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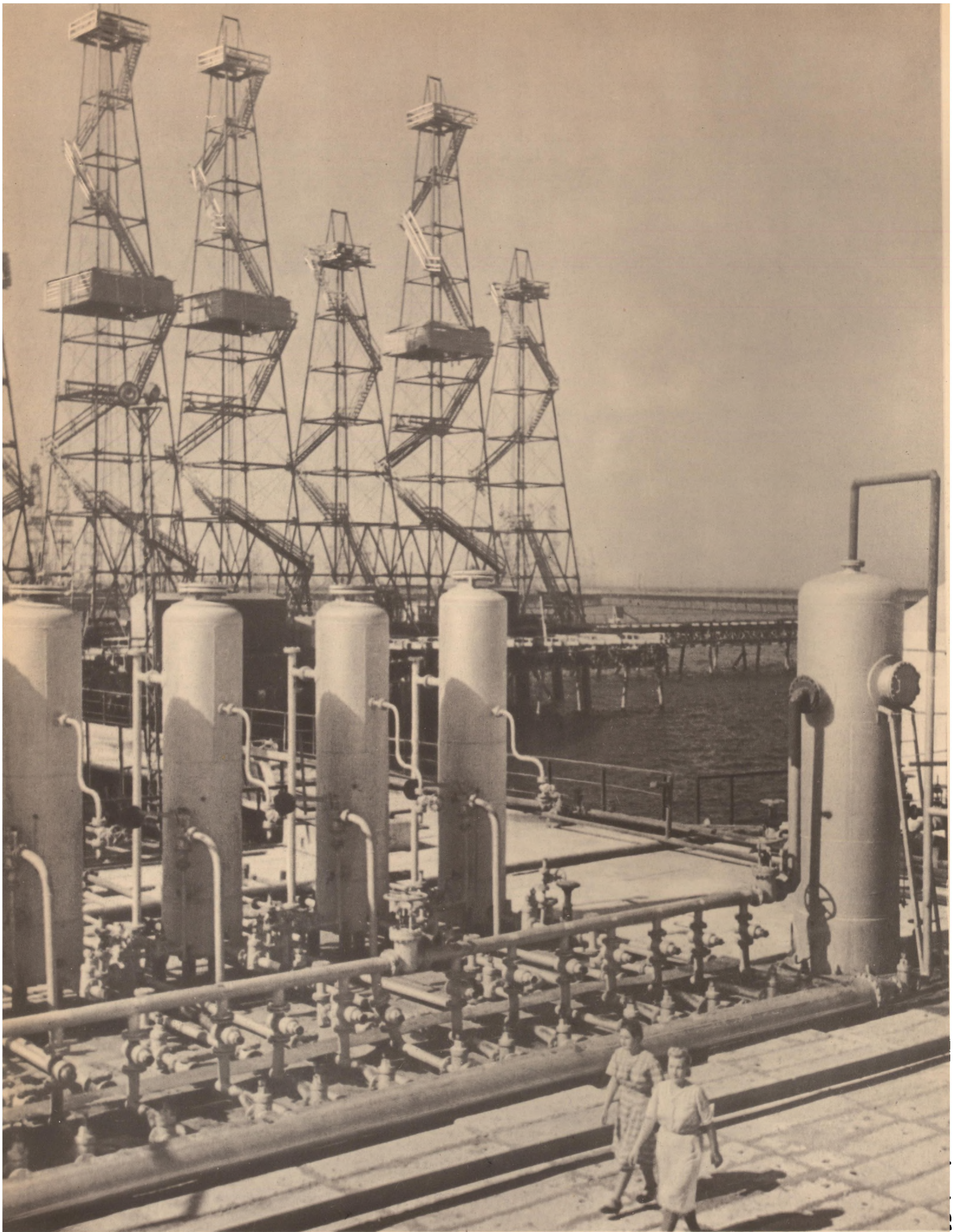
SOVIET UNION



No. 10 (32)

OCTOBER 1952





Oil production in the Caspian Sea. The photo shows one of the new oil-gathering stations built out in the sea in 1952

Photo by F. KUSHNEROV

COVER: From D. A. Nalbandyan's painting "Lenin and Stalin Drafting the GOELRO Plan"—the plan which laid the basis of electrification in the Soviet Union

SOVIET UNION



ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY

No. 10 (32)

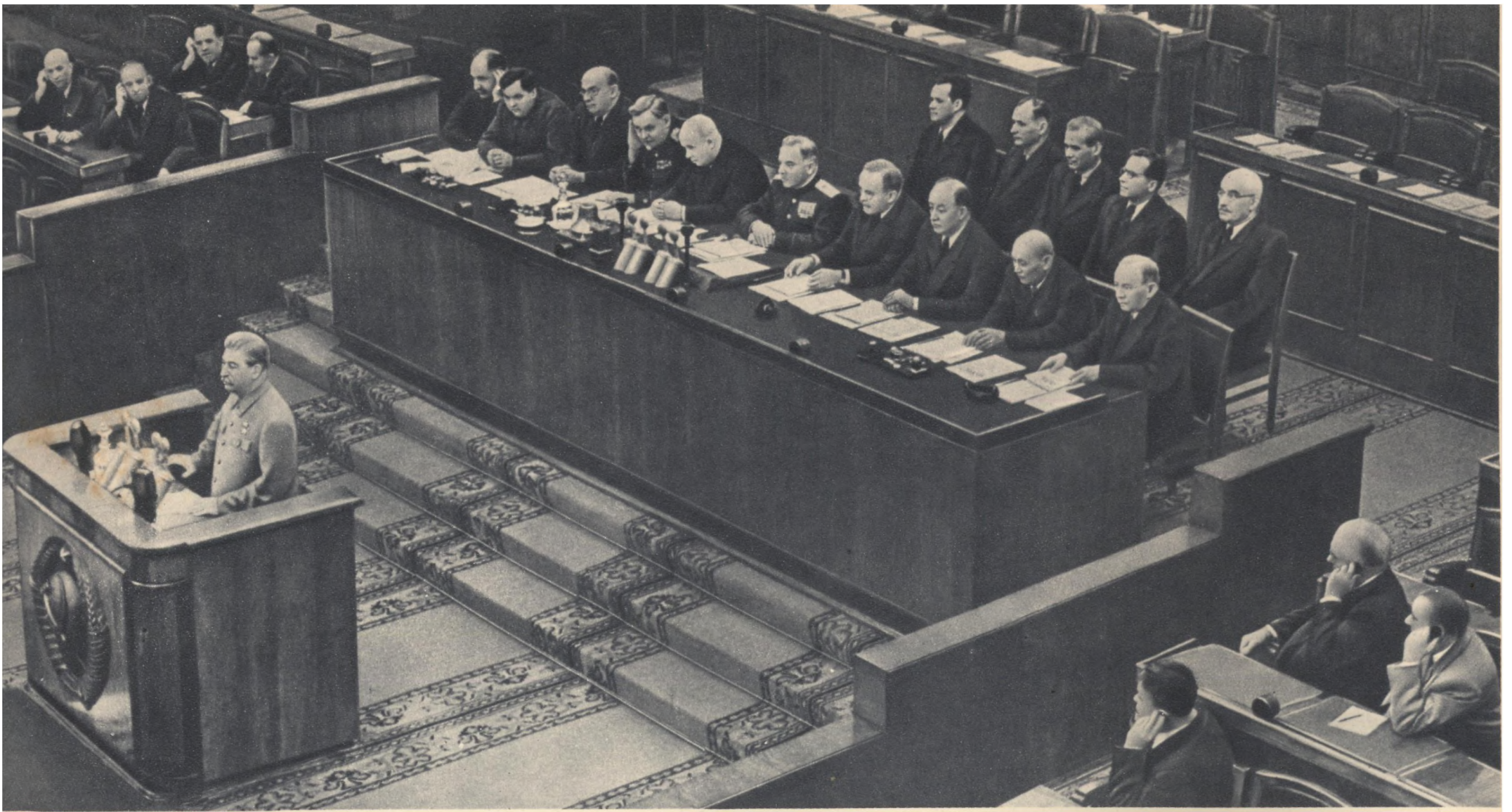
PUBLISHED IN SIX LANGUAGES: RUSSIAN, CHINESE, ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN AND SPANISH

OCTOBER 1952



Delegates to the Nineteenth Party Congress which opened on October 5, 1952, in the Grand Hall of the Kremlin Palace, applaud Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin and his associates. The path of further development mapped by the Congress will ensure the Soviet people historic victories in the building of a Communist society

Photo by A. GARANIN



J. V. Stalin on the rostrum at the closing session of the Nineteenth Congress. Left to right in the Presidium: L. M. Kaganovich, G. M. Malenkov, L. P. Beria, N. A. Bulganin, N. S. Khrushchov, K. Y. Voroshilov, V. M. Molotov, D. S. Korotchenko, Zh. Shayakhmetov, O. V. Kuusinen; second row: N. S. Patolichev, A. B. Aristov, A. I. Niyazov, V. M. Andrianov, M. D. Bagirov

Photo by F. KISLOV and A. USTINOV

Speech by Comrade J. V. Stalin

(The appearance of Comrade Stalin on the rostrum is greeted with loud and long-continuing applause culminating in an ovation. All rise. Cries of "Hurrah for Comrade Stalin!" "Long live Comrade Stalin!" "Glory to our great Stalin!")

Comrades, permit me to express the gratitude of our Congress to all the fraternal parties and groups whose representatives have honoured our Congress with their presence, or who have sent greetings to the Congress—gratitude for their friendly felicitations, for their wishes of success, for their confidence. (Loud and prolonged applause and cheers.)

It is their confidence that we particularly prize, for it signifies readiness to support our Party in its struggle for a brighter future for the peoples, in its struggle against war, in its struggle for the preservation of peace. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

It would be a mistake to think that, having become a mighty force, our Party is no longer in need of support. That is not true. Our Party and our country have always needed, and will need, the confidence, the sympathy and the support of fraternal peoples abroad.

The distinguishing feature of this support is that whenever any fraternal party supports the peaceable aspirations of our Party, it is at the same time supporting its own people in their struggle for the preservation of peace. When, in 1918-19, at the time of the armed attack of the British bourgeoisie on the Soviet Union, the British workers organized a struggle against the war under the watchword of "Hands off Russia!" that was support—support, primarily, for the struggle of their own people for peace, and support also for the Soviet Union. When Comrade Thorez or Comrade Togliatti declare that their peoples will not fight the peoples of the Soviet Union (loud applause), that is support—support, primarily, for the workers and peasants of France and Italy who are fighting for peace, and support also for the peaceful aspirations of the Soviet Union. This distinguishing feature of mutual support is to be explained by the fact that the interests of our Party do not contradict, but, on the contrary, merge with the interests of the peace-loving peoples. (Loud applause.) As for the Soviet Union, its interests are altogether inseparable from the cause of world-wide peace.

Naturally, our Party cannot remain indebted to the fraternal parties, and it must in its turn render support to them and also to their peoples in their struggle for emancipation, in their struggle for the preservation of peace. As we know, that is exactly what it is doing. (Loud applause.) After our Party had assumed power in 1917, and after it had taken effective measures to abolish capitalist and landlord oppression, representatives of the fraternal parties, in their admiration for the daring and success of our Party, conferred upon it the title of the "Shock Brigade" of the world revolutionary and labour movement. By this, they were expressing the hope that the successes of the "Shock Brigade" would help to ease the position of the peoples languishing under the yoke of capitalism. I think that our Party has justified these hopes, especially so in the second world war, when the Soviet Union, by smashing the German and Japanese fascist tyranny, delivered the peoples of Europe and Asia from the menace of fascist slavery. (Loud applause.)

It was very hard, of course, to perform this honourable mission so long as ours was a single and solitary "Shock Brigade," so long as it had to perform this mission of vanguard almost alone. But that was in the past. Today the situation is quite different. Today, when from China and Korea to Czechoslovakia and Hungary, new "Shock Brigades" have appeared in the shape of the People's Democracies—now it has become easier for our Party to fight, and the work, too, is going more merrily. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Those communist, democratic, and workers' and peasants' parties which have not yet come to power and are still working under the heel of bourgeois draconic laws are deserving of particular attention. For them, of course, the work is harder. But it is not as hard for them to work as it was for us, the Russian Communists, in the period of tsarism, when the slightest movement forward was declared a severe crime. However, the Russian Communists stood their ground, were not daunted by difficulties, and achieved victory. So it will be with these parties.

Why will it not be so difficult for these parties to work as it was for the Russian Communists in the period of tsarism?

Firstly, because they have before them the examples of struggle and achievement represented by the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. Consequently, they are in a position to learn from the mistakes and achievements of these countries and thus lighten their own work.

Secondly, because the bourgeoisie—the chief enemy of the emancipation movement—has itself become different, has changed substantially, has become more reactionary, has lost its ties with the people, and has thereby weakened itself. Naturally, this circumstance too should lighten the work of the revolutionary and democratic parties. (Loud applause.)

Formerly, the bourgeoisie could afford to play the liberal, to uphold the bourgeois-democratic liberties, and thus gain popularity with the people. Now not a trace remains of this liberalism. The so-called "liberty of the individual" no longer exists—the rights of the individual are now extended only to those who possess capital, while all other citizens are regarded as human raw material, fit only to be exploited. The principle of equal rights for men and nations has been trampled in the mud; it has been replaced by the principle of full rights for the exploiting minority and no rights for the exploited majority. The banner of bourgeois-democratic liberties has been thrown overboard. I think that it is you, the representatives of the communist and democratic parties, who will have to raise this banner and carry it forward, if you want to gather around you the majority of the people. There is nobody else to raise it. (Loud applause.)

Formerly, the bourgeoisie was regarded as the head of the nation; it upheld the rights and independence of the nation and placed them "above all else." Now not a trace remains of the "national principle." Now the bourgeoisie sells the rights and independence of the nation for dollars. The banner of national independence and national sovereignty has been thrown overboard. There is no doubt that it is you, the representatives of the communist and democratic parties, who will have to raise this banner and carry it forward, if you want to be patriots of your country, if you want to become the leading force of the nation. There is nobody else to raise it. (Loud applause.)

That is how matters stand today.

Naturally, all these circumstances should lighten the work of the communist and democratic parties which have not yet come to power.

Consequently, there is every reason to count upon the success and victory of our fraternal parties in the lands where capital holds sway. (Loud applause.)

Long live our fraternal parties! (Prolonged applause.)

May the leaders of our fraternal parties live and flourish! (Prolonged applause.)

Long live peace among nations! (Prolonged applause.)

Down with the warmongers! (All rise. Loud and long-continuing applause culminating in an ovation. Cries of "Long live Comrade Stalin!" "Hurrah for Comrade Stalin!" "Long live the great leader of the working people of the world, Comrade Stalin!" "Hurrah for our great Stalin!" "Long live peace among nations!")

A HISTORIC CONGRESS

The Nineteenth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was convened on October 5 and completed its work on October 14. This Congress occupies an outstanding place in the history of the Party of Lenin and Stalin. Assembling under the conditions of the Soviet people's gradual transition from Socialism to Communism, it summed up the results of the struggle and victories of the Party and defined the path of further advance. The Congress demonstrated the complete confidence of the Party in its leadership and its boundless devotion to the great leader and teacher Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin.

The work of the Congress was very largely guided by J. V. Stalin's recently published new work "Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR." Here J. V. Stalin has worked out the fundamental questions of the political economy of Socialism, and, for the first time in Marxist literature, given an analysis of its economic laws. J. V. Stalin has formulated the basic economic law of Socialism and defined the main conditions for the gradual transition from Socialism to Communism.

The essential features and requirements of the basic economic law of contemporary capitalism are, according to Stalin, "the securing of the maximum capitalist profit through the exploitation, ruin and impoverishment of the majority of the population of the given country, through the enslavement and systematic robbery of the peoples of other countries, especially backward countries, and, lastly, through wars and militarization of the national economy, which are utilized for the obtaining of the highest profits."

The essential features and requirements of the basic economic law of Socialism, on the other hand, are "the securing of the maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole of society through the continuous expansion and perfection of socialist production on the basis of higher techniques."

The aim of capitalist production is profit-making, man being considered only in so far as his labour ensures the making of the maximum profit. J. V. Stalin's theoretical work "Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR" is of decisive importance for the gradual transition from Socialism to Communism, for the further advance of the Soviet people towards new successes and victories.

J. V. Stalin reveals in his work how the general crisis of capitalism is sharpening at the present stage, and emphasizes that the disintegration of the single, all-embracing world market must be regarded as the most important economic sequel of the second world war and of its economic consequences. This disintegration has had the effect of further deepening the general crisis of the world capitalist system.

The formation of a single, powerful Socialist camp confronting the capitalist camp means that we now have two parallel world markets, also confronting one another. The USA, and Great Britain and France involuntarily contributed to the formation and consolidation of the new, parallel world market by their policy of imposing an economic blockade on the Soviet Union, China and the European People's Democracies. The countries of the Socialist camp joined together economically and established economic cooperation and mutual assistance.

The relations of the Soviet Union with these countries are an example of entirely new relations between states, not met with before in history. These relations are based on the principles of equal rights, economic cooperation and respect for national independence.

The Soviet Union is consistently pursuing a policy for preserving peace and international security, based on the premise that the peaceful coexistence of capitalism and communism is quite possible. It is prepared to develop economic relations with all countries willing to trade on the principle of equal rights and mutual advantage.

While unswervingly adhering to its policy of peaceful cooperation with all countries, the Soviet Union at the same time takes into account the threat of new aggression on the



G. M. Malenkov delivering the Report of the Central Committee
Photo by A. GARANIN

part of the arrogant warmongers. That is why it is tirelessly strengthening its defence capacity and increasing its preparedness to hurl back any aggressor.

The Congress heard G. M. Malenkov, Secretary of the Central Committee, deliver a report which contained a comprehensive account by the Central Committee of its activities and outlined the tasks of the Party in the period ahead. With great enthusiasm the Congress adopted a resolution approving the political line and practical work of the Central Committee.

After hearing a report by M. Z. Saburov, Chairman of the State Planning Committee, the Congress approved the Directives of the Fifth Five-Year Plan of Development of the USSR (1951-1955). This plan specifies a further great expansion of the national economy and provides for yet another substantial rise in the material well-being and cultural standards of the people. With its fulfilment a long step forward will have been taken on the road from Socialism to Communism.

The Congress heard N. S. Khrushchov, Secretary of the Central Committee, deliver a report on amendments proposed in the Party Rules and approved them. The name of the Party has been altered. Instead of the All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks), it will in future be known as the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). The new name is a more precise reflection of the Marxist content of the Party's tasks and signifies that the principles of Lenin and Stalin have

gained complete and undivided victory. The vast organizational experience of the Party has been generalized in the new Rules of the CPSU, adopted on the basis of a report by N. S. Khrushchov. These Rules show that a new and higher stage in the development of the Party has been reached and conform to the tasks of the struggle for building Communism. The Congress also recognized the need for a revision of the Party Program in the light of the basic theses of the work of J. V. Stalin "Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR." Radical changes in the international situation as well as in the building of Socialism in the USSR have occurred since the Eighth Party Congress in 1919 at which the present Program was adopted. This means that a number of the theses and tasks set out in that Program no longer correspond to present conditions and to the new tasks of the Party, since they have already been realized. The Congress elected a Commission under the chairmanship of Stalin to work out the new Program.

The messages of greetings brought by foreign guests, representing fraternal communist and workers' parties in 44 lands, rang with emotion and warm friendliness in the Kremlin Palace. All those speeches, delivered in many different languages, carried the heartfelt conviction that the Nineteenth Party Congress illuminated the way to the triumph of the cause of peace, democracy and Socialism for working people throughout the world, and that the Fifth Five-Year Plan evoked the admiration of all progressive humanity.

After considering and taking decisions on highly important questions of Party, economic and cultural affairs the Congress elected the leading organs of the Party—the Central Committee and the Central Auditing Commission.

Stalin spoke at this Congress. His words were listened to by delegates and guests with the closest attention. The words of the beloved Stalin, that great man of peace and the recognized leader of the working people, are an inspiring guide to action for the Soviet people, for the working people in all countries engaged in the noble struggle for peace and national independence. The work of the Nineteenth Party Congress was widely publicized in the whole Soviet press. Its decisions caused great satisfaction throughout the country. The Congress revealed to the Soviet people with new clarity that today their Motherland is great and strong as never before, throbbing with vitality and creative energy. Let there be no doubt about it, the Soviet people guided by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union led by Stalin will advance still more swiftly along the road to Communism!

The Grand Hall of the Kremlin Palace during the Nineteenth Congress

Photo by A. GARANIN





NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENTAL DELEGATION OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. The negotiations took place in Moscow. The Soviet Government was represented by J. V. Stalin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, A. Y. Vyshinsky, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and P. N. Kумыкин, Minister of Foreign Trade. The Delegation of the Chinese People's Republic was headed by Chou En-lai, State Administration Council Premier and Foreign Minister of the Chinese People's Republic, and consisted of Chen Yun, Vice-Premier, Li Fung-Chun, Deputy Chairman of the Committee of Finance and Economics, Chang Wen-tien, the Chinese Ambassador in Moscow, and Su Yu, Deputy Chief of the General Staff. In the course of these negotiations important political and economic questions arising out of the relations between the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic were examined. The negotiations, conducted in an atmosphere of friendly understanding and cordiality, affirmed the determination of both lands to strive for a further strengthening and development of friendship and collaboration between the two lands, and to cooperate in all possible ways for the preservation and consolidation of peace and international security. In the course of the negotiations both sides agreed to effect the gratuitous transfer by the Soviet Government to the Government of the Chinese People's Republic by the end of 1952 of all its rights in the joint-controlled Chinese-Changchun Railway line together with all property belonging to the railway. At the same time the Chinese Premier Chou En-lai and the Soviet Foreign Minister A. Y. Vyshinsky exchanged notes on prolonging joint utilization of the Chinese naval base of Port Arthur. Above, from left to right: Chen Chia-kang, Hsu Yi-hsin, Shih Che, A. S. Panyushkin, A. Y. Vyshinsky, N. T. Fedorenko, V. M. Molotov, Su Yu, Chang Wen-tien, G. I. Tunkin, Li Fung-chun, J. V. Stalin, Chou En-lai, G. M. Malenkov, L. P. Beria, A. I. Mikoyan, L. M. Kaganovich, N. A. Bulganin and P. N. Kумыкин

Photo by F. KISLOV

ТЕЛЕГРАММА
Премьер-Министру
Германской
Демократической Республики
товарищу
Отто Гротеволлю

БЕРЛИН

По случаю национального праздника — третьей годовщины образования Германской Демократической Республики — шлю германскому народу, Правительству и лично Вам, товарищ Премьер-Министр, мои поздравления.

Прошу Вас принять мои пожелания дальнейших успехов в великом деле создания единой, независимой, демократической, миролюбивой Германии.

И. СТАЛИН

A NOTABLE ANNIVERSARY

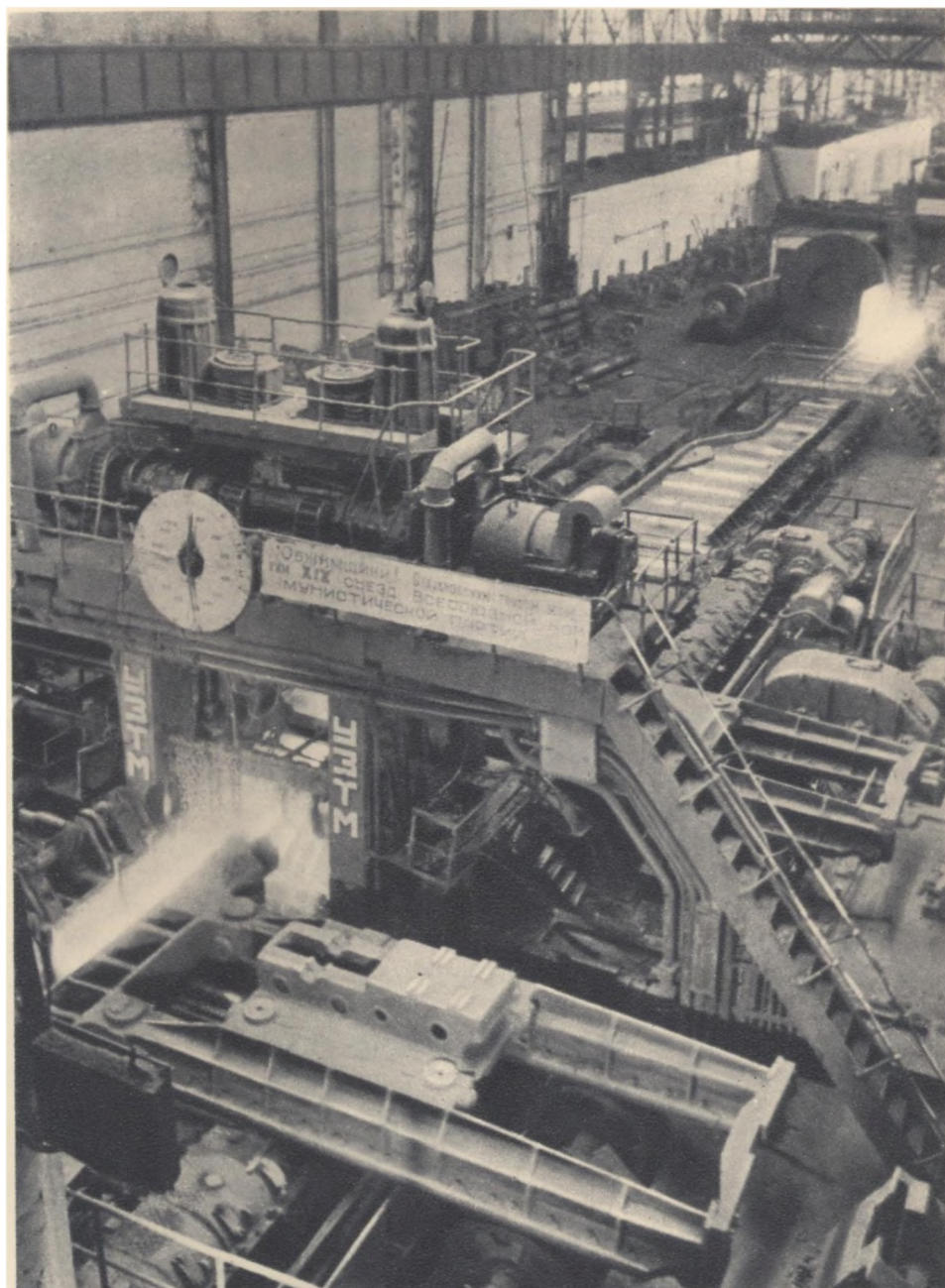
On the occasion of the third anniversary of the formation of the German Democratic Republic, J. V. Stalin sent the following telegram to Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl:

"On the occasion of your national festival—the third anniversary of the formation of the German Democratic Republic—I send my congratulations to the German people, to the government, and to you personally, Comrade Prime Minister.

"Please accept my wishes for further successes in the great cause of creating a single, independent, democratic, peace-loving Germany.

"J. STALIN"

The governmental delegation of the Soviet Union which visited Berlin for the anniversary celebrations during the national holiday was headed by N. M. Shvernik, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

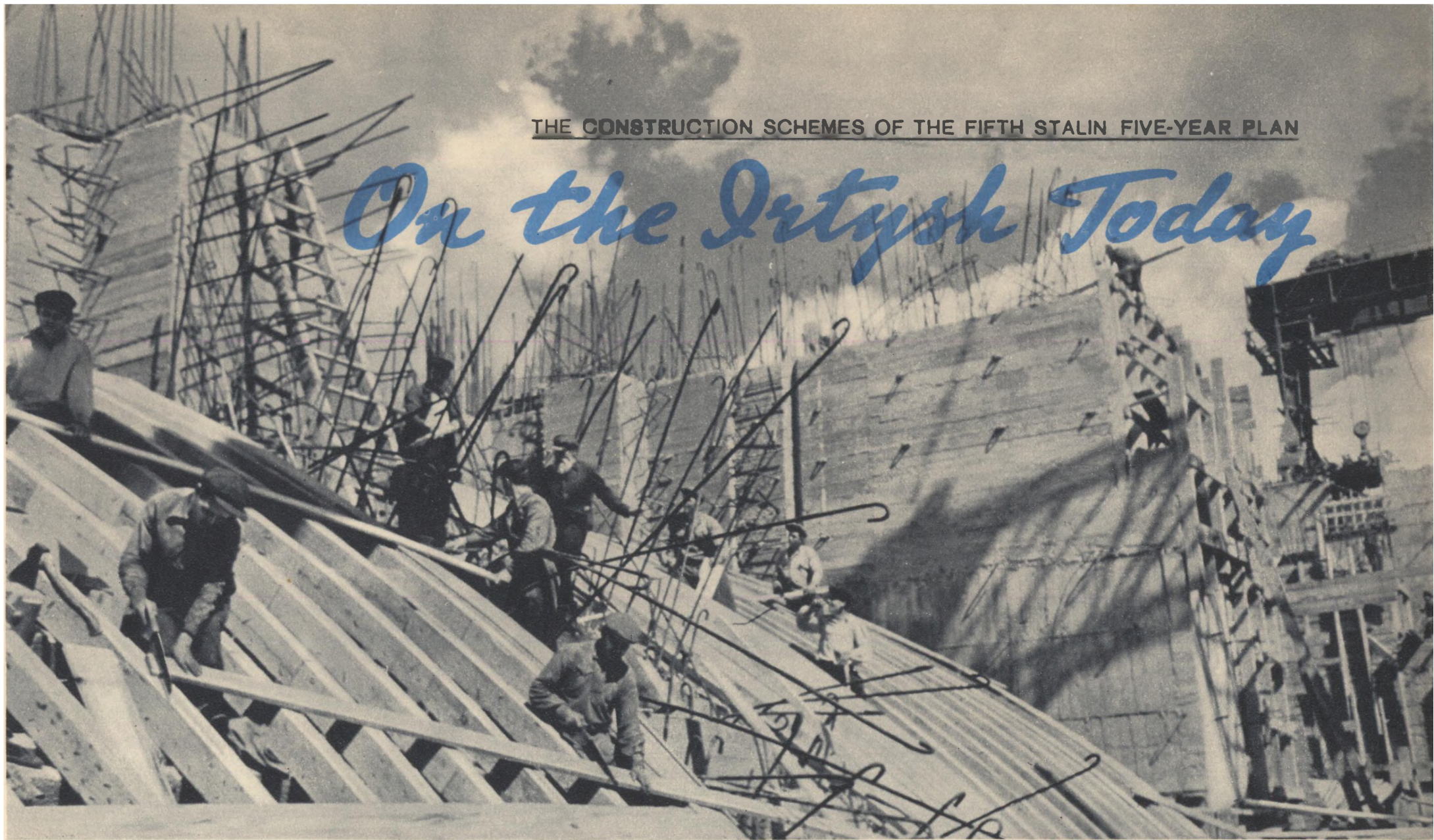


The work of the Nineteenth Party Congress gripped the attention of the Soviet people and millions of working people throughout the world. The Congress proceedings were published in the entire Soviet press and were regularly transmitted by radio. A broad movement of Socialist emulation in honour of the Congress swept the country. Above: No. 3 blooming mill at the Magnitogorsk Iron and Steel Works; joining in the emulation movement, the workers fulfilled the nine months' program ahead of schedule and produced thousands of tons of output over plan. Left: Workers in the machine repair shop of the Stalin Auto plant in Moscow hear the latest bulletin from the Congress

Photos by V. GEORGIYEV and V. ZUNIN



On the Irtysh Today



Building the duct system of one of the power units at the Ust-Kamenogorsk plant. Below: T. Gunko, a fitter, at work on the steel framework of the generator hall of the future powerhouse

Photos by Y. KOROLYOV



The Directives of the XIX Party Congress on the Fifth Five-Year Plan (1951-1955) for the development of the USSR provide for a further considerable extension of the country's power resources. In five years time the all-round capacity of power stations in the USSR is to be doubled, while the capacity of hydropower stations will be trebled.

As planned, the gigantic Kuibyshev hydroelectric plant will come into action with a power capacity of 2,100,000 kilowatts, while the hydropower plant on the river Kama, the Gorky power plant on the Volga, the Mingechaur on the Kura, the Ust-Kamenogorsk on the Irtysh and others, will add another 1,916,000 kilowatts of installed capacity to the general total. At the same time the present work on the construction of the Stalingrad and Kakhovka hydropower developments will be already well advanced and a start will have been made on several big new hydropower schemes, including the Cheboksary plant on the Volga, the Votkinsk plant on the Kama and the Bukhtarma plant on the Irtysh. Work is to begin on the utilization of cheap hydroelectric power from the river Angara for the development of the aluminium, chemical, mining and other branches of industry, employing local raw materials.

At the Ministry of Power Stations a "Soviet Union" reporter was given the following information about the construction work and the hydropower builders at Ust-Kamenogorsk on the Irtysh, one of the biggest Siberian rivers.

The great rivers of Siberia—the Irtysh, Lena, Yenisei, Ob and Angara—provide a large part of the Soviet Union's hydropower resources which, as is well known, are the largest in the world, said the Ministry. These rivers have a power potential amounting to between 60-70 million kilowatts, which is the equivalent of 100-120 hydroelectric stations such as the Dnieper Power Plant, the biggest of its kind at present in operation in Europe.

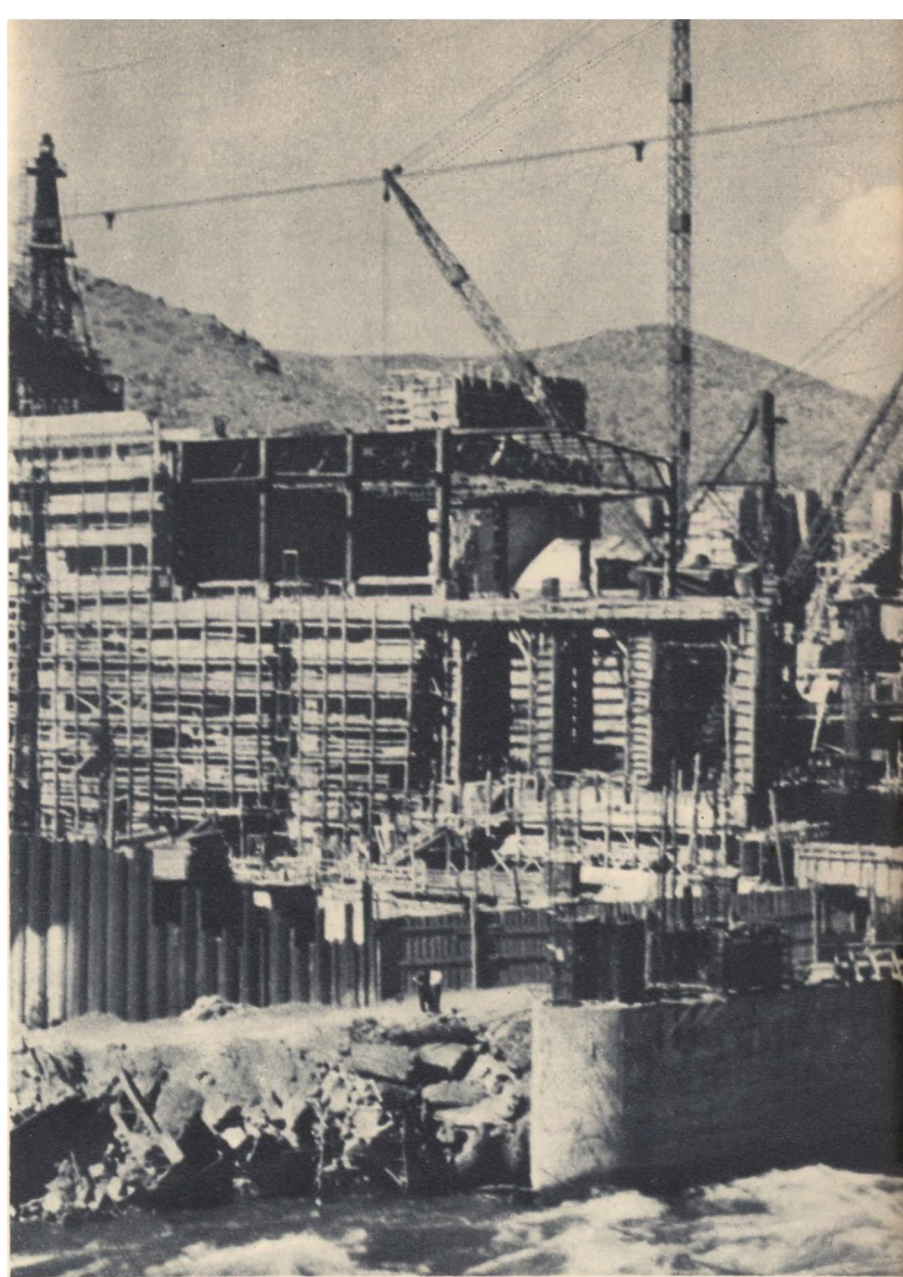
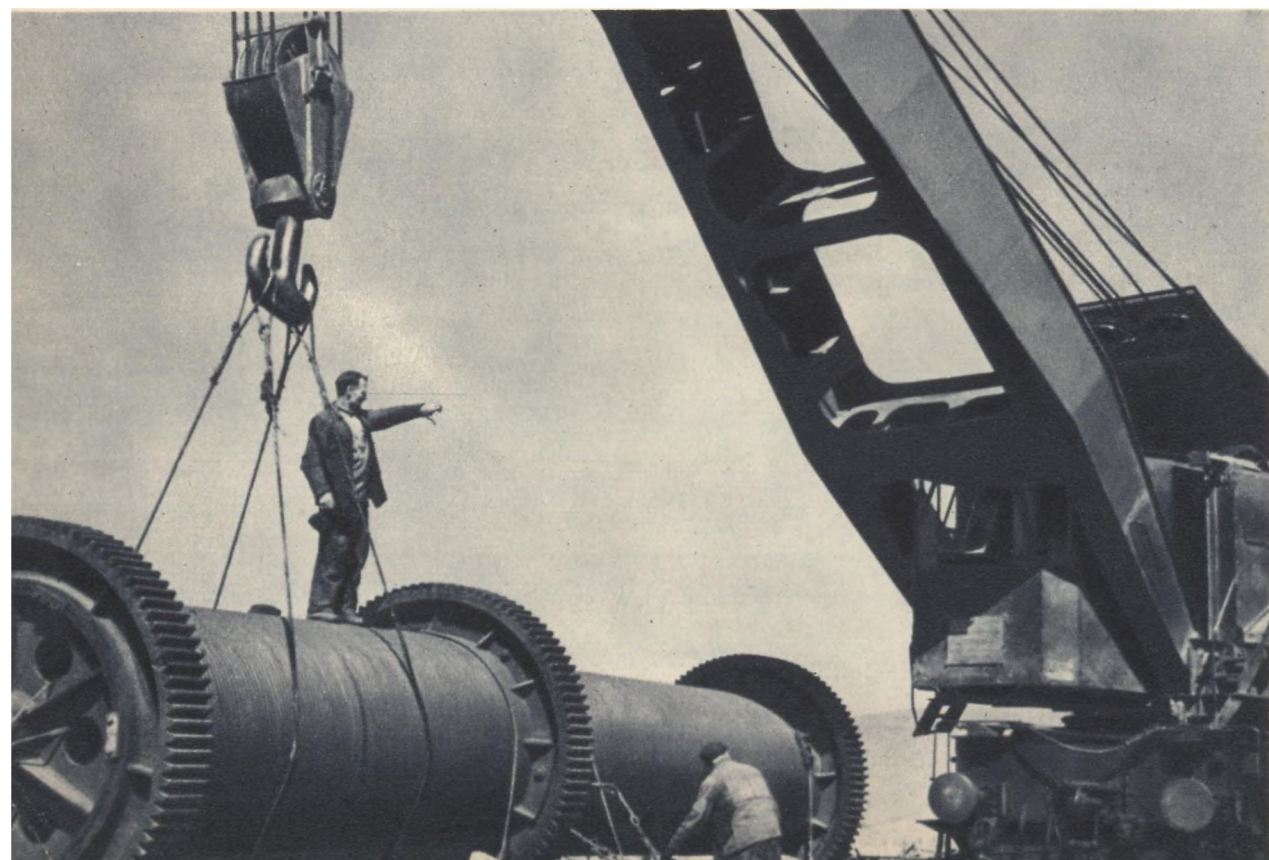
Naturally, the construction of hydroelectric plants is not an end in itself. In Soviet times vast stocks of valuable minerals have been discovered in Siberia—the Tunguska River coal basin with coal reserves amounting to several hundred milliard tons, the rich deposits of iron ore in the Angara-Ilim region, as well as numerous deposits of aluminium, tin, nickel, quicksilver, etc. The Ust-Kamenogorsk hydropower plant is being built to supply electric energy to the Rudny Altai and to stimulate the further development of this rich ore area.

Like all Soviet people, the builders of the Ust-Kamenogorsk project—one of the biggest hydropower schemes of the Fifth Stalin Five-Year Plan—are inspired by the magnificent prospects of the new development plan, and are making a specially fine effort in their work.



Yekaterina Denisova does a fine job as signalwoman for a concrete-pouring crane

The most varied types of machines and mechanisms arrive from all parts of the country



A part of the construction site at Ust-Kamenogorsk on the Irtysh

In the management offices on the right and left banks of the Irtysh, on the construction sites, at the automatic concrete factories, in the workshops of the numerous subsidiary enterprises, on the roads and railways constantly supplying the latest Soviet equipment from Moscow, Leningrad, Kramatorsk, Sverdlovsk and other industrial centres—the workers are doing everything to hasten the hour when this powerful new hydroelectric plant will come into operation.

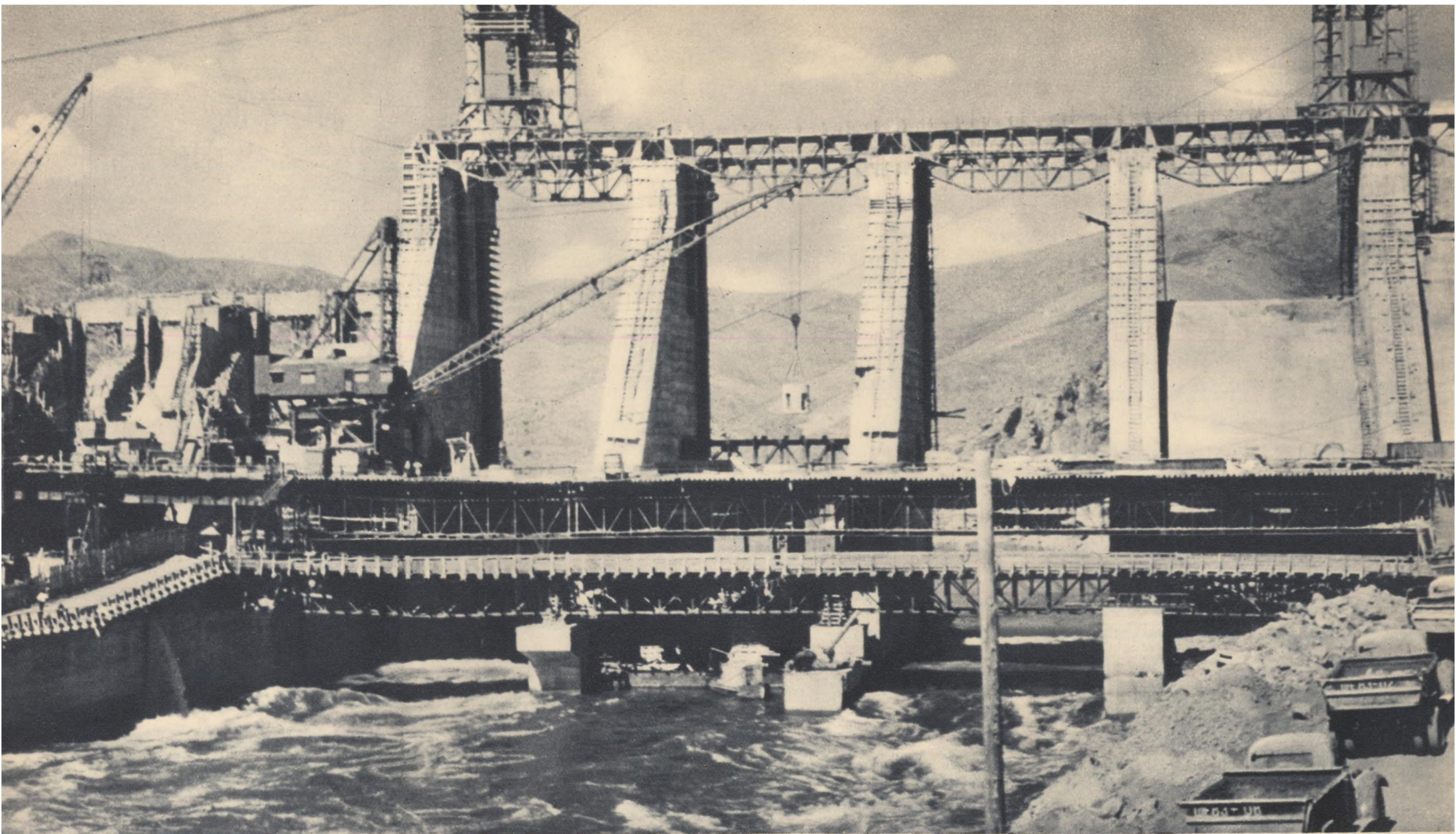
At Ust-Kamenogorsk great importance is attached to applying the advanced methods of work used in the construction of the Lenin Volga-Don Shipping Canal and other great construction works of Communism. The construction of the canal which linked the two great Russian rivers has given the Irtysh project many experienced workers and engineers, who on the first day of their arrival at the new job set a fine example of skilled work and achieved high standards of efficiency. Many of them have been appointed to leading posts on important sectors of the Ust-Kamenogorsk project.

For example, some of the rank-and-file workers who took part in fitting the turbines at the Tsimlyanskaya power station on the Volga-Don Canal are now at the head of teams assembling the power units of the Ust-Kamenogorsk hydroelectric plant.

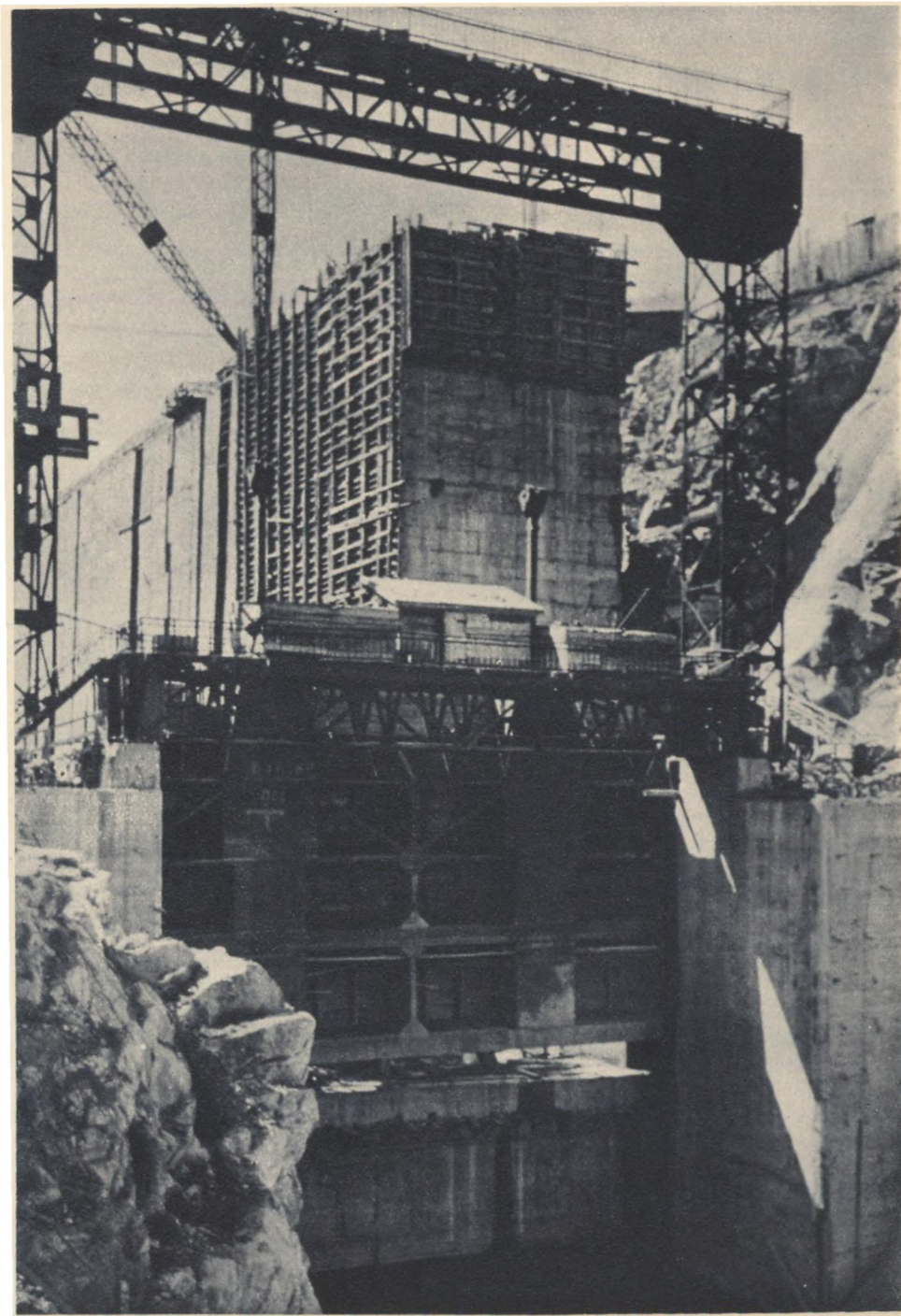
While construction is still in progress many of the workers are already qualifying as operating personnel. From the Irtysh they make trips to hydroelectric stations already in operation on the Dnieper, the Volga-Don, etc., where they obtain the practical knowledge which they will need for operating the new hydropower plant soon to be completed.

A practical and theoretical engineering society which has been formed at Ust-Kamenogorsk codifies and popularizes the advanced methods of the Stakhanovites of the construction works. The engineers who are members of this society time exactly the various processes in the working day of the best concrete-mixers, mould-constructors, fitters, electric welders and excavator operators. And these figures provide a useful guide to other workers in mastering the new advanced methods of labour.

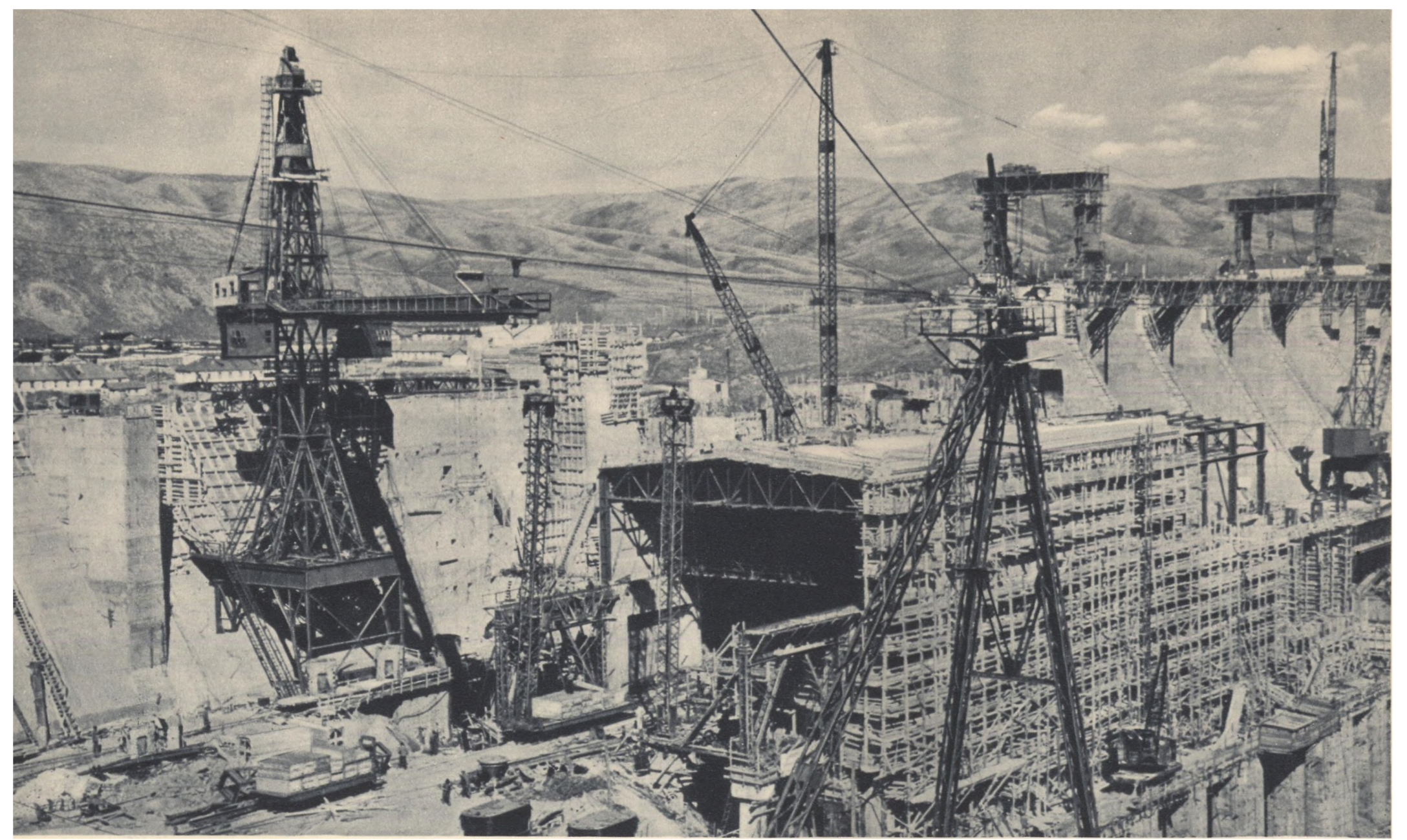
The work on the Irtysh is being carried out on a grand scale; and it is a noteworthy fact that all heavy labour-consuming processes are mechanized to the maximum. With the experience gained on the great construction works of Communism workers and engineers show great skill in employing Soviet machines and mechanisms of the most varied type and design. A large number of huge self-propelled excavators is being used, as well as dump trucks and bulldozers, each one of which does the work of three hundred men. Here 99 per cent of the earthwork, almost 100 per cent of the concrete production and all the concrete pouring is mechanized.



Alibek Altibaev (foreground) and his team lay concrete with the help of electric vibrators



One of the engineering structures on the Irtysh

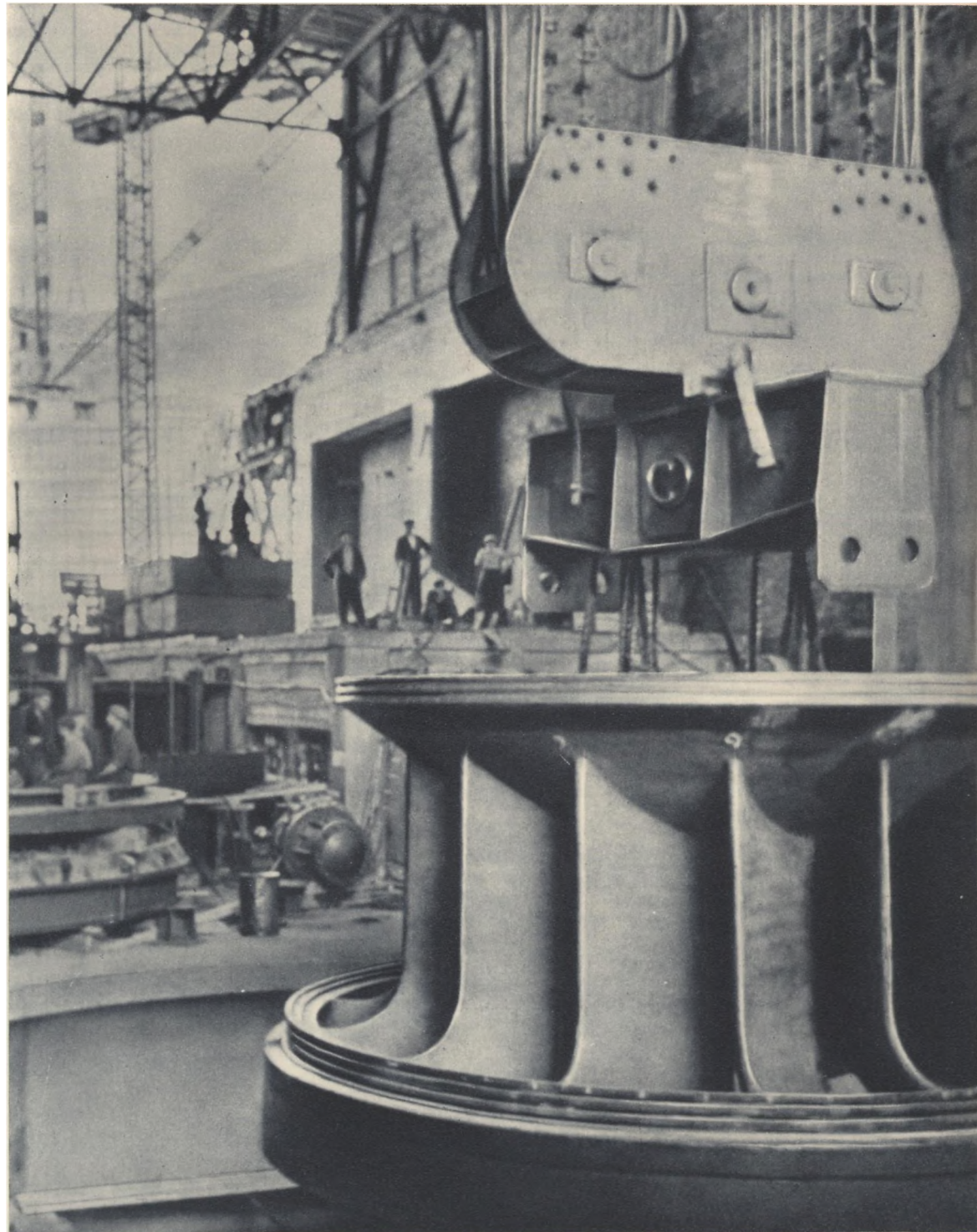


This will be the Ust-Kamenogorsk powerhouse

Moving a turbine runner weighing 120 tons

Soviet scientists have calculated that 20,000 million kilowatt-hours for a year equal the labour of 120 million men for an equivalent period. When the huge Volga hydroelectric stations at Kuibyshev and Stalingrad come into action the Soviet Land will have what amounts to another 120 million workers for its labour force. But that is not all, for alongside these gigantic producers of electric power many other hydroelectric plants will come into operation on various rivers of the European and Asiatic parts of the USSR. Soon the turbines of the Ust-Kamenogorsk hydropower development will also begin to turn, producing energy for the mines and plants, the factories and collective farms, the towns and villages of the Rudny Altai.

On student practice, K. Bekbergenov (left), of the Alma-Ata Institute of Agriculture, and B. Vostrikov of the Novosibirsk Institute of Water Transport, are doing a skilled job at the construction site



IN SOVIET LITHUANIA

By JUSTAS PALECKIS,
Chairman, Presidium of Supreme Soviet
of Lithuanian SSR

Photos by L. MIKHNOVSKY

The Stalin Fifth Five-Year Plan opens up before the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic new perspectives for the development of the national economy, the growth of culture and the welfare of the people.

The Lithuanian SSR is one of the three young Soviet Republics on the Baltic. (Area: 65,200 square kilometres. Population (in 1940): 3,150,000.) Its characteristic landscape is undulating plain to which variety is added by heights rising to 250-285 metres above sea level, river valleys, forests and lakes. There are about 2,000 lakes in the republic. The low sandy shores of the Baltic seacoast are lined with a wall of pine forests. The Amber Coast is what these shores are called by the Lithuanian people, because the sea tosses up much amber here.

The lovely Niemen is popularly known as the river of Lithuania's destiny. On its banks Lithuanians beat off the attacks of the crusaders attempting to subjugate the Lithuanian people. In this struggle, Lithuanians stood shoulder to shoulder with their Russian brethren and neighbours. And together with them again they fought off the Mongolian invasion.

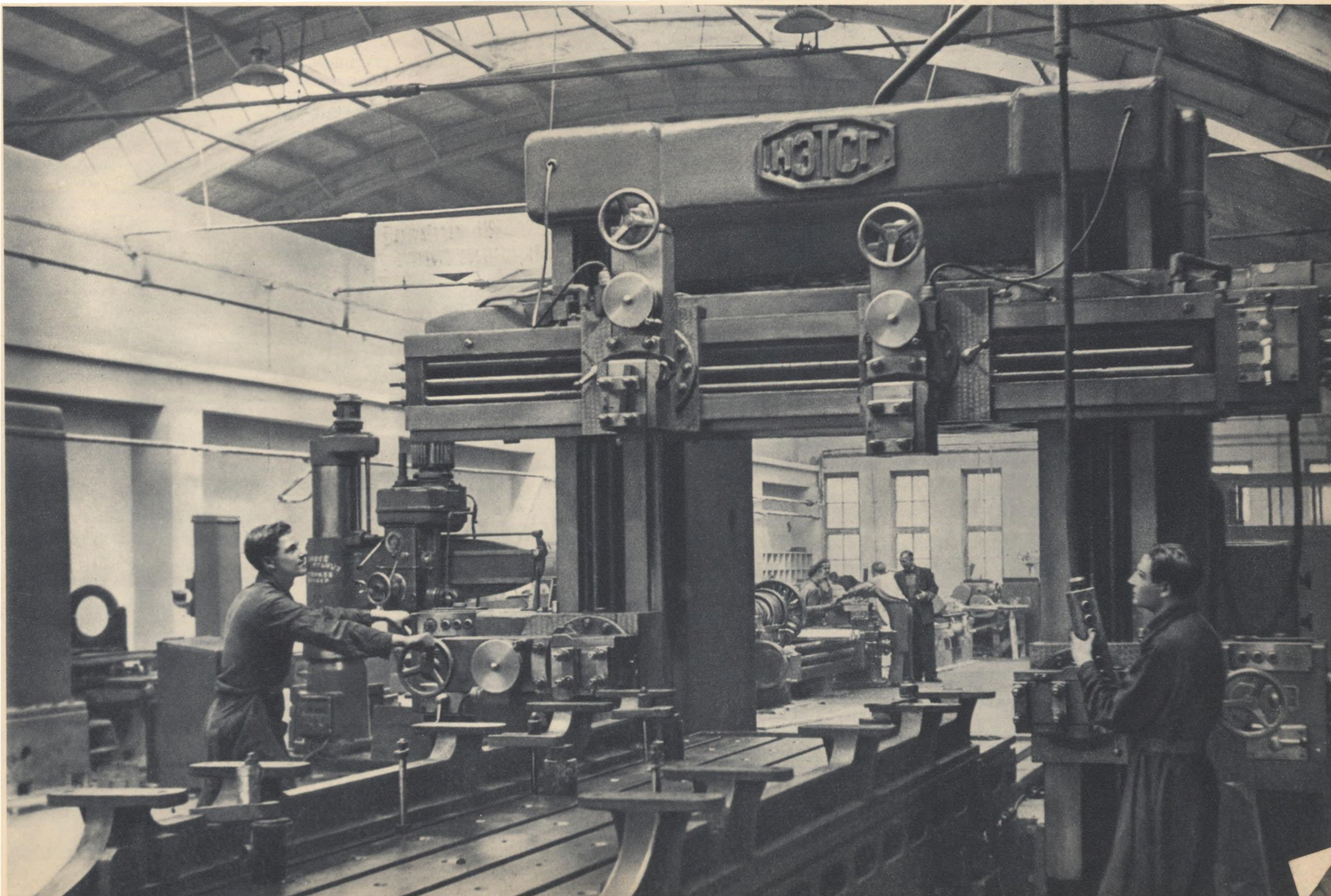
The Lithuanian SSR is divided administratively into four regions, those of Vilnius, Kaunas, Siauliai and Klaipeda, and these, in turn, are divided into 87 districts.

The republic's capital, Vilnius, was founded in the 10th century. Among other Lithuanian towns the following large regional centres may be noted—Kaunas, Siauliai, Klaipeda, Panevezys and also the towns of Marijampole, Ukmerge, Telsiai, Taurage, Alytus.



From the ruins of a medieval fortress, the Gediminas Tower, Young Pioneers admire their native city, Vilnius, the capital of Soviet Lithuania

Soviet Lithuania's industries are expanding, new works and factories are being built, equipped with first-rate machinery reaching the republic from all parts of the Soviet Union. Below: Mounting a plane in one of the factories at Kaunas. This lathe comes from Novosibirsk





A view of the highway between Vilnius and Kaunas. Far away to the left is the river Niemen

Below: A corner of the piggery on the First of May Collective Farm in Siauliai Region. Seen here are the manager of the piggery, Stase Vitkiene (left), who is a member of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR and swineherd Ona Savickiene



As early as 1918 the Lithuanian people started to establish the Soviet system in their land, but as the result of international military intervention, organized by imperialists in the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany and elsewhere, the Lithuanian bourgeoisie seized power and established their dominion on terror and force.

In bourgeois Lithuania, industry was but feebly developed, while in the villages the working peasantry were being steadily impoverished as their land became ever more concentrated in the hands of kulaks and landlords. Unemployment was the heavy lot of the urban workers; landlessness harassed the working peasantry of the countryside. Not without good cause did over 100,000 workers and peasants emigrate from Lithuania, while tens of thousands annually went to neighbouring countries for seasonal work.

The bourgeois-fascist rulers of Lithuania hampered the people's cultural growth. A spirit of reaction and obscurantism, although fought by all the progressive forces in the country, with the Communist Party at their head, reigned in the schools and in all spheres of cultural life.

The treacherous policy of the bourgeoisie brought the Lithuanian people to the brink of ruin when the Lithuanian government of the day sold the country to Hitler and invited him to station his armies there. They were saved only thanks to the Soviet Union's policy of friendship which helped the Lithuanian people to overthrow the rule of the bourgeois-fascist usurpers.

July 21, 1940, is an unforgettable day in the history of our people, for on that day the People's Seim, unanimously elected on the most democratic basis, proclaimed Lithuania a Soviet Socialist Republic. This event crowned the agelong struggle of the Lithuanian people for their freedom. Lithuania ceased to be "the dead end of Europe," a puppet in the hands of British, U.S. and other imperialists, it became an equal among equal Soviet Republics.

The unprovoked attack on the Soviet Union by Hitler Germany temporarily halted the work of construction launched in Soviet Lithuania. The Nazi invaders inflicted enormous damage, estimated at 17,000 million rubles, on the national economy and cultural institutions. They murdered more than half a million of our people. The very existence of the Lithuanian nation hung in the balance, for the Hitlerites had planned to wipe it out.

The glorious victory over the Nazi invaders saved the Lithuanians from enslavement and destruction. The liberated soil of Lithuania, together with Vilnius and Klaipeda, was united under the banner of Soviet Lithuania.

After their liberation, the working people of the republic with the fraternal aid of the Russians and of other Soviet peoples, resolutely set about the rehabilitation of the national economy. As the result of fulfilling the Postwar Five-Year Plan the total output of industrial production in the Lithuanian Republic rose by 87.5 per cent over the level of 1940. About 190 factories and works were repaired or completely rebuilt. The proportion of industry in Lithuania's national economy reached 56 per cent.

There is no talk of unemployment in Lithuania today. The number of workers employed in industry has trebled since 1940. The productive capacity of industrial enterprises is steadily growing as new technical

equipment is installed. Our industry has developed a number of new branches which could not even have been imagined in agrarian bourgeois Lithuania. Today, the republic is producing metalworking lathes, turbines, electric motors, paint-sprayers, bicycles, electric instruments, agricultural machinery, cement and much else.

Great changes have occurred in the life of the Lithuanian countryside. Only five years have passed since our peasants founded the first collective farm, naming it after Maryte Melnikaite, the Lithuanian girl partisan who became a Hero of the Soviet Union. And now nearly all the Lithuanian peasantry are united in large collective farms which in a short time have achieved substantial successes. They include the well-known millionaire collective farms (farms with an income of a million rubles or more) Liaudies Kovotojas, Ausra, Chernyakhovsky, First of May, and others. The collective farmers, now real masters of the land, are growing more and more prosperous.

In 1951 alone, about 3,000 industrial enterprises were built in the collective farms of the republic, and the production of bricks, lime and other building materials is being expanded. In the last three years 14 rural hydroelectric stations and 60 steam power plants have gone into operation to supply collective farms or groups of farms. The growth of mechanization in the agriculture of the Lithuanian SSR is indicated by the fact that while in 1947 we had 48 machine and tractor stations, we now have 129. In addition, 7 reclamation machinery stations have been established. Previously, motorcars were rarities in our villages, but now they are seen on nearly every collective farm.

The number of qualified personnel in agriculture is growing. In recent years special courses and schools have turned out about 10,000 tractor drivers, over 2,000 collective-farm chairmen and 3,000 team leaders. Over 35,000 collective farmers are studying for various trades.

Great successes have been scored in increasing the material welfare and the cultural development of the Lithuanian people. A total of 1,200,000 square metres of housing space have been restored or built in the towns. We have advanced considerably in the restoration of Vilnius and a number of other towns destroyed in the war.

Bourgeois Lithuania had 58 secondary schools. Now there are 250. There is universal seven-year education in the republic. In secondary schools, for example, about five times more children are studying than did in bourgeois Lithuania. The total number of school



Mineral fertilizing of grain fields on the Dumniai State Farm by plane



A rural hydropower station on the river Virvite, in Kursenai District, Siauliai Region. It supplies five collective farms with current

Below: Song festival in Retavas District, Klaipeda Region





A new village built by the state for the fishermen of Klaipeda

Below: Erna Prankeviciene, of the Daile arts and crafts workshops, examining a necklace made of amber, for which Soviet Lithuania is famous



Herring trawlers put to sea from fishing port of Klaipeda

children is about 430,000, a record figure for the republic. The number of teachers has increased considerably and now totals 18,000.

Soviet Lithuania has 14 institutions of higher education, with three times as many students as in bourgeois days. Annually, between 1,700 and 2,000 students complete their higher education there, almost as many as graduated during the whole of bourgeois Lithuania's twenty years of existence. An Academy of Sciences of the Lithuanian Republic with 13 scientific research institutes has been founded in Soviet times.

Lithuania has acquired several new theatres, a State Philharmonic society, a folk song and dance ensemble. Amateur art groups are playing a big role in the republic's cultural life. At present about 125,000 people participate in 8,000 such groups. The republican song festival, timed to coincide with the tenth anniversary of the republic's foundation, provided a grand demonstration of the successes achieved in this field of amateur entertainment. As many as 25,000 singers and dancers took part in it.

Since the war 48,000,000 books have been published in the Lithuanian Republic. This is considerably more than the number of books published during the whole period of bourgeois rule. Two hundred and thirty-six newspapers and magazines are now printed. The circulation of but one of these—the national newspaper "Tiesa"—exceeds the circulation of all the daily newspapers printed in bourgeois Lithuania.

About 40,000 lectures on scientific subjects were read in town and collective-farm lecture halls last year. We have 3,143 libraries, 320 collective-farm clubs, 777 libraries, 145 houses of culture, 302 cinemas and mobile cinemas, compared with bourgeois Lithuania's 66 cinemas. Such facts bear witness to the mass character of our cultural work.

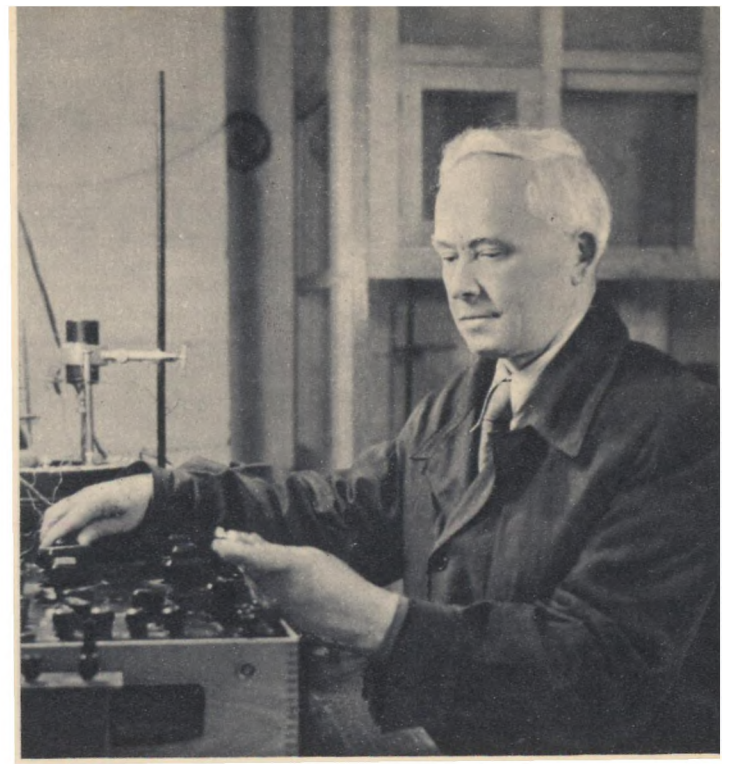
The state is expending large sums on free medical services to the public, on sanatorium treatment,



Stalin Prize winner Antanas Venclovas, People's Writer of the Lithuanian SSR



A view of the campus of the State University at Vilnius, one of the oldest institutions of learning in the country



Juozas Matulis, President of the Academy of Sciences of the Lithuanian SSR, at work in the electrochemical laboratory



The Lithuanian State Opera House in Vilnius

social security and insurance, and on grants to students.

The sum of 807,436,000 rubles—84 per cent of total budget expenditure—has been allocated from the 1952 budget of Soviet Lithuania for social welfare and cultural measures.

The republic has 75 hospitals with out-patient departments, and a broad network of maternity homes. During five years the number of hospital beds has been doubled. In Lithuania's health resorts—Palanga, Giruliai, Druskininkai, Birtonas, Likenai and others—tens of thousands of working people spend their holidays, while many go for recreation and treatment to the health resorts of the Crimea and the Caucasus.

In the Directives of the Nineteenth Party Congress for this five-year plan, much attention is paid to the Baltic Republics, including Soviet Lithuania. Among other things, there may be noted a 2 to 2.5 increase in the production of electric power, the start made on the construction of the Kaunas hydroelectric station on the Niemen, the further expansion of ship-building and the manufacture of turbines and machine tools. Measures are envisaged for a substantial advance in agriculture. Big projects will be carried out in the field of land reclamation. There are plans for a further expansion of the health services and national education.

After enduring so many grievous experiences, the Lithuanian nation has finally thrown off the yoke of capitalist exploitation and has become under the Soviet system a really free people embarking on the path of socialist development with complete confidence. It appreciates to the full the great happiness of being a member of the family of nations of the Soviet Union, the indestructible vanguard of the champions of peace, of progress for all mankind, of the joy of building Communism under the great banner of Lenin and Stalin.



A diesel train on the Vilnius-Klaipeda line. On the side of the railway embankment linesmen have laid out the words "Peace Will Triumph Over War"

Machine and Tractor Stations



By P. KUCHUMOV,
Deputy Minister
of Agriculture of the USSR

Photos by M. ANANYIN

The Directives of the Nineteenth Party Congress for the Fifth Five-Year Plan of development of the USSR, covering the period from 1951 to 1955, provide for a powerful new advance in Socialist farming and livestock raising. One of the foundations of this advance is the further introduction of up-to-date machinery and farming methods.

Before the Socialist transformation of agriculture in the Soviet Union the number of individual peasant holdings amounted to about twenty-five million. Individual peasants could not make use of advanced mechanical techniques or apply the achievements of agricultural science. Hence the peasants' labour was onerous and their yield low.

In 1929, on the initiative of J. V. Stalin, work was begun on a great construction program for setting up state machine and tractor stations, known, for short, by the letters MTS. Providing tractors and various types of the newest agricultural machines, the MTS at once achieved popularity among the peasantry and became powerful bases for the reorganization of agriculture.

The special feature of machine and tractor stations lies in the fact that they secure the most complete combination of peasant self-help in the development of collective economy and state-led help of an organized, technical character. In the MTS are concentrated the decisive instruments of agricultural production—tractors, combines, soil-cultivating machines, and machines for sowing, reaping and many other processes. These instruments of production belong to the state but are used in the collective farms on the basis of contracts concluded by the machine and tractor stations with each collective farm. All the expenses of building and developing the MTS, of maintaining and running their contingents of machines are provided for by the resources of the state budget. Payment in kind for the work done by the machine and tractor stations is made by the collective farms from the crops gathered, on terms favourable to the collective farms.

K. Maltsev, director of the Millerovo MTS in Rostov Region, speaks by radio to the personnel of one of the tractor teams. Radio intercommunication has been installed on many machine and tractor stations



A self-propelled mower of the Millerovo MTS takes in a crop of alfalfa on the Eighteenth Party Congress Collective Farm



An ensilage combine reaping sunflowers and converting them into material ready for ensilaging. The MTS prepare rich fodder on the collective farms



In the fields of the collective farms served by the Millerovo MTS the grain crops have ripened, and its 54 combines move out from the grounds of the MTS to these fields



Darya Golovatova (left) and Yevdokia Shtanko are members of the Bolshevik Collective Farm, Rostov Region, where the wheat crop was abundant this year. They are photographed here at the mechanized threshing floor

The main personnel of the MTS—tractor drivers, leaders of tractor teams and other workers—are drawn from among the collective farmers and receive their training at state expense in schools of mechanized agriculture or at special courses. These people work on machines that belong to the state but remain members of the collective farms. They are paid in kind and money on a workday basis, according to the quantity and quality of work done and of the crops gathered from the collective-farm fields. Qualified specialists, such as the agronomists, engineers, mechanics, land reclamation experts, etc., employed by the MTS, are paid by the state.

Between 1930 and 1940 the number of machine and tractor stations rose from 158 to 7,069, and their contingents of

tractors increased in power by almost one-hundredfold. During the same period the number of combines, tractor ploughs, drillers, cultivators, etc., also multiplied manyfold. The rapid rise in the number of MTS became possible thanks to the industrialization of the Soviet Land, which created powerful tractor-building factories and an agricultural machine-building industry.

Replacing the old, out-of-date methods of farming, the broad-scale application of modern agricultural machinery has made the work of the collective farmers infinitely lighter and more productive. As far back as the prewar year 1940, three quarters of all the ploughing and over one half of the sowing was carried out on the collective farms by the

MTS; 43 per cent of the grain sown was reaped by combines. The mechanization of collective-farm production promoted a rise in the yield of agricultural crops. By 1940 the total grain yield had increased to 7,300 million poods (116,800,000 tons) compared to 4,800 million poods (76,800,000 tons) produced in tsarist Russia in the best harvest years before the First World War.

After the Second World War, when the Soviet people set about implementing plans for rapid restoration and development in all fields of the country's peaceful economy, the role of machine and tractor stations in the advance of agriculture became even more important. In addition to carrying out the work in the collective-farm fields which has



K. Golivets (right) leader of a tractor team from the Millerovo MTS, and T. Chemukha, leader of a field crop team at the Bolshevik Collective Farm, radio a report on harvesting progress to the dispatcher at the MTS



Scientists and inventors take an active part in the work of machine and tractor stations. Here we see I. Nesterenko (left), a scientific worker at the Moscow Soil-Agronomical Station, and N. Trunov, chief agronomist of the Millerovo MTS, in the fields of the 15th Anniversary of October Collective Farm. In the picture below machines of the Millerovo MTS are sowing wheat at the New Life Collective Farm

become more extensive and more fully mechanized, the MTS now help the collective farms in other ways too. They prepare cattle feed, their machines do the work of many hands on stock farms, in the planting of shelter belts, the draining of marshy ground, the improvement of meadows and pastures, the building of ponds and reservoirs, the making of irrigation systems and so on. The MTS are also assisting collective farms to erect buildings for animal husbandry.

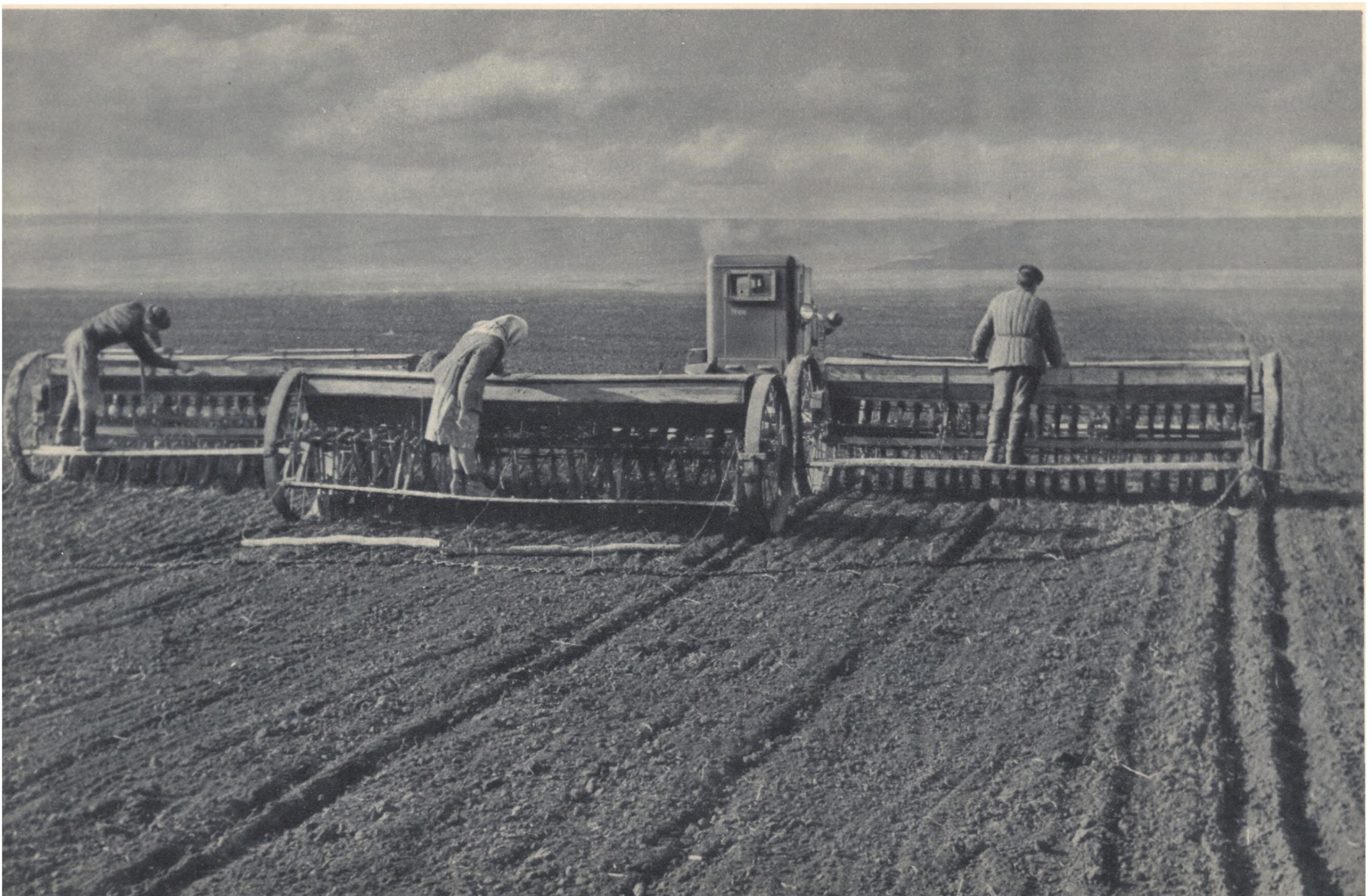
The prewar level of mechanization in collective-farm production has been considerably surpassed in recent years. In 1951 the machines and tractors of the MTS carried out over 170 different types of work on the collective farms. Over two thirds of all field work in the collective farms was done by the MTS.

The number of machine and tractor stations had risen to 8,680 by the end of 1951.

By 1951 the capacity of the tractor contingents of the MTS had increased to half as much again as in 1940. This included the doubling of capacity of caterpillar tractors, and a sevenfold increase in that of the most economical diesel tractors. There have been big increases in the number of combines for harvesting grain and technical crops, as also of machines for cultivating the soil, sowing and other processes. The inventories of machine and tractor stations have been extended by the addition of substantial numbers of excavators, ditching machines, bulldozers, scrapers, graders, boring machines for making wells, building mechanisms and much repair equipment, metalworking lathes, power installations and other machinery.

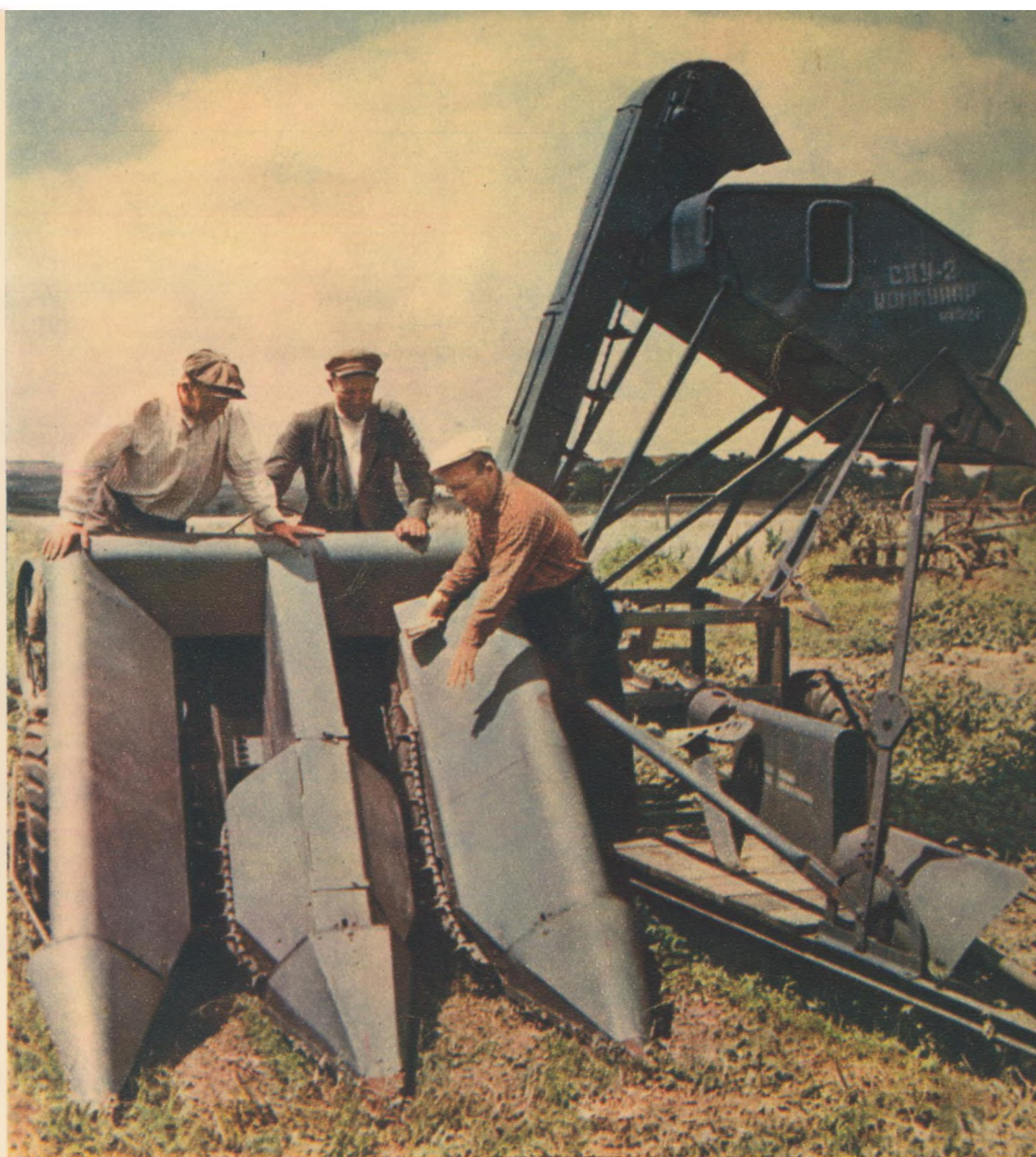
On the collective farms in the current year machine and tractor stations sowed 80 per cent of the spring crops and are reaping by combine an average of 72 per cent of the grain crops, 90 per cent of the sunflower and 75 per cent of the seed grass. The level of mechanization in lifting sugar beet has risen to 90 per cent, and in autumn sowing to 88 per cent, while there is a substantial rise in the mechanized picking of flax, cotton and other crops.

Thanks to the technical aid of the machine and tractor stations the collective farms are effecting great economies in the use of man power. As early as 1937 the application of tractors and combines alone had resulted in a saving equivalent to the labour which would have been expended in a year by 7,200,000 men. In the postwar period the saving in man





Construction of a pond on one of the 12 collective farms where the Millerovo MTS has helped to dig ponds and reservoirs in the past three years



Workers at the Millerovo MTS examine a new type of maize harvesting combine. The MTS receives new machines every year

power on the collective farms has grown still more. Beet combines and flax combines, for example, are reducing to a third the expenditure of man power needed when tractor beet diggers and flax pullers are used. Each of the many thousands of cotton harvesters in use in the Soviet Union replaces 40 to 50 workers daily in the picking of the cotton crop on irrigated fields. The new MK-800 and MK-1000 ditching machines increase the productivity of labour by sixty to seventy times in comparison with the manual process in draining marshy land.

Great benefits also accrue to collective farms from the mechanization of work in animal husbandry. The Sverdlov Collective Farm, served by the Aramilsk MTS in the region of Sverdlovsk, for example, earned an income of 212,000 rubles in 1950, when its stock sections were not yet mechanized; in 1951, as the result of mechanizing labour-consuming processes in animal husbandry, the cash income of the stock section exceeded 700,000 rubles in 10 months.

Under the new five-year plan it is intended to complete the mechanization of the main field work in the collective farms, to introduce broad-scale mechanization of labour-consuming processes in animal husbandry, vegetable growing and fruit farming, and also the work in loading, transporting and unloading farm products, in irrigation, in draining and in developing new lands.

In 1955 the level of mechanization in ploughing, and in the sowing of grain, technical and fodder crops must be raised to between 90 and 95 per cent, in the reaping of grain crops by combines to 80-90 per cent, in the lifting of sugar beet to 90-95 per cent, in the picking of cotton to 60-70 per cent, in the sowing and gathering of fibre flax to 80-90 per cent, in the mowing and ensilaging of fodder to 70-80 per cent, etc.

Before that date there will be a further great increase in the number of machine and tractor stations, and their activities will be considerably extended. By the end of the five-year plan the capacity of MTS tractor contingents will grow by approximately 50 per cent.

Many electrotractors and agricultural machines run by electricity will be placed at the disposal of the MTS, particularly in the neighbourhood of large hydroelectric stations. The importance of the MTS as the industrial basis of collective-farm production will continue to increase.



Georgi Donchenko (right), member of the Bolshevik Collective Farm, who has recently built himself a new cottage, offers this year's wine to two of his comrades—Stepan Borschov (centre), leader of a tractor team, and the collective-farm carpenter Danila Temov. They are congratulating each other on the excellent harvest, which was raised and taken in with the help of the Millerovo MTS. Equipped with 126 tractors, 54 combines, 20 motor trucks and many cultivators, seeders, etc., the station has introduced large-scale mechanization on the collective farms it serves. This year, as in former years, the members of the farms will have large incomes of grain, vegetables and other produce, besides money



REPLY TO AN ENGLISH CINEMA OPERATOR

In a letter to the Editors, Douglas Williams, a cinema operator of Dorking (England) writes that he is interested in the Soviet cinema, and, in particular, in the working conditions of cinema operators and the organization of film shows. We have invited the operators of one of Moscow's cinemas—the Udarnik—to reply to their English colleague's letter. This is their reply, with illustrations by our photographer.

In the children's room at the Udarnik Cinema



Photos by Y. KOROLYOV

Dear colleague,

To tell you how Soviet cinema operators work and how the public's needs are met in Soviet cinemas, we have decided to take as an example the Udarnik Cinema where we work.

The cinema is the most popular of all the arts, and the Soviet state takes care that it is really accessible to all. Large funds are expended on developing the cinema industry, on the construction of new cinemas, on supplying new equipment and cinema furnishings, and on training specialized personnel. By the end of 1950 the number of cinema installations in the Soviet Union had grown by half as much again as in the prewar year of 1940. During 1951 another 4,000 were added.

The Fifth Five-Year Plan specifies a further advance in the popularization of the cinema. By 1955 there is to be an increase of approximately 25 per cent in the number of cinemas.

During the years of the First Postwar Five-Year Plan over 10,000 cinemas were opened in rural areas. Mobile film units are regularly sent to those places which have not yet got cinemas or permanent installations.

The Udarnik Cinema, where we work, is one of Moscow's most popular cinemas. It seats 1,600. The screen, 40 square metres in size, consists of perforated white oilcloth, through which the sound coming from the eight powerful loudspeakers behind it, passes freely.

Our shows begin at 8.30 a. m. and finish after midnight. While waiting for the performance to begin, the visitors to the cinema pass the time in several spacious foyers where, without paying extra, they can watch short scientific and documentary films, or listen to concerts or lectures. There is a café, a reading room and a corner for playing chess and draughts. We often arrange meetings between the public and the film-producers, actors and cameramen engaged in making new Soviet films. Art exhibitions are organized in the foyers and reading room.

Parents bringing little children to the cinema can leave them during the performance in a special children's room, where they play under the care of a governess. This room has miniature furniture and a good stock of toys.

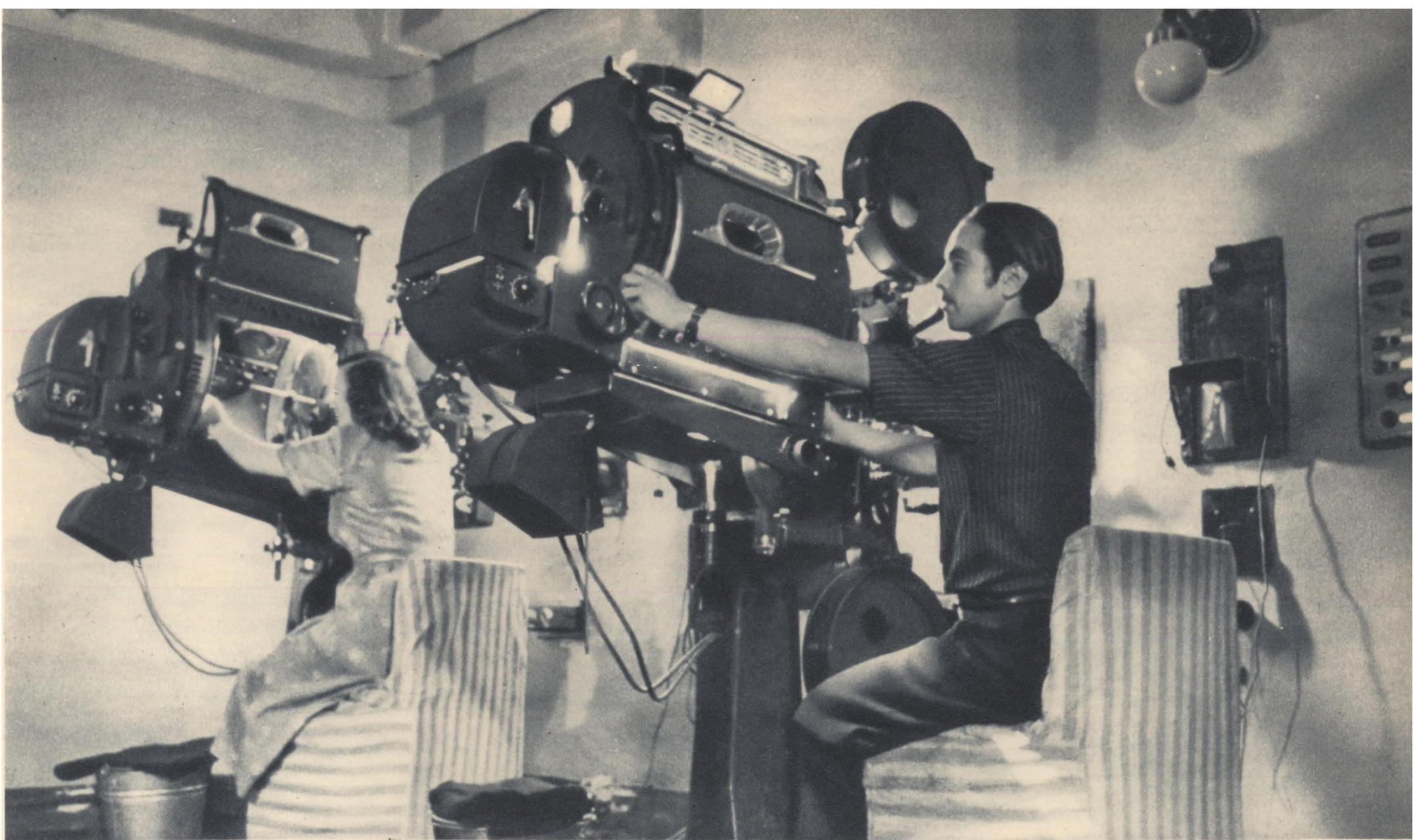
On Sundays and during the school holidays the foyers of our cinema are particularly noisy and gay. At matinees specially organized for school children, the young public meets actors, scientists, writers and distinguished sportsmen. Games and dances are arranged in the foyers, while groups of amateur performers from the schools show their talent.

The cinema has its own microphone system with loudspeakers in the auditorium, the foyers and on the front of the building. In the first row of the dress circle there are special seats fitted with headphones reserved for people with weak hearing. The sound can be regulated as required.

There are several operating rooms. In the main one, which is over 40 metres square, stand four Soviet-made KPT-1 type projectors. These latest models, like the KZVT-2 amplifiers attached to them—guarantee a high quality of demonstration. Every projector has a special panel showing the operator the necessary signals. The switch cupboard indicates the working regime of all rectifiers and also tension in the circuit. Next to the projecting room is the rewinding room, and on the floor below—the operators' rest room.

We also have a workshop for the repair of our equipment. This, it is true, is not our responsibility, but we carry out some repairs on our own initiative as we are ourselves interested in keeping equipment and films in excellent condition. We do so first, because we want to be the leaders in the socialist competition between the workers of Moscow cinemas, and second, because bonuses amounting to 30 per cent of one's wage are paid every month for keeping equipment and films in excellent condition. If the staff of a cinema wins one of the first places in the competition then the operators, together with all the other workers, receive a special bonus equal to a month's wages.

There are eight of us, operators, at the Udarnik. The youngest is 18, the oldest 22. Before beginning work at the projectors we all attended special schools for cinema technicians. There are many



Operators Yevgeni Krasnopolsky and Nina Kabakova at work in the main projection room. The Udarnik Cinema has 10 projectors, all up-to-date Soviet models

such schools in our country, turning out 12,000 specialists every year. And in these schools, boys and girls not only study free, at state expense, but also receive grants throughout their training.

Although we are considered quite good at our jobs, everyone of us is going on raising his qualifications and studying the latest technical literature. By reading the magazine "Kinomekhanik" published by the Ministry of Cinematography, we learn a lot about the latest experiments in our field of work.

We fully agree with you, dear friend and colleague, that all the peoples of the world want to live on the earth in peace, and that will be possible only when, as you say, the will of the people for peace, friendship and mutual understanding between all nations is further developed and broadened.

With sincere greetings,

Alisa SOROKINA, Nina KABAKOVA,
Alexander YERASOV, Yevgeni KRASNO-
POLSKY, Vladimir POLYAKOV, Nikolai
LYKOV, Edward SAZONOV, Harlampi KO-
SHEVEROV

Operators of the Udarnik Cinema, Moscow.

*Копия письма
Телеграф. А.С. Садов - А.С. Садов*



The café and snack-bar for visitors to the cinema. Left: A concert in progress in one of the foyers before a film show



There is always a big selection of newspapers, magazines and pamphlets in the Udarnik reading room. While waiting for the show to begin you can also play chess or draughts



MORNING OF OUR MOTHERLAND!

Painting by F. SHURPIN,
Stalin Prize Winner

The Crew of Dredger "1000-80"

By A. ROZEN

Photos by Y. CHERNYSHOV

A light pressure on the button on the control panel—and the scene round the dredger starts changing at amazing speed. A fountain of soil and water leaps into the air at the end of the pumping tube, the wall of the cofferdam grows visibly. At this rate the Akhtuba arm of the Volga will be soon barred off. Mikhail Obodov, a young dredge operator, has a keen eye for such changes. Obodov was born in Stalingrad. As a boy he used to spend many summer days just here, on Peschany island, swimming, sunbathing, or fishing with his friends. . .

The years passed and Peschany island became dotted with derricks. Geologists were carrying out investigations there, determining the main line of direction of the dam and the site of the future Stalingrad hydroelectric plant. Then work began on a gigantic foundation pit. The dredgers went into action, doing their share of the vast construction program on the Stalingrad hydropower plant provided for by the new five-year plan.

Now the powerful cutter of the dredge cleaves into the river bottom and breaks up the soil, while the fan of the machine propels it, water and all, up the pumping tube to the right spot, where the earth is used for building the cofferdams and the dam itself.

The dam builders have nicknamed the dredger on which Mikhail Obodov works the "Thousander": its capacity is 1,000 cubic metres of soil per hour. But by making skilful use of their machinery the Stakhanovites of the "Thousander" have increased its capacity two and a half fold. Today the dredger did even more: 25,200 cubic metres of soil in one shift. As soon as he came off duty Mikhail Obodov sent news of this fresh victory to his mates Dmitri Fyodorov, Vladimir Murugin and Nikolai Skrypnik of the engine room. Stalingraders like Obodov, they, too, began their working life after the Second World War. At the beginning of 1951 the young men met at the construction site and crewed up on a dredger. By that time each of them had qualified in a trade of his own choosing.

During their short spell of service Mikhail Obodov and his comrades have taken part in three notable events—they were among the first to start digging the Volga-Akhtuba canal, then their dredger cleared away the cofferdam between the Volga and the first lock of the Volga-Don Canal, and in July this year their new dredger extracted the first cubic metres of soil on Peschany island. The "Thousander," equipped with first-class machinery and comfortable living quarters, is the pride of the young workers. And it has a good crew too. What would the dredger's comfortable mess be without a good cook?

But Zinaida Gavrilovna—the ship's cook—found a way of catering for everyone's taste right from the start: she puts that extra pinch of pepper in Ivan Titov's soup, dishes up Fyodorov's meat just how he likes it. . .

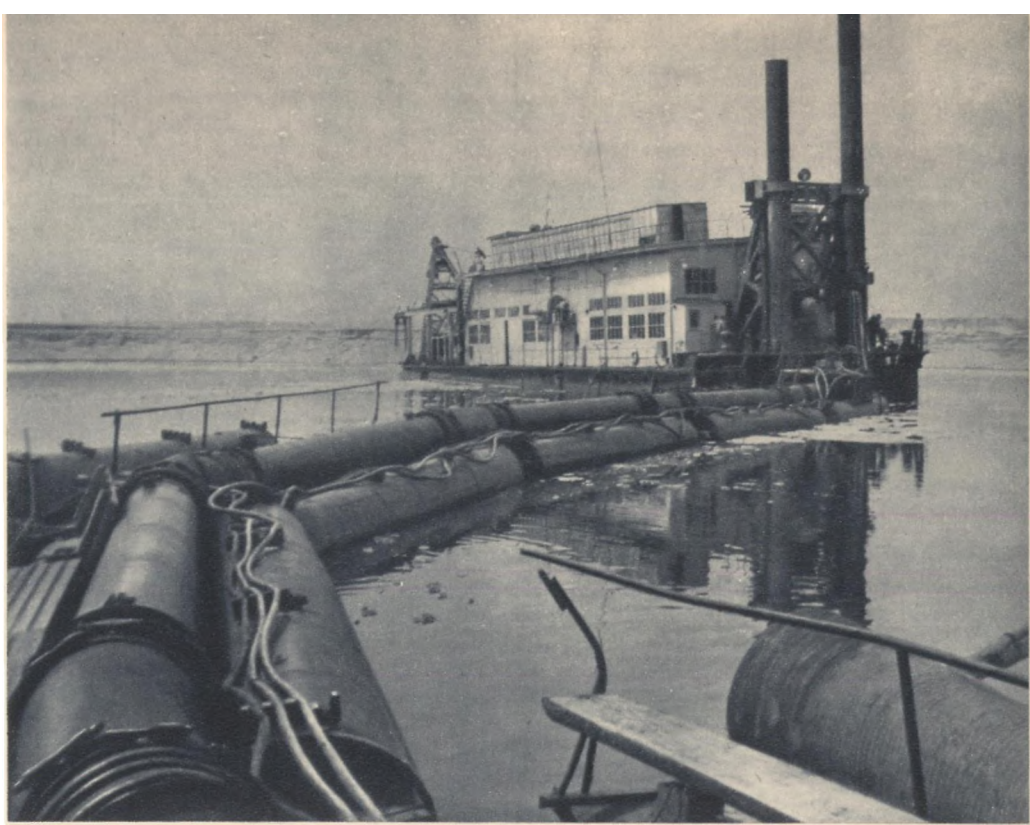
Alexander Andreyevich Markin, the master of the dredger, enjoys unquestioned authority among his crew. Friendly and cheerful, he is at the same time a very exacting commander. In contrast to the young members of his crew Alexander Markin has had much experience in life. He commanded a submarine and was severely shell-shocked. But the trials he went through did not crush his desire to study and widen his outlook. Even when he was working on the Volga-Don construction job Alexander Markin took correspondence courses at the Institute of Electrotechnics. And that was not an easy task. . .

Anatoli Onishchenko, the dredger's electrical engineer, also keeps up his studies. Following the example of their seniors, the young men work and develop their skill. Ivan Titov, who joined the dredger quite recently as an ordinary operator, is now a shift mechanic. And shift mechanic Fyodorov has gone up to chief mechanic.

It is a full life on board dredger "1000-80." In their off hours the men study and rest.

Now at the sound of an accordion Obodov hurries to the cockpit. He is very fond of dancing and music, dances well himself and has quite often organized amateur shows.

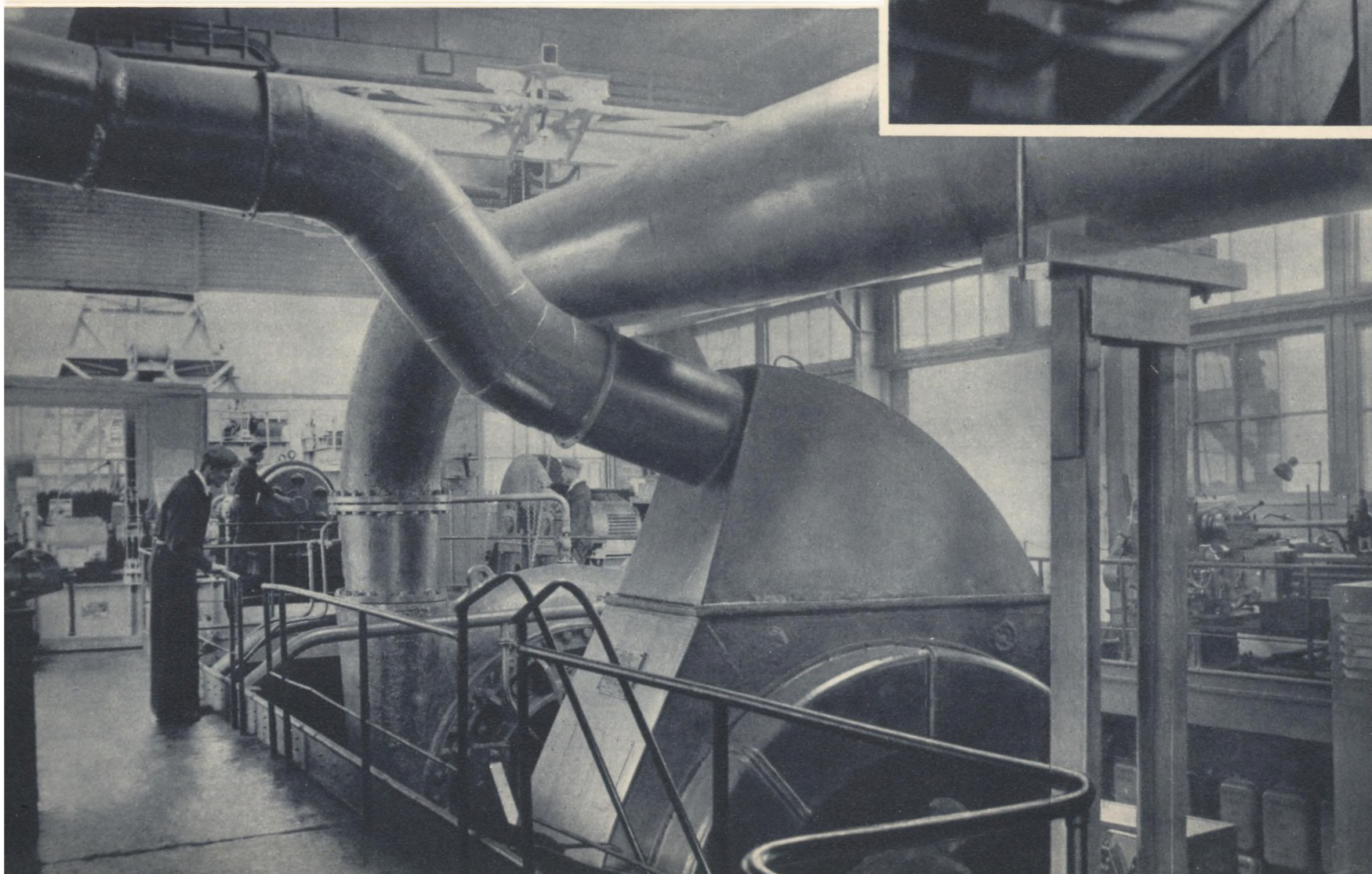
In the other cockpit the radio is playing. In the stern Titov is demonstrating gymnastic stunts to an enthusiastic audience.



Dredger "1000-80" at the construction site of the Stalingrad Hydroelectric Station

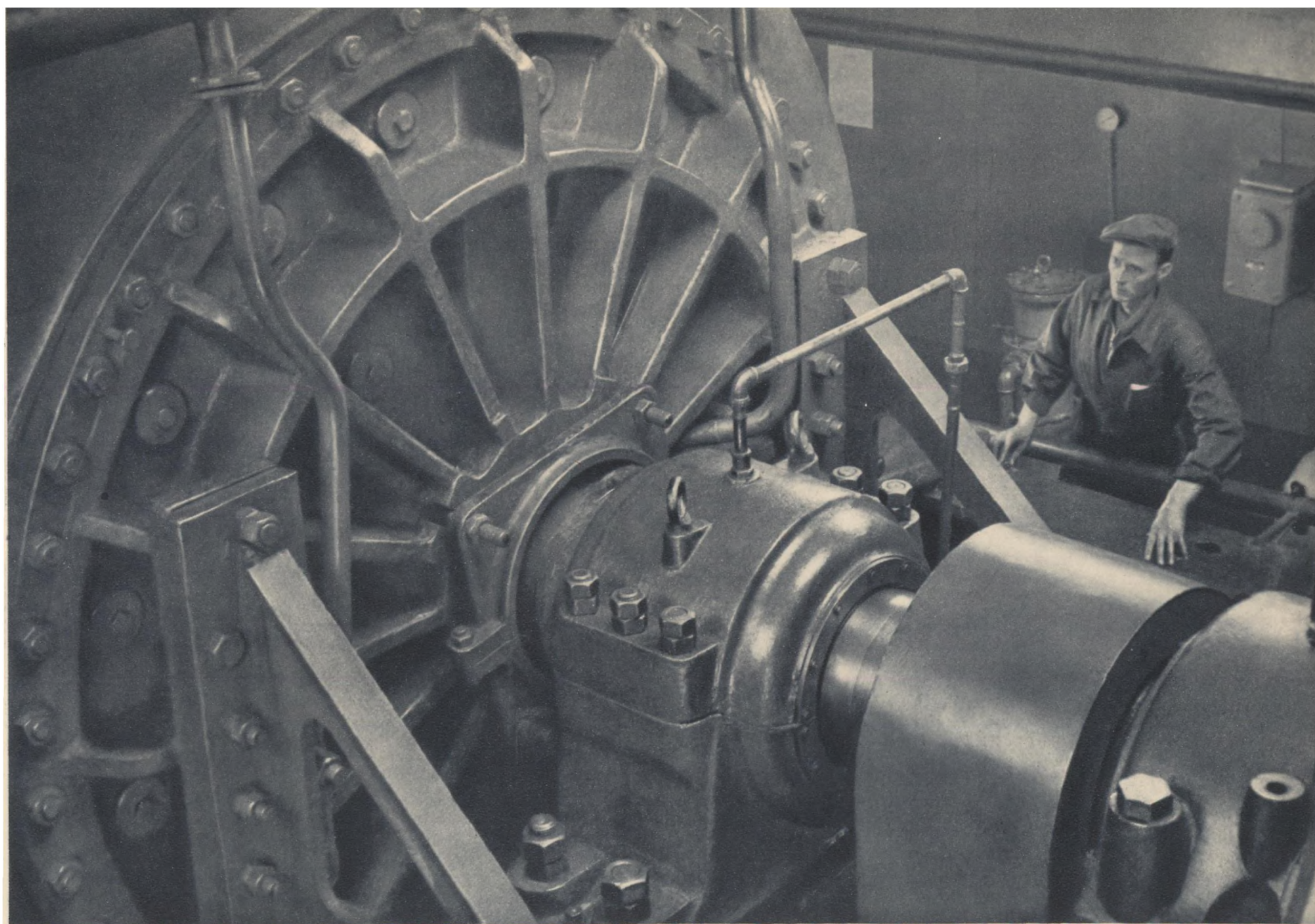


Alexander Blokhin, senior dredge operator, at the control panel. He is one of the dredger's best workers



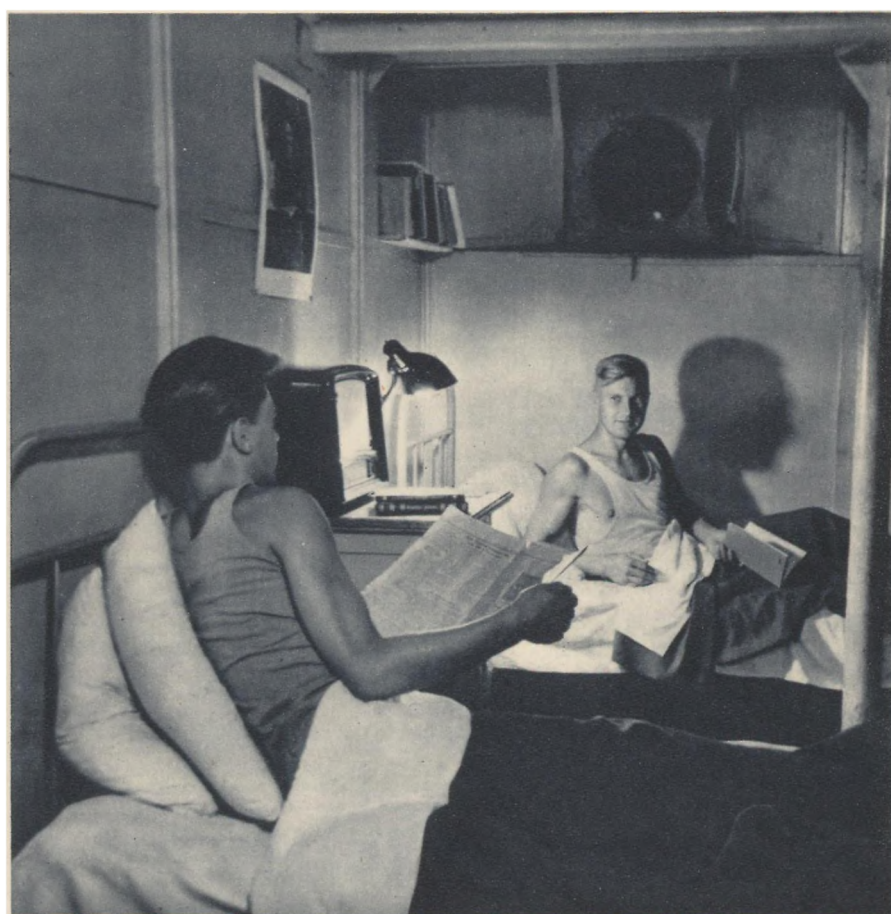
A view of the dredger's engine room

Shift mechanic Ivan Titov keeps an eye on the machinery. The crew of dredger "1000-80" have increased initial capacity two and a half fold



"We are doing fine and reading in the newspapers about your successes. Come and see us..." Alexander Blokhin tells his friend Nikolai Skrypnik, electrician, the contents of a letter from the folks at home, on the New Path Collective Farm in Yaroslavl Region

After supper the launch calls:
 "Who's for Stalingrad?"
 Shift electrician Alexander Gamanov is going ashore.
 "I'm off to celebrate my son's first birthday!" he says as he drops over the side.
 "Congratulations!"
 "Thanks! He was born in Tsimla..."
 "Tsimla" is the short name that has been given to the Tsimlyanskaya hydroelectric plant which, as everybody knows, was finished this year. Many of the crew of the "Thousander," including Gamanov, worked on that job and look back on it with warm feelings as a great experience in life. Alexander Blokhin, senior dredge operator, often recalls those days, too.
 When night falls the "Thousander" goes on working by the light of arc lamps. Standing at the control panel, Blokhin thinks of "Tsimla" as he saw it last—blazing proudly with light above the Don.
 Much that was good happened there! That was where Blokhin studied and qualified as senior dredge operator.
 "Tsimla" is built and is already producing electricity for industry. Soon a high tension line will link it with the Stalingrad site and increase the pace of construction there. And in time senior dredge operator Blokhin will again be on duty at the control panel, not here tho', but in a new place, and the power from the Stalingrad hydroelectric plant will be giving life to yet another construction works.



Electric machinists Vasili Gurov (right) and Grigori Dyomin chat over the latest news before going to sleep

STUDYING THE DESERT CLIMATE

By F. DAVITAYA,
Deputy Chief,
Central Administration of Hydrometeorological Service,
Council of Ministers of USSR

Photos by G. PERMENEV

The Directives of the Nineteenth Party Congress for the Fifth Five-Year Plan of development of the USSR are a clear and inspiring program for our country's scientists. The Directives envisage a still greater role for science in the solution of major problems of economic development, broad application of scientific discoveries, maximum promotion of research on theoretical problems in all fields, and a further strengthening of the ties between science and production.

The Stalin plan for refashioning the pattern of nature has set many new problems before the scientists who study the climate, the weather, the meteorological conditions influencing the growth of crops, and the regimen of seas, rivers, lakes and swamps.

What climatic changes will take place when shelter belts and oak forests have arisen on millions of hectares of what is now desert and steppeland, when the rivers are barred by new dams, the deserts irrigated, and the swamps drained?

There are also other problems. The builders of canals and storage lakes must know how the wind and waves will affect the shores of the new bodies of water and the new hydroengineering structures; the engineers who design hydropower plants demand exact information as to how the rivers' water supply will change, how much ice is to be expected and when, and what changes winds can introduce into the regimen of reservoirs; the fisheries must have figures on the change in the salt content of the seas resulting from the fact that the rivers emptying into them will give up part of their flow for irrigation purposes and the water supply of livestock.

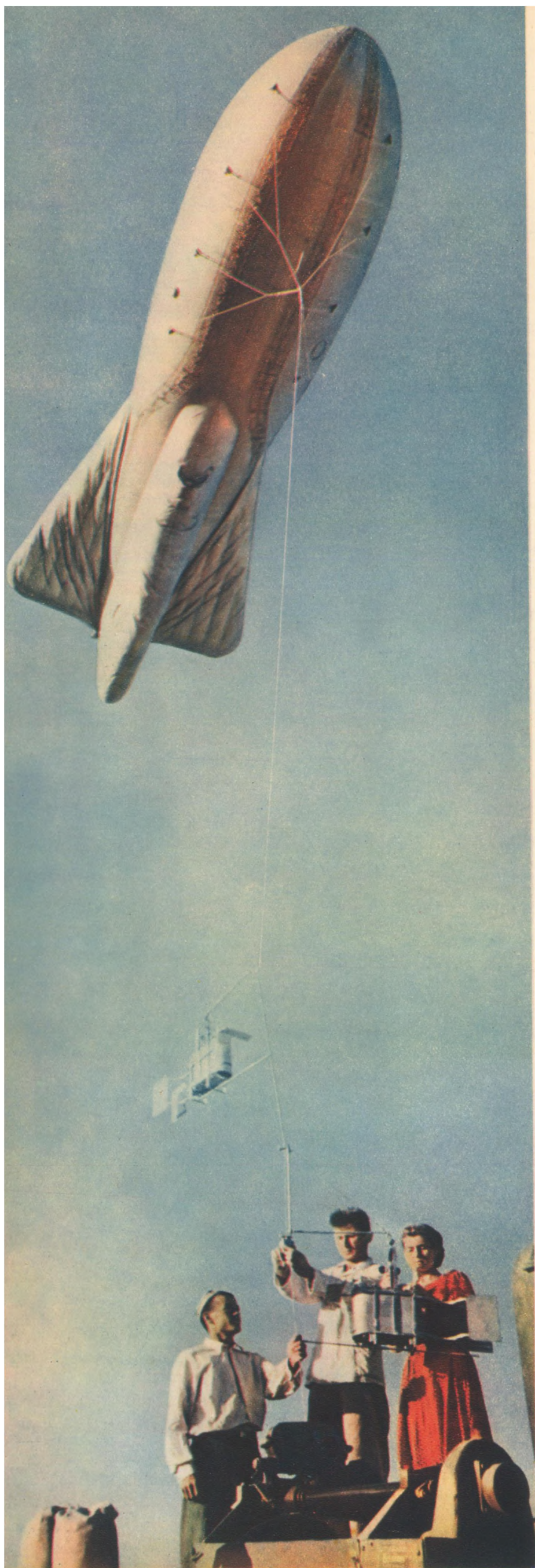
Agriculture puts special demands on the hydrometeorological service.

When planning systems of irrigation and water supply for livestock, one must know how

much water the crop and pasture lands will require. To determine this, one must first estimate the forthcoming changes in air temperature and humidity, in evaporation, in the winds, and other factors. Information on the expected climatic changes is also essential for rational distribution of cultivated plants and their introduction into the new districts.

A number of large research institutes, dozens of observatories and hundreds of various stations and posts are working on the solution of these and the many other problems of hydrometeorology. Today we find that the meteorological and hydrological observations that have been conducted day in and day out for decades are insufficient. In order to meet the requirements presented by the swift progress our country is making, we must delve still deeper into the secrets of the climate and the weather. Toward this end, hydrometeorological stations specializing in forestry, runoff, estuary and swamp investigations have been set up; new observation methods have been evolved and new instruments designed; comprehensive research expeditions are at work in various parts of the land.

This summer one of the expeditions investigated the southern section of Central Asia, where it worked out problems relating to climatic transformations in deserts and semideserts. The expedition (its work is shown in the accompanying photographs) included many prominent research experts. Its staff of 120—scientists from the Main Geophysical Observatory of the USSR, the Leningrad Institute of Hydrometeorology, the Institute of Mathematics and Mechanics of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences, the Tashkent Geophysical Observatory, the Kazakh Hydrometeorological Service, and college and university students from Moscow, Leningrad and cities of Central Asia—studied the complex moisture and heat circulation under desert and oasis conditions.



Attaching instruments to a sounding balloon before it is sent aloft



The instrument which aerologist Vera Koshelenko is attaching to her plane will record atmospheric changes



Vladimir Bykov, a fourth-year student at Moscow State University, observes surface radiation changes



An equilibrated pilot balloon floats over a cotton field, showing the speed and direction of air currents



Smoke balls are also used in the study of air currents. The girl shown conducting observations here is Valentina Kolesnikova, a student at Central Asian State University

The localities chosen for study were a desert section of the Golodnaya (Hungry) Steppe and an oasis created in that steppe—the Pakhta Aral State Farm—where irrigation farming has been brought to a high level of efficiency and the planting of shelter belts widely developed. The natural conditions of these two neighbouring localities give a clear picture of the today and the tomorrow of many of the country's arid regions.

Among its equipment the expedition had the latest instruments for analyzing the influx and expenditure of radiant energy, registering the velocity and direction of the wind, heat circulation, humidity, evaporation, air and soil temperature, the level of the ground waters, and the water supply of plants.

A comprehensive study was made of soil heat and water at various depths, and of atmospheric conditions from the surface layer to high altitudes.

Balloons and planes were at the expedition's disposal for aerial observations. Humidity, temperature and pressure at various altitudes were signalled to the earth by the automatic instrument known as the radiosonde. Pilot balloons showed the direction and speed of the wind in the upper strata of the atmosphere. The horizontal and vertical movements of air currents in the lower stratum were studied with the aid of equilibrated pilot balloons.

The expedition's data indicate that the influence of irrigation and afforestation extends to a higher altitude than was hitherto believed. In the oasis the relative humidity of the air at ground level was 30 to 40 per cent higher than in the desert, and soil temperature was 10 to 15 degrees higher. It was established that through rational timing and dosing of water applications, combined with proper layout of the shelter belts, climatic changes in the soil and the surface air layer can be considerably intensified in the desired direction.

Both from the theoretical and the practical points of view, the findings of the expedition are of great interest. They will help us to arrive at a correct estimate of the changes that will be made over vast areas by the Main Turkmen Canal project, and will suggest ways and means of establishing the most favourable conditions for the development of farming and highly-productive livestock raising in those areas.



These members of the expedition are studying solar radiation. In the foreground is Lydia Danilina, a student at the Tashkent School of Hydrometeorology



Groups of tourists are a common sight on the highways and byways of the far-flung Soviet Land at all times of the year. By foot and car they travel, in canoes and on bicycles, over mountain passes and across turbulent streams, visiting their country's beauty spots and places of interest. A vast number of tourists plan their itineraries to include places connected with the life and work of Lenin and Stalin, the great leaders of the Revolution. In recent years visitors have been particularly attracted to the sites of the grand construction projects of Communism.

With the state and the trade unions providing every facility for its development on a mass scale, this form of holiday is within the reach of everybody in the USSR; and it has become highly popular with people of all ages and occupations. The trade unions maintain approximately 100 tourist camps—in the Caucasus, the Crimea, the Urals, the Transcarpathians, the Moscow area, on the Karelian Isthmus, on the Baltic, the Altai Mountains, Central Asia and elsewhere. Tourist tickets are issued for definite routes and include camp accommodation, meals, gear, and experienced guidance. As a rule, the tourist pays only 30 per cent of the cost of the ticket, the remainder being covered by his trade union out of state social insurance funds. The trade union tourist camps annually cater for more than 120,000 persons.

Millions go on unconduted tours, in small groups of three or four.

Boys and girls from secondary schools are quite prominent among the country's touring enthusiasts. This summer, more than 2,000,000 school pupils in the Ukraine, for example, went on tours of one kind or another; and nearly 8,000,000 school children in the RSFSR took part in tours and excursions, and so on.

A string of tourists skirt the shores of Blue Lake, one of the two Murujin glacier lakes

From Teberda to the Black Sea

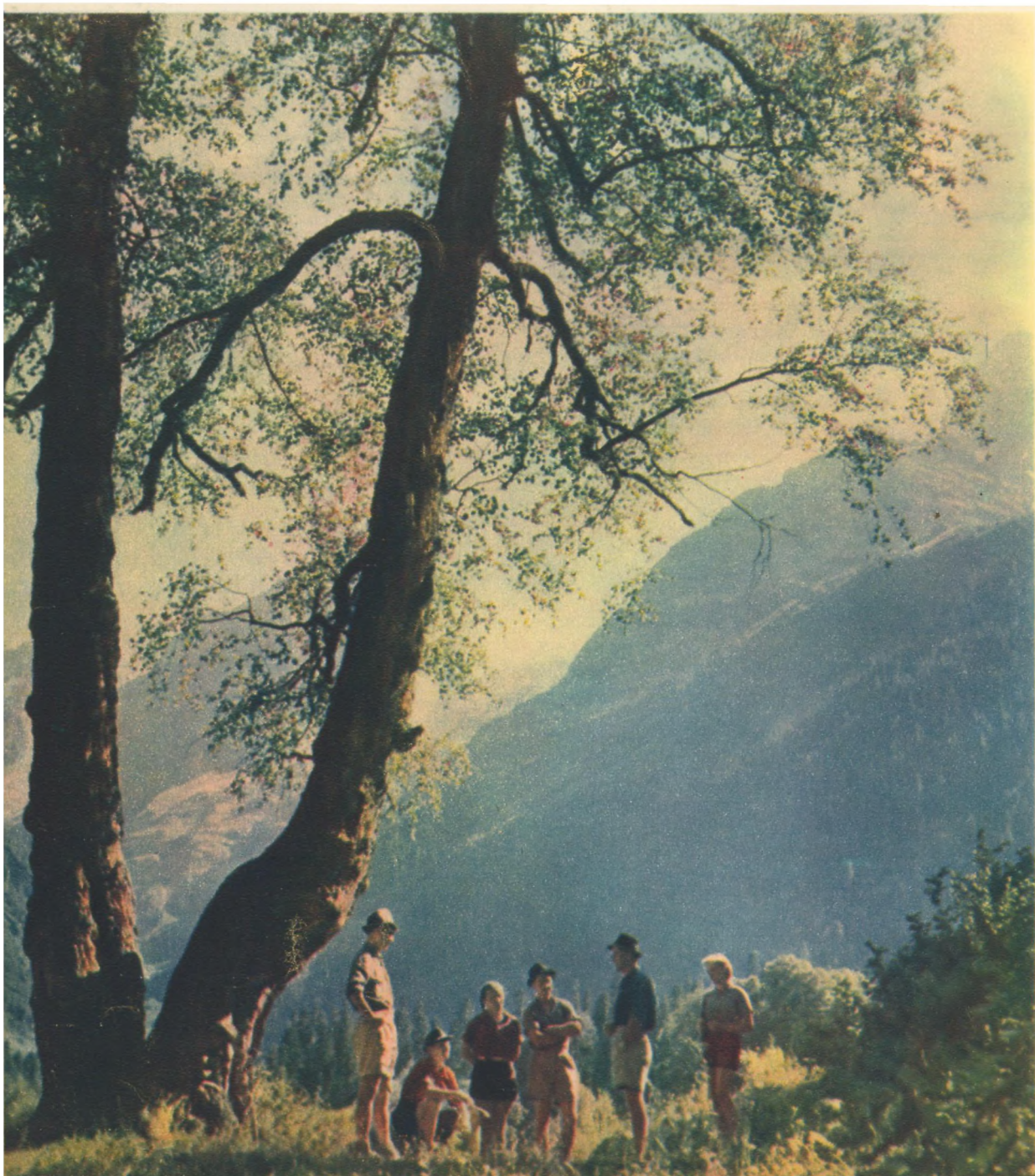
A Picture Story by V. RUIKOVICH

The motor road from Cherkessk to Teberda follows the winding bank of the Kuban River. The farther you go, the more noticeably uphill the road becomes. Soon you find the broad steppe giving way to foothills, with the majestic outlines of haze-shrouded mountains in the distance.

"Here's the Teberda Valley!" gaily calls out a fellow passenger in the bus, a lively and sociable young man. Pinned to his windbreaker is a university badge,

and next to it another one depicting a camping tent and the needle of a compass, faithful friend of the traveller by sea or land. That is the USSR Tourist Badge.

Our new acquaintance turns out to be an experienced traveller who has done many an interesting trip. This time he is crossing the Main Caucasian Range to reach the shore of the Black Sea. Among the other members of his group are V. Zhukovskaya, a Moscow college



Members of the Medico Sports Society making the long climb to the Klukhor Pass. Left: Dombaiskaya Polyana is one of the loveliest spots in the Western Caucasus



On the way to the Klukhor Pass a group of medical students from Kiev and Moscow meet A. Alexandrov, Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He is seen here (centre) telling them how, 15 years ago, he was the first to scale Zadnaya Chotcha (the peak on the left)



While hiking from Teberda to the Black Sea these students of the geography department at Moscow State University made geomorphological and hydrological observations and collected plant specimens. They are, left to right: Rema Rytova, Ludmila Ryabchevskaya and Nina Ilina

A halt for refreshments at a spot near the Baduk lakes

Student, Professor A. Pavlov, of the Leningrad Institute of Railway Transport, A. Ponomarev, a lathe operator from Tbilisi, F. Ukrainsky, an engineer from the town of Zhdanov, B. Kurmaz, a pharmacist from Rovno, and G. Kravchik, an electrician from Kiev.

Teberda is one of the spots best loved by mountain tourists. Its beauty and variety, and the number of routes it affords, draw walkers and climbers from all corners of the land.

It is here that our trip begins.

Tall pines line the road. A foaming stream rushes down the mountainside. On the slopes in the distance lie sparkling glaciers, from which many rivers take their source. Above them tower dark, jagged ridges, and glistening snow-covered summits.

The Teberda district, situated between Western and Central Caucasus, is a state forest and wildlife preserve. In the mountains and forests here researchers have provided a new habitat for spotted deer, Altai squirrels and other animals. Occasionally, bear cubs will approach a camp-site and willingly accept sweets from the tourists. The staff of the preserve is carrying out a big program of adapting various agricultural crops to high mountain districts.

From the trade union tourist camp in Teberda people set out on conducted walking tours of the picturesque places in which the district abounds: the Baduk and Murujin lakes, Shumka Falls, the springs in the valley of the Jemagat River.

Whom doesn't one meet here in the mountains! Hiking from Teberda to the Black Sea coast we come across hundreds of people from the most diverse parts of the country. Striding along vigor-





The Baduk lakes, which are situated at nearly 2,000 metres above sea level, attract large numbers of hikers vacationing in the Caucasus. Above is a view of one of these lakes

ously with knapsacks on their backs are grey-haired scientists, school children, workers, college students, engineers, clerks.

Besides those making conducted tours, there are many holiday-makers who are on their own. Assisted by tourist club consultants, they map out their routes, obtain the necessary gear and funds from the sports societies to which they belong, and then set forth with tent and sleeping bag, as often as not making their way through the forests, far from the beaten track, and camping out under the open sky. Here and there you come across the curling smoke of their campfires: never, they say, have they slept so well or eaten so heartily as during their bivouacs on the mountain trails.

... A string of tourists skirt the shores of the Murujin glacial lakes. There are old Caucasian legends about these two lakes—Blue Lake and Black Lake—in which they are called eyes gazing up at the sky, with the stony ridge separating them compared to the bridge of the nose. The lovelier of the two is Blue Lake (Kek-Kel is its local name). To reach it you cross flower-studded alpine meadows and then a conglomeration of rocks and crags.

The next camp is at Dombaiskaya Polyana, one of the mountaineering and tourist centres in the Caucasus. It is a place of breathtaking beauty which attracts numerous groups of mountain climbers. From here some spread out to scale peaks, while others head for the passes, beyond whose glaciers and cliffs they are greeted by the green hills of Abkhazia and the warm waters of the Black Sea.

There are several camps at Dombaiskaya Polyana. Not long ago one of them—the camp of the Burevestnik Sports Society—built itself something quite rare in that mountain district—a 25-metre, three-lane swimming pool. The mountain streams flowing down from the glaciers are cold, and so this pool with “summer” water at an altitude of 1,580 metres is very popular among the mountain climbers and tourists.

Before setting out from Dombaiskaya Polyana the travellers bend over their maps once again to discuss the routes to the Black Sea. Many choose the Klukhor Pass, 2,816 metres above sea level.

On our way to that pass we meet A. Alexandrov, the Rector of Leningrad



A swimming race in the pool recently built by the Burevestnik Sports Society at its mountaineering camp in Dombaiskaya Polyana. Tourists are frequent visitors at this camp, which is 1,580 metres above sea level



On the beach at Sukhumi, the capital of Abkhazia and the end of the Teberda-Black Sea itinerary



Here our photographer has snapped a group of tourists from the town of Ivanovo outside the trade union hostel in Sukhumi



Tourists from Kazan (Tatar ASSR) strolling along a Sukhumi street. They hiked to the Black Sea from the foot of Mt. Elbrus via the Donguz-orun and Khidu passes

Their walking trip across the mountains over, tourists leave Sukhumi for their homes in various parts of the country. Shown here is a group of members of the Iskra Sports Society on board the M.S. "Ukraina" on the Black sea. In the foreground, left to right, are: A. Vagin of Chelyabinsk, a teacher; M. Mirsky of Moscow, a student; Mark Fradkin of Baku, a student, and Ida Lyakisheva of Chelyabinsk, a teacher

University and a Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. A prominent Soviet mathematician, a Stalin Prize winner, A. Alexandrov is an enthusiastic and experienced tourist and mountain climber, and holds the title of USSR Master of Sports. He tells us how, 15 years ago, he was the first to scale Zadnaya Chotcha, one of the nearby peaks. Incidentally, the day we met him, Alexandrov celebrated his 40th birthday.

And now we reach the pass! Far below stretches a valley, and the silver ribbon of a river.

... The misty peaks and the mountain streams are behind us. Following various routes, the tourists have reached Sukhumi, the capital of Abkhazia, on the shore of the Black Sea. From here they will set out by rail or water, by air or motor road, for their native towns and villages. Returning to their factory, office, school or laboratory, they will take up their work reinvigorated after a splendid holiday in the mountains.





Constance and James Leech at one of the plane windows as the Canadian delegation flies over the Lenin Volga-Don Canal

Visitors From Canada

Photo Reportage by A. GARANIN

We publish here statements written for "Soviet Union" by the members of a Canadian trade union delegation which recently spent a month, from August 10 to September 11, in the USSR. The delegation visited Moscow, Leningrad, Rostov-on-Don, Odessa, mines in the Donets coal basin, and health resorts and collective farms in and around Yalta in the Crimea.

THE PEOPLE HERE DO NOT WANT WAR

It was August 10th when I and six other Canadians landed at the Moscow airport.

Just as we arrived in Moscow, or a few days later to be exact, the Soviet press published details of the Fifth Five-Year Plan (1951 to 1955), already under way. Having now concluded a whole month of unrestricted travelling we have seen the results of previous five-year plans.

People are happy in the Soviet Union. That is a fact which several Canadians have had a chance to establish beyond doubt after visiting many areas of the USSR and talking with the people wherever we went.

We have visited factories of many varied sorts. We have spoken to the workers on the job. We have dug coal side by side with miners deep underground. And we have seen their homes with spacious vegetable and fruit gardens. We have visited nurseries and kindergartens for workers' children and workers' rest homes and sanatoriums on the Baltic and the Black Sea coasts. We have visited private homes built by workers. Rents for city apartments are very nominal, varying from 4 to 6 per cent of a worker's income. Wages paid here in the USSR are more than adequate to meet the needs of the worker in terms of present prices. And there have been five price reductions since the war ended, with more to come. The only everyday commodity still in short supply and highly priced is clothing and various textiles. But even this shortage is being overcome now. All in all there are plenty of reasons why people should feel happy here.

The visitors inspect a drilling machine put out by the Ordjonikidze Plant in Moscow

In a shop at the Skorokhod Shoe Factory, Leningrad



We visited a candy factory in Leningrad that uses 35 tons of metal per month for candy boxes. We saw a modern shoe factory, more up-to-date than anything in America.

Everywhere one goes today in the USSR, there are maps, charts, and architectural models of the great canal and irrigation projects, which are termed the construction projects of Communism.

Leaving Rostov we made a two hour detour by plane and flew over the new Volga-Don Canal and power project opened in July of this year. In fact we were the only foreigners who had so far had this opportunity. We circled low over the dam and power installations and then flew out over the hundreds of miles of irrigation ditches. The amount of steel and concrete that has gone into this construction staggers one's imagination.

We will remember our visit to the world famous Academician Filatov, who cures the blind and whose teachings and laboratories are spread over the vast area known as the USSR. We will remember the happy dockers we visited in their homes. We will remember a happy people building a new life with unshakable confidence in their future and with thoughts of nothing else but peaceful construction. The name of Stalin is associated with everything the Soviet people believe in and fight for. They love their leader and follow his advice in building their new society.

Moreover, the people here have no thought of aggressive war and do fight for an end to war, which has disturbed their work twice within one generation.

Bruce Magnuson

(BRUCE MAGNUSON)

A WARM AND HEARTY WELCOME

Many questions have been answered to me, by living with these people for almost a month. We received a warm and hearty welcome everywhere we went, to the union meetings, to the shops and factories, to their places of recreation and their homes. When I see with my own eyes, a man-made river, a man-made sea, or an irrigation project, to harness nature for the good of all the people, a coal mine where the air is very little different than on the surface, all the construction going on for peaceful purposes, science at work, with many new inventions to make life easier, I know this government plans a life of great and happy future for its people. They look happy and healthy people with no fear of unemployment, hunger or sickness. All these and many other ways of the Soviet people can only be a fact that they want peace and friendship with all people of the world and with us Canadians too.

Kay Hlady

(KAY HLADY)

CULTURE AND REST

This is my first visit to the Soviet Union. One of the first things that struck me was that there are two words which always go together here—culture and rest.



James Leech tries on a suit during a visit to a needle trades factory in Rostov

Palace of culture and park of culture are terms quite strange to Canadian ears, but one easily adjusts to them after seeing some of the exquisite buildings and parks in which the working people spend their leisure hours. In one park I passed a choir, and elsewhere a symphony concert in progress. There is a nominal charge for entrance to the park. There is no further charge for the outdoor performances. The performances themselves have in each case been quite impressive for me.

Typical of the palaces of culture is one belonging to the coal miners in the Rostov-on-Don area. From the theatre, which seats 600 on the main floor and 200 in the balcony, through the dance hall, library, reading rooms, lecture rooms, sewing, painting and music rooms, it is certainly a palace of culture. In this library, as in some in factories, I found that Shakespeare, Dickens, Jack London and Mark Twain are popular authors.

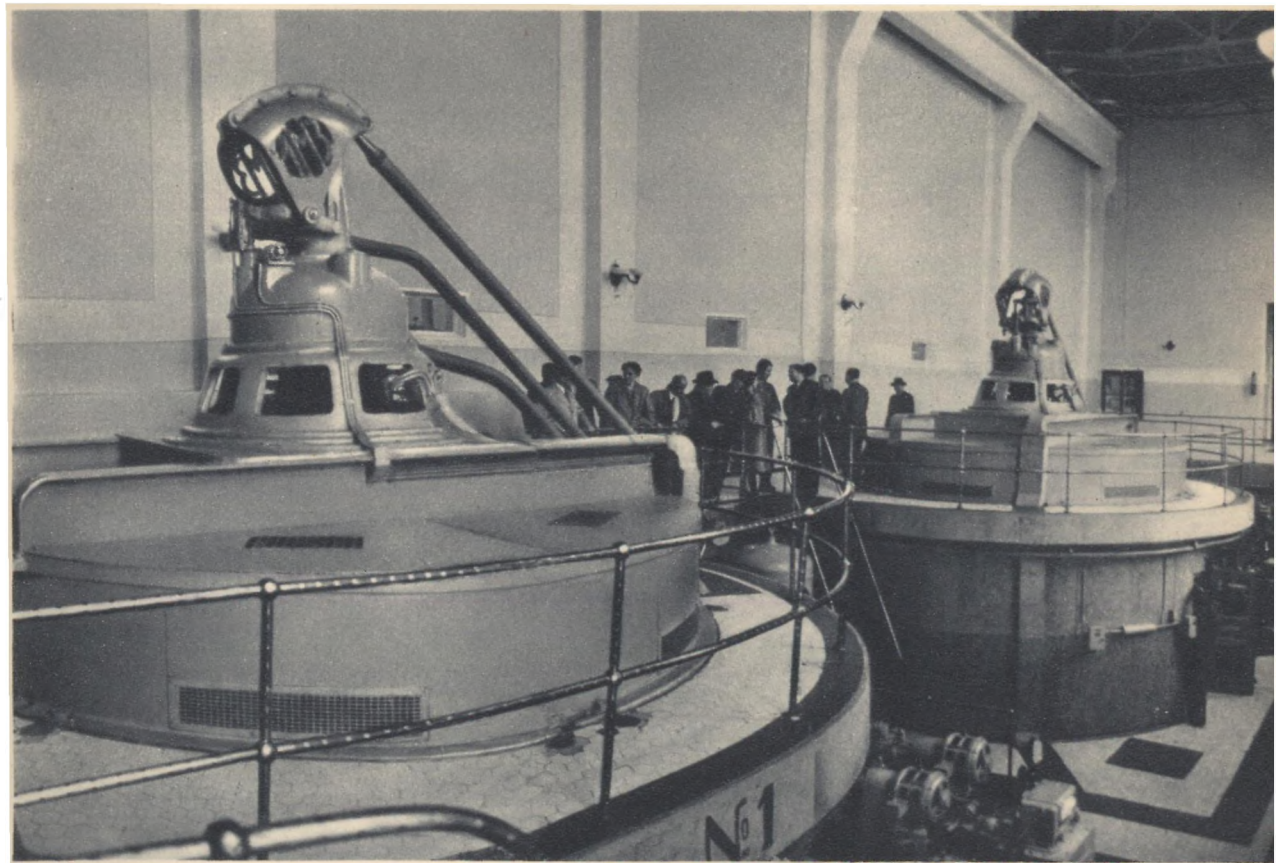
Take a ride on the Metro in Moscow, take a train from Odessa's three-month-old railway depot, board a steamer at one of the elaborate river stations, walk through the parks of Leningrad or Rostov, and the culture of this country is apparent.

In Canada we have often heard of the elegance of the past, and the tsar's 18th century Winter Palace in Leningrad is beyond all expectations. But it is easily equalled by the gold and marble, stainless steel and mosaic stations of Moscow's underground system. The old and new in the culture of the people here are treated with a respect for public property that astounds a visitor. There is not a cigarette butt, not a scrap of paper in the Moscow Metro stations nor in the parks of culture and rest.

The things that are ordinary to us in Canada, such as radio, films and, for some, television are popular in the Soviet Union as well. One evening we listened



At the Mikoyan Confectionery Factory in Leningrad, Bruce Magnuson, leader of the Canadian trade union delegation, has a talk with Antonina Smolnikova, director of the factory



In the generator hall of the Ivankovo Hydroelectric Station in Moscow Region

Kay Hlady sits down at a machine in the Vorovsky Clothing Factory, Odessa





The members of the delegation chat with Academician Filatov, the famous Soviet eye surgeon, at the Odessa institute named after him

Inspecting the grounds of the Kurpaty Sanatorium near Yalta, in the Crimea





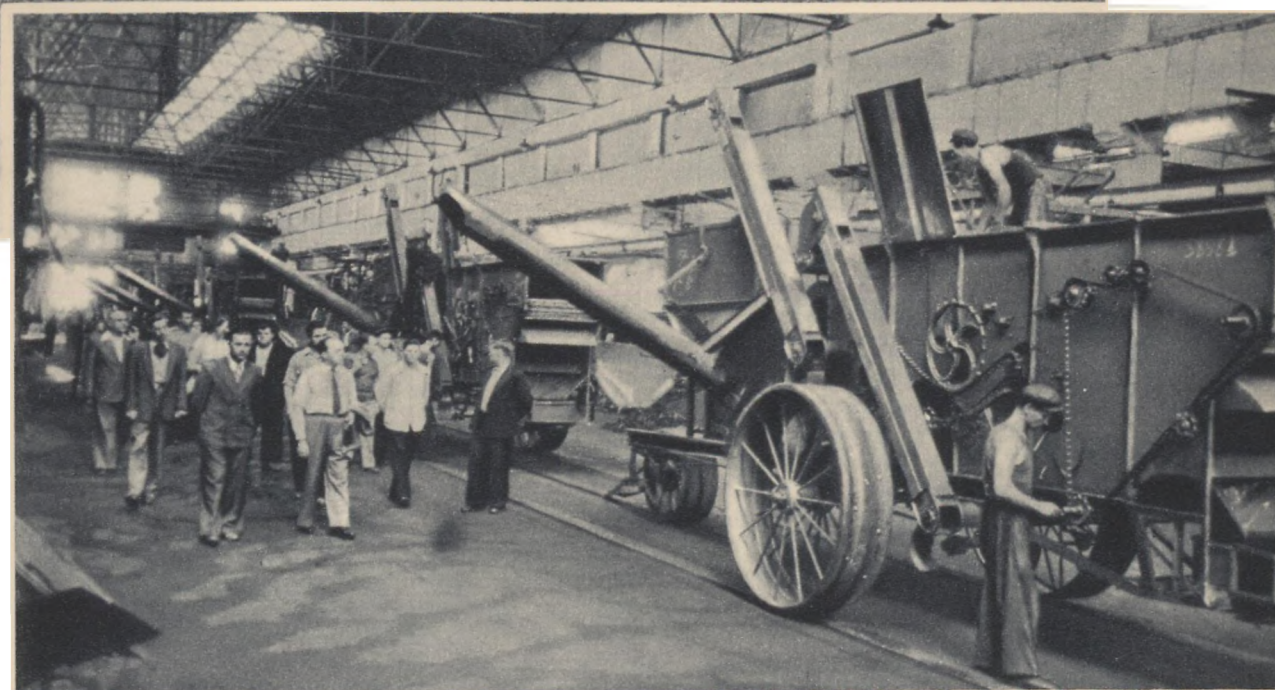
At the dairy farm of the Molotov Kolkhoz in Krasnogvardeisk District, Crimea Region

to Bing Crosby and Judy Garland as well as to the Soviet programs. Another evening, while driving to the theatre, we heard on the car radio, Lord Burleigh, speaking from London about the Olympic Games. Television aerials are everywhere on the apartment buildings. Radio Moscow televises each evening except Thursday for three and a half hours and during the day as well on Sunday.

I therefore find it logical to believe those people who have told me that they and their government are building only for peace, and that they do not want war. Their culture, as far as I have seen, is based upon this theme and expresses the aspirations of the Soviet people as a whole.

James Leech

(JAMES LEECH)



The harvester combine department was one of the shops the delegation visited at an agricultural machinery works in Rostov

IN TOWN AND COUNTRYSIDE

My greatest impression was the way people are looked after in the Soviet Union. The people have freedom from fear of losing their jobs, freedom from fear of medical expenses, educational expenses, freedom of fear of want in their old age.

When a person has finished secondary school he or she may go to work or to any higher educational institute, and they are guaranteed a job at whatever they graduate at. If some years later they feel like completing their education or improving it for a better job they can do so at the factory where they work. If they stay single a lot of factories have hostels for single people. If they get married they can get a flat or house. When they get children, medical and educational expenses are all paid for by the state.

When we were in Yalta we visited a collective farm. During the war the place was nearly completely destroyed by the Nazis. By working collectively the farmers have rebuilt, expanded and modernized their farm. There is a school in each village. The collective farmers can get free medical treatment from any of the 25 doctors in the three hospitals that are on the collective farm. The production of their farm is very high; every bit of land is utilized. When the irrigation system that the government is putting in that area is finished, it will increase production 3-4 times.

Thomas Applehart

(THOMAS APPLEHART)

After inspecting coal mines in Rostov Region, the Canadian trade unionists visited miners at their homes. Here we see them leaving the home of coal miner B. V. Lagutin

Constance Leech is presented with a Young Pioneer necktie at the children's summer camp maintained by the Kirov Works of Leningrad





At Petrodvorets, in the environs of Leningrad

NO EVIDENCE OF "IRON CURTAIN"

The phrase, "the iron curtain" which I understand was coined by Goebbels, is used quite often in our newspapers in Canada. I have travelled freely in the Soviet Union for one month. I have seen many factories and works of construction, I visited the harbour in Odessa and have flown over the latest giant power station and the dam and locks at the Tsimlyanskaya Sea. I have walked the streets and spoken to the people. . . . I can say that I have seen no evidence of any "iron curtain."

I was especially interested in the position of women in the USSR. In the Dynamo Plant in Moscow, I spoke to a lathe operator and a milling machine operator and they told me they receive the same pay as men. I saw women crane operators all over the plant. In a needle trades factory in Rostov, eight of the twelve cutters are women. In the farm machinery plant in Rostov I saw women spot welders and inspectors on the moving assembly line, and in many other plants I met women who were head of the administration staff. This was quite a surprise to me as I had never before heard of women in these types of jobs.

I spoke to the assistant chief of the hospital staff in the Dynamo Plant in Moscow. She was twenty-six years of age and had been a doctor for three years. She explained the facilities that were available to women workers. They are given a vacation of 35 days before their child is born, and a vacation of 42 to 56 days afterward, with full pay. These vacations are paid out of the social insurance fund. One cannot help but notice the facilities that are provided in the Soviet Union, not only for the women but for the children.

When I see the tremendous constructions that are completed and think of the ones to be built under the new five-year plan, I can only say that the Soviet people desire peace. And I can say that in all my travels I have never seen any evidence of their preparing for war.

Constance Leech

(CONSTANCE LEECH)

AT WORKERS' HOMES

As a trade unionist I was interested in finding out how the trade unions work and how the workers live.

What are the worker's earnings? From about 700 rubles per month to 2,500 rubles per month and higher. It depends naturally upon his skill and what trade he is in. Can the workers make a decent living and are they satisfied with these conditions? To find this out I went to workers' homes and got acquainted with their everyday life. I will give a few examples. Here is one. Dmitri Tikhonovich, a dock worker, earns 1,200 rubles per month and has a family of three. He occupies a flat of two rooms and a kitchen and pays 28 rubles per month in rent. Another, Peter Yuditsky, a seaman, earns 1,500 rubles per month and occupies a similar flat of two rooms and a kitchen and pays 39 rubles per month in rent. Rent is paid on the basis of earnings.

The Canadian visitors in the new railway station recently completed in Odessa in place of the one wrecked during the war by the Hitlerites

One can safely say that they live nicely and are satisfied. Both families mentioned above live in recently constructed apartments. The furniture they have is adequate for their needs. Young and old studies.

Seamen, coal miners and others who work in heavy industry get extra pay for long service. One who works five years or more in the same industry gets 30 to 35 per cent on top of his wages. Every year following, the percentage is increased. A worker who reaches the age of 55-60 and who has worked 25 years or more gets a pension amounting to 50 per cent of the regular pay, and such person may continue to work in the industry if he so chooses and still draw the pension benefits.

Joe Goldman

(JOSEPH GOLDMAN)

RANDOM IMPRESSIONS

Moscow. The first thing that you notice in Moscow are the people. They are all well dressed and when one comes from Canada this is the first contradiction one sees to the stories that are told of a starving and unclad people.

Coming from a city where the housing of the people is a major problem, it is good to see the big apartment buildings going up all over the place.

Leningrad. Here again one is struck by the large housing projects, and the broad streets with their fine buildings. To me the most moving thing of my visit here was our visit to a Young Pioneer camp just outside of Leningrad. Here were 1,100 children in a camp set in beautiful surroundings with all the facilities needed to make a holiday enjoyable. The pins and things they gave to us show their appreciation of our visit with them.

Rostov-on-Don. Here I saw your Stalin Agricultural Machinery Plant. Standing on the platform when we were introduced to the thousands of workers assembled there and looking at them you felt good, a feeling of brotherhood of man. One worker woman asked that when we get back to Canada we tell the truth about the Soviet Union and that we tell our people that there is no desire for war by anyone here.

Odessa. Met the patients of a sanatorium. The same friendliness was apparent here as in all the other places. The homes of the workers are clean and light and well furnished. We visited some and were accepted as friends into their homes with great hospitalities.

Yalta. This is a very wonderful place with its mountains and the sea, its more than 100 sanatoriums and rest homes for workers. I have not seen anything like this and it makes you feel good to know that it is all for the workers and that it belongs to them.

In summary I would like to say that everywhere I have gone I have found that the people have only one desire: to make a better country for themselves to live in.

J. Hines

(JOHN HINES)



There were lively talks and exchanges of opinions during all the meetings between the Canadian visitors and Soviet people. This photo was taken at a seamen's rest home near Leningrad



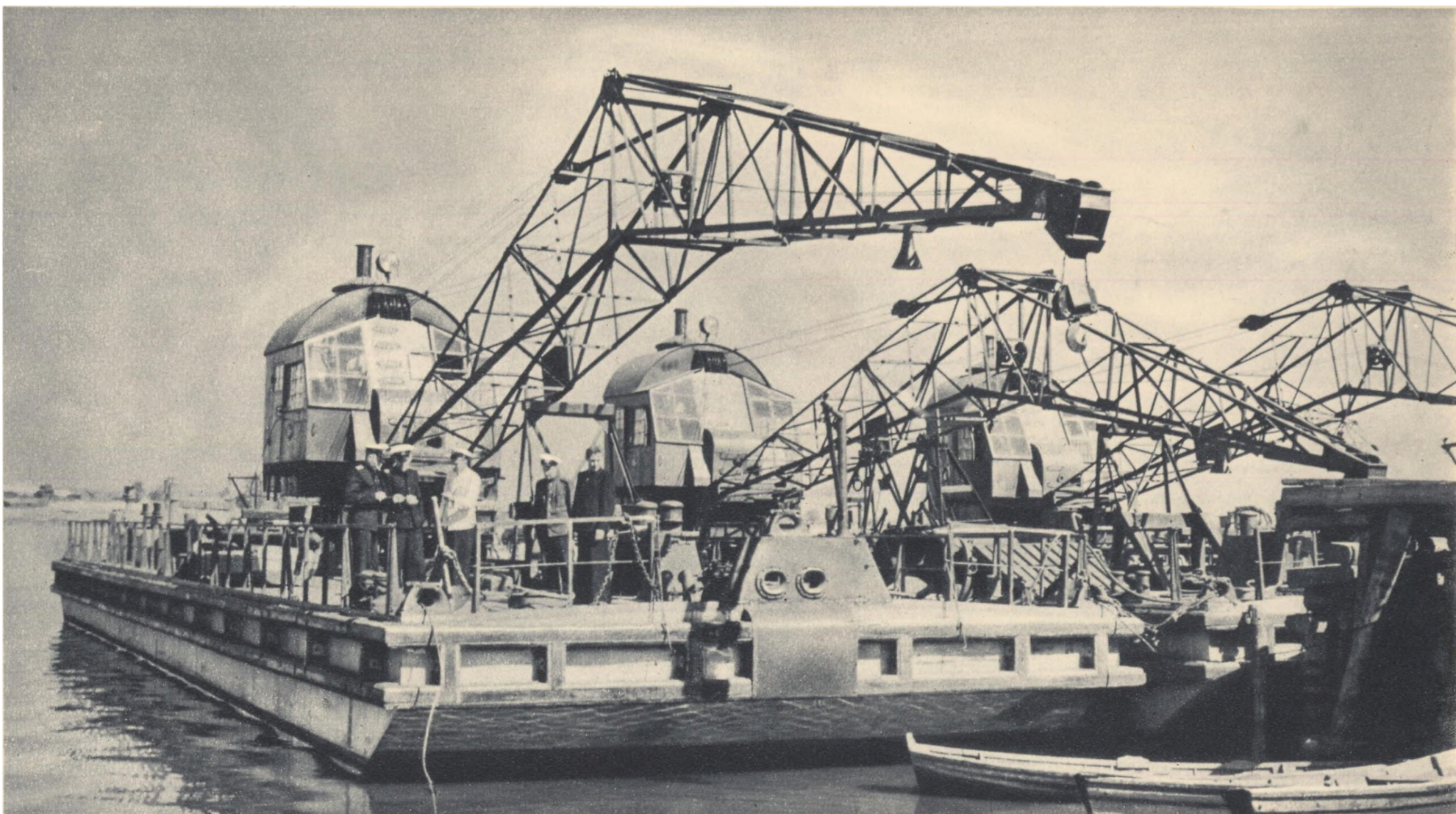
Constance Leech and Thomas Applehart are pleased at finding a Canadian newspaper in a trade union library in Moscow

While in Odessa the Canadian guests visited the home of L. V. Rushinsky, a port worker



Bruce Magnuson and Joseph Goldman look down on a lock of the Moscow Canal

FOR THE GREAT PROJECTS



MOLOTOV (Urals). The Stary Burlak Plant on the Kama River puts out floating cranes which have helped mechanize loading and unloading operations at the construction sites of the Kuibyshev power development and the other great projects. The cranes shown above are ready for shipment to these sites

Photo by I. TYUFYAKOV

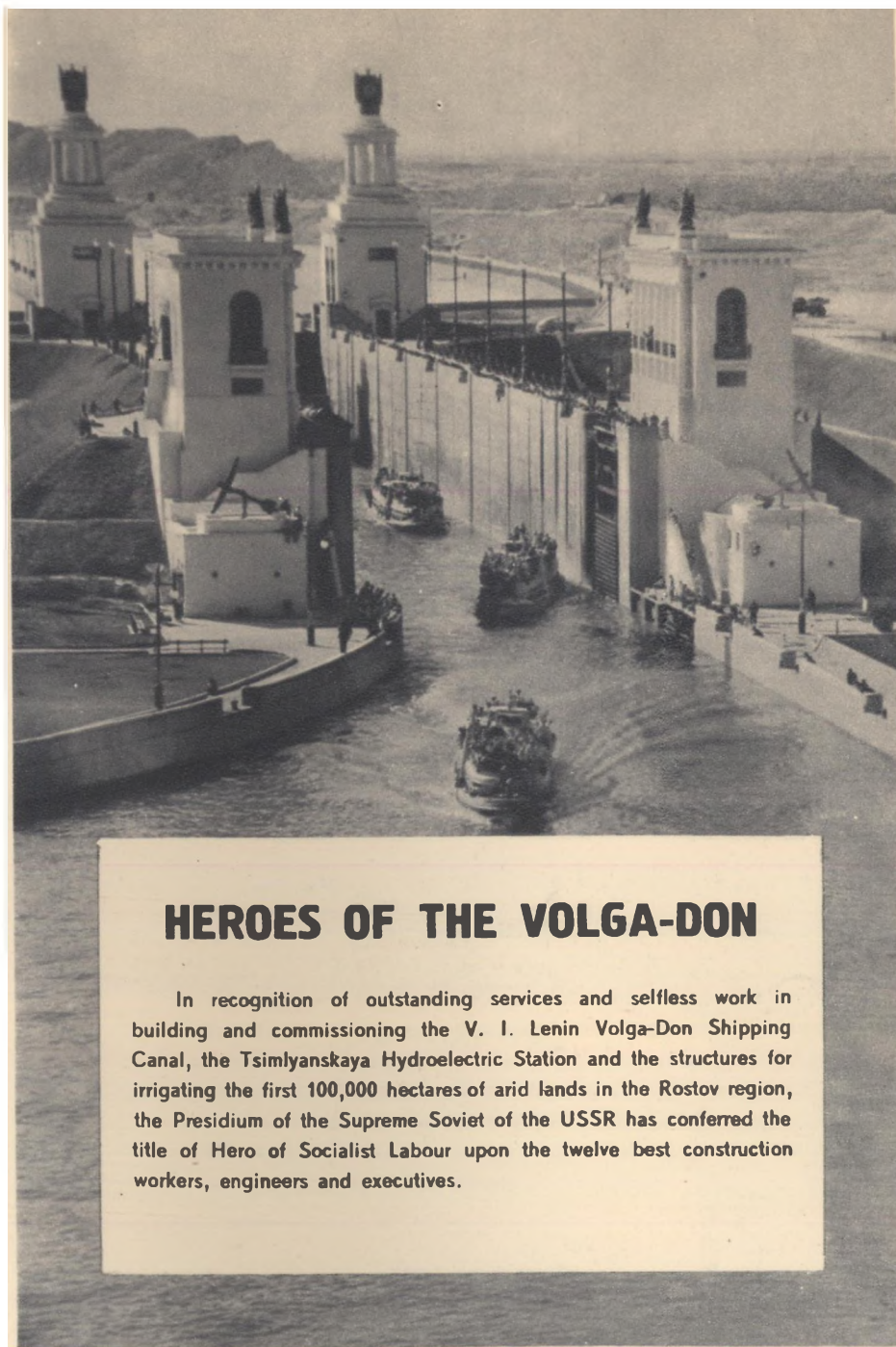


ZHDANOV (Southern Ukraine). The Azov Steel Mill is working on new orders from the great construction projects for sheet piles

Photo by S. PREOBRAZHENSKY



A. P. ALEXANDROV
Chief of a construction area



HEROES OF THE VOLGA-DON

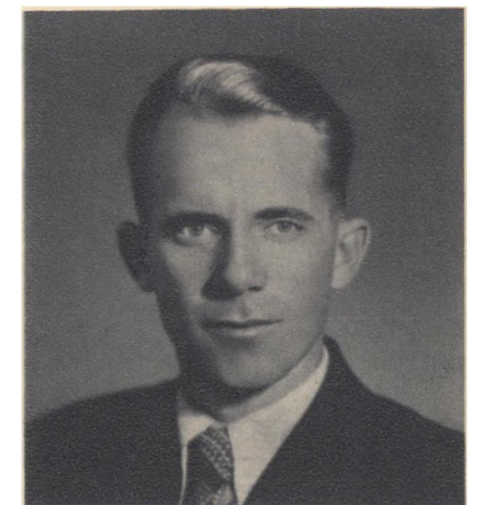
In recognition of outstanding services and selfless work in building and commissioning the V. I. Lenin Volga-Don Shipping Canal, the Tsimlyanskaya Hydroelectric Station and the structures for irrigating the first 100,000 hectares of arid lands in the Rostov region, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has conferred the title of Hero of Socialist Labour upon the twelve best construction workers, engineers and executives.



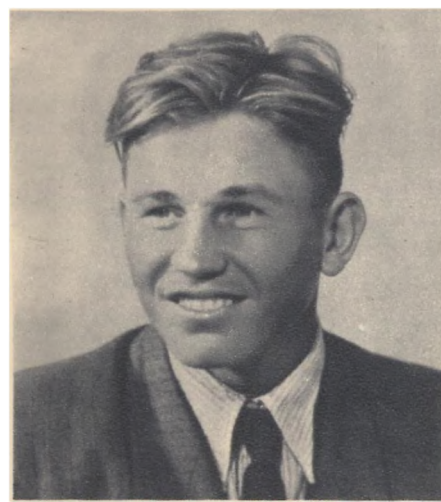
A. A. ULESOV
Electrowelder



V. A. BARABANOV
Chief of Construction Administration,
Tsimlyanskaya Power Development



A. P. USKOV
Chief of a walking excavator



V. I. YELISEYEV
Bulldozer operator



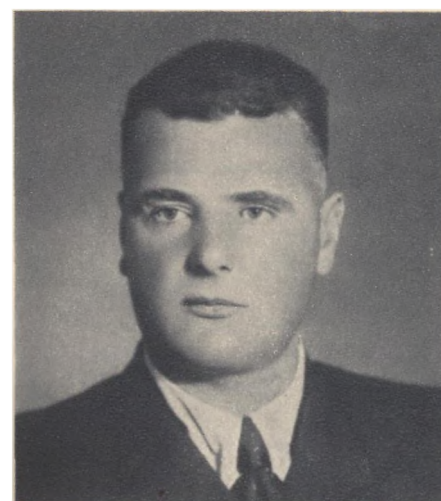
S. Y. ZHUK
Chief of "Hydroproject"
and Chief Engineer
of "Glavhydrovolgodonstroj"



E. P. SIMAK
Excavator operator



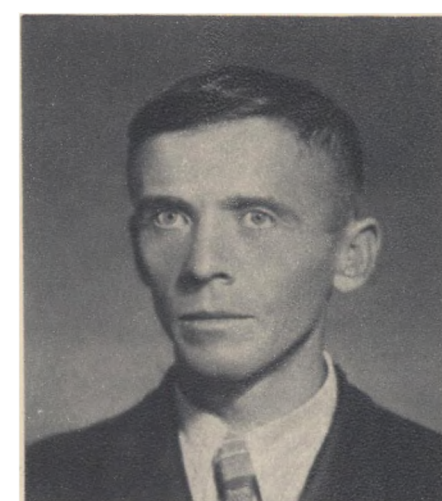
N. A. FILIMONOV
Deputy Chief Engineer
of "Glavhydrovolgodonstroj"



I. V. YERMOLENKO
Walking excavator foreman



G. A. RUSSO
Deputy Chief
and Chief Engineer of "Hydroproject"



D. A. SLEPUKHA
Senior excavator foreman



A. A. SHCHERBININ
Chief of a construction area

*Glimpses
of the Soviet Union*



TAJKISTAN. High-grade Soviet-selected jute five and a half metres tall has been raised at the No. 2 Seed Growing State Farm, Kirovabad. This farm supplies collective farms in the Tajik SSR and other republics of the Soviet Union with jute seed. The Fifth Five-Year Plan provides for a considerable expansion of the area planted with industrial crops, jute included

Photo by B. ZAITSEV

STALINSK. A big housing program is being carried out in this Kemerovo region town. Below are new buildings on 25th of October Prospect

Photo by V. LESHCHINSKY



LENINGRAD. Production of a new type of machine for welding reinforcement bars has been launched at the Elektrik Works in honour of the Nineteenth Party Congress. The first consignment of machines will go to the construction site of the Kuibyshev Hydroelectric Station

Photo by V. FEDOSEYEV



RIGA. The "Silny," a powerful marine tug, has just come off the ways. One of the provisions of the Fifth Five-Year Plan is development of the shipbuilding industry in the Latvian SSR

Photo by L. MIKHNOVSKY



*Glimpses
of the Soviet Union*

TSKHALTUBO. A new sanatorium for workers of the coal industry of the USSR. The Tskhaltubo spa, situated in a picturesque river valley in Soviet Georgia, is famous for its radioactive mineral springs which are highly effective in treating nervous system, vascular, skin, heart and other ailments. Sanatoriums providing people with the maximum of comforts are being built in Tskhaltubo, and expansion of the spa is to be continued on a still broader scale. Under the Fifth Five-Year Plan sanatorium accommodation in the country is to increase by about 15 per cent, and rest home accommodation by 30 per cent

Photo by P. LUTSENKO



KIEV. A section of a new food shop on Kreshchatik Street, in the capital of the Soviet Ukraine. In the Ukraine, as throughout the country, thousands of new shops selling food-stuffs, clothing, footwear, textiles, furniture, crockery, hardware, etc., are being opened under the new five-year plan. Growing industrial and agricultural output will serve as the basis for increasing retail sales in the state and cooperative trading network by about 70 per cent in the five-year period. The Directives of the Nineteenth Party Congress for the Fifth Five-Year Plan declare: "There must be a further steady reduction in the retail prices of consumer goods, bearing in mind that the reduction of prices is a major means of systematically raising the real wages of workers and employees and of raising the incomes of the peasants. The real wages of workers and employees must be raised no less than 35 per cent, allowing for the reduction of retail prices."

Photo by N. KOZLOVSKY



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GUEST FROM BURMA. U Hla, Burmese writer and journalist who recently visited Moscow, Leningrad, Tashkent (capital of Uzbekistan), and made a tour of Tajikistan, is seen here (centre) in the home of Saida Ahadova (first on right), shift foreman at the Stalinabad Textile Mills. The Burmese writer and the Tajik textile worker first met in Peking, capital of the Chinese People's Republic, when Saida Ahadova was a member of the Soviet trade union delegation at this year's First of May celebrations there
 Photo by L. OKUNEV



ITALIAN EDUCATORS VISIT USSR. A group of Italian educators headed by Senator Giacomo Pellegrini on their arrival at the Kiev airport
 Photo by M. MELNIK

DELEGATION OF BRITISH SCHOOLTEACHERS. Peter Ibbotson, member of a British trade union delegation of schoolteachers is seen here at an English lesson in the ninth grade at Secondary School No. 135, Moscow. The delegation, which was led by Professor Morris Lewis, said that their visit had helped to promote friendly ties between Soviet and British schoolteachers and made a contribution to the cause of peace
 Photo by V. SOBOLEV





UKMERGE (Lithuanian SSR). Pupils of School No. 2 on a visit to Grazina Rastene, their new teacher

Photo study by L. MIKHNOVSKY

BACK COVER: A view of construction work on the spillway dam of the Ust-Kamenogorsk power plant on the Irtysh River (see article "On the Irtysh Today," pages 5-8 of this issue)

Photo by Y. KOROLYOV

