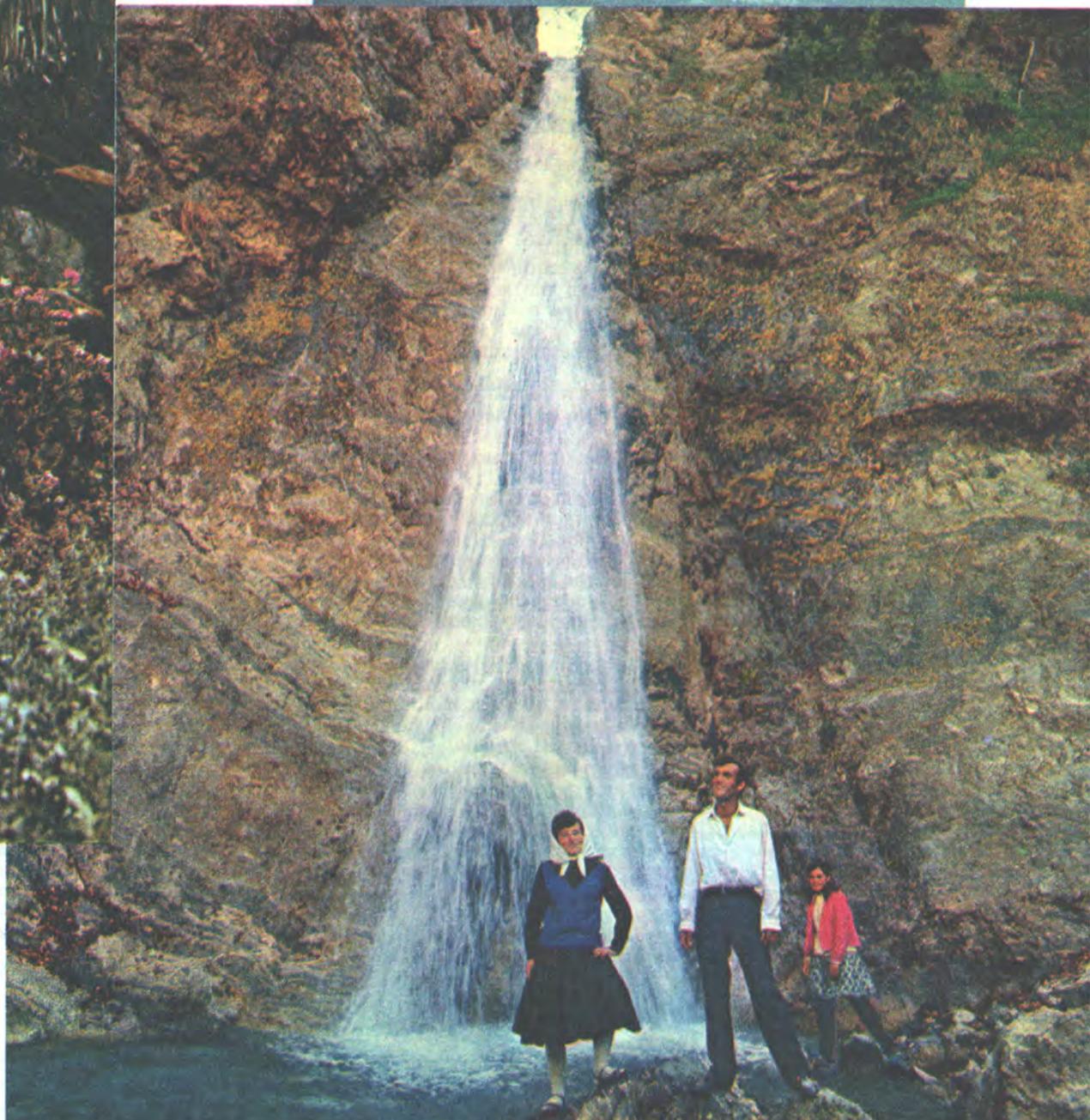
during the summer months, the worker pays only one fourth of all the expenses. Even less is paid for the children to spend their summer holidays at these camps. If the worker has holidays at these resorts in winter or autumn he pays even less, or a mere symbolic payment.

This year, fifteen per cent more working people and ten percent more children of school age will have their holidays at these resorts.

In the day holiday camps about eighty per cent of the Albanian children spent the hot days of summer in recreation.

Holidays at these different scenic spots have now become a beautiful tradition in the life of the workers and children of our country.

The sand and the sea entice thousands of children during the summer. In the Photo: The Pioneer's Holiday Home at the beach in Vlora.



Nature has carved in stone the course of this waterfall in the Northern Alps.

WE were expecting the Germans to enter our region from hour to hour. Our battalion had never done battle against them but we had read the staff communiques which said that an enemy more savage than the former one was coming to our country. We had also heard from some comrades that they were tough fighters who made infantry charges.

Anyhow, we had taken up the rifle to win the freedom the enemies had robbed us of, therefore we had no choice in the matter and there was no point in being scared. Even if the devil himself were to come, horns and all, we would fight him blow for blow.

Fiqo who sat leaning against a plane tree, painstakingly carving a five pointed star on his rifle butt, raised his head and said:

"What if it is the Germans? Won't a bullet go through them?" And then, he again answered himself,

"Of course it will, you mugs, but you've got to line them up well".

For a moment his somewhat Mongolian eyes seemed to shoot forth sparks of fire.

We pushed on along a path which would bring us out at Llogara pass. Fiqo and I were in front, comrade Bestar and a British officer¹ followed, and Pilo, together with Kadri, brought up the rear.

At daybreak, Bestar had sent me to wake the British officer. Luckily he was already awake. He was standing before the open window, looking out at the garden and smoking his pipe.

"What's the blonde-whiskers looking at?", I said to myself. I moved behind him and peered over his shoulder. There was nothing to see. Beyond the window, there was the dingy roof of a shed, a thorny hedge, some olive trees with their green fruit hanging like earrings, and a grape vine clinging from one olive tree to the other. Beneath the browning leaves of the vine, bunches of grapes, half red, half green, could be seen. Was the Englishman looking at them? The hostess entered the room carrying a tray with a glass of milk and two slices of corn bread. The Englishman drank the milk but did not touch the bread. In sign language I made him understand that a member of the staff had sent me for him. He followed me out.

Soon, I saw them standing together talking. At first, the British officer listened to Bestar shaking his head in disbelief, then he got a bit heated and began to object. What Bestar was telling him, did not seem in order to him. We could not make out what they were discussing and arguing about because they were talking in a foreign language.

Fiqo, who always caught on quickly told me in undertone when I asked him what all the fuss was about.

"We are going somewhere, but I don't know where".

"I get it", I said. "Bestar says we must get going but the Englishman is too lazy to climb our mountains. Ah, you Englishman, this is no job for lazy bones!" In the end, the Englishman was convinced and we set out.

A few hours later we were at the foot of Llogara pass. The march and the heat would have tired us even more, if it were not for the breeze which always blows in the mountains. The sea was not far away either, and we could feel the fresh saltiness of the breeze from it. From any peak we would have seen the sea like a purple-blue plain. This is how the sea looks from the mountains of Çika, too.

Beyond the pass were the barracks of the Italian army. A few days ago, Italy had capitulated, so the commissar told us. From now on Italy was out of the war.

But the problem was that its soldiers were still here in our country, armed and as thick as flies. What was to be done with them? Whose problem was this?

"What are you worrying about, Delo", I said to myself, "get a move on and keep a look out."

In this frame of mind, we reached the foot of the pass. We stopped in the shade of an oak tree. We knew our duty. We spread out in different directions leaving Bestar and the British officer there. Still we had heard nothing about what we were to do.

Down below, around the spurs of the hills we could see a bit of the motor road. It gleamed white among the green of the beech trees and the brown cliffs. The Germans were expected to come up that highway.

I had lost count of the time when I heard footsteps approaching. I raised my head, pulling the twigs apart, and saw a hefty Italian officer followed by an orderly. A peasant in black clothes was leading the way. He walked bending his knee a good deal, like the people who are used to walking in the mountains all their lives. It was Fiqo.

"Is that you, Fiqo?", I asked him because I still couldn't believe my eyes.

"Yes, it's me", he said.

"Where you are taking these sheep?"

"Down there below", and added: "You take over escorting them now because I have to go back." The Italian officer watched this change of guards out of the tail of his eyes, and didn't like the look of it.

I looked him over. He had a chubby face, a broad, shiny forehead, and wore a colonel's epaulettes on his shoulders.

"Porky" I thought.



We moved off. I in front and they behind. My mocassins made no sound, while stones crunched under their boots. Suddenly I felt uneasy. One of my mocassins was worn out so that my foot was treading the ground. "Will they notice?" I thought. "This is the sort of thing these foreigners worry about".

"Did you bring him?" asked Bestar.

"Two of them", I said. "An officer and a soldier".

The commissar spoke first. The Italian colonel listened standing grave and dignified as befits a career officer even in moments of defeat.

From what happened later and what I heard from the commissar, I learned what they talked about, although I could not understand a single word in Italian. The commissar told us all about it afterwards.

"Mr. Colonel! Now that Italy has capitulated, what do you intend to do with the soldiers your command has entrusted you with?"

"What any soldier would do in my position. I want to return home as soon as possible".

The Englishman said only one word: "if", which implied, "if it's possible".

"There can be no talk of evacuating you, now. That is only a subjective desire without any possibility of solution for the time being. Considering the circumstances and conditions, in the name of the National Liberation Army, I am authorised to call on you to surrender".

Though he expected it, the Italian officer winced at the last word.

"I do not know any such army. Our command does not think you represent a regular army".

"We are a regular army like any army which emerges from among the people. And neither do we need anyone to issue us a passport, regular or irregular. If you refer to uniforms, badges of ranks and barracks, of course, we lack them for the time being. Any army fighting for the ideas of the people and the liberation of the homeland from foreign slavery, is more regular than any other army that has ever existed on earth. Can it be said that Garibaldi, of whom your nation is proud, had a regular army behind him when he rose against the Austrian yoke?"

The Englishman was a man of humour. He liked the Albanian's retort and smiled, gripping his pipe between his teeth.

"But this is no time for philosophical discussion", said Bestar.

FREEDOM



Illustration by S. Marko

"Following the capitulation of Italy, any resistance on your part would be meaningless. Your regiments are being disarmed by the Nazi forces, and in some regions they have massacred your soldiers, their former allies. The Germans are expected here at any moment. You have to choose one of two alternatives: either to surrender to us, the National Liberation forces, or to surrender to the Germans. We are giving you one hour to decide. Think it over and choose."

Beads of sweat appeared on the broad forehead of the Italian officer.

He asked permission to sit down. He sat, head in hand, in the shade of the oak as if awaiting the answer of an oracle of antiquity from this soil so ancient and rich in legend. But the soil was dumb and the oracles were silent. In the space between his feet, he saw a beetle with red scales. At first sight, its wings looked like those shields used by African tribes and decorated with phantastic designs. But a closer look made him shudder—the design was a death's head. He spat and turned his head. There a little way off, the partisan who had wrapped his feet in some sort of leather, was sitting cross-legged smoking. He had no problem to solve. Anyhow, he was thinking. For a moment, the colonel wanted to know what that bandit, whose bare heel touched the ground was thinking about. Even their commander, (he meant the commissar) was not well dressed. He had black trousers, a military jacket, a pair of alpine boots on his feet, (they are ours, I bet, thought the colonel) and a pair of binoculars slung round his neck.

The colonel stood up. He had decided to surrender to the Germans. He took two steps forward and then sat down again. He started and stopped two other times.

The minutes were passing. He looked at the watch. 32 minutes had gone by. The watch kept ticking away and at that moment, he understood with surprising clarity, the significance of the ancient legend of Helenian mythology, which described Cronus eating away at time. The significance of the legend had seemed a phantasy, a silly thing, and he had never tried to delve into it. Now it suddenly became clear in his consciousness and saw that the mythologic figure was amazingly meaningful and real. Cronus was devouring the minutes. There were only 26, 24, 23, 22 minutes left.

The cicadas were making an unbelievable racket. The colonel put his hands to his ears.

What was he to do? He had to choose and the choice was dif-

ficult.

Should he surrender to the bandits against whom he had fought up to that very day, or raise his hands before the former ally of his country, a comrade-in-arms until yesterday?

Which could be endured more easily, the savage mercy of this irregular army, or the systematic contempt of the German army? How he wanted, at that moment, to surrender to the command of a regular army, by signing a protocol.

Cronus was ravenously consuming the minutes 13, 12. . . He tried to recall some precedent in history and liken it to the present circumstances.

Parallelment and analogy might help him. But no, nobody else had found himself in this situation, or at least, history had sealed its lips. A choice had to be made and on that choice depended the fate of his soldiers.

Seven, six, five minutes to go. The representative was still talking with that tall British officer.

He made up his mind and rose heavily to his feet.

"I agree", he said with dignity, looking nobody in the face. He seemed pale, tired, and he was sweating profusely.

"I have only one request (he dared not mention the word "condition") that you allow me and my regiment to fire off our weapons into the air for a quarter of an hour, then . . ."

What did this mean? The commissar raised his eyebrows. Of course, he regretted such a waste of ammunition.

The British officer showed himself more generous and signalled to him to accept, because the unexpected always pleased him.

Why did the Italian colonel want to do this? What would those shots be? Were they fireworks of jubilation over the end of the war, the price of their qualms of shame, or a premature volley for a funeral to come?

The British officer thought that his opponent had found a way to excuse himself in the others' eyes and before his own career soldier's conscience. The other practical matters were solved in five minutes.

Once the Italian officer was gone, the British officer returned to his arguments.

"Under your conditions", he said to the commissar, "such an action seems imprudent. I don't understand the instruction of your staff".

"One of your saying goes 'there is none so deaf as he who does not want to hear'. The instruction is clear and the reckoning simple. If the Italian regiment is disarmed by the Germans, would we have any gain?"

"I am not thinking of either gain or loss. Prisoners cannot alter the outcome of the war".

"The Germans would take their weapons".

"That's not a problem with the Germans".

"Whereas we shall put these weapons to good use. In the first place, 600 war prisoners in the hands of the Germans are 600 workers. To deprive the Germans of these workers in their war factories and plants, isn't that in favour of the anti-fascist war?"

"I respect your view", said the Englishman, "but let us turn again to the problem which seems to me insoluble. Where will you keep the prisoners? You have no special places, islands, prisoners' camps, or other facilities".

"We shall distribute them in the villages. Each family will take one soldier". The Englishman puckered his lips in doubt.

"And you think the peasants will accept them into their homes?"

"They will if we ask them".

"Will they admit their enemies? Will they feed and clothe them?"

"Do you think they can't make a distinction between enemy soldiers and war prisoners? Naturally they won't treat them as honoured guests, but will put them at some job to earn their keep".

"It's incomprehensible to me", said the Englishman, "anyhow, I admit that the solution is original".

Everything had to proceed in order because the Germans could come at any moment. It was a matter of hours and things had to move fast.

Bestar had to take measures to meet any contingency.

Their conversation over, the commissar called me and ordered me to take two other partisans and go down to the valley.

"If the Germans come, your task is to hold them up as long as possible, at least till the Italians have surrendered to us".

I smiled but said nothing. "What is this commissar of ours talking about? Can three rifles hold off an army?"

Although he had understood my inner thoughts, he added:

"Here is a bag of grenades".

I took Pilo and Figo and went down the steep track towards those slopes where the highway gleamed white through the green forest. I wanted to take Kadri instead of Pilo, just because he knew how to sing. I would take up a song and he would support me. If we had a third he could join in too, and we thus never got bored.

But he didn't let me take Kadri, as if he knew it was no time for singing.

On our way, we found some wild plums and ate some to wet our mouths. They were hard and very sour.

We took up well hidden positions and lay in wait. The sun in the sky was scorching. The boulders hot as the bricks of an oven. Blue sea and blue sky—which was hard to distinguish.

I got down on the road and placed a row of boulders across it. We often did that. Even a row to boulders will hold them up; at least, they compel the driver to get out of the truck to clear the road. More than that, the boulders showed that there was a danger spot, like a symbolic barricade, behind which our forces lay in wait.

A little later, we heard the roar of engines away down the valley. The Germans were coming.

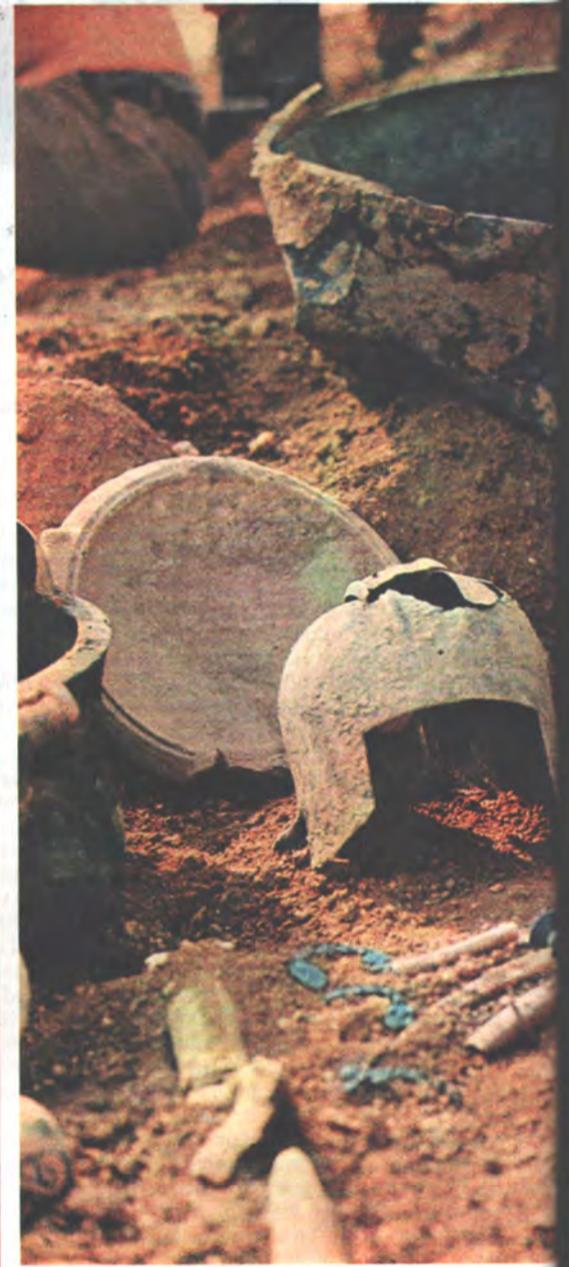
Figo slipped off his safety catch and sighed down his rifle.

To be continued on page 32



ARCHAEOLOGY

a 3500 Year



Photos: N. Baba

The Elbasan region (Central Albania) is of special archaeological interest. The subsoil of this region like that all over Albania, hides many archaeological surprises, which time and again, are discovered and shed light on the antiquity of the Albanian people.

Life in this region has gone on through the centuries without interruption. The complex of tumuli of Pazhok, south-west of the city of Elbasan, has provided rich material of the culture of the Bronze age, 1,500 years B.C. The data gathered there are of great importance as to the formation of the Illyrian ethnos.

Archaeological data about the Iron age are not lacking either. Belsh, once an important center of Illyrian culture, some 20 or 30 kilometres from Elbasan, where excavation work has been carried out for several years, has shed light on many aspects and peculiarities of the socio-economic development of the Illyrians in the course of the disintegration of the primitive communal order and the emergence of slave-owning relations.

Recently, in this Illyrian fortified town,

at the foot of the hill on which the ancient city once stood, the grave of an Illyrian fighter, which contained a very rich inventory, was unearthed.

The rich finding and ornaments are in contrast with the simple construction of the grave. The grave was a rectangular pit, without any specific construction. This simple manner of burial which was part of the rites practised by the ancient inhabitants of the city, has also been encountered in the graves dating back to the 4th and 3rd centuries B.C. discovered in the 1974 expedition.

The objects placed around the body were more or less in this order: at the head, there was an Illyrian helmet and three bronze situla (buckets), one of which was filled with earthenware, while in another, there were iron weapons. The two jugs, two bowls, and the two cups placed along the body, were also made of bronze. Alongside them, there also some tens of pottery utensils, most of which with black glaze or ornamented with red figures. On the either side of the body, there were also two long iron spears, a

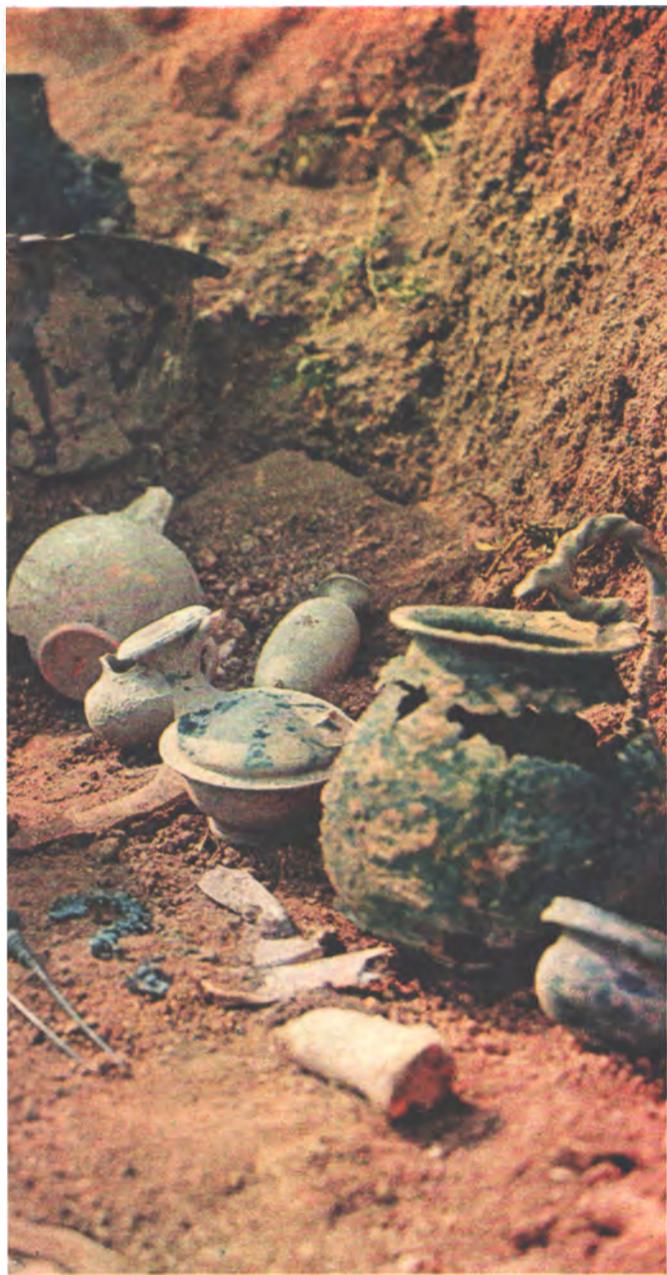
sword, and several iron spearheads. On the legs, there was a pair of bronze shin-plates, which are of great interest, being the first of their kind found in the Illyrian cities. They had been shaped to conform to the anatomy of the leg. On the body of the dead man there were found a considerable number of ornamental objects all of them silver, such as two bracelets, 15 brooches, two needles, a pair of earrings, and so on. Some of them were worked in the filigree technique.

All told, about 70 objects were found in the grave. Most of them are black glazed pottery or pottery ornamented with red figures, which originate from the ancient cities of Dyrrah and Apollonia, thus shedding light on the trade links of this city with the Hellenic colonies of the Illyrian coast.

Judging by the inventory, the grave was of some outstanding leader of that Illyrian city. Most of the objects show that the burial probably took place in the second half of the fourth century B.C. These data correspond with those provided by excavation in earlier years.

Old Testimony

Aleksandra Mano
Archaeologist



"Good job they didn't keep us waiting long because we're dying for a drink", he joked, laughing a bit.

Three armoured cars were grinding up the highway, motors roaring and leaving a black trail of exhaust smoke.

They reached the boulders and stopped. The soldiers jumped out to remove the boulders. We opened up with all we had. We could hear them screaming, swearing, shouting in their language. Who knows what they said. Then, they started firing back. They took up positions and opened up heavy fire, but at nothing in particular. It seemed they did not know where our bullets had come from.

We fought changing our positions all the time. Pilo managed to get near and hurled a grenade at the first armoured car. When the dust dispersed, it was still there.

After half an hour's fighting, the Germans collected the dead (it seemed we had killed two of them) and the wounded, climbed into the second and third armoured cars, and headed back towards Vlora.

But why had they abandoned the first armoured car? Had they left the crew inside?

We felt the joy of victory, a joy such as a man can rarely experience in his life. Comrade Bestar was right. We were only three fighters, but we were in our own country. The mountains, the soil and the forests were with us. They knew our language, understood our pain and the pulse of our blood. Thus, we too were part of this soil, part of a mountain, part of a forest.

The first armoured car which remained on the white road frightened and attracted us. It was meaningless for a few Germans to have stayed there inside while their companions cleared out.

Anyhow, we approached it carefully from the side which seemed to us the safest. With my comrade covering me I cautiously approached. Not a sound, not a movement.

Here and there the sun's rays were reflected from the steel with blinding intensity. I sidled up like a cat approaching a hot pan.

There was nobody. Then, we climbed all over it, in and out through the doors. If there had been Germans about, they could have killed the lot of us without any bother, because we were drunk with joy. We shouted and jumped up and down precisely where a swastika had been painted.

We trampled the steel with our mocassins and our footprints remained there, on the steel plate, cutting off the arms of the swastika. It looked like a shattered tortoise.

I said to Pilo:

"Run to comrade Bestar and tell him what has happened. He will tell us what to do".

Pilo returned in less than half an hour. He was followed by the British officer who, it seemed, had been sent by the commissar.

At that moment, my mind was wandering to many things, "Yes, now we have the remedy. This officer will surely know about such things. He knows how to start and drive it. We'll drive this armoured car as far as Mesaplik via the Borshi highway. With us partisans aboard and the Englishman driving. The people will be scared at first, then they will all rush to look at us"

The British officer climbed inside. Try as he would, pressing the buttons and moving the levers, the armoured car would not start. He jumped to the ground.

"It won't start. It is out of order", he said in sign language.

"Shall we push it", I said.

The Englishman shook his head to show he thought that was impossible.

Then, down the highway we heard engines roaring again. The Germans were coming, with large forces, to disarm the Italian garrison which was surrendering to us, and to avenge themselves for the blow they had been dealt. Down in the valley, a battery was placing big guns.

I signed to the Englishman to help us push the armoured car over the bank. He didn't want to. Why, I did not understand.

He was thinking about something else . . .

"I have no wish to fight the Germans. Politics is my job, not fighting. What is more, it's crazy to risk your life in this dreadful valley, amidst unknown highlanders. My death here under any circumstance, would be a paradox. It seems, there is not a drop of poetic blood in my veins . . ." he thought, reminding himself of a British romantic poet, who had set out to fight for the freedom of another people and died at Mesolongion!

"You see! Germans!" said the Englishman. "It is not good to die".

"Are you in your senses", I said to him. "Should we let them have the armoured car to kill our comrades? Or is it so difficult for them to fix it".

He again pointed to the Germans and started up the hill.

We pushed the armoured car to the edge of the road and gave it one last shove.

The Germans were approaching, carefully this time, and keeping up a constant fire.

We fired a few shots. They were firing at us from the armoured cars and from the plain where they had brought up an artillery battery.

We withdraw fighting. We had done our job and had no reason to hang on here.

"We'll see the Germans again. They are not done yet". I was walking and humming one of our melodies. The words seemed to fall into place on their own and I couldn't wait to meet Kadri and sing together. I was amazed that I was making up a new song in my head and Kadri would be even more amazed. We set out for the battalion by night. The song began: "September the 12th".

1) British officers who came to our country in the last year of the National Liberation War under agreement between the Allied Mediterranean Command and the General Staff of our National Liberation Army. The duty of the officers was to maintain liaison. In fact they tried to sabotage the national liberation war for their sinister imperialist aims.

CINEMA

A FILM DEVOTED TO THE PROBLEMS OF SCHOOL

Film Producer **Kristo Jorgji**

The "New Albania" Film Studio is constantly increasing its production of feature films and also the range of themes that these films treat. One film, which reflects the broad range of themes of the fund of Albanian feature films is the new film, "The River of Light".

The Albanian school is faced with many tasks for its revolutionisation which it is solving successfully. This new film deals with one of these fundamental tasks. What are the teacher-pupil relations, what figure does the new Albanian teacher represent, how does he act to win the hearts of his pupils, the consistent work full of care and passion, patience and enthusiasm which characterises the teacher even when he is faced with the case of a difficult pupil—these are the main problems the film deals with.

The film script solves these problems successfully against the background of the optimistic atmosphere of the new socialist countryside. The simple tale of this script writer, puts forward very valuable ideas. Adush, an intelligent, clever, sensitive child, abandons school because he has been deeply offended by a teacher. He goes to another village, to live with his aunt, but he refuses to go to school. Everybody is concerned about the fact that this child is not going to school. The teacher Bardhi, is particularly upset about this, and he decides to do everything in his power to return Adush to school. After many attempts and failures, Adushi returns to school, determined at last, never to leave it again.

The film unravels around this simple story, but, at its center, is the care for man, the care for the future of the Homeland, because Adush represents the younger generation which is growing and being educated to take over the torch of the revolution later on.



This film is distinguished for its clear cut line of thought, it speaks about work with passion and warmth, the insistence of a teacher and all workers in every profession to carry out their duty in order to be a conscientious member of the great army of the builders of socialism in Albania.

The film shows the revolutionised school, it is very optimistic and militates for the present and future of the Albanian school and the rising generation.

The actor Ymer Bala, who plays the role of the teacher Bardhi, becomes a beloved figure for the spectators, because he has managed to correctly portray the virtues of the new Albanian teacher, he plays every episode realistically and raises the figure of Bardhi, he makes him a character who can be fully trusted, an untiring worker, beloved, consistent and very capable in the beautiful but difficult profession of a teacher. He has known how to transmit to the spectators with emotion and care, all the phases of the raising of the figure of Bardhi.



Bardhi knows how to work with the pupils, he knows how to behave with them, he knows how to create, in his own sphere, he finds the necessary ways to come closer to his pupils and even with the problem pupils. With care and patience, he enters the spiritual world of Adush to make him return to the folds of the collective, to the school. His passionate work and special efforts, both inside and outside of school, yields the desired fruits. With the support of the teaching staff and the pupils, he achieves positive results.

This figure of Bardhi also has another very positive side. His family lives in another city, whereas Bardhi is a teacher in a mountainous village. But he is very happy in the village, he feels very close to the people around him. And he finds it impossible to break away from there. The village has become his life, his passion, because here he became imbued as a teacher, this is where he experienced his first emotions, this is where he tried to reach results and this is where he first met Vera. This is the revolutionary teacher, who does not hanker after a comfortable corner, but has chosen the mud of the villages, there, where the interests of the Homeland require him, and he has not gone there merely to become bored, but the vivid work with the people has captured him entirely.

The little actor Ilir Chelia, who plays the role of Adush, has also managed to play a very convincing figure. Intelligent, loved by all, sensitive and extremely natural, he passes from phase of the film to another. Right from the beginning and through to the end, Adushi's role is full of zig zags. He must carry out an inner struggle with teacher Bardhi, with his friends, so that he is convinced of returning to school. This boy often emerges as being obstinate as if he has decided on his own fate, but the teacher Bardhi and his own friends enter into his life, along with the whole society, and gradually Adush is transformed. Our dynamic and very active reality, full of preoccupation for the fate of every single person, does not allow anyone to leave the road of our great march. Thus, there is no other alternative for Adush, but to return to school and with the help of the teacher Bardhi and his friends, he catches up on all the lessons he has missed and enters life again.

Ilir Chelia — Adushi presents all these spiritual transformations with great talent and his figure, right through the film, undergoes a great rise. Other children who take part in this film, pupils from the village of Kallmet, where the film was made, also play their role with passion.

BEAUTIFUL WORKS IN WOOD

Ramadan Sokoli

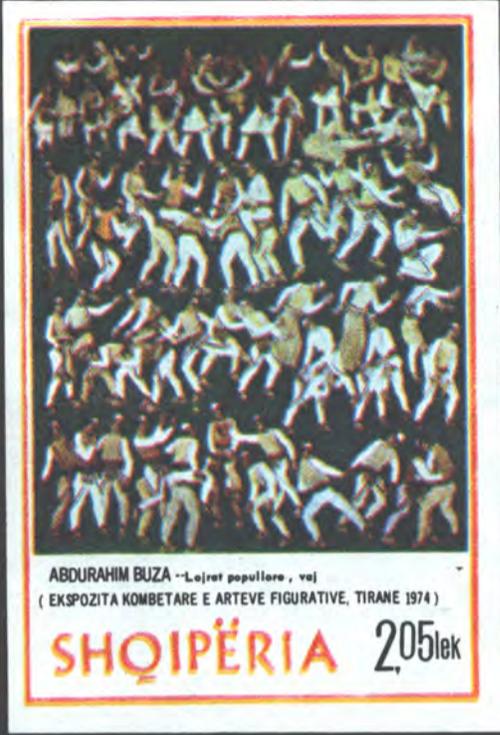
The "Migjeni" Handicrafts enterprise opened an exhibition of works by the craftsman Burhan Ishmaku. The display room of this exhibition was filled to the brim with all sorts of objects hued out of wood, through different methods: engraving, carving, pyrography, with bone, horn, ivory with thin sheets of marble, with applications, coloured pieces of straw, with fibre, strips of copper, threads of silver etc. It is such a pleasure to the eye to wander among this wide range of beautiful exhibits of all shapes and sizes (and we are not only referring to ten or twelve objects but to over five hundred). Burhan Ishmaku, with his patient work has tried to raise the quantity and the quality of the production of handicraft articles by using advanced or new technical methods. Having a correct and practical understanding of the problems of production, this tireless worker has searched for and has tried, for years on end, to create a new technology, to save wood by utilising the shavings and cuttings of hardboard and veneer. Because the results of the work of this expert were satisfactory the wood work sector was set up within the "Migjeni" enterprise based on the technology founded by Burhan. To keep the workers of this sector supplied with selected models, Burhan has produced a whole series of new and original articles, of a marked national character. Even though he is fully acquainted with the popular art he is always extending his knowledge of the priceless local traditions and he knows how to select from the folk motives, the most graceful and beautiful characteristics to develop and enrich them with new elements.

The enterprise where Burhan works has secured him all the necessary conditions to help develop his creativeness.





Photos: S. Xhillari



PHILATELY



A new set of stamps devoted to the exhibition of figurative arts issued on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the liberation.



Letters to the Editor

As usual, letters from readers all over the world, from China, Britain, Algeria, Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, from Spain, Germany, Czechoslovakia and elsewhere pour into the post box of our editorial board.

All the authors of these letters, even though of different nationalities and professions, are bound by one thing, love and friendship for socialist Albania.

The reader **Sun Min Te** from the People's Republic of China, wrote the following in his letter, "Everytime we receive the magazine 'New Albania', my comrades and I rejoice. Through this magazine we learn about the brilliant successes which our co-fighters have achieved in the construction of socialism, we learn about the magnificence, prosperity and beauty of your country. This brings us even closer to our Albanian co-fighters; we are inspired by your fight against imperialism and revisionism, we are inspired in the construction of socialism and to advance on the road of the triumph of communism".

The reader **L.E. Sala**, from Spain, expresses his feelings in this way, "Your magazine is written for the people and for the wellbeing of the people. . . Both your magazine and the broadcasts of the Radio, which I listen into regularly, have aroused a great interest in me, because they have a progressive content, a moral and culture which serves the working class. I am a metal worker and I can understand the superhuman efforts which the Albanian people are making for the triumph of Marxism-Leninism in the world and for the progress of the working class."

The reader **D. Zahar** from Algeria, writes, "Through your magazine we become acquainted with the victories which the Albanian people are achieving in all fields of life. This is why, here in Algeria, we love and respect Albania".

Here is a passage from a letter sent by an English reader, **A. T. Poulson**, "I would say that the magazine, 'New Albania' is for me, as interesting as it is inspiring. . . I have a particular feeling of sympathy for your country. . . Your country is advancing on its own feet and is not the lackey of any other country".

In his letter, **F. Breckenridge** from Canada says, "I follow, with admiration, the progress which your country has achieved in the light of the teachings of Marxism-Leninism. You fill me with hope and inspiration for a new world without oppression and exploitation, and this has a special significance for us here in Canada, where we suffer from mass unemployment and from the continual rise of prices".

This is what another reader from the United States, **J. Neiman** says, "I am a student of History. I must say that I greatly admire the rich culture and inheritance of your people. The Albanian people also have an inheritance for which they should be very proud. I am astounded at the history of your people, who have defended their country from innumerable occupiers."

And finally this is how a reader of Albanian nationality living in Belgium, **K. Nazmi** expresses himself, "I read, with the greatest of pleasure, your magazine 'about our country'. Every issue I read takes me to the birth place of my father. I am very touched at the comparison between Albania directed by Zog and the new Albania led by the Party of Labour of Albania with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. I am very proud of the road Albania has traversed, a country which is small in size but great from the socialist spirit which inspires it".

The editorial board expresses its most heartfelt gratitude to the authors of these letters for their feelings of friendship and love towards the Albanian people and their Party of Labour which leads them in the construction of socialist Albania.

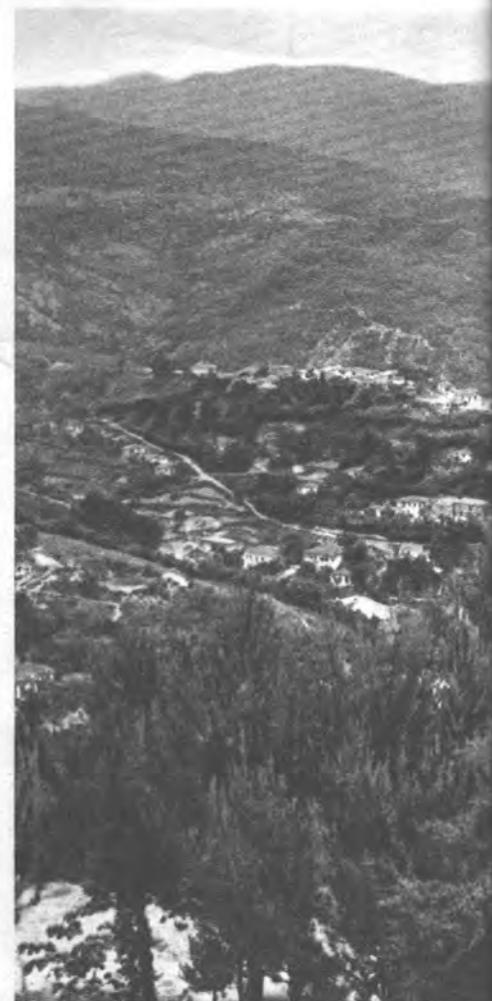
The editorial board welcomes questions and suggestions from the readers on articles which they would like to read in the magazine from the life and work in our country. Through the post or through special articles, our editorial board will do its best to give the readers and all the friends of Albania as precise and complete answers as possible on all the topics which interest them.

Naturally, those questions or demands which are of a limited character and which interest the reader alone will be answered by the editorial board in a personal letter.

Many new readers, in their letters, express the desire to subscribe for the magazine "New Albania". They also ask how they can go about this.

We remind our readers that in every number of the magazine, on the second or second to last page, the address, "N. Librit, Tirana, Albania" is printed. There is also a list of the prices too. The above address applies for all publications in the Albanian language or in foreign languages which are published in Albania.

Several other readers who want to visit Albania as tourists can direct their letters to this address, "Albturizmi", Tirana, Albania. The amateurs of Albanian songs and music can direct themselves to the respective institution under the address, "Art-Export", Tirana, Albania.



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CITY OF 1001 WINDOWS

The Museum city of Berat is an important center of the material culture of the Albanian people. It preserves buildings from the time of the Illyrians in the IV-III centuries before the new era and up to historic monuments connected with the National Liberation War. In its present state the city itself, the residential center, belongs to the XVIII and XIX centuries. These two photographs present two views from the Museum city of Berat, one of a characteristic ancient quarter and the new city.

Photos: S. Xhillari



