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NEW ALBANIA

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NEW ALBANIA

Front Cover: Comrade Enver Hoxha at the May Day parade,
photo: by S. Xhillari.

Back Cover: View of the Castle of Gjirokastra
photo: by Y. Ristani.

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NEW ALBANIA

A political, social illustrated periodical appearing bimonthly in Albanian, Chinese, Russian, French, English, Arabic and Italian.

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Martyr's Day is commemorated every year on May 5. On this day, the martyr's graves, wherever they are, are covered with fresh flowers.



125 years have elapsed since the birth of the great poet and patriot of our National Renaissance, Naim Frashëri. A jubilee party was organized in Tirana on this occasion.



Carpet weavers of the town of Kavaja. Carpets with Albanian folk motifs, produced by the workers of this factory are in great demand on foreign markets.

FROM ONE DAY TO ANOTHER



Every year on the last ten days of May, the "Decade of Art" is organized in Tirana. Professional and amateur troupes compete on the stages of theatres and clubs of the capital. In the photo: Comrade Enver Hoxha greeting the participants in the Decade.



A shot from the feature film "Mountains carpeted with verdure" which is being filmed by the collective of the "New Albania" Film Studio. Its plot is taken from an event of the partizan war.



The Architects of the whole country came together in their national meeting to discuss the tasks of the new Five-Year Plan.



In May, the Fourth Festival of Song and Dance of the kindergarten children of the capital was held. Composers, writers, stage artists made their contribution in preparing the children's festival. Prizes were awarded for the best songs and dances.



A place of rest on the outskirts of the capital. At the beautiful artificial lake built amidst green hills, everyday hundreds of people go there to spend their leisure time.



"Birds' Day" is celebrated every year in April. The school children go to the gardens of the cities and place special boxes in the trees which serve as comfortable nests for the useful birds.



The Kosova singer, Nexhmije Pagarusha, gave a number of concerts in the People's Republic of Albania and visited the cultural institutions of the country.



The house where the Albanian Communist Party was founded. The room where the meetings were held.

FROM THE SPARK WAS BORN THE FLAME

In a small house of Tirana, on November 8, 1941, the Albanian Communist Party, today the Party of Labour, was founded.

Today this house has been turned into a museum. Hundreds of visitors signatures in different languages are to be found in the visitors book.

Below we are publishing some separate fragments from this book:

... The founding of the Albanian Communist Party 28 years ago opened a new epoch of victories for the people's revolution. Its birthplace is the cradle of the revolution in Albania. . .

The Delegation of Chinese Journalists

The teachings of the Party of Labour of Albania on the fusion of groups into a true Marxist-Leninist Party, capable of leading heroic Albanian people in the liberation war against fascism, are invaluable to us all. The understanding of the members of the Albanian Communist Party under the leadership of Comrade Enver Hoxha, their determination to stand in the front line of the struggle will serve as a guiding inspiration to all of us. . .

Bill Ash, — Britain

With great joy we saw this house museum and heard about the

foundation and the struggle of the Party of Labour of Albania. We envy the Albanian comrades who in difficult times allowed no obstacle to stop them from leading the Albanian people to victory. We wish the Albanian people and its leadership new victories in the future.

Josef Grafl

Hofinger Eduard — Austria

... It is a great honour to me to visit the historic house, where a group of true revolutionaries assembled to begin the struggle for the liberation of Albania. This visit has filled me with enthusiasm because it is a lofty example for the education of the younger generation.

Delgado M. — Columbia.

I am greatly impressed by my visit in this house where that flame which today illuminates the road of the Albanian people on their



"At the Party's call"

by: Shaban Hysa

march to the building of socialism was lit for the first time. In the difficult conditions of illegality imposed by the cruel fascist yoke, the Albanian comrades led by Comrade Enver Hoxha, raise high the red banner of the ideology of the working class. This banner has been kept firmly at the head of the important struggles of the Albanian people, in the glorious patriotic war for national liberation, in the magnificent struggle for the construction of socialism in Albania. . .

A Brazilian student

My visit in this house museum arouses great emotion. Here, under the leadership of the brilliant fighter Enver Hoxha, the Albanian Communist Party was born. No doubt, this is an historic event that gave an impulse to the upsurge of the Albanian people towards freedom, progress and justice.

An Egyptian journalist

. . . The Party born in this small house has known how to build the great edifice of socialism, by standing firm on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, demonstrating the inexhaustible strength of the revolutionary ideology of the proletariat.

Delegation of the Communist Youth Union
(Marxist-Leninist) of Italy

The delegation of FEANF followed with attention and emotion the explanations about the conditions of the foundation of the Albanian

Communist Party, today the glorious Party of Labour of Albania. The experience of the Party of Labour of Albania guided by Comrade Enver Hoxha, is a great contribution to the liberation struggle of the peoples. We once again pay homage to this triumphant struggle pointing out the determination to abolish the imperialist and reactionary domination from the African land.

Oka Adjinda

The Zimbabwe people, on whose behalf I am in this country today, in this house museum, will profit a great deal from the experience of the Albanian people in the struggle for liberation, from the struggle in the first days of the founding of the Albanian Communist Party. We congratulate Comrade Enver Hoxha for the role he played in the founding of the Party.

A group of representatives from Zimbabwe
— Africa —

This small house is a great place not only for the Albanian people, but also for the revolutionary peoples of the world. . .

Delegation from Tanzania and Zanzibar.

. . . It was with great emotion that we saw this house where Marxism-Leninism was born in Albania. Everything here gives us heart in our struggle to build a Marxist-Leninist organization in Finland. . .

Delegation of the Marxist-Leninist
Association of Helsinki



Our Interview

The correspondent of our magazine had an interview with the Deputy Minister of the Light and Food Industry, Comrade Eleni Pashko, in connection with the achievements and perspectives of this branch of the economy.

QUESTION: What development has there been of the light and food industry and what is the material basis created up to now in this field?

ANSWER: For the reader of the "New Albania" Magazine to form a general idea about our light and food industry, I think he must view it in its growth during the years of the people's power.

Before liberation the light and food industry occupied about 70% of the general industrial output in our country. Nevertheless it did not meet even the minimal demands of the population, because in general, our industry was very weak. At that time we did not produce sugar, canned food, woollen or cotton materials, nor socks. The light and food industry at the time produced 0.3 m. cotton cloth, per person, 0.44 kg. macaroni, 0.4 litres of beer, 2.1 kg. edible fat, 0.21 pairs of shoes of every kind, 1.2 kg. of soap per capita.

It is easily understood that we could advance with that material and technical basis inherited from the past and which included only a few cigarette and leather factories, some workshops producing oil and soap. During the four Five-Year Plans a powerful light and food-processing industry has been created, with an entirely new structure,

THE LIGHT

responding to the demands of the people and at the same time to the strengthening of the economic independence of the country.

The textile industry, the sugar industry, the canneries for fish, meat, fruit and vegetables, the footwear, the plastics and wine industries, etc., are entirely new branches. Industrial plants such as the "Stalin" and "Mao Tsetung" Textile Works, the Knitwear Factory in Korça, Food Processing Combine in Tirana, and the Cannery in Vlora, the Sugar Mill etc., are some of the main objects with an up-to-date equipment. It can be summed up by saying that in the past 25 years 70 new factories and 6 combines of light and food industry have been designed, built and put into operation.

During the past Five-Year Plan the workers of light and food-processing industry by making full use of the productive capacity of the existing objects and of those newly built, by revealing and by better exploiting new local resources, overfulfilled the objectives set in the plan. During this Five-Year Plan 19 million metres of cloth, 4.5 million of metres of worsted, 1.8 million knitted garments, over 2,600 tons of soaps, 41,000 hectolitres of wine etc, were produced in excess of the plan.



At the "Mao Tsetung" Textile Mill in Berat.

AND FOOD INDUSTRY

QUESTION: What about the professional abilities of workers and cadres and in what directions is the technico-scientific revolution in the branches of light and food-processing industry making headway.

ANSWER: Of course to create the material basis in the field of light and food-processing industry is an important and great achievement. But the main thing is our new men, the formation of the conscious and qualified worker.

The workers, engineers and technicians have created new concepts about the work. They feel that the machines and factories are their own, that production is in the interest of all the people, including themselves.

This is the explanation for the great impetus of the workers of the light and food-processing industry, as well as of the workers of all the other branches of the economy of our country. By mastering the new achievements of science and technique, to make the best of their ability the workers of this branch of industry are working hard to the projected technico-economic indices in the shortest possible time to create new production lines and workshops, with their own forces to extend the range of products.

The technico-scientific revolution which is taking place in our country is a wide field of efforts embracing the whole sphere of production and all the workers. The rank and file workers and the leading cadres and technicians rack their brains on how to secure new sources of raw materials, on how to extend productive capacities to cope with the flush of supplies at their peak condition, how to improve the quality of the goods as well as their packaging and presentation.

QUESTION: With what kinds of articles is our light and food-processing industry able to supply the market?

ANSWER: New articles are constantly being introduced in the range of products of our light and food-processing industry. Hundreds of assortments of textile products, knitwear, ready-made garments for different seasons and ages, different models of shoes and sandals. We have already begun to produce textiles from synthetic fibres, new articles in fur artistic products, rubber, and plastic goods.

There have been achieved good results in the extension of assortments as well as in the quality of products. The most obvious results have been in the production of wines, cognac, oil, toilet soaps,

beer etc.

The number of prizes—gold and silver medals—that our products have won in international competitions are an indication of the good achievements in our food-processing industry.

QUESTION: Speaking of our commodities on foreign markets, how has the development of our light and food-processing industry influenced the import-export structure?

ANSWER: The influence is considerable. The import-export structure has constantly improved.

Nowdays as I mentioned above, our industry has begun the production on an industrial scale of articles made of synthetic fibres, which, up to now, have a considerable weight in imported goods. On the other hand, with the extension of production of textiles, plastics, canned vegetables, fruit and fish, cognac etc., the range of exported goods is extended. Our commodities today are exported to many countries and are in demand for their natural structure and for their taste.

QUESTION: Now something about the perspectives. What problems and tasks will our light and food-processing industry be confronted with in the future?

ANSWER: The tasks and perspectives for the coming Five-Year Plan will be clearly defined by the 6th Congress of our Party. But in broad outlines we say that the attention of the workers will be especially concentrated on the further improvement of the quality and structure of the products, on the extension of the assortments, on their presentation and packaging. These tasks will be solved by increasing the degree of utilization of the existing productive capacities, by bringing into production the new objects which are to be built, by mastering the new technological processing as quickly as possible. Other important problems of the Five-Year Plan will be the extension of production of artificial and synthetic fibres, the further improvement of the products according to the demands of the home and foreign markets.

The processing of different varieties of fruits and vegetables and their preservation in fresh condition will be extended. We have a great deal to do also in regard to packaging, both in appearance and in reduction of bulk and weight.

To carry out all this we rely on the constant strengthening of the whole our economy, on the creative impetus of the masses, on bringing all our reserves and possibilities into use.

The laboratory of the new Milk Products Factory in Tirana.
Photo: by S. Xhillari





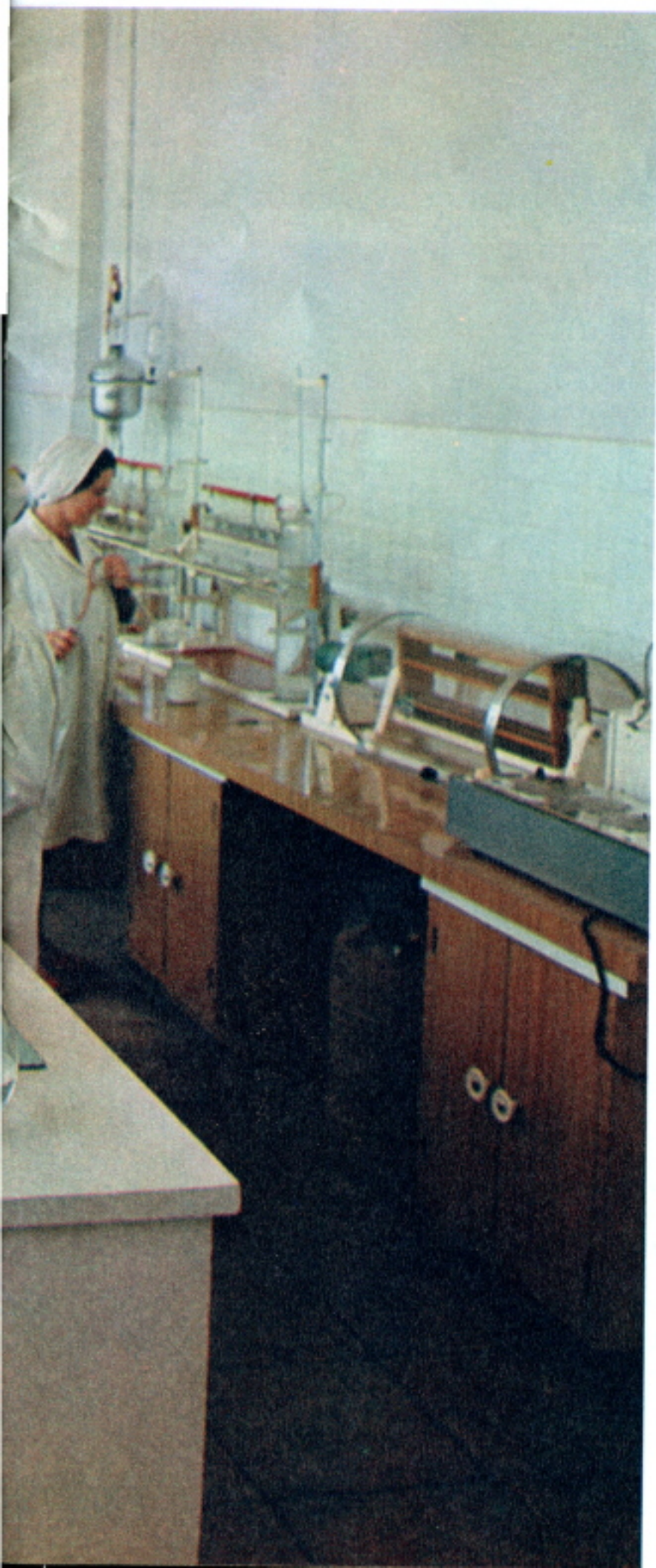
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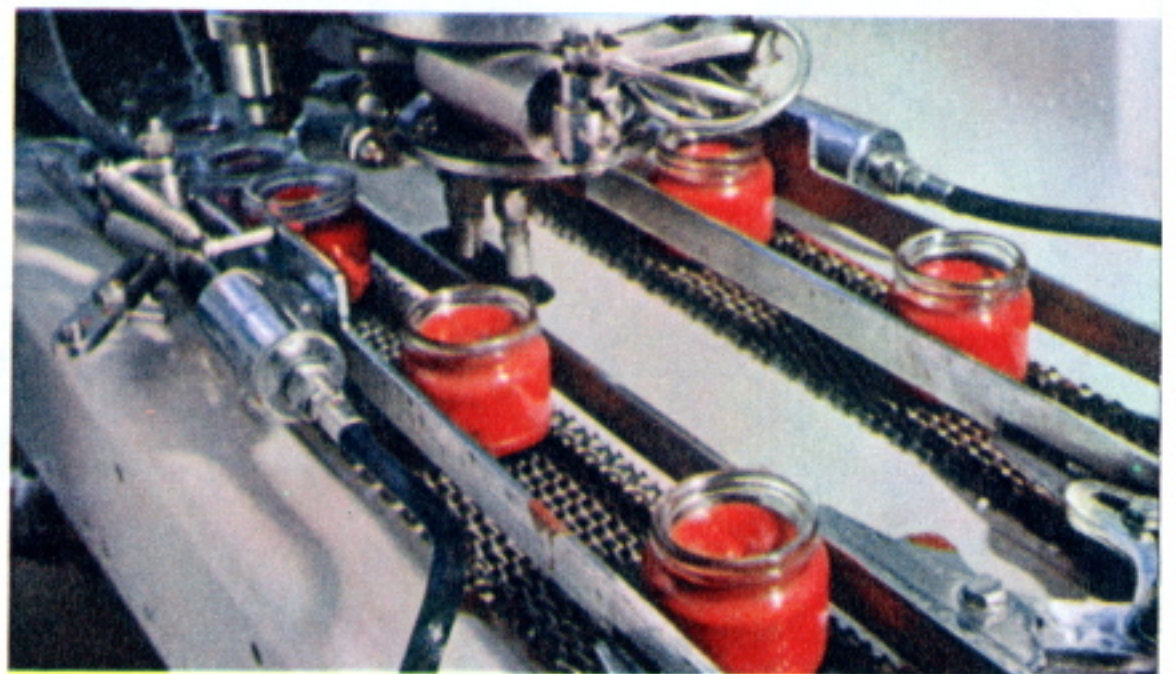
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Products of our light and food industry.
Photo: by J. Manoli

Compulsory Education

Nearly half a million school children attended the 8-grade schools throughout the country during the school year which has just ended. This is the total number of children of 8-grade school age.

In Albania there is a law making 8-grade schooling compulsory for all children. And, like all other laws, this one too envisages sanctions for those who do not comply with it.

The enactment of a law on compulsory 8-grade schooling was dictated by a number of factors, especially, by historical conditions.

New Albania inherited from the past a pronounced backwardness in the domain of education. Schools were institutions rarely encountered particularly in the countryside. There was mass illiteracy especially in the remote regions of the country. Under these circumstances, certain individuals adopted a depreciatory attitude towards schooling, and even after liberation, they became an obstacle

to the implementation of 8-grade schooling. Some were satisfied with only the lower cycle of 8-grade schooling, with the four classes of elementary education, while others thought that all the children needed was enough schooling to enable them "to read or write a letter".

However, the building of a new socialist Albania with modern technique and science, with an advanced social order, demanded educated people, and not just a few hundreds or thousands of them, but a massive cultural and educational uplift, making education of and for the masses.

But the drawing up of a law to make education compulsory was only the beginning. The necessary conditions had to be created in order to put this law into practice. Therefore, the state took all the necessary steps to enable the children to receive 8-grade schooling. A wide network of schools of this cycle was opened throughout the country. It was necessary to

open schools also in hamlets with a limited number of pupils.

In addition, many children from little hamlets where houses are scattered over a large area (in the past the villagers built their houses quite distant from one another, especially in the villages of north Albania) receive their 8-grade education in boarding schools on state scholarships.

In the People's Republic of Albania, education in all cycles of the schools is free of charge. All the expenses are met with by the state. In the state budget large sums are allocated for education each year. Suffice it to mention that at present the state spends as much for education in four days as the total amount of the state budgetary income in 1938. The state spends about 2,500 leks on the average for the 8-grade education of each child. For children who attend boarding schools on state scholarship, this sum is much higher. What the family pays is only to provide their children with books and notebooks. Compared with what the state spends these family expenses are merely symbolic. Thus, the family spends only about 400 leks for the whole 8-year period. This is an insignificant sum and is a little over half a miner's monthly wages.

Under such circumstances, 8-grade general and compulsory education has become a reality in our country.

In recent years, the 8-grade school has also

An hour of biology: Let's see what the microscope shows.
Photo: by H. Gostivari





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① Pupils of the fourth grade of the 8-year school "Cajupi" during their lesson in geography.
Photo: by H. Gostivari

② A demonstration in the physics laboratory.

③ The students' city.

Photo: by P. Kumi

④ Near the globe. . . .

Photo: by B. Fusha.



④

undergone important changes both in structure and in content. It has already become the most massive school and the basic link in all our school system. More intensive work is being done to impart deeper and more scientific knowledge to the students of the schools of this cycle through the creation of a harmonious unity between theory and practice, extending practical and laboratory experimental work, and so on.

8-grade general education, uniform for both town and the countryside, for boys and girls, opens up opportunities for all to pursue their studies in lower vocational schools, or secondary schools of general and vocational education. This, it does not remain an end in itself, but a starting point for the Albanian youth to forge ahead. At the present time, part-time and full-time secondary education—4 classes above the 8-grade but prior to higher education—is being extended and becoming more massive. Half the pupils who have completed the work of the 8-grade schools are already pursuing their studies in secondary schools. This number does not include those who attend lower vocational schools nor those who attend part-time schools.

The successful application of the law on 8-grade compulsory education and the attendance at higher schools by most of our youth, have created conditions for secondary education in the People's Republic of Albania to become general for every young man and young woman in the not distant future.



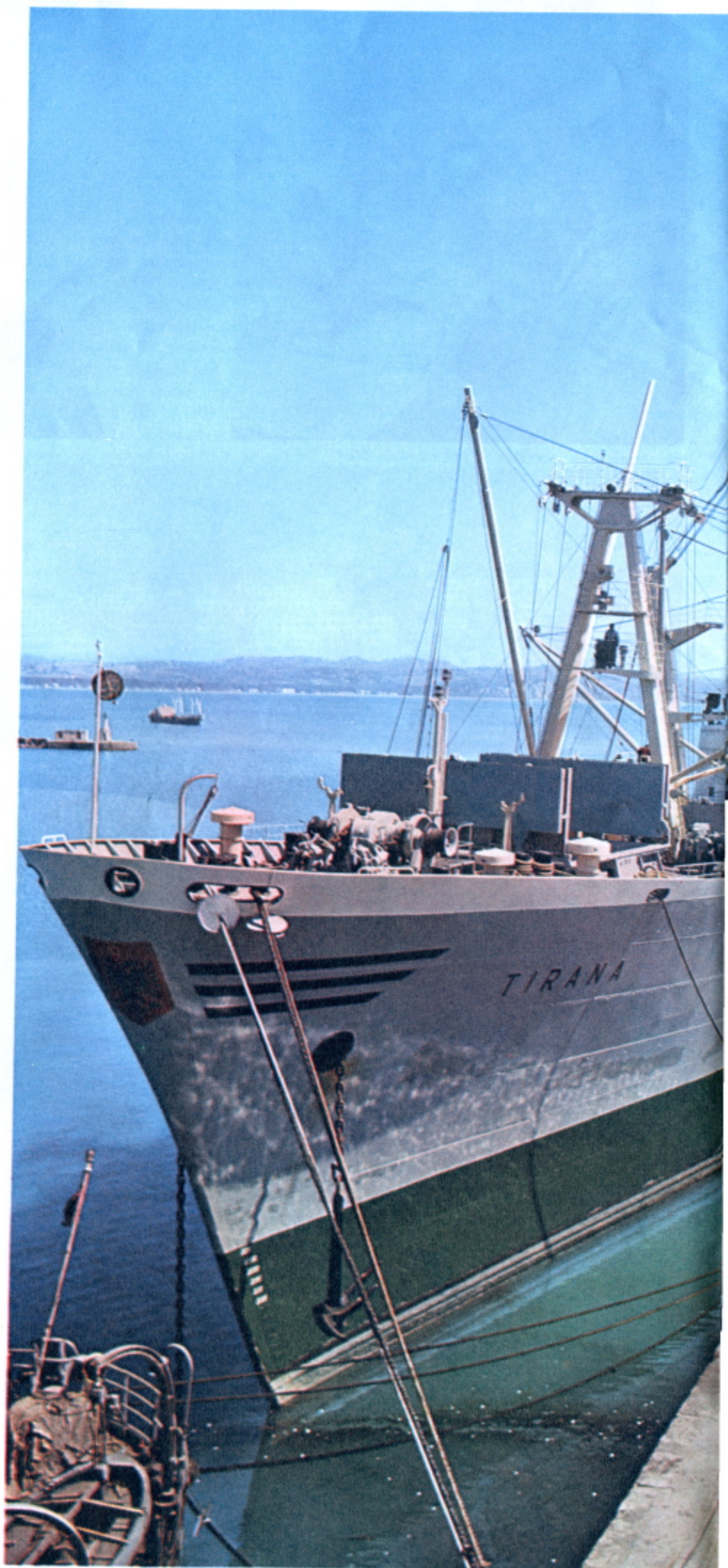
On Board the Ocean-Going Ship "Tirana"

Five years ago, during those cold autumn days, when heroic sailor Adam Reka fell battling the storm to save the floating crane which is now named after him, tens of thousands of citizens—workers, cooperative members, students—came from all parts of Albania to Durrës harbour to see at first hand and feel the whole grandeur of the courageous action of their comrade.

And here once again, school children and workers from work centers clamber up the gang-plank of the new ocean-going ship "Tirana" spread over the deck, enter the corridors, go down into the engine-room, climb up to the navigation bridge, meet and shake hands with the sailors. Their faces are beaming: a new powerful vessel, a new, beautiful, 12,000 ton ship has been added to our merchant fleet. And this is their own ship, socialist property, the common property of us all.

"This big ship brings to mind many things" says Salih Hiday, a veteran of the National Liberation War, "It was during the time of war. We had to get some rifles and ammunition out of the city. The roads were heavily guarded. We looked around and found a fisherman's boat, loaded it right down and rowed across the bay to the liberated zone. I said to myself at the time: We could do with a bigger boat. And now—here it is." There is a pupil of the tenth class, Vitali Nasi. She is young, born and growing up during the years of people's state power, dreams mostly of the future. She envies the crew of the "Tirana" who sail over seas and oceans and touch at distant ports. "I envy the sailors" she says, "for they see for themselves places I only learn about from books, maps or see on the TV screen. How I long to sail one day across the world in our "Tirana"!" The workers of "Albimport", "Albtransport", and the wharves are happy mostly for the fact that this new vessel will create new facilities for the exchange of goods with the world abroad.

At the saloon we meet some of the leading cadres of the new ship. The assistant-director of the merchant fleet, the commissar and others, were there too. The captain of the trans-oceanic ship, Comrade Resmi Shameti, and first officer Pavlo Minga spoke to us about the ship's maiden voyage through the North Sea, along the French coast, and over to Latin America.





The "Tirana" is equipped with up-to-date navigation apparatus, as well as a modern system of communication and fire prevention and a system of gauging and regulating the temperatures in the holds and other parts of the ship.

The crew at little more than 40 persons are all young-32 years on the average. In general, they have manned other ships of our merchant-fleet and now have ample experience in seamanship. All facilities have been provided on board ship for the crew. Prophylactic measures are carefully taken to protect the crew's health. For cases of emergency the ship has a small hospital, an infirmary, surgical equipment etc. A doctor runs the medical service on board. "The inner life in our ship" says the head of the Trade Union organization, "is characterized by the close friendship between the leading cadres and the rank and file crew members. Cadres and sailors live together like close comrades. They enjoy themselves together singing, playing table tennis, eating in the same dining room and watching films or TV programs together."

The assistant-director of our merchant marine, Comrade Fore Kureta says that although the "Tirana" is of medium tonnage, she is an important addition to our merchant fleet because she will raise its carrying capacity especially over long distances. The volume of goods transported by the vessels of our merchant fleet will be increased. In comparison with 1966, the volume of work in income of our merchant fleet in 1970 was doubled. The ships of our merchant marine: "Vlora", "Durrësi", "Skënderbeu", "Dajti" and others are in constant movement to the seas and ports of the various countries of the world. Now the "Tirana" joins them.



At leisure time on board the ship.
Photos: by P. Kumi

The Ocean-Going Ship "TIRANA" in the port of Durrës.

FOREIGNERS ABOUT ALBANIA



Musa Abu Hatab

Chairman of Palestine-Albanian
Friendship Association

I Saw a Conscious and United People

I have met many Albanian delegations representing the Albanian working class in various countries at celebrations and congresses and I sincerely say that I have always found among them support for the Palestinian people.

I felt in them the spirit of work and seriousness. This impelled me and the workers of Palestine to link ourselves more closely with the Albanian people and to set up the Palestine-Albanian Friendship Association. It was a great honour for me to have been elected Chairman of this Association. My visit to Albania was the fulfilment of my keen desire to see this heroic people.

What did I see in Albania?

First, I saw a conscious people, united with the Party and its leader, and with complete trust in their leadership. Second, I saw a people who cherishes a great love for the Arab peoples, especially for the fighting Palestinian people. Everyone, young and old, when they see a Palestinian, gather round him and say: "We are with you, we are ready to fight shoulder to shoulder with you".

Third, I saw a people who fought against and conquered the invaders, who are turning mountains into green and fertile land, who are building dams on rivers, and making them produce electric power, who are building plants and mills, the products of which can be compared with those of world industry.

I also saw people who are racing ahead of time, producing in good quantity and quality.

Despite the youth of the workers and the plants, all are working relying on their own forces and their unyielding will.

I saw youth working on voluntary actions. They are working on difficult but important projects, leaving their towns and villages, boys and girls are working voluntarily to build the railway.

There they are physically tempered, ideologically educated and their determination to apply the principles of Marxism-Leninism is strengthened. There, while shedding their sweat, they are binding themselves more closely to their country.

In conclusion: I saw people working heart and soul for a better life and to aid others.



Abdul Aziz Anane — Syria

What I Saw with My Own Eyes

I was very glad to come to Albania. I knew Albania and its people only from the little information in school books, as well as from the broadcasts of Radio-Tirana in Arabic. So it is natural I had many things to find out about.

During my flight I was sitting next to a person who spoke a little German. When I told him I was coming to Albania he said: "You will get tired if you travel outside Tirana, because there are no asphalt roads".

— Have you ever been to Albania? — I asked him.

— No, he replied, — but I have heard about it from others.

I began to compare this foreigner's remarks with what my comrades who had been in Albania before me, had told me.

It was evident that my fellow-traveller was either a doubtful character or a liar.

When we landed in the Tirana Airport, I was welcomed with bouquets of flowers by children with shining and optimistic faces. I forgot I was a stranger among them, I forgot the words of that unknown man in the plane.

During my stay in Albania I saw a people linked with their best traditions, proud of their own country, with good humour and high morality, correct in their behaviour and striving to forge ahead. We travelled by car to the most remote corners of the country, covering hundreds of kilometres along well-kept roads without getting tired and surrounded by wonderful natural scenery.

We saw some of the great achievements, factories and power-stations, farms and carefully tilled fields. I was deeply impressed by the work being done for the revolutionary and internationalist education of the people. The victories of the Party of Labour of Albania with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head are the pride not only of the Albanian people, but also of all the peoples fighting for freedom and independence. The Albanian people deserve the respect of all peoples for the successes they have achieved by relying on their own forces. A people that keeps the rifle in one hand and the pick in the other, is able to work miracles. We saw this with our own eyes. Words can't express the magnitude of the achievements we saw in all spheres of life. I would say that smiling faces of the workers, in the factories, the peasants in the fields, or the children are more eloquent than words. My heart will always be filled with gratitude for this people who fought for a life of human dignity, and which it realized, just as everyone wants pure, beautiful and shining.

Finally, I would like to run into that stranger on the plane again and say: "Visit this country and then speak of its development, of the strength of its youth which is dedicated to the work of production".



Conscious of Their Responsibilities

A.R. Msangi — Tanzania

During my 14 days stay in Albania, I have learnt a lot of things. The Albanian people fought selflessly for the liberation of the country until independence was won. The Albanian people today are happy, for everything is their own property.

Under the wise leadership of the Party of Labour with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, great successes have been achieved.

Everywhere I went, I saw many industries: the Superphosphate Plant, the Copper Wire Factory, the Tractor Spare Parts Plant, the Mao Tsetung Textile Mill, state farms, construction sites, and so on.

I am glad, Albania has successfully carried out the compulsory 8-years school system, as education is the key to development.

The readiness to defend the country, to defend their victories is one of the many aspects of the Albanian life — that greatly impressed me.

In Tanzania, we are fighting against colonialism, neo-colonialism, capitalism, and imperialism. Today our political Party is called a Liberation Party. We have to fight, to defend our country and our policy of socialism, our economy. We must fight to be no longer oppressed, exploited and despised. I wish the Albanian people further successes in their efforts for the socialist construction of the country.



What Impressed Me Most

Bertolini Antonio — Italy

During my stay in Albania, what mostly impressed me, as representative of revolutionary workers of a capitalist country, is the revolutionary impetus of the Albanian working class, the peasantry, youth, and all the people.

The Albanian working class led by its Party is moulding the new man, the socialist man. This is a majestic effort and initiative, but from what I saw in Albania, I am sure that the workers, peasants, youth, men and women, will succeed. This marvellous initiative has already reached a very high level of development.

The Albanian working class and the whole of the people regard the victory of socialism as their own internationalist duty.

The working class of Albania, all the people, the Party sincerely support the people fighting against exploitation.



Ever More Prosperous

Jean Tirio, France

Nine months after my first visit, I found Albania just as sound and vigilant, and ever more prosperous due to the creative work of the people.

Great works are going ahead, electricity has been sent to the most remote areas; tomorrow the power supply will be ever more ample. New plants and houses are under construction.

This upsurge at work is doubled up with the unshakeable determination of the men and women of Albania to defend the victories of national independence and social justice.

I have been overjoyed to meet volunteers on the work sites of socialist construction where the new man, the communist man, is being tempered. With the revolutionization of education and social life, the communists' hope and will are being realized.



The Lofty Spirit of Proletarian Internationalism Is Felt in Every Step

Jon Sichone — Bambia

I was greatly impressed with the Albanian hospitality, with the warm welcome we received from men, women, children everywhere we went. The Albanians are carrying out their tasks consciously and in an exemplary manner both in agriculture and industry. This fact encourages me to follow the example of the Albanian comrades.

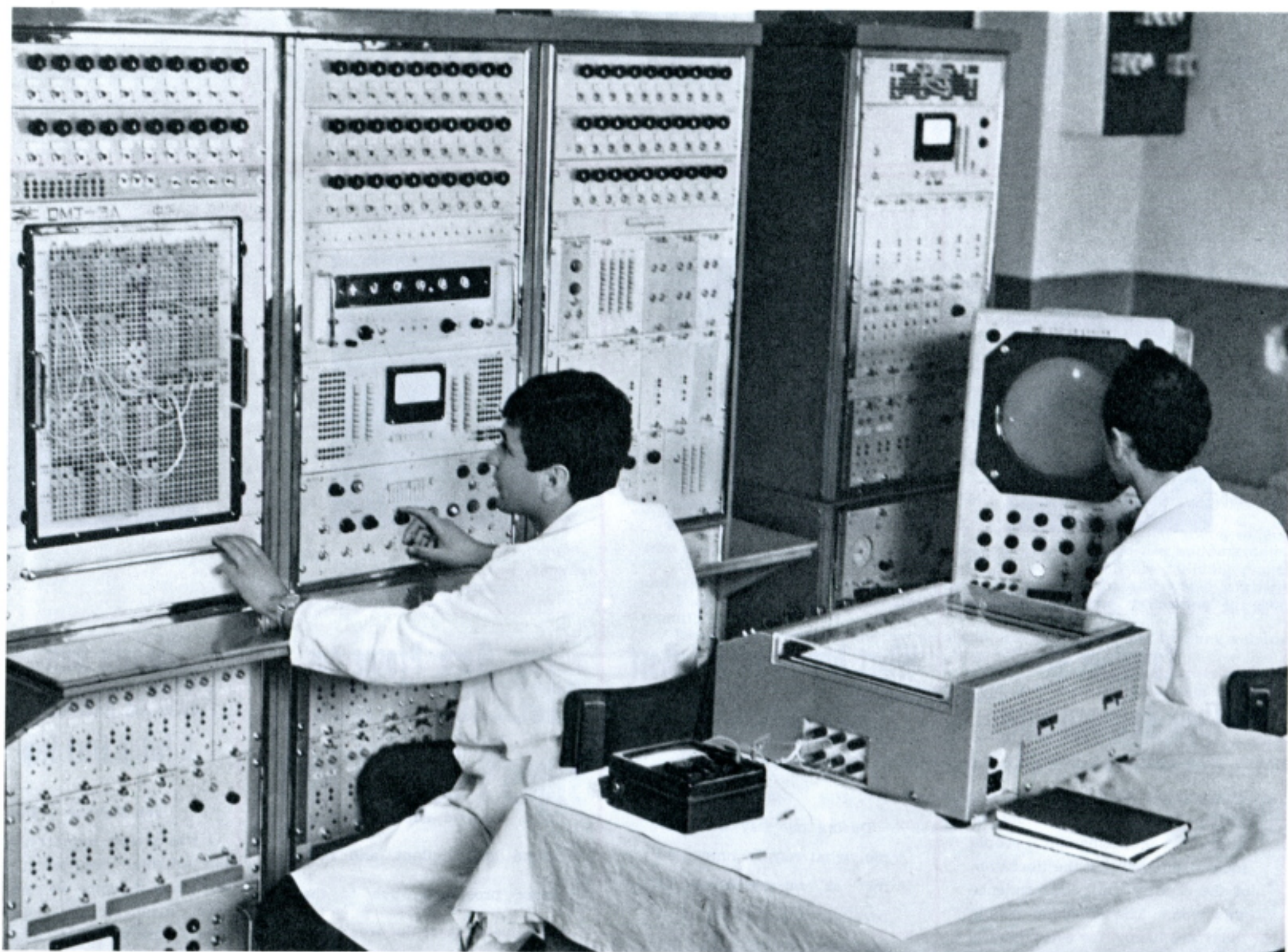
I am highly impressed by the international solidarity of the Albanian people with other peoples who are still fighting oppression and exploitation, arms in hand. In conclusion I wanted to add that you have a marvellous youth, a healthy younger generation that has been well brought up during these 27 years of free life under the people's power.

May Day demonstrated the great successes achieved in Albania as a result of the correct leadership and policy of the Party and the will of the Albanian people, the May Day showed the great successes achieved in Albania.

Nothing good is produced without good organization and the enthusiasm of the people.

Long live the Party of Labour of Albania!

Long live the international solidarity!



In one of the halls of the computer centre.

Computer Centre

One of the projects of the new Five-Year Plan is the construction of the Computer Centre at the State University of Tirana.

The creation of this mathematical calculations centre will play an significant role in the revolutionization of the methods of production. The old methods of work could not keep pace with the development of the material and technological basis of our country, could not ensure high rates of development in the field of production. And the new up-to-date style and methods are closely connected with the expression of problems in the language of mathematics, with raising and solving complicated problems.

From this aspects, the computer centre will be a scientific research institution in the service of the economy of the country, which will help raise and solve problems in the various fields of economy and science, proceeding from our concrete requirement and needs. This centre, together with the other sectors concerned, will exert its influence in establishing other similar centers of more limited scope, in one or a number of limited fields, in conformity with the development of these sectors.

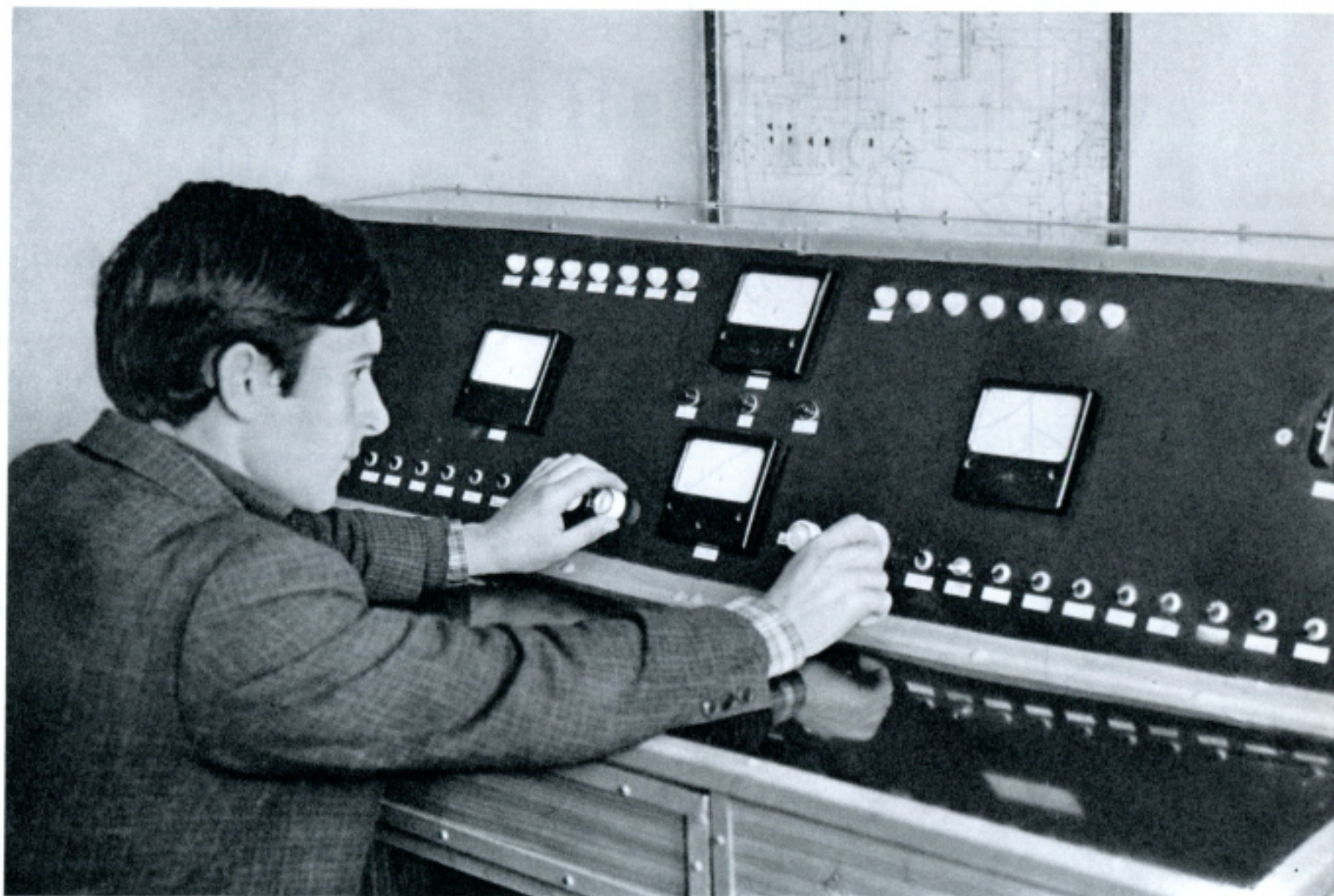
Of course, it would have been impossible to set up a scientific institution of this kind, if we had failed to think in due time about training the cadres who would work here. Therefore, a special five-year course of training in mathematics was established some time ago, and this has already begun to turn out its first cadres. Under the new conditions, our scientists and specialists work out problems dealing with a narrower profile of mathematical computation, with the raising of mathematical knowledge among all the specialists of the various branches of production, and so on.

In addition to the great impetus it will impart to the development of economy and science, the computer centre will give many opportunities to our qualified specialists to free themselves of a host of calculations in order to devote more time to their creative productions and the raising of their professional standard. This is of major advantage to our cadres.



One of the scientific workers using the computer.
Photos: by P. Ciel

Our Studies in the Field of Seismology



The young technician attentively follows the functioning of the apparatuses.

Eduard Sulstarova
seismologist

The first Albanian seismological station "The Seismological Station of Tirana" began its activity only a few years ago.

The designing, installation and the putting into operation of this important scientific establishment was done entirely by our workers.

The heavy earthquakes of the whole world as well as the less powerful earthquakes of our country are now recorded in this centre. In the near future, this center will be equipped with additional seismographs which will make it possible to register both strong and weak earthquakes of our country, a thing of major importance to seismological studies.

At the present stage, this station as the only one of its kind for seismological studies, engages in the interpretation of records, the publication of monthly and yearly bulletins, the micro-and macro seismic studies of new earthquakes, the accumulation and elaboration of data on old Albanian earthquakes which will make up the basic material for the compilation of the catalogue of earthquakes in Albania. Our country ranks with those of the greatest seismic activity. Earthquakes have caused immense economic damage. Seismological registrations, the elaboration and studies of the data on earthquakes enables us to take protective measures against earthquakes which may occur. By making a complex study of the distribution of earthquakes in space and time we will be able to establish seismological regions.

The seismological mapping of Albania constitutes a primary task of our present studies. Prior to the liberation of the country no earthquake protection measures were taken in designing our buildings. A seismological regionalization of the country for practical building purposes for protection from earthquake damage was begun by the Albanian specialists in 1952. By 1963, it was improved, and now serves as a basis for earthquake resistant building.

The seismological regionalization of our country will be based on the considerable macro-and micro-seismic material already collected and to be collected, on any new information about earthquakes, on the up-to-date methods of processing this data (in this direction the new computer centre will assist) as well as on the latest methods

used in drawing up seismological maps.

Maps drawn on profound scientific criteria are considered as maps to predict earthquakes through which one can determine the approximate force, place and number of quakes at any point of the territory. A map of this kind is of great practical value for it makes it possible to take well-grounded protective measures both as regards future buildings as well as the existing ones and, consequently, to save human life and social property.

The workers of our Institute are hard at work to accomplish this very important and difficult task. We believe that within the coming five-year period we will have a new seismological map of the People's Republic of Albania drawn to the scale of 1:500,000. Some time ago, within the framework of compiling the seismological map of Europe, we completed the study of the seismological regionalization of the People's Republic of Albania to the scale 1:2,500,000, which was considered as having positive value by the International Seismological Center at Strassburg which described it as a valuable contribution to the field of regional seismological studies.

We will soon send to the press our studies on the seismological survey of our country on the scale of 1:1,250,000 as well as the catalogue of the data on earthquakes in the territory of the People's Republic of Albania from the earliest times to the present day.

In the future our seismological station will take up the study of the structure of the earth's crust in Albania, a very important problem for geology, in particular, and for the economy in general.

The Seismological Station in Tirana maintains connections with more than 50 seismological institutions in Europe, Asia and America, as well as with two International Seismological Centers with which it exchanges bulletins and studies.

The data provided by our station conforms to international requirements, and this is an important achievement of our new seismological science. Both the international seismological institutions as well as those of other individual countries refer to them.

Without doubt this is a good and promising beginning for broader seismological studies on our part in the future.

WISE SAYINGS

By Sami Frashëri

Sami was one of the three great patriotic Frashëri brothers of the Albanian National Revival. He was born in 1850.

His work covered many fields. He was a novelist, playwright and linguist of great renown, a political and ideologist of our National Revival, a teacher and author of many scientific works for the masses. During 34 years of creative work, Sami wrote more than 50 different books.

"Emsali", wise sayings, is one of Sami's works. Although it is not a voluminous work, it enables the reader to grasp world outlook of the author as an ideologist of the Albanian National Revival.

There are some of his "wise-sayings":



Drawing by N. Bakalli

- The loftiest ideas are found in short words.
- Instead of selling knowledge and ability, try to acquire them.
- The word of one who laughs a lot, makes no one laugh.
- A drop of water that falls into the sea does not dry up.
- Have as few ornaments as possible.
- No one likes a man who is fond of himself.
- Hypocrisy is the most dangerous poison.
- Tire the body and ease the mind.
- Everyday of your life is a page of your biography; take care to write well for one bad page spoils the whole book.
- A person who can not stand up for his ideas resembles an unfortified town.
- Man wants to live long but does not want to get old.
- A big evil may enter through a little crack.
- Do not trust him who is neither for nor against.
- If you wait until the time comes to do some good for mankind, you will never do it.
- Flattery is a trap laid for dupes.
- A wandering nation with sound morale is a thousand times preferable to a civilized nation with a broken spirit.
- The simplicity of one woman is more valuable than the jewels of all the women of the world.
- He is a brave man who faces up to a stronger force than his own and stands up against a courageous man who withstands an unbearable misfortune.
- He who expects good from a bad man is even worse.
- Astonishment mostly arises from ignorance.
- There is no greater sin than the abuse of trust.
- If there were no swindlers and innocents in the world, the lawyers would starve to death.
- The mother-in-law never recalls the time when she was a bride.
- We understand the value of time on winter days, and that of snow in summer.
- There is no greater happiness for a man than to regain the freedom he has lost.
- A man can appreciate the value of thinking only when he talks with a fool.
- A horseman on the sea and an oarsman on land are worthless.
- Don't fear the anger of the just but beware of the silence of the tyrant.
- There are those who look as though they have never been young and youth who look as though they will never be men.
- He who rears a raven will surely have his eyes picked out some day.
- If there are two infallible wise men one is the test.
- He who melts down his wealth for the sake of his motherland will not remain hard pressed, for the motherland is not ungrateful.
- A man's homeland is his real heir, his bones too will rest in its soil.
- A bullet does not kill a brave man but the crack of the rifle may kill a coward.
- Great things cannot come from the hands of one who has no regard for the small things.
- Love of country is the cannon which will destroy the strongest castle and the castle which will withstand the best of cannons.
- Tyranny is born from fear, the sovereign who is afraid of his subjects is compelled to intimidate them.
- If there were no slavery in the world, no one would know the name of liberty.
- When the State is united with the will of the nation, its strength is increased a hundred-fold.
- Elimination of equality causes the loss of freedom. Privilege is the companion of tyranny.
- The desire for freedom doubles the strength of nation.
- Honest men rot where flatterers thrive.
- A difficult life in old age is the result of time spent in dissipation during youth.
- Had it not been for love of country all non-productive lands would have been abandoned and remain barren.
- In days of woe don't look for friends you have won in days of weal.
- There is one sun but it makes millions of shadows disappear.
- Telling secrets to a chatterbox is like filling a sieve with water.
- The best surgeon is one who has received many wounds.
- Don't wait for flames to emerge where you see smoke, to realize that there is fire.
- Taking the first step is the most difficult part of a journey.
- It is not a great sin not to know the truth but it is a great sin to distort it once you know it.
- The tongue always goes to the tooth that aches.
- It is not work but boredom that withers a man. A machine is not damaged by turning but by gathering rust.
- The pangs of the envious are greater than those of any other man. He suffers not only from his own misfortunes but also from the good fortunes of others.
- There is not better medicine for the ailing than the cheerful face of the physician.
- Men believe that the world has been created only for them. He who runs away from it does not escape death: it is not running away that saves a man from death, but courage.

On the 105th Anniversary of A. Z. Çajupi's Birth

The Poet of Liberty

Floresha Haxhiaj



Drawing by N. Bakalli

Andon Zako Çajupi was and remains in the history of our people, a brilliant figure as a people's poet, patriot, and outstanding democrat who raised his voice strongly for the rights of the common man, who courageously raised the most advanced demands of the National Renaissance Movement.

Çajupi knew the people intimately, loved them, admired their folklore, their folk song and shaped his art with the people's creativeness. That is why he and his poetry entered so deeply into the heart of the people.

Andon Zako wrote about those problems raised by the Albanian reality of the end of 19th and the beginning of 20th centuries. They were the years of powerful uprisings for freedom and independence.

A tidal wave of powerful mass protest rose against the oppression and the savage exploitation. Under such circumstances, the works of Çajupi expressing the aspirations and desires of the people, became a call for unity in the struggle against the Turks.

They were a clear reflection of the people's desire for freedom and social justice, of their boundless hatred for the invader.

As the years when Çajupi wrote marked a higher stage in our national movement, his creativeness was distinguished for its powerful and boldly patriotic ideas, and at the same time, for his democratic views which were very advanced for that period. He was not only the singer of the lofty patriotic motive, but also the poet who remained very close to the social life of his people.

As a man of the Renaissance, Çajupi took up the "New themes dictated by the national movement for freedom and independence, by the cry from the heart of the motherland, and the enslaved people".

Çajupi's patriotic poetry touched upon all those motives which had been recognized by the patriotic poetry of his predecessors or contemporaries.

But, still, it entered into our literature just as powerful, bold and militant as all the literature of that period. As a true patriot, Çajupi strongly denounced the religious and regional divisions and splits, calling for the unity of the nation round the common ideal, the cause of freedom and independence.

Singing to the liberty of his country, Çajupi expresses himself with the heart-felt words of a true patriot. The words of his poetry

are a reflection of his burning desire for his country's freedom, an incitement and encouragement, and a call to battle. In all the patriotic literature of those years, Çajupi had the particular merit of stigmatizing the portrait of the invader, symbolized by the bloody tyranny of the Turkish Sultan, with a sharp and satirical language.

"Wherever. I trod, the grass went dry,
What rifle left, was burnt by fire
A beast like the bear
I ate human flesh"!

With these lines put in Sultan's mouth, the poet expresses his hatred.

Andon Zako Çajupi, distinguished for his democratic views, was a sworn enemy of monarchs and the whole Ottoman-feudal system.

He understood and openly expressed the reactionary and restrictive role on the development of the knowledge played by monarchist throughout the ages. With the same aspiration he satirized the beys, as the enemies of independence and progress.

Çajupi openly called for the destruction of the entire feudal system, of which backwardness and social oppression was an essential element. He looked upon the division into rich and poor as a profound social evil. He raised his voice loudly against this great injustice making a call to other peoples outside the country, for this social problem plagued them too.

Our poet criticized and mercilessly exposed concrete figures who played a reactionary part in our national movement. Thus the comedy the "Selanik Club" as well as "After death" remain as powerful indictments of the traitors.

Andon Zako was a poet who was intimately acquainted with the people and the customs of his region. This enabled him, at the same time, maintain a critical stand towards those backward customs which were related to the life of the people. He could never reconcile himself to the emigration which was a serious social evil at that time.

On the other hand, Çajupi who valued the well-being and personality of man so highly could not reconcile himself to marriages arranged on an unjust basis. In the comedy "The 14-year-old bridegroom" he hit out at a series of shortcomings, such as marriages at unsuitable ages, conservative views concerning the question of the woman, who was looked upon as a slave in the family.



**ALBA-
NIAN
FOLK
COST-
UME**





CHRONICLE IN STONE

Ismail Kadare

The new novel by Ismail Kadare entitled "Chronicle in Stone" covers the years of fascist occupation and the beginning of popular resistance during the years from 1941 to 1943 in the old city of Gjirokastra.

Here we are publishing the final chapter.

Unrecognized Voices.

Heavy fighting everywhere. Darkness. Where are we going. Better days will come, a clear sky. A commissar by the name of Enver Hoxha has said: "Communism will be established". Remember me to everybody, I am leaving, enjoy your New Albania, comrades! Thousands and thousands of steel helmets on the march. How many armies has this country seen! Even if the city with all its houses, streets, bridges, gates, windows and all, is blown to bits, I know you have been waiting for me. Where are you going? It is snowing in the mountains. This is not a surgical operation. It is not an incision in the belly or the chest. This will be called the Germans winter operation. Albania will be doubled up with the pain. The fate of this country has always come out from the mountain tops at first just like the sun. Cold. Tell me something of communism. What an open sky!

Morning

The distant city awoke again lonely and grey. Last night's fires had impaired nothing of its general appearance. It was far away but everything round about, the mountains, villages, valleys and all were bound up with its fate. A flame from it was the alarm for the whole district. Now, half-abandoned, like a pre-historic town where life had long since ceased, a dry crust, half empty, it awaited the Germans.

The highway which would bring them (as it had brought all the armies) writhed now and craved pardon at its feet. But, noble and disdainful as ever, the city didn't even glance towards it. Its troubled windows looked far into the distance.

In the beginning no one knew what had happened at the moment when the vanguard of the German army arrived at the entrance of the city. We heard it all later. The vanguard was greeted with rifle fire and bombs. The motorcyclists who survived turned round and rushed away. For a long time the highway remained deserted. Deep silence followed. The city as usual calmly awaited reprisal.

There they were again, this time headed by tanks. The road was blocked with them. The tanks did not enter the city. They stopped on the road and only the long barrels of their gun veered slowly towards the city. The Germans waited a while for the appearance of a white flag the sign of sur-



render. But everything was grey.

Then the bombardment began. It was a heavy, monotonous bombardment. The noise of the clash of iron on stone filled the whole valley. Bits of walls and roofs, pieces of buildings and chimney pots flew in all directions. A fall of black dust covered everything. Two citizens who were about to hoist a white flag over the roof top were shot dead by the bullets of those who were determined not to surrender. A third man who was creeping along carrying a bed sheet was shot dead the moment he tried to unfurl it. He fell on the sheet which wrapped itself round him as he rolled down the slope of the roof, and shrouded thus, he fell to the ground.

The bombardment lasted three hours. Finally, someone succeeded in hoisting something white. No one ever learned who it was who climbed like a ghost over the city and suddenly disappeared after having waved that white thing towards the Germans. It is not known what that white thing was: a flag, a handkerchief, or a piece of ordinary sheeting. All that is known is that that white thing would torment the minds of men for a long time to come.

The Germans, who were apparently observing the whole scene with binoculars, at once caught sight of that image amidst the chaos of smoke and ruins. The bombardment ceased. The tanks veered the barrels of their guns and began to climb towards the city. Everything trembled. The tank tracks skidded and roared, striking streams of sparks from the cabbles. The almost deserted city was being occupied.

Later we learned that while the tanks climbing, roaring like monsters through the street of the Big Bridges, from two opposite windows this conversation took place between Aunt Xhemo and old Shano:

"Why are they making so much noise? They could come in a bit more quietly" remarked. Aunt Xhemo.

"They all make a lot of noise when they come. But they slink away quietly" replied old Shano.

When evening fell the city, which had figured temporarily on the maps of the Empire of the Romans the Normans, Byzantium, the Turks, of the Kingdoms of Greece and Italy, had this time become part of the German Empire. Wearied and benumbed by the conflict, it gave no sign of life.

Night fell. After all that racket which thundered wave after wave over the whole district all the world seemed deaf. Now that everything was quiet the thousands of refugees who had taken to the hills and villages during the bombardment and had seen and heard what was happening stood frozen like statues.

What was the city doing now, over there in the dark left on its own with the Germans? According to predictions, this should be the last night of the thousand years existence of the city. The men with yellow locks arrived at last.

In the village to which we had come no one slept throughout that night. Everyone stood, in silence, waiting. Those who turned in for a nap, soon returned wrapped in their blankets. No one raised his voice above a whisper. All eyes were turned in the direction where the city ought to be. All was dark. The iron claws of the tanks were tearing at its breast. No light. No signal. It was plunged in darkness.

But day dawned and there it was. Grey as always and majestic. Some shed tears. All of them repeated the word "tonight". They had made up their minds to return.

We left the village in the evening. Our group was made up of the same people.

Xhexho came along also. We walked in silence. The haystacks scattered here and there were left behind. They looked as if they had something to tell us, but they couldn't. We were strangers.

Now from hundreds of directions small groups of fugitives were returning to the city. In a few hours time the giant, half-abandoned shell, would be filled again with human footsteps, whispers, nerves, passions, gossip, hopes and pain.

We did not stop. The last haystack had long been left behind.

"We must return," said Xhexho suddenly and stopped short. "My right ear is ringing".

No one spoke. On we went. Xhexho murmured for a while and then fell silent. It was probably midnight. We could see nothing. Here and there great tumours seemed to loom out of the night. They must have been the forms of hills and rocks.

Midnight had certainly gone by when we began to walk on the plain. We walked for a long time. It must be about the airport. Something loomed dark beside us: The skeleton of a bulldozer. I smelt a strong smell. (Apparently, the passers-by had used the place to relieve themselves).

"Do you remember where you hid your dagger?" Ilir asked me.

"Yes!" I replied.

We stopped to rest. Ilir and I want to piddle on the aircraft that had been shot down. I could never have imagined it. Dawn was breaking. The contours of the city were gradually showing through the haze. It arose before us like a sphinx. We are at a loss what to do. Should we go in or not? From the confusion of darkness the roofs of tall buildings, chimneys and windows began to appear. The tops of minarets, spires and steeples swathed in sheet iron looked like lunatics wandering crazily among the other buildings with battered helmets on their heads.

We decided to go in. We crossed the bridge over the river the military post had been abandoned) and the road. There were no Germans anywhere. Perhaps they had shut themselves up in the castle.

We walked a little over fallow ground. Suddenly the city loomed quite near us. High. Terribly steep. Almost vertical. It was disdainful, somewhat offended at having been deserted. Signs of the bombardment visible everywhere. House walls cracked. Broken balconies.

Something gleam white on the first telephone pole. We approached and saw a proclamation. It was still dark and the letters were hard to distinguish. "I order... forbidden... also... death three... firing squad... as well as... Commander of the City Kurt Vollerzein".

We were climbing the street to the market place. A pale light glimmered through chronicler Xivo Gavo's window. Suddenly I felt a hand catch my head and wrench it round.

"Don't look!"

There was something lying in the street; doubled up. I could not see properly. I wanted to vomit.

Further on no one stopped me looking. We walked in a daze. Two dead Italians further on another.

Away ahead at the crossroads there was some one hanged. On a telephone pole. When we got near enough we saw it was a woman. An old woman. Xhexho half-smothered of groan.

"Kako Pina!" exclaimed Ilir.

It was she. Small swinging in the light breeze. On a white sheet on her chest was written half in Albanian, half in German:

"das saboteuse".

We hurried along. Here was the alley, the house. Mother had already pulled out the big key. A few more steps. But there on the cobbled street lay a dead man, a pool of blood near his head. A note pinned to his chest. Nazo gave a strangled cry. "Maksud". The bride cast an indifferent glance at her husband's body stepping cautiously past it as if she were afraid of being spattered with the blood. I could not drag my eyes from the writing: "Thus dies a spy" I knew that writing, "sloping foreword like a man running amidst wind and rain. It was Javer's.

"There is worse to come!" Xhexho warned as he went off down the lane.

They all dispersed. Nazo and the bride began to drag the body towards the gate of their house.

As soon as mother put the key in the lock the gate was flung open. Grandmother appeared like a ghost on the threshold.

"Come in! Come in!" she said in a low voice.

We entered.

"I was waiting for you" grandmother said.

"Maksud, there... outside".

"I know" grandmother said, "they killed him at midnight.

"Kako Pina..."

"I know" grandmother added, "They hanged her yesterday".

We went upstairs.

"She was on her way to dress a young bride" grandmother continued. "The street patrol caught her".

"Whoever would marry at such a time?" asked mother.

"They do" replied grandmother, "They always do" (Domsday).

"They didn't recognize the things she was carrying they were wires for mines.

I looked out the window. It was cold. A dazzling search-light was switched on and off again. German occupation. Grey. Teuton. Over the tower of the prison flew their flag. Two SS or may be two Z's distorted in the wind.

I could hear Nazo and the bride outside, still dragging Maksud's body.

"There will be a big war", grandmother said placing her hand on my head.

From outside came the sound of muffled footsteps.

"They are coming back" she said, "All night long they have been coming back".

Tender human flesh was filling the hard stone crust again.

Design for a Memorial Plaque

I returned a long time later to the immortal grey city. My feet seemed hesitant to step on its cabbled back. You supported me. Cabbled stones which recognized me. In strange cities, walking on the wide, brilliantly lit boulevards I often stumbled where there was nothing to hinder anybody. Passers-by turned their heads in surprise, but I knew it was you, the stones of the streets of my home town. At unexpected moments you emerged from the asphalt and the sank back again below.

The street, the cistern, the old house. The beams, floors, its timber planking, creaked easily, very easily, a never-ending monotonous creaking? What is it? Are you in pain? It seemed to be complaining of its aching bones, and its age old limbs.

Grandmother Selfixhé, Xhexho, Aunt Xhemo, Kako Pina... They are no more. But at the crossroads between the corners of the walls I have seen some lines I knew some like features, shadows of cheeks and eyes. They are there, immortalized, carved in stone, together with the marks left by earthquakes, winters, and human onslaughts.

Dr. Zisa Cikull

ALBANIA ranks with countries of very high vitality. The population of our country has almost doubled during the last quarter of a century. At present, nearly forty-three per cent of our population is made up of children up to 14 years of age.

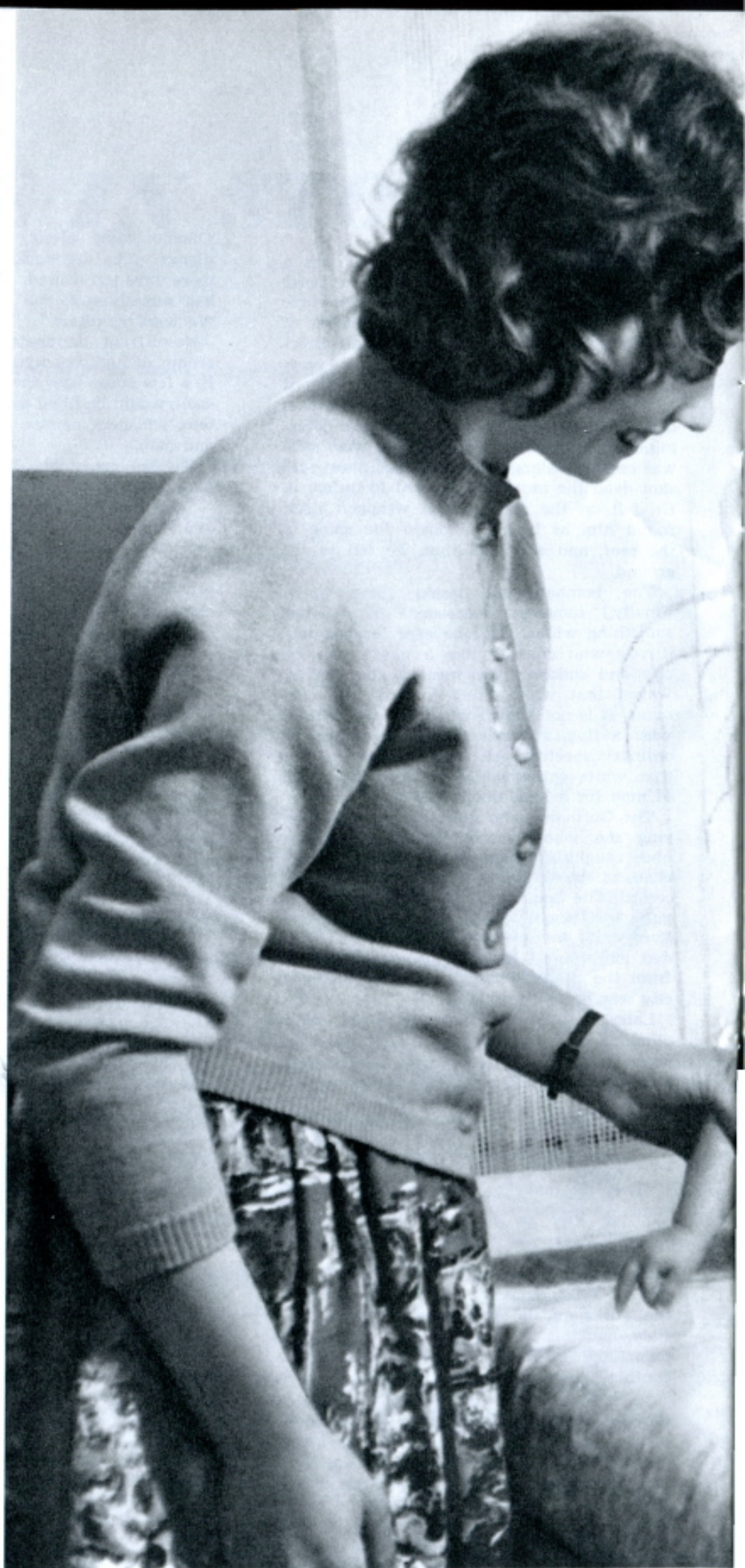
In our country, child care begins before they are born. As early as the second of third month of pregnancy, the mother-to-be is taken under the care of a consultation centre for expectant mothers. There she receives advice and undergoes the necessary tests. The law entitles a pregnant working woman to 12 weeks leave of absence with pay, which she takes partly before and partly after the birth.

It must be said that we inherited nothing from the past as regards institutions, legislation and cadres to care for children. Suffice it to mention here that throughout Albania there was only one ward with 15 beds where expectant mothers could be confined. Therefore, the wide network of Maternity Homes which exists today in towns and villages is entirely the work of the People's State Power. At present eight out of ten children are born under medical supervision. The influence of the Maternity Homes is continuous in all the rural areas of the country, and as early as the current year every village will have its own midwife, and conditions will be created so that absolutely no child will be born without medical supervision.

After its birth a child is taken under the care of the consultation centre for mother and child and there his all-round development is followed, the mother is advised on proper feeding and baby care methods, how to detect the first signs of illness and so on. The consultation centres provide the children with vitamins, vaccinations and so on, all free of charge. A whole system of creches has been set up in towns and villages for children up to 3 years of age. In these institutions the children are brought up and develop into healthy youngsters. For the maintenance of children in these day creches, the state pays from 50 to 80 per cent of the expenses, according to the incomes of their parents.

A wide network of ambulances, polyclinics, and hospitals, is placed at the disposal of sick children. In addition to some special hospitals for children in Tirana, Shkodra, Durrës, and other principal cities, there is a sector of pediatrics in all the town and locality hospitals. Children under one year of age receive free medicaments, while, as is well known, hospitalization and medical treatment is free of charge for the whole population without exception.

In January this year, at a special plenum the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania analyzed "the situation and the measures to be taken to raise the public health service, particularly hygiene and prophylaxis, to a higher level". At this plenum, special emphasis was laid on the protection of the health of mother and child, on the ways to be pursued to improve this work in a progressive manner. And now, everyone is hard at work to create the most favorable conditions for mother and child, first and foremost, within the family, and in the various public health institutions.



There is all-round concern for the children's health. Constant medical checkup as a protective measure from various diseases is part the many measures.

The Whole



Society Is Concerned About Them



Agricultural landscape.

In Albania there are at present 550 agricultural cooperatives. Each has an average of 900 hectares of land under cultivation. In 1970, our agricultural cooperatives produced 74% of our food grain, 71% of the sunflower, 100% of the tobacco, 54% of the milk, 91% of the cotton and 90% of our beans. In 1970, our agricultural cooperatives had 3,500 kindergartens and creches, over 3,200 public bakeries and eating places, over 1,100 public laundries and bath houses, over 2,000 handicraft service units. In the cooperatives and villages houses of culture, hospitals, ambulances, maternity homes, dental clinics and so on have been built.

Our Agricultural Cooperatives

The rapid rate of agricultural development in our country is the best indication of the efficiency and advantages of the socialist system in agriculture as well. During the last five-year period (1965-70) agricultural production of our country increased 37%.

A role of first rate importance in this direction has been played by the extension and all-round strengthening of our agricultural cooperatives. The cooperative and state sector of agriculture now embraces the whole agricultural economy of the country. In 1970, our agricultural cooperatives turned out 74% of our food grain, 71% of the sunflowers, 100% of the tobacco, 54% of our milk, 91% of the cotton, 90% of the beans, and so on.

The road to the present stage of development of the cooperative economy has been a long and difficult one. Our first cooperatives were set up immediately following the agrarian reform during the early post-liberation years. By the end of 1955, 14.5% of the

peasants had collectivized their land. By the end of 1960, the cooperative system included about 71% of our peasant families. In later years no peasant family remained outside this system. Thus, the socialist system was fully established in the economy of the country. This was a revolution which was carried out in all the spheres—political, ideological, economic and social.

The collectivization of agriculture was accompanied by the establishment of a sound material and technological basis. In 1938, Albania had 30 tractors (in term of 15 HP) in all. By the end of 1969, the number of tractors had increased to about 10,000, not to mention the various agricultural machines, aggregates and repair shops. The Machine and Tractor Stations became an important link in the development of the cooperative economy, one of the most effective forms of state assistance to the peasantry.

Another problem has been that of in-



tives at Their Present Stage

creasing the area of land under cultivation. Of all the European countries, Albania has the least arable land per head of population (i.e. 0.2 hectares per capita), this being 20% of the total area of the country. Our state has invested colossal sums for draining a number of swamps for controlling rivers and for extending the network of irrigation canals. As a result of these schemes, 40,000 hectares of land have been reclaimed and an additional 162,000 hectares of land have been improved. In hilly and mountain regions thousands of hectares of virgin land, which have been turned into large plantations of olive, citrus, fig and apple trees and vineyards, have been broken in. Our agricultural cooperatives are doing good work in systematizing steeply sloping ground.

In order to raise productivity in agriculture artificial fertilizer industry producing (nitrates and phosphates) has been set up.

A wide network of schools specialized

in agriculture-secondary schools; the higher institute of agriculture and a number of scientific institutions has been set up to train cadres and develop agricultural science.

To these measures, which are directly connected with the development of agriculture, must be added the other measures of a general character, such as the development and strengthening of industry in general and the achievements in the field of science and technology. The electric reticulation of all the rural areas of the country marks a new stage in the all-round development of the Albanian countryside.

Proceeding from the establishment of material and technological conditions, as well as the rich experience gained in management and organization, now the task before us is to speed up the intensive development of agriculture, to further modernize it, so as to meet the growing demands of our workers. To achieve this, we are

accelerating the process of uniting the smaller cooperatives into larger ones. In 1961 we had 1,484 agricultural cooperatives. In 1966, their number had been reduced to 819. Whereas today in our country there are 550 agricultural cooperatives of from 4 to 5 villages and an average of 900 hectares of arable land each. The average area of arable land of our agricultural cooperatives exceeds the average of the agricultural economies in capitalist countries. Up to 1964, the average size of agricultural economies in the USA was about 150 hectares. In Italy, about 75% of agricultural economies have less than 5 hectares and in France about 78% have less than 20 hectares of land and so on.

The improvement of the internal specialization of production, closer cooperation between the branches of agriculture on the basis of a deeper study of the concrete natural and economic conditions of each



At the threshing floor.

Photo: by S. Xhillari

cooperative economy, constitutes another important factor in raising the cooperative economies to an advanced level.

Steps are also being taken continually to raise the level of management and organization of economies to that required by the new stage of development of the agricultural cooperatives. A closer collaboration of the cadres and specialists of higher and medium training with the worker themselves, is providing great opportunities for solving many problems of production and organization, and is creating objective conditions for the uninterrupted and scientific revolution in agriculture. Mass participation in scientific experiments with experimental plots of land and high producing livestock herds cabinets and laboratories of agricultural technique, scientific consultations and forums, are some of the forms of work used for this purpose.

As a result of all these measures, the production of food grain in 1970 increased 76% above that of 1965, potatoes increased 7-fold sunflower-1.8 times, and so on.

Consequently, the incomes of cooperative members have also increased. The average income of each working member in 1970 was 12% higher than in 1968. This percentage

does not indicate every thing with regard to the increase of incomes. During recent years the agricultural cooperatives have made large investments in buildings for economic, cultural and social purposes, and have increased the funds for large-scale reproduction and systematic payment of the cooperative members. In the cooperatives ever more effective aid is being provided for mothers before and after childbirth, for the aged, and so on.

Incomes in our agricultural cooperatives are distributed, of course, on the basis of the socialist principle of, to each according to the work he does. But the value of a workday in each combined cooperative, whether in the low land or the highland regions comes out of the cooperatives general income earmarked for distribution and is uniform throughout the year.

The increase of production has improved the living conditions and has enlivened the cultural life in the cooperative village. In 1970, in the 550 cooperatives, in addition to the houses of culture, 8-grade and secondary schools, there are about 3,500 kindergartens and nurseries, over 1,100 public bath houses and laundries and over 2,000 handicraft service units in operation. Today, in every

village there is a wide network of catering units and public health institutions such as hospitals, maternity homes, dental clinics, and so on. All-round cultural and artistic activities are carried on in each cultural center. In these institutions the cooperative members, especially, the youth, organized in various amateur dramatic, singing, dancing, and other groups, give expression to their talents, enliven the traditions of our folklore and spread the culture and art among the broad masses of the peasantry.

The great material transformations in the agricultural cooperatives have led to major changes in the inner lives of the cooperative members themselves, in the formation of the new workers of the socialist countryside. Our present cooperative member is not like the former peasant, closely attached to his small property, of petty bourgeois mentality, with limited horizons and aspirations. He has a broader view of life. He has been emancipated from the old concepts, obscurantism and prejudices, and this process is continuing. He has a higher sense of solidarity, of love of work, and of the collective property. He has been liberated from exploitation and fear for the future, and marches forward with sure steps.



Horizons of fruits.

Photo: by N. Kodheli





"Upraise".

Photo: by N. Khufka

PARENT AND CHILDREN

Sun and Air

Photo: by S. Xhillari



A serious talk!

Photo: by N. Khufka



The fishermen.

Photo: by N. Khufka

Various interests.

Photo: by S. Xhillari



A tough battle.

Photo: by N. Khufka





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*PORTRAIT
IN
PAINTING*

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① "The vanguard of the vengence battalion" (fragment).

by: Sali Shijaku:

④ "The producer of electric wires" (fragment).
by: Sotir Capo

⑤ "At the public meeting" (fragment).
by: Dhimitraq Trebicka

⑥ "At the Tenda e Qypit" (fragment).
by: Fatmir Haxhiu

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Skënder Anamali — Archaeologist

The problem of genesis, of the origin of the Albanian people has long since drawn the attention of the scientists.

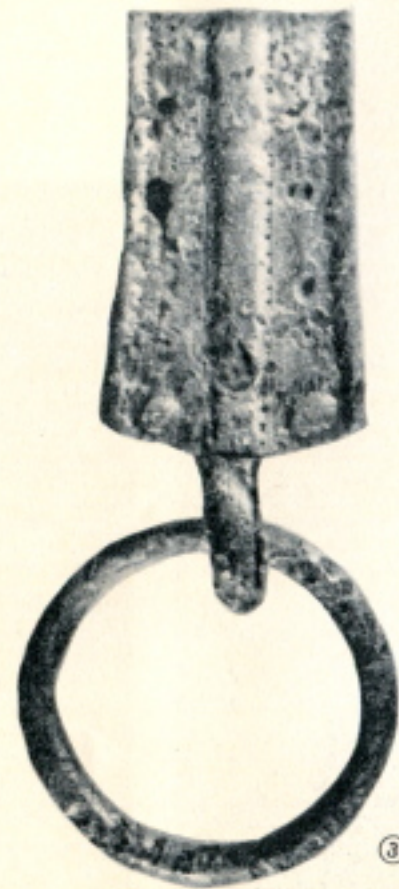
It may be said that since the 18th century when this problem was first treated it has remained a central question of our history about which incorrect and tendentious opinions have been expressed and conclusions drawn. With this problem are connected such questions as when, where and under what conditions was the Albanian people formed and what has been its territorial extension. Over this question, the scientists have divided themselves into two groups with two opposite thesis related to this problem: The thesis that recognizes Albanians as successors of the Illyrians, autochthonous inhabitants of more or less the same region as that of today, and the thesis which does not accept their autochthon and makes the Albanians newcomers to their present territory from eastern or northern regions at different times. From this latter group of scientists, a few have gone so far as to claim that the Albanians came together with the Slavs, at the beginning of the middle ages or later, in the 11th and 12th centuries, at the same time concocting entirely non-existent "facts" such as "the common Slav one—Illyrian ethnical genesis" of the Albanians, or "the Albanizing", of Slavs in Albania. In the past, in tracing this problem, the scientists relied almost completely on linguistic data, which at that time was quite limited. The source-texts used for this purpose were few and not very clear. The data of Archaeology, the auxiliary science of history, which was to make a great contribution to the treatment of the problem of the genesis of the Albanians, was not taken into consideration. It was only after liberation that our archaeology set about this work and created a sound documentary basis for the problem of our people's formation and for the successful solution of the main questions concerning this problem.

The first research work in the field of medieval archaeology started with the tracing of the material culture of some tombs in northern and central Albania, with the tracing of what is called the Koman culture. It was given this name because the first archaeological "finds" were made in Koman Village, Pukë. The discovery of the Koman graves was followed by long discussion among foreign scientists concerning the bearers of the material culture from the graves and the time it flourished. As a conclusion, in the archaeological literature Pellazgians, Germanic Suevs, komanized Illyrians, Avars and Slavs were all mentioned as the population that created the Koman culture. The late antiquity and the early medieval times were accepted as the period in which the graves were used. The discussions obscured rather than illuminated the problem. The principal problems of the Koman culture remained unsolved.

The problem of the Koman culture was studied by our archaeology on a historic and geographic background different from that of foreign scientists. The new research and discoveries made in Koman cemetery as well as



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① ② Brooches of the early medieval period.

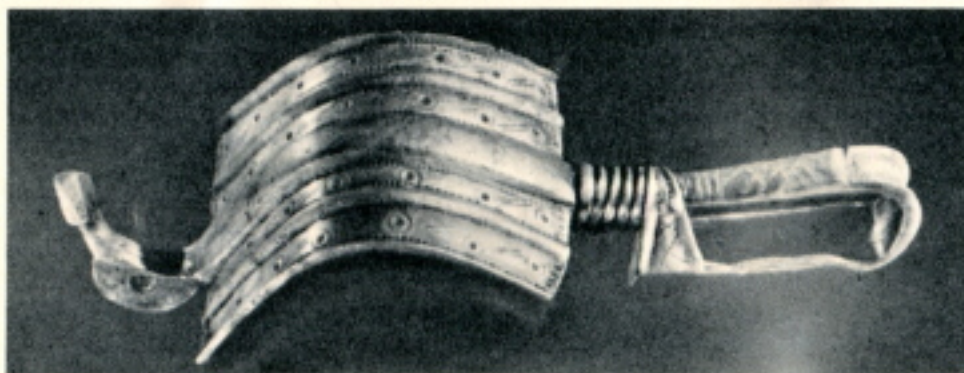
③ Girdle ornament.

④ Fibula

⑤ Earring.

Photos: by M. Kallfa

⑥ View of the mountain of tombs in Koman.



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the Albanians and Archaeological Data



Earring of ancient Albanian culture.



Earring worn even today in the North of Albania.

in a series of other graves, shed a new light on the Koman culture archaeological materials similar to those of Koman, were found in some other big and small tombs in the districts of Kukës, Shkorda, Mati, Mirditë, Lezhë, Kruja, Tirana and Durrës. Traces of this culture have been found also outside the borders of the PR of Albania, but in the regions inhabited by Albanians. All these findings indicate a very broad extension of the Koman culture, making untenable the opinion that its bearers were one of the various populations who invaded the Balkans at the beginning of the middle ages. Study of the archaeological material found in the tombs, typological analysis of the tools, arms, vessels of baked pottery and especially of metallic ornaments found in the graves showed also that with the Koman culture we have to do not with a foreign newcomer population but with a native one. First of all it was quite clear that the Koman culture had inherited many elements of the culture of the ancient inhabitants of Illyria, that is, it is the continuation of the Illyrian culture. It was observed also that Koman culture had not been developed in isolation, but in contact and in relations with the cultures brought by the occupationists, first with the Roman culture, and later, with the Byzantine culture. From them, it has taken new cultural forms or elements which had economic and other advantages and were more attractive, and which later became the property of various peoples and were used till these days. Some borrowed elements were further elaborated and developed, assuming new forms, which, together with cultural elements inherited by the Illyrian culture, are found only in the area inhabited by the successors of the ancient population.

Based on this data, our archaeology arrived at the correct conclusion that the Koman culture is a native culture which was developed on the basis of an older and likewise native

culture. It is clear that being such, its bearers are none other than the successors of the Illyrian population, who in the early middle ages would be mentioned as arbër- arbëresh, a name taken from the albanoid Illyrians who inhabited the hinterland of Durrës. This name which in the beginning, belonged to the arbanon region in Central Albania, between Durrës and Dibër, extended to all the regions inhabited by the population which was formed in the early middle ages on the basis of the old Illyrian element.

The problem of the continuity of the Illyrian-Albanian ethnic habitation and culture has been and is being traced by our archaeology in the medieval dwelling places and castles, and recently also outside the zone of the extension of the Koman culture. Following Varosh castle, Mat (Stelush of Scanderbeg), excavations have been made also in Shurdhah (Shkodra Region) and Pogradec castles and in the ancient dwelling places on the Lini hills (Pogradec Region).

Archaeological expeditions have found various materials which testify to the continuity of habitation from ancient times to the Middle Ages also in many other castles and dwelling places of our country in some of which systematic excavations will begin this year.

Although the material culture that resulted from the excavations in the medieval castles and dwelling places, is not the same as that of the early medieval tombs of northern and central Albania, sometimes due to the more powerful foreign cultural influences and the composition of the urban population, the archaeological findings, some to greater, some to a lesser extent, have indicated a continuity of habitation and ethnical culture. While there have been few archaeological findings in the castle of Varosh, Mat, connected with the Illyrians, (may be the Illyrian dwelling place was small), in the Middle Ages, and especially

in the 13th and 14th centuries, life in this castle was more intensive. The archaeological data on this period accords with history and popular legend. In the Shurdhash Castle, the first habitation belongs to the beginning of the medieval period, 6th century. An important fact is that in Shurdhash Castle, which by the 11th century had taken the aspect of a feudal economic-military centre, life has continued without interruption till the eve of Ottoman occupation. What did the archaeological findings in Pogradec show? The materials belonging to the period of late antiquity and early medieval times (the third period of inhabitation, because since the 4th century before our era there had been an Illyrian fortified dwelling place there) do not indicated any change in the ethnic composition of the population. The material culture is the same as that of the other castles and cities of our country during the early medieval period. The same ceramics are found everywhere some ornaments, knives and spearheads have the same forms as the objects found in the early medieval graves of the northern and central regions of Albania.

The above facts are not reconcilable with the old thesis about the complete romanization of the Illyrians, about an "ethnic emptiness" in the western Balkan regions at the beginning of the Middle Ages, which was allegedly filled by the Slaves, and about a late advent of the Albanians to their homeland. In the recent years, everywhere in the Illyrian provinces of the Roman Empire, archaeological monuments and materials have been found which testify to the preservation of the Illyrian cultural elements and clearly establish, the autochthonous Illyrian character of the population. The ancient population of the Illyrian regions was not wiped out even at the beginning of the Middle Ages, in the troubled period of invasions and the waves of the Goths, Avars, and Slavs. The invasions of the "barbarians" had grave destructive consequences in the northern regions of Illyria, where the population was greatly reduced and later assimilated by great masses of Slavs settled in those regions. Unlike the northern Illyrians, those of the south suffered fewer effects from the invasions and coped with the waves of various peoples. However it must be added that neither does the new data of our archaeology support the opinion that the Albanians, as the successors of the old Illyrian population, preserved themselves as a "remnant" which survived the invasions of the peoples during the 6th and 7th centuries, by covering and hiding in remote mountainous areas in conditions of continuous isolation. Likewise, there is no sign that the natives, that is the Albanians, abandoned the plains and the cities and that later, flowed down from the mountains towards the coastal areas as "migratory shepherds" or "mercenaries". The extension of the Koman culture not only to the mountainous areas but also to the coastal lowlands and relatively big urban centres, indicates the contrary. We can add to these facts of archaeology the new data of Albanian linguistics and ethnography.

From all these facts, Albanian historiography has drawn the important conclusion about the Illyrian—Albanian continuity and about the autochthon of the Albanians. That is why we say today that the cradle of the Albanian people was the soil it inhabits today. On this territory in the early middle ages, the Albanian people had formed its material and spiritual culture and common language, originating from a more ancient Illyrian ethnical basis and on this territory it emerged as a nationality in itself along with the other peoples of the Balkan Peninsula.



Partial view of the Durrës City

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TOUR IN ALBANIA

On Sunday at the artificial lake.



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- ① At the Zoo.
- ② "Thethi" valley.
- ③ Ksamil.
- ④ ⑤ "Lura" Lakes.
- ⑥ Valbona. Photos: by A. Fortuzi.

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SPORTS



“Albania-Rumania”

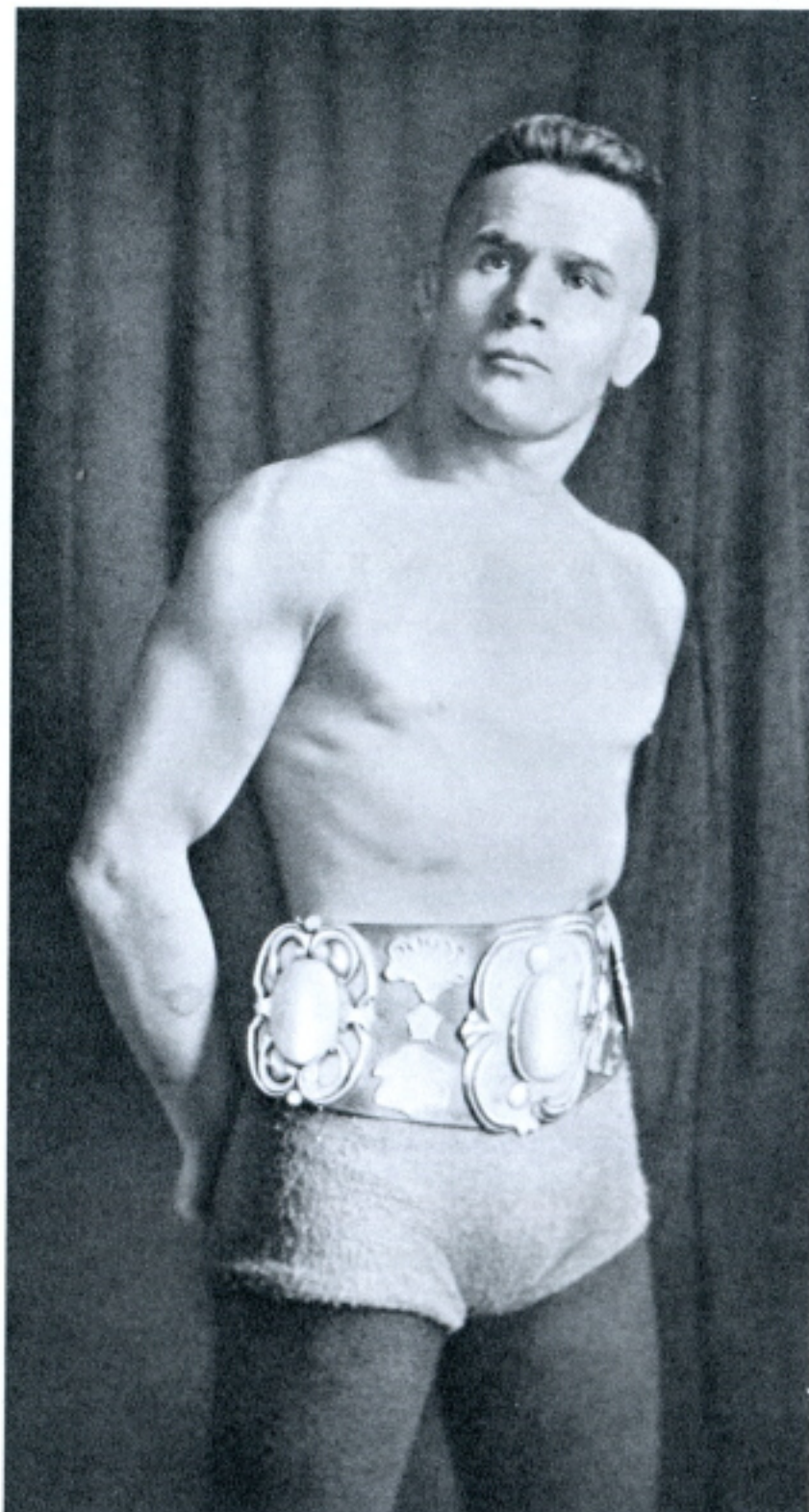
The wrestlers of the “B” team of Rumania had three matches in Albania. They lost the first match with “Partizani” and won the second one with “Villaznia” of Shkodra.

The third match was very interesting because the same wrestlers who had met before had to compete again. The two teams were very well trained physically and technically. The match ended in 5,5 to 4,5 for the “Partizani” team of Albania.

Marjeta Pronjari Jumped 1.75 m. High

Last year, our athlete Marjeta Pronjari competing in the pentathlon, in the Universiada of Torino, broke our national record in jumping 1.73 m. high. None of the competitors in the pentathlon could reach this height. She is increasing her efforts aiming at new heights.

..... April 21,1971. The bar was at 1.75 m. Again Marjeta broke the national record.



The Former World Champion

Emigration was a social evil in the pre-liberation Albania. In the vicinity of the City of Korça there is a valley which was once called the “valley of tears”. Many people emigrated from this place.

One day, Petro Sturgji too emigrated from the “valley of tears”. At the age of 16 he started work in a factory in Worcester City of USA.

He was fond of wrestling. At the beginning as a spectator, then as an amateur.

He had his first official match with a Swede. He was defeated and had his arm broken. It was a poor beginning. In 1923 he wrestled with the Finn, Uajno Kitonen, as a middle weight, and won the match after 55 minutes. His second match was again with Uajno Kitonen, this time competing for the world middle weight championship. In 35th minute Kitonen submitted. Thus in September 1923, Petro wore the world championship belt. After 9 months, Petro had to defend his title, this time against John Turner whom he had defeated once after a bout of 2 hours, 15 minutes. This time the judge was the sheriff of the city who was openly for the American.

Petro was never again given the right to challenge for the world title.

Petro Sturgji continued his career as a professional wrestler up to the age of 48, for 30 years on end. His name was well-known in the world of sport.

Not long ago he returned to his motherland and now lives in Elbasan, with the family of his daughter.



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① Wants to hang the whole of Spain, but, accidentally . . . hanged himself.
Cartoon by: I. Pojani

② American Stars.

③ Why do they train us with our heads down?
— It seems they are sending us to Vietnam.
Cartoon by: B. Shehu

④ Speechless.

⑤ Advertisement in the street.
— Jobless
— Without medical aid.
— Without education.

