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# SOVIET UNION & DECEMBER 1953





New machines for land reclamation. An agricultural machine-building factory at Stalino where a new trailer type of marsh tiller is being assembled for breaking up marshland

Photographed by L. Azriel

COVER: Off to a new Job in the village. Two young people who have given up Jobs in Moscow to work on the land. Y. P. Kovyryalov worked in the Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural Stocks of the USSR. His wife Evdokia was a scientific worker at the Timiryazev Agricultural Academy. Last September the Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union adopted important decisions on ways of expanding Soviet agricultural production, among them measures aimed at reinforcing the permanent staff of machine and tractor stations and collective farms with qualified specialists. Kovyryalov and his wife were among the tens of thousands of trained agronomists, vets, and mechanics who, at the Party's call, volunteered to exchange their city Jobs for work on the land. They are off to Stalingrad Region where Kovyryalov has been appointed chief agronomist and his wife an economist at a machine and tractor station Photographed by V. Shakhovskoy



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**DECEMBER 1953** 



New Year's shopping. In a new shop in Leningrad District, in the outskirts of Moscow. The recent Decision of the USSR Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Communist Party on Measures for the Further Development of Soviet Trade stipulates that within the next two to three years all necessary goods shall be made available in every rural district and town. In 1954-56 some 40,000 new shops and 11,000 restaurants and other public eating places are to be opened



Moscow, November 17, 1953. The Lenin and Stalin Mausoleum is now open to the public

Photographed by M. Bugayeva



A memorial wreath was laid at the Lenin and Stalin Mausoleum by a trade-union delegation from India



A delegation of the Free German Youth visits the Mausoleum





On November 17, 1953, a delegation of the Rumanian League of Working Youth laid a wreath at the Mausoleum

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A delegation of Sweden's peace supporters on the way to the Mausoleum

# **A COMMENTATOR'S NOTES**

This month ends the third year of the fifth fiveyear plan, a year which increased the might and wealth of the Soviet land and registered further progress in bringing about a sharp rise in the material well-being of the people.

Everywhere, in town and country, the working people are devoting all their energy to reach the new targets set by the Party and the Government in the production of merchandise and foodstuffs, in improving their quality, and in further developing Soviet trade. The population is already receiving more food, clothing, footwear, and other consumer goods. The network of shops is being expanded considerably.

As the year draws to a close the workers of the Soviet Union are striving not only to fulfil their annual production programmes but to exceed them and to turn out more goods over and above plan.

Ten months ago a socialist competition began between two large collieries—the Kurakhovka Mine in the Donbas and the Chornaya Gora Mine in the Kuznetsk Fields. On November 24 the Donbas miners sent a telegram to their Kuznetsk fellowworkers: "Kurakhovka Mine No. 40 produced last tons coal of annual plan. Pledge 65 trainloads coal above plan before year ends. Wish you success." The newspapers report many similar achievements in the various industries.

What is the "secret" of the Soviet people's high labour productivity? First and foremost, the fact that labour in the USSR enjoys universal respect and esteem. Here there is no exploitation of man by man. The right to free, constructive work is inviolably guaranteed by the Constitution of the USSR, adopted seventeen years ago by the Extraordinary Eighth Congress of Soviets of the USSR. On December 5 the citizens of the Soviet Union celebrated Constitution Day, a great country-wide holiday. It is the people's high socialist consciousness and the constant technical progress that enable them to record production achievements inconceivable under capitalism. As the members of a delegation of Austrian workers which visited the country last month declared: "High labour productivity in the USSR is due to up-to-date techniques, better organization, and higher qualifications of the workers.

The men and women of socialist agriculture are working with great enthusiasm. During the closing months of the year they have applied themselves unreservedly to carrying out the measures for further agricultural development which were adopted by the September Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. The collective farmers and the workers of the machine-and-tractor stations and state farms are now concentrating on efficient preparations for spring work, so as to ensure bumper crops in the coming year, and on further developing collective-farm animal husbandry. Much attention is being paid to repair and maintenance of tractors and agricultural implements and to training machine operators.

The constructive endeavours of the Soviet people are inseparable from its tireless fight for peace and friendship among the nations. The members of an Italian delegation who were among the thousand or so foreign visitors invited to attend the 36th anniversary celebrations of the Great October Socialist Revolution and tour any part of the land they wished, declared before leaving for home: "We witnessed the Soviet people's unshakeable will to peace. We were reminded of it at every step in the Soviet land, and every word spoken to us was a message of peace and friendship." M. Gaston Monmousseau, the French tradeunion leader, said on viewing the new buildings of Moscow University, "There must be iron faith in the cause of peace to dare to conceive and create such masterpieces in this time of international stress."

Yes, the peoples of the USSR firmly believe in their future, in the triumph of the cause of peace! Together with their Government they unanimously support all measures aimed at solving mankind's chief and most pressing problem—that of easing present-day international tensions. Their representatives took part in the November session of the World Peace Council. The documents published by the session (Message to All Organizations and Personalities Who Desire Relaxation of International Tension, General Resolution, and others) were met with unanimous approval by the Soviet public. It likewise endorsed wholeheartedly the Soviet Government's note of November 26, 1953, to the governments of France, Great Britain, and the USA which stated that the Government of the USSR, guided by its striving to facilitate a speedy settlement of all urgent international problems, is ready to participate in a four-power foreign ministers' conference.

Soviet people are working with determination for friendship among the nations, for the expansion of business and cultural relations with all countries. Their actions speak louder than words.

Late last month Soviet-Finnish trade talks led to the signing of a Protocol on Reciprocal Delivery Quotas. On December 2 the USSR and India concluded a trade agreement. Negotiations have begun with a trade delegation from the German Democratic Republic. In November successful evenings were held in the Soviet capital in honour of Finnish-Soviet, British-Soviet, and German-Soviet friendship. Other evenings were devoted to Italian cinema art.

The new year is not far off. The Soviet people will meet it fully confident that, led by the Communist Party, it will successfully realize the grand plans of peaceful construction and bring about a new steep rise in its material and cultural standards.



SVERDLOVSK. The personnel of the Urals Heavy Machinery Works are carrying on a socialist emulation campaign to better the quality of machinery and reduce production costs. During the first nine months of this year the works gave the state a profit of 14,200,000 rubles in excess of plan. The picture above shows turntables for the SE-3 excavator, which will be delivered to new construction projects *Photographed by A. Grakhov* 



LENINGRAD. The Karl Marx Works has built a powerful textile unit, the PN-300-Y2. It produces cord for a special technical fabric used in automobile tyres in an uninterrupted process

STALINGRAD. The Dzerzhinsky Works daily sends big consignments of diesel DT-54 tractors to the machine-and-tractor stations of the land

Photographed by S. Kropivnitsky







TSIKHISDZIRI. Mandarins are now being harvested in the citrus groves of the collective and state farms of Ajaria Photographed by V. Babayan

CHERKASSI (Ukraine). In the storehouse of a local cannery. During ten months of 1953 the cannery put out 6,500,000 more tins than last year Pholographed by N. Krilov



ODESSA. Here we see two river railway ferry boats, "Chulim" and "Severny", in the Odessa docks. They were brought to this Black Sea port by a crew of Soviet merchant seamen in the rigorous conditions of autumn from the White Sea, a route of more than 5,000 miles. This was the first attempt of its kind in seafaring practice Photographed by P. Vishkind



LENINGRAD. In accordance with the Decision of the USSR Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Communist Party on Measures for the Further Development of Soviet Trade the city is opening more shops and improving the quality of popular consumption goods. The Leningrad House of Trade, shown above, caters daily to more than 40,000 customers Photographed by B. Ulkin



MOSCOW. On November 17, International Students' Day, a meeting of Moscow students and students from the People's Democracies studying in the capital's colleges was held in the Central House of Art Workers

Photographed by Y. Yavno

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In Minsk, factory and office workers and agricultural specialists gather at the City Committee of the Communist Party to declare their willingness to work in kolkhozes and machine and tractor stations

# FUR AGRICULTURE

During the last 28 years there has been an approximately twelve-fold increase in the production of popular consumption goods in the Soviet Union. The output of agriculture, and the food and light industries does not yet, however, meet consumer demand which is rising at an extremely fast rate and without interruption. People's requirements increase with their cultural growth. Rising wages and the steady reduction of prices have greatly increased the public's purchasing capacity. People are buying more food, clothes, shoes, furniture, and household utensils.

A powerful heavy industry has been created in the Soviet Union. This makes it possible rapidly to re-equip consumer goods industries and to ensure a sharp increase in all branches of agriculture producing food for the population and raw materials for the light industries. Plans for such an increase have been worked out by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Within the next two or three years there is to be a steep rise in the supply of food and merchandise of the highest quality to the population.

Everybody thus has an interest in seeing an improvement in agriculture and cattle-breeding—the scientist and the farm worker growing new plant varieties and new breeds of cattle, the designer and the factory worker building highly efficient machines and appliances to ease work on the farm, the agriculturist and the chemist working on new farming methods and new fertilizers.

Responding enthusiastically to the Party's appeal, tens of



thousands of qualified specialists have left to take up work on the land. From the Stalingrad Tractor Works about one hundred engineers and technicians have been transferred to farming jobs in the region. The most experienced of them (for instance, V. Storozhenko, assistant manager of the forge shop, and E. Vrublevsky, an engineer) have been appointed directors of machine and tractor stations. Over two thousand engineers, agronomists, vets, tractor drivers, fitters, and mechanics have left Altai towns for land work.

With the help of these new experts the collective farms are making more efficient preparations for next spring's field work. On the farms—both collective and state—and in the machine and tractor stations, the organization of man-power is being examined

Newcomers arrived at Radekhov machine and tractor station, Lvov Region, to Join its staff. Among them were A. I. Magorevich (left), formerly a wireless mechanic in Lvov, now in charge of the station's machine shops, and G. I. Sluzhenikin (centre), formerly an engineer at the Lvov Machine Works, now chief engineer of the station. The third is M. A. Vergun, the station's best harvester-combine operator Photographed by M. Ananyin



A fitter leaves for the country. F. I. Varzamayev (centre), who has been appointed to the Oredezh MTS, taking leave of his mates in the machine shop of the Kirov Works in Leningrad Photographed by P. Fedotov with a view to improving its efficiency. New repair-shops, garages, store-houses, and houses for their workers are being built at the machine and tractor stations. The new dwelling-houses are built at state expense, long-term loans being available to those who prefer to build their own houses; land is provided for allot-ments.

Agricultural specialists are being trained in 96 higher schools with a total student body of 122,000. The number of students attending college courses in mechanization and electrification is increasing and new college courses for training agricultural engineers are being organized.

The chemical and metal industries are producing more mineral fertilizers, machine-building works more implements and appliances.



Hemp harvesting in the Kuban. A ZhVK machine at work on Victory Collective Farm Photographed by P. Kalnilsky



A wind-motor has been set up and new cow-sheds are being built on the Beacon of Socialism Kolkhoz in Byelorussia Photographed by M. Minkovich

Below: Silage being prepared on the Stalin Kolkhoz in Uzbekistan

Pholographed by G. Permenev



RELLI



power from the new Shapsugskaya Hydro-Electric Station in Krasnodar Region Pholographed by E. Shulepov THEFT STATES

At the present time there are 969,000 tractors (in terms of 15 horse-power units) and 255,000 harvester combines working for Soviet agriculture. The amalgamation of small kolkhozes into farms with an arable area of over 4,000 acres on the average has given great scope for the use of machinery.

Of special importance today are machines that will enable us to mechanize the raising of technical crops and vegetables, including potatoes, and the running of cattle-farms. To supply this need, the production of such machines will be increased during 1954 and 1955 from two to seven times the quantities produced under the 1953 plan. The production of potato-digging combines and machines for planting vegetable seedlings, as well as for planting potatoes by the new highly-efficient squarecluster method recommended by Soviet scientists, is being



New specialists for the land. Students in the laboratory of electric motors at the Leningrad Institute of Agricultural Mechanization and Electrification, where a course has been arranged for future mechanics of machine and tractor stations and state farms Photographed by N. Naumenkov



A KKR-2a potato-digger at work on the Forward to Communism Kolkhoz, Moscow Region Photographed by K. Kuznetsov



A new cabbage-gathering machine at work

Photographed by S. Kosyrev



Beet-harvesting combine designed by S. L. Rudenko, a combine operator at the Grebenki MTS in Kiev Region Photographed by B. Gradov

This is the kind of house in which workers at the Mytishchi MTS in Moscow Region live Photographed by N. Kuleshov







Feed-steaming plants produced at the Lvov Agricultural Machine-Building Works

Photographed by M. Ananyin



The Byelarus Universal row-crop tractor produced by the Minsk Tractor Works Pholographed by M. Minkovich

organized and developed. Special machines are being built for sowing sugar beet in the same way, for stacking hay, and for harvesting root-crops for animal feeding. Production will soon be begun of hay driers, machines to cut and load hay straight into lorries, and of equipment for mechanized fodder-preparation shops at the livestock farms. New types of water sprinklers and a combine preparing eighty tons of silage an hour are likewise going into production.

Before May 1, 1957, Soviet agriculture is to receive at least another 500,000 general-purpose tractors (in terms of 15 horsepower units) and 250,000 row-crop tractors to supplement the 108,000 of the latter type at work on the land at the beginning of 1953.

The Communist Party and the Soviet Government took a number of effective measures creating greater economic incen-

tives for collective farms and their members to increase production in all branches of agriculture. They include higher procurement and purchasing prices for farm produce (without any increase in retail trade prices), a reduction in compulsory deliveries, a reduction by about one half, on the average, of the agricultural tax on personal subsidiary husbandry of collective farmers, workers, and employees, and full remission of arrears on taxes of past years.

The coming year is to be one of high yields, more efficient work on the collective and state farms, and higher living standards for all. Because human welfare, the people's well-being is the supreme law of the Soviet Union, all the measures taken by the Soviet Government and the Communist Party are aimed at giving maximum satisfaction to the continually growing requirements of the Soviet people.



A dairy department at Gagra Sovkhoz in Abkhazia

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Photographed by G. Kvirkvelia

In Novosibirsk hot-houses are being built where over 3,000 tons of vegetables a year will be grown Photographed by V. Leshchinsky



A pendant-seeding machine designed at the USSR Research Institute for Agricultural Machinery. This machine lays strips of impregnated paper, sowing vegetable seeds through holes it punches in the strips. Later soil is laid over the paper, the moisture and warmth accumulating under the strips helping the seeds to grow. At the same time weeding is eliminated as the paper deprives weeds of light and air and checks their growth *Photographed by V. Sharovsky* 



At an electrical appliances factory (Uralelektroapparat) in Sverdlovsk, K. Kostin (centre), chief engineer of the designing department, a Stalin Prize winner; engineer-designer E. Okulov and designer G. Muratshin discuss plans for a hydro-generator to be installed at a new kolkhoz hydro-electric station Photographed by I. Tyulyakov



Right: SKG-4 machine for planting potatoes in square clusters with simultaneous deposit of mineral fertilizers Photographed by Y. Karalyov

Below: A. Nedashkovsky, designer of the SRN-4 machine for planting of seedlings, and T. Pryakhin, chairman of the Ray Kolkhoz in Moscow Region, at a trial run of the new machine Photographed by Y. Korolyov and F. Silchenko





The Grand Alma-Ata Lake. In the middle of the lake stands the framework of the intake works through which water flows to turbines of the hydro-electric cascade



### A POWER

L. TAZHIBAYEV, Candidate of Technical Sciences

Down from the snow-clad mountains of the Trans-

Down from the snow-clad mountains of the Trans-III Ala-Tau Range a number of streams rush to form the River Almatinka. This, in turn, feeds the Grand Alma-Ata Lake, situated 8,200 feet above sea level. Then the river flows farther, forcing its boisterous way through rocky gorges and foaming over rapids and waterfalls. An engineering survey carried out in this region pointed to the feasibility of building a chain of hydro-electric stations at different levels along the river's course and thus supplying Alma-Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan, with cheap electricity for household and industrial use.

Kazakhstan, with cheap electricity for nousehold and industrial use. Work began in the spring of 1943 and by winter the following year the first link in the cascade was com-pleted. This, however, did not exhaust the mountain river's power reserves and work is now in progress on the construction of the other stations. The building of a dam across the Almatinka at the

Below: A section of the pipe-line between two generating stations in the cascade



### CASCADE

Photographed by M. Galkin

place where it leaves the lake raised its surface and turned the Grand Alma-Ata Lake into a natural reservoir. This solved the problem of regulating the flow of water down the cascade according to seasonal and daily requirements.

requirements. An outlet works is connected with a pipe-line system that runs to the turbines of the recently com-pleted No. 1 hydro-electric station, the largest in the cascade. From there the water rushes down the mountain side to other power stations. No one tends these sta-tions, for the whole cascade is run automatically. On the basis of increased electric power Alma-Ata has been able to mechanize its industry on a larger scale; current is supplied to farms on its outskirts. At one of these farms, the Michurin Kolkhoz, for example, electrically-powered machines are used for preparing cattle-feed, distributing water to the cattle-sheds, milk-ing, and sheep-shearing.



One of the hydro-electric stations of the power cascade

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Plan of the power cascade

Left to right: A fruit cannery. A textile mill. The Michurin Kolkhoz. They all use current provided by the power cascade









A group of British and Soviet scientists at the USSR Academy of Sciences. Left to right: Academician D. V. Skobeltsyn; Academician A. V. Topchiev, Chief Scientific Secretary, Presidium, USSR Academy of Sciences; Doctor R. H. Hilton, Birmingham University; Doctor Dorothy Crowfoot-Hodgkin, F.R.S.; Academician V. P. Volgin; Academician A. N. Nesmeyanov, President, USSR Academy of Sciences; Professor J. D. Bernal, F.R.S.; Professor J. H. C. Whitehead, F. R. S.; Doctor A. H. Gordon; J. L. Fyfe, Plant Breeder, School of Agriculture, Cambridge University; Academician V. A. Engelhardt; A. N. Tikhonov, Corresponding Member, USSR Academy of Sciences; Academician P. S. Alexandrov

## BRITISH SCIENTISTS IN THE USSR

Photo-Reportage by A. Garanin

#### FOR PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP!

Professor J. D. BERNAL, M. A., F.R.S., Department of Physics, Birkbeck College, University of London

The visit to the Soviet Union with the "Science for Peace" delegation has been for me a unique experience. I have been seven times to the Soviet Union, the first time twenty-two years ago, but in none of my visits have I seen or learnt so much as on this occasion. Our hosts, the USSR Academy of Sciences, arranged for us to see almost innumerable institutes, laboratories, and university departments, each in the fields in which lay our separate interests, and gave us the opportunity for long and informal talks with Academicians, Professors, and students. In Moscow, Leningrad, and Tbilisi I have seen magnificent new buildings made for teaching and research and equipped with apparatus of the finest quality, nearly all Soviet made. The greatest impression was undoubtedly that made by the new Moscow University. It is characteristic of the spirit of the Soviet Union, just recovered from a destructive war, that its finest and largest building should be erected in the service



of education.

The course of Soviet scientific education is long and thorough. It takes five years to graduate, and then three more before the graduate is admitted to a candidacy for a doctorate. Yet tens of thousands of young men and an almost equal number of young women complete this course every year.

What this means is that for the first time in history a substantial proportion of the population is given the advantages of developing to the full their special abilities. This represents the utilization of the most important natural resource of the human mind and personality.

I was much struck by the rapid increase of the quality of the research work and of the equipment with which it is done. This is particularly true of the electrical and optical equipment British scientists at a reception by Academician A. V. Palladin, President of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR (centre). The assembly is addressed by Doctor Dorothy Crowfoot-Hodgkin

of the Physical Institute of the Academy in Moscow and of the Physical Technical Institute in Leningrad. I found everywhere a lively interest in the recent developments of science in other countries. This was well brought out by the discussions that followed my lectures. The new Institute of Scientific Information of the Academy of Sciences is preparing abstract journals which in completeness of cover will outstrip any corresponding journal in any other country.

The object of our delegation was to pave the way to closer co-operation between scientists of Britain and the Soviet

Union in the service of peace. In this I feel we have succeeded beyond our greatest hopes.

We have had conversations on practical means for improving the exchange of scientific publications, of promoting visits of scientists between our two countries, and we confidently look forward to the time

when Soviet and British science can advance in friendship together in a peaceful world.





#### RICHNESS, VITALITY, VARIETY OF LIFE

Doctor R. H. HILTON, Birmingham University, School of History

I must explain that I have always been a friend and admirer of the Soviet Union and that a visit to the first socialist state has been a lifelong ambition. In common with most people in England, my idea of life in the Soviet Union was above all that this depended on careful planning. The planned character of the economy of the Soviet Union presents such a contrast to the individualism and anarchy of capitalist countries that this has always seemed to be the most important difference between them. Now I know that while planning remains the necessary basis of Soviet life, this is by no means its only outstanding feature.

What has struck me very strongly as a result of my recent inquiries, is the richness, vitality, and variety of Soviet life. Never have I seen evidence of such large-scale building and reconstruction as in Moscow and the other places we have visited. Never have I met so many people who express in their talk about their work and their leisure so much confidence, and I might even say, excited anticipation about their future plans. It is easy to see why they can do this, for the future is visibly growing before their eyes. Above all—and this is very important for us who come from a country where military preparation dominates the economic and political situation the passionate desire for peace and friendship among the nations illuminates, as it were, the plans for the future which everybody is making. I know that Soviet people have still many material problems to solve. But the great thing is that no problem seems insoluble for Soviet people—and at the famous Soviet tempo no problem need wait long before it is liquidated.

As a historian I am very impressed, and at the same time envious of the opportunities for research work in the USSR.

It was with special pleasure that I renewed my acquaintance with Academician E. A. Kosminsky, the English translation of whose last book I am editing for an English publisher. I also met for the first time Academician S. I. Arkhangelsky, the great expert on English agrarian history in the 17th century, and Professor V. F. Semenov, whose study of peasant risings in 16th century England is well known in Great Britain. I was very pleased, too, to make the acquaintance of Doctor Y. A. Levitsky and a number of others interested in medieval English history.

I have been most fortunate in having had as a guide and friend during my stay in the Soviet Union Professor S. V. Kiselev, the author of the history of ancient Southern Siberia. Professor Kiselev's great knowledge of the archaeology of the Soviet Union made it possible for me to appreciate the amazing work that is being done on the reconstruction of the ancient past. The work of Professor B. B. Piotrovsky in Armenia, of Professor B. A. Kuftin in Georgia, and of others in Central Asia seemed to me to be so important that historians and archaeologists all over the world will have to reconsider their conceptions of the ancient Near Eastern and Asian civilizations.

It seemed to me that there is no country where archaeological methods are used for the study of the Middle Ages so successfully as in the Soviet Union, and I hope the medievalists of Great Britain will enter into friendly competition in this work.

There can surely be no other country where pride in the great achievements of the national past is so closely linked with the fraternal appreciation of the traditions of other peoples. Soviet historians have by no means a narrow approach to the past. Nothing that humanity has done lacks interest for them.

The essence of historical research, as with other sciences in the USSR, seems to lie in a combination of absolutely necessary factors. First, (in sharp contrast to the capitalist countries) research is adequately financed. Secondly, it is planned, so that work is done for the solution of the most important problems. Thirdly, the work is done on the basis of collective discussion with full freedom of criticism and counter-criticism. Fourthly, it is inspired by the scientific method of Marxism-Leninism. How would it not excel in these conditions?

May their work, and the country for whose people they work, prosper in peace and friendship with the whole world!

Mohile





 Doctor Dorothy Crowfoot-Hodgkin, J. L. Fyfe, Doctor A. H. Gordon, and Doctor J. S. D. Bacon visit a chemistry laboratory at Tbillisi University.
 Doctor of Chemistry G. B. Boky, Candidate of Physico-Mathematical Sciences M. A. Porai-Koshits, and Academician I. I. Chernyayev describe to Doctor Dorothy Crowfoot-Hodgkin (right) the work of the Kurnakov Institute of General and Non-Organic Chemistry, Moscow.
 At the Pavlov Institute of Physiology, Leningrad. Doctor of Biological Sciences E. S. Airapetyants acquaints his guests with the achievements of Soviet physiologists.
 Mr. J. L. Fyfe, member of the delegation of British scientists, with a group of Soviet colleagues at the Fruit-Growing Research Institute, Kiev



#### WE HAVE SEEN MARVELLOUS THINGS

Doctor Dorothy CROWFOOT-HODGKIN, F.R.S., Laboratory of Chemical Crystallography, University Museum, Oxford

I came to the USSR at the invitation of the Academy of Sciences primarily to visit Soviet scientists who are working in my own field of study.

In all the cities that I have visited, Moscow, Leningrad, Tbilisi, and Kiev, I have been struck by the wide streets and spacious planning, by the wealth of new buildings and by the care taken by Soviet architects to design buildings which belong architecturally to the city.

No building we saw is more magnificent than the new Moscow University, a city in itself.

A casual visitor is impressed with the apparent youth of the students in Soviet universities, and that there are so many women almost 50 per cent of the total, unlike our meagre 20 per cent in Oxford.

I never felt that I was prevented from talking freely to anyone except by my own ignorance of the Russian language. With many students and professors that I met, even this language barrier disappeared. It is surprising, and a great help to an ignorant foreigner, to find how many of them can talk English.

We visited a variety of research institutes where interesting researches were being carried out. In my own field, X-ray crystallography, Soviet crystallographers, for a time, lagged behind. But not now.

We have seen marvellous things in our two and a half weeks, museums with treasures of the greatest archaeological importance, ancient churches, probably the most beautiful dancing in the world. It is impossible not to feel, wherever one goes, that here is a

people, which with tremendous effort is building a new civilization and for which peace is a vital necessity.

Dorothy Hodylami



Professor J. D. Bernal speaks at a friendly gathering of Leningrad scientists and their British colleagues at the Leningrad House of Scientists

#### A NEW SOCIETY

Doctor J. S. D. BACON, Biochemist, University of Sheffield

Although I have been in the Soviet Union for less than two weeks, I have already seen Moscow, Leningrad, and Tbilisi. In each of these cities I gained the same general picture, a picture of a country under construction to an extent that is unfamiliar to most English eyes. In all these cities there seemed to live essentially the same kind of people, good-humoured, good-mannered, and quietly self-confident in their bearing. This was particularly true of the younger generation.

One of the most striking things about the people I met was the extent of their contact with the Western countries. This was the more noticeable in Georgia, where many of the university students spoke English well, and many graduated each year as language specialists. In laboratories and libraries I saw many English scientific journals and books, and most of the scientists were well acquainted with recent developments in Britain and America.

Despite the difficulties of translation I was able

to engage In very valuable discussions. These have enlarged my knowledge of Soviet science in a very concrete way. Instead of mere names in scientific periodicals I now see the faces of scientists against the background of their institutes, and, most important of all, against the background of the new society that they are helping to create.

What I did not see, and would like to have seen, was scientists at work. The nature of scientific work is such that it can be appreciated properly only by remaining and working in a single institute for several months on end. I hope that it will not be long before this kind of scientific contact is established. I am convinced of the need and possibility of a lasting friendship between the British

and Soviet peoples, and such exchange could not fail to hasten its further development.

Tedkom



Mr. J. L. Fyfe in a green-house of the Leningrad Botanical Gardens

methods of A-Ray Analysis of Materials". This was one of several lectures read by the British scientists in Soviet cities



#### MY IMPRESSIONS

Doctor A. H. GORDON, Biochemist, National Institute for Medical Research, London

The first impression of a visitor from Britain is the great contrast in the USSR between the old and the new. Thus for instance in Moscow many impressive new skyscrapers are growing up but numbers of very old wooden houses are inevitably still in use. It might be expected that such contrasts would also be very noticeable in the field of science. Although these may exist, the general impression is that the government provides finance for all kinds of scientific work on an extremely generous scale.

As members of an organization of British scientists who believe that science should be used more and more for peaceful purposes it has been most heartening to see the vast scale of peaceful construction in the USSR.

No one who has been fortunate enough to meet so many Soviet people as we have and to travel freely in the USSR today, can doubt for a moment the desire of the Soviet people to build up their society in peace. In particular I was impressed by the interest of Soviet scientists in the work of the peace movement in Britain and their determina-

tion to do everything possible to improve international scientific relations.

AHGordon.



British guests inspect the laboratories of the Institute of Physiology, Academy of Sciences, Georgian SSR. Left to right are Academician I. S. Beritashvili, Director of the Institute; Doctor J. S. D. Bacon, and Doctor A. H. Gordon

#### MEETINGS WITH FRIENDS

Professor J. H. C. WHITEHEAD, F.R.S., Oxford

My main purpose in visiting the USSR was to meet some of the mathematicians whose work has been of great importance to me personally. So it was with great pleasure that I again met my old friend Professor Alexandrov and a new friend, Professor Pontryagin, whose work has inspired me throughout the last 25 years. In addition I have been very happy to meet some of the young mathematicians whose names are beginning to be famous throughout the mathematical world. I am convinced that international friendship and collaboration between scientists is of the greatest value for the fruitful development of science. Therefore I am extremely happy to have met these mathematicians. had previously regarded them as colleagues and I now

know that they are also my friends. We have also visited Moscow University. To see Moscow University, and to realize that it was built in four years, is to wonder and admire. I have had the great pleasure of hearing young Soviet mathematicians report on their research in their great building. So, like a cat with butter on its feet, I feel that I have made

Moscow University my homel We also visited the Lenin Library and were much impressed by the vast store of books, the skilful organization and, above all, by the reading-rooms, full of young people. Here, as at the University, we saw with emotion how eagerly the young people in the Soviet Union are devouring the intellectual food which is being offered to them on such a lavish scale. The care and attention which is paid to youth is a delightful feature of Soviet life. It will surely be repaid by the achievements of the coming generation. After our visit to Leningrad the rest of the delega-

tion visited Tbilisi, of which they had wonderful stories to tell. I wished to have detailed discussions with the Moscow mathematicians and therefore stayed by myself in Moscow. There I was completely free to wander through the town and I took the opportunity to do so. On one occasion I was completely lost. However I managed to find my way back by stopping people in the street, pointing North, South, East, and West and saying with a questioning note in my voice, "Bolshoi Teatr"? I was very happy, during these walks, to feel at one with the people of Moscow.

During this time, and in the days which followed I was particularly happy to have intimate technical discussions with Soviet mathematicians. On one occa-sion I was particularly happy to visit the home of one of my mathematical friends. On other occasions I have attended small discussion groups at which I have talked myself and have been very pleased to hear some of the young mathematicians describe their results.

Now we must depart, with feelings of warm friend-ship for our colleagues and Soviet friends, old and new, and with deep admiration for the skill and industry with which the Soviet people is building its society.

We have seen the great achievements of Soviet scientists and technicians in fundamental research and its peaceful application to human welfare. Our visit has inspired us to an increased effort, not merely to avoid war, but to promote friendship and sympathy between peoples of all nations. In particular we shall work for the friendship of

our countrymen and the people of the USSR. Ite Whit Rhead



TOWARDS AN ERA OF PLENTY





1. In the Leningrad branch of the Institute of Material Culture, USSR Academy of Sciences. Left to right: S. A. Semenov, Candidate of Historical Sci-ences; S. V. Kiselev, Corresponding Member, USSR Academy of Sciences; Doctor R. H. Hilton; B. B. Piotrovsky, Corresponding Member, Academy of Sciences, Armenian SSR; I. M. Dyakonov, Candidate of Historical Sciences. 2. R. H. Hilton, the British historian, visits Academician E. A. Kosminsky, a Soviet colleague, at his country house. 3. In the Georgian State Museum British scientists examine unique manuscripts of the VI-VII centuries. Left to right: Professor J. D. Bernal, Doctor Dorothy Crowfoot-Hodgkin, Doctor J. S. D. Bacon, and Mr. J. L. Fyfe

From the agricultural side one of the most interesting aspects of our visit to the Soviet Union has been the bird's-eye view of the countryside.

In Germany and to a large extent in Czechoslovakia and Poland, one sees an intricate pattern of tiny strips, the pattern of individual peasant farming. In the Soviet Union one sees large fields everywhere; in the Kuban steppes every river has now been dammed every few miles, so that the pattern of large fields is decorated by broad shining stretches of water. Young shelter belts give a further indication of the change in the landscape which is now taking place.

The contrasts so vividly displayed to the traveller by air demonstrate the giant strides being made by Soviet agriculture towards an era of plenty for all. Closely connected with these advances is the work of Soviet biologists.

We have visited biological institutes in Moscow and Leningrad, in Kiev and in Tbilisi. Everywhere we have found the same desire and the same determination to win new knowledge, and the same realization of the value of that knowledge in the conquest of nature. In the friendly talks we have had everywhere with Soviet biologists we have found that not only are they exploring new paths in biology, but they are carefully preserving the best traditions of their science.

It should be mentioned that our Soviet hosts have made every effort to ensure that we could find out all that was going on in the institutes of the different Academies of Sciences; all our questions

have been freely answered, preparations shown to us, and so on. Everywhere we have found the same longing for peace and for friendly exchange with British scientists.

There can be no doubt that friendship between Soviet and British scientists, with exchange of information, material, and personnel will be of immense value to us all.





Main Office of the Estonian republican branch of the USSR Agricultural Bank

Two of our Chinese readers, Chou Kuo-en (Hupeh Province) and Cheng Yunfei (Kiangsu Province), who are themselves bank employees, have asked us for information about the work of a Soviet bank and its employees. The following article describes a branch office of the USSR Agricultural Bank in Estonia.

S. NOSYREV, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the USSR Agricultural Bank

Photographed by L. Mikhnovsky

The USSR Agricultural Bank was founded to finance the capital construction projects of state agricultural enterprises. In addition to this, the Bank provides long-term credits to collective farms for the construction of cattle-sheds, electric stations, irrigation and land-improvement installations, and grants loans to statefarm workers, members of kolkhozes, and agricultural specialists to enable them to build their own houses.

The long-term credit offered by the Bank is an important factor in the improvement of general farming and animal husbandry, and contributes to the fulfilment of the task of bringing about a sharp upgrade in agriculture and raising Soviet living and cultural standards, set by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union last September.

The credit plan for the co-operative sector is confirmed by the Council of Ministers of the Republic when it is on a republican basis, and by the district executive committee of a soviet of working people's deputies when it is on a district basis. The Bank is then in a position to finance kolkhozes, offering them credit for terms of up to eleven years.

The Bank's branches, in conformity with Soviet law, are charged with the duty of financing state enterprises and controlling the use of the Bank's subsidies, ensuring that building costs are kept down according to the plan and matériel and wage funds properly used; they are also charged with keeping a strict eye on all estimates.

In collective farms, too, the Bank exercises control over the use of credits. If they are misused it insists on the misapplied funds being returned before the appointed time and charges an additional rate of interest.

The activities of the republican branch of the USSR Agricultural Bank in Estonia and of its district offices, described in the accompanying pictures, are typical for all parts of the Soviet Union. They show how important a role the credit system plays in developing Soviet agriculture.





A visit from the bank. K. Peensaar (right), the Agricultural Bank's representative in the Kallaste District, visits the Twenty-First of June Kolkhoz situated on the shores of Lake Chudskoye to see whether a long-term credit granted by the Bank for the purchase of fishing-gear is being properly used. He is talking with A. Mölder, skipper of a kolkhoz fishing-trawler





# BULFURAL BANK





The cattle-sheds of Kostivere Sovkhoz, which were built out of funds provided by the Bank

Below, left: H. Kanger, manager of the Bank's Rakvere branch, is interested to know how M. Masso, who works at the Vinni Sovkhoz, is getting on with the house he is building with the help of a bank loan. Right: A rural hydro-electric station on the River AhJa, built out of funds provided by the Bank



- V. Freirick, bank inspector, has something to say at a board meeting of the Kalev Kolkhoz where plans are being discussed how best to use a credit granted by the Bank 1 and what to build in the coming year
- Drawing on the credit. At the Harju branch of the State Bank Meeri Ojavesi, cashier of the Kalev Kolkhoz, cashes an Agricultural Bank cheque 2

What the money was used for. New hot-houses built on the Kalev Kolkhoz with money received on loan 3

And the result—vegetables from the Kalev Kolkhoz hot-houses on sale in Tallinn's Central Market 4





We have received many letters from readers asking for information about the postal, telephone, telegraph, and radio services in the Soviet Union. Among them was one from Takeshi Nakamura of Tokyo.

In goes the letter

By K. Y. SERGEICHUK, USSR Deputy-Minister of Communications

In a land that covers so vast an area as does the Soviet Union, modern means of communication, such as the postal, telegraph, telephone, and radio services, are of exceptional importance in the daily life of its citizens and for the efficient working of the administration and the needs of the national economy.

TO A READER IN JAPAN

Since the Revolution there has been a more than seven-fold increase in the communications network. The postal service became particularly extensive, it now has a network covering the entire country from the Soviet Arctic and the Far East to the Carpathian mountains and the Pamirs. The total volume of postal correspondence carried by rail and road, by aircraft and other forms of transport, is stupendous. Letters, postal orders, parcels, and thousands of millions of copies of newspapers and magazines, printed in seventy different languages of the country, are handled by the postal service. Radio and telephone have become part of the daily life of all.

The peaceable nature of Soviet policy, favouring the extension of business and cultural relations with the rest of the world, is reflected, incidentally, in the growth of the Soviet Union's postal exchange with other lands. In 1952, thirty-five times more letters Photographed by L. Smirnov and Y. Trankvillitsky

left the Soviet Union by surface mail than in 1940; the use of air mail was up hundreds of times. Most of the mail is carried between the USSR and the Chinese People's Republic, all the People's Democracies, and the German Democratic Republic; there is also a lively exchange with such countries as the United States, Britain, France, Italy, Canada, Sweden, and Switzerland.

The telegraph, telephone, and radio systems are broadly used to foster cultural intercourse among nations. Their use for domestic as well as foreign communications is open to all. Telegrams addressed to any country in the world are accepted at all Soviet telegraph offices. Telephone calls to various parts of the world can be made from Moscow and other Soviet cities.

While in 1940 the Soviet Union had 33 telegraph and telephone lines with 17 countries, the number of telegraph lines has now risen to 55 with 32 countries, and of telephone lines to 41 with 22 countries. In addition there are 9 photo-telegraph lines with 7 countries. Since the war, direct lines have been opened, among other countries, with India, Pakistan, Brazil, and Uruguay. The volume of international telegrams has more than doubled; the radio-telegraph line between Moscow and

And off it goes to Moscow's airport at Vnukovo where it is loaded into a mail plane



Left: A photo-telegram is being sent to Peking by Moscow's Central Telegraph Office. Below: A photo-telegram on the casette of a ZFTA-4 apparatus, and two photographs received in Moscow by photo-telegraph—one, from the United States, of Paul Robeson, the other, from Peking, of Chairman Mao Tse-tung with Young Pioneers

Left: An express train with an all-metal mail-van. Right: A postal dog-sledge on Kotelny Island, the largest island in the Novo-Sibirsk group









New York alone carries up to 40,000 words a day.

Big developments are being registered in inter-urban telephone and telegraph lines, now using multi-channel high-frequency and highspeed teleprinters. Wider use is being made of photo-telegrams by which texts, photographs, plans, maps, and designs can be transmitted.

The radio service is making considerable headway. Already on the eve of World War II the Soviet Union held first place in Europe for the power of its transmitters; in post-war years many new broadcasting stations have been opened.

There are many parts of the country where the radio service has been brought to every home, and it will not be many years before the same will apply to the whole land.

The rapid pace of development and the high standard of efficiency of the communications system have been made possible because the Soviet Union has built its own powerful industry and trained a qualified personnel. From the latter's ranks many highly-gifted people have risen to improve the progress of technical science and the communications system—the vital nerves of the nation's life—with their research work, inventions, and rationalization proposals.

Workers in the communications system are held in high esteem by the Soviet Government and much is done for their welfare. They receive long-service bonuses. Thus, after three to five years of uninterrupted employment all postal, telegraph, telephone, and radio workers get a ten per cent increase in wages; after five to ten years the increase is twenty per cent, after ten to fifteen years thirty per cent, after which the increase is forty per cent. For long and exemplary service, communications workers are decorated with Orders and Medals.

The men and women who serve the public in this field work constantly to improve and develop the communications system and raise their technical proficiency, seeking to give full satisfaction to the requirements of the people and of the national economy.

1. Part of the main hall in the Central Telegraph Office in Moscow. 2. Booking a call in the same office. 3. The Kirov automatic telephone exchange, Moscow. 4. The Central Telegraph's pneumatic station



Two telegraph workers from Kuibyshev, V. Karastelin, and Y. Revzin, who have invented an automatic appliance which enables telegrams to be transmitted three times faster and dispenses with the handoperated telegraph key

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#### **BY TELEPHONE**

By simply picking up the telephone receiver people in Moscow, Leningrad, and other Soviet cities can:

1) Find out the correct time by dialling the "talking clock"

2) Place an order for food to be delivered at their home

3) Dictate the text of a telegram

4) Order a railway ticket to be delivered

5) Ask the laundry van to call

6) Make a long-distance call

7) Ask the polyclinic or the first-aid

station to send a doctor immediately

8) Call a taxi

9) Book a seat at the cinema



10) Consult an information office



Where this golden wheat grows was only yesterday a peat marsh. It is part of the Beibezi Experimental Centre run by the Institute

By J. V. PEIVE, President, Latvian SSR Academy of Sciences

Marshland and swamp occupy a considerable part of the territory of the Latvian Republic. From time immemorial the Latvian peasantry waged stubborn war to win patches of soil—digging dikes, draining small fields, and getting rid of surplus water. But this work was done crudely and casually and led to no real results. It was only after Latvia became Soviet that the problem of transforming the marshes was tackled in a fundamental way. Helped by other socialist republics the Latvians launched a planned attack on the marshes aimed at reclaiming an extensive area of "dead" soil and protecting arable land and pasture from an over-abundance of moisture. Work in this direction is now being conducted scientifically on a substantial scale. The Institute of Land Reclamation, founded in 1949 and attached to the Latvian Academy of Sciences, co-ordinates the work of all scientific workers engaged in this field.

At this Institute theoretical research is conducted in close connexion with major questions that arise daily in the practical work of land reclamation experts not in Pholographed by L. Mikhailov

There are hundreds of acres of "dead" soil in the vicinity of the Beibezi Experimental Centre. A year or two ago I saw peaty marshes and deep swamps there, but this summer the Beibezi fields were covered with golden wheat, clover, lucerne, timothy, Sudan grass, sunflowers taller than man, and other fodder crops.

Members of the Institute transplanted on local soil a number of plants from the southern districts of the Soviet Union. Not only did they survive but gave high yields. Sunflower, grown for fodder, yielded more than 30 tons per acre.

In 1953 a new variety of wheat-agropyron hybrid, the work of Academician N. V. Tsitsin, was cultivated. It was sown on land recently reclaimed from the marshes and in its first year yielded upwards of a ton per acre.

The Institute maintains close connexion with many collective farms, helping them with advice on reclamation problems. It is in constant touch with reclamation machine stations. Such stations did not exist in bourgeois Latvia; today there are fourteen of them. They have at their disposal modern machines such as single and multiple-scoop excavators, bulldozers, graders, and ditchers. With their help river beds are being straightened and dredged, main dikes dug, and local drainage networks completed. Within a season or two after draining, the reclaimed land is ready for cultivation. The services of these machine stations are available to every kolkhoz. The state grants long-term loans to agricultural cooperatives to cover four-fifths of their outlay on land reclamation. At its Nineteenth Congress the CPSU took decisions envisaging the launching of vast work for reclaiming marshland. Work of this nature is now in progress in many republics, including Byelorussia, the Ukraine, and Lithuania.

Latvia alone, but in other Soviet republics as well. Recently, for example, the staff of the Institute published details of new methods and formulas for calculating the rate of drainage of water during spring and autumn floods. This work greatly benefited organizations concerned with river regulation, collectors, the designing of irrigation canals and other hydro-technical constructions.

The Institute has two research stations of its own in rural areas and an experimental centre in the Beibezi Marshes, where novel reclamation projects are being carried out and the results carefully investigated. Research is being conducted into the influence of reclamation measures on the yield of various crops.



A glimpse of the Nakotne Kolkhoz which is being built on former marshland



Excavator dredging and straightening a river bed



# LITHUANIAN TURBINES



Superintendent of the Technical Department of the Pergale Turbine Works in Kaunas

Pholographed by L. Mikhnovsky

The Pergale (Victory) Turbine Works located in Kaunas is one of the pioneer engineering enterprises of Lithuania. The production of complicated machinery is indeed a signal triumph for that republic's industry if one bears in mind that engineering in Lithuania began to develop only since 1940, the year it joined the family of Soviet nations.

Before the advent of Soviet power the site of the various buildings of the modern Pergale plant was occupied by a small metal-working shop. During World War II the shop was gutted. Then, on its ruins, the Pergale Works arose. Its first departments were still in the finishing stage when equipment already began to arrive from many cities of the Soviet Union— Moscow, Novosibirsk, Tbilisi, Minsk, Leningrad. . . . Lithuania's sister republics were coming to her aid in establishing

The plant's new working personnel and the young engineers, who had but recently graduated from the Kaunas Polytechnical Institute, lacked the experience required for the manufacture of turbines. Here the staff of the Stalin Metal Works in Leningrad, one of the country's biggest turbine-producing plants, came to the rescue. Engineers and foremen of long training travelled to Kaunas to help get the plant going

and to teach their Lithuanian fellow workers the fine points of their craft. Moreover, Pergale men went through a thorough course of practical training at the Stalin Works in Leningrad.

While studying advanced Soviet engineering experience the Lithuanian workers began to introduce innovations of their own, improve the technology of production processes, and raise labour productivity. Using the power cutting method with good effect, the turner A. Balbunas and his work-mates reduced the time required for tooling parts to half or even a third of what it had been. B. Grigas, an ordinary worker, applied a special way he invented of working packing rings and made productivity of labour jump five-fold.

> Testing a vertical lathe received by the Lithuanian turbine builders from Kolomna, Moscow Region. This is an example of the diversified equipment sent to the Pergale Works by sister Soviet republics from such industrial centres as Moscow, Minsk, Tbilisi, Leningrad, and Ódessa



Bronis Kalinauskas, a worker, operates a machine made in Odessa

Last year over 50 rationalization proposals submitted by workers, engineers, and technicians were applied in practice and handsome savings were achieved in metal and funds.

Close bonds connect the works' staff with the Kaunas Polytechnical Institute. They carry on joint research work in aid of technical progress. High-speed turbines bearing the trade-mark Pergale have acquired fame not only in the Soviet Union but also abroad, in the People's Democracies.

The Kaunas Turbine Works is continuing to expand; the production of larger and more perfected motors is being mastered.





A. Speicys (left), superintendent of the plant's Technical Department, coaches two members of the graduating course, R. Semizavicius and M. Kuzmickas, specializing in turbine construction



Loading Pergale turbines

A Pergale turbine



# REPORT FROM TAIMYR

The settlement of Mungui, Taimyr Peninsula



A land of snow and eternal congelation, where winter lasts from eight to nine months, Taimyr leaves never-to-be-forgotten impression. It is the largest peninsula in Siberia and Asia's northernmost tip, and in our journey over it we went by aircraft, and by dog and reindeer sledges.

Dudinka was a small winter station before the Revolution, but in Soviet times it became an important town and the administrative, economic, and cultural centre of the Taimyr National Area. It is now a port and a railway station. Dudinka has several general schools as well as one for reindeer breeders, a power station, four clubs, health services, kindergartens and nurseries. Organized here seventeen years ago on the highest latitude in the Soviet Union, the North Vegetable Sovkhoz has acclimatized various vegetable cultures and now grows on its fields hundreds of tons of potatoes, cabbage, turnips, onions, and radish. Vegetable-growing is spreading in Taimyr. The Area has eighteen hothouses and hundreds of hotbeds. Vegetables are also being grown 600 miles above Dudinka. In the Khatanga tundra, which is climatically Taimyr's most forbidding district, Konstantin Yamkin, chairman of the Victory Kolkhoz, treated us to potatoes grown on the collective farm.

Clinics, kindergartens and nurseries, electricity, newspapers, and wireless have long ago entered the life of the peoples of the North.

Our way to the New Life Kolkhoz lay across an endless snowbound plain. The sun was dazzling

These hunters returned from the tundra with full bags





Cucumbers and tomatoes are grown all year round in the hot-houses of the North Sovkhoz, where, as this picture shows, they ripen under powerful electric lamps



This shop is in the settlement of Kresty

bright as our dog team sped us across the tundra. The temperature was forty below. Our faces burned in the frost and icicles kept forming on our fur hoods. Suddenly a sharp wind rose and a storm broke out over the tundra. In a few minutes our team stopped and we hurried to stretch ourselves out alongside our small sledge to avoid being covered by snow and to prevent the wind from tearing open our hoods or fur-coats In a snow-storm the slightest oversight may prove fatal.

We continued our two-day journey when it became calm again.

At the collective farm we made our first stop at the administration building, and found a hunters' meeting in progress there. The hunters reported on the number of pelts they had brought in, and spoke of new traps, and the winter feeding of the polar fox, of the advantages of nets made of caprone and of getting the motor fishing fleet ready for the spring, of the housing programme, and the extension of vegetable fields and dairy farm. In the speeches of the collective farmers and in the conversations we had with them we sensed their unbending determination to strengthen and further develop their farm.





1. Children of the Victory Kolkhoz nursery-school out for a walk. 2. The silver-fox farm at the kolkhoz. 3. A group of students of the school for reindeer breeders in Dudinka

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# IN A VILLAGE HOSPITAL

Photographed by Y. Chernyshov and N. Kireyev

The Soviet Government is spending large sums of money on public health. Budget appropriations in 1953 provide for a further improvement of medical services, an additional 55,000 hospital beds, 24,000 and 3,400 places in crèches and sanatoriums respectively, and the construction of 2,000 public-health establishments.

The article by Klavdiya Malyutina, Merited Doctor of the RSFSR, and the pictures accompanying it are about a hospital in. the village of Vinogradovo, Moscow Region, typical of Soviet rural health services.

The department of surgery at Vinogradovo hospital

Doctor E. N. Zaitsev making his daily round of the children's ward









 K. V. Malyutina, head physician at the hospital, and O. M. Potanina, her daughter, who is also a doctor in the same hospital, examining an electrocardiogram.
 Treatment with ultra-high-frequency currents. 3. In the X-ray room



When necessary the hospital provides a course of treatment in the homes of sick collective farmers

After graduating at a medical institute I went to work in the hospital in the village of Vinogradovo. It had only 18 beds, a staff of one doctor and six attendants, but it was called upon to provide medical assistance to the inhabitants of 37 villages located within a radius of some fifteen miles.

Thirty years have passed since then. Now the maternity, surgical, gynaecological, therapeutic, children's, and other wards, have 100 beds, the staff consists of 20 doctors and about 100 senior and junior attendants. The hospital and its out-patient clinic serve the population of ten villages located not more than three miles from Vinogradovo; the district now has six hospitals. We have a physiotherapeutics cabinet and an X-ray room, a clinical laboratory, blood transfusion cabinet, and an electrocardiograph. We apply the latest methods of diagnostics and treatment, including tissue therapy and sleep treatment.

The hospital staff, attaching great importance to the influence of the surroundings on the patient, sees that out patients get the best care and attentive service.

I. P. Pavlov, the great Russian physiologist, taught that the condition of the human organism depends largely on the environment and that disease sets in when the organism fails to adapt itself. That is why we study the working conditions and life of the population and this helps us to take timely measures to prevent diseases and to preclude the very possibility of their breaking out.

Our doctors lecture in all the ten villages on problems of prophylaxis and sanitation. People suffering from hypertonic disease, rheumatism, and malaria are held under constant observation and when necessary they are hospitalized or sent to a sanatorium.

After the example of other Soviet hospitals and polyclinics we subject the entire population of our circuit to a prophylactic investigation. Thus we get to know the health of every inhabitant, which allows us to diagnose disease in its earliest stage and, consequently, to fight it with a greater degree of success.

Most of our doctors have been with us for more than fifteen years. Experienced specialists and active social workers, they enjoy the respect of the people. Our veterans share their experience with the younger members of the staff. Five of our nurses went to a medical institute after sound practical training at the hospital, and returned to Vinogradovo as doctors. Twelve girls from among our junior attendants are studying at nurses' courses. My daughter, who was born in Vinogradovo, is now one of our doctors, as is her school-friend E. Zaitsev, who returned to his village after graduating from a medical institute in Moscow.

The Soviet Government holds the work of doctors in high esteem. I myself have been decorated with the Order of Lenin, the Order of the Red Star, and five medals, and awarded the title of Merited Doctor of the Republic. I combine my work at the hospital with public activities. The working people of Vinogradovo District elected me their deputy to the District Soviet three times in succession. I am a member of the Bureau of the Rural Commission at the Ministry of Health of the RSFSR and a member of the Moscow Regional Peace Committee. Working in the countryside, we country doctors share the interests of the entire country and do our best to perfect our knowledge so as to be of the utmost service to the people. Our hospital holds regular scientific conferences at which papers are read by local doctors and by Moscow specialists. We visit neighbouring hospitals and invite the doctors there to visit us for an exchange of experience.



Surgeon M. Y. Blynder, assisted by Doctor A. M. Shaposhnikova, performs an operation



When I look at the new dwellings of the collective farmers, built where miserable dark huts once stood, when I see happy, healthy children, and when I think that many of the diseases once rampant here have gone into the past never to return, I am happy in the knowledge that to achieve it all I, too, have done my part.

> Klavdiya MALYUTINA, Merited Doctor of the RSFSR

The Vinogradovo villagers know and respect Dr. K. V. Malyutina (first from the left), often bring their cares to her, and seek her advice both as a doctor and as a person of experience



This year the Diafilm Factory has put out about 250 new filmslides, totalling more than 5,000,000 prints. These films deal with a wide range of subjects: agriculture, the advanced experience of innovators in production, the achievements of science and engineering, the best works of literature and art of different countries and peoples, outstanding peace-fighters throughout the world.... Some are intended to illustrate lectures and talks on social and political, popularscientific, historical, and literary themes, others are used as visual aids in institutions of higher learning, schools, agronomical courses, and so on. Many filmslides are made for Soviet children.

Books for children are published in tremendous editions in the USSR, and there are studios producing films for children and special children's theatres. But the old "magic lantern", too, has not been forgotten, and in its modern form it is known to children as the filmoscope.

As distinct from glass slides, the filmslide permitted showing not separate pictures, but long and interesting stories.

The vivid pictures and their varied themes have won the love of young spectators. Children are shown these thrilling picture stories in schools, parks, clubs, nurseries, and at home.

Eighty new filmslides have been put out this year. Films based on world and Soviet classics are very popular, and these include tales by Pushkin, Krylov's fables, Victor Hugo's "Gavroche", Charles Perrault's "Little Red Riding Hood", Mayakovsky's "What To Be?" and many others.

Children enjoy films like "A Simple Thing", which tells them what a Young Pioneer should be like. "The Boy from Salt Street" acquaints children with the fight of the Spanish people for peace. "Beyond the Himalayas" tells of the life of a Hindu boy, and the Korean tale "Invincible Brothers" graphically describes the friendship between the Chinese and Korean peoples. Many filmslides acquaint children with the art of the peoples of the USSR, China, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and other countries.

Usually a film consists of 40 pictures, with a three-line caption under each. A writer adapting a story or narrative for a film has to compress the entire text into 120 lines, while the artist develops the subject from picture to picture and helps to reveal the story.

A filmslide is not a motion picture, nor is it a picture book, but it has common features with the one and the other.

L. VLADIMIRSKY, artist



Kerim sprang into the saddle. The steed reared and tore off faster than a whirlwind (from "Kerim's Steed", adapted from Eastern tales, drawn by A. Orlov)

Chou Li raised hls magic shield and the blinding glare made the dragon blink (from "Invincible Brothers", a Korean folk tale, drawn by Y. Makarov)





It is idle to Jar with the pope; so he, Balda, goes out and sits by the sea, And there to twisting a rope he sets And its further end in the sea he wets

(from <sup>●</sup>The Tale of the Pope and His Worker Balda", adapted from A. S. Pushkin's tale of the same name, drawn by I. Kesha-Proskuryakov)

Tsar-Gorokh declared war on all mushrooms (from "The War of the Mushrooms", adapted from a Russian folk tale, drawn by E. Evgan) The Cat and the Fox overtook Buratino. But at that moment he saw a swan, seized it by the legs, and it carried him across the lake (from "The Adventures of Buratino", after a story by A. N. Tolstoy, drawn by L. Vladimirsky)





#### A CITY REBORN

Stalin Avenue in Minsk. Razed by the Hitlerite invaders the capital of Soviet Byelorussia was rebuilt in amazingly short order Pholographed by V. Noskov

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# BATTLING FOREST FIRES

Photographed by L. Berkovits and Y. Tolchan





A plane locates a fire in the Yakut taiga

Shortly after dawn a patrol plane took off and sped over the taiga. Besides the pilot and co-pilot, it carried a brigade of air firemen. Smoke was spotted in the distance.

"Forest fire in sight. Get ready!" the parachutists were ordered.

The plane flew round the blaze at a low altitude while the co-pilot charted it on the map and contacted the nearest forestry by radio. The brigade jumped, landing in an open field in the vicinity of the fire. They collected their parachuted instruments and cylinders charged with a special chemical solution, filled their haversack sprayers and raced through a thicket towards the fire. To check its advance they set up a fire-proof belt by spraying the grass and bushes, and by digging shallow ditches. That was the first round of the fight. In half an hour the fire was brought under control and soon afterwards put out altogether.

The forestry air fire service stands vigilant guard over some 1,200 million wooded acres in the North, the Urals, Siberia, Yakutia, and the Far East.



An air fireman lands in a glade near the scene of the fire





Training for the downhill race



Competing skiers make for the starting line of the downhill race. In the foreground is Nadezhda Kashtanova, a worker of an Alma-Ata printing shop

Boris Kuznetsov is this year's USSR Champion in the composite skiing contest. An ex-foreman at a zink works he now studies at the Leningrad Physical Culture Institute

# On the Slopes Of Ala-Tau

Story and photographs by V. GIPPENREITER, Master of Sport



table-land is windless in any kind of weather. At long intervals there are heavy snowfalls. Great flakes circle lazily down for two or, rarely, three days; then again the sky is clear and sunny. The hush that follows a snow-fall is deep and solemn; the trees stand stock-



An asphalt highway runs from Alma-Ata to the still, as if afraid world Union and Alpine sports camps records have already to lose their snowy been set. Farther up,

#### robes.

The Ala-Tau is the scene of annual skiing competitions. Just before spring skiers come here from all over the country. Most of them are young people-students, factory and office workers, men and women of the most varied occupations. During the last contests we made the acquaintance of Anatoly Lapichev, a worker; Vladimir

In November, while it is still warm in the city, the skiers start training in the mountains. Walled in by the mountains the

near the Chimbulak table-land, you enter

the domain of the mountain-climbers and

skiers. The latter's speedways and slalom tracks are situated at heights going on ten

At the foot of

the northern slope of

the Trans-IIi Ala-Tau Range lies Alma-Ata,

the capital of the

Kazakh Soviet Social-

ist Republic. An as-

phalt highway climbs

the slope from the

city. In half an hour

a car brings you to

rink, where many All-

thousand feet.

an

Alpine skating-

Preobrazhensky, a doctor; Dmitry Rostovtsev, an engineer; Nadezhda Kashtanova, a working girl; Veniamin Tyurin, a lawyer; Victor Kurbesov and Gai Severin, research workers....

During the sporting season life in the

outskirts of Alma-Ata gains new momentum. As soon as mountain peaks are tipped with gold, red and blue flags appear along the slope marking the ski-tracks, and tiny dark figures are seen darting behind the Tien-Shan fir-trees and moraines followed by whirls of snowdust—they are the first contestants.

The events in-

clude slalom, downhill race, giant slalom, and the mountain composite contest of two events.

While the first of these events, conducted along a relatively short track (300 to 500 metres), requires perfect mastery of technique and faultless, lightning reaction, the second event calls for even higher qualifications. The skier, careering at a speed of up to 120 kilometres an hour, must cover a difficult three or four kilometre track with all its numerous obstacles—sharp turns, spring-boards, and depressions.

> The composite contest consists of both slalom and downhill race. The best skiers compete for the honours.

The giant slalom is also a thrilling event, conducted as it is at a terrific speed and demanding tactical precision in the performance of turnings and combined application of the

various forms of mountain sports.

Getting ready for the contests

When the contests come to an end, their participants leave for their homes and return to their jobs. Eagerly they look forward to a new meeting the following year, to new and greater victories.



Yuri Kabin, a student of the Kazakh Physical Culture Institute, on the slalom track



Here, on the Chimbulak table-land, the USSR skiing championship is annually decided

### FAMOUS VIOLIN MAKER'S BIRTHDAY



Photographed by Y. Korolyov

At the evening affair held in the Central House of Art Workers to celebrate the eightieth birthday of the famous bowed instrument maker T. F. Podgorny (second from the left)

Timofei Filippovich Podgorny



Not long ago well-known musicians, conservatory professors, and students as well as public figures of the Soviet capital gathered at Moscow's Central House of Art Workers to celebrate Timofei Filippovich Podgorny's eightieth birthday.

More than half a century Podgomy devoted to the making of violins, altos, 'cellos, and double-basses. More than a thousand of these were produced by the outstanding bowed instrument maker; they invariably received the highest testimonials from the most particular musicians.

Timofei Podgorny came of peasant stock. Two of his uncles, self-taught violin players both, instilled into the boy a passion for music. He learned to play the violin and then began to make such instruments, at first toy fiddles, then the real thing. Later Podgorny became an orchestra member while continuing to make violins.

In 1897 he constructed a set of bowed instruments for an entire orchestra, which marked his début as a professional violin maker. Many eminent musical performers of today play for the public on instruments of his make.

This past-master in the art of making violins does not stop there, however. He goes further and conducts research on the basis of his vast practical experience, his many years of experimentation, and deep study of bowed instruments. Musicians, professional and amateur violin makers are always welcome to share his knowledge and experience.

Podgorny-made instruments have repeatedly received recognition at international exhibitions. At the 1905 World Fair held in Brussels, the "Madonna", a violin of his make, was awarded a Grand Gold Medal, and the year after, at Antwerp, he received a Small Gold Medal. In 1912 he was adjudged the first prize at a St. Petersburg show for the best instruments for a quartet.

"I have dedicated my life to the thing I like most, the making of musical instruments," he said at the celebration meeting; "and I shall continue to work for the good of our Soviet art!"

A concert followed the speeches in honour of the famous violin maker. The performers, distinguished musicians all, played instruments of Timofei Podgorny's production.

> Galina BARINOVA, Violinist, Stalin Prize Winner



In October and November the football teams of various Soviet sports societies played a number of friendly matches with prominent foreign teams.

Moscow Spartak won three out of three in the Polish People's Republic. In Bulgaria it defeated the elevens of Sofia, the city of Stalin, and Plovdiv, but lost to the Central House of the People's Army. Out of three matches in Czechoslovakia, Moscow Dynamo won one and drew two—with the national team and the combined eleven of Slovakia—the score in both cases being 1:1. In Denmark, Moscow Dynamo won three matches out of three. The Zenit eleven of Leningrad played six matches in Finland and Norway, winning every single one. It scored a total of 25 goals and let through two. In Rumania, Tbilisi Dynamo lost two matches and tied two. Moscow Torpedo visited the German Democratic Republic, where out of four matches it won two, lost one, and drew one. Its total score was 10:6.



Moscow Torpedo plays against the Turbine eleven in the German city of Erfurt. The game was won by the Sovlet team, score 2:1



NOVOSIBIRSK. About a hundred of the Dynamo Sports Society's best skiers took part in the 4 x 5,000 metres and 3 x 3,000 metres relay races to mark the opening of the winter season Photographed by V. Leshchinsky

The Soviet parachutist sports team which took first place in the 1953 international parachutist contests. Left to right: I. Fedchishin (Dniepropetrovsk), N. Shcherbinin (Moscow), P. Kosinov (Dniepropetrovsk), Y. Stepanov, (Moscow), captain of the team, N. Storchienko (Moscow), N. Klimov (Stalingrad), and V. Seliverstova (Omsk) Photographed by V. Denisenkov





PRAGUE. A Soviet ice-hockey team on the city winter stadium. It won its friendly match against a Czechoslovak team with a score of 7:3 Czechoslovak Telegraph Agency

TASHKENT. The USSR Greco-Roman wrestling team championshipswere held here in November, with more than 150 wrestlers, representing19 sports societies, taking partPhotographed by G. Permenev







KIEV. This new all-welded bridge spanning the Dnieper was recently opened to city traffic. It links the western section of the Ukrainian capital with Darnitsa, a large industrial district Pholographed by M. Melnik



PEREYASLAV-KHMELNITSKY (Ukraine). Excavations carried out here by the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian Republic have unearthed an eleventh-century tomb Photographed by V. Sichov



#### NEW CALCULATOR

Collaborating with scientists and worker-innovators, Soviet designing engineers have mastered the production of an 80-column system of analytic calculating machines. The principal machine in the system is the tabulator, an electro-mechanical automatic machine which adds, subtracts, and prints particular intermediary and sum totals. This machine has 110,000 parts of more than 2,000 types. The cable length in the tabulator is nearly three and a half miles.

Calculators are used widely in the USSR, and they are produced in various types and models. In mathematical computation an analytic calculator increases labour productivity fifteen-fold and more. The picture shows a T-5 tabulator with its panels removed.

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### VISITORS FROM ABROAD



TAJIK REPUBLIC. In November a Chinese trade-union delegation, during its visit to the USSR, toured this republic's enterprises, collective farms, and cultural and public institutions. The photograph above was taken during a visit to the Lenin Kolkhoz in Stalinabad District
Photographed by N. Solvin



MOSCOW. A Greek cultural delegation in the Palace of Culture of the Stalin Auto Works in Moscow Photographed by V. Gorshkov





MOSCOW. At an evening in honour of Finnish-Soviet friendship held on November 24. Numerous representatives of the Moscow public gathered in a hall decorated with the national flags of the USSR and Finland. The gathering gave a warm welcome to a group of Finnish public figures, scientists, and artists. A show of Finnish art which opened last month attracted wide interest in the capital. The picture on the left was taken in one of its halls during the opening ceremony at which a speech was made by Aarre Heinonen, head of the Finnish artists' delegation Photographed by V. Ruikovich

LENINGRAD. These foreign ships in the docks of Leningrad are among the many dozens that visit this seaport





On November 19 the Moscow public observed the 125th death anniversary of Franz Schubert. A memorial meeting in honour of the great composer was held in the Grand Hall of the Chaikovsky Conservatoire. The speaker was Dmitri Shostakovich, the Soviet composer. The meeting was followed by a concert Photographed by V. Sobolev



KENE3HOB.

People's Artiste of the USSR Alexandra Yablochkina was 85 years old on November 15. This is her 66th season in the State Academic Maly Theatre where she has performed in some 200 roles. "It calls for an inborn love for the stage to play in such an enormous repertoire," wrote V. I. Nemirovich-Danchenko about the actress. Since 1915 she has been Chairman of the Council and of the Presidium of the All-Russian Theatrical Society. She is a Stalin Prize winner and has been decorated with two Orders of Lenin and two Orders of the Red Banner of Labour. She is seen here delivering a speech of acknowledgement during a meeting in her honour at the Moscow Actors Club

Photographed by Y. Yavno



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In November the country's cinema houses showed several new Soviet pictures: "Vassa Zheleznova", after the play by Maxim Gorky of the same name; a concert film, "Songs of the Motherland"; a magicolour adven-ture film, "Frontier Post in the Mountains"; and a picture for children, "Alyosha Ptitsin Steels His Charac-ter". Above are posters of these films

This issue was designed by chief artist A. ZHITOMIRSKY, and artists M. ZABOLOTSKAYA, and A. CHERNYSHOVA

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"First Aid" (See picture sketch "Village Hospital", pp. 28-29 of this issue) Photographed by Y. Chernyshov

#### BACK COVER: A Winter's Day Photographed by V. Shakhovskoy

