



NEW ALBANIA

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YEAR XXV

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**FRONT COVER** — The pensioners — frequent guests of the children

— The sea — the most favourable place to spend summer holidays.

— This copper is extracted and smelted in the mountainous region of Rubik.

— View from the work at the Elbasan-Prenjas Railway site.

**BACK COVER:** At leisure time.

### NEW ALBANIA

Political, social, illustrated magazine, published bi-monthly in Albanian, Chinese, Russian, French, English, Arabic and Italian.

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ALBANIA

The 12th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania examined and approved the draft-directives of the 5th Five-Year Plan for economic and cultural development of the People's Republic of Albania.

In the draft-directives it is emphasized that the economic and social progress made so far, the major achievements, the ideological and cultural front and the revolutionization of the whole life of the country, have created the objective and subjective conditions to envisage even greater tasks during the 5th Five-Year Plan on the road to the complete construction of socialist society. These tasks subjected to a broad discussion and they were drawn up directly by the labouring masses who expressed opinions, advanced valuable suggestions and undertook a number of revolutionary initiatives and movements.

The Central Committee, guided by the general line of the Party for the complete construction of socialist society and summing up the experience of the working masses, lays down this basic task for the development of people's economy during the 5th Five-Year Plan,

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To ensure the general strengthening of the people's economy on improving the socialist relations of production and by deepening the socialist revolution in the field of ideology and culture.

On this basis, to raise and improve the well-being of the people, to strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat and the defence capacity of our socialist fatherland. All our progress on the socialist road should lead to the further narrowing of the essential differences between town and countryside, industry and agriculture, the working class and the peasantry, mental and physical work.

During the 5th Five-Year Plan the process of the socialist industrialization of the country will be carried further ahead, considering industry as the leading branch of the development of the people's economy and giving priority to increasing production of the means of production.

As compared with 1970, the production of the means of production (Group A) in 1975 will increase from 77 to 81 per cent and the

production of consumer's goods (Group B) from 40 to 44 per cent.

In the draft-directives it is stressed that:

Priority will be given to the development of the extraction and processing industry of oil and minerals. Thus, in 1975 the extraction of crude oil will be about 68 per cent higher than in 1970; the extraction of natural gas will be about 2.8 times as high. We shall go over to the deep processing of oil. About 84% more crude oil will be refined in 1975 than in 1970. The extraction of coal in 1975 will be 103% higher than in 1970 and that of chromium ore about 93% higher, of copper about 77% higher, ferro-nickel about 62% higher, and so on.

During this Five-Year Plan the extraction of phosphoric minerals and the enrichment of asbestos will begin. This will strengthen the raw materials base for increasing the production of phosphate fertilizers and asbestos cement products.

The foundation will be laid for black metallurgy producing pig iron and steel for the first time in the country. Non-ferrous metallurgy will be expanded. The production of blister copper will increase by about 63% and the production of refined copper about 1.8 times. The development of the metallurgical industry will aim at creating the conditions for the development in the future of the processing industry of oil. Thus, in 1975 extraction of crude oil will be about 68 per cent higher than in 1970; the extraction of natural gas will be about 2.8 times as high. We shall go over to the deep processing of oil. About 84% more crude oil will be refined in 1975 than in 1970. The extraction of coal in 1975 will be 103% higher than in 1970 and that of chromium ore about 93% higher, of copper about 77% higher, ferro-nickel about 62% higher, and so on.

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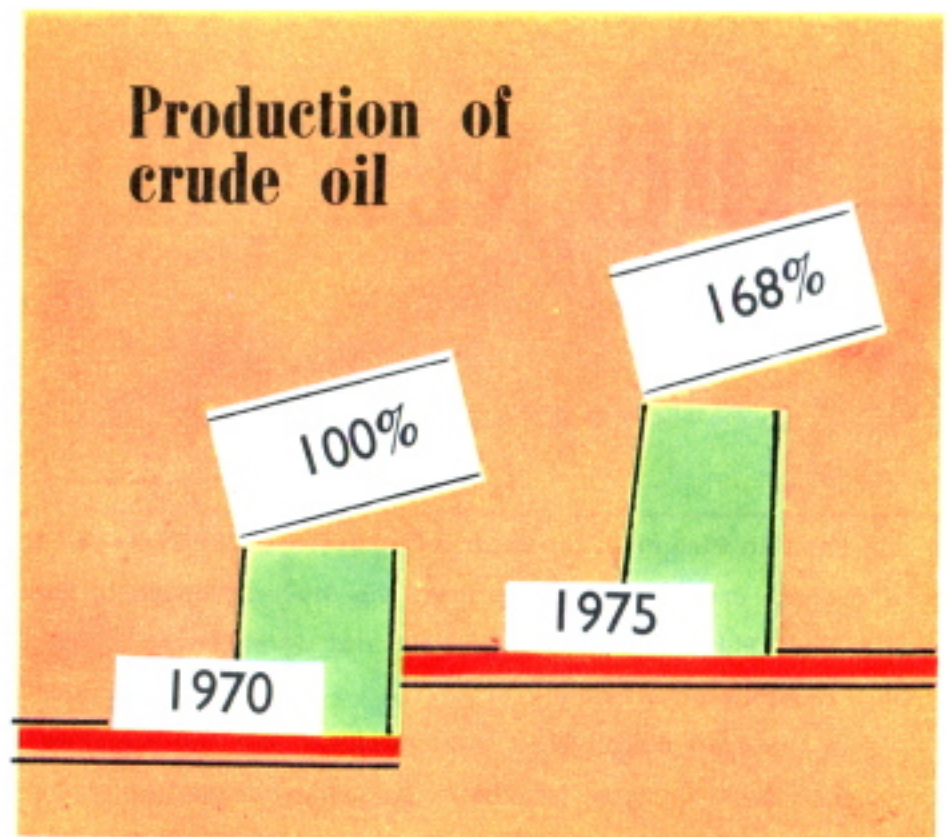
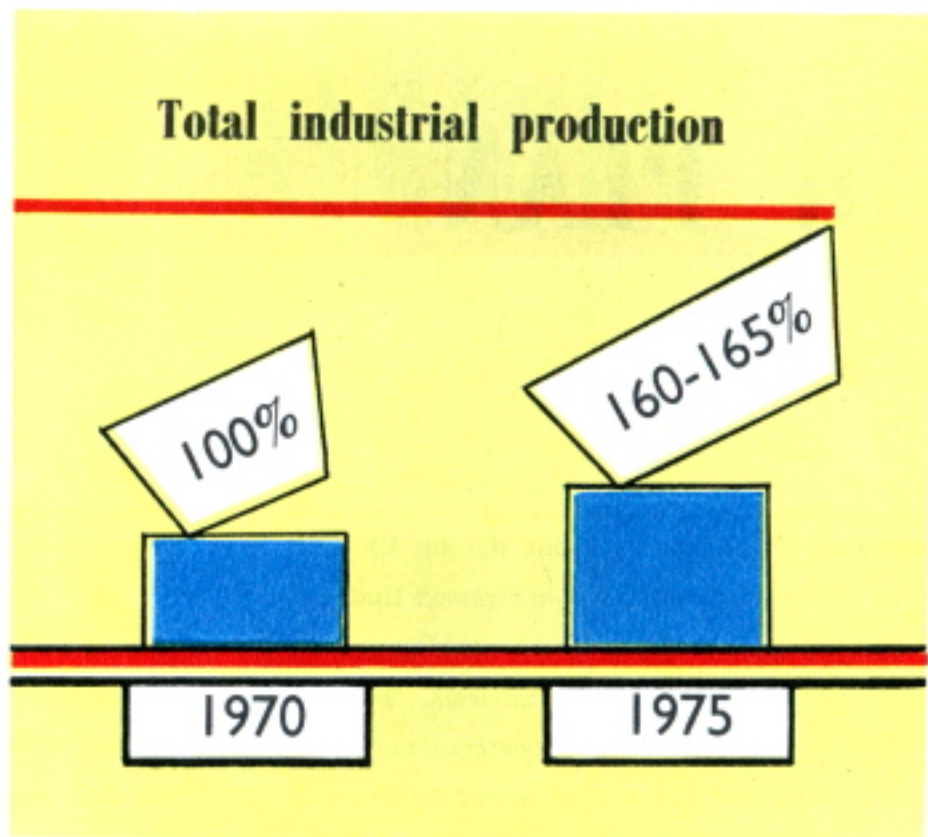
The foundation will be laid for black metallurgy producing pig iron and steel for the first time in the country. Non-ferrous metallurgy will be expanded. The production of blister copper will increase by about 63% and the production of refined copper about 1.8 times. The development of the metallurgical industry will aim at being from 30 to 34 per cent above that of 1970.

The production of the light and food-processing industries in 1975 will be from 40 to 43 per cent higher than in 1970.

In the draft-directives a place of importance is given to agriculture. It is stressed that agriculture has been and remains an important branch of our people's economy. Agricultural production will increase with priority on increased food grain and industrial crops on the rapid development of animal husbandry, first and foremost of cows, and on increased planting of fruit trees.

The production of field crops during the 5th Five-Year Plan will be from 60 to 65 per cent above that of the 4th Five-Year Plan and the production of food grain about 50 per cent, for the five years taken together.

Increased productivity will account for 80% of the increase of overall agricultural production over the five year period.



The development of animal husbandry will keep pace with the development of agriculture especially with regard to the increase of milk, meat and eggs. Livestock products will increase from 38 to 41 per cent over the preceding five-year period. In comparison with 1970, the production of milk will increase by from 68 to 72 per cent, meat by from 42 to 46 per cent, and eggs by from 100 to 103 per cent.

Big new orchards will be planted especially in the hilly and mountain regions, as well as throughout the country. Fruit production will increase 51 to 55 per cent above that of the 4th Five-Year Plan.

In 1975, the number of tractors (converted to 15 HP units) will increase by about 40 per cent above that of 1970, while improving their structure and expanding the park of other agricultural machinery.

During the 5th Five-Year Plan capital investments and construction will be directed to the harmonious development of both the branches of material production and the social and cultural sectors, of both industry and agriculture, of both town and countryside, creating better conditions for the systematic raising of the material and cultural level of the people.

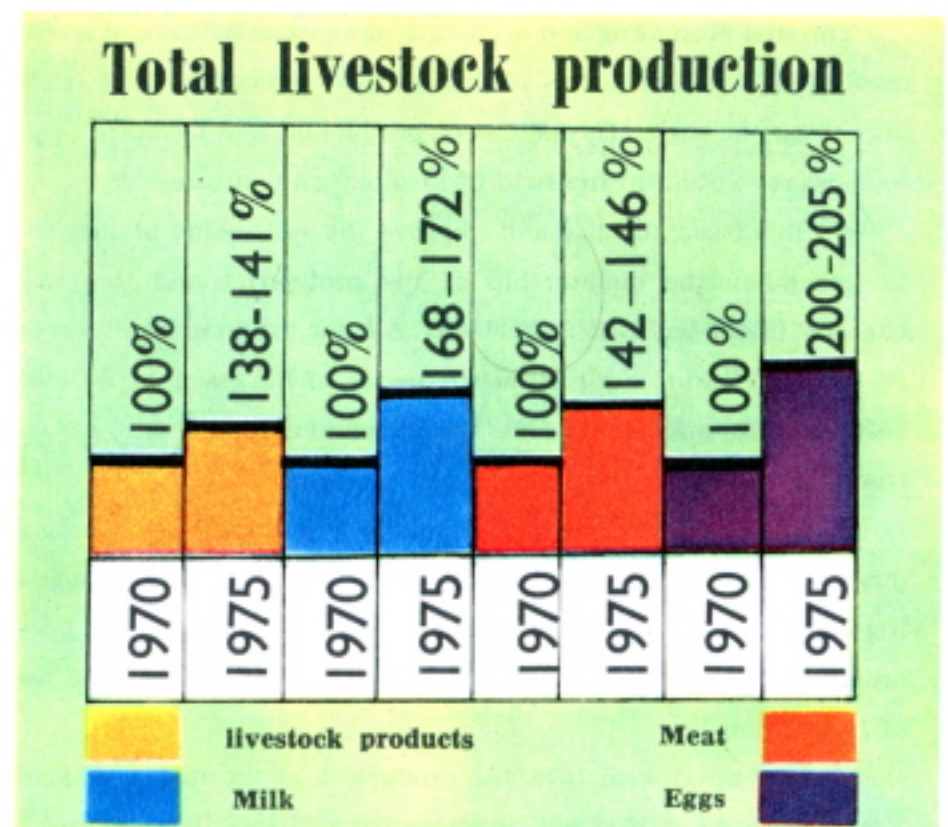
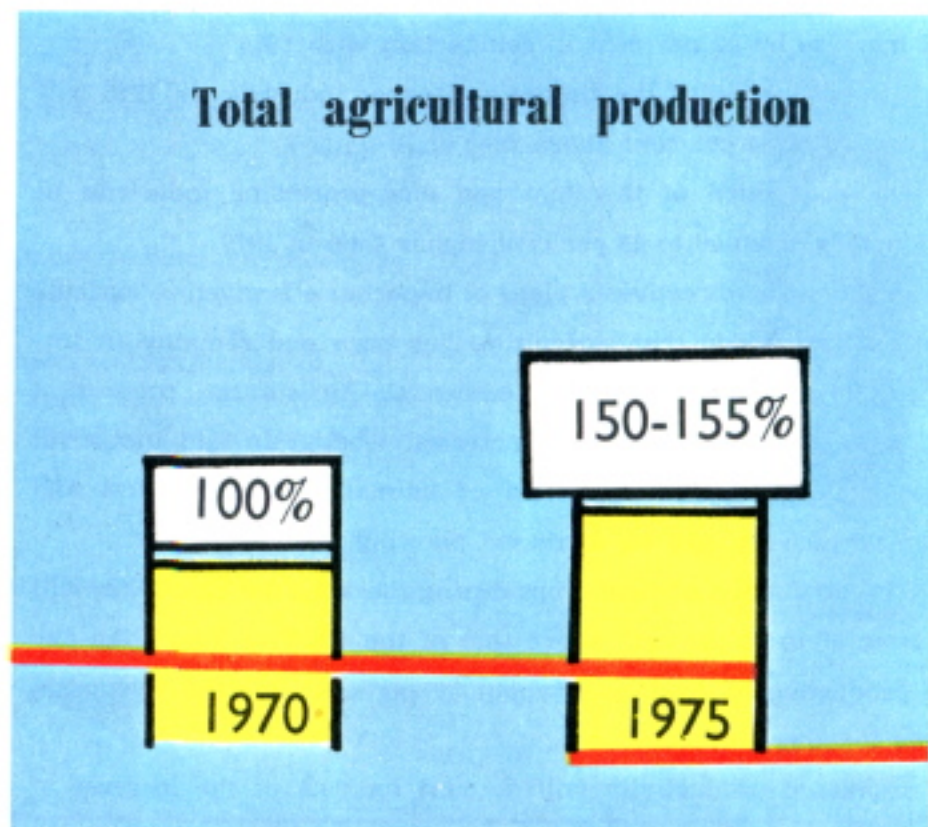
The volume of investments to be made by the state will be from 70 to 75 per cent higher than during the 4th Five-Year Plan, while the volume of construction will increase by from 42 to 45 per cent. The 5th Five-Year Plan will be characterized by investments and construction projects of large proportions by the construction of major works of complicated technique like the metallurgical combine, the big Fierza Hydro-Electric Station, the Deep Refining Plant for Oil, the plant to produce urea, the factory to turn out prefabricated elements for houses, the polygraphic works, and many other projects in all the branches of our people's economy.

During the 5th Five-Year Plan, all the kinds of transport will be developed and intensified.

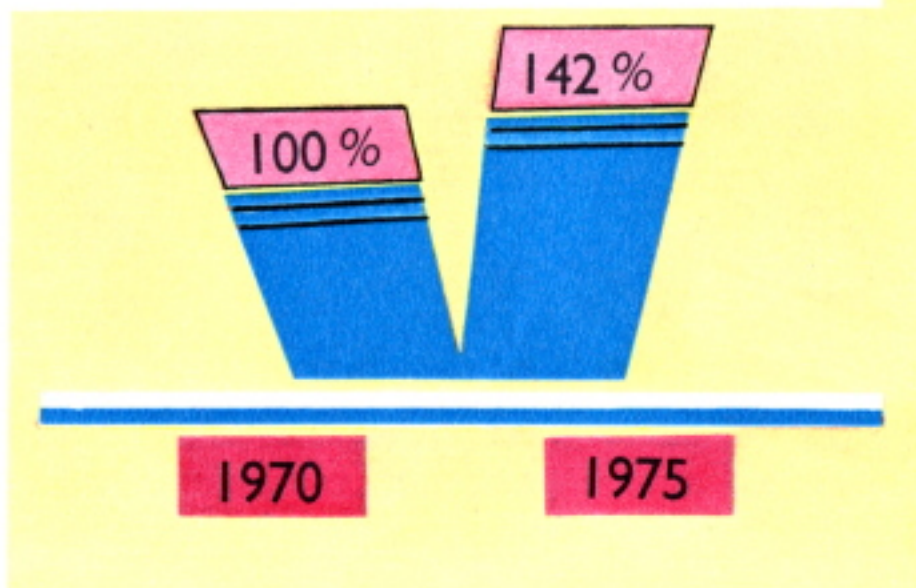
In 1975, motor transport will cover a volume of work about 35 per cent greater than in 1970.

The railway network will increase by about 42 per cent as compared with 1970. In 1975, the volume of goods transport by rail will be about three times that of 1970.

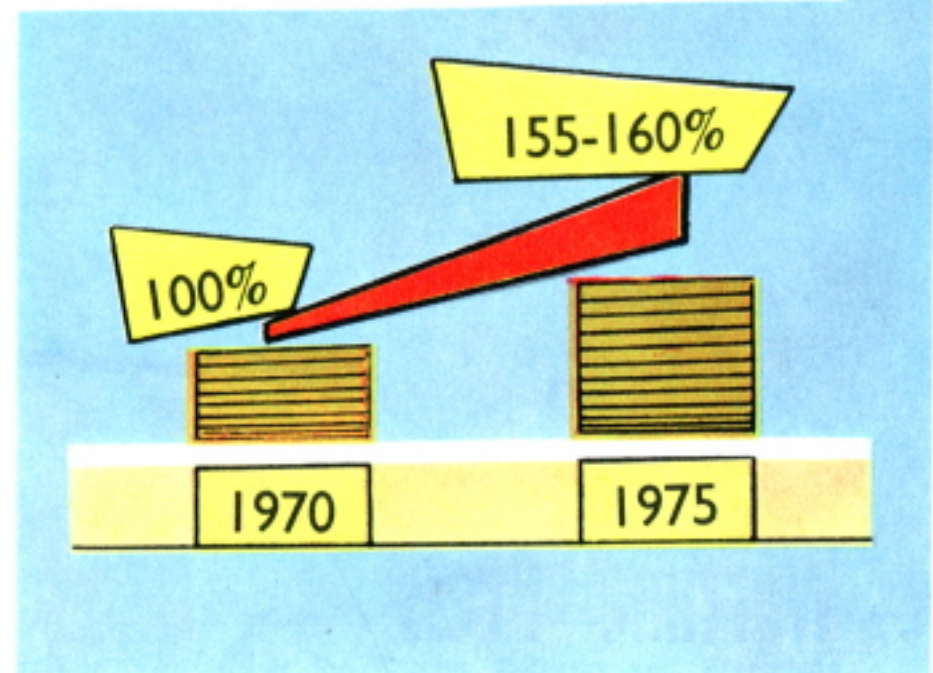
Overseas transport will play a bigger role in meeting the needs of our exports and imports and its volume of work will increase by 26 per cent. In 1975 coastal shipping will carry out twice the 1970



## Extension railroad network



## National income



volume of work.

In the draft-directives it is pointed out that:

The continuous and all-round improvement of the material welfare and cultural level of the people will be, as always, the main objective of our socialist production.

National income in 1975 will be from 55 to 60 per cent higher than in 1970.

During the 5th Five-Year Plan, the real income per capita of the entire population will further increase. The system of social insurance will be improved and supplemented. The turnover of retail trade in 1975 will increase by from 35 to 38 per cent as compared with 1970.

During this five-year period there will be about 40,000 apartments built by the State and voluntary work. The peasants will build about 40,000 houses during the same period.

The development of our people's education will have as its primary objective to raise our socialist schools to a higher political, ideological, organizational, scientific, and pedagogical level. In 1975, the number of pupils and students in all the categories of schools will reach the 780,000 mark or thereabouts.

There will be a considerable expansion of pre-school education,

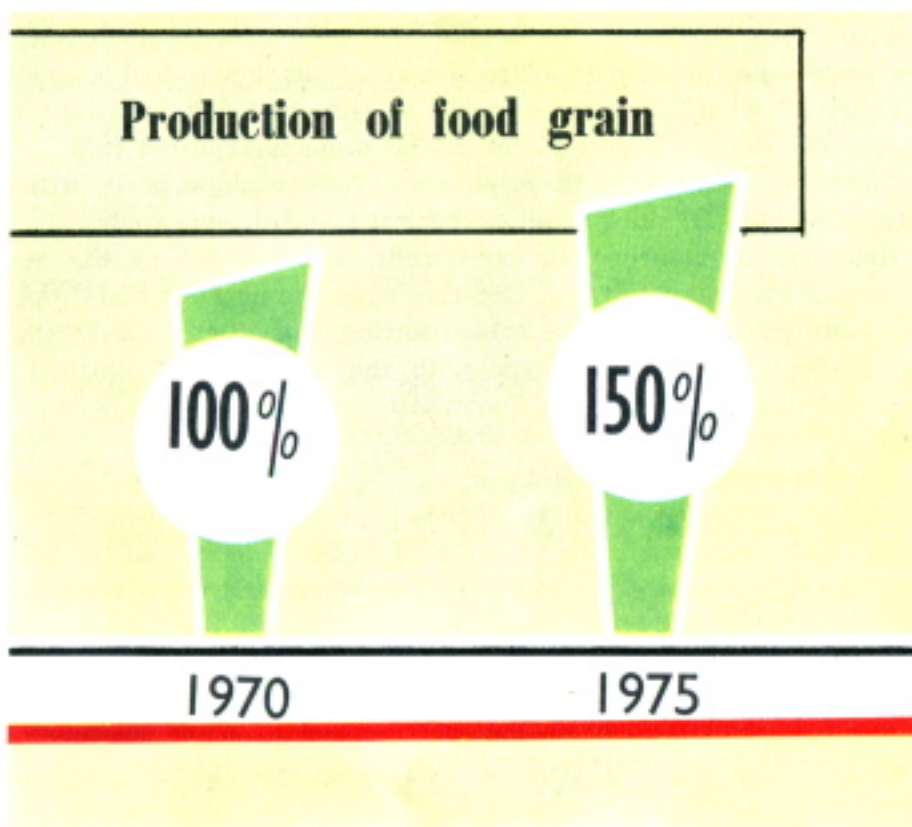
especially in the countryside, so that by 1975 about 50% of all the children of the appropriate age will be attending kindergartens.

Secondary education will be further extended, especially in the countryside, so that, by 1975, our full-time and part-time secondary schools will have enrolled more than 60 per cent of the students who have been through the 8-grade schools. During the 5th Five-Year Plan, the number of graduates from higher schools will be about 20,000 and those from the secondary and vocational schools about 42,000.

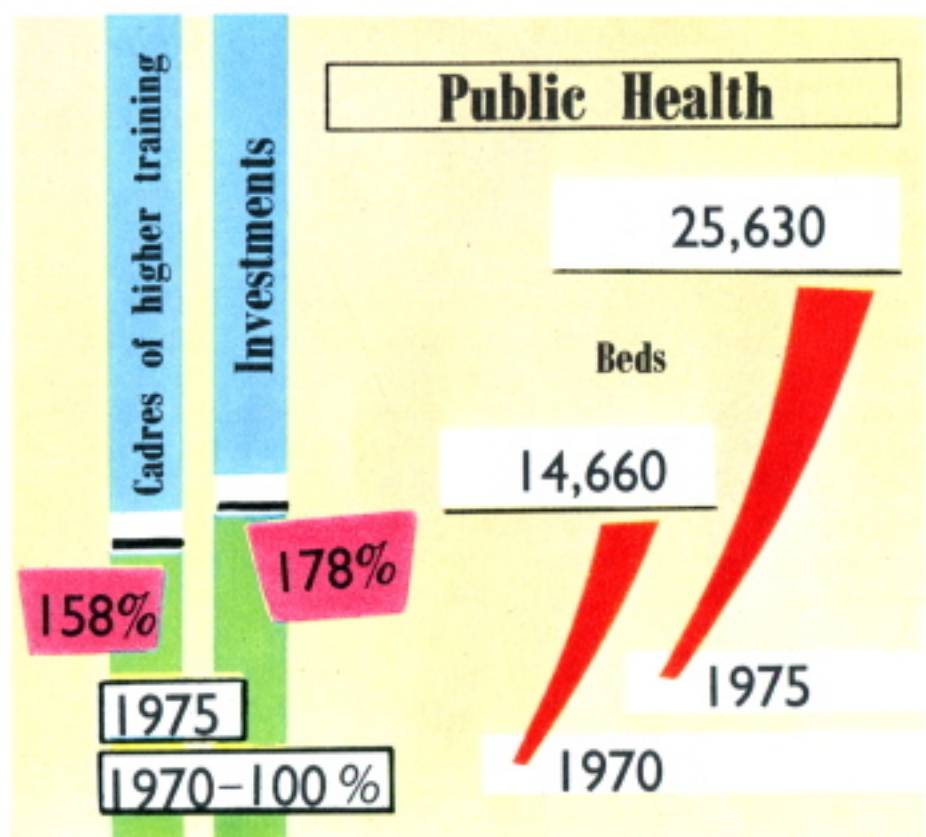
The main task of the health service will be the all-round intensification of the prophylactic character of medicine, and increased attention to hygiene, particularly in the countryside. Every agricultural cooperative will have its own public health center. In 1975, the number of highly trained cadres will increase by 58 per cent.

Culture, literature and the arts, will be further developed and their revolutionary content will be deepened by relying firmly on the method of socialist realism.

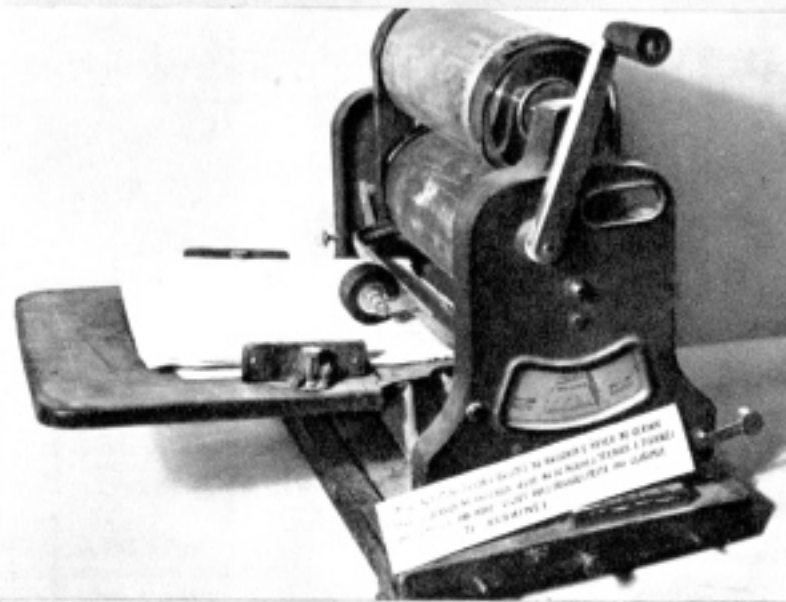
## Production of food grain



## Public Health



# The Wartime Press



One of the duplicators seized from the fascists used in the illegal press for preparing anti-fascist leaflets and other materials.



Shefqet Musaraj

The clandestine press of the Communist Party of Albania during the years of the National Liberation War became a powerful weapon by which to expose the activities of the occupationists and traitors to the country, to inform the people of the successes scored by the anti-fascist forces and to educate and mobilize the masses for action in the National Liberation War.

It was during the most critical moments of the National Liberation War that the first issue of the Party press organ, "Zëri i Popullit", appeared in August 1944. Other organs were also published during these days by the organizations of the front, youth and army units.

We are publishing here the reminiscences of writer Shefqet Musaraj, a veteran of the National Liberation War, and long time contributor to the clandestine revolutionary press of those days.

It was a cold winter's day between 15th and 20th January, 1944. The rage of the German Command had reached its climax for, despite the terror it had resorted to, it had not succeeded in locating the whereabouts of the "Communist" Printing Establishment.

Two of its most skilful agents—Kolgjini, the Director-General of the Police, and Staravecka, the regional commandant of the gendarmerie were greatly embarrassed and, it was rumored, had passed many a sleepless night, for how could they face their boss under such circumstances? What hurt them most was that "damned" bulletin "Zëri i Popullit" which used to spring up as if from the depth of the earth and circulate freely almost everyday throughout the country.

And we, too, on this side of the barricade were just as wide awake. We were Party members and sympathizers, the youth, young pioneers, whole families who had turned their homes into bases for Party work and clandestine meetings and shelters for partisans. I can remember only a few of the persons connected with the events of one particular day: Taqi, Comrade H., Aneta, a nurse, and the owner of the house where we held our meetings. A clever man this — stout, well dressed, giving no impression of a man engaged in "dangerous" activities.

Differently from other days, Taqi did not come at the appointed time that day. Something must have happened. The nurse, who had hurried off out to find out, came back very quiet. They had arrested a little girl crossing the boulevard with a bundle of leaflets, under her vest. This news worried me a great deal. The leaflet must have been the "Zëri i Popullit" which was to be distributed that day, and the little girl could have been no other than that young pioneer, Aneta, who the nurse did not know was connected with our work.

After a little while the owner of the house came home frowning and greatly disturbed. He had seen with his own eyes Staravecka, the commandant of the gendarmerie, surrounded by a group of civilians and officers, his hangers-on, bragging to them about the success he had attained that morning. According to what he said, the forces of the gendarmerie had finally put their hand on the main base for the Party leaflets.

We had still not decided what we should do when comrade H. appeared from the back garden and brought us detailed information. The quisling authorities had in fact discovered the base where "Zëri

i Popullit" was cyclostyled and that was a great loss, at least for the time being until arrangements could be made for another duplicator at some other base. Taqi was safe and sound and he had gone to look after some business he had been charged with by the district committee just one day before, while Aneta had no connections whatsoever with the equipment. Moreover though she had been beaten all along the road, till the blood ran from her head and mouth, she had refused to tell them where she had got the leaflets from.

The capture of the duplicator was no small loss for us. A part from that the number of the bulletin which was to be duplicated included an explanation which the people were impatiently awaiting regarding some vicious slanders published that day in the quisling paper "Bashkimi i Kombit".

"Can we write something tonight?" asked Comrade H., "Something long even if it takes 15 pages to do it".

I looked at him in indignation.

"Don't look at me that way" he added, "Let's get down to work. Our Party has always urged us to take such initiatives. I will undertake to bring it tomorrow printed not on a duplicator, but on a printing press".

The truth is that we badly needed such an article, for the quisling press kept hammering at us with its slanders and trumped up charges. The people of course, took them with a grain of salt, but they were expecting the Party to his back at them. However, we were hard pressed those days to get out such publication.

"Are you in dead earnest?" I asked Comrade H.

"Absolutely!" he said, "I have just come from a meeting with two organized workers of the "Atdheu" Printing Establishment. They have undertaken to print a whole typographic sheet and even in a pamphlet form, with our writings".

We set to work together that afternoon and our inspiration was at its best. We kept at it the whole night at first with electric light, later with a kerosene lamp. The owner of the house had a greatly good idea of what we were working at and he too kept awake the whole night worried lest there might be some unexpected raid.

Towards dawn the manuscript, some twenty pages of it, was all ready. Comrade H. stuck it under his shirt and disappeared.

Next day he returned all excitement, accompanied by the nurse with a package under his arm. He tore open the package and dropped five small pamphlets on the table bearing the title: "YESTERDAY AND TODAY" in bold-face type with the annotation: Published by Zëri i Popullit, Organ of the Communist Party of Albania — January 1944".

He turned to me and said:

"Steps have been taken to distribute it in the fourteen districts. A copy will be stuck even under Staravecka's door, just to annoy him". And this was done in fact. The information we received a couple of days later showed that Captain Staravecka had been severely censored by the German command and he was very down in the mouth.

But we didn't get off scot-free. They had arrested the nurse on whom they had found a copy of the pamphlet "YESTERDAY AND TODAY". When they insisted on her telling them who had given it to her. She became highly indignant pretending she had found it under her doorway. . . . A week later the nurse was freed.

# Greetings to You, Mirdita!

Shaban Vani

In Albanian, Mirditë, means good day. It is the name of one of the northern districts of Albania. If we look back to the past of this region, this title sounds bitterly ironical. In reality Mirdita enjoyed not a single good day all its past. Nature had endowed it with very little flat land and a lot of mountain. The struggle for bread was the most desperate struggle for the people of Mirdita.

Our well-known poet Kol Jakova describes pre-war Mirdita in the following lines:

O, Mirdita of mountain and rock  
Four household and little livestock  
Three hand spans of hilly field  
Only three months grain will yield.

It is no exaggeration to say that Mirdita was the symbol of backwardness in the Albania of the past. Before liberation it had only a copper mine at Rubik in which there was not a single Albanian engineer or technician employed. It was exploited by an Italian company. Up to about the middle of this century, over 90 per cent of the people of Mirdita were illiterate. Throughout the Mirdita District there were only five cadres of secondary school training, four primary schools with 175 pupils (none of them girls), a single first aid centre run by a nurse, 11 shops and no cultural institutions whatsoever. Mirdita was the cradle of religious fanaticism and the vendetta.

Within this gloomy framework one can imagine the plight of the people: illiterate, hungry, and in rags.

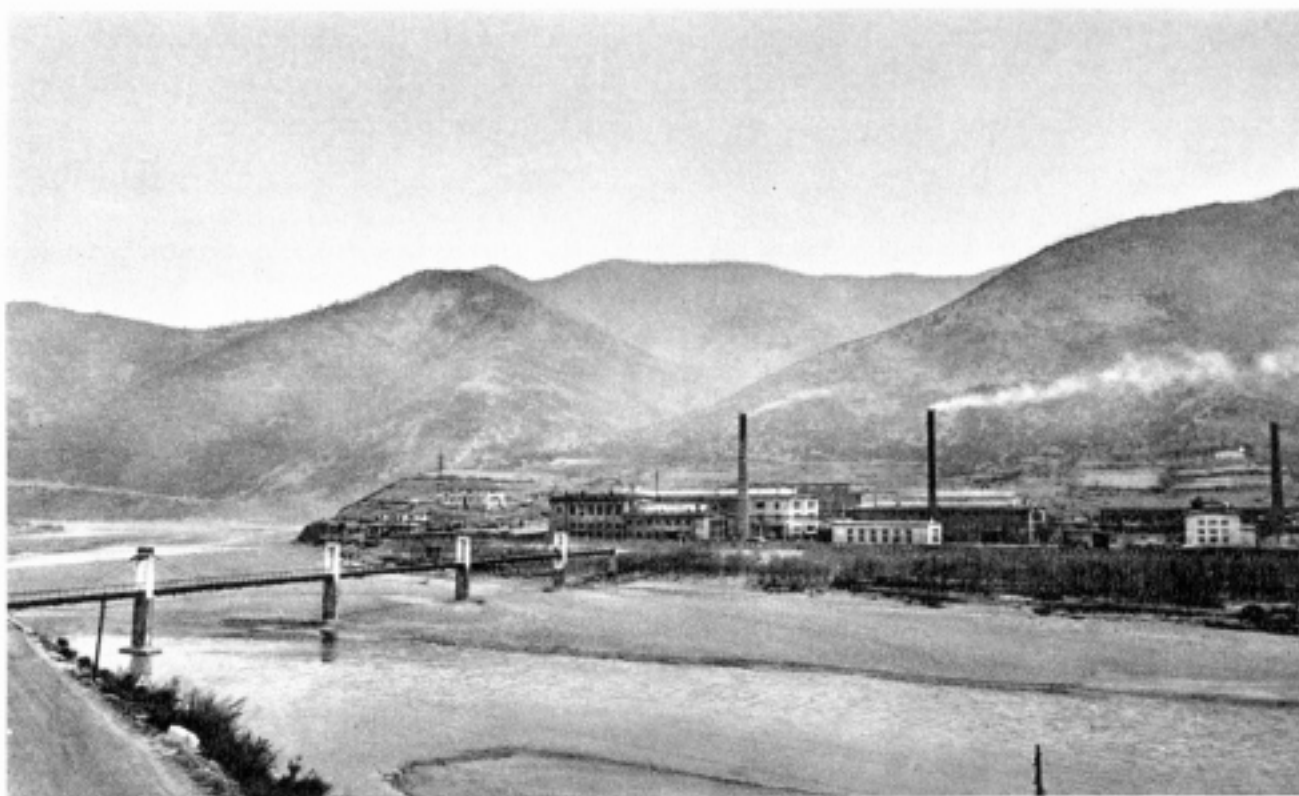
But there came a dawn different from the others. In a hamlet of this district, at Vig, five young men wrote an epic, fighting the invaders. The blood they shed became a war cry for the mountaineers of Mirdita. Their last words were:

"Goodbye, Mirdita, goodbye,  
May our blood become your light!"

And Mirdita awoke as never before. Shouldering the rifle it wrote the most brilliant pages in its history. Like the whole country, it rose in struggle for liberation from the foreign yoke, and at the same time, from the oppression of the exploiting classes.

Today, on the 30th anniversary of the founding of our Party of Labour, we turn our heads and look back over the road the people of Mirdita have followed during the twenty-seven years of the people's state power.

Hammer in hand Mirdita awoke the mountains. Their rocks are not the same as of those of other mountains. In them one often sees the glow of the sun's rays, a reddish yellow glow. It is said that the sun takes a hand in helping the people to discover the wealth latent in these mountains, copper. A new word — geologist — entered the lives of the people of Mirdita. They could be seen everywhere. The Mirditor people themselves became geologists. They were the first swallows of the industrial spring of Mirdita. New ore fields were discovered and new mines opened. And next to them new towns sprang up; towns with electricity, schools and factories. In addition to Rubik we now see on the map of Mirdita such names as Kurbnesh, Kaçinar, Spaç, Reps and the administrative center of Rreshen. These are among the newest towns of our Republic. They started life



— View of the Copper Refining and Processing Plant in Rubik.



— Miners of Kurbnesh coming out of the pit.

simply, without pomp, without minarets or steeples but with houses of culture and factory chimneys.

Thirsting for knowledge, the people of Mirdita have taken to books and are attending part-time schools or higher institutes of learning. These books taught them how to run complicated machines, up-to-date factories and workshops. Today in Mirdita there are



The younger generation of Mirdita inhabitants.



The geologists of Kacinari at rest.



The Alpine town — Kurbnesh



The electrolysis department in the Copper Refining and Processing Plant of Rubik.





84 schools of the lower, medium and upper cycle, 3 secondary schools attended by about 7,000 young Mirditorites as well as 1,500 workers attending spare classes. Hundreds of boys and girls from this district attend school outside Mirdita.

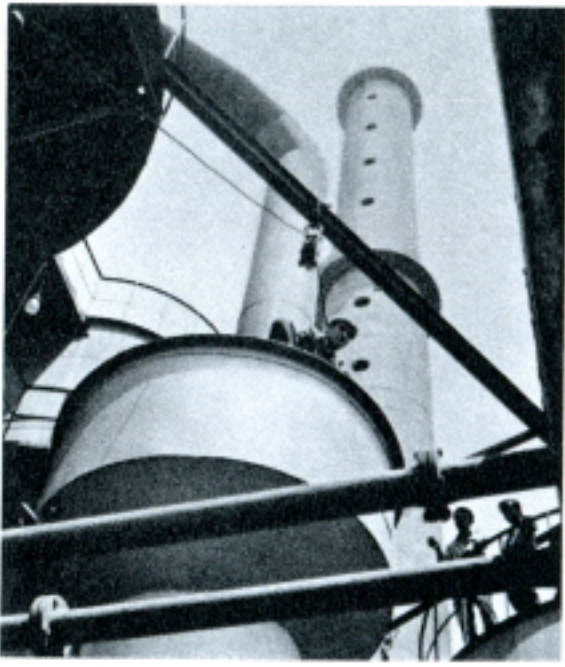
Such terms as miner, metallurgist, tractor driver, electrician, have entered the vocabulary of the people of Mirdita, because every household has its members in industry. At the Copper Enriching Plants at Kurbnesh and Repes, at the Metallurgical Plant and the Copper Refining and Processing Plant at Rubik, we came across many workers, technicians, and engineers, who, years before, had come down from the villages as simple peasants. Many of them are women and girls. Many things have changed in the life of these people. They make up the picture of present-day Mirdita. They are the vanguard of their district. In the overall production of Mirdita, industry accounts for 83.3 percent. Mirdita supplies the country with 45 per cent of its copper ore or over 40 per cent of its blister copper. At present Rublik turns out in less than 5 days as much blister copper as

it turned out during the whole year in 1942.

The rapid growth of industry means that Mirdita occupies first place in the Republic as far as the increase of the number of the working class in comparison with its population is concerned. While the number of the population has increased more than twofold that of 1938, the number of workers and employees has increased 10-fold. Total industrial production has increased 172 times above that of 1938.

In addition to electric light, industry has brought well-being to Mirdita. There where only the horse once passed we now see the autobus, where only the pine torch used to light the houses we now have radio and TV sets. The turnover of goods per capita has immensely increased. One sees kindergartens, nurseries, cultural centres and clubs everywhere. Now Mirdita is worthy of the beautiful name it bears.

This is the portrait of Mirdita on the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Party of Labour of Albania, of socialist Mirdita, of Mirdita of the year 1971.



A new initiative of a group of workers and specialists of the Superphosphate Refinery. They are building a new oleum line.  
In the photo: View from the work on the new line.



On July 26, the exhibition "Days of the Cuban Revolution" was opened in Tirana.



A group of Chinese athletes visited our country recently. Among them was the world champion high jumper Ni Chih-chin



Employees of the "Bajram Curri" Geological Enterprise. Where can they not be found: You see them climbing the jagged peaks and descending precipices of the Alps, and you see the inscription on their tracks: "There is mineral here", everywhere they have passed.  
In the photo: The geologists examining the samples extracted from the earth.



Laboratory work is an important component in the studying and solving of the problems put before the final year students of our university. In the photo: You see a group of students who are preparing for their diplomas.



The holiday centre for workers in Theth is built among rugged mountains and pine forests.  
Hundreds of workers spend their summer holidays in this beautiful and centre with a healthy climate.



Tens of thousands of children spend the summer months in the holiday camps. Suitable conditions have been provided for them for physical culture, entertainment and recreation.

# FROM ONE DAY TO ANOTHER



Excursions to work and production centres, to historic and scenic places, talks and meetings with distinguished people of science, artistic programs, create the best possible conditions for our workers to pass their free time. In the photo: A group of transport employees on a picnic.



In the plains, the harvest, starts earlier than in the mountainous areas. Tens of combines come down from these areas to help the comrades of plains. But, the aid is reciprocal: As soon as they finish in their districts the combine drivers of the plains go to mountainous districts.



In the last days of September thousands of children of Tirana kindergartens held an interesting demonstration in the "Qemal Stafa" Stadium. In the photo: A race of the children.



the Electromechanical Plant in Tirana is new but many kinds of equipment are produced in its departments.

In the photo: A moment from the work in the electric motor department.



"Ujë e Ftohët" in Vlora is one of the most beautiful places of our Riviera. Thousands of workers from all over the country spend their holidays here.



The game of chess finds more and more enthusiasts among the pioneers.

# How Did You Spend Your Holidays?



In the hot summer months, Durrës beach usually looks like this.  
S. Xhillari

Photo: by

This is the usual question among the workers these days with summer just about over.

This year they spent their summer holidays better than ever. The rest homes for workers and young pioneers were equipped with everything necessary for an active and cultured vacation. New centres were added to the existing network of holiday resorts in the most picturesque sites of the country: among the northern Alps, by the mountain lakes and on the Adriatic coast.

In comparison with last year, the number of those who spent their vacations in tourist resorts this year was 20% higher. 75% of the

young pioneers and pupils of the primary and 8 grade schools and from 30 to 40% of the students of the secondary schools of the whole country, spent 22 days each at the holiday homes assigned to them.

By the end of the 5th Five-Year Plan (1971-75), compared with 1971, 30-35% more workers and 25-30% more young pioneers will spend their vacations at these centers.

The state has created very favorable conditions for these holidays. A worker pays 1/4 of the effective costs while for children the charge is only 1/6 of the expenses for maintenance at the rest homes.

On the average workers pay these charges

are not heavy: for 15 days vacation a worker or employee spends only 1/5 of a month's pay, while for 22 days holiday for his child he spends only 1/7 of a month's pay.

This charge is still lower when the vacation is not during the summer months.

Of course, the workers receive their normal pay in full during the period of their vacation.

Nearly all our enterprises and agricultural cooperatives open summer camps where the overwhelming majority of children enjoy themselves each day in games and supervised activities of cultural value. In this case the charges are so insignificant as to be merely symbolic.



The famous Chinese high jumper Ni Chih-chin jumped 2.25 m.

## Manifestation of the Fraternal Friendship

The visit of the Chinese athletes in our country was a manifestation of the fraternal friendship between the Albanian and the Chinese peoples.

The athletes of our two countries exchanged their experience and learnt from one another.

The following snapshots are taken at the Qemal Stafa National Stadium of Tirana



Before the race



At the start.



Comrade Enver Hoxha meeting the writer Victor Eftimiu.

## Victor Eftimiu in Our Country

Upon the invitation of the Albanian Committee for Cultural and Friendly Relations with the Outside World, Victor Eftimiu, prominent Rumanian author of Albanian origin and Member of the Academy of the Socialist Republic of Rumania arrived on a visit in our country on June 24.

The distinguished guest was given a hearty welcome by the personalities and other workers of the capital engaged in cultural, artistic and literary activities.

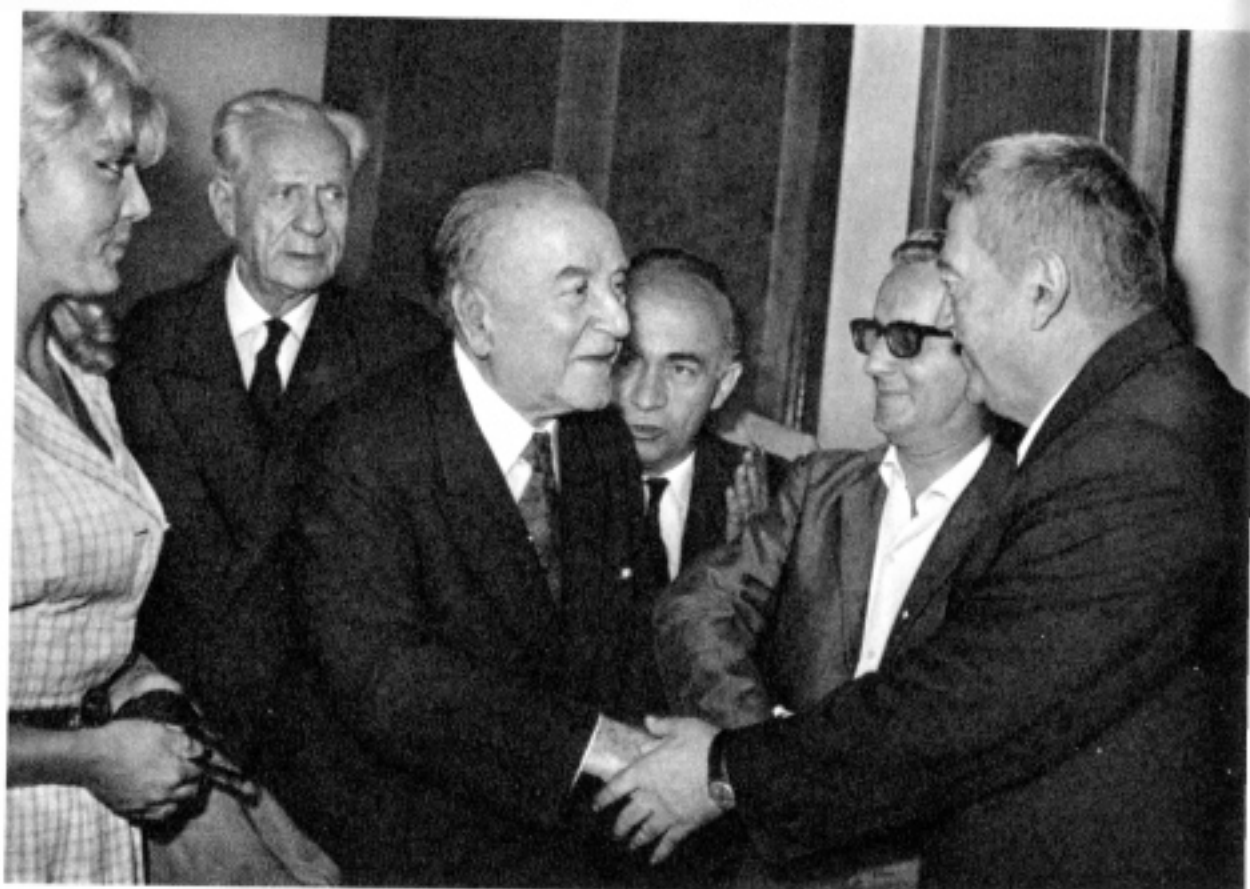
Having visited Durrës and Kruja, writer Victor Eftimiu had a social get-together with writers, artists and workers in the field of culture of the capital. At a special meeting the board of the League of Writers and Artists, informed of the decision of the League to admit Victor Eftimiu as an honorary member of this organization. Present at the meeting were, the member of the CC of the PLA Behar Shtylla and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Nesti Nase.

On July 3, Victor Eftimiu visited the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Albania where a ceremony was organized to hand him the "Naim Frashëri" Order of the First Class awarded to him by the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Albania for his distinguished literary productions, for the special contribution he had rendered to the consolidation of the friendly relations between the Rumanian and Albanian people, for having kept intact his sentiments of love for the land of his birth, for the efforts he had exerted at the beginning of this century for the independence of Albania, for the aid he has rendered to the Albanian settlers in Rumania winning their respect for him and for following with great interest the achievements attained by our country during the years of socialist construction.

Present at the ceremony organized on this occasion were President of the People's Assembly Haxhi Lleshi, Vice-president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly Rita Marko, Secretary of the Presidium of the People's Assembly Bilbil Klosi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Nesti Nase, Chairman of the Albanian Committee for Cultural and Friendly Relations with the Outside World, Misto Treska, the Secretary-General of the League of Writers and Artists Vilson Kilica, writers, composers, painters and others.

The President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly Comrade Haxhi Lleshi, decorates academician Victor Eftimiu with the Order of "Naim Frashëri" of the First Class.

Photo: by M. Progonati



# "I Am Going Away Very Happy!"

Before leaving Albania, writer and academician V. Eftimiu made the following statement for the Magazine "New Albania"

All the energy, faith, and the power of labour have been placed in the service of the Albanian people and the future of this flourishing state in which all persons of goodwill know that what they do is for their own benefit, and for the benefit of their successors now and for all time.

I express my unbounded admiration for the man beloved by the whole nation, the leader of the Albanian people, Enver Hoxha. He is a powerful personality, who exerts an

extraordinary charm on all those who come into contact with him. With plain words, which express his broad democratic spirit, he knows how to put every person in a suitable place and, in this way, succeeds in creating a whole phalanx of fighters for the present and future of the country, a hero who, at the critical moments of struggle to throw off the foreign yoke, set an example of creative activity for the people, oppressed until that time.

I have been deeply impressed in my trips through a country of rare beauty embellished by works produced by the hand of man. I have admired the will of everyone to make sacrifices for the fatherland, putting aside personal interests and placing the interests of

society above everything else.

I have the highest praise also for the working youth who, by their own efforts are making Albania a flourishing country, an example for all the democratic countries of the times to follow.

I was deeply impressed also to see my birthplace, Boboshtica again, which has given so many partisans martyrs for the glory of the Albanian people.

I am going away full of joy and confidence in the future of a country I left, poor and gloomy, but which I found enlightened and full of confidence and goodwill.

July 1971

Victor Eftimiu

## Enjoy Your New Life

Before he left Albania V. Eftimiu made a visit to his birthplace, Boboshtica Village in Korça District. He came back to his own village after 66 years. Thousands of co-operativists peasants gave him a warm and enthusiastic welcome.

Children and young people, old men and old women in their festive dress, singing and with bouquets of flowers, come to meet and welcome him. The distinguished writer cannot contain his emotions at the honor accorded him by his fellow villagers. Moist-eyed, he takes up a child and kisses it, shakes hands with a woman, embraces an old man, a friend of his childhood days. Loaded with flowers, he asks to be taken to the memorial on which are inscribed the names of the Boboshticans who fell during the war against the fascist invaders and traitors to the country.

A woman hands him bread and salt. He turns towards his fellow villagers with these words:

"I left my homeland as a young child. It was a painful thing, to go. Those were hard times then: poverty, ignorance, oppression. Foreigners trampled our land, ruthless bandits plundered our riches. And my parents migrated to foreign soil to earn a livelihood. But I have never forgotten my birthplace. I come back an old man. I have not disgraced my native village, I have no reason to be ashamed of what I have done. On the contrary, I have reason to be proud of what the Albanian people guided by the Party, with their most beloved son Enver Hoxha at the head, have done. I had the good fortune to have him receive me, talk with me and embrace me. He is a great leader and will always stay young, because he loves the people and the people love and follow him, for he leads new Albania. Love him as he loves you! Trust him as he trusts you! I see the big changes that have been made here as everywhere else in Albania. You fought and shed your blood for freedom. The fascists burned your village and laid it waste. You built new and more beautiful homes, you work together free on your common soil united as never before. Enjoy your new life! You need no longer look for jobs abroad but create your happiness here, without tearing your hearts apart without driving the smiles from the faces of your children. I have been deeply impressed with how the youth are working to build the railway, to see the women emancipated and raised to equality with their menfolk, to see the old folk honoured by the whole people. . . I will remember you as long as I live. Thank you Thank you".

## The Life and Work

Victor Eftimiu was born at Boboshtica in Korça in January 1889. He spent his childhood days on the meadows of his home village among red berries as he, himself, writes in his book on "Portraits and Reminiscences". At Boboshtica he frequented the elementary village school which was then conducted in Greek. His father, compelled by economic difficulties, emigrated to Rumania taking all the family with him when Victor was nine years of age.

In Rumania he attended the primary school and very soon mastered the Rumanian language. While yet of tender age he was compelled to confront the vicissitude of life by getting a job as an assistant night corrector of various newspapers. He was later promoted to the post of assistant reporter.

He published his first poem in 1905 in the magazine "Hope". A little while later he published poems in the magazine "Literary and Artistic Life" of the famous Rumanian poet George Koshbuk. In 1907, he edited, corrected and distributed his own newspaper "The Present". During the peasant uprisings of those years he composed paradise against the landlords. Thus, while yet of tender age, Victor Eftimiu's sharp pen was placed into the service of the people, of the rank and file, of the ideals of progressive mankind.

He betook himself to France for the purpose of pursuing his higher studies where he wrote one of his masterpieces, the dramatic poem "Once upon a time" (getting his inspiration from folklore). From 1911 to this day, this piece has been put on the stage of Rumanian theater more than one thousand times.

He published poems on migration in which are felt in strong notes of despair his longing for his native land, for the land of Albania.

The First World War broke out and the great actor Alexander Moisi was taken as a prisoner of war by the French. Victor Eftimiu intervened at French Embassy in Bucharest and achieved his objective by freeing him. The newspaper "Famuri i Shqipërisë" ("The Flag of Albania") which was published in Constanza of Rumania, wrote in its 1916 August 1 issue about the release of Alexander Moisi through the circulars Victor Eftimiu had distributed to the press organs.

In 1919, when the Albanian settlers in Rumania addressed an appeal to Wilson who presided at the Peace Conference in Versailles protesting against the claims of the Greek chauvinists on Korça and Gjirokastra, Victor Eftimiu's name headed the list of 1,400 signatures.

During the years 1920-1921, for special merits, Victor Eftimiu was appointed Director of the National Theater of Bucharest and Director-General of the Theatres and Operas of Rumania. Alexander Moisi complied with his request and came to Rumania in 1921 and gave a number of performances in Bucharest.

During all his lifetime, Victor Eftimiu has been a progressive minded democrat. His polemics in parliament with the exponents of the Rumanian nazi of the "Iron Guards" aroused a great commotion.

During Antonescu's fascist regime, in 1943, Victor Eftimiu was confined in a concentration camp at Tergu-Zhiu.

Following the liberation of Rumania he

resumed his literary activity on a broad scale making serious efforts to turn from critical realism to the method of socialist realism. Today, although 82 years of age, he continues with inexhaustible creative force and great talent and will-power to produce with optimism and youthful inspiration.

His literary activity is many-angled, variegated and deep. There is no genre in which he has successfully tested his forces in publicistics and sonnets to dramas, romances, novels, traveling notes and dramatic critique.

As a playwright, poet, prose writer and publicist Victor Eftimiu produced monumental works which, of course, have their own characteristics.

Victor Eftimiu is a poet of mixed feelings: classic, romantic and actual. His poetic productions excel 60,000 lines. Victor Eftimiu has recently finished 701 new sonnets.

Victor Eftimiu defended sound principles attacking the trend of the modernists with their hermetic and incomprehensible poems.

He is a slave to neither the modernists nor the moldy forms. He created a poetry filled with emotion but within the grasp of the broad masses.

Among his novels the most outstanding are "The Two Crosses" (inspired by his reminiscences of Boboshtica), "Elfiona", "A wedding in Vienna", "The man without a name", "Dragomirna", "Lola Mirandi" and other. From his books of sketches and short stories we mention his "Risto Dardha" and "Katelina" (which bear the stamp of Albanian life).

Victor Eftimiu wrote also more than 20 books for children.

As a publicist he contributed thousands of articles defending always human dignity. Recently he has expressed himself firmly opposed to the decadent trend of absurd dramas. Part of Victor Eftimiu's publicist works has been compiled in the books on "The Magic of Words" (1924) and "Academos" (1955) in many of which he recalls the longing and love for his native land.

**A**MONG the children in the kindergarten you may see an elderly woman wearing a white smock. You may of course think that Grandma has come to the kindergarten to accompany her grand-daughter home. But that is not so. This woman is Naxhije Hoxha, former director of this kindergarten, now on a pension. She has come today to see how the preparations are going on for the children's festival of songs and dances. Naxhije has been on a pension for 15 years, but, in spite of that, she continues to live with the generation of children admitted each year to the kindergarten. She interests herself in the health of the children, their education, the teaching work of their supervisors. You will often see her fired with the enthusiasm of youth when things are going on well with the children, or depressed when things go wrong.

We mention this typical example of what characterizes the older generation of our society, our pensioner generation. For whole decades this generation have very difficult tasks on its shoulders. It fought the oppression and exploitation of the pre-war reactionary regimes, coming to grips with and shedding its blood in fierce battles against the foreign fascist invaders. It took part in the struggle for liberation of the fatherland, in carrying out great revolutionary transformations, in building the new state power and promoting education, science and the new art of socialist Albania. The life of every pensioner constitutes a beautiful chapter within the framework of the life of our new society.

But the time comes when the younger generation, taking over the whole burden and responsibility of the further development of social life, are called upon to lighten the burden of the veterans, to create the best possible conditions for them to live and to enjoy the fruits of what they themselves have created.

In our country there is a whole code of laws dealing with the problem of workers' pensions. We talked with the director of the State Social Insurance Department of the Ministry of Finance, Comrade Firdes Sinoimeri.

Under our laws workers' pension, rights vary according to sex and the type of job. For men, the minimum age varies from 50 to 60. For women — from 40 to 50. Miners, mothers of many children, ballet dancers, teachers and army men, are entitled to pensions at an earlier age than the workers or employees of other categories.

In fixing pension rates, length of service is



We may often find the pensioner Naxhije Hoxha, the former director of Nr. 1 Kindergarten of Tirana, surrounded by the happy children of this kindergarten.

## Living on a Pension Does Not Mean the End of One's Social Activities

taken into account (Women are entitled to pension benefits after a minimum of 10 years service, with full pension after 20 years service. For men the service period is 5-25 years) The amount of pension is equal to 70% of the average salary received during three years of the last ten years of service, but for lower wages this percentage is increased up to 100%, that is, the amount of pension received is equal to the wages he or she received when in service.

If we take into account that by the time a worker has reached pension age he has already been relieved of some of his family obligations (his children are active workers themselves), it goes without saying, that for from being lowered, his standard of living keeps rising from year to year.

But the assurance of material conditions constitutes only one aspect of the life of a pensioner. The other and more important aspect of his life is that he or she is always an active force in our society, a force which maintains all its links with the rest of society. These links cover all fields: material as well as moral. For a pensioner the door of the factory or institution where



"Life has taught us, dear children, that along with work, we must never forget to keep our powder dry".



he (or she) has worked is never closed. He remains an honored veteran member of the collective. He can go to his fellow workers, or the students he has taught and discuss with them, offer suggestions and his rich experience, and even take direct part in production for as long as his physical capacities allow, either as a volunteer or on a supplementary wage which together with his pension does not exceed the salary he used to receive before he went on the pension.

Here is what Comrade Dhorka Birbo, head of the trade union organization at the 'Mihal Duri' Printing Establishment in Tirana has to say in this connection:

"The pensioners are an integral part of our collective. Our pensioners took part in the meetings in which proposals were drawn up for the new Five-Year Plan. They spoke at these meetings, advanced valuable proposals, and offered opinions and suggestions based on their rich experience. Many of them help train the new workers taking them under their patronage for a time. Some others, like Jak Banda, and Myftar Doky, have gone to remote regions to help set up new printing establishments in those districts, of course as volunteers, with the enterprise paying only their travelling expenses. In recent times our establishment awarded the high title of "Master" to twelve workers two of whom were pensioners. "Comrade Djorka said that when a worker gives up work to become a pensioner, the collective organizes a farewell ceremony. But going on a pension does not mean detaching oneself from active life. He keeps his links with his fellow workers unbroken.

In the City of Vlora, we had another meeting with some pensioners. Comrade Sofia Dode, head of the State Social Insurance Branch of the district, gave us some very interesting information on the active life of the pensioners. Among the materials of the History of our Party of Labour, the correspondence exchanged during these recent years between Comrade Enver Hoxha and the pensioners of various districts occupies an important place. The Vlora pensioners too have exchanged letters with the beloved leader of our Party. This year, on the eve of the 6th Congress of the Party, they will report to Comrade Enver Hoxha on their activity in life and the results achieved in production, in the patriotic revolutionary education of the younger generation, in active educational and cultural life and so on. The Committee of the Veterans of the War and Labour is a very active organ in various ways. A recreational center has recently been opened in the city where the pensioners can spend their leisure time, organize their own activities, and follow the development of events through discussions and meetings. This recreational and educational center, Comrade N. Xhafa and P. Koka tell us, carries on activities which exert a very positive influence, especially as regards ideological, political, and even psychological problems, in the lives of the pensioners.

The Party and other organizations of the masses throughout the country to everything in their power to keep the links between the pensioners and the working collectives as strong as possible. They pay visits to their homes in times of joy, as well as times of sorrow. The trade union organizations distribute vouchers for vacations in rest homes and summer camps, and place rooms at their disposal at the beaches of the country. Pensioners take their places in the presidiums of meetings, on the tribunes of public manifestations, and everywhere.

Viewing in its complexity, the position which the pensioners occupy in the socialist society of our new Albania, we can say that it is on a sound ideological basis. The personal interest of each pensioner is closely interwoven with the general interest of the workers. Therefore, a pensioner cannot conceive himself detached from the active life of society. And this constitutes one of the major moral successes of our workers.



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① Comrade F. Sinoimeri, director of the State Social Insurance in the Ministry of Finance, talking with a group of pensioners

② N. Murtaqi, everyday, you will find him, first thing in the morning among the workers of the car repair park. "The hours of work make me young again", he says.

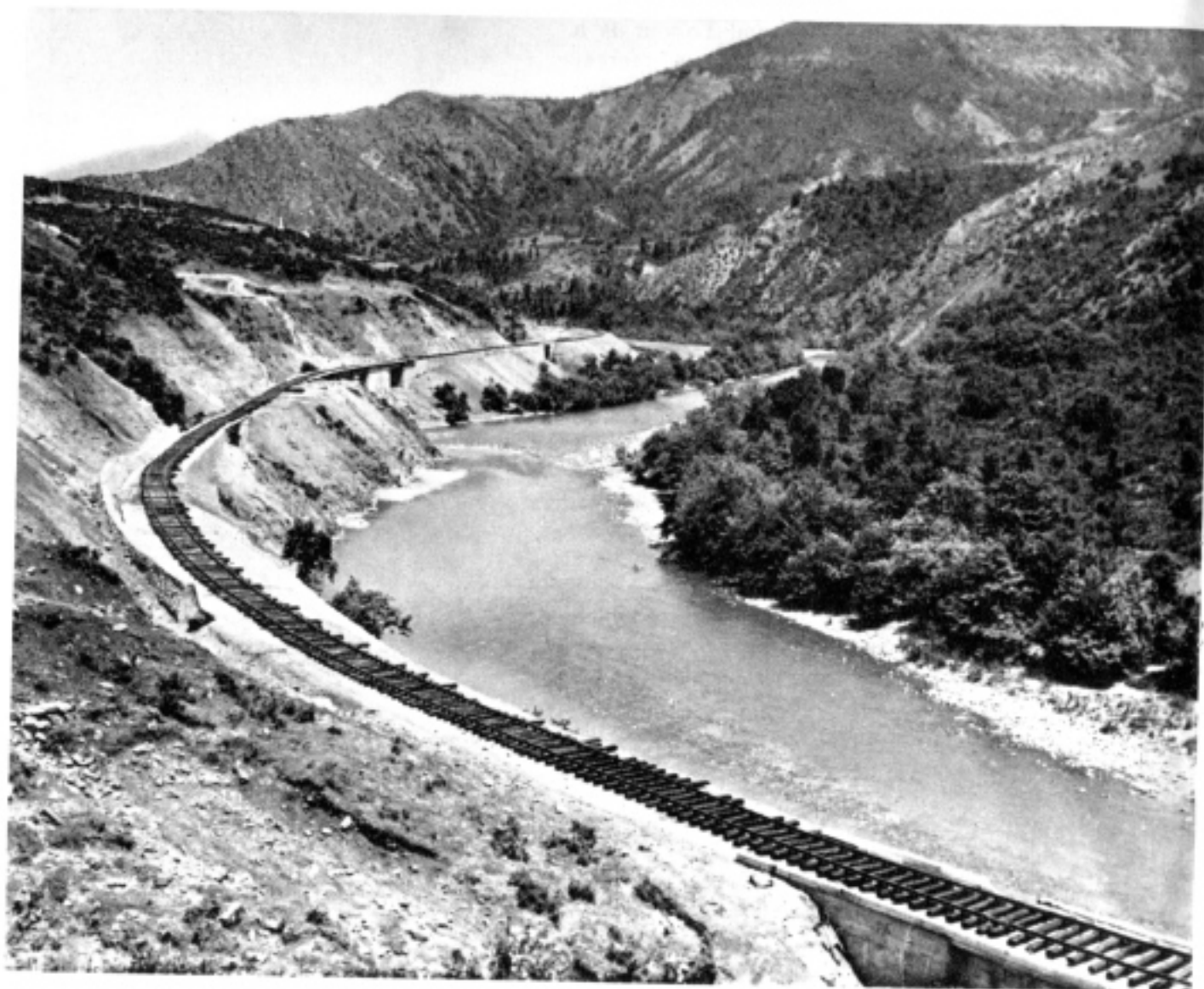
③ Selim Farka is 78 years of age. It is many years since he retired. However during the summer, he is never far from the Machine and Tractor Station where he gives the younger workers the benefit of his rich experience.

Photo: by S. Xhillari



Xibraka sector — view of the track

# RAILS PENETRATE MOUNTAINS



The concreting process in the Murash Tunnel.

A new bridge is being built over the Shkumbini River.



Librazhd sector. The commander Leonora Bana and the Commissar Lume Jonuzi. Though very young, they direct the daily work of hundreds of volunteers.

It may sound paradoxical but Albania did not have a single kilometre of railway before liberation on November 29, 1944. The first rails were laid in 1947. Year in, year out, from one Five-Year Plan to another locomotive whistles have been resounding over the plains from the Mati Gorge to the Shkumbini and Vjosa Rivers. But it looked as if the track had stopped at the foot of the mountains, and the rugged gorges had closed their rocky gates.

But no gates can resist the blows of our revolutionary youth. The sons and daughters of those who fought in the National Liberation War, of those who laid the track for the first Albanian railway took a decision: to carry the railroad track towards the east, to pierce the mountains, span the rivers, and build the first railroad from the coast to the eastern border.

On May 9, 1969, the work began on the Elbasan-Prenjas Youth Railway. For three years now the Shkumbini Valley has been lit up by the flash of welders, deafened by the explosion of dynamite, and cheered by the songs of youth.

Forty-five thousand youth have toiled on the 48 kilometres of track, on the river beds in the tunnels on the rugged surface of the cliffs, on the brink of precipices.

Here are a few figures which give some idea of the work involved in this new railway. It involves the building of 4.85 km of main line, or 60 km including sidings, one bridge

nearly 300 meters long and 50 meters high, about 130 other bridges, 295 structures in the sum total. The railroad will pass through more than 20 tunnels of a total length of 5,920 meters.

Going from Elbasan — towards Librazhd, the track of the new railroad runs parallel to the motor highway. Wagons loaded with gravel roll over the rails. And this train which has become so familiar to the young volunteers, is being pushed further and further ahead each day. Our young workers, cooperative farmers, pupils and students are opening the track for it through the mountains. This very ordinary train, covered with dust, symbolizes the strength and determination of our youth, looking like a gigantic arm of solid will before which mountains crumble, rivers are harnessed and tamed 1,100,000 cubic meters of earth and 350,000 cubic meters of rock have been dug and transported, 52,000 cubic meters of wall have been built and 72,000 cubic meters of concrete and reinforced concrete have been laid up to June 30, 1971.

Our youth as well as our specialists and cadres, are working hard so that by the day when 30th anniversary of the founding of the Party of Labour of Albania is celebrated and its 6th Congress is held, the whistle of the locomotive and the cheers of the youth will be welcomed by the new railway station at Librazhd.

Gjirokastra City-Museum



Dukagjin-"River bank" (North Albania)  
Photos by: P. Kumi

# **“TOURING ALBANIA”**

The citadel of Berat.

Photo: by R. Veseli





## On "Rue Castiglione" in Paris

Ahmed Kondo

It was swelteringly hot on the "Rue Castiglione" in Paris that midday, yet the sidewalks were crowded. It was Sunday, June 13, 1920. A car stopped in front of the hotel "Continental". A man stepped out from the hotel door walking with self-assurance towards the car. From the style of his suit, his gait and the way he behaved he seemed like a foreigner. Suddenly a series of revolver shots rang out causing the passers-by to turn their heads in alarm. The foreigner slumped against the car for a moment and slowly collapsed-dead.

The police arrested on the spot a twenty-five year old man small in stature, hollow-cheeked and with piercing eyes.

"Who are you?"

"I am an Albanian, Avni Rustemi is my name".

"And you have shot and killed an Albanian Pasha, Esad Toptani?"

"I have shot and killed the traitor to my country".

Before the French court the young man gave further evidence: ". . . When I saw Esad come out of the hotel, the whole history of my country appeared before my eyes and my hatred for the traitor was incontainable. I pulled the revolver from my pocket and fired I don't remember how many shots, into Esad's body only two paces away from me".

What was the background of these events on "Rue Castiglione" in Paris?

This was no ordinary occurrence, no spur of the moment outrage. It was an important political action carried out under very critical conditions for the cause of Albania in those years. During the early days of June, the forces of the Albanian uprising were engaged in a life and death struggle against the large Italian armed forces and were rapidly freeing the Vlora District. On June 11, thousands of freedom fighters had launched a general attack on the city. The Italian imperialists were forced to take to the sea and go back to their country. At the same time, on June 4 the Tirana Government had organized a military campaign under the prominent Albanian patriot Bajram Curri, against the traitor Esad Pasha's bands, operating in Central Albania. Along with the armed struggle of the people that year the Albanian patriots had launched a large scale campaign

of propaganda within and outside the country in order to make the Albanian reality clear to world public opinion. Thus, this just liberation struggle of the Albanian people enjoyed the moral support of progressive circles in many countries of the world.

But disregarding the aspirations of the Albanian people, the reactionary circles at the Peace Conference in Paris treated our country as a market commodity for negotiations among a number of imperialist Powers. The feudal chiefs of the Esad Toptani type drew dividends from these bargainings to the detriment of the country. The series of betrayals committed by Esad Toptani against the Albanian cause began on the very day of the Declaration of Independence in 1912. The traitor raised his head on October 12, 1913 when, at variance with the national line of the government headed by the prominent patriot Smail Qemali, he proclaimed in Durrës the formation of the "Elders of Central Albania", which became the center of the reactionary Albanian landlords. In the Government headed by Turhan Pasha in Durrës, Esad Pasha held the posts of Minister of Interior and Minister for Foreign Affairs. This bloodthirsty feudal chief aroused the great hatred of the Albanian people. His bands plundered and massacred the people. Esad signed the shameful act which sure rendered Shkodra to Montenegro.

While the Albanian people were engaged in life and a death struggle against the Italian imperialist forces in the Vlora District, against the Serbo-Montenegrin forces in the north, and against the Greek forces in the south, Esad Toptani was leading a fabulous life in Paris thanks to the many subsidies he received as a tested agent.

In those critical, historical moments, the people raised from their ranks heroes, prominent leaders and great patriots. Twenty-five year old Avni Rustemi represented that great mass of young patriotic intellectuals who fought with pen and sword in defence of the supreme interests of the fatherland. In 1910; Avni interrupted his studies in the Normal School at Elbasan and went to the mountains of the north to fight against the Turkish army led by Shefqet Durgut Pasha. In 1912 we see him among the ranks of fighters resisting the Greek forces which were massacring the people in southern Albania. In the following years this young revolutionary made a name for himself as a fiery agitator and tireless militant for the implanting of patriotic and democratic sentiments among the broad masses of youth in and outside Albania. He carried on this activity also among the people of Albanian origin in Italy, at San Demetrio Corona where he continued his secondary school studies, and later at the University in Rome.

And so to 1920. The people entrusted the elimination of arch-traitor, Esad Toptani, this major political action, to this courageous youngman.

It was a difficult and bold undertaking, requiring a well studied plan and a resolute stand against any eventuality both during the deed, as well as before the court. According to his court testimony, Avni set out from Vlora to Tirana and then to Durrës. In Tirana he had come in contact with the patriotic circles of the country. He left at once for Italy. As soon as he arrived in Rome he prepared the necessary documents and set out for France. In Paris he set to work cood-headedly, skilfully, and with great care to study the residence of the traitor Esad Pasha Toptani, the times when he enterees or left the hotel and restaurant. At the proper moment, he acted with courage in the name of the freedom of his fatherland.

The revolutionary Avni Rustem knew how to behave and defend himself case before the French investigators and jury, pointing out that his action had been dictated by the supreme interests of the Albanian nation and that he had done nothing but carry out the will of the country. That was how some organs of the press described his act at the time.

Avni's patriotic deed was highly appraised by the Albanian people as a whole. Meetings were organized and aid was collected for Avni Rustem in many cities of Albania, including Vlora, Berat, Elbasan and others. The Albanian press organs like "Mbrojtja Kombëtare", "Opinga", "Youth" and others, expressed their congratulations for the highly courageous deed of the patriot Avni Rustem, and called for his release from prison. Telegrams from the broad masses of the Albanian people, the Albanians living in the USA, in Bucharest, Egypt and other countries, sent to the French Government and the Judiciary called on them to declare him innocent.

The French court found it impossible to declare the young Albanian guild and released him from custody.

The killing of Esad raised the prestige of the just struggle of the Albanian people and showed what a young man can do when it is necessary to defend the country and the people.

Today one finds the name of Hero of the People Avni Rustemi, among those of the prominent Albanian patriots, in the history books, the museums on the name plates of many streets, but, above all, in the hearts of our people.



## OUR POST-BAG

I am writing you this letter to say how pleased I am with your magazine which I regard with special importance. It teaches me many things about Albania I did not know before.

Please send me your magazine regularly for I read it with great interest. We love the Albanian people, its Party and the government. The Albanians are a great people who have embarked entirely upon the road of socialism.

Barry Thiermo Abdonlage — Guinea

What impelled me write to you is the firm support that your new state renders to Afro-Asian countries which are under imperialist rule.

Roland Olando Pierre  
P.R. of Congo

I was pleased to receive the "New Albania" Magazine today. I say I was pleased because I have long been following your activity and propaganda which aims at spreading knowledge of Albania in our country making known to us not only your uninterrupted progress, but also the revolutionary truth, that is, Marxism-Leninism. Thus you make a great contribution to socialism in Italy too.

Girolamo Trasciati  
Italy

My name is Roger Hermans, and I am a postman here in Belgium, and also a delegate to the socialist trade union of postmen. I am interested in your country, people, industry and tourism. I have seen one issue of your Magazine "New Albania" which is beautifully presented and very well written.

Please send it to me regularly. After reading it I will give it to my colleagues and will discuss it with them. So I will carry out a service in the interest of the revolutionary truth about your country. Please, note my address and send me your magazine and any other materials about Albania.

Roger Hermans — Belgium

Some time ago, my friends and I learnt of your magazine. Now we have subscribed and try to circulate it among our comrades and workers in Toulon. Your magazine is indeed very rich in lessons about the struggle waged by your people for the building of

socialism and it is illuminating for our struggle here in France. Allow us to send our warmest greetings to the glorious Party of Labour of Albania, and Comrade Enver Hoxha in particular. Let our two peoples strengthen their friendship from day to day and let us support each other in the building of socialism.

Through your magazine, we will let the working people of France know what the dictatorship of proletariat can ensure for the working class.

Long live proletarian internationalism!

B. Serge — France

It is a great joy to me to express in a few lines my gratitude to and deep respect for the Party of Labour and the state power that gave me the happy occasion to see my homeland again.

I left Albania 40 years ago, when the country was backward, its people mercilessly exploited by the repressive rule of the beys, so I could not have imagined the full extent of the unprecedented progress made in our country today, without seeing it with my own eyes. I was astonished at what I saw everywhere I went. To me everything was new: tremendous works everywhere, big mills and plants, many work sites and blooming fields, happy and hard-working people. Cities either completely transformed or entirely new, electrified villages everywhere, modern hospitals and schools, asphalted roads, and many many, other works which before could not even be thought of. The days I spent in Albania were a great and unforgettable event for me. They convinced me that in the future under the wise leadership of the Party of Labour and Comrade Enver Hoxha even, happier days are in store for our people.

Naxhi Hoxha — U.S.A.

I have been receiving "New Albania" Magazine for some time now. It has enabled me to become well acquainted with your country, to appreciate what is being done there, and in the end, has aroused my desire to visit it. The quality of the Magazine is greatly improved.

It is better set out and more beautiful than before, and consequently should win a

wider audience. On the other hand features such as "The life in our district", short information about work, "Social insurance" etc, make us feel the life of your country. . . What more can I say except that I stress that I am already a firm friend of Albania who approves the socialist construction under the leadership of Comrade Enver Hoxha. Your experience is very useful for us in France, and it will strengthen the Franco-Albanian friendship. . .

Juif Daniel — France

I have been receiving your "New Albania" Magazine for several years now. It informs me in detail about the great successes of the heroic Albanian people under the correct and far-sighted leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. The beautiful pictures of the Magazine speak clearly of the heroism of the Albanian people, of the achievements on all Fronts. Dear comrades of the Editorial Board, I ask you to publish more articles about your people's war of resistance against the fascist occupationists during World War II.

. . . I wish the heroic Albanian people further successes in all fields of life. Albania is a glorious example to all revolutionary peoples of the world.

Gerd Wedemeyer — West Germany

. . . One year ago I started to listen to Radio-Tirana. I follow its broadcasts everyday with keen interest. Recently, I received from Radio-Tirana the Magazine "New Albania" which was very beautiful and interesting. I would like to receive it regularly and get some pictures from your country.

Gyvind Kolobekken — Norway

Through some friends of mine I had the good fortune to become acquainted with some issues of the "New Albania" Magazine. The material published in it clearly presents the achievements of our beloved people in every field of life.

Please, allow me to express through this letter my warmest congratulations about the work done on this magazine.

I feel proud when I see how the sweat and the sacrifices of our people are being turned into majestic and fruitful projects. I wish to become a subscriber to your magazine for I have a burning desire to study every magazine, newspaper or book in my beloved language and to follow the achievements of my people who are never far from my heart and mind.

Idriz Osman Arshulla — U.S.A.

Dear friends, I wish you successes on the 30th anniversary of the founding of the glorious Party of Labour and its Sixth Congress. . .

Today, 27 years after the liberation, in socialist Albania, under the leadership of the Party with the dear Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, with the iron will of the people, miracles have been wrought.

Although we are very far from you, we love socialist Albania very dearly and are proud of the progress which has been and is being made. Now, our sons, and grandsons have no reason to emigrate as we did, because the people's state power has ensured them work, life, electric light, which today lights the houses of even the most remote villages. I wish you further successes in making our fatherland ever more beautiful and prosperous.

Osman Kasem, — Argentine.

# The Cultural Movement in Voskopoja During the XVIII Century

Prof. Mahir Domi

The turning point which the XVIII century marked in the economic, social and political development of a number of Balkan countries was felt in various districts of Albania too. Despite the difficulties created by feudalism and the Ottoman domination, important changes took place here bringing economic and cultural prosperity to certain regions and to Voskopoja in particular.

During the XVIII century, Voskopoja, now a mountain village in the Korça District, has succeeded in becoming a large city with numerous city quarters, an important economic center, with highly developed handicraft and trade maintaining relations with the outside world on a wide scale. It carried on trade, not only with the neighboring districts of southern and central Albania and the other regions of the Ottoman Empire, but also with various countries of southern, central and eastern Europe. The Voskopoians frequented Triest, Venice, Budapest and Poland, where they formed their own groups organized into brotherhoods.

The city reached the highest point of its prosperity during the years between 1720 and 1769. Since it was situated in the interior of the country in a mountainous region the heavy burden of the destructive Ottoman military feudal domination did not fall so heavily on it, and thus it was able to develop its productive forces and become a flourishing economic center. Voskopoja enjoyed a degree of autonomy, with the guilds and elders playing the main role in the administration of its affairs. (Towards the middle of the century there were 17 guilds of the numerous trades and crafts that had developed there).

Economic well-being promoted the development of culture. The flourishing of crafts and trade, the contacts with various metropolitan centers of Europe, which gave the Voskopoians an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the most advanced cultural achievements, prompted them to take various initiatives in the field of education and culture.

At the beginning of or probably before the XVIII century, Voskopoja had its own school. By 1744 this was raised to the level of a secondary school, and in 1750 it assumed the name of the "New Academy", becoming one of the best institutes of learning of the time in the Balkans. The teaching staff of this school included many learned persons, some of whom had come from the Voskopoja communities in European centers, bringing with them new ideas and methods. Many Voskopoians pursued their studies in the Universities of Italy, Germany, and the Central European countries, becoming acquainted there with the progressive currents of European thought. A typical example is that of the young Voskopoian Koste Cekani, who left his home to pursue his higher studies at the noted University in the German city of Halle and later in Gottingen, Paris, London and Leyden in Holland the most famous Universities of the times. He wrote many literary, scientific and other works in Greek and Latin, which testify to his broad, encyclopedic knowledge.

A printing press was set up at Voskopoja in 1720, one of the first in the Ottoman Empire. We do not know the exact number of books printed there but we have copies of 19 school and church books printed between the years 1731 and 1741. The "New Academy" also had

Interior of St. Nikollas Church





a rich library which, from indirect evidence, seems to have contained works of European artistic literature of the XVII and XVIII centuries. In Voskopoja there was a rigorous development of religious art, with the marked realism of the Byzantine style, some times with powerful realistic and national elements. There were a number of gifted painters in Voskopoja.

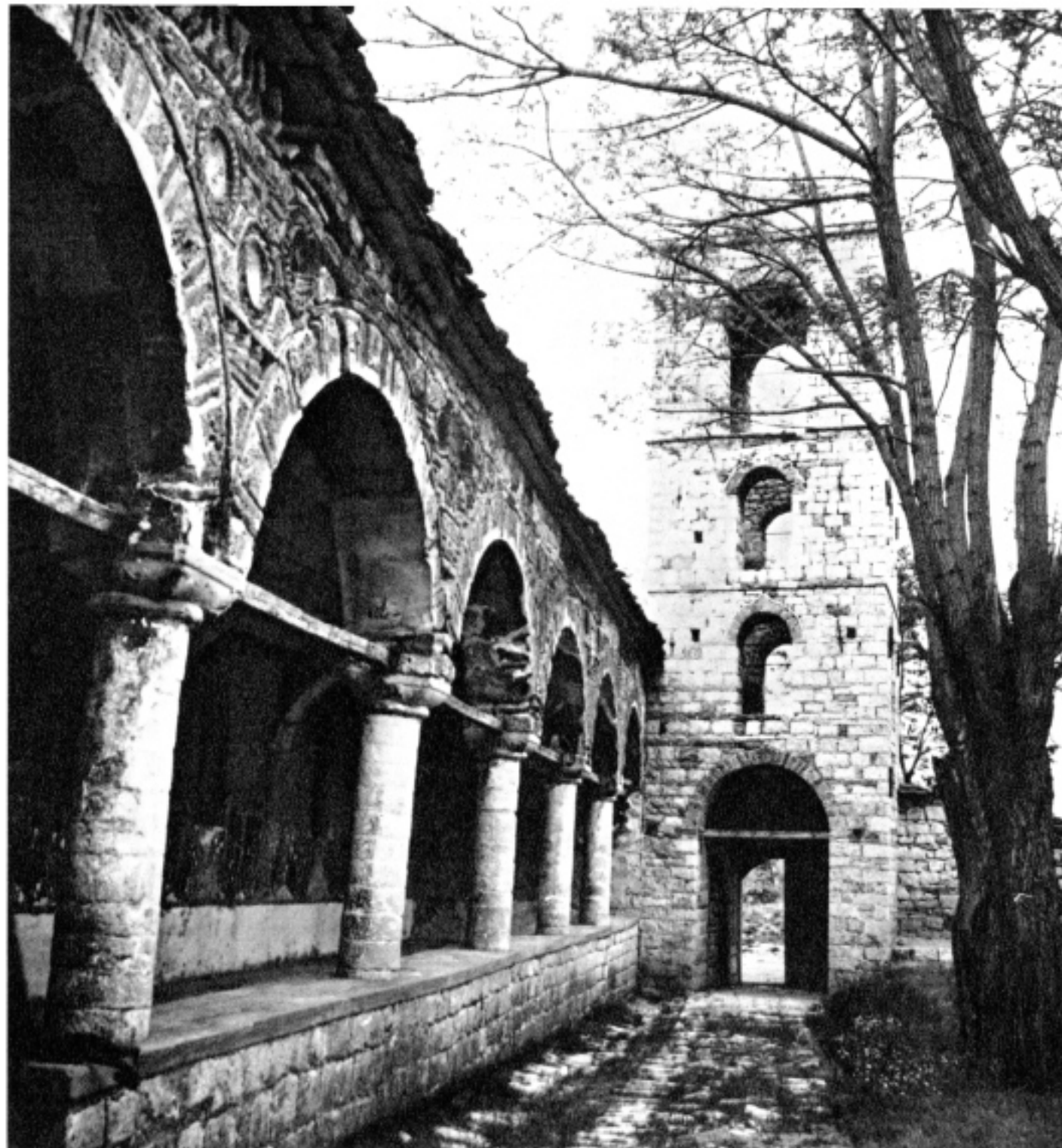
During the XVIII century, culture in Voskopoja developed generally in Greek, which, at this time, was the church and cultural language of the majority of the Orthodox Christians of the Balkans, and officially recognized by the Turkish Government as a result of an agreement signed with the Patriarchate of Constantinople. But the development of Voskopoja took place at a time when the various peoples of the Balkan countries had begun their campaign to emancipate themselves from Hellenism and to develop their languages and national cultures. Such a trend was manifested in various ways also in the educational and cultural movement of the Albanian Orthodox Christians, among other things by creating separate alphabets in order to assert their own national identity more clearly. In one way or another, the Voskopojan cultural movement made its contribution to the Albanian and Wallachian national cultures. Voskopoja established relations with the Patriarchate at Ochrida, which for a long time championed the emancipation movement of the Orthodox Christians of these regions. (The Voskopoja school was attended by students from Macedonia and the other districts of the Balkans. The Greek language was taught through the media of Albanian and Wallachian, and, probably, Macedonian languages). It is said that the Voskopoja printing press turned out books in the other Balkan languages as well.

There is evidence that attempts were made in Voskopoja to write the Albanian language in a separate alphabet. A Greek chronicler of the latter part of the XVIII century, writing of one of the most outstanding personages of this city, Gregory of Durrës (so called because he later became the metropolitan of Durrës), says that he translated the Old and New Testament of the Bible and wrote them in an alphabet different from the other special alphabets used in writing Albanian during the XVIII century, known by the name of the manuscript of the anonymous of Elbasan, may very probably be connected with this author and are supporting evidence for the above statement.

The most outstanding exponent of the cultural life of Voskopoja was Teodor Kavalioti as a scholar of illuminist inclinations.

At the Secondary School in Janina where he taught he came into contact with the ideas of many philosophers of Western Europe and with the trends of thought which had begun to spread the Balkans as well. He worked in his native town from 1743 up to 1769 as a teacher and clergyman doing intense church, educational and cultural work. In 1748 he became the Director of the Voskopojan School raising it to the rank of a full secondary school with a teaching program approaching in part that of a higher institute of learning.

To meet the needs of this school, Kavalioti compiled school and scientific textbooks which remained in manuscript form and have for the most part been lost. (One of his contemporaries said that he wrote on all the branches of philosophy). Only two of his printed elementary



Partial view of St. Nikollas Church

Photo: by R. Veseli

school books are still in existence. One of them contains a Greek-Wallachian-Albanian vocabulary and pronunciation of words in the Korça District in the XVIII century is concerned.

From Kavalioti we also have three philosophic treatises in their manuscript from which place him in the ranks of the most outstanding thinkers of the Balkans of that period. These are: "Logic" of 218 pages, "Physics" of 116 pages, and "Metaphysics" of 115 pages. Copies of these books have been found also in Jassy and Bucharest of Rumania among the books from the libraries of Greek schools which functioned in these cities during the XVIII century and which were considered then as the best schools in the Balkans. This testifies to the great authority which the "New Academy" of Voskopoja enjoyed outside the country, and to the fame which Kavalioti had won.

Through these works we get a glimpse at the philosophical thinking of certain learned circles of Albania and neighboring countries, characterized by its eclecticism, by attempts to integrate the new elements of European thinking into a single system with ancient classical philosophy and religious dogma. Kavalioti follows the line of an idealistic philosophy with some tendencies to rationalism. In it is felt, in one way or another, the spirit of the illuminator ideas which were spreading in Western Europe as an expression of the ideology of the new class which was developing, namely, the bourgeoisie. Kavalioti is in favor of the search for knowledge, of broadening the mental horizon, and against obscurantism and scholastic methods. He has faith in human reasoning which, according to him, makes it possible to

distinguish the true from the false, good from evil. These ideas brought something positive to the Albanian mental reality of the time, suffocating under the burden of medieval theological and scholastic world outlook.

Among the various scholars who lived and worked in Voskopoja there were such artists as the painter David Selenica, with his collaborator Kristo (1726); later the painter Konstantin Shpataraku (1736-1769) with the two brothers Konstantin and Athanas Zagrefi (1744-1783) from Korça. Almost at the same time there lived and worked here masters of construction as testified to by an inscription in the Church of St. Athanasius or the figure of an architect carved in stone in the Church of St. Nicola. In this advanced center there lived also such masters of the chisel as Andon Korfuzani (1758) who directed the work of carving the wonderful iconoclast in the Church of St. Nicola.

The brilliance of this center of economic and cultural prosperity which shone for nearly half a century was soon extinguished by Ottoman oppression and feudal anarchy. Taking their excuse from the Russo-Turkish War which aroused great hopes for liberation among the various countries of the Balkans, the Turkish irregular troops in 1769 sacked the city and made it an object for repeated pillage and plunder by the neighboring feudal chiefs. This marked the decline of the city which was gradually abandoned by its inhabitants who betook themselves to Korça, or its districts, or abroad.

Voskopoja continued to decline and had never recovered from the various sackings it has suffered.



— Naim Frashëri — drawing by Jbrahim Shehu.

## Scanderbeg's First Encounter with the Turks

When Murat received the news:  
 Scanderbeg had become chief,  
 O! but that gave him the blues,  
 Causing him unbounded grief.  
 In an ecstasy of rage  
 He flared up and breathed re-  
 venge,  
 Called upon Ali, his page,  
 This affront quick to avenge.  
 Ali Pasha and his force,  
 Thrice four hundred thousand  
 strong  
 Soldiers of the foot and horse  
 Dashed headforemost in a throng.  
 Scanderbeg called on his troops,  
 Gathered from throughout the  
 land, organized them into groups,  
 Put the bravest in command.  
 Sixteen thousand men enrolled  
 Under Scanderbeg's command,  
 Horse and footmen, brave and  
 bold,  
 Choicest flower of the land.  
 "Take brave Hamza for your aide,  
 Lie in ambush for the foe  
 Have the terrain well surveyed!"  
 Scanderbeg had said the word,  
 Gjon Muzaka, noble knight

Picked his men, unsheathed his  
 sword,  
 Hied away prepared to fight.  
 Ali Pasha thought too high  
 Of himself and his brigade,  
 Thinking that he could defy  
 Scanderbeg and go unscathed.  
 Ali Pasha in his tent  
 Planned the tactics of his drive,  
 Ordered then his regiment:  
 "Capture Scanderbeg alive!  
 For Sultan Murad alone  
 Is the King by right divine,  
 None can share with him the  
 throne  
 Nor his power undermine!  
 We have beaten men and kings,  
 Shall we yield the palm, I beg  
 To Albanian underlings,  
 To their leader Scanderbeg?"  
 Scanderbeg surveyed the field  
 Pondered and laid down the law  
 Not an inch of land to yield  
 But to grapple with each foe  
 He arrayed his forces then,  
 Told Moisi to guard the right  
 While Tanushi and his men  
 From the left should march and

fight.  
 While the center brave Uran  
 And his men should domineer  
 With the horsemen in the van  
 And the footmen in the rear,  
 Scanderbeg at whose stern look  
 Foes were terribly dismayed,  
 When he rode the whole world  
 shook  
 At the glittering of his blade.  
 "Let them take a bead on first  
 Then we come to blows with them,  
 deal destruction to the curst and  
 resort to stratagem!"  
 He advised his partisans  
 To have patience and then dare  
 While a Turk let off his lance  
 Which our men caught in the air.  
 Whereupon a bloody feud  
 Came to pass in that turmoil,  
 Men the warpath ways pursued  
 To defend their sacred soil.  
 Tanush drew his sword and  
 dashed  
 Chopping heads off by the score  
 Then Moisi broke through and  
 clashed  
 With the foe killing some more.

Thus, the left flank and the right  
 Of the enemy gave up  
 All resistance while the fight  
 In the center raged non-stop.  
 Ali Pasha stood his ground  
 Hurling defiance feeling proud  
 Scanderbeg stood up and frowned  
 And "a horse!" he shouted loud.  
 When he mounted and his steed  
 Raised a cloud of dust behind  
 As it dashed with lightning speed  
 Ali Pasha's zeal declined.  
 Like a thunderbolt he dashed  
 Followed by Urani's group  
 With the enemy he clashed  
 Killing them at one fell swoop.  
 By the thousand Turks were  
 falling,  
 By the thousand others fled  
 What a carnage! How appalling  
 To see meadows spread with dead!  
 Twenty thousand Turks were slain  
 On the battlefield that day  
 All survivals tried in vain  
 To fight on and ran away.

# Development of Horticulture



New land in Çerava, Pogradec, planted with vineyards.

When one tastes a bunch of grapes under the pleasant shade of tree in the Lushnja vineyard one can't help turning one's thought to the recent past. Three or four decades ago all these hills covered now with vineyards and olive groves were covered with shrubs and brambles grapes were almost unknown to the peasants of this region. They had the queer idea of considering them as something of a luxury which only the bey—the owner of a large estate—could afford to taste.

Our people's revolution had to transform not only the environment but also the old concepts of the people.

And now large plantations of fruit trees

keep wresting more and more of these hill and mountain sides and while fruits of many kinds, jams and wines are abundant on the tables of urban and rural workers. A good part of these products is exported.

As far back as the early post-liberation days our Party issued instructions to step up the cultivation of fruit trees. Our country is predominantly mountainous. Its mild climate allows the creation of large plantations of plants on the hill and mountain sides. This would spare the plains for the cultivation of field crops.

Among the primary problems that arose from the development of this sector of our people's economy was that of setting up nurseries.

Some attempts had been made during the pre-liberation period to create nurseries for olive sets but these attempts had come to naught. Even the small nursery that began to flourish in Elbasan was destroyed by the fascists to make room for a military airport.

During the period of people's state power three big nurseries to raise olive tree sets were put up which during the last decade raised about 200,000 sets a year. The favorable conditions which were created for the cultivation of olive trees made it possible to increase the number of olive trees by an additional 1,500,000 during the last six years. This additional number of trees represented the total number of



Selection of grapes.  
Photo: by N. Kodheli

Bounteous autumn in the orchards of the  
"Partisan" Agricultural Cooperative at  
Kruja.



Orange plantations in Delvina (South) Photo:  
by N. Kodheli.

## *Development of Horticulture*

trees Albania had before liberation.

Similar steps have been taken regarding the cultivation of citrus and other fruit trees. In 1969, nurseries for growing fruit tree sets were reorganized in the districts. In order to train specialists part-time schools were opened at each nursery (schools of the category of secondary vocational education). These schools are attended by cooperative members of the district who, when having completed their studies, return to the fruit growing sectors of their own cooperative.

As a result of the good work that has been done, today horticulture is in full bloom. Large plantations of fruit trees, olive groves, vineyards blocks of orange trees and other fruits have been set up. Such are, for example, the "Gjergj Dimitrov" Vineyards encircling the outskirts of Tirana, the vineyards of the "Perlat Rexhepi" Agricultural Enterprise in Shkodra, those of Sukthi in the Durrës District, the plantations of apple trees in Peshkopia and Korça, the orange groves in Saranda and so on.





Dvoran' apples are in keen demand from our consumers.

Photo: by N. Kodheli.

Thanks to the new scientific methods in use, to the measures of agricultural technique and to the good experience gained by the workers in this sector, we have succeeded in receiving good yields in production. The "Perlat Rexhepi" State Farm in Shkodra, in 760 hectares of land has succeeded in harvesting an average of 92 quintals of grapes per hectare, that at Sukth in 380 hectares of land has received an average of 90 quintals per hectare, at

Roskovec in 20 hectares of land has received 120 quintals per hectare.

Some districts have harvested a good yield of fruits. The Permeti District, for instance, harvested 3 kg of grapes per capita of its population in 1969, Skrapari 87.5 kg, Korça 95.3 kg fruits per capita of their population, Pogradeci 57.3 and so on.

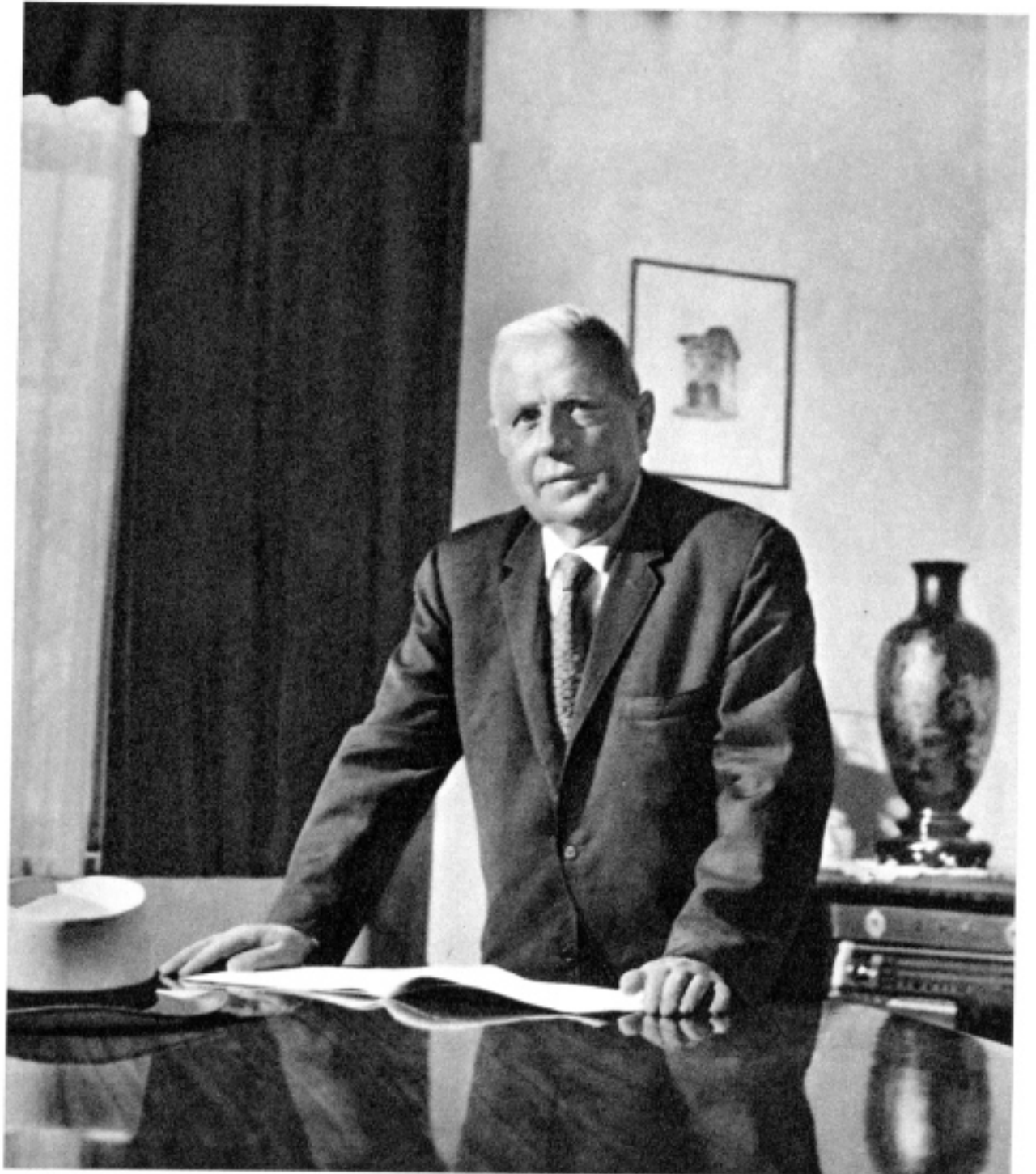
During the new five-year period, the directives of while will be approved by the 6th Party

Congress in November this year, new horizons will be approved by the 6th Party Congress in November this year, new horizons will be opened to the cultivation of fruit trees.

It is expected that by 1975 the number of fruit trees will be 4.8 times as many as in 1947, that of orange trees 16 times, olive trees 4 times, vineyards 7.7 times. In comparison with 1970 we will have in, 1975: 26% more fruits, 64% more oranges, 41% more olives and 62% more vineyard.

# THREE DECADES LATER

Fadil Kraja — writer



The people's teacher Gjergj Canco calling the roll.

As in former days he stepped into the classroom with the register in his hand. Slowly with quiet steps he walked to the pulpit. His footsteps seemed to mark the passing of the years of one . . . two . . . five . . . twenty . . . thirty years. It is precisely three decades since "teacher of the people" Gjergj Canco parted from these men and women who have gathered here today. The youth whom Gjergj Canco farewelled then are now becoming grey headed, while his hair is snowy white.

Here he is again in the classroom as he was three decades ago.

The teacher glances over his "students", standing at their desks.

"Be seated dear students!"

A movement, a shutting of desks, as they take their seats and then all is silent.

The students are at their former desks with the same comrades. The girls too, sitting as usual in the front row.

The teacher opens the register. Slowly and carefully he calls the roll turning glance at each who answers:

"Present!"

"Present!"

"Ajet Xhindolli!" the teacher calls and turns his head towards an empty place. Silence. For a moment. Then, from the back comes the voice of a youth strong but full of

emotion:

"He fell as martyr in the fight for freedom!"

And the roll call continues:

"Present . . . Present . . . Present!"

Then:

"Kristaq Tutulani!"

"He fell as martyr in the fight for freedom!"

"Present . . . Present . . . Present!"

"Branko Kadia!" the teacher continues.

"He fell as martyr in the fight for freedom!"

They are many. They were the flower of the youth. "Nazmi Rushiti, Emin Duraku, Reshid Rusi, Meriman Jakupi, Esad Gjyli, Jovan Thanasi".

"They fell as martyrs in the fight for freedom!" Again the voice of the youth with same deep feeling of respect.

They fell for the ideal of freedom. These girls and boys today follow in their footsteps, their new blood, learning and fighting to carry that ideal through to the end. Thus the two generations, the three decades are united by this leitmotif.

A hour of lessons held after 30 years, a reunion after three decades.

In the "29 November" Secondary School of Shkodra, the first secular general high school of our country whose traditions have

been highly assessed by the Party and Comrade Enver Hoxha, in recent days two generations of students met, two generations of fighters for the great cause of freedom and socialism, those who graduated 30 years ago, the glorious year of the founding of the Albanian Communist Party, and those who will graduate this year, when the Albanian communists and people are preparing to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Party. It was an impressive meeting, a meeting which aroused heart-stirring memories.

In a speech he delivered to the students of this secondary school in November 1962 on the 40th anniversary of its opening, Comrade Enver Hoxha said among others: "This school is especially dear to me because many of my comrades-in-arms, some of whom gave up their most precious possession for freedom — their young lives received their education and training here. . ."

We turn the pages of the register for the 1940-41 school year when the desks were being abandoned, one by one. "Sad" one might say, but at that time this terms was not fitting. This was the time of the joy of the mountains full of communists, the joy of the underground struggle in the war. Further down we read (what irony): "Not to be admitted to school on orders from the Ministry of Education". On another page we read a note:



Together again after 30 years. The former graduates of the "29 November" Middle School in Shkodra who today work in different cities and regions of the fatherland, at various tasks, have come back to their school to recall their years of lessons, and the National Liberation War, in which they made their contribution.

"has not been re-enrolled in school year". . . Blank spaces in the register, while their glorious tracks were covering the mountains. All these names are known, they are the heroes and martyrs of the war. From the ranks of this class alone there are 4 heroes of the People and martyrs of the National Liberation War. And this confirms so well what Com-School of Shkodra, which next year completes its first half a century.

And here are the new students who will receive their diplomas during the days of this glorious anniversary. Of course, the school to-day is a different school, different teachers and different desks. Everything has changed. Only the classrooms remain, although they are always filled with new generations. Teacher of the people Gjergj Canco, now on a pension, used to teach mathematics. The present teacher, recently decorated Agim Gorana, has turned the classroom into a true laboratory worthy of our new school, just like all the other classes.

The tradition continues. New revolutionary initiatives continue to emerge with regard to teaching methods, education, work and tempering. This school has been awarded seven orders and medals following each campaign in national and local mass actions, for its high percentage of passes, for its links with

the working class, and so on.

Two generations hand in hand, with 30 years between them, with the age of our Party; which has done so much for this people, for this land of war and sacrifice, for this beautiful youth which is following the Party so loyally.

Therefore, not sentimentalism, but power—the old and young graduates. The young see in their older comrades the example of how they must fight and how they must serve the people better. The old graduates see their younger comrades as their successors, the brilliant reflection of what they fought for and won, of what they are still fighting for and winning. Young and old, together, fine and healthy, filled with revolutionary enthusiasm for life, with love for work and learning, with loyalty to the cause of the people, and ready to fight for it. It is worth fighting for such noble values, for such noble objectives.

The graduates of 30 years ago, this solid class of fighters for freedom and socialism, met in a festive atmosphere. They watched a display of physical culture and military training by the students who are implementing the revolutionary slogan of "lessons-productive labour—physical and military education", they visited model classrooms, the school museum where memories of their

fallen comrades were refreshed. They saw a rich and tasteful artistic program of songs and recitations, beginning with the school anthem and including fragments of dramas written by the young authors of this class. They heard songs dedicated to the heroes and martyrs of their own class, to Branko Kadia and Emin Duraku. They met young students and changes the school had undergone, about the aspirations of the young graduates, about the young talents which keep emerging from this school, about the new initiatives that have been taken.

And they met their classmates of 30 years before. They had met on other occasions too, but this was a more intimate and heart-strring one. After the meeting, that evening and next day they roamed the streets of the city two by two, or exchanging impressions. This is how they used to stroll about discussing Gorky's novel "Mother", or some prohibited book or leaflet or plans for a demonstration on National Day, November 28, or how to eliminate some spy. Now they talk about their jobs, their plans, about the new projects of the future, about the happy days of the fatherland. . .

One sees a host of young people with suitcases on the streets of Tirana during these hot days of July. "Goodbye my dear!", "Will we meet again, Professor!" They embrace, shake hands and hurry away. They are the students of the State University of Tirana who, having completed this year's studies, are now setting out to spend the vacation with their families or to take part in construction work. Of these thousands, a good many will not be coming back to the auditoriums or laboratories of the university. There are 1,600, including nearly 500 young women. Armed with knowledge, they are now ready to throw themselves into the great tasks of construction.

The publication of the draft-directives of the 5th Five-Year Plan for economic and cultural development of the People's Republic of Albania

for the 1971-1975 period and the approval which they will receive at the 6th Congress of the Party, open up new horizons for these young men and young women, filled with revolutionary enthusiasm and optimism. Next year we will meet them on the big construction sites at Fierza, the Metallurgical Plant of Elbasan, in the laboratories and studios, in the tents of the geologists and in the schoolrooms.

"What are your impressions now that you have completed your studies at the university, what problems have you raised in your diploma thesis and how do you view the future?" were the questions put to the graduates by our correspondent:

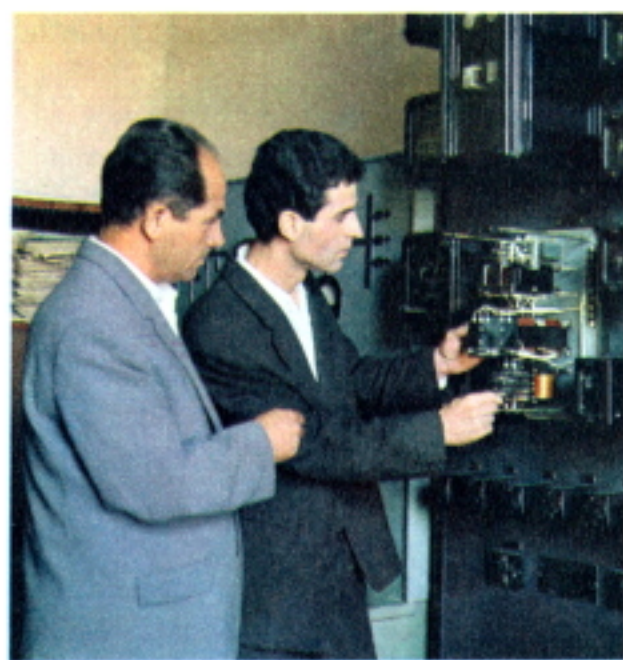
Here are their answers:

**Kujtim Caku:** "A chap like myself, the oldest of nine children, can appreciate better than most the opportunity and assistance given me by the people's state power to pursue my higher studies. For four years I have studied economics at the State University of Tirana on a state scholarship.

My years as a student have been a decisive stage, not only in my formation from the theoretical point of view, but also in linking me with practical life, in forming my feeling of responsibility towards the people, the country and socialism.

Last year I spent my period of practice in production at the "21 Dhjetori" State Building Establishment. It was during this period that I was assigned the subject for my diploma thesis, namely, "Design and specification of industrial projects as an important factor in raising the efficiency of capital investments". Being continually in contact with construction sites and becoming acquainted with the concrete problems, I have been able to master the theory better and am ready to take my first firm steps in the field of production.

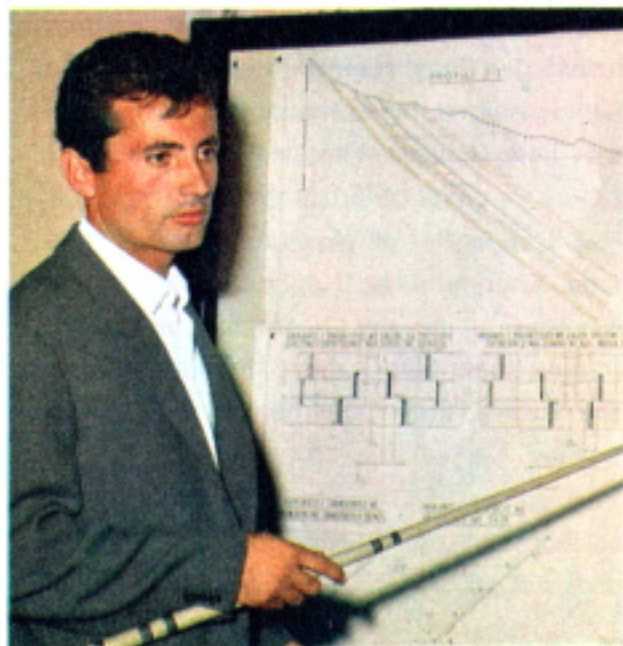
The material accumulated from the practice of industrial construction as well as from the utilization of the literature on this subject has helped me during the preparation of my thesis to put forward and solve a number of problems. This is just what will enable us to find concrete solutions for the problems which the new plan will raise for increasing the rate of construction, lowering costs shortening the time it takes the project to repay the investment, and for raising economic efficiency".



**Kristaq Trakosha:** For five-years I have attended the faculty of electrical engineering. The Engineering Department has its "absolutely up-to-date" laboratories in which we students can see in practice what we learn in theory. In one of these laboratories I have worked each day from the beginning of the year to prepare the thesis for my diploma.

The development of electric power, the building of major Hydro-Electric Stations like that on the Vau i Dejës, etc., etc., have raised a number of problems in solving which we will be able to make our contribution. One of these problems is treated in my thesis on the "Protection of the national power supply against faults in the lines which connected the "Mao Tsetung" Hydro-Power Station at Vau i Dejës with the national power grid."

During the preparation of my thesis for the degree I have had the continuous and very comradely assistance of my teachers. Repeated consultations with them have made my work much easier. As an engineer-to-be I feel greatly indebted to our society, to our state and Party which gave me the opportunity to pursue my higher studies and realize my desire to advance in electrical engineering which has always attracted me.



**Pasko Kollçaku:** "Before I entered the Geological and Mining Faculty of the University I spent three years working in one of our mines. When I applied the state gave me a scholarship to pursue my higher studies in the department I desired. Five years have now passed and I feel some relief at having completed my studies successfully and I am ready to place my knowledge and creative work at the service of our people's economy. The thesis for my degree, on which I have worked for two years is: "Designing the most suitable methods for the exploitation of the coal measures at B . . ."

In designing this mine I have studied the geological data, the technological and material conditions on the spot, analyzing them in comparison with the other mines of the country. I mention these facts in order to point out that my thesis is a realistic project that can be carried out. Not only will this study serve me to gain my diploma, but it will serve to develop our people's economy. And it seems to me that it is precisely here that all the work that is being done in our higher education for linking theory closely with practice, with the development of our life, is very well concretized".



# The Youth Detachment in the Army of Our People's Intelligentsia

**Sevasti Caci:** "I live in Saranda, the southernmost town of Albania. During the years of my studies at the university I have often made the trip to Saranda through our Riviera. And whoever has passed through the Riviera cannot but be captivated by the beauty of the land and seascape, by the mild climate, the rich flora and the contrasts of the terrain. For the thesis for my degree I picked a theme directly connected with this region, namely, "The physical and economic aspect of the district of Saranda". And I am certain that the deep impressions that the environment of this region to which I am very attached, has left on me, have had a lot to do with the choice of my subject.

Before the establishment of people's state power in Albania, the Saranda Region was very backward. Although it provided 98% of production agriculture was absolutely primitive. During the years of socialist construction, it has been placed on the road of all-round modernization. The structure of production in the district has changed radically with the development of industry. Now agricultural production accounts for about 57 per cent, and industrial production about 44 per cent of production.

During the new Five-Year Plan the aspect of Saranda District like that of all the other districts will become more beautiful. It is a great joy to me to be able to put my knowledge and capabilities to work to advance our socialist fatherland".



**Jani Papadimitri:** "Since my childhood I have been very fond of music. The violin has been my intimate friend. School has given me the opportunity of going deep into the world of music. I have nurtured my passion for music with persistent hard work, and now I am ready to defend my diploma by playing some pieces like 'Tchaikovsky's Concerto for violin, another concerto for violin by student Thoma Gaqi, Cesar Franck's sonata for violin, and Eugen Isaya's ballad Nr. 3 for violin".

The aim of my thesis is to communicate to the listeners the musical idea of these works as clearly as possible. Naturally this will be the most serious test in my student life. But I think I will succeed. Music, like all the branches of art, is developing in leaps and bounds in our country. Our social life is so rich that we look forward to the future with some impatience, but with great confidence and optimism".



**Marita Korovesi:** I happened to pick a very interesting theme for the branch of studies I have followed for four years, namely, "On some characteristics of the fruits of the dog rose and the determination of the vitamin C in it". As a chemical technologist I aimed to present as rich and detailed a study as possible of the economic value of rose hips. This fruit, like many other native plants is now exported. But our aim is to be able, in the future to process it in the country as a nutritive substance with a high content of vitamins C, P, and F.

I am very happy now that my four years of study are over and I shall soon start on the more difficult course at putting into practice what one has learned at school and, at the same time, broadening and enriching one's knowledge. Schooling doesn't end here but is continuous".



## CINEMA

The pioneer Rauf Pojani in the role of Guri, the main hero of the film.  
Photos: by S. Xhillari



The town on the edge of the lake one morning during the fascist occupation.

# “WARTIME MORNINGS”





Now the children have given up their games.

Photos: by A. Verzerolli

#### H. Kamberi

A crowd of people of various ages swarmed at the entrance of the cinema though the new film was essentially for children. They all expected to see a beautiful production of our cinematography and they were not disappointed.

The film "Wartime Mornings" by scenario writer Dhimiter Xhuvani, producer Kristaq Dhamo, and cameraman Faruk Basha, takes its place among our worth while films for children.

From the beginning the film makes us feel the sombre atmosphere created by occupation in a small town by the lake side. But the little town is far from submitting to the heel of the occupationist trampling its pavements. There is a powerful movement for freedom. While portraying the children's world in a natural and realistic manner, the authors put forward a great idea and solve it correctly, namely, that the National Liberation War was the people's war, its powerful revolutionary ideas penetrated everywhere, even into the soul of our children. The world of children at play, which is beautifully depicted in the film, is interwoven

with and deeply influenced by the course of the war. The children's soul is filled with hatred towards the invaders who massacre their relatives, sack the town, and even spoil their games. This hatred gives rise to their revolt, to their sympathy for the freedom fighters, for the communists, for the partisans.

The film shows in a realistic manner how the powerful flow of the war embraces even the youngest, who take part in it too, in their own way, with their own means, mentality, and operations.

The successful realization both from the point of view of the idea, as well as of artistic presentation, it gives the film a special value, not only by its informative character for the generations who have not lived through the glorious period of National Liberation War, but also for the fact that it cultivates among the children their love for freedom, courage, determination, confidence in the triumph of truth and the revolution.





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## Antigonea of the Illyrians —The Site of the Ancient Metropolis of the Drino River Valley



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- ① Colonnade of a house in the city of Antigonea.
- ② Voting card with the ancient name of Antigonea.
- ③ Sphinx.
- ④ Poseidon (bronze figure)
- ⑤ A complex of structures of the III-II centuries before our era in Antigonea.

Photos: by M. Kallfa

Anyone going towards the villages of "Asim Zeneli," Krina, Trano-shishta and Saraqinishta of the Gjirokastra District cannot fail to notice the ruins of a fortress with its majestic walls on a hill to his right. Long ago these structures attracted the attention of foreign archaeologists but they soon lost interest when it seemed that the discoveries did not serve their purposes. The discovery of an ancient Illyrian town which figures in written history as one of the most important southern centres of Illyria was of no interest to them.

The traces of this ancient town, however, did not escape the attention of our own archaeologists. Five years ago, the first excavations and findings showed that this was the site of an important Illyrian city of antiquity. In 1969 they unearthed 14 voting scrolls which threw light on the name of this ancient town: Antigonea of the Kaonian.

Historiographers attribute the founding of the city to Pyrrhus King of Epirus (306-272 B.C.). He founded this city and named it after his wife, Antigonea, who supported him during the early years of his career. The archaeological relics unearthed here also date the founding of this city not earlier than during the end of the IVth century before our era.

Antigonea is situated on a hill at the foot of Lunxheria Mountain. The hill on which the city was founded, stands out for its majestic strategic position. It dominates all the surrounding territory, controlling

the entire Drinos Valley.

Excavations so far have brought to light the houses of two city quarters and a rich collection of archaeological relics. Now, when one takes the uphill road to Saraqinishta, one doesn't pass over a barren hill but through the city of Antigonea, which, with a small flight of imagination, takes one to the world of 2,300 years ago, when the city was founded. One treads freely through the old, straight, cobbled streets with houses and the shops of the Antigonea artisans on either side. The rich archaeological material unearthed here allows us to form a clear picture of the development of Antigonea since the end of the IVth century before our era. The wall surrounding the city which is 4 km 1 long and 3,5 m. thick, belongs to this period.

In general, the city seems to have been well planned. The dwelling houses were made up of a corridor and rooms on each side. The houses of the wealthy were beautified with a colonnaded central courtyard. A part from the buildings from huge blocks of new stone and decorated with columns, the houses, on the outskirts of the city were of a simpler style. Apparently, the center of the city was inhabited by the aristocracy, the nobility, and handicraftsmen, while the rank and file spread over the hillside beyond the wall, where the traces of many houses have been discovered.

Of major importance in these excavations are the discovery of the



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local workshops for metal working and tanning leather. In the former workshop, besides artistic products the work tools, cuts off and spoiled articles were found. The leather tanning workshop is also of particular interest.

Under the floor of one of the rooms of this tannery were found five huge jars, 1 meter in depth, in which the leather was tanned. The work tools found in the jars are in good conditions and are very similar to those in use until recently by small handicraftsmen; the jars however, have been broken as a result of long time use.

Among the materials unearthed there is an abundance of ceramic objects expressing Illyrian culture. This is verified by the shape of utensils, by the Illyrian motifs of the ornamentation, and by the characteristic handles so often used by our ancestors.

In addition to the ceramic materials an important place is occupied by metal relics especially those of bronze and iron. Iron was widely used in the production of tools. Iron was used in making chisels, stone carver's compasses, axes, knives, the typical Illyrian poniard. The Antigoneans used bronze in making kettles, vases, chalices and handles for various vessels. The different agricultural implements unearthed here show that agriculture was highly advanced with special workshops for making farm tools. Artistic objects occupy an important place in the materials unearthed here. Among them we can mention a bronze



figure representing a woman with the wings of an eagle. Just as beautiful is the bronze statue of Dionysius. A number of objects made of terra cot of fine workmanship have been found too. In all these objects the Illyrian artisans have demonstrated their talents and fine workmanship, in many cases giving us work of high artistic value.

The discoveries also throw light on the economic strength of the city which maintained trade relations with many Illyrian and Hellenic centers. This is proved by the large number of coins, nearly 500, among them those of Dyrrachion, Apollonia, Orik, Korcyra and Ambiahia.

Historically, Antigonea is known as one of the seventy cities of Epirus which were sacked by the Roman Consul, Paul Amilius. The Roman historian, Titus Livius, writes clearly of what befell Antigonea and other cities of Epirus in 169 A.D.: "Emilius wrote to (Anicid) that the Senate of Rome had agreed that the cities of Epirus should be sacked. Immediately, he dispatched his centurions, to every city to tell the people of Epirus that he had come to withdraw the garrisons so that they could live like free as the Macedonians. He summoned 10 chieftains from each city and ordered them to pour into the state treasury all the gold and silver they had, and distributed his legionaries among all the cities. By morning all the gold and silver had been accumulated and about 10 o'clock the signal was given for the soldiers to commence the plunder. The booty was so large that each cavalryman received 400 dinars and each footsoldier 200, while the number of war prisoners reached the 150,000 mark. Then, the walls of the seventy plundered cities were breached.

Antigonea suffered this violence at the hands of the Roman invaders with the other cities. Therefore, there is a thick layer of ash and burned material over the areas which have been excavated. Even the bronze utensils discovered, were crushed and burned. For Antigonea this was the fatal year, for after this it was not rebuilt. It remained deserted until the archaeological excavations began.

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