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# SOVIET UNION

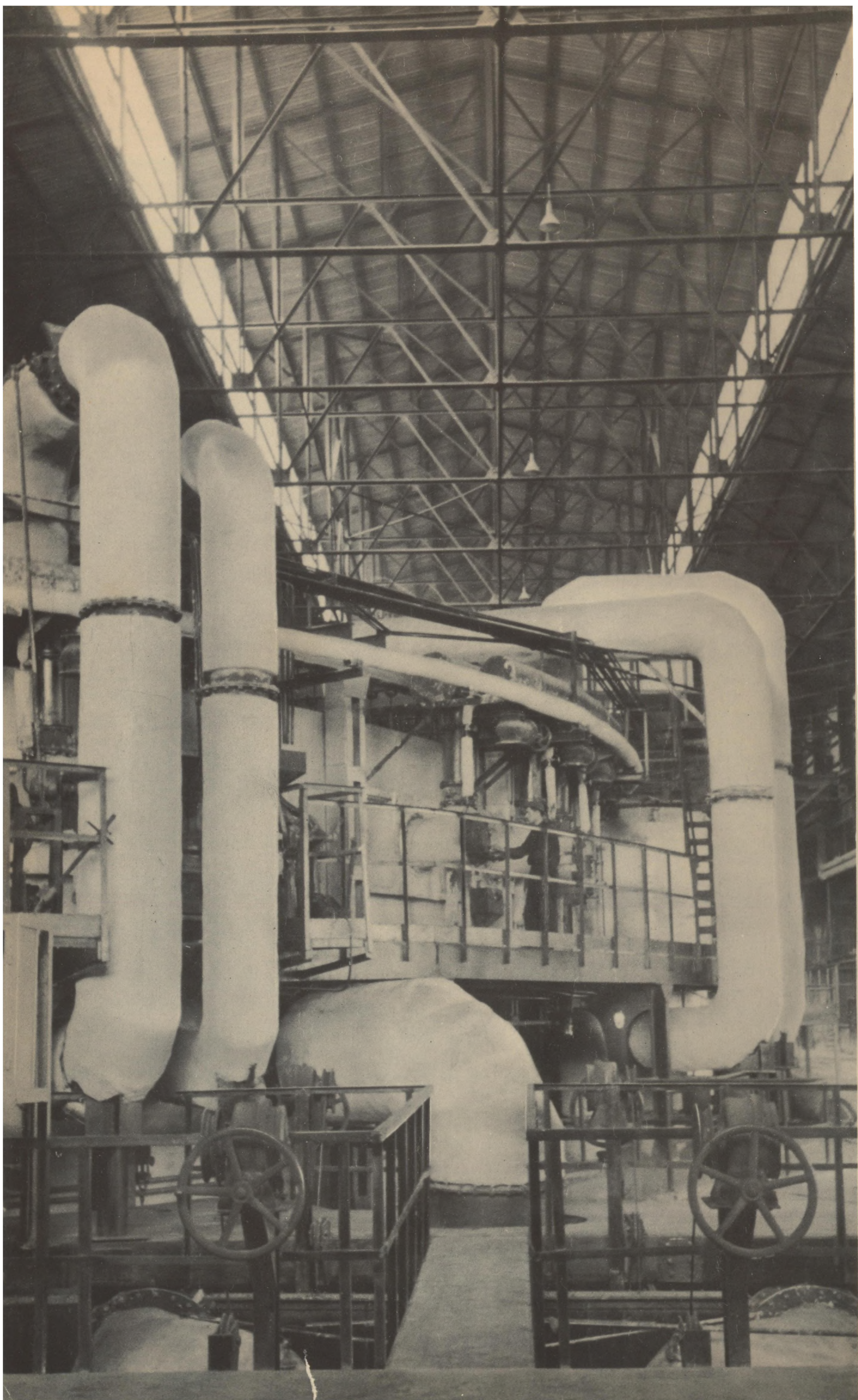


No. 3 (49)

MARCH 1954







This is a ring furnace in the pipe-rolling shed at the Transcaucasian Iron and Steel Works named after Joseph Stalin (See "Rustavi Pipes", pages 30 and 31)  
*Photographed by N. Khorunzhy*

COVER: A Moscow family. The Maximovs, Olga and her husband Vladimir, are both employed at the Gas Appliances Factory. Their daughter Ira is four years old. (See "Ira's Sunday", page 36)

*Photographed by V. Shakhovskoi*



# SOVIET UNION



ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY

No. 3 (49)

PUBLISHED IN RUSSIAN, ENGLISH, CHINESE, KOREAN, FRENCH, GERMAN, AND SPANISH LANGUAGE EDITIONS

MARCH 1954



Joseph Stalin. 1879-1953



# NEW TARGETS IN GRAIN PRODUCTION

At a plenary session of the Central Committee of the CPSU, recently held in Moscow, N. S. Khrushchov, First Secretary of the CC, made a report on a further increase in the country's grain production and on cultivation of virgin and fallow lands. The means of fulfilling this task were concretely outlined in the decisions adopted. On a par with increasing the grain yields—the chief task in agriculture—vast importance attaches to the cultivation of new lands. The plenum set forth a target of major state significance: to expand the grain crop area by bringing under cultivation not less than 13,000,000 hectares (32,110,000 acres) of virgin and fallow lands in Kazakhstan, Siberia, the Urals, the Volga country, and in the North Caucasus so as to harvest 1,100-1,200 million poods (19,200,000 metric tons) of grain from these lands in 1955.

Tens of thousands of youths and girls, members of the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League, have volunteered to push through this scheme. The first group of volunteers was addressed by N. S. Khrushchov in the Grand Kremlin Palace. The meeting called on Komsomol members and other young men and women of the Soviet Union to join the ranks of the trail-blazers and bring new land under the plough.

There has been an enthusiastic response to the Komsomol call. Thousands of young people from Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, and other cities volunteered for development work in Kazakhstan, Siberia, the Urals, the Volga country, and in the North Caucasus.

Many machine-and-tractor stations sent entire volunteer brigades of tractor drivers and other personnel to work the virgin lands.



This drawing by V. Seleznyov, published recently in the "Komsomol'skaya Pravda" and showing a group of young people leaving at the Party's call to develop virgin lands, is one of the many works now being produced by Soviet composers, poets, and artists, inspired by the patriotic movement of the youth



Young volunteers of Moscow and Moscow Region gathered in the Grand Kremlin Palace on February 22

Photographed by V. Savostyanov and V. Yegorov



Young people who have volunteered to go to work on virgin lands are getting a good send-off from their friends at factories, collective farms, and machine-and-tractor stations. "Here's something to remember us by," says a worker at the Dynamo Factory, Moscow, to his Komsomol workmate

Photographed by V. Zunin

The send-off of the first group of volunteers at the Kazan Terminal in Moscow

Photographed by V. Zunin





# TRIUMPH OF SOVIET DEMOCRACY

After a country-wide campaign lasting two months, elections to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR were held on March 14. As in previous years the Communist Party went to the polls in a close bloc with non-Party people, jointly discussing and nominating the candidates for the two chambers, the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities. Once again the Soviet people demonstrated their unshakeable unity with the Communist Party and the Soviet Government. The election results showed unanimity on the part of the voters and were a new triumph of Soviet democracy. All the candidates nominated by the Communist and non-Party bloc were elected.

The campaign was accompanied by an upsurge of labour enthusiasm. Election day passed in the spirit of a country-wide holiday.



**MOSCOW.** Voters of the Kirov Elections District have come to meet their candidate to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, A. Chutkikh, a foreman at the Krasnokholmsk Worsted Mills and a Stalin Prize winner. The meeting took place in the Palace of Culture of the Stalin Motor Works

*Photographed by V. Zunin*



**KIEV.** E. Kharitonova, a canvasser, talks to a group of voters at the canvassing centre of Elections Precinct No. 1, Lenin District

*Photographed by I. Pap and S. Mikhailova*



**NOVOSIBIRSK.** During the election campaign planes of the local air lines delivered election pamphlets to remote districts

*Photographed by V. Leshchinsky*

**KIRGHIZ SSR.** K. Kurmanaliev, a canvasser at a winter pasture in Talass Region, conducts a talk with herders about the Supreme Soviet elections regulations

*Photographed by B. Borisov*



**KAZAKH SSR.** K. Daniyarova, a canvasser, talks to voters in the house of R. Abdildinova, a member of the Stalin Kolkhoz, Taldikurgan District

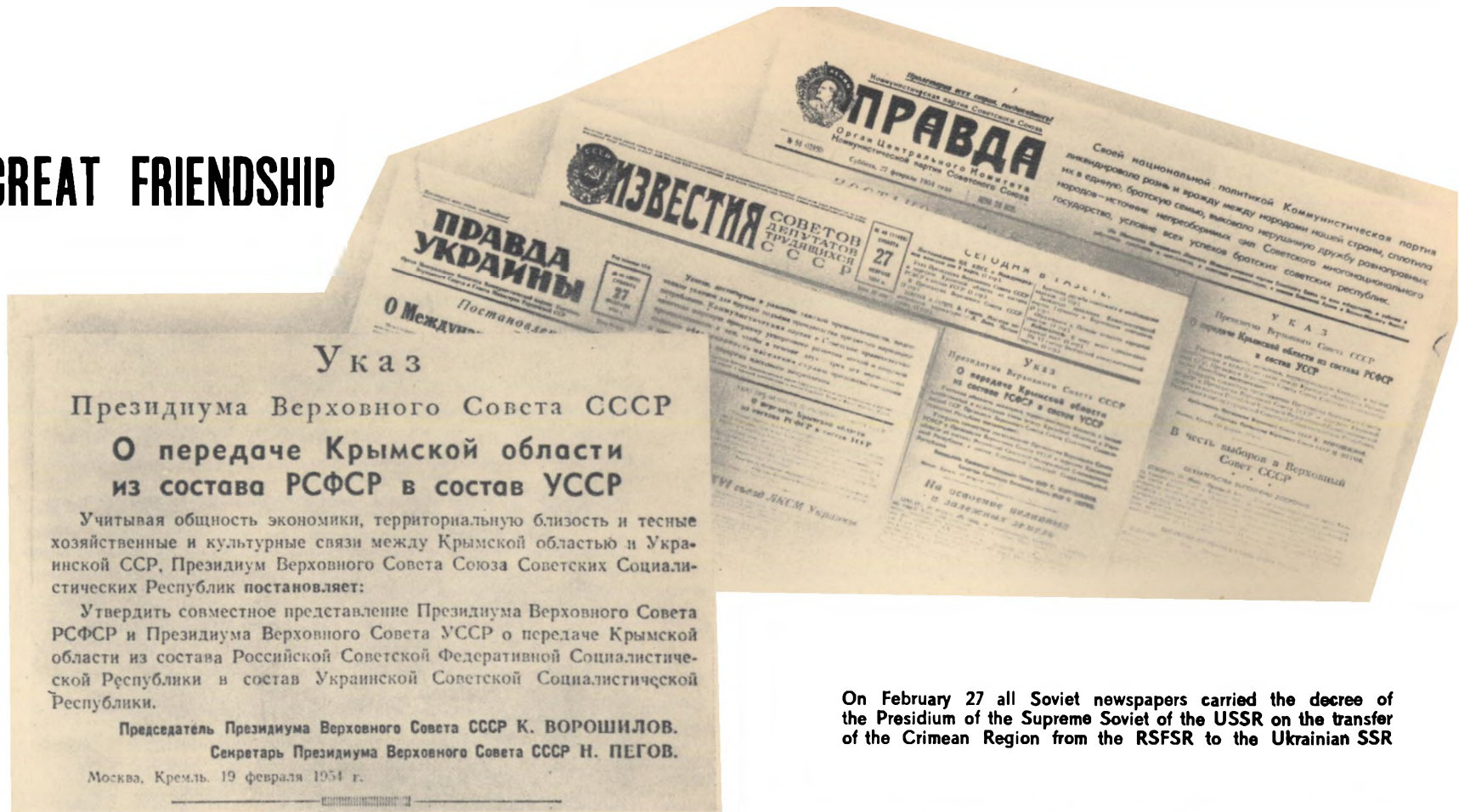
*Photographed by I. Budnevich*





# TOKEN OF A GREAT FRIENDSHIP

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet approved last month a joint motion made by the Presidiums of the Supreme Soviets of the Russian Federation and the Ukrainian Republic to transfer the Crimean Region from the former to the latter. That was an act of great state importance. It testified to the further strengthening of the unity and inviolable friendship of the Russian and Ukrainian peoples within the great Soviet commonwealth of fraternal nations.



On February 27 all Soviet newspapers carried the decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on the transfer of the Crimean Region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR



UZBEK SSR. The southern regions of the Soviet Union have begun spring work. Here we see grain sowing in the Stalin Kolkhoz *Photographed by G. Permenev*



MOSCOW. In the Kremlin last month K. Y. Voroshilov, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, presented Orders to staff members of the USSR Academy of Sciences decorated for prolonged and meritorious service. This picture, taken after the presentation ceremony, shows K. Y. Voroshilov talking with the scientists *Photographed by V. Yegorov*

RIGA. The first Latvian Agricultural Show has opened here, including a display, in Seventeenth of June Square, of various machines used on the republic's fields *Photographed by L. Mikhnovsky*







NEW FOOD SHOP

There is always a big range of foodstuffs in this new shop, the largest in the country, opened in Moscow's State Department Store

*Photographed by V. Shakhovskoi*



# OUR MINISTER

By **SAMED VURGUN**,  
Author, Stalin Prize Winner

*Photographed by S. Kullshov and F. Kushnerov*

I first met Zuleiha Seid-Mamedova 18 years ago when we were both members of a large deputation from the Azerbaijan people that was received in the Kremlin by leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government.

At that time Zuleiha, one of the first women in Azerbaijan to take up flying as a sport, was only twenty-one. But already then her vivacity, her thirst for knowledge, and the heartfelt interest she took in people made me confident that this girl with the wide-awake eyes would go far.

The Soviet Union is truly a land of opportunity.

Today Zuleiha Seid-Mamedova manages affairs of state as Minister of Social Welfare of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic. In the years following our meeting in the Kremlin she finished the Azerbaijan Industrial Institute, where she specialized in oil engineering, and then entered the Zhukovsky Air Force Academy, where she graduated from the Department of Navigation. During World War II she fought heroically at the battle fronts for her Homeland's freedom and independence and for the liberation of the peoples of Europe from fascist slavery. She was decorated with three Orders.

For centuries the women of the East were deprived of all rights, were shackled by fanatical religious prejudices. All public and cultural activity was barred to them. Engaging in any of the sciences was out of the question. Their opinion was never taken into account; they could not marry the man they loved; joy, laughter, gaiety were things they never knew. Women were sold and bought. It was considered sinful for them to sing, dance, play a musical instrument, interest themselves in "men's affairs", voice their thoughts.

The women of the Soviet East, emancipated from the chains of slavery, enjoy full and equal rights. They participate actively in state administration, write verse and books, compose symphonies, make scientific discoveries, conquer air, land, and sea. One's heart rejoices at their radiant life.



**A view of Baku, capital of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic**

**This picture was taken in 1938, when Zuleiha Seid-Mamedova was twenty-three. She was then one of the first women in Azerbaijan to take up flying as a sport**



**Here we see Zuleiha Seid-Mamedova, Minister of Social Welfare, on a visit to model-aircraft makers at the Baku House of Young Pioneers**





Zuleiha Seid-Mamedova with her niece Gyulyara, a pupil in the first form



Paying a visit to Mageram Mamedov, an elderly oil worker retired on pension



Zuleiha Seid-Mamedova prepares a speech she will make at a sitting of the republic's Council of Ministers

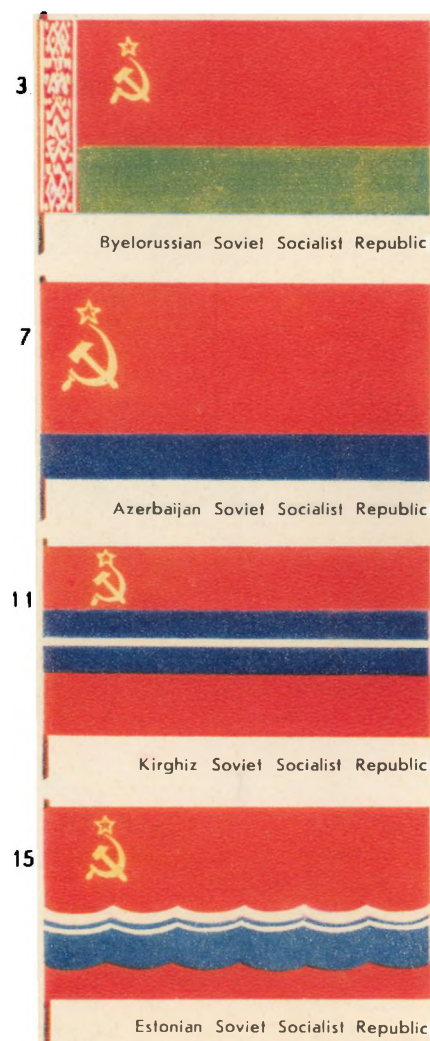


During reception hours. Here Zuleiha Seid-Mamedova and M. A. Petrov, head of the Pension Department at the Ministry of Social Welfare, are seen talking with Magifa Mamed-kizi Efendieva, a pensioner



# STATE FLAGS

## OF THE CONSTITUENT REPUBLICS OF THE USSR







## YOUNG VOTERS

A pre-election picture: at a campaigning centre in Lenin Election District of the city of Moscow, young men and women, first-time voters, listen to reminiscences by two veteran Bolsheviks who attended the early Congresses of Soviets, I. P. Flerovskiy (extreme left) and M. D. Gorchayev. Throughout the country the March 14 elections to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR were marked by great political enthusiasm, unanimity, and solidarity with the Communist Party and the Soviet Government. The people elected their finest sons and daughters to the highest organ of power: men and women

of all the country's nationalities, front-rankers in industrial and agricultural production, people prominent in public affairs, science, engineering, and the arts, and men serving in the Soviet armed forces. As always, there was a Communist and non-Party election bloc. For two months before March 14 thousands of canvassers and election speakers held talks about the Soviet electoral law and the election regulations, about the domestic and foreign policy of the Soviet Government, and acquainted the broad masses of the population with the "Appeal of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to All Voters" and with the biographies of the candidates.

*Photographed by V. Tarasevich*





A panorama of the site where Kazan's river port is being built. Left: Vasily Znachkov, a topographical engineer

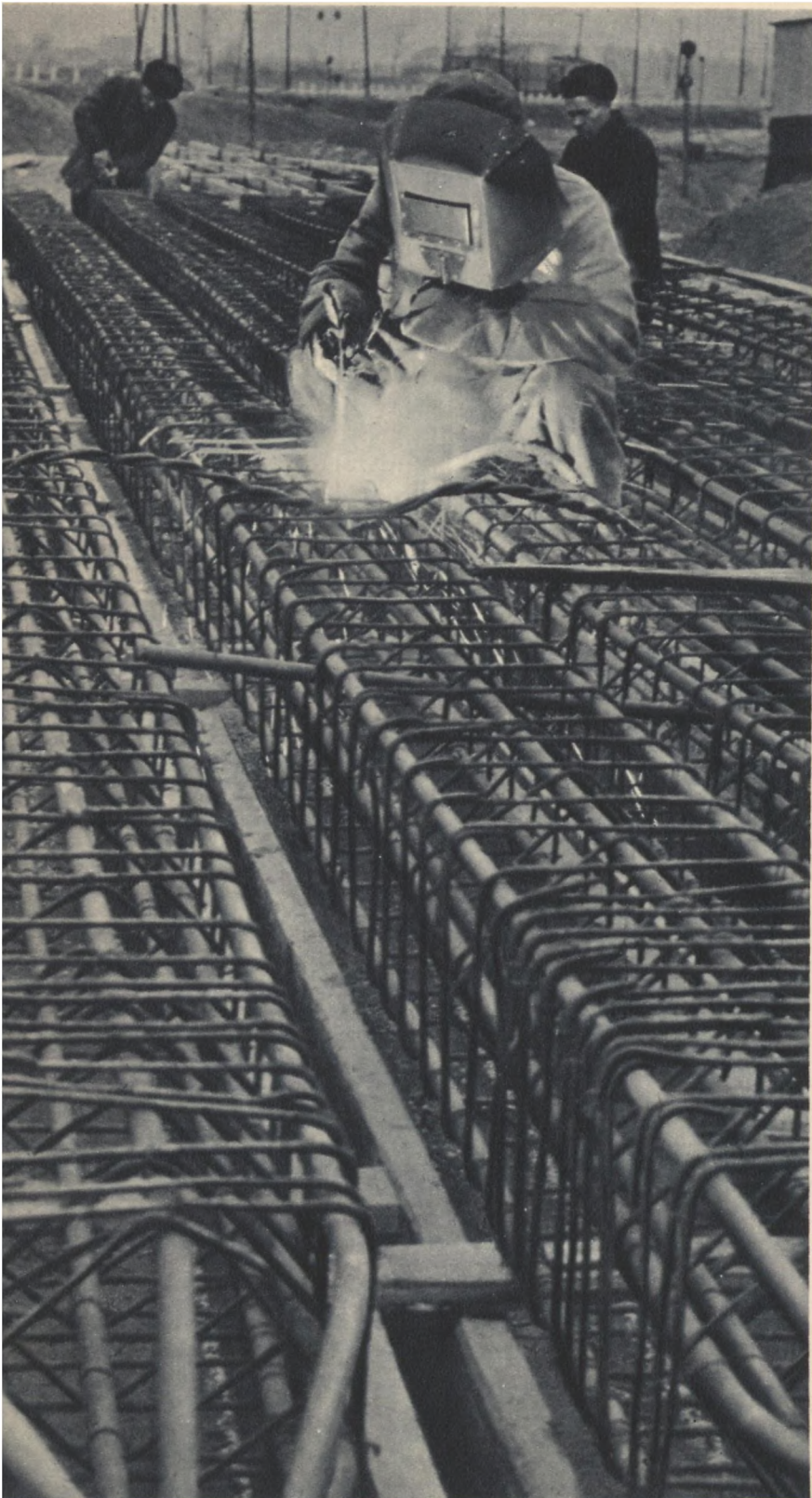
# AT THE WALLS OF THE KAZAN KREMLIN

By A. SHULGIN, Chief of Construction

Photographed by Y. Chernishov

A somewhat unusual construction project is under way at Kazan, capital of the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic and large manufacturing and cultural centre in the Volga midlands. Here we are building a large river port on a site some three miles from the Volga. The river will come up to the site later, when the Kuibishev hydropower scheme is finished and the Volga rises to flood low-lying districts along the banks. Today, it is only in the high-water period in spring that ships can approach the city, for then the estuary of the Kazanka, a Volga tributary which flows past the ancient Kazan Kremlin becomes navigable.

Under the fifth five-year plan (1951-55) the amount of freight transported along the riverways of the USSR is to increase by 75-80 per cent over 1950; the capacity of the river ports is to be doubled. In the basins of the Volga, Kama, and other rivers, ports are being modernized and new ones built. The port of Kazan will be one of the largest, most highly mechanized, and best looking. Its construction area spreads out over three quarters of a square mile. At work here are efficient excavators, bulldozers, scrapers, and steam pile-drivers. Suction dredges are deepening the approaches to the port and building high dikes to contain the Volga waters.



Gabbas Habibullin's crew is assembling a pipe line that will carry soil from suction dredges to build up a dike

Left: Working on the framework of a bridge for urban traffic along the crest of a dike at the port





Mechanical shovels remove millions of cubic feet of earth from the construction area



Dmitri Zhadan, excavator operator, is one of the best port builders



## PRODUCTION RESERVES

The workers of the Zaslauka Manufaktura Textile Mills in Riga are active in the patriotic movement for higher output by making the most efficient use of existing factory floor-space. Here is what two front-rankers at this mill, Maija Drigant and Maria Mirolubova, named Latvia's Best Weavers by the Latvian Council of Ministers and the Latvian Trade-Union Council, told a "Soviet Union" correspondent about the movement:

"The goods we produce, such as rayon staple fabrics, improved sateens, madapollam, drill, calico, table-cloths, and piqué bed-spreads, are sold not only in Latvia but in other Soviet republics as well. We are improving quality all the time. Last November, for instance, more than 90 per cent of our fabrics were Grade A, as compared with 86 per cent in June. The mill turned out 720,000 yards of cloth above schedule last year.

"The Zaslauka is a big, modern enterprise. It regularly receives new equipment. In 1952 and 1953 just the weaving factory got 350 automatic looms.

"New machines of course have a good deal to do with the mill's fine record, but the main thing is the workers' resourcefulness in making most efficient use of the factory floor-space and equipment. The spinners and weavers are applying better and better work methods and drawing on production reserves that were not used before.

"By perfecting her work methods Razina, a spinner, began to fix thread tears in 3.8 seconds instead of 6 seconds, and to change the bobbin in 9.8 seconds instead of 12. Her example was quickly taken up by others, and the time-saving has increased output. Another case: a crew of weavers headed by assistant foreman Ogurov increased the speed of the looms and cut down idle time, after which they began turning out more than 110 yards of cloth over and above their daily quota.

"Everybody joined the economy drive with a will. The result? An additional output of 350,000 yards of cloth—and higher earnings. Our earnings became nearly twice as high as in 1948.

"Experience shows that where there is an inventive approach to the job, much more goods of high quality can be obtained from one and the same factory floor-space. At our mill 66 crews are competing for economy of materials and higher output per unit of floor-space. This year we expect to increase production by another ten per cent without expanding the shops."

Maria Mirolubova (left) and Maija Drigant, front-rank weavers at the Zaslauka Manufaktura Textile Mills in Riga, capital of the Latvian Republic

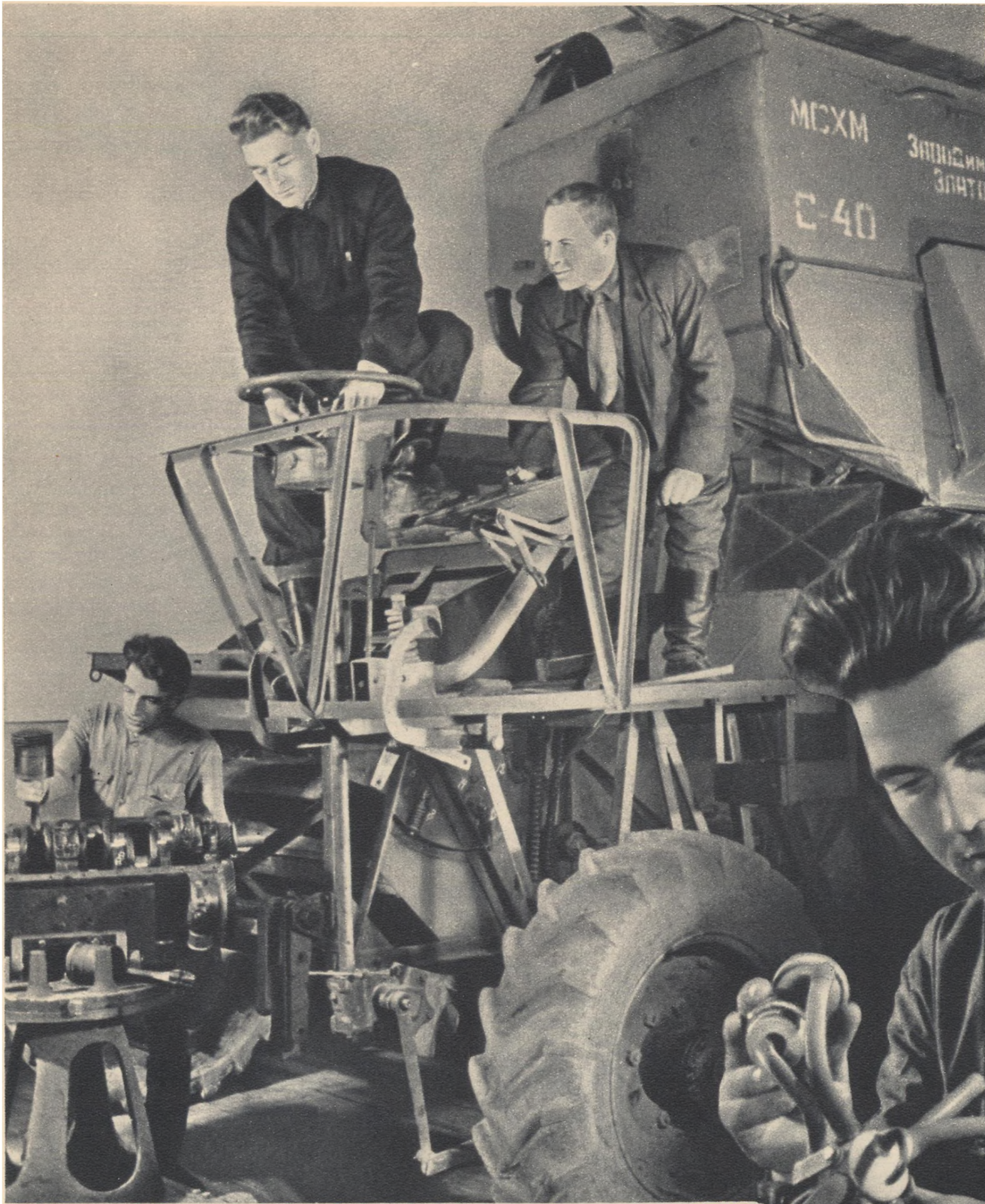
Photographed by L. Mikhnovsky





# Skilled Operators

Photographed by A. Ustinov



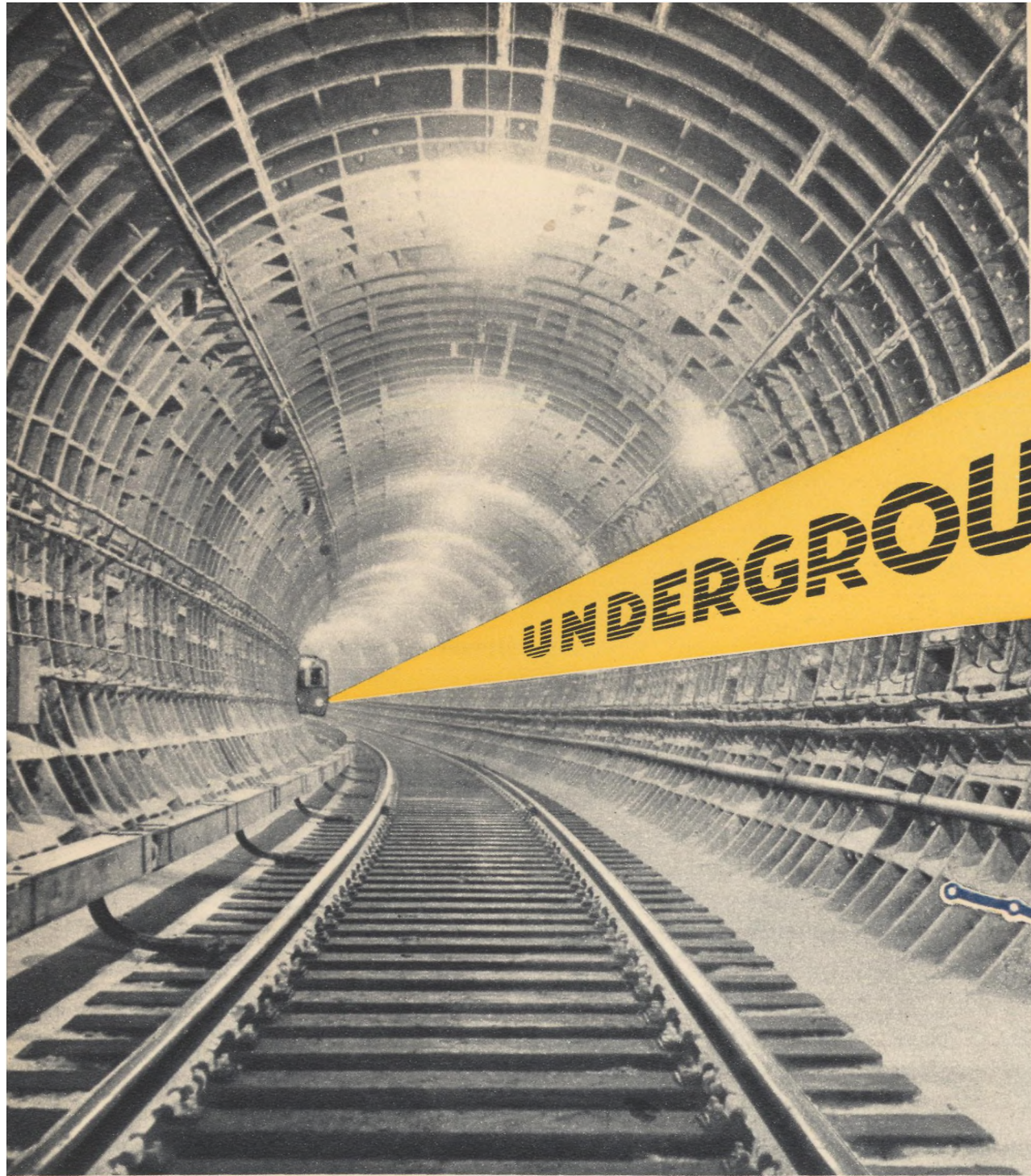
Trainees at the Adigei Agricultural Machine Operators School study the self-powered combine

I. M. Gritsinenko, a demobbed serviceman, attends the Adigei school. He is seen here with an electric milker

The machine-and-tractor stations, with their vast fleet of farm machines, are called upon to play the main and decisive role in accomplishing the task, set by the Communist Party and the Soviet Government, of achieving a sharp upswing in all branches of agriculture in a short period. Still more machines are soon to be introduced into collective farming, including many of new types and models. To train skilled operators for the machine-and-tractor stations there is a system of special schools at which hundreds of thousands of young men and women are studying the fundamentals of agronomy and scientific farming and learning how to run and maintain tractors, lorries, combine harvesters, and other machines. One of them, the Adigei Agricultural Machine Operators School, has since the war trained some 9,000 skilled workers for machine-and-tractor stations.







# UNDERGROUND BELT

Photographed by A. Stolyarenko



Making the first run on the last link in the Main Belt of Moscow's Metro

A MAP OF THE MOSCOW METRO. The brown line runs between Sokolniki Station and the Gorky Recreation Park Station. The green line connects the Izmallovo and Kiev stations. The line marked dark blue runs from Sokol Station to the Stalin Auto Works Station. The fourth section—marked red—is the Main Belt, with the stretch that has just been completed shown in double lines. This new stretch has two stations, Krasnaya Presnya (1) and Kiev Belt (2). The broken red line shows the fifth section, now in construction. The spur-line in the top half of the map links the Main Belt with the permanent USSR Agricultural Exhibition grounds, and the one in the lower half runs to the new University buildings on Lenin Hills. The River Moskva is marked in blue



Work on the outside of Krasnaya Presnya Station is in its final stage



A memorable moment in the construction of the last section of the Main Belt. Two brigades of tunnellers, working from opposite ends, meet underground



It was in 1932 that construction of the Moscow underground railway was launched. At that time I was in charge of building the Krasniye Vorota Station. Though capitalist newspapers were sceptical about Moscow's ability to build its own underground, we soon showed what those predictions were worth. It took little more than two years for Soviet builders to finish the first section of the Metro. It was 7.5 miles long with 13 underground stations and 17 entrance buildings on the surface, all of them remarkable for the way they solved various engineering and architectural problems.

Since that time Moscow has completed four sections of its Metro, now over 60 miles long, with 38 underground stations open from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. In 1953 the number of passengers carried was 803,000,000.

Moscow Metro stations were designed by the country's best architects for the comfort and convenience of passengers. Though they lie deep under the ground there is no oppressive subterranean feeling about them. Just the contrary, they convey an atmosphere of spaciousness and airy brightness.

The specialized staff whose job it is to keep the tracks in order, maintain the power system, and see that the stations are clean and attractive runs into thousands. As soon as the last train has moved into the depot these people set about their work. They use ingenious appliances such as fault-finders to test the condition of the rails, and machines to clean the tunnels, wash the floors, and remove dust.

The Moscow Metro continues to grow, the latest additions being the Kiev Belt and Krasnaya Presnya stations, the final links in a belt line of 12.5 miles.



The underground hall of Krasnaya Presnya Station

The Kiev Belt Station has as its theme of decoration the great friendship between the peoples of Russia and the Ukraine. In its central hall are 18 mosaic panels depicting outstanding events in the history of the two peoples during the three centuries since their reunion. Krasnaya Presnya Station has been decorated to commemorate the Revolutions of 1905 and 1917.

These stations complete the Main Belt of the Moscow Metro. And no sooner was work finished on them than it started on the next section—the fifth—consisting of two radial lines between seven and eight miles long. One of them will link the Main Belt with Lenin Hills, where the tall new buildings of Moscow University stand, and the other with the USSR Agricultural Exhibition grounds. While geological prospecting is going on, work has already started on sinking shafts and driving tunnels; in the architectural offices designs for nine new stations are being prepared.

The Metro builders have a great variety of specialized machinery and appliances at their disposal, including tunnelling shields, machines for laying and bolting cast-iron tubing, electric trolleys, and rock-loading machines. During construction of the Metro's fifth section tunnelling speed will be raised to 26-33 feet a day by the use of such innovations as a powerful self-propelled shield.

Moscow's Metro well deserves its world-wide reputation. It is at the same time beautiful and technically efficient and must be considered one of the most interesting architectural edifices of the socialist era.

I. D. GOTSIRIDZE,  
First Deputy-Minister of Railways of the USSR



Below: View of the underground hall of Kiev Belt Station designed by Ukrainian architects and artists. Above right: Two of the 18 mosaic panels that decorate this station. The top one depicts the historic council meeting at Pereyaslav where the decision to reunite the Ukraine and Russia was proclaimed. The subject of the lower panel is the uniting of the whole Ukrainian people in the Ukrainian Soviet Republic





# THE GREEN SQUARES



Enthusiasts of the advanced square-pocket method of planting have met at a USSR Conference of Machine-and-Tractor Station Workers in the Grand Kremlin Palace. The MTS managers and workers in the photograph are, left to right: A. Olenichenko (Dagestan), A. Turkin, and K. Mirzoyants (Rostov Region), S. Shu (Krasnodar Territory), B. Kunich (Grozny Region), S. Starusev (Kazakhstan), G. Chubarov (Molotov Region), and V. Shvidko (Krasnodar Territory)

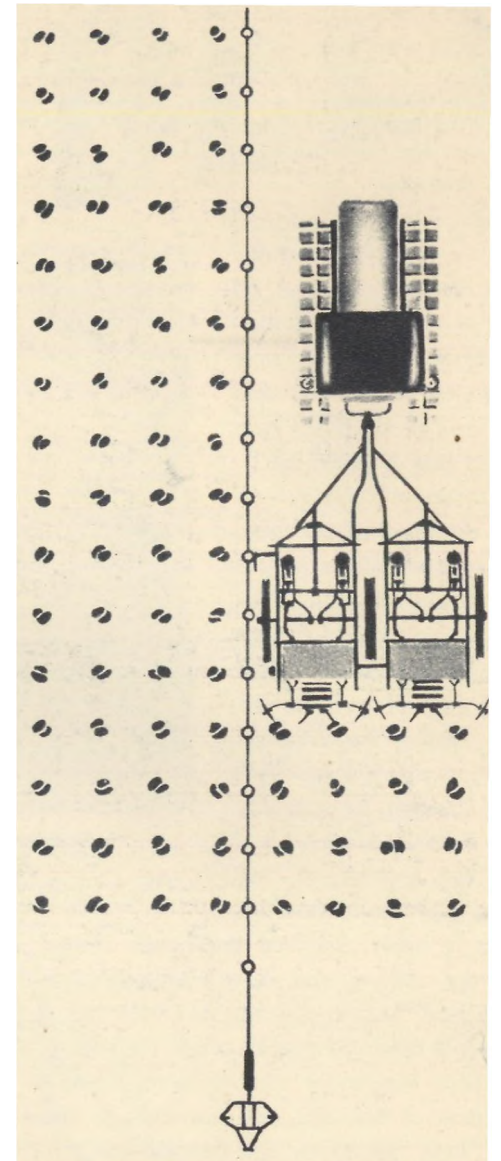


Diagram of the new SKG-4 potato-planting machine. The pockets are marked by check wire. This machine plants four rows at a time and simultaneously deposits granulated fertilizer into each pocket

The SKG-4 machine on the Forward to Communism Collective Farm



By Academician T. LISENKO

The September Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party has set the task of achieving a rapid improvement in all branches of agriculture and outlined concrete measures for attaining this goal. The decisive part in carrying out this task will be played by increasing mechanization of all agricultural work.

In field work there was until recently a serious lag in mechanizing the cultivation of row crops, such as vegetables, potatoes, sunflower, maize, etc. When these row crops are sown by the so-called row method, the soil can be cultivated by machinery only in the intervals between the rows, while the rows themselves are cultivated by hand, which means heavy labour and delay in row-crop cultivation.

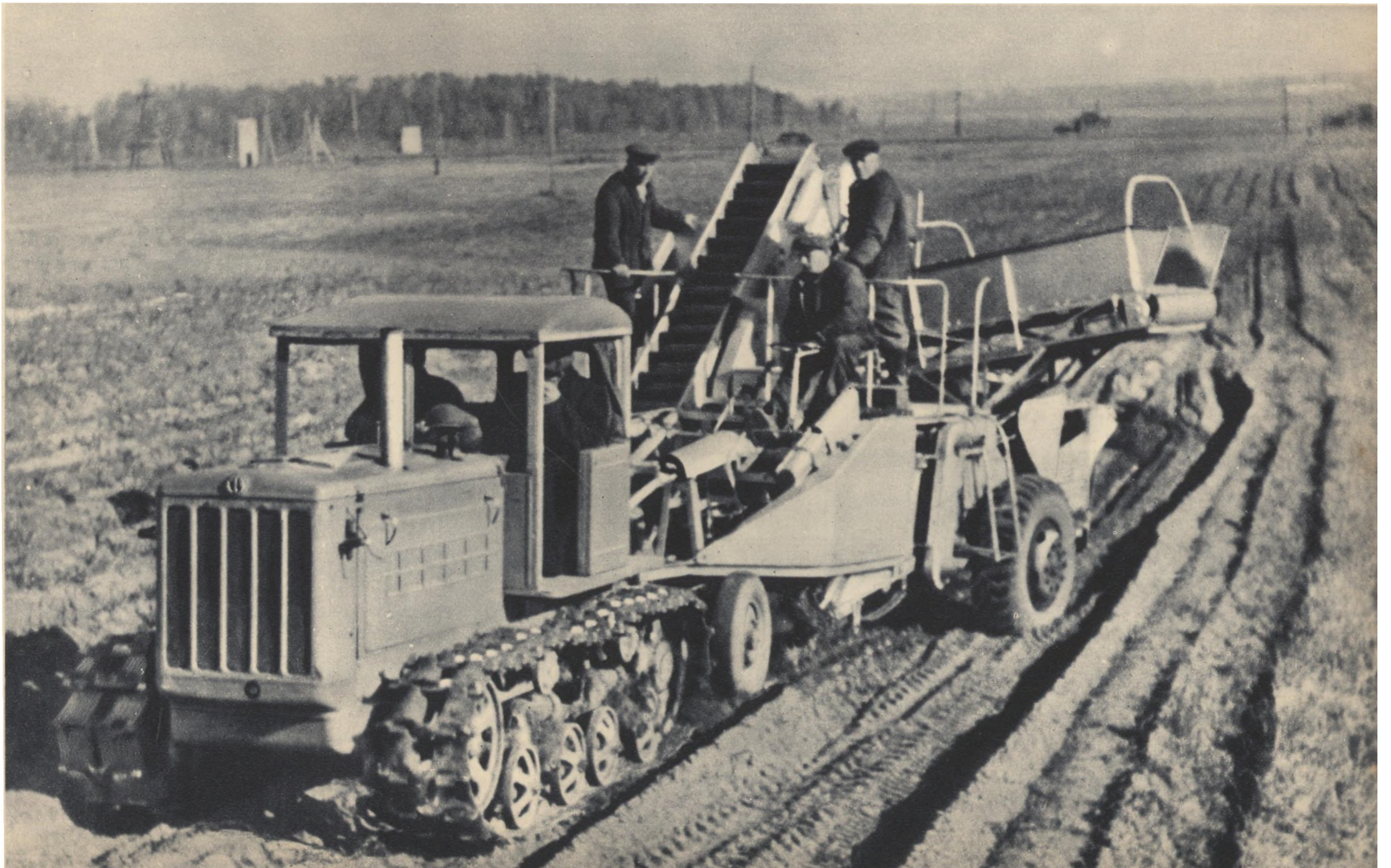
Practice has shown the need to mechanize soil cultivation and weed control not only between the rows but in the rows themselves. This problem has been solved by changing the method of planting and sowing so that tractor-drawn implements can cultivate the rows lengthwise and crosswise. As we know, such cultivation is done by machines whose work tools are adjusted to a definite width. Consequently, the distance between the plants in the row must be the same as that between the rows. The plants must also be strictly in line in both directions. This enables us to cultivate, loosen the soil, and weed both down and across the field. In this way, the plants can be machine cultivated from all four sides instead of only two, as is the case when they are planted in rows.





Cultivation of potatoes planted by the square-pocket method on the Forward to Communism Collective Farm

This is a new improved combine harvesting potatoes on the Forward to Communism Collective Farm







← Square planting of cabbage seedlings in individual peat-compost pots is done with the help of a special machine designed by A. Nedashkovsky. Its planting device is seen in the photograph. This machine plants more than 40,000 seedlings a day on an area of as much as five acres. The individual peat-compost pots, in which the seedlings are grown and then planted out, preserve the roots from harm, shorten the period of growth, and secure higher yields. The pots are produced mechanically at a rate of 70,000-100,000 a day



Cabbage cultivation on the Luch Collective Farm, Krasnogorsk District, Moscow Region



Mechanized harvesting of cabbage has been made possible by the square-pocket method





Mark Ozerny, Hero of Socialist Labour and Stalin Prize winner (Red Partisan Collective Farm, Dniepropetrovsk Region), examines maize sown by the new method. Square-pocket sowing of maize permits mechanized cross cultivation and produces higher yields

It is sometimes assumed that this "square-pocket" method may decrease the harvest yield since the number of hills per acre is less than in the usual row method. But this is not so, however, for in square-pocket planting not one but two or three plants are left in each hill, and the intervals between the hills depend on the plant variety and on environmental conditions. As a matter of fact, though there are less hills, the number of plants per acre is the same. And since the use of machinery in the square-pocket method makes it possible to do a thorough and quick job, the yield is bound to be better.

This can be illustrated by any field row crop. In districts where in ordinary row cultivation sunflower and maize are planted 12 in. apart and the distance between the rows is 24 in. there are some 16,200 plants per acre. In square-pocket cultivation the interval between the rows and that between the plants in the rows is 24 in. The number of hills (pockets) per acre is 8,421, but there are two plants left in each hill which makes the number of plants per acre (16,842) the same as when using the ordinary row method. The two plants raised in a single hill will not check one another's growth and will each yield as large a crop as a plant cultivated by the row method and requiring a nutrition area of 24 x 12 in. But in the square-pocket

method the soil is machine cultivated; it is therefore obvious that this method will invariably bring about higher yields of maize, sunflower, and other row crops. The square-pocket method means broad prospects of further mechanization, labour saving, and cheaper agricultural produce.

The square-pocket method of maize and sunflower cultivation is being practised in advanced collective and state farms and is bringing high yields over vast areas.

This method opens up great possibilities for a more rational use of both local and mineral fertilizers. When planting potatoes on sandy soil with the help of cultivators, the collective farmers of the Forward to Communism Collective Farm, Ramenskoye District, Moscow Region, used a mixture of manure and mineral fertilizers, giving 1.1 pounds to each planting hole. The result was a yield of 6.3 tons per acre. To obtain a similar yield by the ordinary method, 12-16 tons of manure would have to be dug into the soil, whereas only 4.5 tons were needed when the mixture was used in conjunction with the square-pocket method.

In accordance with the Decision of the September Plenum of the Party the square-pocket method of sowing and planting potatoes, vegetables, maize, sunflower, and other row crops is to be applied on a wide scale.



Mechanized square-pocket sowing of maize on the Forward to Communism Collective Farm



These maize seedlings were sown by the square-pocket method



Harvesting maize for silo at the Gorki II State Farm, near Moscow, on a broad-swath combine

On display at an agricultural exhibition held by the collective farms of Moscow Region were vegetables grown by the square-pocket method, as well as melons and grapes grown near Moscow







Stepan Polisalov reports to his electors on the work of the city Soviet

## DEPUTY OF A CITY SOVIET

By VASILY MAKAROV,  
Chairman, Executive Committee  
of Yoshkar-Ola City Soviet of Working People's Deputies

Photographed by V. Tarasevich

Thirty-five years ago Yoshkar-Ola, the capital of the Mari Autonomous Republic, consisted of no more than a couple of streets and five or six lanes. Now it is a thriving town with at least thirty factories, well laid-out buildings, busy streets with motor-bus, trolley-bus, and taxi services, and pleasant parks and gardens, lying on the picturesque banks of the Malaya Kokshaga.

Before the Revolution the Mari people, whose land is roughly the size of Belgium, and nine times larger than Luxembourg, were so backward that they had no written language. Today they have 800 schools, 17 secondary technical and other special schools, three colleges, and dozens of clubs and public libraries. The number of books published annually amounts to about a million. That is what belonging to the Soviet Union has meant to our economic and cultural life. We Mari people are deeply grateful for all the help we have been given by the friendly family of Soviet peoples.

At the head of municipal life in Yoshkar-Ola stands the city Soviet with its 158 elected members. These men and women are in constant touch with their electors, people whose material and cultural requirements are continuously increasing. It is the deputies' duty to act according to their electors' instructions, to see to the expansion of local industries, trade, public amenities, schools, and the health service.

The city Soviet has nine permanent commissions set up to see that its measures are carried out and that electors' instructions are fulfilled; they assist local organs of state power



Stepan Polisalov broadcasts an address on his work as member of the city Soviet

to serve the public, they make the Soviet's decisions more widely known and help to get them fulfilled promptly and effectively. These permanent commissions, elected by a session of the Soviet, have an important function in encouraging popular initiative and in enlisting the broad co-operation of the public in solving current problems.

In accordance with Article 142 of the Constitution of the USSR, every deputy reports regularly to the electors on his own work and on that of the local organ of state power. One of our members to do so recently was Stepan Polisalov, headmaster of a secondary school whom the republic has honoured with the title of Merited Teacher. Stepan Polisalov is chairman of the Soviet's Education Commission

which supervises the work of twelve urban schools, seven secondary technical schools, two colleges, sixteen kindergartens, forty public libraries, seven clubs, and a museum. Like his fellow deputies, Stepan Polisalov devotes his free time to working in the public interest. He and other members of the commission pay regular visits to the city's educational, cultural and public-service establishments, take an interest in the welfare of the staff and in the state of upkeep and equipment of the buildings, receive electors and give them advice and assistance.

In fulfilment of electors' instructions the city Soviet decided to build this year a new secondary school of 880 places, several new nursery schools and kindergartens, a stadium, a House of the Press, and a theatre. Work has already been launched on all these projects.



Another member of the Education Commission, S. N. Kugenerova (left), makes a visit of inspection to Kindergarten No. 9

Below: V. V. Akimov, a member of the Education Commission, is interested to see how work is progressing on a new music school



Stepan Polisalov uses the local newspaper to appeal for more attention to school building





1. A new school built in 1953 in compliance with the wishes of the voters. 2. The Education Commission recommended the opening of a school bus service between an outlying village and the city. The city Soviet approved. 3. Stepan Polisalov pays a visit to a school teacher whom the city Soviet has given a new flat. 4. Stepan Polisalov visits Secondary School No. 12. This is one of his frequent visits to the city schools





# CASPIAN OIL

One of the most successful of recent Soviet films has been "The Story of the Caspian Oil Workers", produced at the Baku Art and Documentary Film Studios. (Script by I. Osipov, I. Kasumov, and R. Karmen; director-cameraman R. Karmen, cameramen D. Mamedov, A. Zemyakin, S. Medinsky, F. Leontovich; music by Kara Karayev.) This new documentary is an exciting account of the way an oil-field in the Caspian sea floor was opened up by the construction, in most difficult circumstances, of a pier and islands built on steel piles. Several stills from this film which depicts the heroism and self-sacrifice of the builders and oil workers are shown here with a text written by R. Karmen.



On these rugged reefs, some 60 miles out in the Caspian Sea, oil was discovered

Right: A section of the oil workers' town that has been built on steel piles in the Caspian →



Shots from the film. Top to bottom: 1 and 2. One hundred and five days boring and then—a strike! 3. A steel pier was built and a road into the Caspian was made ready. 4. A powerful gusher shoots up during boring operations. 5. It is brought under control by oil workers. 6. A deep-sea diver goes down below to repair the pier

→ On April 25, 1953, a sudden eruption of gas and oil started a spectacular fire near the workings. The buildings, derricks, and storage tanks were endangered. In six hours of tireless struggle a fire that threatened to destroy all that had been built with so much effort was brought under control and extinguished



Even out here, miles from land, there is work for the traffic regulator! One-way traffic is the rule on the pier





# WORKERS



Russian and Azerbaijani, teacher and pupil. Mikhail Kaverochkin and his friend Kurban Abasov have both been awarded Stalin Prizes for their work in extracting oil from the sea bottom



Shots from the film. Top to bottom: 1. Street-view in the oil town. 2. Entrance to workers' hostel 60 miles off shore. 3. The canteen. 4. Moonlight over the Caspian

Below: Aerial view of this novel town

Some sixty miles from the shores of the Caspian Sea people live and work tapping the oil that lies under the bottom of the sea. Two-storey houses, shops, canteens, a bakery, bath-house and club, and other buildings, stretch along a street raised on steel piles. Nearby are wharves for handling the stream of vessels coming from the mainland, power stations, pumping units, a group of storage tanks, and oil derricks. The pier extends for miles, and along it run lorry after lorry, heavy tractors, and diesel trains. Motor boats chug to and fro around this remarkable town, floating cranes glide in from their work on new steel islets, tankers take on their cargoes of oil.

Four years ago there was not a house, a pier, or a derrick to be seen in these parts—only a chain of jagged rocks breaking through the waves. Then geologists discovered a rich oil-field in the sea near it. In January 1949, the first landing-party of builders came to the reefs, and in what seems less than no time put up an extraordinary new town—nothing less than an industrial centre in the open sea!

When the oil workers came to this remote place they were accompanied by cameramen eager to make a film record of their gallant achievements. In our film we aimed at making a straightforward and honest documentation of the work of the Caspian oil workers. We wanted to show the perils they had to face in their struggle with the elements, their valour, and enthusiasm.

We saw the spirit of warm friendship and brotherhood that brought people of many different Soviet nationalities together—Russians, Ukrainians, Azerbaijanians, Armenians, Georgians—in a common effort for the good of their country, men like the well-known Russian oil-boring expert Mikhail Kaverochkin and the gifted young Azerbaijan oil worker Kurban Abasov.

R. KARMEN, Stalin Prize Winner







Altayskoye Village. Circle designates the school told about on these pages

# A SIBERIAN VILLAGE SCHOOL

Our mail-bag includes letters from Hartley D. Dent, of Canada, H. J. van Kraaikamp, of the Netherlands, and Chiu Jung and Cheng Jung, of Indonesia, asking for information on Soviet schools. We present a story and pictures telling about a secondary school in Altayskoye Village, Altai Territory.

Schools in all capitals of Union Republics, in cities under republican administration, and in regional, territorial, and all large industrial centres of the country, are now going over from universal compulsory seven-year education to a system of universal compulsory ten-year education. This has already resulted in the number of eighth-, ninth-, and tenth-form pupils increasing by 34 per cent in 1953. The next five-year plan period will see the new system extended to all the towns and villages of the country.

Photographed by V. Tarasevich



School is over!

Left: Lusya gets full marks from her geography teacher S. V. Mosina



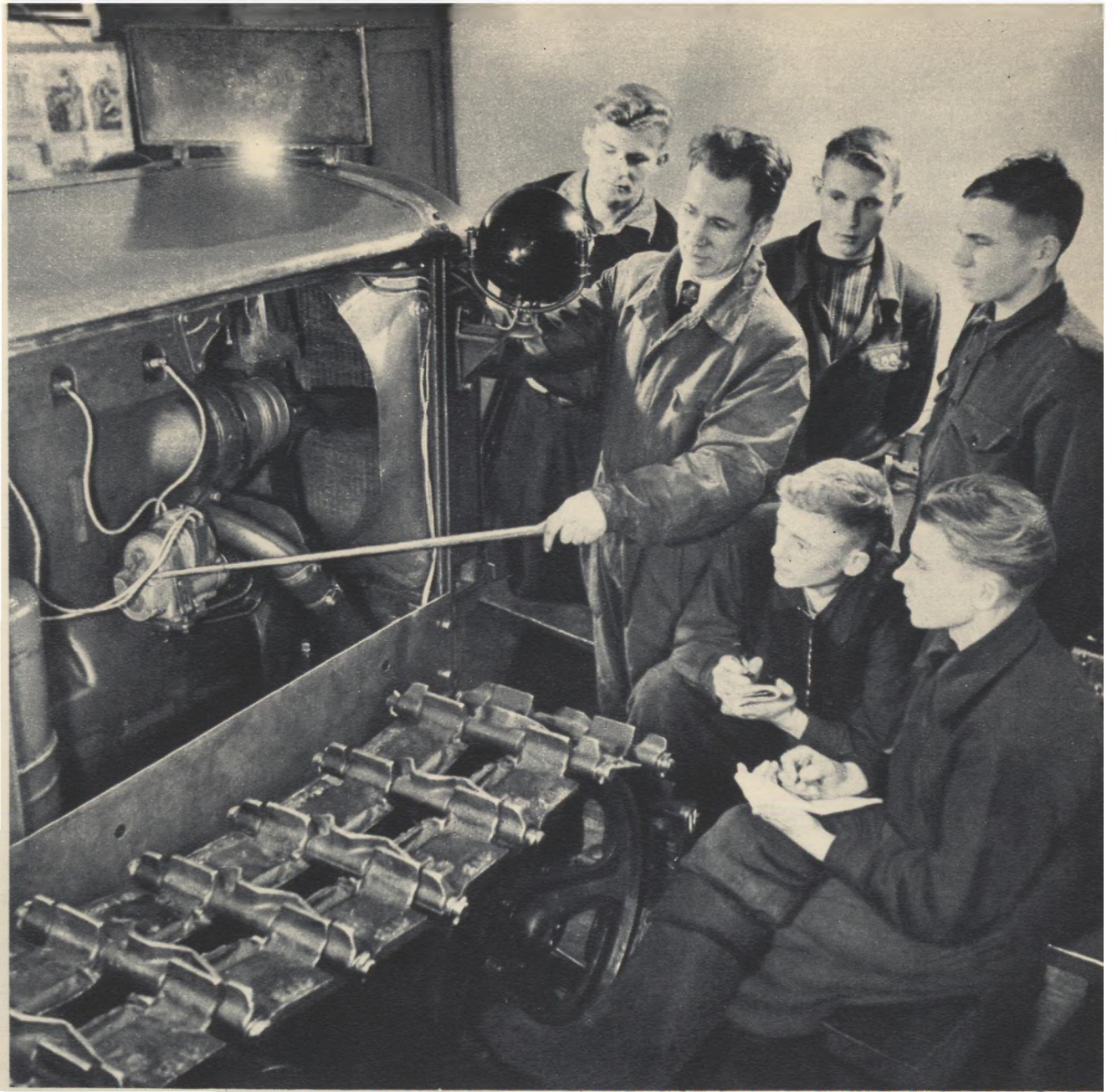
As I write this article I have before me on my desk a letter to our village school-teachers from the Dean of Tomsk State University. This is what it says:

"...The pupils of your school came through the matriculation examinations with flying colours and were all awarded high marks by the examination commission. Now, too, as undergraduates at the University, they are setting an example of diligence and proficiency in their studies..."

You can imagine how proud we were to get this letter. We should have liked to shake the hands of our graduates and thank them for upholding the good name of their school.

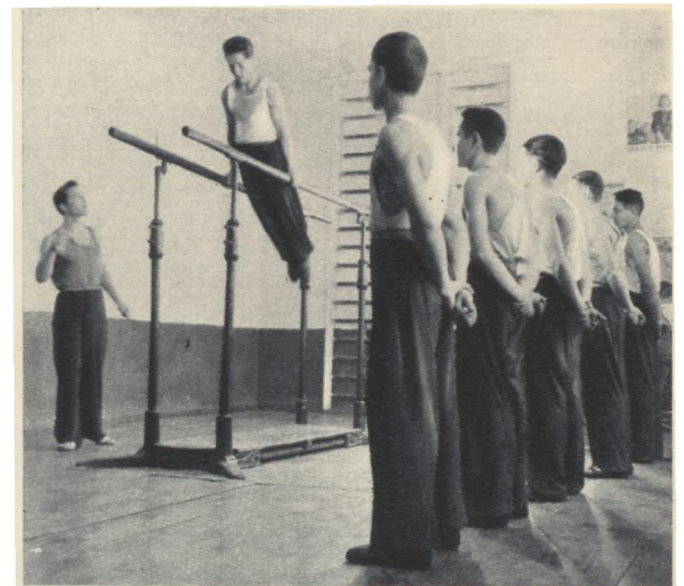
Our village, you must know, is situated deep in Western Siberia and surrounded on all sides by hills. The thermometer here often drops to  $50^{\circ}$  C. Some 2,500 miles separate us from Moscow, and the nearest town, Biysk, is fifty miles away. But don't think that living in this remote spot we are cut off from the world. Our village has electric light, a radio-relay centre, a post and telegraph office, a club-house, library, cinema, polyclinic, farm machine operators' school, photographic studio, a nursery school, a dining-hall, and several shops.

There are more than 1,500 children of school age in Altaiskoye Village, and all of them go to school. Seven schools have been built for them: four elementary schools, two seven-year schools, and a ten-year school.



Many pupils now in their last term intend to take up jobs at the machine-and-tractor station. Their teacher explains to them how a tractor works

Below: At a geography lesson in the Ninth Form



In the gym of the village school



In the physics lab two pupils, Yuri and Boris, are engaged in a thrilling experiment. They are determining the coefficient of linear expansion





During break a crowd gathers for a few records in the Young Pioneer room



A flock of inquisitive young readers come to A. M. Pokrovskaya, who has been school librarian for many years



Home from school with their favourite teacher

The latter was opened fourteen years ago. More than 200 of its pupils have already received a college education. Many of them have since returned to their home village. Valentine Petelko, for example, came back as an agronomist, Antonina Batrakova and Galina Kondratyuk as doctors at the village polyclinic, Natalya Tirina as a teacher of mathematics. The Suziks, husband and wife, both old pupils of our school, now teach maths and physics in the very class-rooms where they themselves used to study.

Here are a few telling figures. In 1950 twenty boys and girls out of the 21 that had finished at our school went on to the university. All the 25 school-leavers of the year 1951 entered institutes of higher education. In 1952 the Altaiskoye village school sent 28 young people to college, and 30 in 1953.

Today our school has 814 pupils and 36 teachers. Lessons in all Soviet schools, urban or rural, are conducted according to one single programme. Children at our school are given the same instruction as the children of Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Tbilisi, Minsk. . . . During their ten years at school they study Russian and a foreign language, literature, mathematics, history, geography, biology, physics, chemistry, astronomy, psychology, logic, drawing and draughtsmanship, and other subjects. A great deal of attention is paid to familiarizing children with agricultural production, field and animal husbandry.

Besides its class-rooms, the school has physics and chemistry labs and, the children's favourite, a biology lab, which has such "living" exhibits as plants, birds, and animals.

We teachers strive not only to give the children sound knowledge, but to instruct them in its practical application and to teach them to love and respect work.

The children do tasks on the school's experimental plot and grow crops. While studying electricity during their physics lessons, the children go on excursions to power-stations, and are told about their structure and machinery.

He doesn't mind a tumble



A corner of the young naturalists' winter orchard







Round the Young Pioneer bonfire. Elvira recites poetry to her school-mates

In the workshops at the local school of machine operators the children learn to work metal on turning, drilling, and grinding lathes. The older boys and girls are greatly attracted by the machine-and-tractor station. Its workers show them the latest machines and explain how they are built and how they work.

During an excursion to Biysk the children got an insight into the way factories are run. In the town of Gomo-Altansk they visited a famous Michurinite, Doctor of Agricultural Science M. A. Lisavenko, and saw the wonderful orchards that now thrive in the rigorous climate of Siberia.

With the introduction of polytechnical training in the schools, the young generation will be given not only a sound general education, but a fundamental practical knowledge of various fields of agriculture and industry. This will give them a better opportunity of choosing professions best fitted to their abilities and inclinations.

N. POKROVSKY,  
Headmaster, Altalskoye Village Secondary School



The children go on a hike near the village

"Not much homework to do. How about going to the pictures tonight?" says Nelly to her class-mate, Valya





# ART OF SURGERY

By **BORIS YEGOROV**,  
 Director of the Institute of Neurosurgery,  
 Member of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences

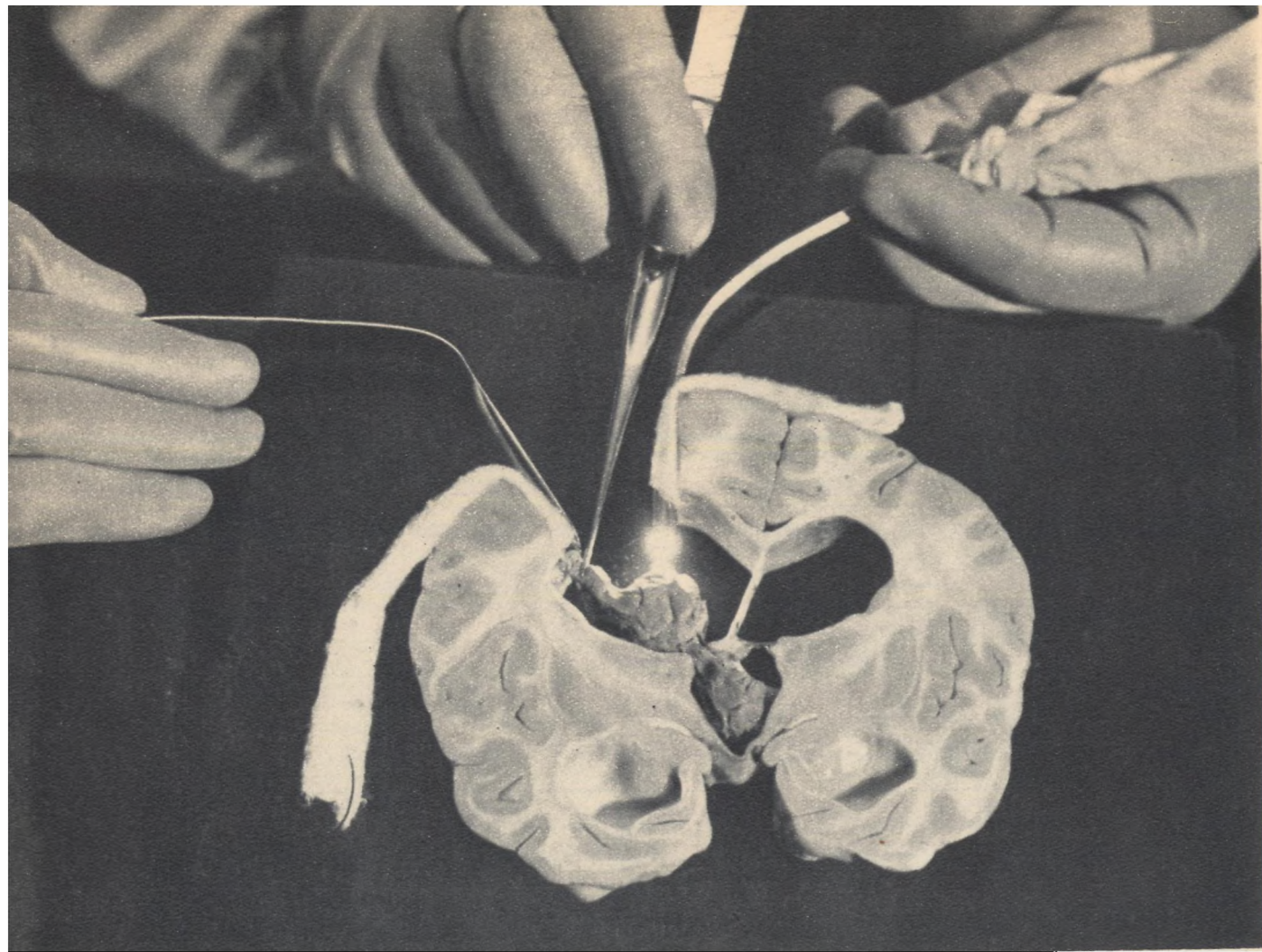
Photographed by V. Shakhovskoi

Neurosurgery is a young branch of medical science which has begun to develop only in the last twenty or thirty years. It deals with diseases of the central and peripheral nervous systems that require surgical intervention.

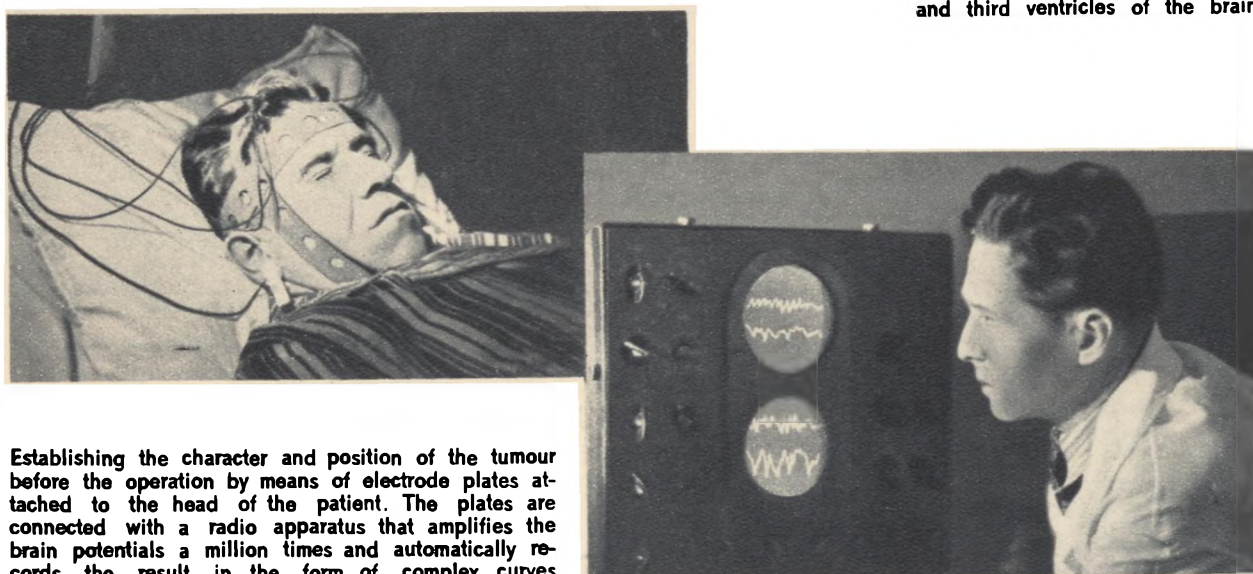
Twenty years ago Moscow saw the opening of the Institute of Neurosurgery, later named after the distinguished Soviet neurosurgeon N. N. Burdenko. In twenty years the institute has been successful in solving many problems concerning the diagnosis, clinical treatment, and surgical treatment of various nervous diseases. It has performed nearly 20,000 operations and published over 1,000 scientific treatises.

Many years of intensive research were required in order to elaborate and improve methods of operating on tumours deep in the tissue of the brain. Surgical treatment of tumours developing in the ventricles of the brain was until very recently considered one of the most complicated tasks of neurosurgery.

What was needed was a method of operating that would give the surgeon access to the tumour and at the same time have a minimal effect on the functioning of the brain. Such a method was discovered and elaborated in our institute. Nowadays the surgeon reaches the tumour by dissecting the tissue of the brain along the grain of the nerve fibres. This enables him to avoid any considerable interruption of its functioning. The result of this has been that we have succeeded in curing many patients of extremely serious diseases and making them fit again for normal life and work.

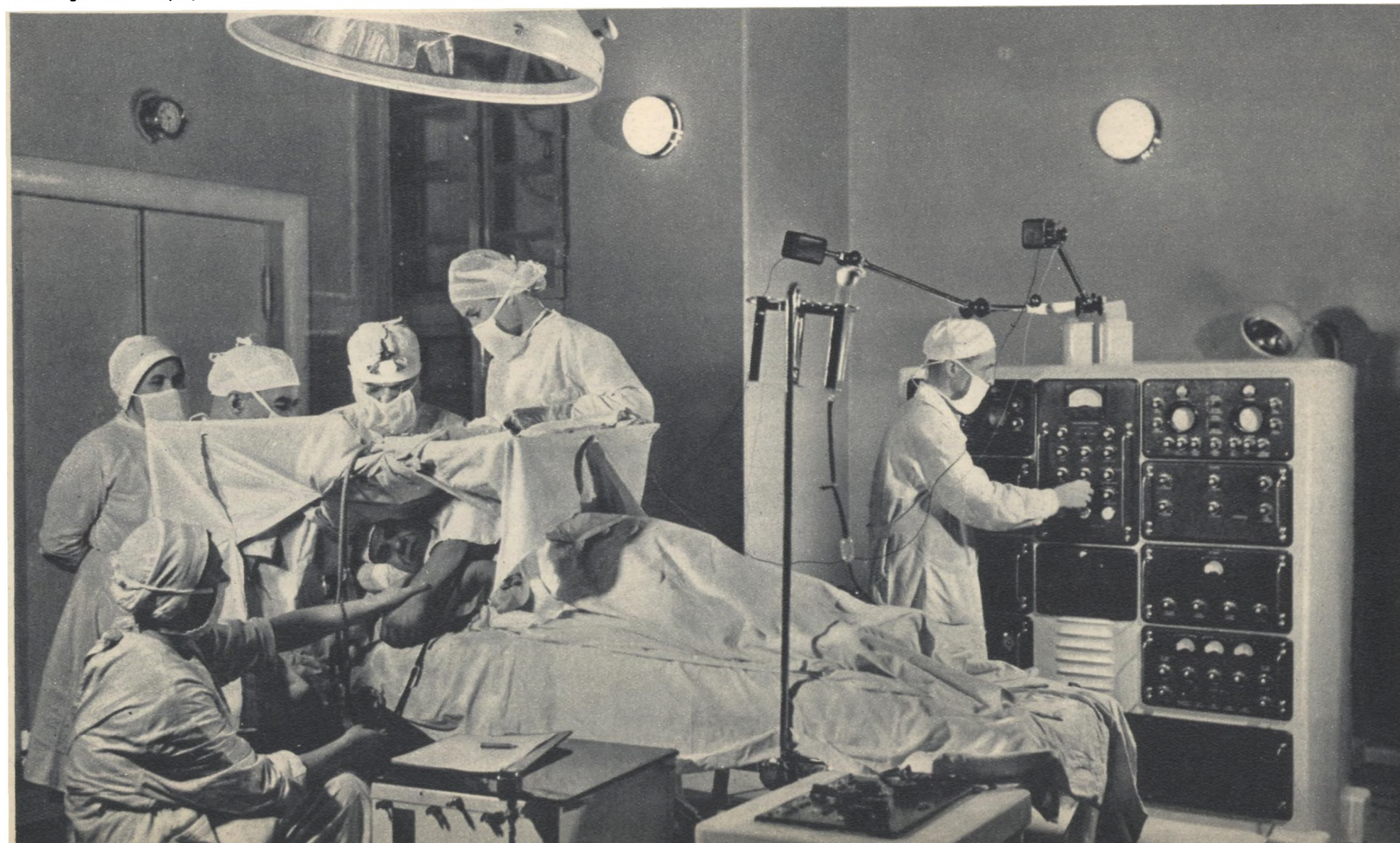


Plan of an operation for the removal of a tumour from the lateral and third ventricles of the brain



Establishing the character and position of the tumour before the operation by means of electrode plates attached to the head of the patient. The plates are connected with a radio apparatus that amplifies the brain potentials a million times and automatically records the result in the form of complex curves

Below: An operating theatre at the Institute of Neurosurgery. Professor Boris Yegorov removes a tumour from the brain of a patient. The instrument on the right is a multi-purpose electro-encephalograph which registers the brain potentials, as well as the activity of the heart and lungs during the operation





Professor Boris Yegorov, Director of the Institute of Neurosurgery and Member of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, examines an X-ray photograph of the brain of the patient on whom he is to operate



During the operation we use local anaesthesia. The patient feels no pain and is quite able to answer the questions of the surgeon and talk to the nurse.

As soon as the surgeon reaches the interior of the brain where the tumour is situated, the powerful shadowless lamps that illuminate the operating theatre are switched out. Only one tiny bulb which the surgeon's assistant inserts far into the operation wound burns brightly. The tumour, now clearly visible, is removed as a whole or in parts.

The question of whether an operation is necessary is decided only after a comprehensive examination of the patient. Apart from the usual clinical analyses, special laboratories and departments make a detailed examination of his hearing, sight, sense of smell, as well as his conditioned reflex actions to light, sound, smell, and so on. Air is pumped into the ventricles of the brain. This enables us to establish with the help of X-rays the position and size of the tumour and make the clinical diagnosis more precise. The doctors are assisted in these minute investigations by numerous apparatus invented by Soviet scientists and designers.

All seventeen laboratories at the institute are provided with the latest equipment.

The investigations cease only when the surgeons have built up a complete picture of the disease and can work out the data and a detailed plan of the operation.

Perhaps one should add at this point that operations to the brain, like any other medical treatment in the Soviet Union, are performed free of charge.

Experimental work is also carried on at the institute. One of the laboratories is doing well with experiments on the transference of malignant tumours from the human brain to the brains of animals—rabbits, guinea-pigs, and dogs. It has been established that under certain circumstances a transplanted tumour can not only develop but also spread to other parts of the body, which is a characteristic feature of this disease in humans. This discovery has opened up broad prospects in the study of malignant tumours, making it possible to observe the course of their development and study the condition of the organism at all stages of the disease.

Soviet science is closely linked with practice. Everything we achieve we try to communicate at once to the profession at large. Every year the institute holds conferences of neurosurgeons from all over the country at which problems of the greatest topical interest are discussed. For two or three months each year we have working with us over a hundred specialists who come from various towns of the Soviet Union to perfect their knowledge and skill. The work of the institute has been demonstrated to scientists of several of the People's Democracies, and also of Britain, France, Italy, America, Finland, India, Pakistan, and Kashmir.



Right: One more patient discharged in excellent health after a brain operation





Pipes produced by the rolling shed on the preliminary-inspection shelves

# R U S T A V I

By S. KUTELIA, Rolling Shed Foreman

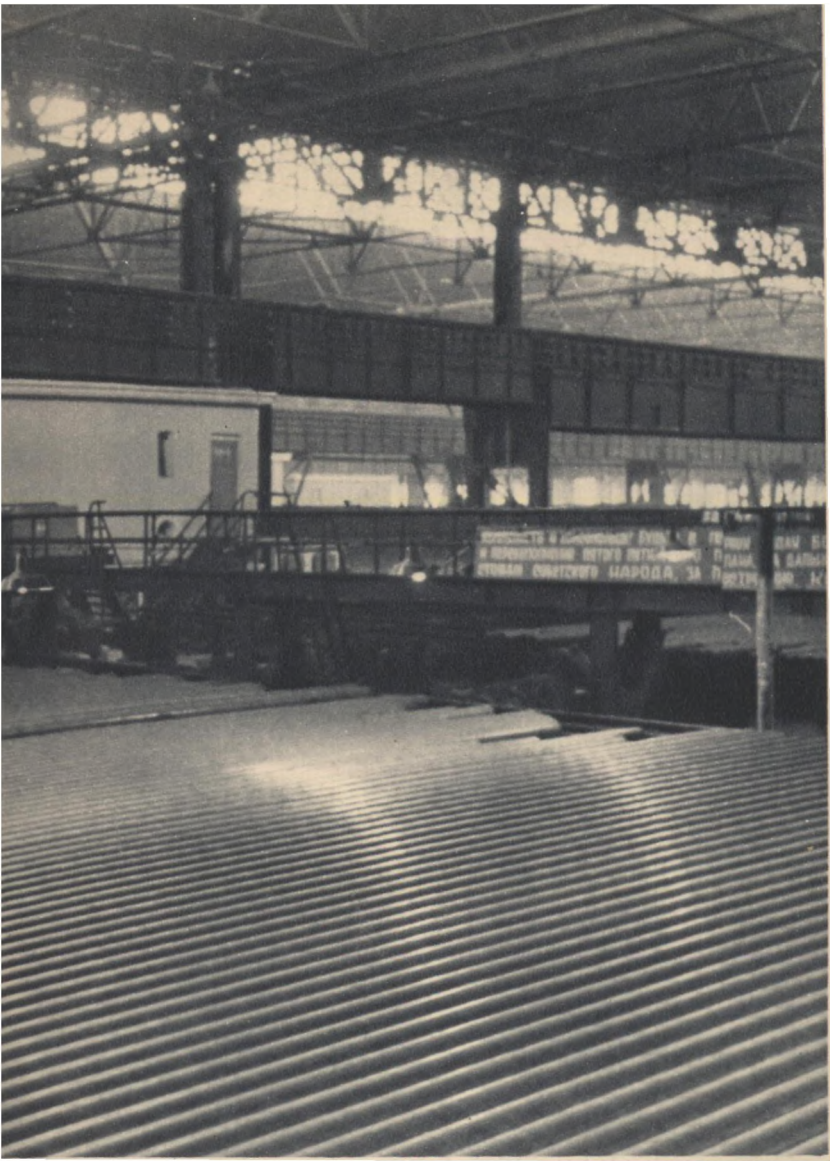
Several engineering works in the Ukraine and the Urals were involved in building this unit. Now it has been installed in the pipe-rolling shed of the Stalin Transcaucasian Iron and Steel Works in the young town of Georgian steelmen—Rustavi. It is a unique machine for turning out seamless pipes. Consisting of several rolling mills, the whole unit is about three hundred yards in length.

This is how it works. The white-hot ingot is brought up to the piercing mill. A rapidly-turning shaft pierces it and you get a sleeve that is then taken to an automatic mill for rolling. Then come further operations on the calibrating mill, the cooling tables, the reeler, and the pipe-cutter. Finally, the shiny new pipe goes to the packing shed.

← Left: Automatic mill for expansion of future pipe at the Stalin Transcaucasian Iron and Steel Works







# PIPES

*Photographed by N. Khorunzhy*

Our brigade has been rolling pipes ever since the new unit came into commission, that is, since December 25 last year. Most of the workers only recently finished practical training courses at plants in the Urals, the Donets Basin, in Taganrog, Zaporozhye, and Nikopol. Now we Georgian steelmen are confidently running production and competing with one another for higher output and improved quality.

While we were still learning to handle the unit our brigade was doubling and trebling the output the plan set us. That has made a big difference to our pay, of course, but our greatest satisfaction comes from knowing that we have turned out additional thousands of large-diameter pipes which are needed by the oil and other industries.

Finished pipes undergo examination in the testing department →

Below: Their working day over, foreman Kutelia's brigade watches another shift at work, to pick up useful tips





# Trade on the Upgrade

Photographed by B. Ulkin, A. Bryanov, and I. Tyulyakov



Forty different designs of plaid in a new rayon staple mixture are woven at the Zhelyabov Mill in Leningrad

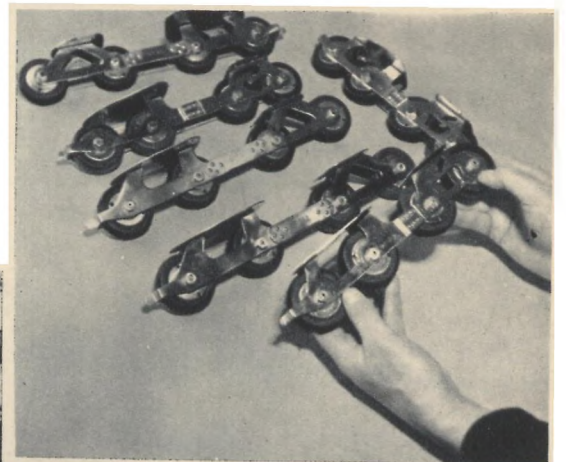
Thousands of inventors, rationalizers, artists, and craftsmen engaged in industry are working to improve the variety and quality of cloth, knitted goods, shoes, clothing, and haberdashery. They are designing and producing better furniture, china, kitchen utensils, electrical appliances—everything that the public needs. The most diverse factories and mills all over the country are swinging into the production of new kinds of consumer goods. Through tens of thousands of shops in towns and country districts these goods are reaching the customers. -

The aim of socialist production is not money-making, not a scramble for profits, but the maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole of society.

A Kuibishev factory has begun turning out a compact three-seater canoe for hikers. With a light tubular metal framework and a proofed fabric covering, the canoe is easily dismantled and packed in two bags, as shown in the photograph on the right

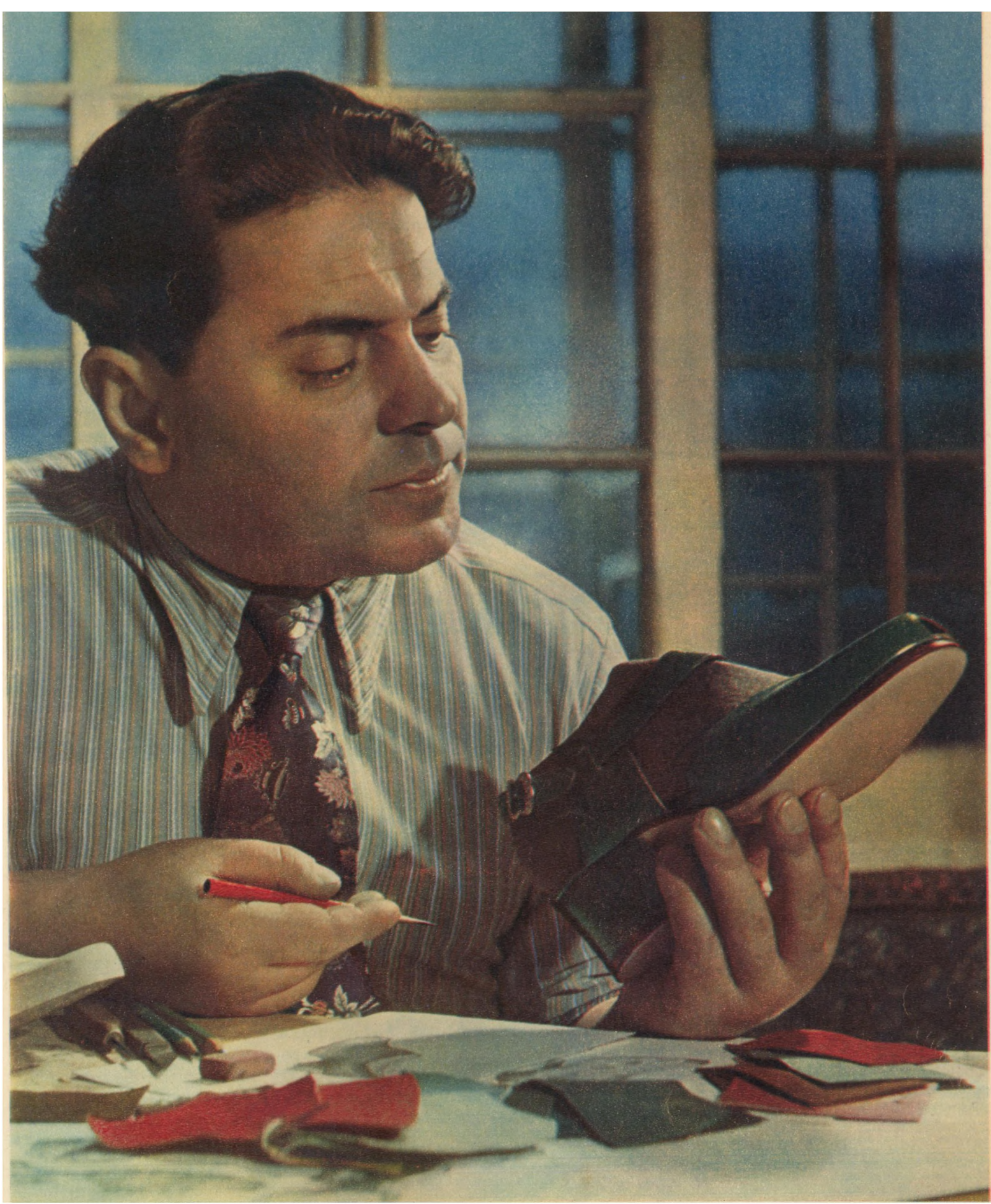


Below: The Bebel Leather Goods Factory has brought out several new designs of suitcases, gloves, wallets, and ladies' handbags



A novel type of roller skate recently put into production by a factory in Sverdlovsk





A. K. Oganosov, a shoe-modeller at the Dawn Factory in Leningrad, has designed 44 new models of ladies' and men's footwear for the spring and summer seasons. Many of them have already gone into production. The designs of this highly qualified craftsman, some of which are shown here, are of improved style, construction, and finish

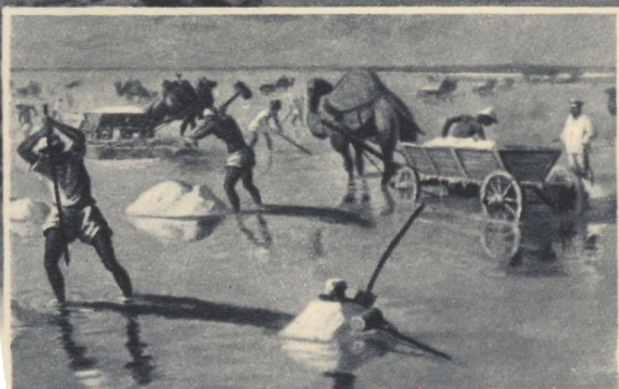




# A REMARKABLE LAKE

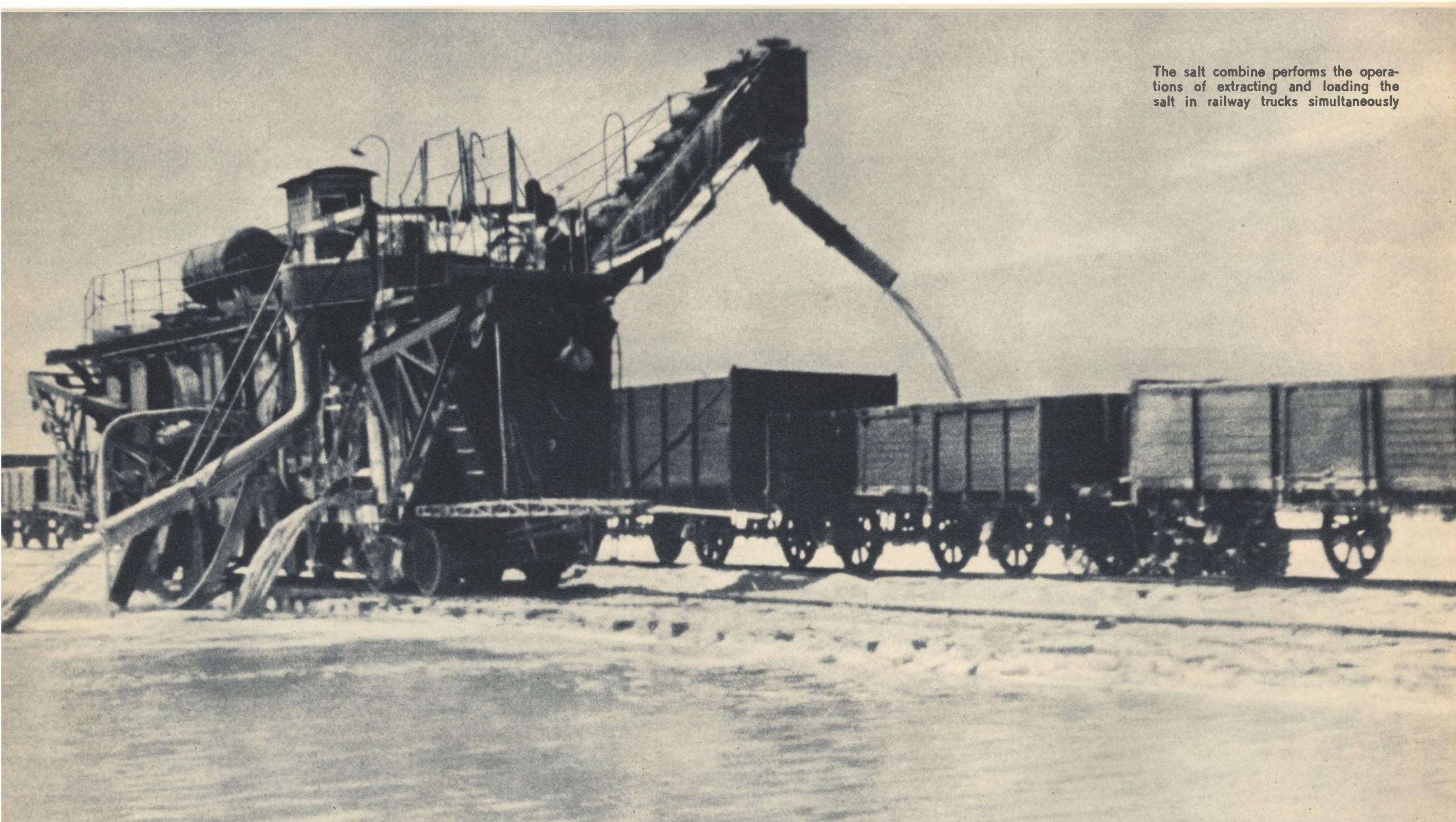
Photographed by L. Kaplanov

This article is an answer to Lin Yin, one of our readers in China, who has asked us to publish something about the Soviet salt industry.



Left: Lake Baskunchak. The inset in the foreground shows how salt was mined at Baskunchak in pre-revolutionary times

The salt combine performs the operations of extracting and loading the salt in railway trucks simultaneously



The lake gleams blue and green in the sunshine, a lovely sight. But the traveller will find nothing to slake his thirst here. Baskunchak Lake is salt.

A practically inexhaustible natural depository of common salt, Baskunchak Lake covers an area of some forty square miles in the Caspian steppe. The bowl of this very shallow lake is filled with a saturated solution of salt-brine. In the hot season the lake dries up in parts, and one can see a snow-white layer of salt covering the bottom.

The thickness of the upper layer runs to as much as thirty-three feet. Lower down still, under deposits of clay and sand, lie even thicker salt strata. At one time, very long ago, this was a sea, and it was the sea that left behind it these deposits of salt. But even now salt is still being accumulated in the lake. Up to a million tons a year reach it from neighbouring salt-marshes.

Investigations of the upper layer have shown that most of it is of comparatively recent formation with a well-defined crystalline structure. It is this stratum that possesses the greatest value; for it contains 99.5 per cent of common salt and is completely free of that undesirable ingredient, magnesium sulphate, which is a feature of most other salt deposits.

Baskunchak salt has been mined since ancient times. The crow-bar, the pick, and the shovel were for long the chief tools used. With this method the most valuable deposits remained inaccessible. In Soviet times, when the industry became the property of the state, of the people as a whole, attention was focussed on the mechanization of salt-mining. In 1924 the Russian engineer Y. A. Makarov designed a novel machine which worked on the same principle as the suction dredge. This machine was the prototype of the mod-

ern salt combines that today move along railway lines laid right across the bed of the shallow lake.

The stratum is worked in layers a yard thick. Yard by yard the combine works down with its ripper and extracts salt from a depth that would submerge a two-storey house. The machine is manned by three operators and mines approximately 2,000 tons of salt a day.

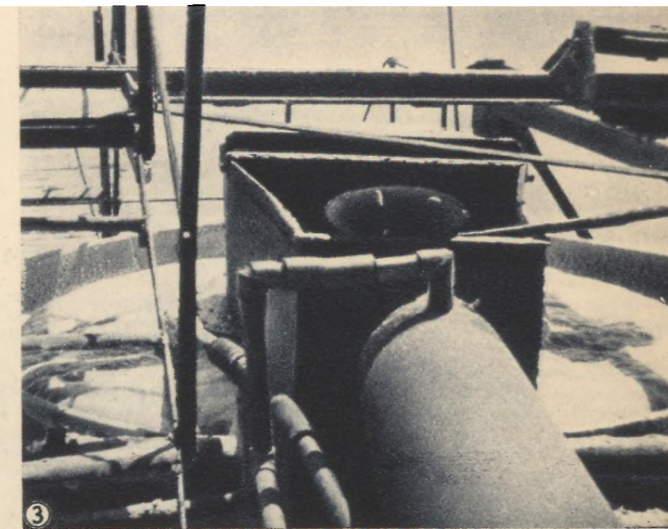
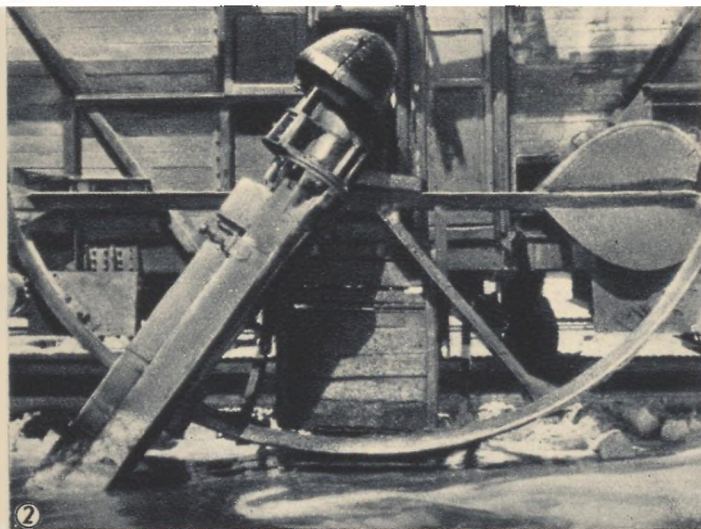
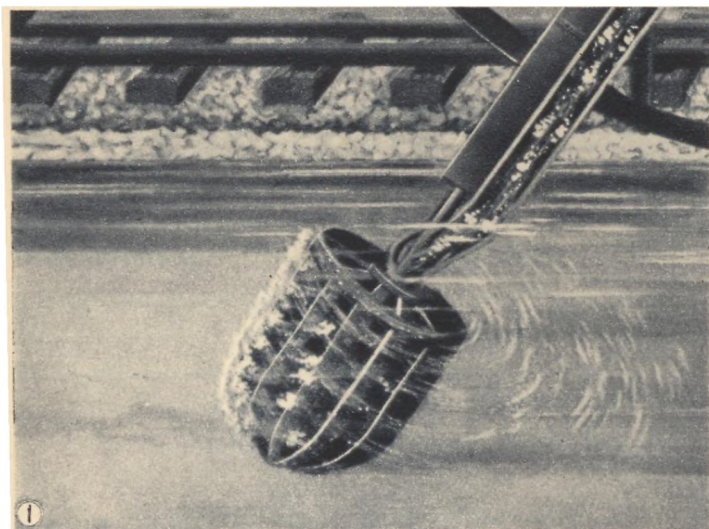
Shunting engines work all round the clock supplying the combine with empty trucks and towing away full ones. Trains are made up at the lake itself, from where they do a thirty-mile run down the branch line to Port Vladimirovskaya on the Volga. There the salt is ground in mills, loaded on river barges, and sent off from Baskunchak to meet the needs of customers in all parts of the country.

B. PRASS, Engineer





Experts take test-samples of salt from the lake



Points about the salt combine: (1) The ripper that breaks up the salt stratum. (2) The mechanism that controls this novel type of bore. (3) The pipe and filter for getting rid of brine



Baskunchak salt is delivered by rail to the wharves of Port Vladimirovskaya on the Volga. From here, after being ground, the salt continues its journey by river



# Ira's Sunday

Photographed by V. Shakhovskoi



Four-year-old Ira is the daughter of Olga and Vladimir Maximov, who both work at the Moscow Gas Appliances Factory. This morning, with snow-flakes floating slowly past the window and everybody looking so rosy outside, Ira can't sit indoors, and keeps asking her parents to take her out for a walk. Today is Sunday and the family is together. Before them lies a whole day of rest and recreation.



1. While Mummy is getting the breakfast and Daddy is busy shaving, little Ira decides to "read" a book

2. "Ooh, I'm tired!" Ira knows how to get round Daddy when she wants a ride on his shoulder

3. A trip on the ice together

4. Ira wants to help Granny with her embroidery

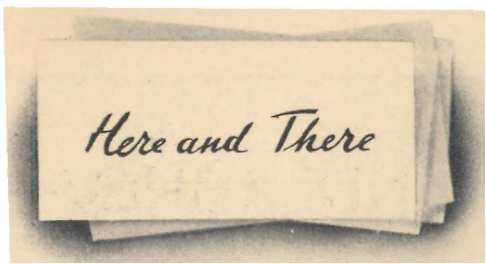
5. After the walk—a snack in a café

6. A visit to some friends

7. In the evening Ira's parents went out to the theatre and she had a game with her toys. When Granny said, "It's bed time!" Ira left her ball and picture-book in charge of her toy-dog







## TRADE ENVOYS FROM ABROAD

Photographed by V. Kunov, V. Sobolev, and A. Cheprunov

In January and February a large group of British businessmen conducted trade talks in Moscow. A total of 193,000,000 rubles' worth of orders has been placed with British firms for trawlers, textile machinery, diesel power plants, electric substations, communications equipment, presses and equipment for the food industry. It was agreed in principle that a further 550,000,000 rubles' worth of orders would be placed later. Those are the first results; even larger business contracts are envisaged.

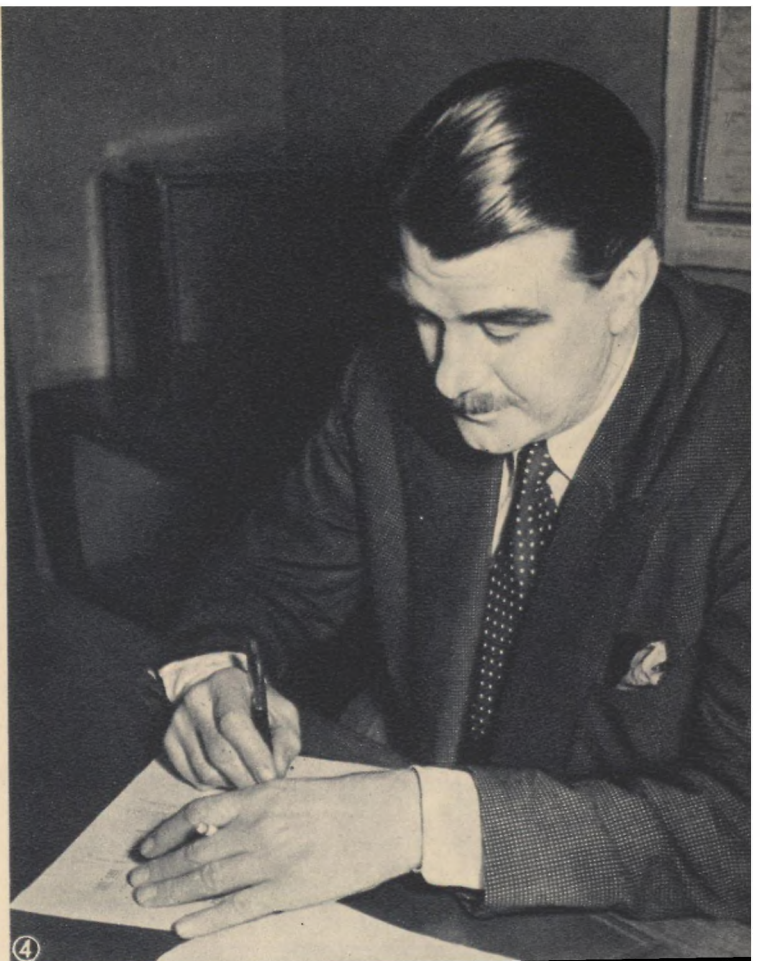
The trade envoys visited Soviet factories and showed a keen interest in the capital's historical and cultural sights.

In February representatives of many other British firms, including Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Export Co., Babcock and Wilcox, Massey, as well as officials of the Finnish-Soviet Board of Trade headed by its chairman, S. A. Harima, visited Moscow.

The conference between representatives of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and the Finnish-Soviet Board of Trade and, in equal measure, the personal contacts established by the Finnish firms with Soviet business organizations showed the mutual striving of the two parties to foster Soviet-Finnish trade and revealed new, untapped possibilities for its development. Attention was focussed on Soviet export to Finland of industrial plant, motor-cars, agricultural machinery, and tractors. Details relating to trade in these commodities were discussed.

Other groups of businessmen from East and West are arriving in Moscow for trade talks.

An Egyptian economic delegation headed by Mr. Hasan Ragab (second from the right) are photographed here in front of the new multi-storied building in Smolensk Square, Moscow



1. Heads of British firms Mr. R. W. Asquith, Mr. D. S. Player, and Mr. F. J. Fielding examine a high-speed turning lathe at the Krasny Proletary Works in Moscow. 2. Representatives of British firms in the Armoury of the Kremlin. 3. Mr. F. J. E. Tearle, director of Metropolitan-Vickers (right) and Mr. Harry West, the firm's chief engineer, negotiate with I. Yeremin (left), Chairman of Machinoimport. 4. Mr. S. A. Lane, head of the Brush Electrical Engineering Company, signs a sales contract for electrical equipment

An Argentine technical delegation representing various ministries of Argentina and headed by Mr. Juan C. Dardalla, Subdirector General in charge of international trade and contracting, Ministry of Foreign Trade, paid a visit to the USSR.

The delegation visited factories in Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad, Kharkov, and other cities, where they acquainted themselves with the manufacture and operation of equipment to be sent to Argentina under the Soviet-Argentine trade and payments agreement of August 5, 1953.

The picture on the right shows members of the Argentine delegation in the Moscow Kremlin.



V. Krutikov (left), Chairman of Soyuzkhimexport, meets Mr. A. Pakaslahti, director of a branch of the Central Union of Technical Goods Importers of Finland

Mr. E. Oila, member of a Finnish trade and industrial delegation, is seen here in the assembly shop of the Moscow Small-Displacement Motor Works





## WORLD CHAMPIONS



## AT HOME AND ABROAD



Boris Shilkov, world and European speed-skating champion



Vladimir Kuzin, world ski champion in 30 km. and 50 km. distances



Lydia Selikhova, women's world speed-skating champion



Valentina Tsaryova, member of world championship team in women's 3 x 5 km. ski relay



Lyubov Kozireva, women's world ski champion in 10 km. distance and member of world championship team in 3 x 5 km. relay



Margarita Maslennikova, member of world championship team in women's 3 x 5 km. ski relay

The Soviet sports calendar for February was rich in international meetings both at home and abroad. Helsinki, the Finnish capital, was the scene of an ice-hockey tournament between Finland, Sweden, and the USSR. The USSR placed first, with a goals total of 16-3.

In Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, the USSR won the world and European ice-hockey championships. Competing were the national teams of the USSR, Canada, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Western Germany, Finland, and Norway.

In Davos (Switzerland), Boris Shilkov, 26, of Leningrad, won the European speed-skating title. Shortly before that he had won the 1954 world championship.

The women's world speed-skating title was captured by Lydia Selikhova (USSR). Competing in the championships, in Östersund (Sweden), were the 18 top-ranking women skaters of the world.

In a USSR v. Norway skating match held in Oslo, Soviet entrants placed first in all four events.

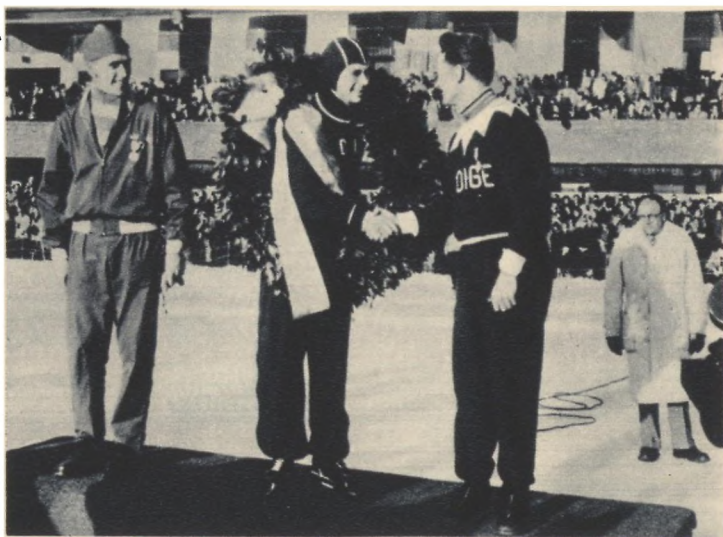
Soviet contestants made a splendid showing at the world ski championships, in Falun (Sweden). The title of world champion, and the gold medal that goes with it, was twice won by Vladimir Kuzin: in the 30 km. and the 50 km. Kuzin, who is 23, is a student at the Leningrad Teachers Institute. Winner of the women's 10 km. event was Lyubov Kozireva. She also won a gold medal as a member of the Soviet team, along with Margarita Maslennikova and Valentina Tsaryova, which placed first in the 3 x 5 km. relay. The USSR men's team won silver medals for its performance in the 4 x 10 km. relay.

In Bucharest, the Rumanian capital, there was a match between the wrestling teams of Rumania and the Russian Federation. The Russian Federation team won 15-1.

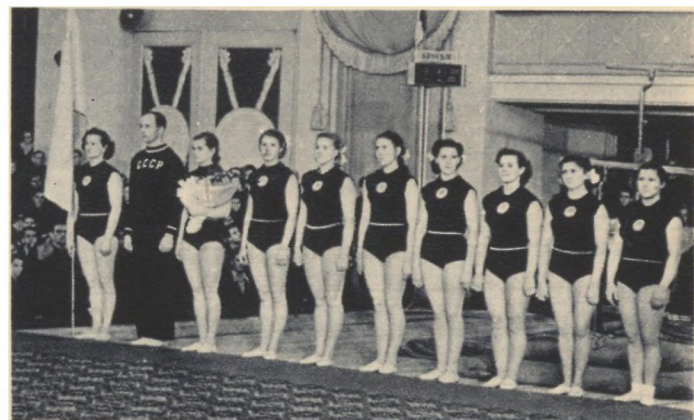
Appearing in Stockholm, Soviet weight-lifters won first place in all the four weight classes.

Soviet wrestlers (free-style) chalked up successful performances in Sweden and also in Budapest, where they grappled with wrestlers from Hungary, Bulgaria, and Czechoslovakia.

Leningrad's Winter Stadium was the scene of friendly competitions among gymnasts of the USSR, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Finland, and the German Democratic Republic. Over-all first place (women's) was won by S. Muratova and (men's) by B. Shakhlin. In the team placings the USSR was also first.



DAVOS. The winners of the European speed-skating championships. Left to right: Sigge Eriksson (Sweden), Boris Shilkov (USSR), Hjalmar Andersen (Norway)



LENINGRAD. The USSR team (top) which won first place in a friendly competition among women gymnasts of Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, and the USSR. Directly above: Sofia Muratova, winner in the individual placings

Photographed by N. Naumenkov and I. Baranov



Lyubov Maznichenko, of the Ukraine, who recently made a parachute jump from an altitude of 7,421 metres, opening her parachute at once. She thus exceeded the official world record

Photographed by V. Yankov





**GORKY.** An ice-hockey match between the German Democratic Republic and the local Torpedo team. Torpedo won 9-2

*Photographed by N. Dobrovolsky*



**MOSCOW.** Team captains V. Kuzin (USSR) and G. Poltera (Switzerland) shake hands before a friendly ice-hockey match. The match ended in a score of 3-1 in favour of the USSR

*Photographed by L. Dorensky*

**MOSCOW.** "Friendship Waltz", the last number on the programme of performances by figure-skaters of the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and the German Democratic Republic

*Photographed by V. Kivrin*

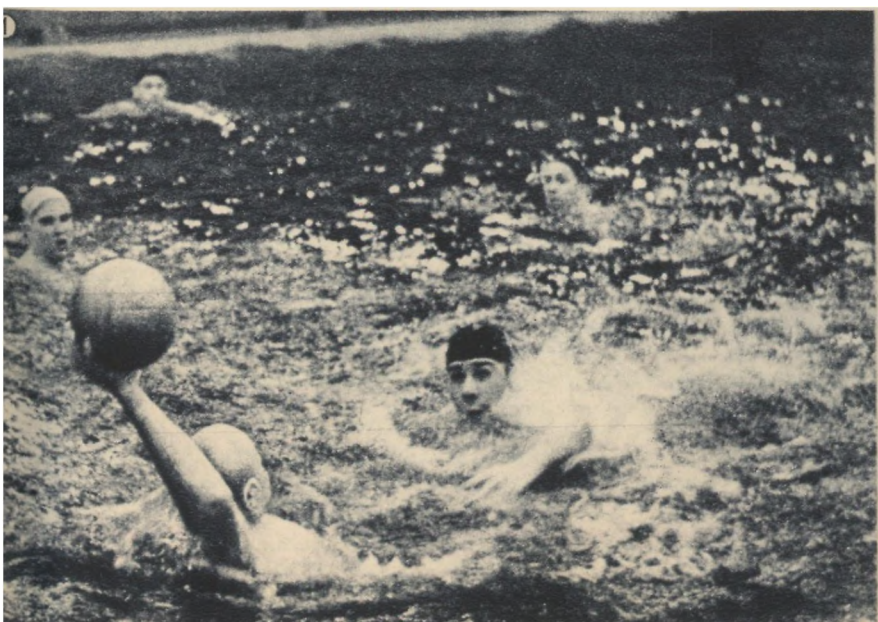


**STOCKHOLM.** A thrilling moment during the tussle between featherweights Y. Dennikov (USSR) and E. Hagberg (Sweden). The friendly USSR v. Sweden meeting was won by the USSR 67-8

## USSR CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. **MOSCOW.** Dynamo and CHSA battle it out for the water-polo title. 2. **RIGA.** The women's volley-ball teams of Latvia and Azerbaijan in action at the winter championship tournament. 3. **KIEV.** Grandmaster Yury Averbakh photographed during the 21st USSR Chess Championship, in which he placed first

*Photographed by V. Koshevoi, L. Mikhnovsky, and M. Melnik*







## NEW FILMS

Top to bottom are stills from three new Soviet colour films: "Marina" (directed by I. Shmaruk and V. Ivchenko), "Stars of the Russian Ballet" (directed by G. Rappoport), and "When Our Earth Was Young", a popular-science production about the origin and evolution of life on earth (directed by V. Shneiderov)



NOVOSIBIRSK. A scene from Gliere's ballet "Bronze Horseman" as staged by the local opera and ballet house  
Photographed by V. Leshchinsky



MOSCOW. Concerts by the Vit Nejedly Song and Dance Group from Czechoslovakia enjoyed success in the capital and other towns. Here we see a moment during an ancient dance presented in the Group's concert in Chalkovsky Hall  
Photographed by A. Vorotinsky

LENINGRAD. A scene from the production of Kara Karaev's ballet "Seven Beauties" at the Maly Opera House  
Photographed by B. Utikin



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This issue was designed by Chief Artist A. ZHITOMIRSKY, and Artists M. ZABOLOTSKAYA and A. CHERNISHOVA

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March

Photographed by Mikhail Grachov

**BACK COVER:** "Dreaming", a photographic study by V. Tarasevich. Inna and Lusya Shadrin are not sisters—they are namesakes. The two friends are both good pupils in their last term at a ten-year school in Altaiskoye Village; they joined the Komsomol together, and this year they will finish school together. Now they are making plans for the future (see picture-story, "A Siberian Village School", page 24)



