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*Johannes Pedersen*

# SOVIET UNION



No. 7 (29)

JULY 1952





Coke oven batteries at the Zaporozhye Coking Plant (see "Reply to a Swiss Reader" on pp. 10-13 of this issue)

Photo by V. SHAKHOVSKI

**COVER:** Photo by N. Khorunzhy: "Here's where we're going to study!" Students-to-be frequently go to have a look at the towering new university building in Moscow which will open this autumn

# SOVIET UNION



ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY

No. 7 (29)

PUBLISHED IN SIX LANGUAGES: RUSSIAN, CHINESE, ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN AND SPANISH

JULY 1952



In the Central Asian Republics, harvesting of grain and oil-bearing crops is under way. Here we see self-propelled combines taking in the wheat at the Pravda Collective Farm in Dagana-Kirk District, Tajik SSR

Photo by N. G. G. 17

# A COMMENTATOR'S NOTES

June 25 marked the second year of the Korean people's war of liberation against armed intervention by foreign invaders. The heroic battle which the Koreans are waging for their freedom and independence evokes deep sympathy and support from all honest men and women the world over.

News dispatches on June 25 from various parts of the globe reported that in answer to a call issued by the World Federation of Trade Unions, working folk and progressive intelligentsia in all lands were observing the date as a day of active international solidarity with the heroic Korean people, as a day of defence of peace.

So too in the Soviet Union. The press and radio-featured articles and broadcasts in defence of peace and friendship among nations, lectures, talks and literary and music programs about the Korean people's heroic struggle were arranged in towns and villages throughout the land. Once again Soviet men and women demanded peaceful settlement of the Korean question on a just and reasonable basis. They spoke out for withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea; an unconditional ban on all types of weapons of mass destruction; exposure and condemnation by mankind of the unprecedented atrocities perpetrated by the interventionist army commanders on Koreans and Chinese volunteers in the POW camps. They reiterated their call to all honest men and women throughout the world to broaden and strengthen the peace movement—the mightiest movement of our time.

The Soviet people are supporting this movement by their actions, by their daily labour. Eloquent testimony of their peaceful aspirations is to be found in the Peace Defence Day issues of the newspapers in all the 16 Union Republics of the USSR.

**Russian Federation.** On the far-flung territory of this republic, the first among equals, there were so many events that day that it is difficult to choose among them. Here are two:

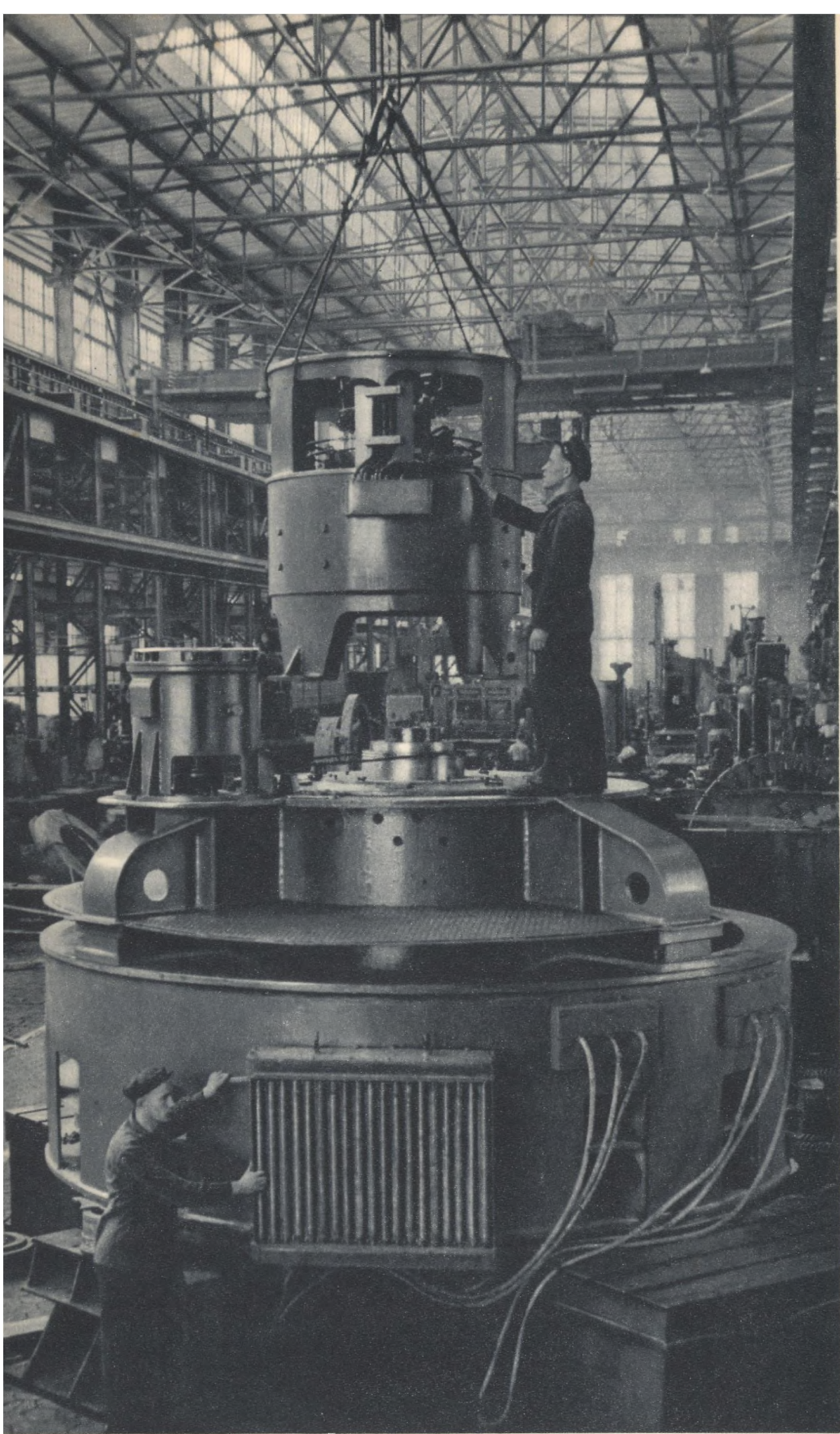
On June 25 a high-tension transmission line suspended across the Volga from giant steelwork pylons began carrying electricity to the construction site of the Stalingrad Hydroelectric Station. With the coming into operation of the line, work on this great construction project of Communism has taken a big stride forward.

On Peace Defence Day the people of Yakutia were completing preparations to observe the 30th anniversary of their Autonomous Republic, June 28. Under the Soviet system the Yakut nation won freedom and equality for the first time in its history. They have extensively developed the natural riches of their huge territory and transformed it along Socialist lines. Numerous factories, mines and power stations have been built in Yakutia; new towns and industrial settlements have sprung up. Formerly cut off from the world, the region is now connected with the country's central districts by air lines, highways and waterways. Socialist agriculture is developing apace. A few decades ago practically the entire population was illiterate; today Yakutia is a republic with 100 per cent literacy. A large number of books as well as 40 newspapers and magazines are published in the Yakut language. The primary, secondary and higher schools, the libraries, theatres and cultural clubs all bear witness to the advancement of the Yakut people's culture—a culture that is national in form and Socialist in content.

**Ukraine.** A film about the labour achievements of the Ilik sisters, Agrippina and Anastasia, of the Molotov Collective Farm in Vinnitsa Region, is being shown in country districts. Agrippina is a dairymaid and Anastasia a swineherd. Their efficient work methods are now being widely popularized among Soviet collective farmers.

**Byelorussia.** Interior decoration was begun in the main building of the Byelorussian Polytechnical Institute in Minsk, one of the republic's new establishments of higher learning. Another new higher school being built also in Minsk, is the Institute of Agricultural Mechanization and Electrification. The University of Byelorussia, the Academy of Agriculture and various teachers' training colleges are erecting new buildings and dormitories.

**Uzbekistan.** Planes flew over the fields of the Gallya-Aral State Farm spraying a chemical solution. This was not napalm, that burns the villages and crops of the Korean peasants, but a phenoxy acetic acid preparation which destroys weeds without affecting the growth of cereals.



**SVERDLOVSK.** This powerful hydrogenerator for the fish hoist at Tsimlyanskaya Dam has been completed at a Sverdlovsk factory. Special hoists have been installed at the dams of many Soviet hydroelectric stations to enable schools of fish to make the trip to and from their accustomed spawning places

Photo by I. TYUFYAKOV

**KARPINSK.** A new power shovel in operation at the Vakhrushev fields in the Northern Urals, where opencut coal mining is widely practised. This is a walking-excavator model with a 10-cubic-metre bucket and 75-metre boom

Photo by A. GRAKHOV



**Kazakhstan.** Two new livestock-farming machine depots, stocked with their first consignments of machines and implements, were set up in Pavlodar Region. By the beginning of the haymaking season the region's livestock-farming machine depots and machine and tractor stations had received an additional 105 self-propelled mowers and 970 tractor-drawn mowers.

**Georgia.** As at research institutes and higher schools all over the country, scientific sessions dedicated to the second anniversary of the publication of Stalin's outstanding work "Marxism and Problems of Linguistics" were held at the teachers' training colleges in Tbilisi and Staliniri. The papers read at the session dwelt upon the tremendous significance of Stalin's work, which marks a new stage in linguistics and indicates the paths of its further development on a Marxist-Leninist basis.

**Azerbaijan.** A delegation of peasants from the Chinese People's Republic arrived in Baku, from where they toured Azerbaijan to study its collective and state farms, machine and tractor stations and agricultural research institutions. The Minister of Agriculture, I. Abdullayev, received the Chinese guests and told them about the achievements of Socialist agriculture in Azerbaijan.

**Lithuania.** Collective farmers are taking an active part in building the Friendship of the Peoples Hydroelectric Station. Situated on the border of Lithuania, Latvia and Byelorussia, the station will supply power to eleven collective farms in these republics. The governments of the three republics are giving the collective farmers big assistance in the job.

**Moldavia.** The final concert of an all-Moldavia amateur talent review has been held. The review was a colourful and bouyant festival of the Moldavian people's art. Among the groups which won honours were a choir from the village of Sofia and dancers from the village of Staraya Valya Perzha.

**Latvia.** Afforestation of the dunes along the seacoast was reported well under way. The sands have already been anchored over a large area. Birches, found to be the best trees for promoting the growth of grass and bushes, are being planted.

**Kirghizia.** Fifty-six titles of textbooks, in editions totalling 620,500 copies, have been put out in the Kirghiz language for the coming school year. Altogether, 76 titles of textbooks are to be issued in Kirghizia this year.

**Tajikistan.** The driving of livestock to the summer pastures has been completed. Now millions of sheep, goats, cows and horses belonging to Tajik collective and state farms are grazing high in the mountains, where there is an abundance of lush grass and water and the air is pure and cool. Thousands of herders and hundreds of zootechnicians and veterinaries are in the mountains, tending the vast herds.

**Armenia.** The Erevan Electrical Machinery Works completed an order for the great construction projects of Communism three months ahead of schedule. It produced 230 transformers of nine different types, designated for the Stalingrad and Kuibyshev power developments and the Main Turkmen and South-Ukrainian canal projects.

**Turkmenia.** After bringing the winter season to a successful close the Turkmen State Opera set out in full strength on a tour of the towns and villages of the republic. Members of the company will perform for the builders of the Main Turkmen Canal and at surveying camps in the desert.

**Estonia.** The collective farms of Kose District, Estonia, challenged those of Cesiski District, Latvia, to take part in Socialist emulation. When the challenge was accepted, delegates from the Estonian kolkhozes visited their Latvian colleagues, and the Latvians paid a return visit. These meetings helped the collective farmers of the two republics to pool experience and outline ways and means of further developing their collective farms.

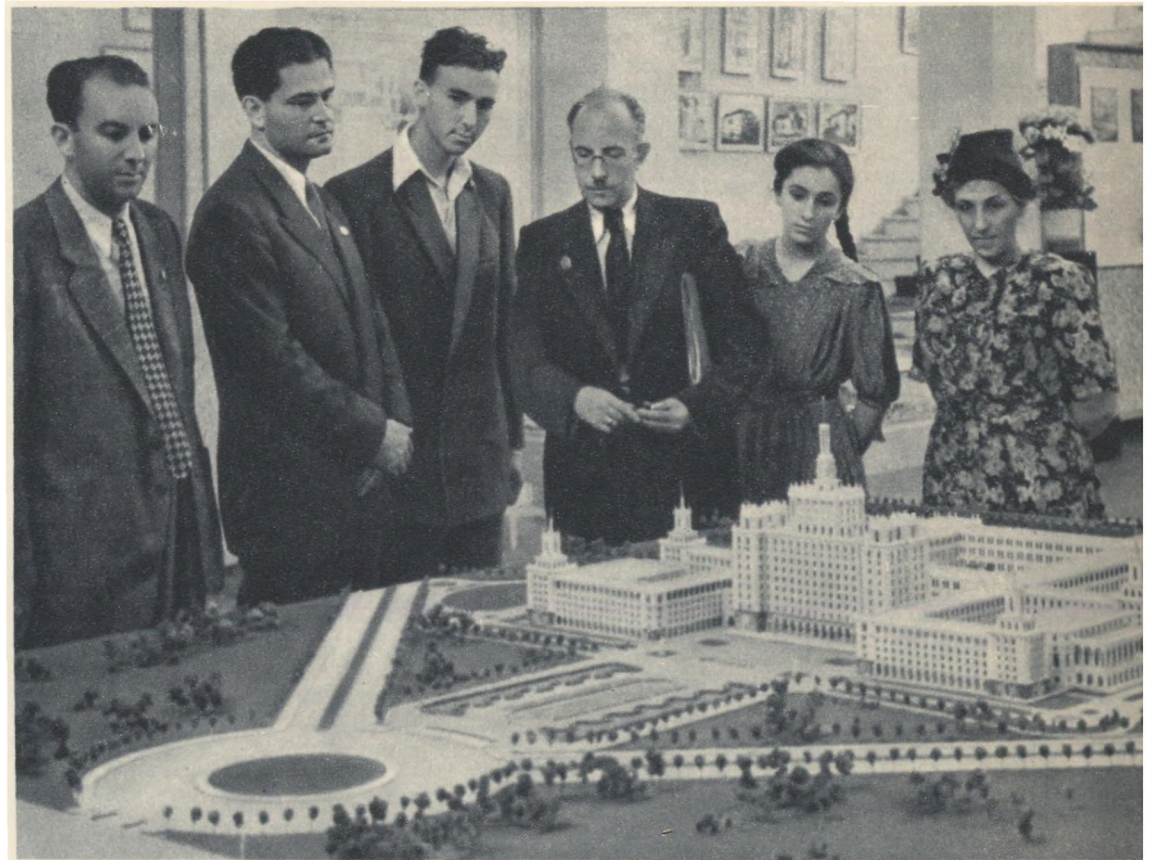
**Karelo-Finnish SSR.** The newspaper "Leninskoye Znamya" ("Lenin's Banner") devoted a page to the rebirth of Kontupohja, a town that was utterly demolished eight years ago by the Hitlerite invaders. All the town's major enterprises, including the widely-known pulp and paper mill, have been restored. A large number of dwellings, schools, hospitals, children's and public service establishments, and cultural clubs, not to mention the railway station, have been rebuilt. Many new streets have been laid out. Town development and improvement is continuing.

\* \* \*

Such are some of the everyday events in the Soviet Land, where there is not a single citizen who wants war. The Soviet people are pursuing a consistent international policy of preserving and consolidating peace. They are working and building to increase the might of the Land of Soviets—granite bulwark of world peace. The Soviet system and peace and friendship among nations are synonymous terms.



**TASHKENT.** Models of future structures on the Main Turkmen Canal are being studied at the Central Asian Irrigation Research Institute. Here we see a model of the Tahla-Tash network undergoing tests  
Photo by G. PERMENEV



**MOSCOW.** An exhibition of notable examples of the architecture of the Rumanian People's Republic has been opened in six halls of the Central House of the Architect. The above model which visitors are shown examining is that of the "Scantela" Printing Plant now under construction in Bucharest  
Photo by N. KULESHOV



**LENINGRAD.** Stalin Prize winner I. Yashugin, accompanied by a Russian folk instruments orchestra, gives a song recital in the steam-turbine shop of the J. V. Stalin Metalworks during the lunch interval. Such concerts are frequently held at Leningrad factories and mills  
Photo by A. MIKHAILOV



Harvesting barley in the steppe districts of Azerbaljan

## IN THE FIELDS

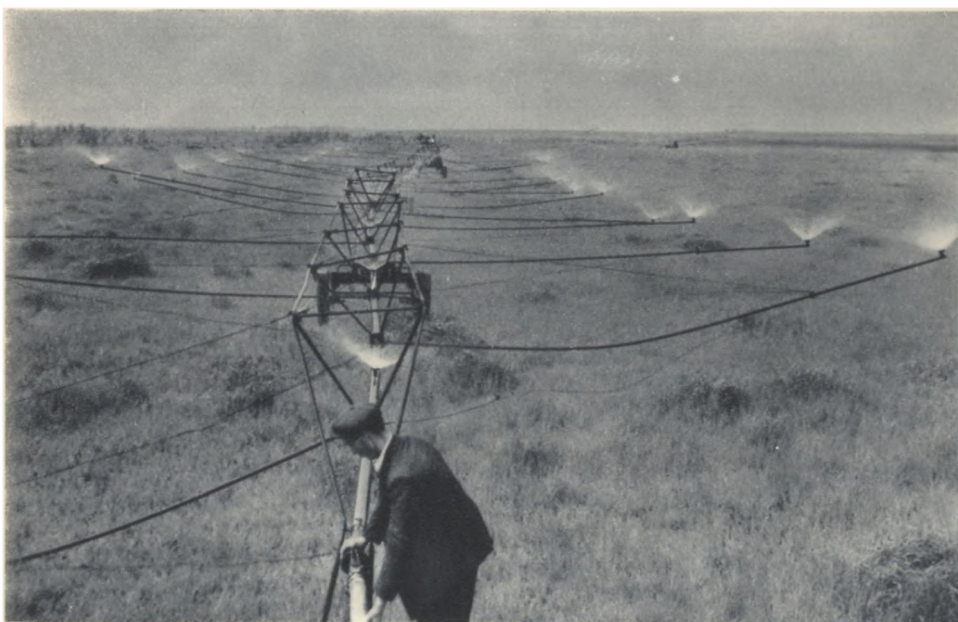
Photos by F. KUSHNEROV, Y. KOPYT and L. PORTER

In the central belt of the country, at the beginning of July fertilizer was being applied to the spring wheat, and cultivation of row crops was at its height. In the South and the Central Asian Republics, winter barley and wheat were being harvested. Soon grain harvesting will begin in most parts of the country. Practically three fourths of the harvest will be gathered by combines.

It should be noted that almost all the sowing this spring was done with the help of machine and tractor stations, and that the machines and other equipment at the disposal of the stations have been considerably augmented. A large number of improved machines and fixtures of the most varied types have appeared in the fields, making for the wide employment of advanced farming methods. Narrow-row and cross-row sowing of grains was carried out over an area double that of last year on millions of hectares of collective farm fields. Maize was planted chiefly according to the cluster method. Cluster sowing of sunflower and wide-row sowing of millet were employed over large areas.



Haymaking with self-propelled mowers in Rostov Region



Grass crops on a seed section at a zonal land reclamation station in Orel Region get artificial rain



Cultivating a field at a forestry nursery in Vinnitsa Region. The nursery serves the local shelter-belt station as well as collective and state farms

# Today in Kakhovka

**IVAN DMITRIYEV,**  
Vice-Minister  
of Power Stations of the USSR

Photos by Y. TABOROVSKY

**Feliksa Gnatovskaya**—leader of the best team of plasterers working on the dwelling houses under construction for the builders of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Station



**The Dnieper River at the city of Novaya Kakhovka. The foreground shows a suction dredge at work at the hydroelectric development site**

Eighteen months ago, the foundation stone of the city to be built for the builders of the Kakhovka hydroelectric development was laid on the bank of the Dnieper.

While dwellings were being erected for the builders work on the development went ahead. This gigantic engineering enterprise, in conjunction with the South-Ukrainian and North-Crimea canals, will enable us to make use of the waters of the lower Dnieper to the greatest economic advantage. It will completely transform the fertile but

as yet arid steppes of the southern Ukraine and the northern Crimea. Irrigation canals several hundred kilometres in length will stretch from the reservoir on Lake Molochnaya to Nagaisk, from the Kakhovka Reservoir to Krasnoznamenska, and from Jankoi to Razdolnoye. An area of 1,700,000 hectares will be supplied with water and 1,500,000 hectares now lying idle will receive irrigation. The influx of additional water will increase the production of grain and make possible the planting of cotton, vines, peanuts and other crops.





An excavator in action on the foundations of the Kakhovka dam



By decision of the Soviet Government the Kakhovka hydroelectric power station is to be finished in 1956. Every year it will produce over 1,000 million kw-h of cheap electric energy.

It has been calculated that the Kakhovka development requires the digging and removal of 21,000,000 cubic metres of earth and the pouring of 1,260,000 cubic metres of concrete and ferroconcrete. This does not include earthwork and concrete needed in building the canals, the hydrostation and the Molochnaya River dam. Besides this, several thousand tons of metal parts have to be assembled.

The operation has progressed rapidly from the very start. The building site at which many thousands of engineers, technicians and ordinary workers are employed, is equipped with the most up-to-date machinery and apparatus. There are all sorts of service premises, including truck depots, quarries, a concrete mixing plant and electric installations. A handsome

city, Novaya Kakhovka, has arisen—a builders' city already possessing hundreds of dwelling houses, as well as schools, hospitals, clinics, shops and restaurants. The city has its water and sewage systems. A heat-and-power station provides electric power for the construction sites and light for homes. An early start was made with the erection of a 140-kilometre high-tension transmission line, which derives its current from the Lenin Hydroelectric Station on the Dnieper. Suspended from two giant towers, one on each bank, the wires safely conduct the current across the wide Ukrainian stream.

A string of wharves several kilometres long was built on the Dnieper along the building site. These landing places, equipped with efficient transporters and cranes, served in the beginning as the principal points of reception of freight for the building site. In addition, a number of highways were built in the Kakhovka area. However, river craft and trucks proved

Nikolai Teinik, leader of a Stakhanovite team of bricklayers putting up well-appointed houses for those engaged in building the Kakhovka hydropower station

inadequate to handle the swelling volume of freight shipped to the site. The construction of a railway 154-km. long linking the site with the necessary trunk lines of the USSR was therefore begun the very first year. Now that this line has been completed, brick, cement, lumber and machinery are all delivered directly to the warehouses on the construction site—rail, truck and river-borne.

The whole place has been electrified. Scores of kilometres of internal electrical transmission lines have been laid and all work has been mechanized to the maximum. Several hundred trucks, excavators, cranes, bulldozers, scrapers, locomotives, and tractor-drawn and loading machines are employed on this job.

The original building and assembly plan for 1951 was fulfilled ahead of schedule—by November 7, the anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. An additional plan covering the rest of the year was also promptly executed.

Each month the construction of the hydroelectric station gathers new speed. Now that the most urgent problems have been solved the builders have entered upon the next stage in their work. This year they are to complete the home-building program, fulfil the plan for the requisite service premises and push forward the work on the basic installations.

In 1952 the construction workers will receive tens of thousands of square metres of housing accommodation. New Kakhovka is becoming green with trees and grass. The near future will see the opening of a Palace of Culture and an open-air cinema, a great number of new stores, a mechanized laundry, a kindergarten and crèches, a large, well-equipped clinic and a secondary school. Three high-efficiency automatic cement plants, a stone-crushing mill, several warehouses and a ramified railway network are also due for completion during this period, as are the new mechanical and automotive repair shops.

This year the builders will dig the first millions of cubic metres of earth on the site of the future hydropower station, the dam and the lock. The total amount of earth to be excavated at Kakhovka will be three and a half times, and the amount of concrete poured one and a half times as great as in the



The suction dredge Onega filling in the ground where the basic installations of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Station are to be located. In the foreground: The Onega's first-class diver Vladimir Ternovsky, a Stakhanovite

**Novaya Kakhovka's Young Pioneers frequently make excursions to the power development site. They take a big interest in this great project of Communism**



construction of the Lenin Hydroelectric Station on the Dnieper, the biggest station of its kind in Europe.

To dig the foundations suction dredges are at first employed; then the excavators take over. Near the end of the year the body of the dam, the lock and the hydroelectric station house will be ready for concreting.

Not long after a huge dam will arise above the Dnieper and form a reservoir 200-km. long, capable of holding 14,000 million cubic metres of water. Kakhovka current will be transmitted to industrial establishments and to electric power and machine and tractor stations, as well as to a multitude of towns and villages. Arid lands will be given water. One more force will begin to operate, a force directed towards the transformation of nature, towards the achievement of the great enterprises of our national economy.



1939. On their way to school, left to right are: Vova Mednikov, Tolya Ermilov, Nina Mordukova, Lyalya Kondratyeva and Zina Mushtakova

## TRACKING DOWN A PHOTO

Photo Review by M. GRACHOV

Recently sorting out my collection of photos I came across one taken 13 years ago in Zvyagino, a village in Moscow Region. Quite suddenly I found myself remembering that bright spring morning in 1939 when, camera in hand, I was wandering in Moscow's picturesque environs in quest of interesting scenery.

As I approached a village I had met a group of children on their way to school. A slight breeze ruffled their clothes, gay patches of sunlight played on their carefree faces. The picture they presented was so taking that I hastened to snap the children before they noticed my camera and lost the charm of perfect naturalness.

I patiently waited for the children to return home so that I might write down their names. We became acquainted, fell to talking and roamed through the fields together, picking flowers.

The photo proved such a success that it was exhibited at an international photo show.

Great changes have taken place in our country during the thirteen years that have passed since then. My young acquaintances had become grown-up people. As I looked at the photo I wondered where they were and how they fared. Deciding I would have these questions answered, I took my camera one Sunday and set out for Zvyagino.

I could scarcely recognize the familiar places where I had walked so often before. It was easy to see that the collective farm in Zvyagino, called The Red Banner, had become much richer. The entire appearance of the village had changed, the gardens had grown; at every step I met smartly dressed people.

I had no difficulty in finding my old acquaintances' addresses. All of them still live in their native village, though they have formed many ties with Moscow, which is not far off.

I renewed my acquaintanceship with the former school children by photographing them at the occupation I found them engaged in. Only one of them was not there to be photographed—Vova, now Vladimir Ivanovich Mednikov—the extreme left in the 1939 photo. In 1950 he graduated the Moscow Mechanical Technical School, became a specialist in repairing metalworking machinery, and then he left his native village.

The second boy in the 1939 photo is Tolya Ermilov. Now, of course, he is called Anatoli Ivanovich Ermilov. After leaving secondary school Ermilov entered the Moscow Bauman Technical Institute, where he is now in his fourth year.

The third in the photo is Nina Mordukova. She graduated secondary school with a Silver Medal and now she is taking her exams as a third-year student in the Forestry Institute in Moscow. Back home in Zvyagino Nina has her own experimental plot, where, among other things, she cultivates oleanders and lemons. Planting of forests is to be Nina's speciality.

The fourth among the children is Lyalya Kondratyeva. In 1950 she qualified at a special trade school as a textiles expert. Now she works at a Moscow shop and is taking a correspondence course at the All-Union Trade College.

The fifth is Zinaida Mushtakova. After finishing at the village school she took a course in infant care, then worked as teacher in a kindergarten. Last year Zinaida changed her profession and started working as quality inspector in the Krasny Bogatyr plant.

Such is the life of the five young people from a collective farm which we learned about by "tracking down" a 1939 photograph.



1952. Nina Mordukova shows recently grafted lemons to Olya Kondratyeva, her old school-friend's little sister

Left: The photographer found Anatoli Ermilov in his orchard, where he was digging the ground around the fruit trees, patiently answering all the questions of his little niece Tanya



Lyalya Kondratyeva has a family of her own. That Sunday the photographer discovered her boating with her husband



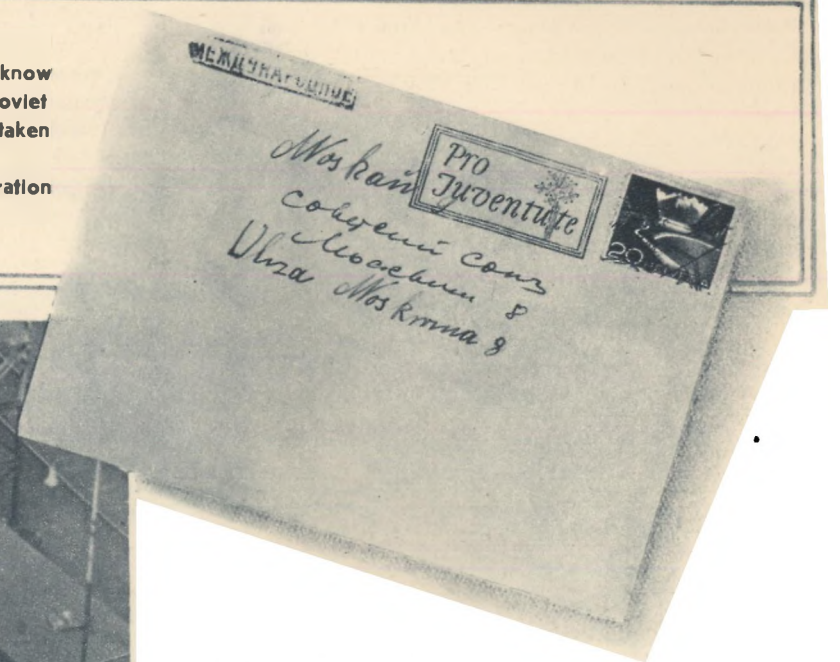
Right: Zinalda Mushtakova in her parents' garden in Zvyagino. With her is her little nephew Vova

# REPLY *to a Swiss Reader*

In a letter to the Editors Jakob Isenschmid, a reader of our magazine living in Basle, writes:

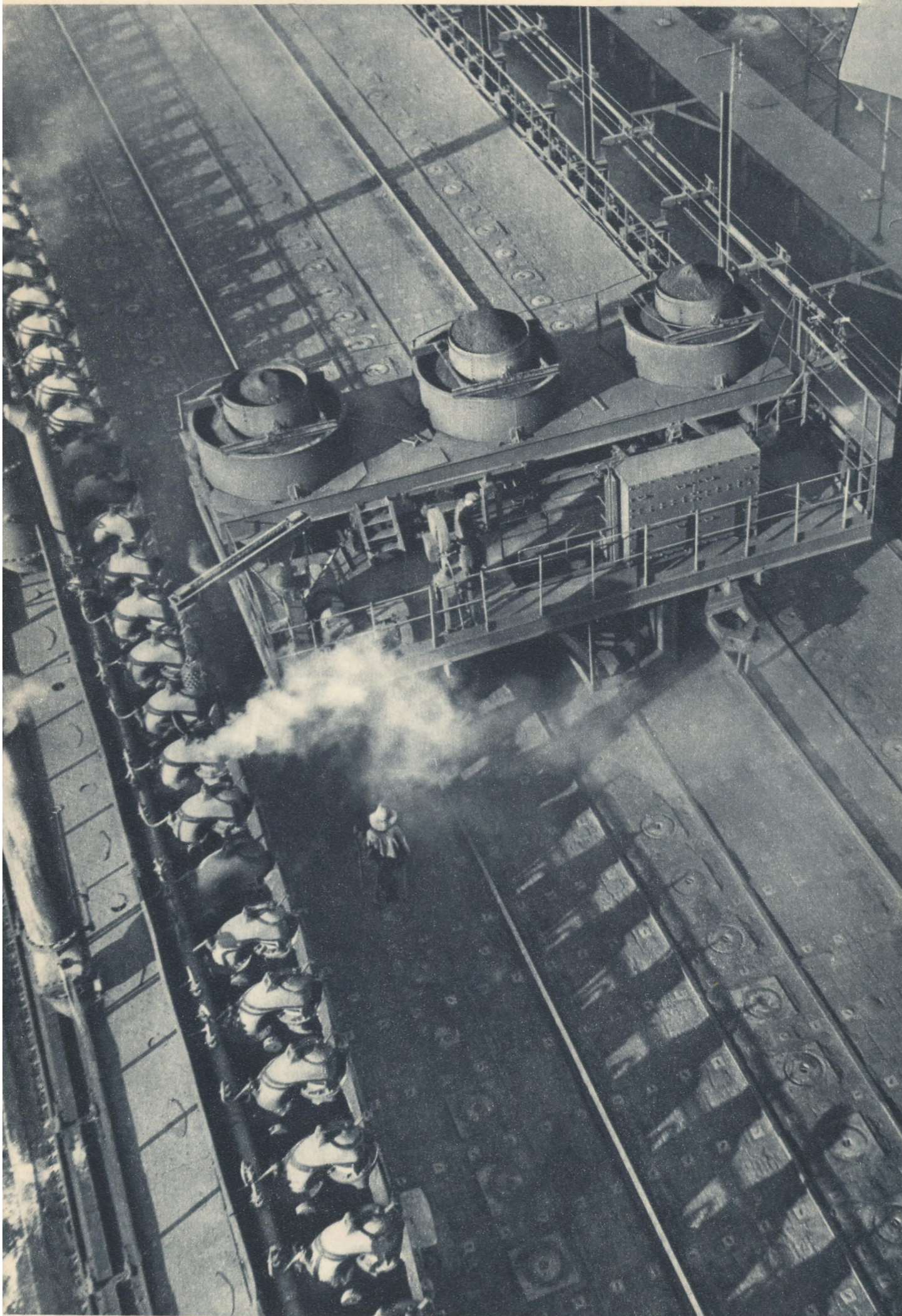
"Many comrades employed in our industry read the 'Soviet Union' and we would therefore like to know whether it would be possible for your magazine to publish an article on one of the departments of the Soviet chemical industry: its significance, research work, technical achievements and, in particular, the measures taken to protect the health of the workers."

The Editors passed on this request to Semyon Dvorin, chief coking engineer of the technological administration of the USSR Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry, whose reply we print below.



**SEMYON DVORIN,**  
Chief Coking Engineer  
of the Technological Administration  
of the USSR Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry

Photos by V. SHAKHOVSKOI



An account of the working conditions at the coking plants of the Soviet Union had best begin with a description of what they were like in former days. This is very important, since the elimination of harmful and laborious work in our country's coke industry was the result of radical changes in production methods, mainly the equipping of the industry with up-to-date machinery.

In tsarist Russia antiquated flame coke ovens were largely used. Tens of thousands of tons of valuable chemical substances and hundreds of millions of cubic metres of oven gas were wasted. At the same time the coke by-products which the country needed were extensively imported. Thus in 1913 Russia paid 14 million rubles for pure benzene products purchased abroad, and even coke itself was bought in large quantities.

With labour cheap and plentiful, due to unemployment, the capitalists were not interested in mechanizing production. All heavy, arduous work was done by hand, and the air in the shops was foul. Such manual and primitively-organized operations as the unloading of the coal, moving the coal trucks along the coke ovens, raising the oven doors and smearing them with clay, the quenching, sorting and loading of the coke and many other operations exacted much physical toil. Coal and pitch dust, the heat from the ovens and the glowing coke, the noxious hydrogen sulphide, the ammonia fumes, the tar and benzene products all had a ruinous effect on the health of the workers. Their skin and eyes became inflamed and occupational diseases were widespread. In rainy weather the factory grounds were made impassable by mud. On account of the poisoned atmosphere all plant life ceased not only near coking plants but also quite a distance off.

During the Stalin five-year plans a large-scale coking industry has grown up in the Land of Soviets. For technical level and working conditions, for concentration and mechanization of production, it holds first place in the world. The carbonization of coal, including by-product coking, is based in the USSR on scientific principles worked out by Soviet experts. The number of plants in the industry is steadily increasing. At present our country is manufacturing much more coke than on the eve of the Second World War.

Much has been done to improve the technology and working conditions in these plants and mechanize the operations performed in the course of production.

Left: Charging ovens at the Zaporozhye Coking Plant by means of a specially constructed mechanized car. The hatches are opened by an electromagnet operated by a push button. The full ovens are also closed mechanically

Take the Zaporozhye coking plant for instance. All the shops are mechanized on a single conveyer system. The first thing that strikes you as you enter the grounds of the plant is the cleanness of the asphalted yard and the abundance of greenery. Trains loaded with coal are constantly on the move. As one 60-ton car after another runs up to the coal charging machine—a powerful unloading contrivance—it is easily tilted, together with a section of the rails, and emptied in a moment. A slight turn of the handle of an electric lever is all that is needed to bring about the tilt. The charging machine, operated by one man, can unload 1,500 tons of coal an hour.

The plant's mechanized warehouse is equipped with a bridge crane and other efficient hoisting and transporting facilities.

Coal intended for coking is crushed in a hammer mill. Each year as much coal is blended for the production of coke at the Zaporozhye plant as would fill a freight train long enough to cover the distance from Moscow to Khar-kov.

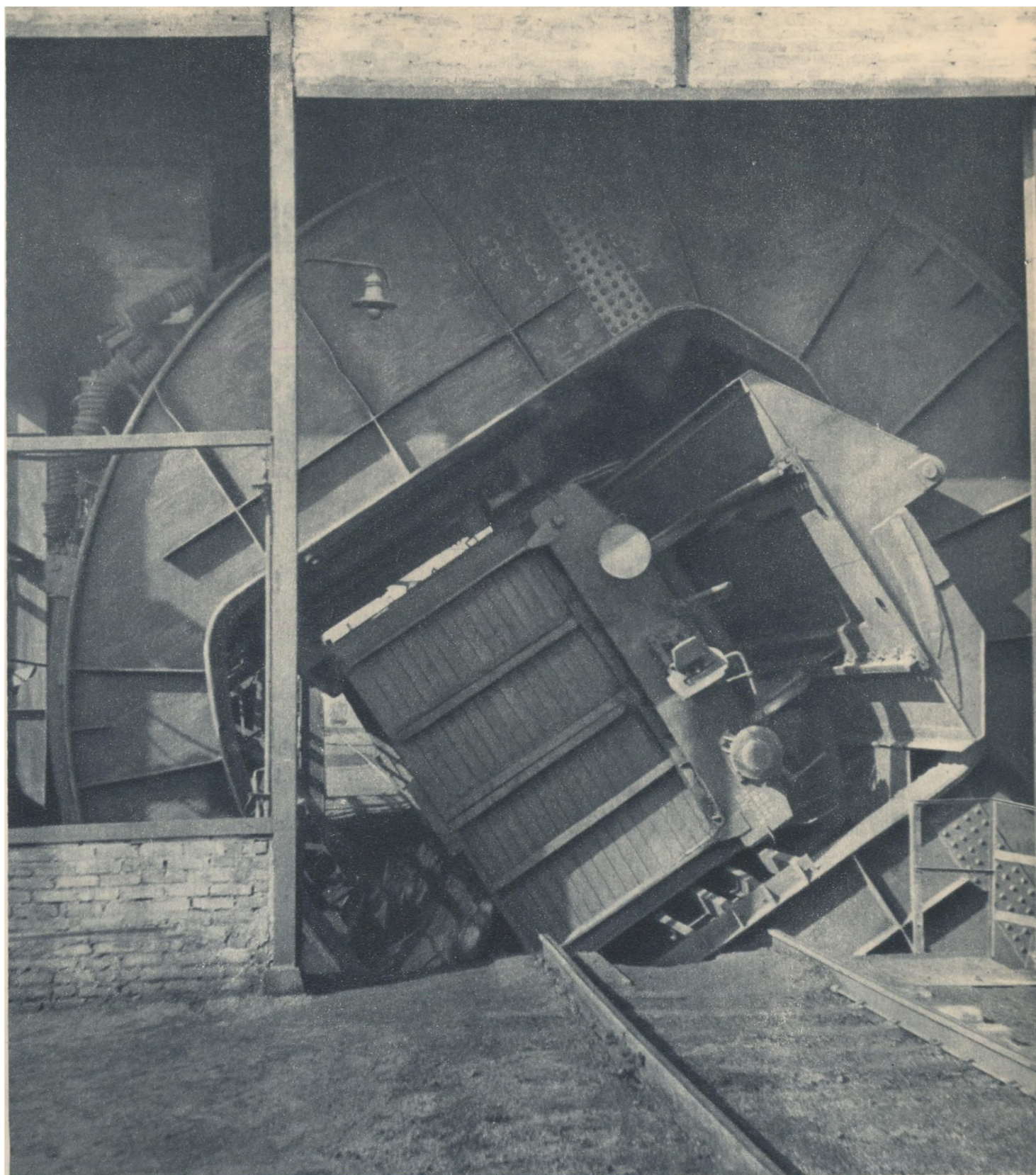
All the operations involved in the charging of the highly efficient dinas-brick coke ovens are mechanized, including the hardest one, the closing of the hatches. The gases and vapours formed on charging are sucked into suction chambers, which permits the workers above to work under normal conditions.

The synchronizing equipment of the coke oven machinery (coke discharging machine, the door extractor, the coke-quenching car, electric locomotive) greatly facilitates the mechanized delivery of coal and ensures greater safety. Coke quenching has also been automatized. The injurious vapours and gases formed on quenching are carried off by means of a long ventilating stack. Mechanized sifters sort the coke.

The Zaporozhye plant has well-equipped departments for the recovery and manufacture of the chemical by-products of coking. The coke-oven gas is drawn out of the ovens by centrifugal ventilators. Each one of these sucks annually enough gas to fill a balloon more than a kilometre in diameter. The ammonia is completely recovered in the chemical works in the form of ammonium sulphate. The crude benzol carburetted hydrogen is distilled in a constantly and automatically operating plant for obtaining pure benzene.

There is a special shop in which such harmful admixtures as hydrogen sulphide, cyanide compounds, etc., are removed from the coking gas. The water carrying the chemical waste passes through apparatus which remove all noxious matter and recover the phenols they contain.

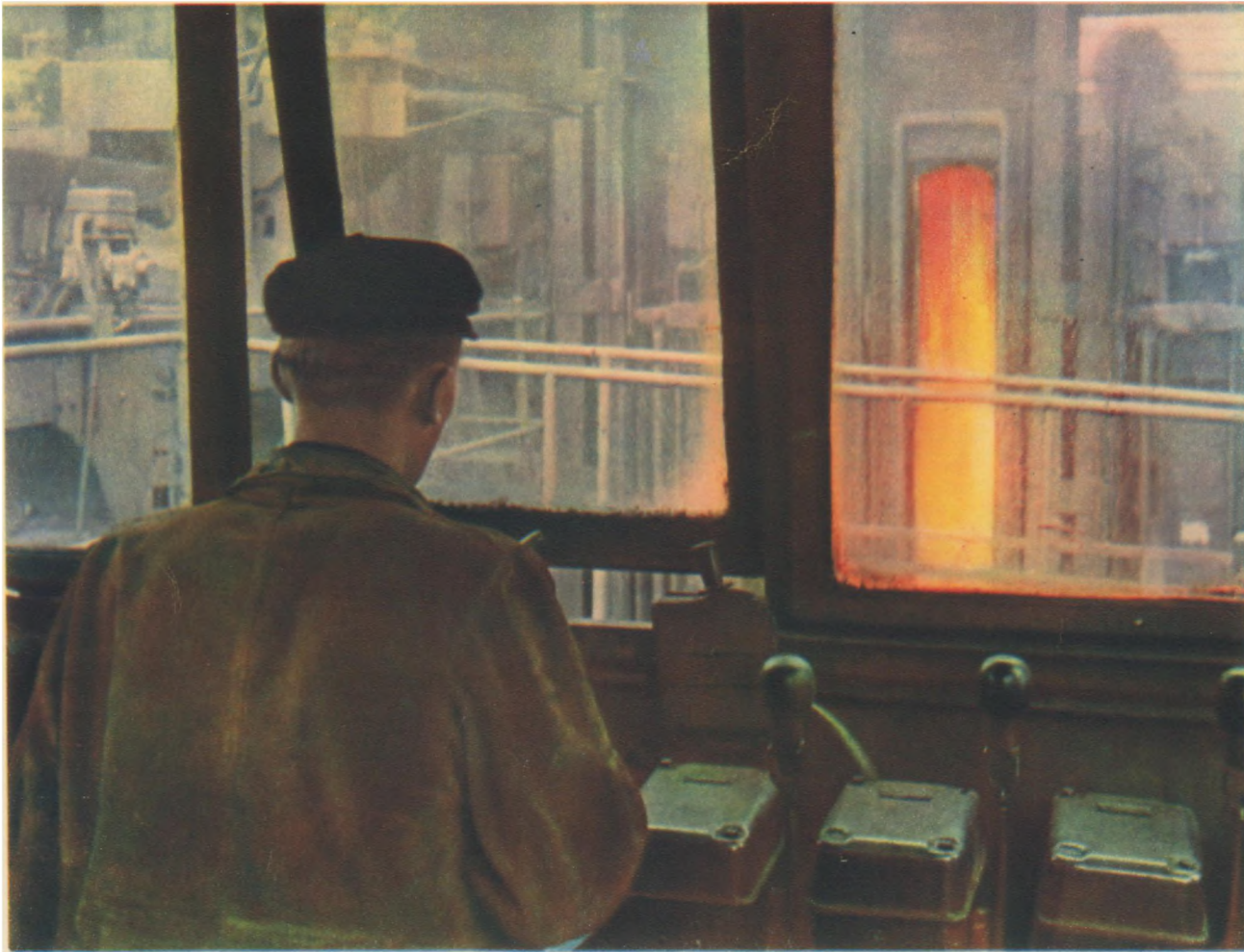
Scores of different products are obtained at this chemical plant, and all of them are widely used. Coke and gas are needed at metallurgical works; coke smalls are used in the agglomeration of iron ore; ammonium sulphate serves to fertilize our fields; carbon disulphide is a good agricultural pest exterminator; tar and crude benzol distillation products are good for numerous other purposes.



Unloading coal at the Zaporozhye plant. The coal charging machine, operated by one man, replaces several score of loaders. It can empty a 60-ton car in 2-3 minutes

Quite a large number of loaders would be required to do the work in the plant's coal yard if it were not for the abundance of powerful machines. One of these is the bridge crane shown below, which handles several thousand tons of coal daily





One man at a switchboard operates the coke-discharging machine which removes the doors of the coke ovens, extracts the coke, puts the doors back in place and levels the charge



The charging cars at the Zaporozhye Coking Plant are equipped with electromagnets like the one shown above, photographed just as the coke-oven hatch opened



The machine has been turned on. Coke is automatically discharged into the quenching car to be afterwards quenched, also automatically

All the departments of the plant are well ventilated and have modern sewage systems. Safety devices and hygienic measures are in evidence everywhere. Smokeless furnace charging, hermetical sealing of coke ovens and chemical apparatus, the complete recovery of coking gas, the carrying off of the noxious quenching vapours by tall stacks, and the purification and discharge of harmful waste matter have wonderfully improved working conditions.

The workers are provided with coveralls and special food, and specific safety measures are taken for their protection.

The factory premises contain shower baths, bath houses, laundries, dining rooms, a clinic, a club and other cultural facilities as well as a variety of public utility and everyday service establishments. The whole personnel—engineers, technicians and factory and office workers live in comfortable five- and six-story houses. A hamlet situated at a picturesque spot near the Dnieper has sprung up from a group of cosy one- and two-family cottages belonging to plant employees.

Working and living conditions of the employees at the Zaporozhye plant differ in no wise from those of any other Soviet coking enterprise.

The introduction of numerous machines and appliances of every description has completely eliminated heavy labour in the coal-preparing, coking and by-products departments, has greatly lightened work in general and made it not only much safer but also more productive.

The all-round mechanization of production processes at Soviet coking plants by no means leads to unemployment, for the workers thus released undergo retraining and are taught new trades. Many learn to operate machines and earn much more than before. The new Soviet coking plants no longer require people to load coal, coke, ammonium sulphate or sand. They have no need of windlassmen, truckmen, furnace door shutters, charge shovellers, clay mixers, coke pourers and many other manual labourers. The workers who used to hold these jobs have become operators of charging machines, bridge and other cranes, door-extractors, car loaders, coke discharging machines, electric locomotives of coke-quenching cars and other high-efficiency appliances.

The work of the ordinary workmen in the Soviet coking industry, as in all other Soviet industries, is being increasingly mechanized, coming closer and closer to the work of engineers.



During the Second World War the Zaporozhye Coking Plant was razed to the ground by the Hitlerite invaders. Since its restoration this plant has become even more powerful than in prewar years, its output exceeding that of 1940. This is due to the new technological methods employed, to extensive mechanization and automatic control, increasing skill of the workers and the Stakhanovite style of work. The photo shows hatchman Nikolai Khablenko preparing the oven for the release of coke





Rostov-on-Don today. On the corner of Engels Street and Voroshilov Avenue

Below: A group of Rostov State University students at the entrance to the October Revolution Park, restored and reconstructed since the war



Photos by M. ANANYIN, Y. BERLINER,  
A. SOKOLENKO and V. SHAKHOVSKOI

*An Interview with the Director of the Board of Architecture of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, V. SHKVARIKOV*

The city of Rostov is situated on the picturesque high and hilly, right bank of the river Don, amid a veritable oasis of verdure.

World War II left it in ruins. The damage wrought to Rostov-on-Don by the Hitlerite invaders reached the appalling mark of three thousand million rubles.

The scale of destruction to which Soviet cities were subjected has no parallel in world history. Nor has world history known anything to compare with the rate of their rehabilitation.

In the first postwar months the Soviet Government adopted a decision on measures to be taken for the rehabilitation of fifteen of Russia's most ancient cities that had been razed by the invaders. Rostov-on-Don was among the cities heading the list.

Today hundreds of high buildings, apartment houses, schools, colleges and hospitals have been rehabilitated and built anew. Last year alone, Rostov citizens received about a hundred large new buildings.

In rebuilding and reconstructing Rostov the task set by the Soviet Government—to preserve every detail of value in the historically evolved plan of the city and, at the same time, to correct the shortcomings of the old city plan, and to conduct all building work on the basis of up-to-date Soviet city building science and practice—is being successfully fulfilled.

Under the prewar Stalin five-year plans, Rostov-on-Don was reconstructed on the basis of a master plan, becoming one of the country's major centres of industry and culture, with giant industrial enterprises, such as the "Rostselmash" (Rostov Agricultural Machinery Works), and dozens of higher education institutions and research centres, technical schools, lending libraries and theatres. In the place of the onetime slums blocks of well-appointed apartment houses arose. The city boasted many imposing municipal buildings, among them the House of Soviets and the Gorky Theatre, one of the country's largest. A major novel feature in the

# on - Don



The city's embankment. The port of Rostov-on-Don will become a busy junction now that the Volga-Don Shipping Canal has come into being

The photo on the right was taken just after the Nazis had been driven out. The same part of the city is seen in a contemporary photo





Left: A ferry motorboat carries Rostov holiday-makers over to the beach on the left bank of the Don



The beach opposite the city is a favourite summer resting place with the people of Rostov-on-Don

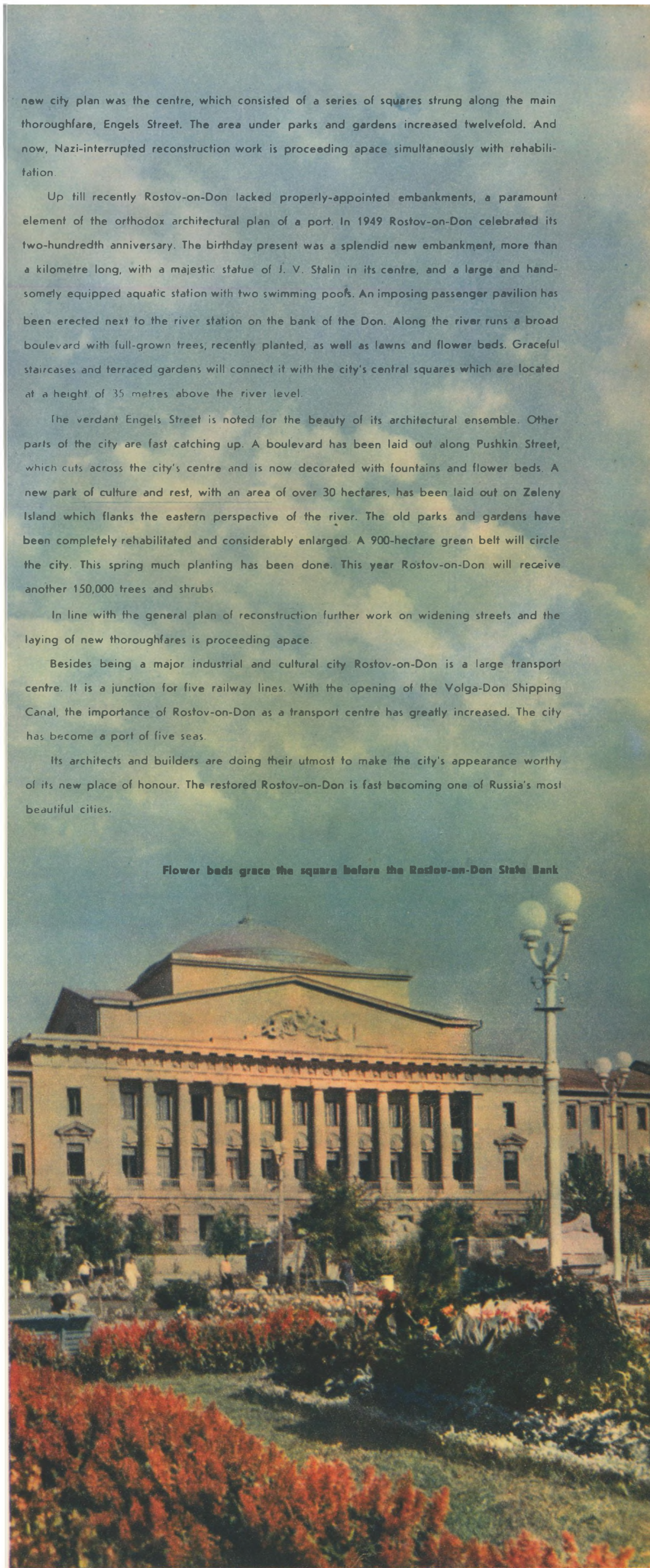
Below: The reconstructed embankment of Rostov-on-Don, built since the war





The fountain in Theatre Square

Below: The new railway station at Rostov-on-Don



Flower beds grace the square before the Rostov-on-Don State Bank

new city plan was the centre, which consisted of a series of squares strung along the main thoroughfare, Engels Street. The area under parks and gardens increased twelvefold. And now, Nazi-interrupted reconstruction work is proceeding apace simultaneously with rehabilitation.

Up till recently Rostov-on-Don lacked properly-appointed embankments, a paramount element of the orthodox architectural plan of a port. In 1949 Rostov-on-Don celebrated its two-hundredth anniversary. The birthday present was a splendid new embankment, more than a kilometre long, with a majestic statue of J. V. Stalin in its centre, and a large and handsomely equipped aquatic station with two swimming pools. An imposing passenger pavilion has been erected next to the river station on the bank of the Don. Along the river runs a broad boulevard with full-grown trees, recently planted, as well as lawns and flower beds. Graceful staircases and terraced gardens will connect it with the city's central squares which are located at a height of 35 metres above the river level.

The verdant Engels Street is noted for the beauty of its architectural ensemble. Other parts of the city are fast catching up. A boulevard has been laid out along Pushkin Street, which cuts across the city's centre and is now decorated with fountains and flower beds. A new park of culture and rest, with an area of over 30 hectares, has been laid out on Zeleny Island which flanks the eastern perspective of the river. The old parks and gardens have been completely rehabilitated and considerably enlarged. A 900-hectare green belt will circle the city. This spring much planting has been done. This year Rostov-on-Don will receive another 150,000 trees and shrubs.

In line with the general plan of reconstruction further work on widening streets and the laying of new thoroughfares is proceeding apace.

Besides being a major industrial and cultural city Rostov-on-Don is a large transport centre. It is a junction for five railway lines. With the opening of the Volga-Don Shipping Canal, the importance of Rostov-on-Don as a transport centre has greatly increased. The city has become a port of five seas.

Its architects and builders are doing their utmost to make the city's appearance worthy of its new place of honour. The restored Rostov-on-Don is fast becoming one of Russia's most beautiful cities.

# BEYOND THE CARPATHIANS

By VSEVOLOD BELODRAI

Photos by N. KHORUNZHY

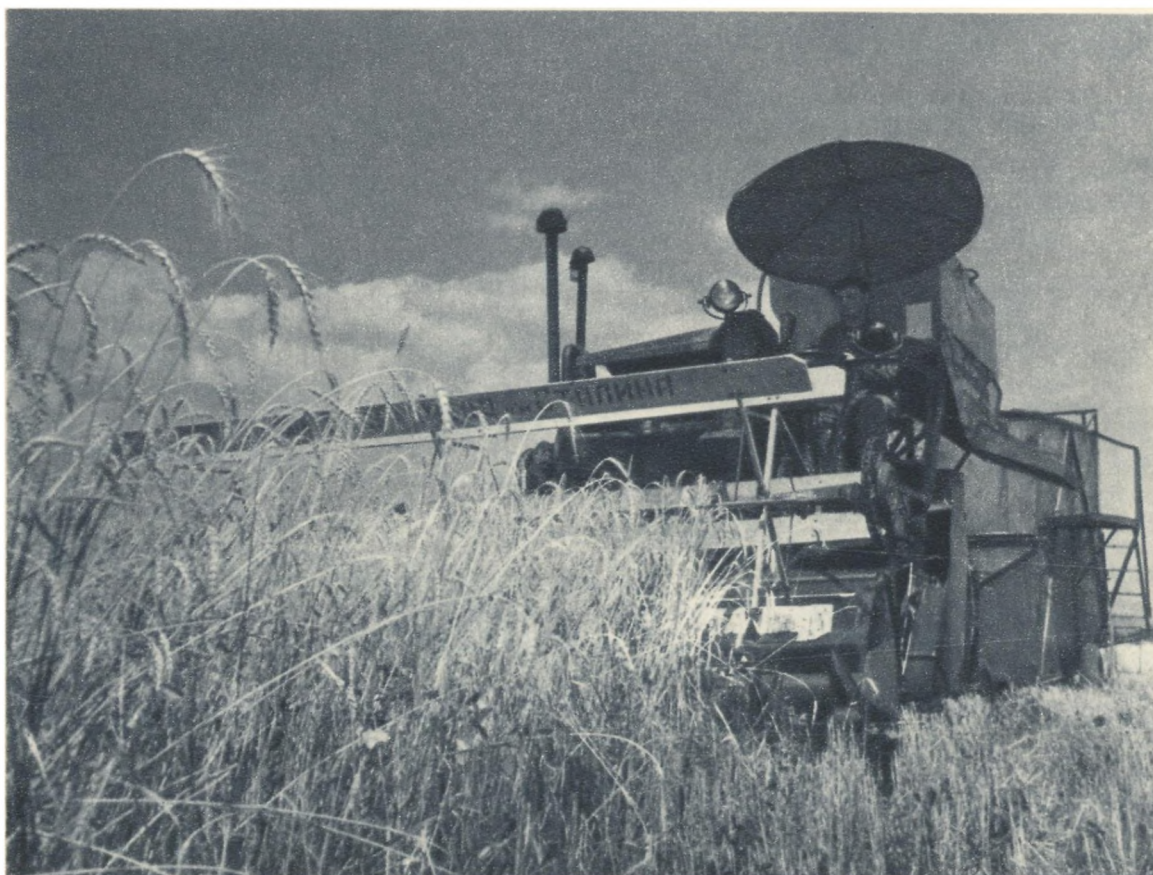


The day's work done, young people of Velikiye Luchki crowd the streets, some on their way to clubs, the cinema and the libraries, others simply to gather round for a chat, a joke or a song



A flock of kolkhoz sheep returning from pasture

Below: A self-propelled combine in the fields of the V. I. Lenin Collective Farm



Many were the inhabitants of Velikiye Luchki and other villages of the Transcarpathian Region who, in pre-Soviet times, left their native homes for America, Canada, Belgium, France—in search of a better share in life. But neither at home nor abroad did the landless peasants find that better share. And since things were bad everywhere, one might as well be home as overseas. So the unfortunate emigrants would return to the land of their birth, without as much as the price of a square meal in their pockets.

The land situation was desperate. Nothing was to be got out of the wretched scrap of land the peasants did have. And it not infrequently happened that in feuds arising over these hard-won allotments, brother murdered brother and son raised his hand against father.

And yet there was enough land and to spare all round.

But it was not owned by the tillers of the soil. In the neighbourhood of Velikiye Luchki there was an estate of 3,500 hectares, belonging to the capitalist, Count Shenborn; another 2,000 hectares was the property of local landowners and kulaks. Thus had it been from time immemorial, and to the peasants the future seemed to hold nothing better in store.

But now that Soviet rule has been established in the Transcarpathian Ukraine, the land has been given over to those who work it—to the peasants.

In 1947, in the village of Velikiye Luchki, which lies in Mukachov District of the Transcarpathian Region, a kolkhoz was organized. From the state it received, free of charge, 5,700 hectares of land for use in perpetuity. Since then, every year has brought increased wealth to the Velikiye Luchki kolkhoz named after V. I. Lenin. Nowadays its stock includes 1,400 head of cattle, 1,145 sheep, over 1,000 pigs, 15,700 fowls.

Managing the farm collectively, the members have built 450 dwelling houses. And these homes are not lighted by the primitive oil lamps of old, but by electricity. Furniture, better than that of many a town house before the Revolution, has appeared in the kolkhoz cottages. The bread, fruit, vegetables and other farm products which the collective farmers receive in plenty in payment for their work are more than enough to satisfy their needs. Besides

Collective farmer Maria Gazi (foreground) and her co-workers are bringing in a fine harvest of tobacco



this, every family receives substantial money payments. And what a collective farmer earns on farm work is by no means his whole income: everyone has for his use a plot of land, where he can grow fruit and vegetables, his own cattle and poultry.

The growth of material well-being has led naturally to an increased demand for cultural facilities. The two clubs, the cinema, the radio station and the five libraries which the village now possesses are an essential part of the collective farmers' life. The farm has its own hospital with therapy, surgical, gynecological and other departments, not to mention the veterinary clinic.

In Velikiye Luchki there are three schools, with a total attendance of 1,300 children. Many of the young people of the collective farm have already graduated from technicums and higher educational establishments. There is an ever-increasing urge towards learning and books among the villagers. Of the village's five libraries, one alone possesses 7,000 books, while the school library has over 2,700. Velikiye Luchki's radio network extends to every house in the village; all field work and cattle-raising brigades are linked with collective farm headquarters by telephone.

The number of people in the village engaged in intellectual work is growing. Nearly 150 teachers, doctors, agronomists and other specialists are at work in the schools, the hospital and on the farm. And that is not counting the skilled tractor drivers, combinemen and mechanics, who are all local people.

A big future lies open to those who by their splendid labour, their inventive skill in agricultural production, and their social work for the community, are strengthening the collective-farm village and increasing its wealth. For excellent labour quite a few of the collective farmers of Velikiye Luchki have been decorated with Orders and Medals. Team leader Anna Ladan, now a deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR and Yuri Rubish, the collective farm's chairman, were awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labour for obtaining particularly high yields of maize and sunflowers.

The collective farmers of the Transcarpathian Region work with real enthusiasm. Like all those who till the fields of collective farms the members of the V. I. Lenin Kolkhoz are striving for, and achieving, bigger harvests, larger herds of cattle and increased productivity. At the kolkhoz dairy-farm work is being conducted on a scientific basis to rear new and more productive breeds of cattle.

In the Ukrainian wheatgrowers' letter to J. V. Stalin, Dmitri Voloshin's brigade from the Lenin Kolkhoz undertook to harvest 11.5 tons of maize per hectare. The collective farmers are determined to fulfil this undertaking with credit. Spring sowing was completed up to schedule; weeding and fertilizing of the young shoots has also been successfully accomplished. Now a golden sea of wheat, rye and maize heaves boundlessly over the kolkhoz fields.

Careful preparations have been made for the harvest in Velikiye Luchki. Everything is checked, the distribution of the farm's labour forces has been planned, new covered-in threshing floors are being built, soon the barns will be ready to receive the rich harvest which is ripening in the fields.

Collective farmer Elena Korol at home with her mother



In the kolkhoz hospital garden. Nurse Lydia Lebedenko stops for a chat with two young convalescents

Below: The kolkhoz apiary



# THE UNFORGETTABLE YEAR 1919

A NEW SOVIET HISTORICAL FILM



A still from the film: V. I. Lenin talks with J. V. Stalin, who is to be sent to Petrograd and other sectors of the Western front

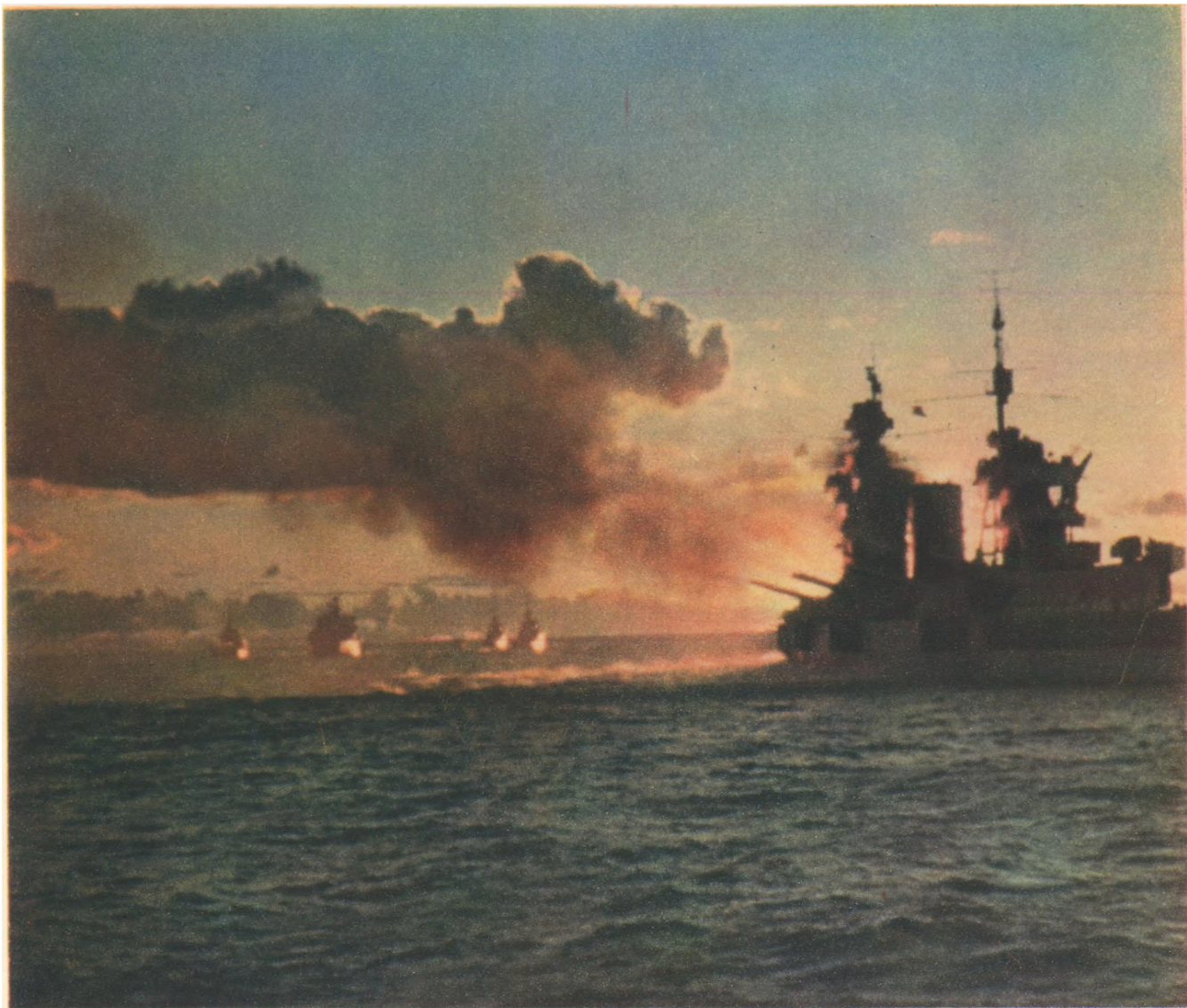
The author of the article published below—film-producer Mikhail Chiaureli—is one of the best-known figures in the Soviet film world. During his twenty-five years' work in the cinema he has made many big historical films (including "The Fall of Berlin"), which have been shown in almost every country of the globe. Recently Chiaureli's production of "The Unforgettable Year 1919" marked a new artistic triumph for Soviet cinematography.

**Mikhail CHIAURELI,**  
People's Artist of the USSR,  
Stalin Prize Winner

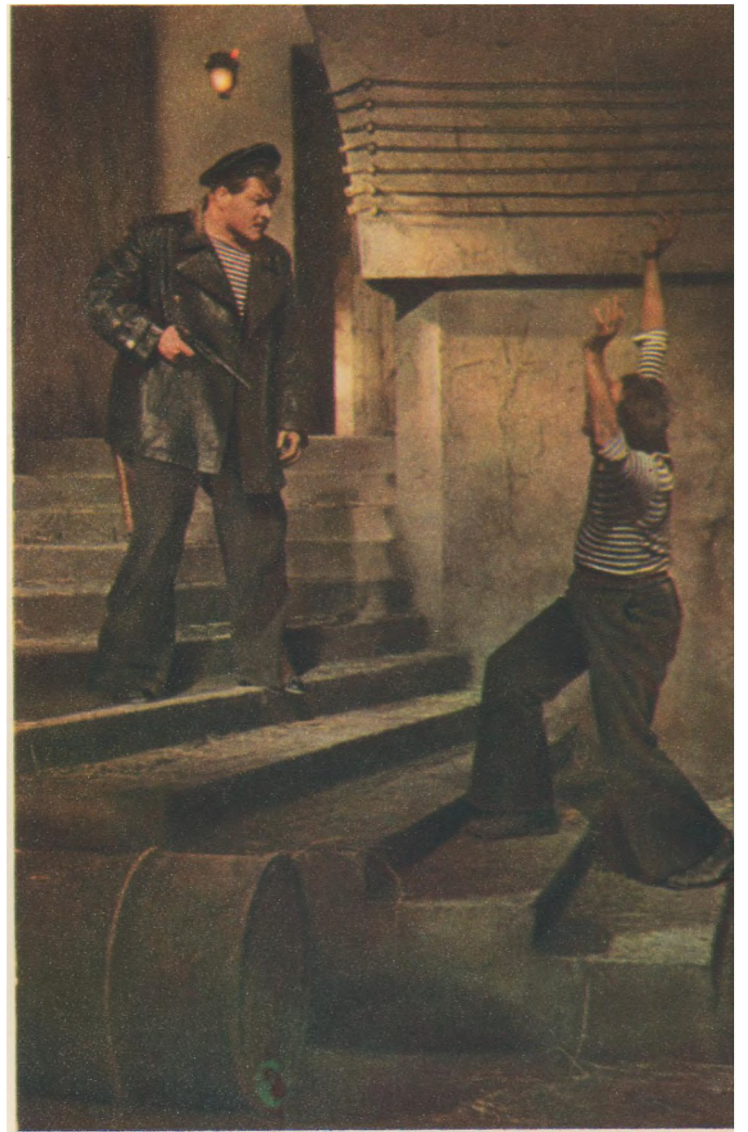
The action of our new film, which is based on the play of the same name by Vsevolod Vishnevsky, takes place during the momentous days of 1919 when on the approaches to Petrograd the fate of the young Soviet Republic hung in the balance. It was a very difficult period. Weakened by four years of the First World War, the country was suffering badly from hunger and destruction. The Whiteguards were striving to snatch from the people all that they had gained in the Revolution, and to reinstate the rule of the landlords and capitalists. Frightened by the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the imperialists of Britain, France, America, Japan and other capitalist states were conspiring to destroy Soviet rule by armed intervention on a broad scale. Traitors and conspirators who had wormed their way into high positions in Petrograd were preparing to sur-

A still from the film (below): After the defeat of the rebels J. V. Stalin calls upon sailors and workers to go straight over to a counterattack and drive the enemy out of the country





A still from the film: A Soviet destroyer opens fire on the enemy in a battle which forced the interventionists to retire from the approaches of Petrograd



A still from the film: Sailor Shibayev corners Dex, a spy, just as he is preparing to blow up the fort

render the city to the enemy. The British imperialists sent a squadron of warships to help them.

Petrograd and the whole Soviet Land were in danger. At this critical moment V. I. Lenin sent J. V. Stalin to Petrograd, who took command of the city's defence, and brought about the decisive defeat of the enemy on the approaches to Red Petrograd.

The makers of the film were faced with the responsible task of creating by artistic means a true and historically accurate picture of these memorable events. To get a fuller idea of the atmosphere of revolutionary Petrograd, we studied numerous archives, visited the sites of past battles and got to know the layout of the coastal forts covering the approaches to the city.

One of the main episodes in the film was shot on the territory of the plant once known as the Putilov Works. Here J. V. Stalin arrived in 1919 to raise the Petrograd proletariat in the fight against the enemy. When we told them at the plant that we intended to shoot this scene on the spot, many of the workers offered us their help. Among them were old Putilov men who remembered J. V. Stalin's visit to the works and who had taken part in conversations with their leader. Their recollections helped us to build up a genuine picture of those heroic times.

The film "The Unforgettable Year 1919" is constructed so as to portray the tremendous historical events mainly through the lives of ordinary Soviet people—sailors, commanders and soldiers. The camp of the enemies of the revolution who tried to strangle the young Republic and make it a prey to foreign colonizers, is also shown in the film. Here we find the Whiteguard generals Neklyudov and Rodzyanko, the foreign agents Dex and Egar, the counterrevolutionary plotter Madame Butkevich and others. Some of the episodes take place in London and Paris, showing the rulers of the capitalist West who then organized and inspired the intervention against the Land of the Soviets.

In creating this new cinema production our team strove to draw an accurate and vivid picture of the heroic deeds of our fathers, of the greatness of the Soviet people who in fierce battles with their enemies saved the first Socialist state in the world.

A still from the film (below): The last push. The Red Banner unfurls above the fort





# FISHING BY ELECTRIC LIGHT

*An Interview with Professor PAVEL BORISOV,  
Doctor of Biology, Stalin Prize Winner*

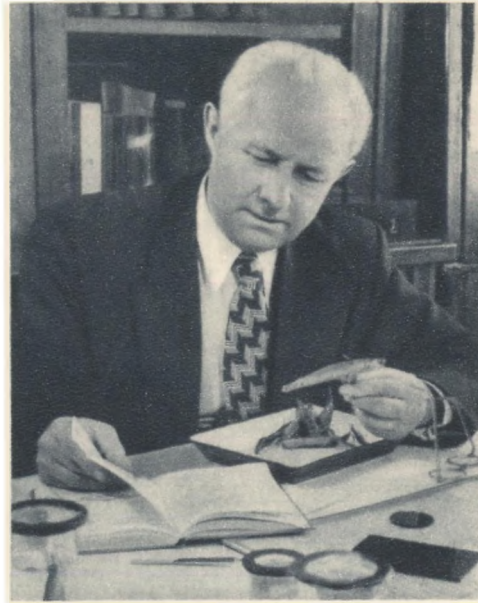
Photos by A. BRYANOV

**Q:** Will you please tell us something about your new method of catching fish with the help of electric light?

**A:** It has long been known that some species of fish are attracted by light. In order to determine more definitely just what their reactions are Soviet scientists have explored many seas and other bodies of water, both fresh and saline. It was found that a lighted electric lamp lowered into water draws to itself a great variety of fish. Caspian sprats, for instance, react to concentrated light while Black Sea anchovies are attracted by dispersed light. Light-attracted fish are mostly pelagic, feeding on plankton. Electric light acts on them like a physiological irritant.

**Q:** How is this method applied in practice?

**A:** It is simple yet effective, and particularly widespread among sprat fishermen on the Caspian. Cone-like nets to which electric lamps have been attached are lowered from both sides of the fishing vessel to a depth of 20-40 metres. When large shoals of sprats have entered the lighted zone the catch begins. No sprats escape sideways as the nets are raised, for the fish



**Professor Pavel Borisov, Doctor of Biology, author of the new fishing method**

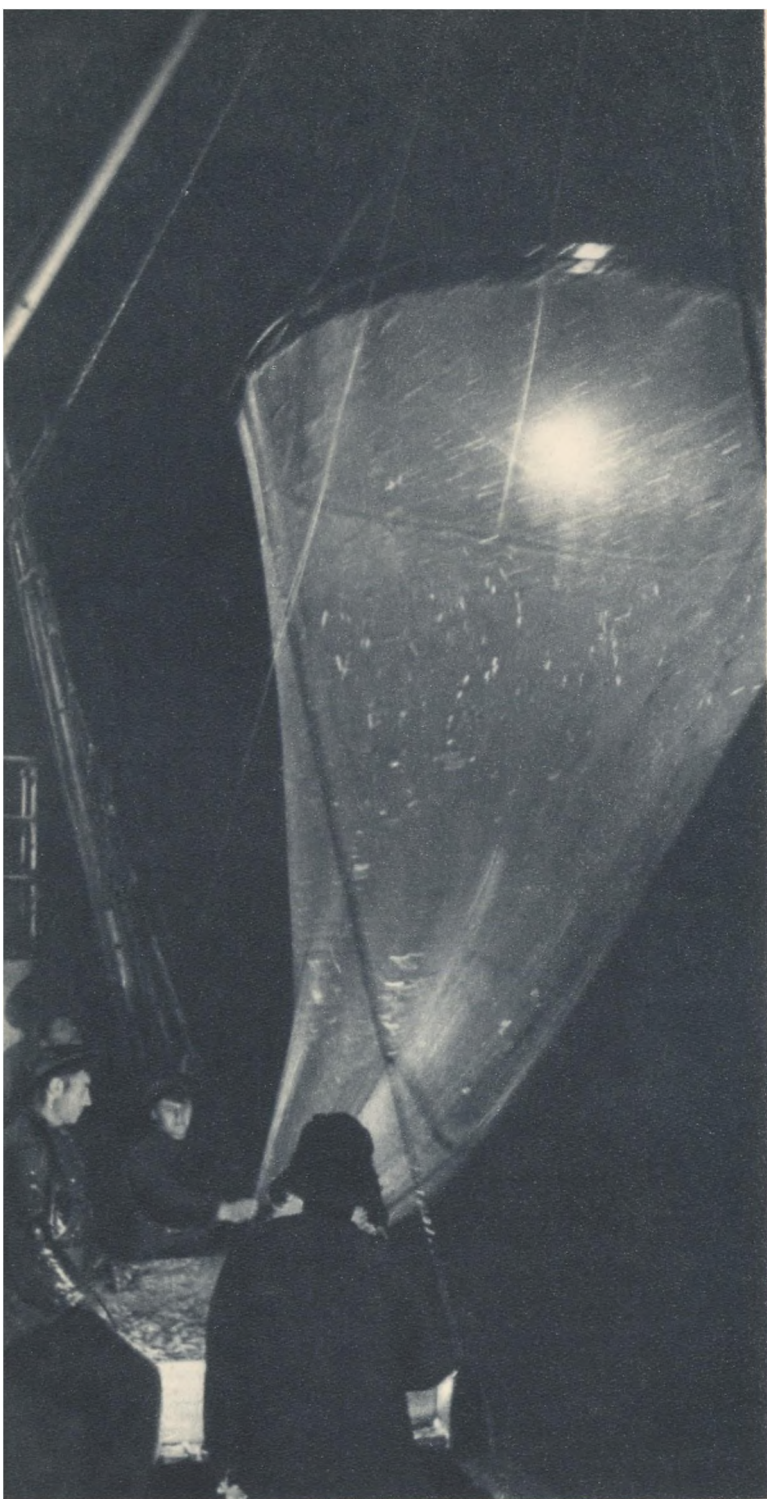
strain to be as near as they can to the source of light.

Each time the net is brought up the catch amounts to 150-250 kilograms, and it is raised on both sides of the ship from 4 to 8 times in the course of an hour. By employing this new method the fishing vessels of the Caspian flotilla landed about 300,000 centners of sprats during the three summer months of 1951. Before electric-light fishing was introduced such huge sprat and herring catches were unknown on the Caspian.

**Q:** What are the prospects of further improvements in the catching of fish?

**A:** At present researchers are working on the use of electric light in fishing for grey mullets in the Caspian Sea, scads and anchovies in the Black Sea, razor fish and shemaya herring in the Aral, smelts and sprats in the Baltic and other seas, as well as for various fresh water fish. Fishing by underwater electric light is being developed and perfected. Other physical agents, such as electric current and sound, are also being investigated.

The new methods simplify fishing, ease the work of the fishermen and increase the catch.



**"Pouring out" sprats caught in the Caspian by the new subaqueous electric-light method**



**One of the new conical electric-lighted nets bringing up a catch of sprats**



**Delivering the night's catch to the receiving boat**



## EASING THE MINER'S LABOUR

A group of workers in the Soviet mining industry have been awarded a Stalin Prize for inventing and introducing into production a KKP-1 coal combine for utilization in narrow, steep coal seams. To extract coal with the help of the pneumatic pick in almost vertical seams is exceedingly hard work, and the introduction of coal combines in such workings has greatly lightened the miner's labour. Of very simple design, the coal combine can perform the work of more than twenty hewers. Its crew consists of the operator, his assistant and two timbermen. The machine cuts strips of coal 2-2.2 metres wide and 0.8-1.3 metres thick. The coal is cut in big shavings and not crushed, and therefore, in the face where it works, there is no dust. This new unit is operated by compressed air, which is a guarantee against explosions of mine gas and coal dust.

The work of constructing and introducing the coal combine was carried on under the direction of Alexei Topchiev, a well-known Soviet constructor of mining machinery. Starting as a plain worker he grew to be an outstanding specialist; he has spent over twenty years of diligent labour in constructing machines that lighten the miner's labour. Many of his machines are being used in the mines of the Soviet Union. Alexei Topchiev has thrice been honoured with Stalin Prizes.

"Our aim," the constructor said to the "Soviet Union" correspondent, "is to completely eliminate physical labour in mines. One of the main tasks is to mechanize timbering. Work in this field is going ahead and the time is not far off when timbering will be done by machinery and not by man."

**Our photo shows constructor engineer Alexei Topchiev, Director of the State Experimental Institute for the Designing of Coal-Mining Equipment, Stalin Prize winner**

Photo by V. RUIKOVICH



Leonid Kolesnikov, Stalin Prize winner, in his garden

Below: Leonid Kolesnikov and Marina Demchinskaya examine a new variety of lilac. Marina Demchinskaya, now a graduate agronomist, has been Kolesnikov's pupil since her early school days. Her graduation thesis at the Timiryazev Agricultural Academy was devoted to Kolesnikov's work on lilac



# Lilacs in Bloom

By LYUBOV VORONTOVA

Photos by A. GARANIN

Leonid Kolesnikov is a Moscow truck driver. He is also an amateur floriculturist, known to flower lovers throughout the Soviet Union, and winner of a Stalin Prize in 1951 for his new varieties of lilac.

"Moscow. Leonid Kolesnikov"—such is the address on scores upon scores of letters, pouring in daily from all parts of the country. Street and number may or may not be indicated; but any letter bearing this name will quickly reach its destination.

Old cities are being remodelled. New cities are springing up. Man's labour is eased by new and ever new machinery. Life grows daily richer, more beautiful. And Soviet people in every walk of life are finding flowers an absorbing interest.

Sailors and agronomists, physicians and schoolteachers, collective farmers and city dwellers, professors and Academy members, poets and painters, write to Kolesnikov, or visit him personally, to request seeds, cuttings, and—advice.

His garden is not very large. At first sight, however, it seems enormous—so full is it of verdant, vigorous life, of luscious foliage and rainbow blossoms. Tulips, iris, lilies, gladiolus; Moscow-bred strawberries, and some exotic southern plant whose coral blossoms are like tiny, flaming roses; and, above all else, lilac, lilac, lilac.

"Lilac, to me, was always simply lilac," Alexei Tolstoy wrote after a visit to Kolesnikov's garden in May 1943. "But what I saw today is a fragment of fairyland. I am deeply grateful."

Lilac bushes; tall, smooth-trunked lilac trees; potted lilac, large and small. Luxuriant clusters—some bowing low their slender branches, others proudly upright. Hundreds of different varieties: white, violet, pink, royal purple, or the tender sky-blue of forget-me-nots; luscious as the hyacinth, or delicate and transparent as the thinnest eggshell; large of petal, or with tiny, waxen flowerets. Here, a cluster of flowers bows to the very ground, on a stem only two or three centimetres high. There, a tall bush, like some fairy bouquet, bears twenty-odd different types of flowers, of every shape and colour. In a clay flowerpot grows a tiny bush, covered with pale pink flower clusters—the "Olympiada Kolesnikova." Further on stands a plant called "Schastlivaya"—the "Happy Lilac." Its violet petals are rimmed with white. All these, and many others, have been brought into being by Leonid Kolesnikov.

The suburb of Sokol, broad, well-paved, tree-lined streets; flourishing gardens; block upon block of modern apartment houses; Metro, bus, and trolleybus connections with all parts of the city. Few remember, today, what this onetime suburb was like before the Revolution. But Kolesnikov remembers. He will remember always the bare, ugly life to which the working people were condemned under the tsar; will remember always the bitter resentment that filled his heart, from early childhood, at the joyless scenes around his father's home—a little bit of a house, huddled beside a dirty pond.

Flowers! How he wanted to grow flowers! But working hours were long, and work was heavy. There was no time left for anything but sleep.

With the Great October Revolution, all this changed. Still a youth at that time, Kolesnikov quickly realized what vast new horizons were being opened up before the working people. Things might go hard at first; but the time would come, he firmly believed, when flowers, when beauty would become not a luxury, but a necessity to man. And in the bitter year of 1919, a year of cold and hunger and civil war, he began to grow flowers on a little plot beside his home.

It all began with an evening at the theatre and a basket of white lilac that was presented to one of the actresses after the performance. The lilac drooped woefully. It was dying. Kolesnikov asked for it. He would cure this weak



"Radost" ["Joy"], a Kolesnikov lilac



"Novelty, 1952"



"White Swan"



"Novopeschanaya"



"Ivan Michurin"



Right: A lilac bush bearing clusters of over twenty different varieties



Letters come pouring in from all parts of our country. Letters come, too, from Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, and others of the People's Democracies. Floriculturists write to Kolesnikov of their work and achievements; they set forth their problems, asking his advice; they request cuttings of his new lilacs. Even in the spring blossoming period, Kolesnikov sends out cuttings, with instructions on the grafting methods he has developed. Photo below shows some of the letters received by Kolesnikov in the last few days



Below: Leonid Kolesnikov visits School No. 596, on Levitan Street—one of the capital's new thoroughfares



plant and make it flower anew. He was no gardener, had never studied horticulture. But he carried in his heart the passionate belief that life must be made beautiful for the working people, now for the first time in history masters of their own fate.

And so, to the best of his ability, the young man tended the dying plant. And he brought it back to life. It blossomed for him. Small, simple blossoms, in no way out of the ordinary.

Every spring, from that time forth, he would bring home lilac twigs and seedlings to plant in his garden. All his free time was devoted to their care. Army service brought a three-year intermission; but on returning home Kolesnikov once more took up his hobby.

He knew nothing of the laws of plant life. Slowly, gropingly, by protracted, painstaking experiment, he learned to change the appearance of his plants. After the day's work he would spend his evenings in the garden, tending his plants, experimenting and observing. At first he was pleased enough when he succeeded in making some slight improvement to the ordinary varieties of lilac: when the flowers grew larger, the clusters fuller and brighter, the foliage more green and succulent.

Learning as he worked, he began to understand something of the processes of plant development. Ever more boldly, he intervened in these hidden workings. One day his attention was caught by a dry stick of firewood that happened to fall into a pail of water. How thirstily, how rapidly, it drew in the moisture! And the thought flashed through his mind: And grafts? Would not dry grafts drink in the sap of the stock more willingly than fresh and succulent ones? He prepared some cuttings, and let them lie about in the sun until they were weak and limp. Then, choosing a time when the sap was circulating freely, he grafted them to the chosen stock. The experiment was successful. The cuttings all took very quickly, evincing greater vitality than similar cuttings which had been kept fresh and moist. Such was the origin of a new method of grafting, with "hungry" cuttings, which secures survival of every graft—a very important advantage to the experimenter, since the material for cuttings is not always plentiful, and time is always precious.

As this practical work advanced, the need for theoretical background grew more and more pressing. Kolesnikov began to seek the advice of specialists, and to study scientific literature. And when he got hold of Michurin's works, it was as though a veil had been removed from before his eyes. Yes, he had been working on the right lines; but how much time and energy had been wasted in the search for things already discovered and explained by the great Russian scientist! Now Kolesnikov worked more confidently, advancing steadily towards his cherished dream—the creation of new varieties of lilac.

At first glance many are apt to think that the "bouquet" bush, a single plant bearing several varieties of lilac, is



L. Kolesnikov sits for his portrait by the well-known painter, G. Gorelov. Artists are frequent visitors at the lilac garden. Some paint the flowers, others—the creator of the flowers

Below: Kolesnikov is still a truck driver. Soon, however, he will retire, to devote himself entirely to his lilacs

merely a whim of the horticulturist's imagination, a joke. Yet it is by no means a joke, but an important method of selection. A plant of this kind brings out the advantages of cross pollination, the seeds are quicker to bear new varieties. Also, lilac lovers can be more easily accommodated. Once a man gets a bush like that he can breed innumerable kinds of lilac by grafting!

Lilac blooms in the spring. But in the spring there are so many other flowers! Kolesnikov wants the lilac to bloom on through the summer months. And he is advancing steadily towards this aim. Already, in his garden, there are different types of lilac which bloom at different periods: some in May, some in June, some in July.

"Leonid Kolesnikov is a lover and a creator of new forms of beauty in Nature"—the old Bolshevik Yemelyan Yaroslavsky, a frequent visitor to the lilac garden, was fond of saying. Kolesnikov is very modest, and very exacting; but even his carefully "weeded" list includes as many as two hundred new varieties of lilac, bred in thirty years of devoted labour—not to speak of the innumerable intermediate types, the endless variety of tints and shades.

And these achievements are freely shared with all who seek them. Particularly numerous among Kolesnikov's admirers and followers are those most youthful of horticulturists—our Soviet school children. Letters come in from schools in the Far East and on the Kola Peninsula, in Georgia and Bashkiria, the Ukraine and Byelorussia, the Baltic districts and the Altai mountain regions.

"Just send us a few seeds," writes a group of young Michurinists from a school in the Karelo-Finnish Republic. "They won't go to waste. We want to breed new varieties of lilac ourselves."

From the distant town of Kasli, in the Urals, V. Smirnov, a veteran experimenter writes:

"Your work on lilac, for our great Motherland, is very impressive. Out here in the Urals, where decorative plants are few, I have been doing a little work on gladioli, following Michurin's teachings. I would be very grateful if you would send me some lilac seedlings. The choice I leave to your discretion. And to you, their creator, I wish many more years of fruitful labour for our beloved country."

Kolesnikov carefully treasures all these letters, living proof of the Soviet people's great love of beauty, of peace, of true creative effort.

Leonid Kolesnikov is a truck driver, a rank-and-file working man. From the first days of the Revolution, he realized that Socialism must radically change the lives of the working people, must bring a life not only of plenty, but of beauty. And it became his dream to contribute to that beauty.

Today, his dream has been realized. His work has gained him universal love and recognition. His lilac will be used for the adornment of the Soviet capital, and of other Soviet cities.





A mountain lake in Buryat-Mongolia



Herds of collective-farm horses in the Borgoisk Steppe

Below: The Pedagogical Institute in Ulan-Ude



# BURYAT-MONGOLIA

Khotsa NAMSARAYEV

Photos by A. ZAVYALOV,  
M. MAGID and L. SOKOLSKY

The Buryat-Mongolian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic lies in the south of Eastern Siberia and occupies an area of 351,400 square kilometres. Its population exceeds 500,000.

The geography of Buryat-Mongolia is not uniform: taiga to the north, steppe to the south and east, and mountain country to the west. Its lands are fertile and rich in coal, iron ore, graphite, asbestos, gold and other minerals.

The author of this article is Khotsa Namsarayev, well-known Buryat-Mongolian writer.

Vast are the expanses of the Transbaikalian steppes and pastures. Fur-bearing animals abound in the Barguzin and Bauntovsk taigas. Great is the mineral wealth of Buryat-Mongolia. But the working population derived little joy from all this in the past. The fat cattle grazing in the pastures belonged to the rich, to the kulaks, and so did the best fields and meadows. Water was theirs, too, and the very sun seemed to shine for them alone.

My people was hungry, it was doomed to extinction. Tattered felt yurtas were the only homes they had. Within, there was sorrow and squalor. In those yurtas children were born to eke out a joyless existence, and to dream of happiness. To dream and fight.

Tuberculosis, trachoma, and other social diseases raged among the working people. In 1917 there were only 14 physicians for the whole of Buryat-Mongolia.

Came the Great October, my people forsook the squalid yurtas and followed their elder brother, the Russian people, along the path indicated by the wise leaders Lenin and Stalin.

In the 34 years since the Revolution my native republic has changed beyond all knowing. In former times there were in Buryat-Mongolia but a few small factories, mere workshops, in fact, with the total number of workers not exceeding 1,500.

Today Buryat-Mongolia is a large industrial centre in the East. During the Stalin five-year plans over 300 industrial enterprises were set up there. Among them are the Locomotive and Carriage Building Works in Ulan-Ude, a meat cannery, a mechanized glass factory, coal mines, and many other modern factories and plants, equipped with up-to-date machinery.

Industry is developing apace. In 1949 the enterprises of Buryat-Mongolia put out 61 per cent more production than in the prewar year of 1940. Thousands upon thousands of former peasants came from the uluses to factories and mines; they have become engine drivers, pilots of express airplanes, technicians, engineers, physicians and teachers. The onetime small town of Verkhneudinsk, now Ulan-Ude, has grown into a big industrial and cultural centre, the republic's capital.

The uluses, too, have changed. Smoky yurtas, scattered few and far between like solitary islands in the boundless ocean of steppeland, have given place to rows of handsome houses lining the straight streets of the new collective-farm villages. The working people have at their disposal many hospitals, maternity homes and sanatoriums.

Machines have come to till the fields. Harvester combines gather in crops, lovingly raised by the collective farmers. Today the fields and pastures, flocks of fat sheep, herds of cattle and pedigree horses grazing in the Transbaikal steppes, all belong to the people.

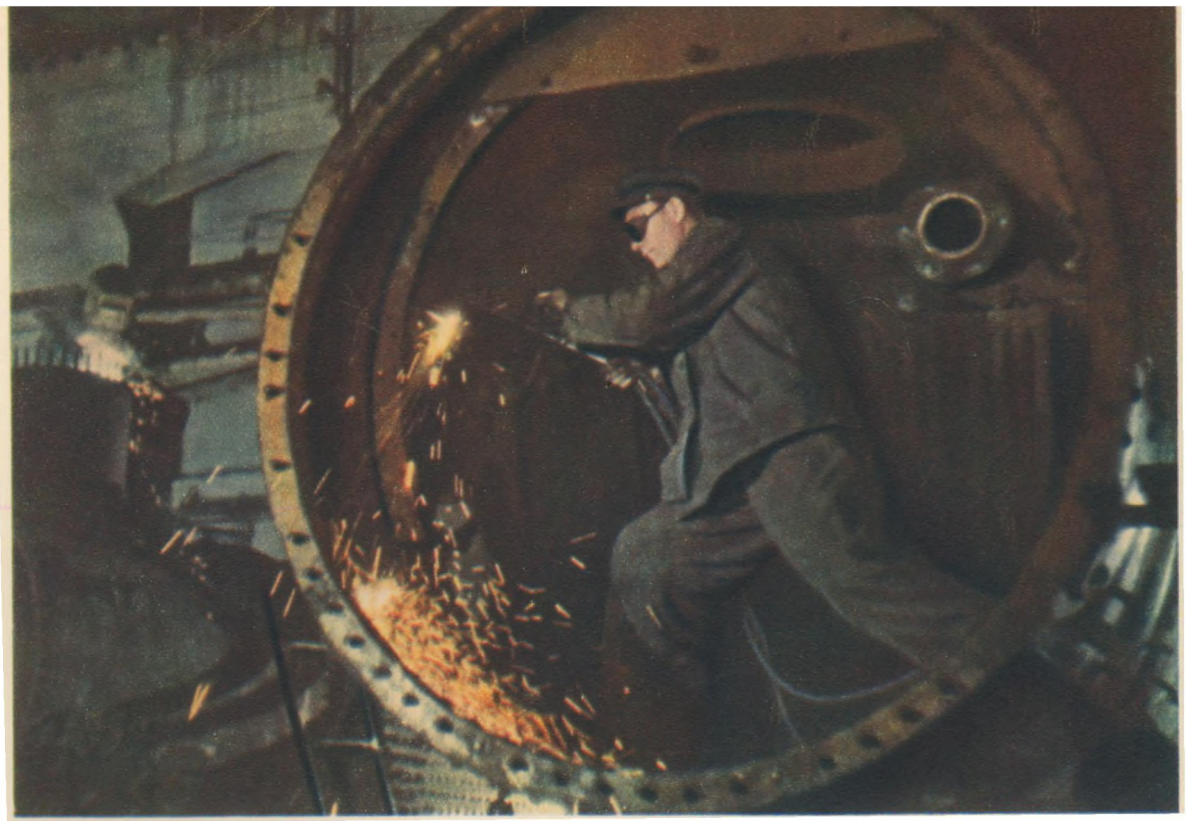
The collective farms and farmers are getting richer and richer. Many farmers own cars and motorcycles. With them, electricity, radio, books, newspapers and magazines have become an essential part of life. My countrymen read Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, Pushkin, Tolstoy, Gorky and Nekrasov, translated into their native tongue.

Before the Great October Socialist Revolution there were hardly any schools in Buryat-Mongolia. Only the children of the rich learned to read and write. Not more than four per cent of the children among the Buryat population, and seven among the Russian, attended school. Today there are no illiterates in the republic. Over 100,000 children attend its 600 schools. Buryat-Mongolia's increasing need for specialists is supplied by its three institutes, several technical and other schools.

The Buryat-Mongols, who in former times had no alphabet, have created their own literature, their own culture, national in form and Socialist in content. We have three theatres: the Buryat-Mongolian Opera House, the State Theatre of Russian Drama and the Buryat-Mongolian Travelling Drama Theatre, at which the best classical operas and plays, and also works by Soviet composers and playwrights are produced. The Opera House has in its repertory such operas as Chaikovsky's "The Queen of Spades" and "Yevgeni Onegin," Borodin's "Prince Igor," Dargomyzhsky's "The Mermaid," Rubinstein's "The Demon," and many others. Showing now at the State Theatre of Russian Drama are Gorky's "The Zykovs" and "The Last", Gogol's "Inspector General" and plays by contemporary Soviet dramatists.

Many are the writers, artists and actors who have sprung from my people during these years. Our books are being translated into Russian and other languages and read everywhere in the Soviet Union.

As an old man, half of whose lifetime was spent before the October Revolution, I am especially glad to witness the exuberant growth of my republic, the development of its economy and culture.



Boiler shop in the Locomotive and Carriage Building Works, Ulan-Ude. Along with other kinds of production the works puts out the powerful "Sergo Orjonikidze" locomotives



Khotso Namsarayev, Buryat-Mongolian writer, listens to a folk bard's new ballad about the prosperity of their native republic



Steamship "Kommunist" towing a caravan of rafts on Lake Balkal. This lake plays an important role in the republic's economy as a waterway and its biggest fishery



Electrical milking in the meadows of the Thälmann collective farm, Selenga District. Highly productive cattle breeding is developed on a wide scale in Buryat-Mongolia





# EXCAVATOR OPERATOR BORISOV

By ALEXANDER ROZEN

Photos by V. GREBNOV

We met Victor Borisov in the hall of the Palace of Physical Culture, where delegates from Stalingrad had assembled to voice their determination to defend peace throughout the world. The voices of the delegates to the peace conference rang with special conviction here, in this heroic city, where the Soviet Army triumphed over the fascist invaders. In the interval between sessions Borisov told us his recollections of those grim years.

At that time Victor was only fifteen and still living with his mother in Moscow. But when in 1943 Victor's father was killed in battle, the lad decided to run away in secret to the front.

"Dear Mom! I love you very much," wrote Victor in a farewell note. "Forgive me, but I cannot act otherwise."

Victor did what he set out to do. He managed to join up with the famous marines, fought in the battle for Rzhev, took part in the defence of besieged Leningrad, became a real sailor and served on a torpedo boat on the stormy Baltic...

Demobilized from the Navy after the war, Victor worked as a mechanic at a Moscow motor depot—a new job which gave him his first look at an excavator. The young worker took a fancy to the machine.

When the decisions of the Soviet Government concerning the building of the hydrotechnical installations on the Volga were published, Victor came home in a state of excitement.

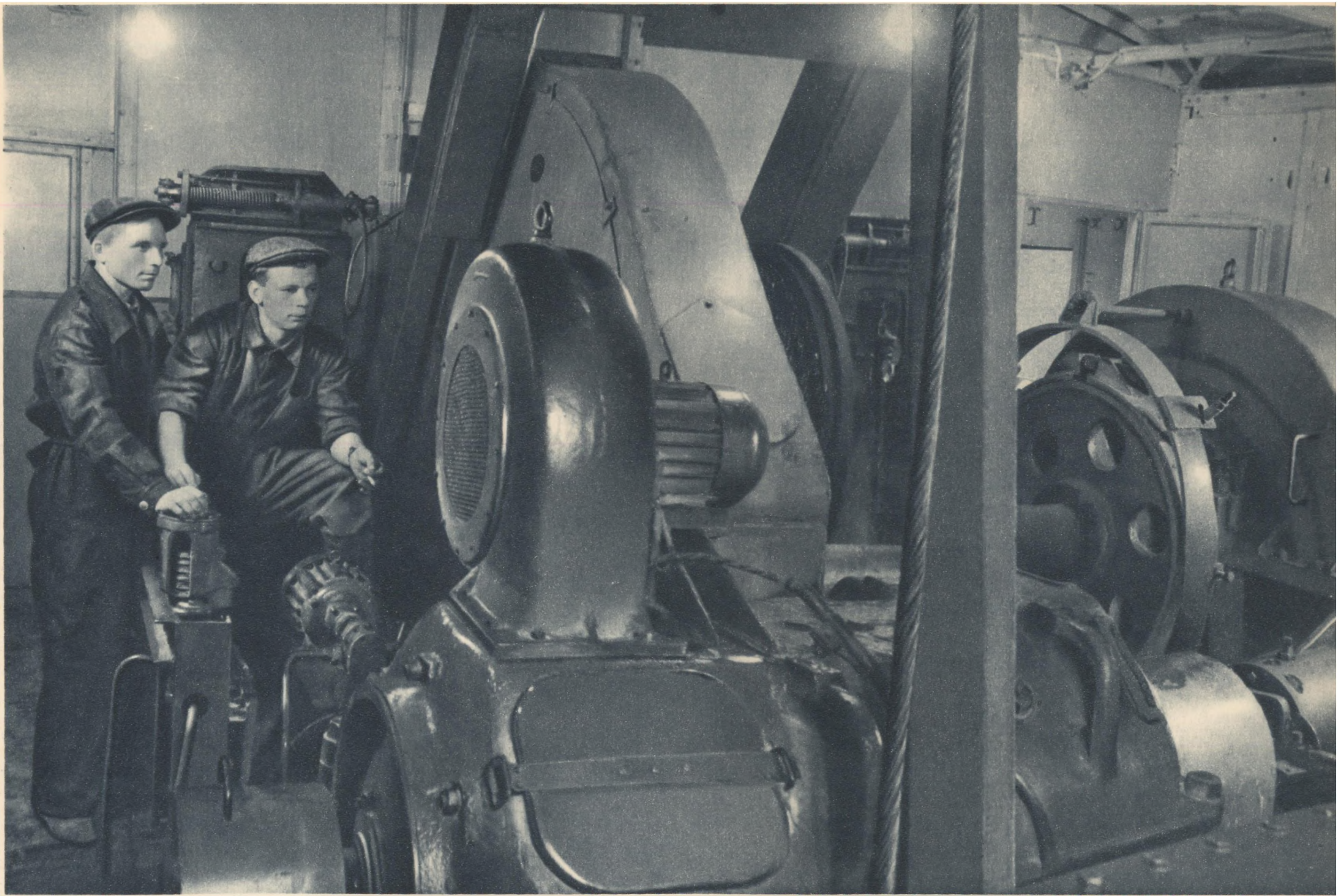
"Do you understand what this means, Mom?" he asked her for the hundredth time that evening. "Why, there's never been anything like it anywhere in the world. What would you think if I were to apply for a job in Stalingrad? I know I promised not to leave you again, but, after all, it's quite nearby!..."

"Dear Mom," wrote Victor some time later. "Don't worry about me. Conditions here aren't what they were in Moscow, of course, but the hostel is warm and comfortable. There is electric

Senior master excavator operator Victor Borisov is one of the best workers at the Stalingrad hydropower development. Photo shows V. Borisov at the controls of an "Uralets" S.E. 3 excavator

Electrically-powered excavators throw up an embankment round the foundation of the future Stalingrad Hydroelectric Station. On the right, Victor Borisov's excavator works by the highly efficient semicircular method of digging





At the depot Victor Borisov hands over to his comrade Nikolai Sychev

Below: V. Borisov reads through his mail. He receives letters from all over the country, asking for information about his Stakhanovite methods

light and a library. And the main thing is that all the fellows here are friendly and gave me a good reception. I shall be working on building roads and dams."

And, indeed, Victor Borisov did have a friendly reception at the Stalingrad construction works. But as far as the hostel goes, he must have been piling it on somewhat. The place was both crowded and, at times, rather chilly.

Borisov decided to show people straightaway that no one had made a mistake in taking him on. Even the first day he did considerably more than the production norm. Victor also proved to be a useful organizer of social and cultural activities. While the club at the site was not yet completed, the young excavator operator would organize trips for himself and his comrades to visit clubs, theatres and museums in the city.

From the very first the construction site administration, together with the Party, trade union and Komsomol organizations, did their utmost to give the workers the best possible work and living conditions. A few months passed and Borisov saw well-appointed houses springing up around him, houses which soon provided him with really comfortable quarters.

After working on the job for a time Borisov made a careful analysis of his successes and came to the conclusion that if he were to make further increases in labour efficiency it was not enough just to know the excavator well and operate it expertly. The working itself must be studied properly too. He gave this question a good deal of thought and finally suggested a method of his own. The crux of the matter was that usually the excavator, when deep in the working, would operate with its platform swinging round through 80 to 180 degrees, the trucks approaching the machine from behind. Victor himself worked like that, too, but then he decided that it was this big angle of turn which lengthened considerably the cycle of excavation. Borisov planned a semicircular working and positioned his excavator so that the platform had only to swing through 15 to 80 degrees. Now the trucks were able to approach the excavators from the front and follow one another in a continuous stream. As a result the daily fulfilment of plan was tripled. Having tested the correctness of his method, Victor taught others to work in the new way.

When Borisov held a housewarming party, the guests in his room included both young construction workers and people whom he considered his teachers—the engineers and mechanizing experts, who had helped him to study all the technical details and develop the new methods of work.

But then there came a hitch: he had many guests but there was not enough furniture and crockery to go round. For the first time Victor started thinking of building up a proper household.



Right: The Stakhanovite team of an "Uralets" S.E. 3 excavator, assistant excavator operator Ivan Kobzev, excavator operator Victor Borisov and assistant excavator operator Ivan Petrukhin



Below: Victor Borisov and his wife Maya at home after work. When he looks through the magazines Victor always keeps an eye open for news of the great construction works of Communism. He and his wife take a lively interest in the progress of the hydroelectric stations and canals under construction on the Don, the Dnieper and in Turkmenia, comparing what has been done there with the work he sees and takes part in at the Stalingrad power development



A day later, in his methodical way he had taken a pencil and paper and totalled up his monthly expenses: a thousand rubles a month for mother, a thousand rubles for his own living expenses, six hundred rubles would go for books, the theatre and an occasional meal in a city restaurant with his friends. That meant he could easily put by a thousand rubles a month for furnishing. Borisov's earnings amounted to at least 3,600 rubles a month.

However, figuring is all very well, but youth must have its fling. Victor had hardly begun saving, before the holidays arrived. Bang went the money on his savings book for a plane round trip to Moscow! Then his eye lighted on an accordion—and that also cost money.

However, soon an event occurred which brought Victor great personal happiness and put his life in order: excavator operator V. Borisov got married.

Now he is working on the left bank of the Volga. The construction of the Stalingrad Hydroelectric Station has necessitated the building of new factories, bridges, and roads. And it is not just a settlement but a new town which is going up on the left bank—a town with tree-shaded streets, department stores, schools, clubs, theatres, libraries.

Victor's wife, Maya, likes the new town very much and is quite keen on moving there to live.

In the spring of 1952 Borisov began to work on the new "Uralets" electric excavator, digging the channel for the 600-kilometre gravitation canal which will run from the Volga to the river Ural as part of the general Stalingrad power development scheme. The waters of the canal will slake the thirsty soil, turning desert territory into a land in bloom.

Nowadays Borisov and his excavator are getting further and further away both from Moscow and his Stalingrad home. His comrades are saying that Victor will soon have to build himself a summer residence on the banks of the hoary Ural.

But wherever the young excavator operator works in future he is certain to be surrounded by care and attention. The letters which Victor often receives, sometimes from quite unknown people, speak for that.

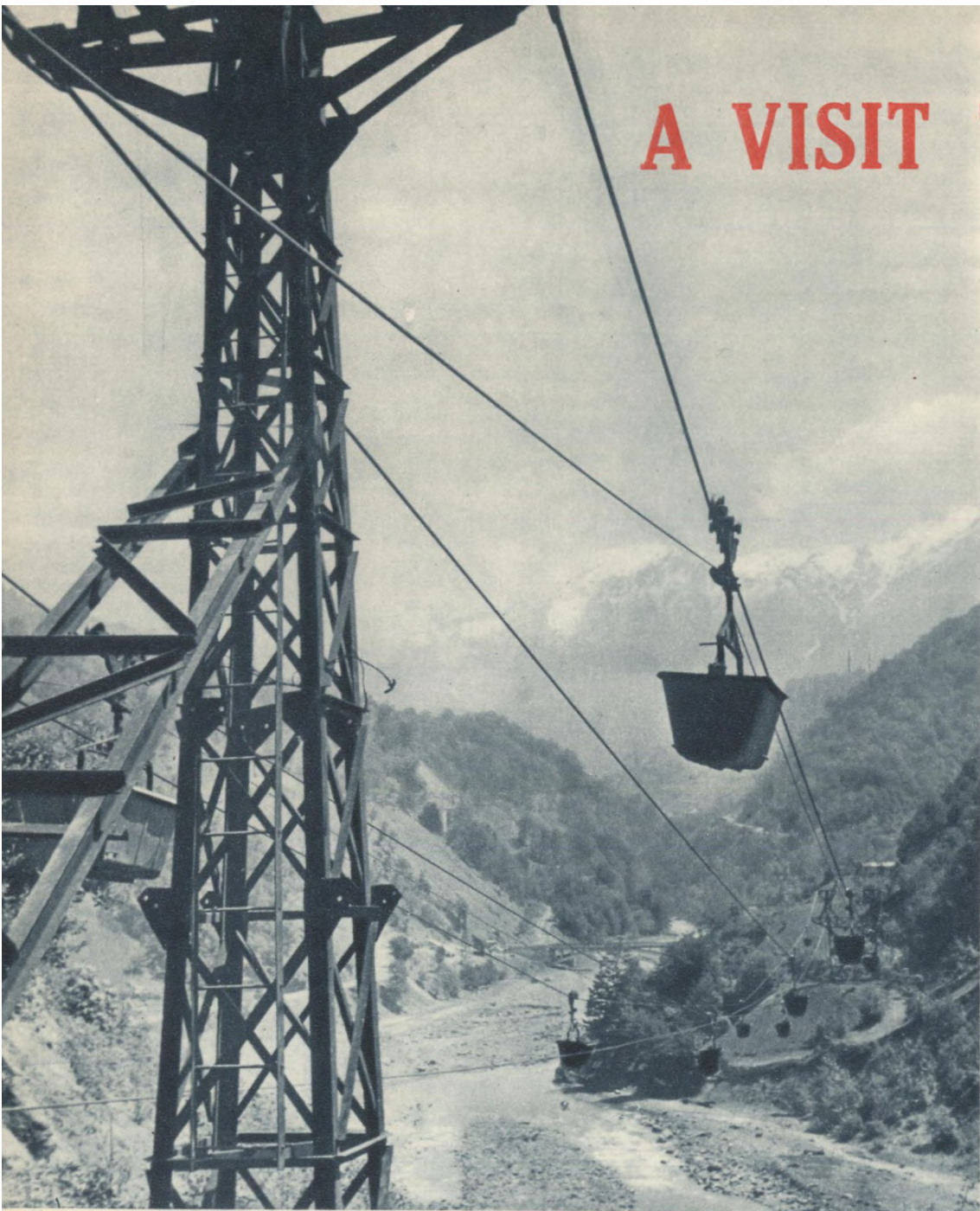
"I congratulate you on your new production victories," wrote combine operator M. Evtushenko of Akmolinsk Region to Borisov. "For my part I undertake to harvest 1,500 hectares, operating two 'Stalinets' combines at once. Let the beacons of Communism blaze up sooner!"



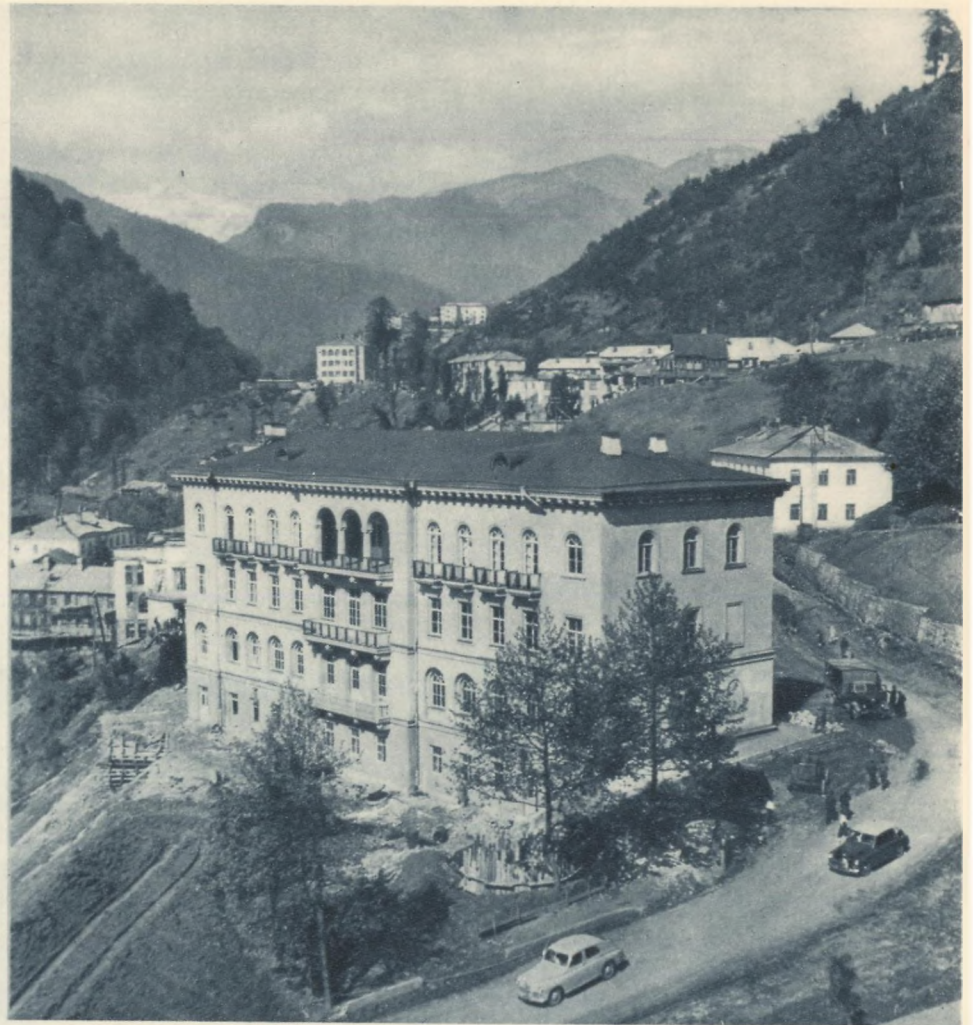
Victor Borisov and his wife Maya with bulldozer-operator Mikhail Yushkin and his wife Galina during a Sunday outing on the banks of the Volga. Not far from here lies the construction site of the Stalingrad power development, where Borisov is helping to build the 600-kilometre gravitation canal between the rivers Volga and Ural which is an integral part of the great construction work

# A VISIT TO GEORGIAN MINERS

Photos by Y. AVRUTIN



Cableway trucks filled with Tkvarcheli coal cross the deep ravine in an endless stream



A young miners' town nestles in the Tkvarcheli ravine. New apartment houses, cultural and welfare institutions, tree-lined streets have appeared in places but recently impassable

As dawn breaks over the Tkvarcheli coal field an imposing panorama of rugged mountainous country is unveiled before the traveller's eyes. The snow-capped peaks of the Caucasian mountains gleam above the horizon; the turbulent Galizga hurtles down into a narrow ravine and pursues its roaring course to the Black Sea; the wind from the mountains sways the tall slender trunks of the ancient pine trees along its steep banks.

The miners, themselves masters of the coal field, on their way to the morning shift, look up at the trucks sliding along the cableway to see how much coal their comrades have extracted during the night. The coal starts on a long journey—it will heat homes, drive machines and locomotives, be transformed into electric energy and wired to the remotest towns and villages of Georgia.

The mountain town of Tkvarcheli is one of the young miners' settlements in the Soviet Union. Some twenty years ago the first party of builders arrived here in the wake of geologists who had struck coal in the ravine. The dense, impassable forests soon gave way to a



Near one of Tkvarcheli mines. Electric locomotives hauling train-loads of coal reach the surface



Khuta Sarishvili, a Stakhanovite electric locomotive driver at pit No. 5, usually overfulfills his quota of coal hauling



A kindergarten instructor with her charges, the children of Tkvarcheli miners, in the town's park

new town which became an important industrial and cultural centre of Georgia. From the very outset the Tkvarcheli mines, sunk during the years of the Stalin five-year plans, were provided with up-to-date equipment which has been improving ever since. Thus the nature of the miners' profession is altered: the manual labourer becomes electrician or mechanic. Now the Tkvarcheli miners have at their disposal a large fleet of highly efficient machines which have completely mechanized cutting, breaking and hauling, as well as the underground transportation system.

In the well-appointed town of Tkvarcheli miners' many-storied apartment houses, social and welfare centres, hospitals and clubs and, of course, schools and kindergartens distinguished for the beauty and careful finish of their architectural make-up were built simultaneously with the sinking of the first mines, the construction of the cableway, the Tkvarcheli central heat-and-power station, the republic's largest, and of other industrial units. Tkvarcheli has nine elementary and middle schools, eight clubhouses, six libraries, twelve medical insti-

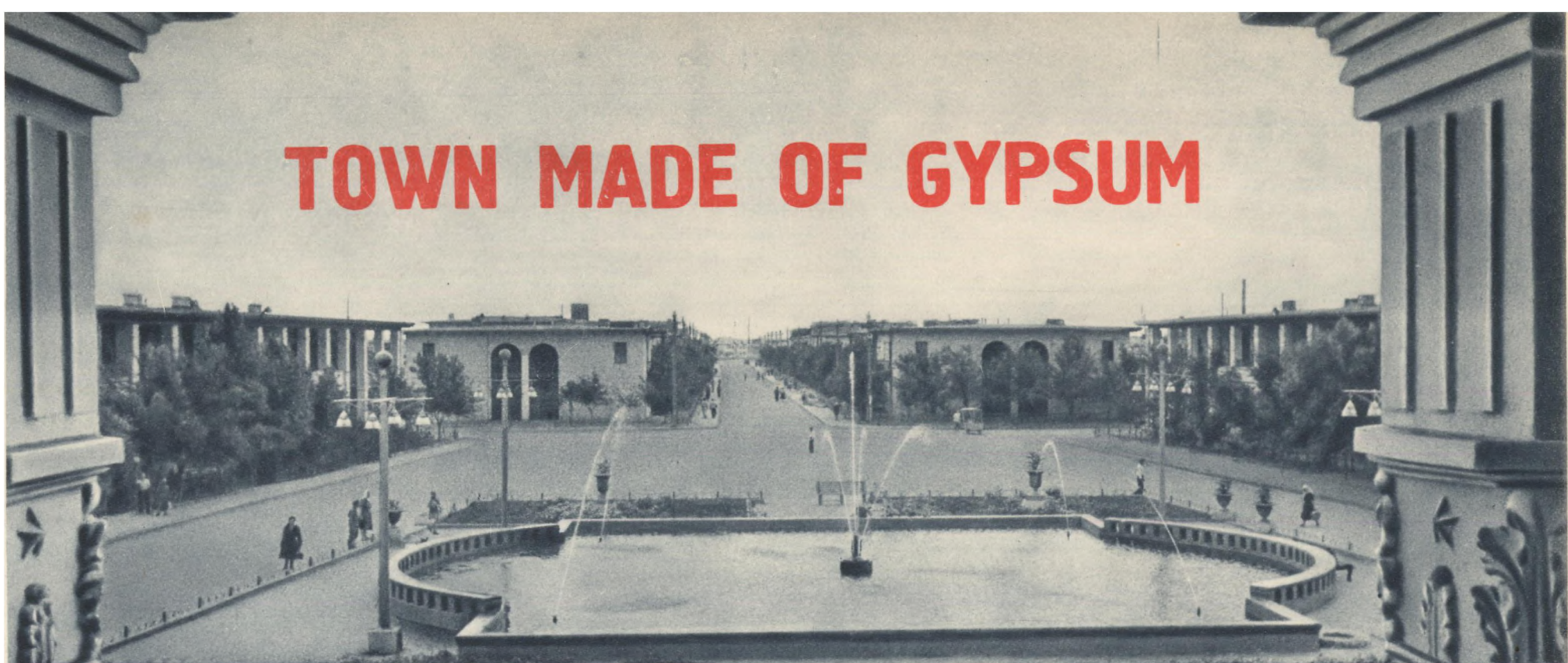
tutions, a Palace of Culture, an extensive network of shops, restaurants and dining rooms. The streets are decorated with evergreen subtropical trees.

The Tkvarcheli Evening School for young workers is one of the oldest educational institutions of the young Georgian coal centre. Since the school was opened twenty years ago—almost at the same time as the first Tkvarcheli mine, hundreds of young hewers, cutting-machine operators, electricians and mechanics have graduated from it. The education they received helps the young miners the quicker and better to master their complex mining mechanisms and enables them to become innovators in industry.

Coal output in Tkvarcheli has grown several times as against prewar, while the total volume of Tkvarcheli's industrial output has increased more than fourteenfold during the past 10 years.

The Georgian miners' work has won them high awards: over 1,000 Tkvarcheli miners are recipients of Orders and Medals of the USSR.

# TOWN MADE OF GYPSUM



A square in the town built of gypsum

**B. KELLER, Architect**

Photos by A. SHAIKHEI

Looking at this picturesque snow-white town skirted by the river Ural, you would hardly think that only recently there was nothing here but barren saline wasteland!

A few years ago, the building workers who came here to build a settlement for the oil workers and fishermen of the town of Guryev, were greeted by scorching heat and strong winds whipping up clouds of brownish dust.

One of the first things to do was to plant trees in the construction area. Trees were needed to anchor the sands, to create a protective barrier against winds and to afford the future inhabitants shade in the streets and squares. But the saline soil constituted the first problem. The builders selected a small peninsula as a suitable site for the future town. A desalted area 200-300 metres wide was created along the river, after which trees of various kinds were planted in this area and along the banks of the channel laid in the peninsula. A green barrier grew up round the territory of the new town, warding off the desert winds.

The part of Kazakhstan where the town was to be built lacked the usual building materials, and their transportation from other parts was not practicable. It was therefore decided to utilize the gypsum deposits nearby. A factory was built which produced exceedingly strong gypsum blocks and slabs.

In planning the new town the architects made extensive use of the wealth of experience already gained by Soviet builders. The town's architectural composition is straightforward and harmonious. The main street ends in a spacious square with the building of a combined club and theatre in it. Outlined against the green Park of Culture and Rest, this building harmonizes with the kindergarten and other

buildings nearby. The streets branching off the main avenue run through the residential part of the town. The architecture of the snow-white dwelling houses is in keeping with the hot climate: plenty of shade is provided by deep niches as well as balconies and penthouses. To lend a festive, optimistic touch to the architecture of the settlement, the builders have made extensive use of Kazakh national ornamentation

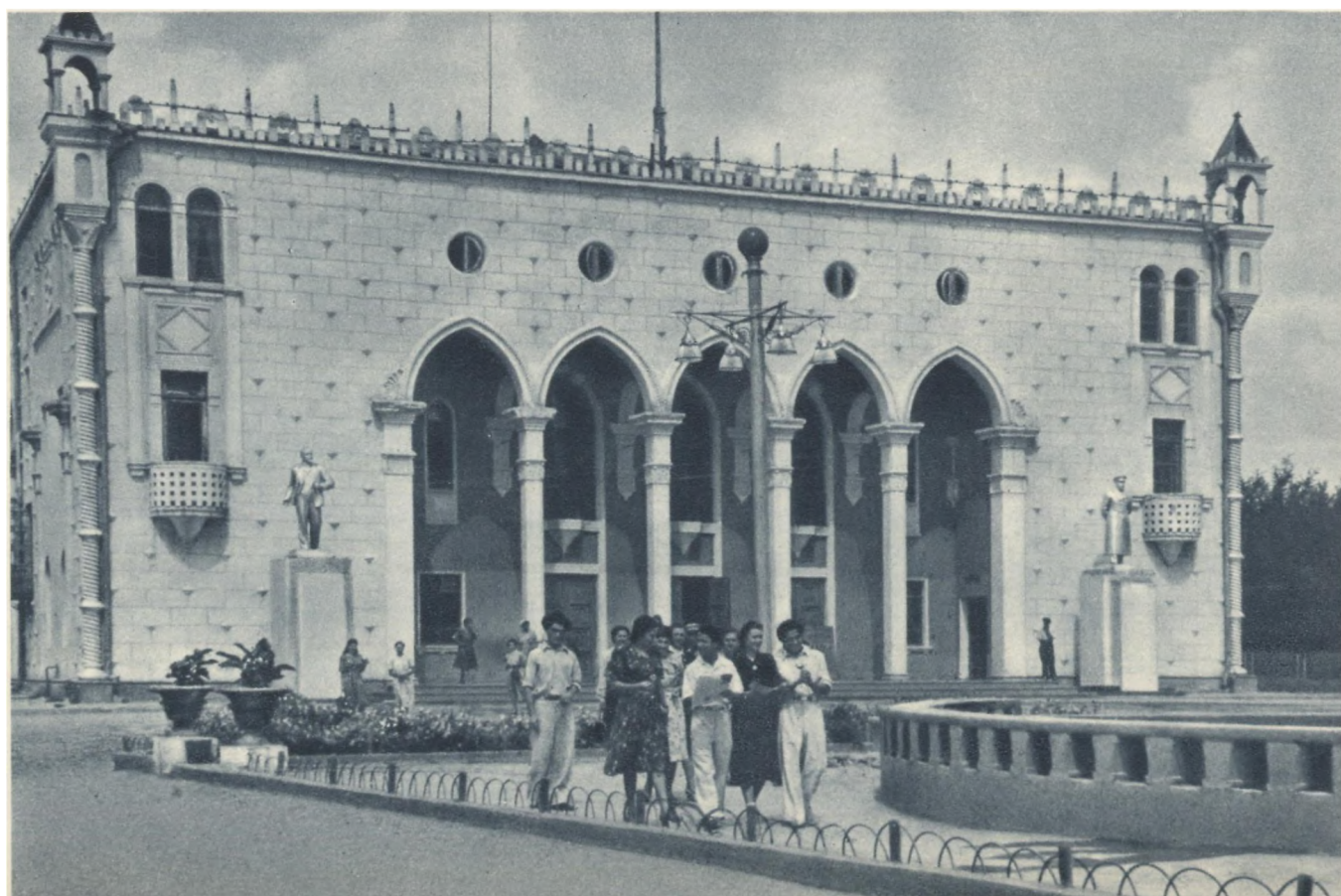


Children of the workers and fishermen of the town study in this school



One of the town's many individual one-apartment cottages. The cottage has a garden and garage attached to it

Below: Views of the exterior and the auditorium of the Palace of Culture in the gypsum town built on what was once barren saline land



*Glimpses  
of the Soviet Union*



MOSCOW. The M/S "Vyacheslav Molotov" emerges from Lock No. 1 on the Moscow Canal

In an interview with a "Soviet Union" reporter, A. Shemagin, chief of the Moscow Canal Shipping Administration, and A. Rumyantsev, head engineer of the Moscow Canal Administration, stated:

"On July 15, 1937, the passenger M/S 'Joseph Stalin,' flagship of the Moscow Canal fleet, pulled out from the granite wharves of the Moscow Northern River Station and set course for the town of Kalinin. That was the beginning of traffic on the 128-kilometre deepwater artery connecting the upper reaches of the Volga and Moscow rivers.

"The Moscow Canal was the first link in the Stalin plan for reconstructing the Volga. It furnished a complete answer to the Soviet capital's water supply problem, linked the central waterways into an integral transport system and turned the Moscow River into a navigable artery.

"In these 15 years the canal has carried tens of millions of passengers and tens of millions of tons of various freight. The largest river and lake boats freely navigate the canal, bringing to the capital oil and fish from the Caspian area, metals, chemicals and paper from the Urals, cement and grain from the Volga area, timber from the shores of Rybinsk Reservoir. A 1,500-kilometre express freight line between Moscow and Leningrad has been in successful operation for many years. Ships leave Moscow bound for Arkhangelsk and other points North.

"For 15 years Moscow was a port of three seas. Now, after completion of the Volga-Don Shipping Canal, it has become a port of five seas. The importance of the Moscow Canal as a transport route has thus become greater than ever. Caravans of ships carrying Donets coal, Kuban grain and other freight are

## MOSCOW CANAL MARKS 15th YEAR

already on their way to the capital from the Don and Azov areas.

"The picturesque banks of the Moscow Canal and the reservoirs along its route have become favourite recreation spots for Moscovites. During the summer months thousands make trips along the canal in excursion boats.

"The Moscow Canal is the first—but now not the only—'electric power' canal, in which the water is lifted to the summit level by electricity. The new Volga-Don Shipping Canal is of the same type.

"Hundreds of complex structures go to make up the Moscow Canal, which was built in the record time of four years and eight months. The Volga-Don Shipping Canal was built even faster.

"During their 15 years of operation the Moscow Canal pumping plants have transferred 13,000 million cubic metres of water, or the equivalent of 650,000,000 railway tank cars, from the Volga. More than 800,000 vessels have passed through the canal, and the locks have been operated 230,000 times. Constant modernization and improvement of the canal equipment has gone on all the time. Automatic and remote control are being employed on an increasingly wide scale in the operation of the locks, pumping plants and hydroelectric stations.

"The Moscow Canal serves as a huge life-size laboratory for the great construction projects of Communism. Here many of the scientific problems connected with the Volga-Don Canal have been solved.

"The canal personnel is constantly perfecting operation and expanding its creative collaboration with the builders of the great projects of Communism on the Volga, the Dnieper and the Amu Darya."



MOLOTOV REGION. These youngsters, the sons and daughters of workers of the Chusovaya Iron and Steel Mill, are spending their summer holidays at a Young Pioneer camp. Here they are photographed on a walking trip along the bank of Chusovaya River. During the holidays tens of thousands of Soviet school children and college students go on tours or visit health and holiday resorts

Photo by B. VIZUL



*Glimpses  
of the Soviet Union*



**SVERDLOVSK.** Members of a Swedish workers' delegation which visited the USSR last month are seen here in the Museum of Geology at the Sverdlovsk Mining Institute. During its two-week tour the delegation visited Moscow, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk and Sochi. At a press conference Bror Malmquist, leader of the delegation, emphasized that the Swedish workers were greatly impressed by what they saw in the USSR. They were particularly struck, he said, by the people's labour enthusiasm and the desire for peace which permeates the life of Soviet men and women

Photo by I. TYUFYAKOV

**MOSCOW.** A Netherlands workers' delegation in a shop of the Kaganovich First State Ball Bearing Plant, Moscow. The delegation visited the USSR to get acquainted with the life of the Soviet people

Photo by V. YEGOROV



**TASHKENT.** Medical men from Pakistan in a laboratory at the Institute of Medicine in Tashkent, capital of the Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan. They are members of a Pakistan medical delegation which recently toured the USSR, visiting Moscow, Tashkent, Leningrad and Alma Ata. The head of the delegation, Dr. Jelial Shah, noted at a press conference that they had inspected medical institutions of all kinds where all sections of the population receive highly competent treatment free of charge

Photo by G. GER



**NIZHNI-TAGIL.** Some 40,000 residents of this town gathered to attend a recent song festival. Song festivals have become a tradition in many towns and villages of the Soviet Union. Thousands of members of amateur talent groups participate in them

Photo by I. TYUFYAKOV





**PULKOVO.** A general view of the main building of the famous Pulkovo Observatory. Destroyed by the Hitlerite invaders during the late war, the observatory has since been rebuilt and has again taken a leading place among Soviet astronomical institutions. New pavilions equipped with Soviet-made apparatus of the latest type have been built on Pulkovo Hill

Photo by V. KAPUSTIN



**DNIEPROPETROVSK.** This is a new Palace of Culture built for the workers of the Kalinin Coke and Chemicals Plant. It has a large auditorium, library and reading room, recreation halls and rooms for various club activities

Photo by S. VILTMAN



**CINEMA**

Soviet studios are filming outstanding productions of theatres in Moscow, Leningrad and the capitals of the Union Republics in order to bring them to the population of towns and villages in all parts of the country. Here are stills from three recent films of this type. Top to bottom: Ivan Franko's "Stolen Happiness," at the Kiev Ukrainian Theatre named after Ivan Franko; Ostrovsky's "Even a Wise Man Stumbles," at the Maly Theatre, Moscow, and Leo Tolstoy's "Living Corpse," at the Pushkin Theatre of Drama, Leningrad.



**ARMY TEAM VERSUS BULGARIA.** Bulgarian footballers played three games in Moscow, drawing 2:2 in both games with the Soviet Army team, and losing 1:2 to Tbilisi Dynamo. This shot was taken during one of the games between the Bulgarian and Soviet Army elevens

Photo by A. BOCHININ



**NINA PLETNEVA SETS WORLD RECORD.** At a meet in Kiev, Nina Pletneva, of Stallno, set up a new world record for the 800-metre run when she broke the tape in 2 min. 8.5 sec. Her result was 3.2 sec. better than the world's best achieved not long ago by Paulina Solopova of Leningrad

Photo by N. VOLKOV



**RUMANIAN AND SOVIET ELEVENS MEET.** Rumania's football team visited Moscow at the invitation of the Government Committee for Physical Culture and Sport and played three games with Soviet elevens. Both of its two games with Moscow Dynamo ended in a score of 1:1. When they played the Soviet Army team the visitors lost 1:3. Photo shows Dynamo scoring against the Rumanian eleven

Photo by V. GREBNOV



**MOSCOW-KHARKOV-MOSCOW.** A few minutes after the start of the annual Moscow-Kharkov-Moscow race in which 60 cyclists competed over a distance of close to 1,400 km. The best time was registered by K. Paršalts, of the Dynamo Sports Society: 44 hrs. 23 min. 34.8 sec. The team prize was won by the Dynamo entrants

Photo by V. GREBNOV



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Gathering flowers in the meadow of the Lenin Collective Farm, Stalinabad District, Tajik SSR

Photo by N. SOFIN

BACK COVER: A cycling lesson

Photo by M. BUGAYEVA

