



NEW ALBANIA

1970

YEAR XXIV

№ 4

NEW ALBANIA

IN THIS ISSUE



— On pages 4-5 you will learn through the writing "Monument of the great friendship", about the biggest hydro-power station in our country.



— In the writing "The green laboratories" on pages 10-11 you will learn about the results achieved by the collective of the Agricultural Research Institute of the Lushnja District.



— Geologists are like migrating birds. They continuously change their dwelling place and wherever they go they try to make the "radiography" of the earth. What are the plans and preoccupations of one of the expeditions of the geologists in Albania? The Answer to this question is given on pages 6-7.

— Many foreign visitors who come to Albania send their impressions to our Editorial Board. On pages 8-9 we will acquaint you with some of them.



— 50 years ago, the Albanian people threw into the sea the Italian imperialists who had occupied Vlora. In the writing of pages 16-17 "A nation rising in arms" you will learn about Albanian struggle of that period.



— How is Beethoven known and honoured in Albania? Who has written the study "Beethoven and the French revolution"? Answers to these questions are given on page 21, in the writing devoted to the 200th birth anniversary of the great composer.

— During the 1969-70 school year, 1,943 cadres of various sectors got their diplomas. On pages 22-23 you will learn about the plans and impressions of six of them who have just entered in the practical life.



— During the past centuries a number of Albanian distinguished masters and artists had emigrated to various countries of the world leaving their traces on the art and culture of those countries. On pages 24-25 you will learn about the "Albanians of Vicenza".

— In our villages, the conditions for vivid cultural and artistic activities have been created. Through the writing "Songs of a village" on pages 26-27, you will know something about the cultural life of the Blinisht Village, Lezha District.

Front Cover: Geologists at work and in rest.

Photo: by S. Xhillari
Back Cover: The singer of the House of Culture of the Blinisht Village, the coop. member Luke Skanaj.

Photo: by P. Kurni

"NEW ALBANIA"

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Tirana-Albania

WHAT DO WE VOTE FOR?

Sami Baholli

On September 20 this year, there will be held in our country the general elections to the organs of the people's power.

This year there will be simultaneously elected the deputies in the People's Assembly, councilors of the local organs as well as district judges and assessors. The People's Assembly is the highest organ of the people's state power of the PRA hence the election of the deputies to this organ is of great political importance. Of the same importance is also the election of the representatives to the organs of local power. According to our constitution and laws, these organs have full powers in districts, cities, regions and the corresponding villages. The administration organs are appointed and discharged by the elected organs and are responsible to them. This means that not only on national scale but also on local scale the elected representatives of the people are those who exercise the people's power in the name of the people. The election of judges and assessors directly by the people makes it possible for the bulk of the voters to preserve control over the elected. So that there should always be real justice for the working masses and strong blows to enemies and evil-doers.

This year's elections coincide with the successful fulfilment of the 4th Five-Year Plan. In the course of the past four years, since the previous elections to the People's Assembly, the total industrial output in Albania increased by 7%. This means that even now the directive set forth by the Fifth Congress of the PLA for an increase by 50% — 54% has been overfulfilled.

With the increase of the industrial output, the agricultural production for industrialization has also been increased. Side by side with this, the living standard has also been raised: The national incomes per capita during four years of the Sixth Legislature of the People's Assembly increased by 28%. We must bear in mind that Albania occupies one of the first places as far as the natural increase of the population is concerned. Hence, in Albania every year production increases, prices go down, and as a result the incomes per capita of the population and the welfare of every family, are raised.

The care for the well-being of the man, that he should be healthy, acquire knowledge, be engaged in work and have living means, have the possibilities to develop his physical and mental abilities, has been

and remains in the centre of attention of the PLA and the Government.

Whenever elections take place we are accustomed to review the past gone period in order to judge of how had those previously elected by the people, led the state. Now that control is exercised by the people, we note with pleasure, with legitimate pride, the great achievements made so far. But when elections take place we are used to speak of the future: Development programmes are charted, pledges are taken on, etc. This task, we, Albanians, pleasantly and optimistically perform. Now in the industrial enterprises of the country, in the coop- farms, the figures of the economic, social and cultural development for the future Five-Year Plan 1971-75 whose first four-years will coincide with the 7th Legislature of the People's Assembly, are being discussed. According to the preliminary directives of the new Five-Year Plan, it will be a grand programme for the rapid socialist construction in Albania.

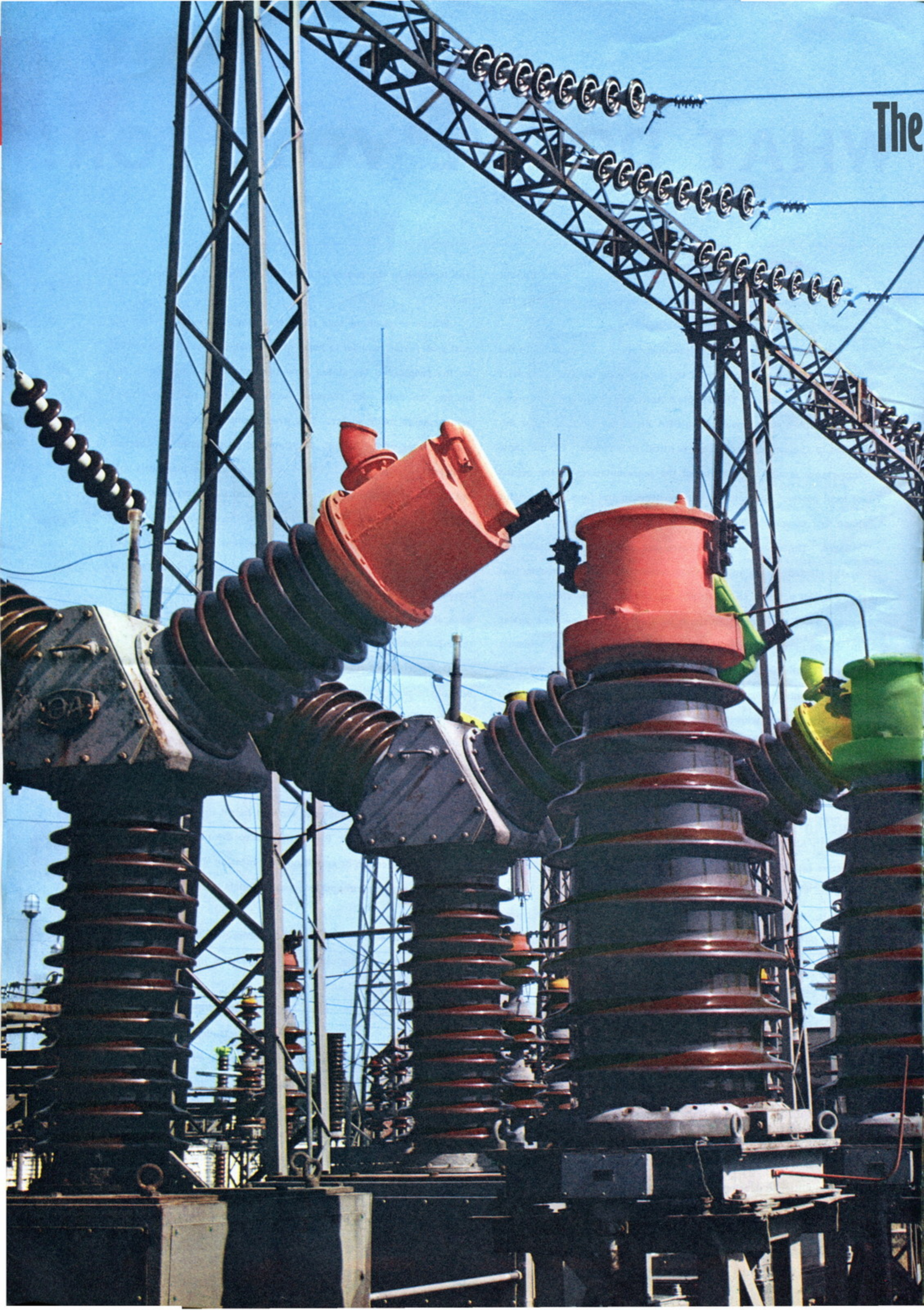
Comrade Enver Hoxha has said: "The coming Five-Year Plan will be the plan of the development in depth of the further intensification of industry, particularly of the expansion and intensification of mechanical, chemical, electric and building material branches of industry. During the coming Five-Year Plan period new branches such as the iron-nickel processing plants (whose annual output will be 800,000 tons) plastics material etc will be set up.

The future Five-Year Plan will be also the plan of the raising and the intensification of agriculture for meeting the demands of the people with agricultural and livestock products and fruits, vegetables etc.

On this basis there will be further improved the well-being of the people, relating this to the many measures in health services, education, culture, housing etc.

This is the new Albanian reality at a time when we are under full development of the election campaign. Under such conditions of the actual development, the 20th of September elections will take place in Albania. By actively taking part in this campaign the electors organize round the Democratic Front, will propose the candidatures on all organs, will discuss them, will give advices to the candidates for carrying out the work of the coming legislature and finally will give their vote.

The



Driving Away of Darkness



Ismail Kadare

"Some light, some light" These are the words that the most wonderful and grievous verses of the Albanian poet of the thirties, Migjeni begin with. The verses were written under the ruthless regime of the zogu rule. Their figurative meaning fully coincides with the actual one: Albania was, then, plunged not only into a medieval darkness of the reactionary and anti-popular regime, but also materially plunged into darkness. Albania had no electricity. As soon as the night fell, save for the capital and some other small towns, all the country fell into complete darkness. Fields, mountains, plateaus were, one after the other wrapped by the night.

At the time electricity was a great luxury. Migjeni, wrote his verses in a remote northern district, in the light of the oil lamps. The oil lamp was not still considered a backward means. It was used by teachers, writers or doctors. At that time, Albania had not even had the oil lamp. The major part of the Albanian people used pine-torch lights. It was a harmful light for eyes, fading, full of smoke.

It was the time, when in the cities of Europe and America the electric light, in the most capricious manners faked up all sorts of advertisements, hotel names, dancing halls and night clubs. While, in Albania, it was still a dream for a lot of people to read a book.

And our people did long so much for the light! The most beloved things, they compared with light. Even curses were always called down upon light. It is not out of the common way that, in the course of the national revival; many a patriotic writer and journalist blessed their newspapers and magazines with the word "light".

Had it not been for our people to take up arms in the great National Liberation War, which meanwhile was our revolution, that overthrow together with the occupationist's yoke, the one of the bourgeois and feudal ruling classes, our people would not have any objective possibilities to solve the question of "light" neither in the broad sense of the word nor in the material one. The first stories of the future light, the coming electricity, were born in the mountains, in the wintry nights, round the partisan fires. They were born together with the dreams for land that would belong to all, for the bread that would be sufficient. Albania was liberated. The volunteers who took part in the construction of the first hydro-electric power stations are now grey-headed.

The word "hydrocentral (hydro-electric power station) was still a new word, with a surprising sound. Then, it became a common one, just as a lot of other words.

From the first hydro-electric power station which is in the vicinity of Tirana and which bears the name of V.I. Lenin, to the big one of Vau i Dejës on the Drini River, which is equipped with the most up-to-date technique, stretches afore the series of the great undertakings, fighting with the rocks, volunteer's barracks and the youthful enthusiasm. High tension lines started their march across Albania.

The splinter was the first to give way to their gigantic steps (which were more than those of the heroes of legends). So did the oil lamp. Both the splinter and the oil lamp were forced to withdraw deeply and deeply, to the remotest mountainous areas.

Then, the Central Committee of the Party adopted the historic decision on light. The decision said that in 1971, on the anniversary eve of the founding of the Party the whole of Albania ought to be electrified. This was a grand decision that remarkably embodied the aspiration of a nation for light, of a nation with a great history but sorrowful. Thirty years ago, the nights of our mountainous areas, especially the northern ones, were true mythological nights, in darkness, ancient rhapsodies and old and patriarchal habits.

To think that on these mountainous areas, where until the pre-liberation period, the people lived isolated from one another and could talk only about giants and monsters over the nights, the electricity would soon reach every house and, together with it, would go radio and t.v. receivers, it's really something unbelievable and fascinating. Now in our deep mountainous areas, groups of workers from cities, electricians, fitters and students from the State University of Tirana, travel from one village to another and from district to district in order to bring light everywhere. They are warmly received by the peasants. When the volunteers turn back to their cities, they carry with themselves a lot of moving stories. They bring a still greater resolution to always fight darkness, and never make a compromise with it. Very soon, the highlanders and villagers of the remote areas will be sitting in front of t.v. sets. It is a wild winter in our mountainous areas and the snow remains there for months on end. But the highlanders would never feel the winter isolation. They would watch through t.v. the whole socialist motherland, their brother-workers in plants, ports, the concert halls of Tirana, Shakespeare's Hamlet, news of the world.

Never has our country had such a unity among the people. The advanced districts render help to the backward ones, the town workers assist the countryside, students go on groups to mountainous regions, artists joyfully tour the north. The full electrification of Albania, apart from all other things, will still strengthen this unity.

Now our villages, in successions, are celebrating the installation of electric light. This is a new celebration, the most modern of all. It will embark on the best popular traditions, just like, for instance, the setting in of spring.

On the greatest river of Albania — on the Drini River, in the North of Albania, the work for the construction of the most powerful hydropower plant ever built so far, is going on. It will generate 250,000 kilowatt-hours of power annually. It will give a new impulse to the industrial development of the country, and Republic's power system will be apt to better supply the ever-increasing network of the electric installations of the countryside. It is expected that this year the electrification of the whole of Albania, including the far-away villages, be completed, hence the demands for electricity are increasing. As a result of the acceleration of the rates of the electrification of the countryside and the shortening of the terms set before, the need arose to quicken the work at the Vau i Dejës Hydro-Power-Station on the Drini River. Next year it will work with a full capacity. The work site on the Drini River has large proportions. There will be carried out four million cubic metres of earth work. The volume of concrete laid and which will be laid is nearly equal to the volume of concrete used so far in our country for the building of all the power stations. The building of this work is a great feat to overcome the many difficulties in such a big and complex work-yard. This work-yard is a living testimony to the growth and perfection of our new engineering and technical cadres who now are able to solve the complicated problems of the technique of the construction of energetic works.

The hydropower station which is under construction on the Drini River is named after the great leader of the Chinese people, the best friend of the Albanian people, Comrade Mao Tsetung. This is an expression of the close friendship binding the Albanian people with the Chinese people, and of the gratefulness of our people to the friendly and international aid that the Chinese people render to Albania in the socialist construction of the country. Great China is rendering a very valuable material and technical help to us in building this hydropower station, as a result it may be called the monument of the great friendship binding our two peoples.



The Monument of the G

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1938

2.3
1950



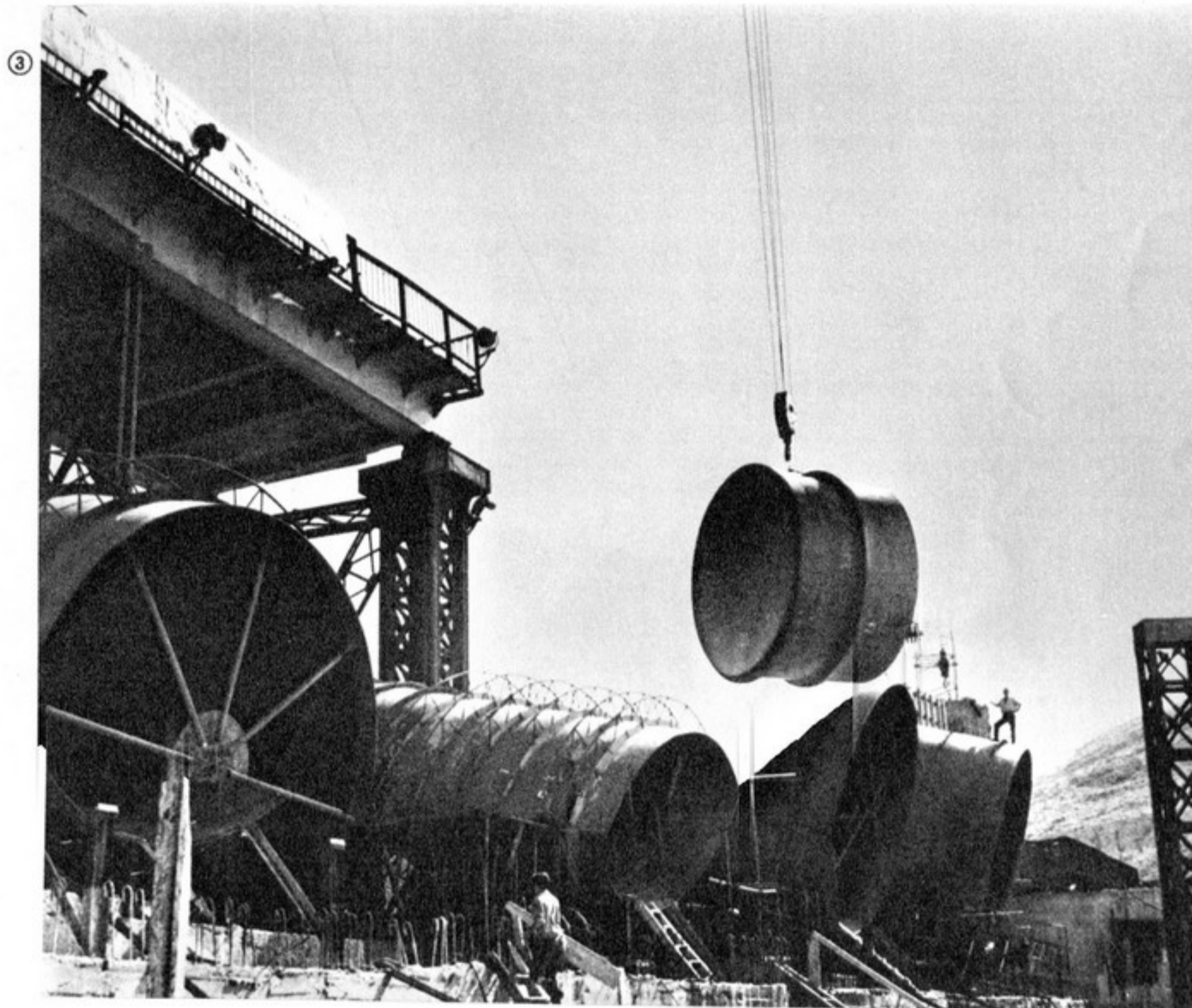
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(1) Fitting up of turbines.

(2) The growth in times of the production of electric energy.

(3) Chinese and Albanians working together to install equipment for the hydropower station.
 (4) The flow of the Drini River will pass through this dam after the change of its bed.

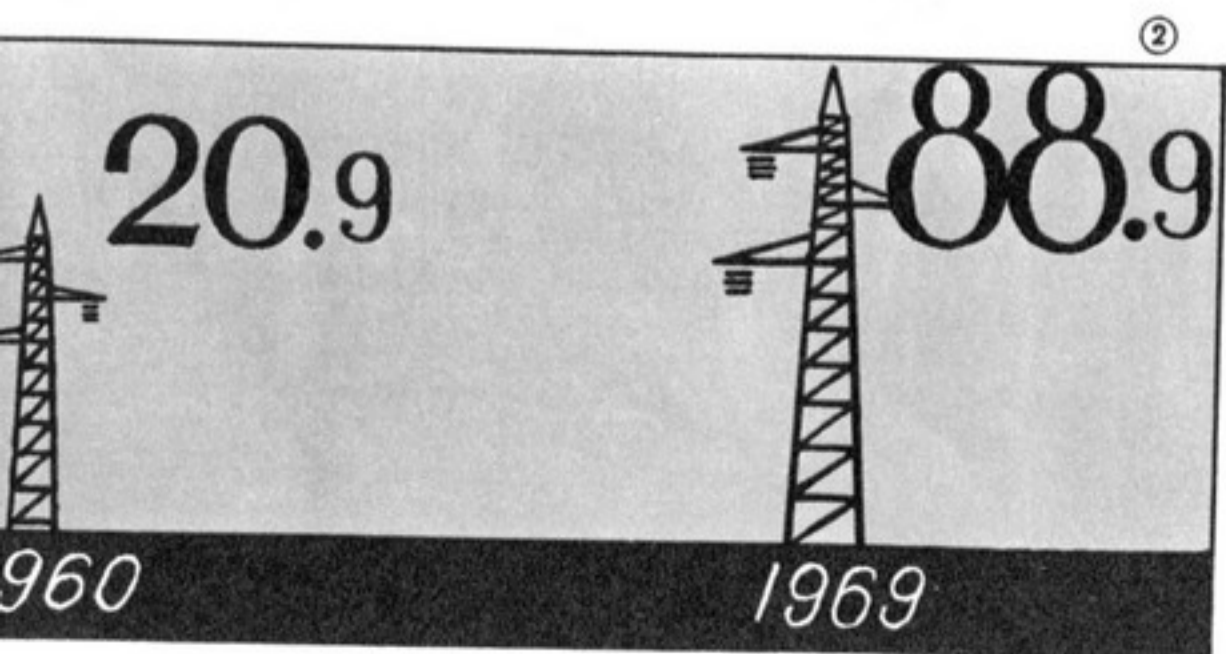
Photo: by P.Cici



④



Great Friendship





Engineer Robert Ballta, the student practitioner Ivoni Cani, engineers Ylber Dhrami and Alfred Frashëri considering the area's data.

Together with the Geologists

At leisure time



May the 21st

Geologists are like birds of passage, where one sees them today, one would not find them there tomorrow. Their work-front is nature. They are to be found in valleys, in fields and in the mountains. The more difficulties they encounter in their work, the more romantic it becomes.

We have just arrived in this peak clad in pine trees. The weather is nice, and everywhere one can notice the verdure. The geologists' first job is to erect their "house" — A multicoloured tent is being erected on this peak. From here one can see deep valleys and mountain peaks covered with snow. It seems as if you are in an airplane.

There mountains and valleys are very old. In their bosom for centuries have slept their sleep very precious riches for men. But once, the Albanian tramped barefooted over these riches. He was near the table but still hungry.

But the century-old sleep of these mountains was disturbed in the years of the people's power. Geologists, these men of a previously unknown occupation here, are awaking these riches to put them into country's service.

That is they are called here the vanguard of socialist industrialization.

June the 8th

At the expedition's tent today came a peasant. He took some stones out of his bag.

They seemed to have been made of small pieces of looking-glass. Only in one of these pieces alone you can see the whole sun. . . .

— Like these stones — said the peasant — there are a lot at the foot of the mountain in the vicinity of our village. I discussed the matter over with my friends and decided:

"Let me show them to the geologists, because who knows, may be that in these small stones there is a great wealth".

And the work of this expedition is connected not only with the rocks and peaks they tread upon. They time and again stop in the villages, discuss with the natives and speak to them about the treasures hidden by the subsoil. So the geologists organize talks and show of the useful minerals.

So the participation of the broad masses of the people in the geological investigations has been enlivened. Ahmet, who brought these stones here today, is neither the first nor the last of the guests to this expedition. The geologists' guests are the pupils and shepherds too.

The samples he brought with arose the interest of all the members of the expedition.

June the 19th

The participants of the expedition came back today happier. The trip they undertook bore its fruits.

The reconnaissance on the map of the sector with which the geological march was to take place, was made last night.

Ylber assigned the tasks to everyone:

— You, Edmond, follow the contact between the ultrabasic rocks and the limestone rock, while you Ivzi, are to go down near the torrent to map the rocks shown by the peasants.

Ylber rose to his feet and wrapped the map. After a short pause he said to Vangjel Stefani:

— You stay here today to systematize the samples collected last week.

For a moment Ylber seemed to me like the commander of a unit before the battle.

And, now, after 24 hours, the members of the expedition return back tired but happy. The day's task was fulfilled.

July the 9th

The expedition's tent is erected 2,300 metres over the sea-level. Only the wild goats climb these peaks, said jokingly, one of the members of the expedition. One can see nothing else but sky and peaks clad in pine trees. Everywhere the song of the birds is accompanying us. With our country's life we keep contact through the transistor's antenna.

. . . The participants of the expedition are bowed over the map and are puzzling their brains about the work they are to do in the coming days. The majority of them are young. Only uncle Kiço is an exception. His talks are full of comparisons. He knows the sufferings of the past, he joined the partisans, and fought arms in hand for the country's liberation.

When looking at Kiço, in my imagination takes shape the comparison between these geological expeditions, and yesterday's partisan units, but now with another task. Edmond, Ivzi and Vangjel graduated from the Geological Technical Middle School and climbed those mountains inherited generation after generation. In the chain of generations, these are the proudest. . . . They are people whose friend is the book, and hammer in hand wake from the deep sleep the natural riches, to make the fatherland more prosperous, and stronger. . . .

The sun is saying good-bye and hiding himself behind the peak of a mountain. In front of the tent a fire was made, and round it started heated talks and songs.

Romance is the life of geologists. . . .

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(1) After work.

(2) Going down to the terrain.

Photos by: S. Xhillari

Foreigners About Albania



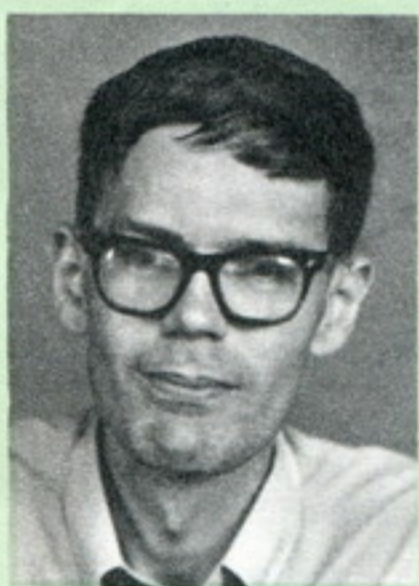
Incomparable Achievements

Ahmed Baba Miske
*Membre du Comité de rédaction de
la revue "Afro-Asia" — Paris*

I discovered Albania, and her extraordinary achievements in the economic, social and cultural fields— difficult to be imagined when one knows her situation of 26 years ago. This discovery fills one with optimism, because it goes to show that even a small country, isolated, surrounded by enemies and backward — especially without cadres, without industry and without economic infra-structure — can

fight, win and develop very quickly, to reach in less than a generation, even surpass in many respects, the most developed countries.

Naturally, these successes achieved by Albania did not come of themselves. If the oppressed and exploited peoples want to follow this example, they must not only liberate themselves from old and new colonialism, but they must also make deep social changes. The experience of the liberation struggle of Albania was interesting to me, because the way the Albanian people were organized in struggle, the way they seized the means necessary to reach their aim, — first of all the securing the correct leadership, able to lead the victory to the end and the United Democratic Front around the Communist Party of Albania headed by Comrade Enver



My First Impressions

ULLMAR QWICK
*Member of the Committee of Swedish-Albanian
Friendship Association*

20 years ago, through literature and Radio-Tirana broadcasts, I started to know various aspects of life in Albania. Now that my old dream of visiting your country came true, my impressions are so many that I find it difficult to express them in a few lines.

I will touch upon some questions as my first impressions. I have talked with workers, students, peasants, intellectuals, soldiers and children and these talks have been many and different. The people are closely linked

with the Party of Labour. Everywhere can be seen that the Party is the vanguard that teaches and learns from the people.

Everywhere discussions that raise the ideological and spiritual level of the Albanian people are going on. The further revolutionization of the life of the country is so done that causes great admiration. I saw the enthusiasm of the young builders of the Elbasan-Prenjas Railroad. Here the most important aspect is the ideological tempering of the youth.

The Albanian people will not allow the growth of a technocratic class, of cadres detached from the toiling masses. Workers, peasants and intellectuals work together in actions by concentrated blows, in piercing of irrigation

A Few Words About the Women of Albania

swiss journalist H.H.

I would like to write a few words about the Albanian woman. I quite frankly say that I was astonished at what I saw. The woman, who for a long time had been the man's slave, who lived retreated in the darkness of the house, now comes out as a motive force of progress. The first woman I met and who deeply impressed me was the directress of the Tirana Paediatrics Hospital, madame Afërdita Gusho.

There she told us about her life and I was impressed by this phrase: "I am 5th children in our family. Our Mother, who was very progressive, insisted on that should study". This mother was right, I believe. I saw the dark and sweat eyes of Madame Gusho and I read in them features of goodness and wit.

In the Museum of Independence in Vlora, the cicerone proudly placed his stick on an old photo of Shote Galica; She bravely fought with arms in hand against the Turkish hordes for the liberation of the country. Near Elbasan, at the construction site of Elbasan-Prenjas Railway we met with female-students of the History-Philology Faculty who just like boys used picks as easily as their political language.

One evening, in the inner hall of the "Dajti" Hotel, a very beautiful woman is dinning next to our table. She is the director of the pharmacy products factory? I would have met with other female directors, all of them skilled, lovely and lively. And when you call to your memory those hundreds of girls operating the complicated machineries in the new factories and combines, you without fail will think that the first astronaut in the Albanian satellite would be a woman . . .



Chronicles

ALBANIA IN THE WORLD

Hoxha constitute the inexhaustible source of the valuable teachings for the peoples of the world, who are fighting, taking up arms in hand, or who are on the threshold of the struggle for national and social liberation.

For this reason I will conclude with a good wish: That the Albanian comrades should make greater efforts to translate and make available to the militants and fighters of the different countries of the world as many documents as possible about their national liberation struggle, and about the struggle for the founding and the development of the Party and of the Democratic Front etc.

I also believe that the translation of Comrade Enver Hoxha's works, would be an important step forward in this direction.

canals, in planting fruit trees etc. I saw the proud girls of the Tractor Plant, I saw women taking part in skilled work — this being part of the great program towards the complete emancipation of the Albanian woman.

I saw the Metallurgical Plant of Elbasan, a grand industrial unit, where workers at difficult jobs get 10% higher wages than the manager.

Knowing about the great backwardness of pre-liberation Albania, I have a great respect for the excellent work performed in all fields, economic, social and cultural. Those foreigners who visit Albania and who really wish to learn from her experience, who are honest and without backward concepts, will surely love this people with noble character.

A Big Work-Yard

Marco Barberis

—journalist in "Avanti" newspaper.

Albania of the seventies appears before the eyes of a foreign observer as a magnificent work-yard.

One can see everywhere productive work and factories of small, medium and big size have been erected and are still being erected. The countryside has become prosperous thanks to the use of chemical fertilizers and agricultural machines. This picture shows itself very clearly everywhere, and as soon as you tread on the Albanian soil, you do away with the impression of a backward and semi-feudal country, an impression which is the result of information of the time of the world war two.

I visited Albania from North to South, and I saw localities and costal plains and without understanding it, even I myself, I noticed the deep and quick changes made in men and in the field of technology.

Surely, there are drawbacks especially in the third-rate sectors, but this does not cause any doubt about the strong impetus forward of these 25 years, from the end of the liberation war.

- — The Government of the PR of Albania and the Government of the Confederation of Switzerland agreed upon establishing diplomatic relations and exchanging diplomatic representatives at ambassadorial level.
- — In the framework of the plan of the cultural exchange between the PR of Albania and the Socialist Republic of Rumania, there was organized in Bucharest an exhibition on Albanian painting and sculpture. Likewise, in Tirana, there was opened an exhibition of the Rumanian painters Henry Katarghe and Soan Mushceleanu.
- — In Tante and Mansura States of UAR there was shown an Albanian feature film for local and Palestinian students.
- — On the 27th anniversary of the founding of the Albanian People's Army, an Albanian feature film: "The Guerilla Unit" was shown in Cairo. In the show there were present foreign diplomats, Arab friends, representatives of the progressive Arab and African movements etc. This film was shown also in Alexandria for Arab friends and for many Albanians living in Alexandria.
- — On the initiative of the Italy-Albanian Friendship Association, there was shown in Rome for a week running the Albanian documentary film "Your path comrade". The spectators warmly applauded for the successes achieved by the Albanian people in the socialist construction of the country.
There was also shown in Rome another documentary film "The twenty-fifth anniversary of the liberation of Albania". At the seat of the Italy-Albanian Friendship Association, the Albanian film "Guerilla Unit" was shown.
- — There was shown in Prague, the Albanian feature film "The Guerrilla Unit" and the documentary film "The twenty-fifth anniversary of the liberation of Albania" for foreign students studying there.
- — For students of African countries studying in Budapest, the Albanian feature film "The Eighth in Bronze" was shown. Many students expressed their thankfulness and gratitude to the People's Republic of Albania and the Government of the PRA for the aid and support they render to the just cause of the African peoples, fighting for their national and social liberation.
- — At a meeting held in Vienna by the Austria-Swedish Friendship Association, Karl Lammel, its Chairman spoke of his impressions from the visit he made together with a group of Swedish peasants in Albania. Karl Lammel mentioned some of the great achievements and fundamental changes and the high rates of development of Albania in 25 years of people's power.
- — In the framework of its activities the Austria-Albanian Friendship Association organized in Vienna a commemorating evening party devoted to the builder of the first mountain railway in the world, the noted engineer, of Albanian origin, Karl Gego.
- — A group of friends of Albania organized in Paris a meeting, where Gilbert Muri who had been in Albania spoke of the revolutionization of the whole life in Albania under the leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head. Then, many others spoke of the successes achieved in Albania, in the economic, educational, and cultural fields. The participants in the meeting watched some Albanian documentary films and listened to a record programme of Albanian music.
- — There was inaugurated in Tirana the Karachi-Tirana air-route. The jet plane of the air-route "PIA" flies to Tirana two times a week. On Sundays: Shanghai-Daca-Karachi-Cairo-Tirana-Paris-London. On Wednesdays: London-Paris-Tirana-Cairo-Karachi-Daca-Shanghai.



The Green Laboratories

On the two sides of the road leading to Lushnja City — in the vicinity of the former marshland of Terbufi — there is a wide field of 250 hectares divided into small plots of different colours. Looking from far away at these plots they seem to be the rooms of a giant open laboratory. Here do their research work, the workers of our science of agriculture. Once the day dawns, one can see the agricultural research workers in their green laboratories, watching, taking notices and leading the practical work . . . In the summer time, they are very busy and are anxiously awaiting the results of their experiments made during the year.

In the cotton-growing plot we see the agronomist, Jonuz Kapllani, who leads the work on the plot in which the early growing long-fibre cotton is being experimented. The Institute has experimented on 60 different kinds of cotton and has produced new varieties suitable to our country such as "Vlora" "Fieri", "Lushnja" which have a short vegetation and long fiber of 37 mm. Due to the scientific work, cotton is widely spreading in our agriculture.

Further down, in another plot we find the agronomist, Jorgo Shkodrani, working to produce new varieties of beans — In his plots 100 different varieties of beans are being

experimented upon, to produce new varieties suitable to the coastal regions. While in another plot the young agronomist Zhaneta Xhomo, is mowing the new wheat. On the plot's thrashing-ground the different varieties of wheat are being selected, to be distributed then later on, as suitable seeds. The Institute experiments on 400 different varieties of wheat, and produces by itself 7 varieties of wheat, which yield a high production.

The wheat varieties like "Krutja" "Myzeqeja", "Sukthi" produced by the Institute yield 30-40 kv per hectare. This is a great success as compared with the past when the yield was 7-8 kv per hectare.

On the other side of these plots there are some other types of laboratories — the fruit-growing plots.

There work the agronomists, Toso Nini and Enver Duro, who experiment on 374 varieties of fruits, from which 260 varieties are only grapes.

The Agricultural Scientific Research Institute has achieved great successes in three directions of its scientific research work: in



You may see every morning in the green plots the workers of the Agricultural Research Institute examining plants.

Experiment in the lab.
Photos: by S. Xhillari



the selection of the different varieties of agricultural crops, in the agro-technical researches and in the production of selected seeds for a wider use.

All of the 115 specialists the Institute has, in the center at the experimental stations or all over the country, perform a great job in the direction of further improving our agriculture. Only through a persevering scientific work it is possible to produce in the country many varieties of suitable grain-seeds, of industrial plants, different fruits and vegetables. Last year the Institute produced and distributed 38 different varieties of seeds for the wide use. These seeds were produced by thousands and thousands of different experiments.

Looking at the green laboratories of the Institute, I recalled to my memory some articles, I had read in the magazines, "National economy" and "Agriculture" published before the liberation of the country. In one of them the Ministry of Agriculture under the regime of former king Zogu, praised as a great success the establishment of an experi-

mental center, in which was experimented upon 10 kinds of wheats, 20 kinds of maize and 20 kinds of vegetables. In charge of all these was only one agronomist. Another article praised as a great success the fact, that the government had imported 30 kg of Hungarian maize, 300 kg of Italian maize and 1,200 kg of Italian grain, to be distributed to the people as selected seeds.

While today one is pleased when looking at the achieved results in the fields of agricultural scientific research when one hears the names of Albania "grain patterns" such as: "Krujta", "Myzeqeja", "Sukthi" of the maize "Sulova" "Mashkullorë", "Deti" of the cotton "Vlora", "Fieri", "Lushnja 1", of the tobacco "Rroskoveci", "Tirana 10" etc.

Another characteristic feature of the Albanian agricultural science is the fact that the experiments are made not only in laboratories, on these plots of the Institute or at the experimental stations, but also in the wide fields of the state farms and collective farms.

Every scientific research worker has a

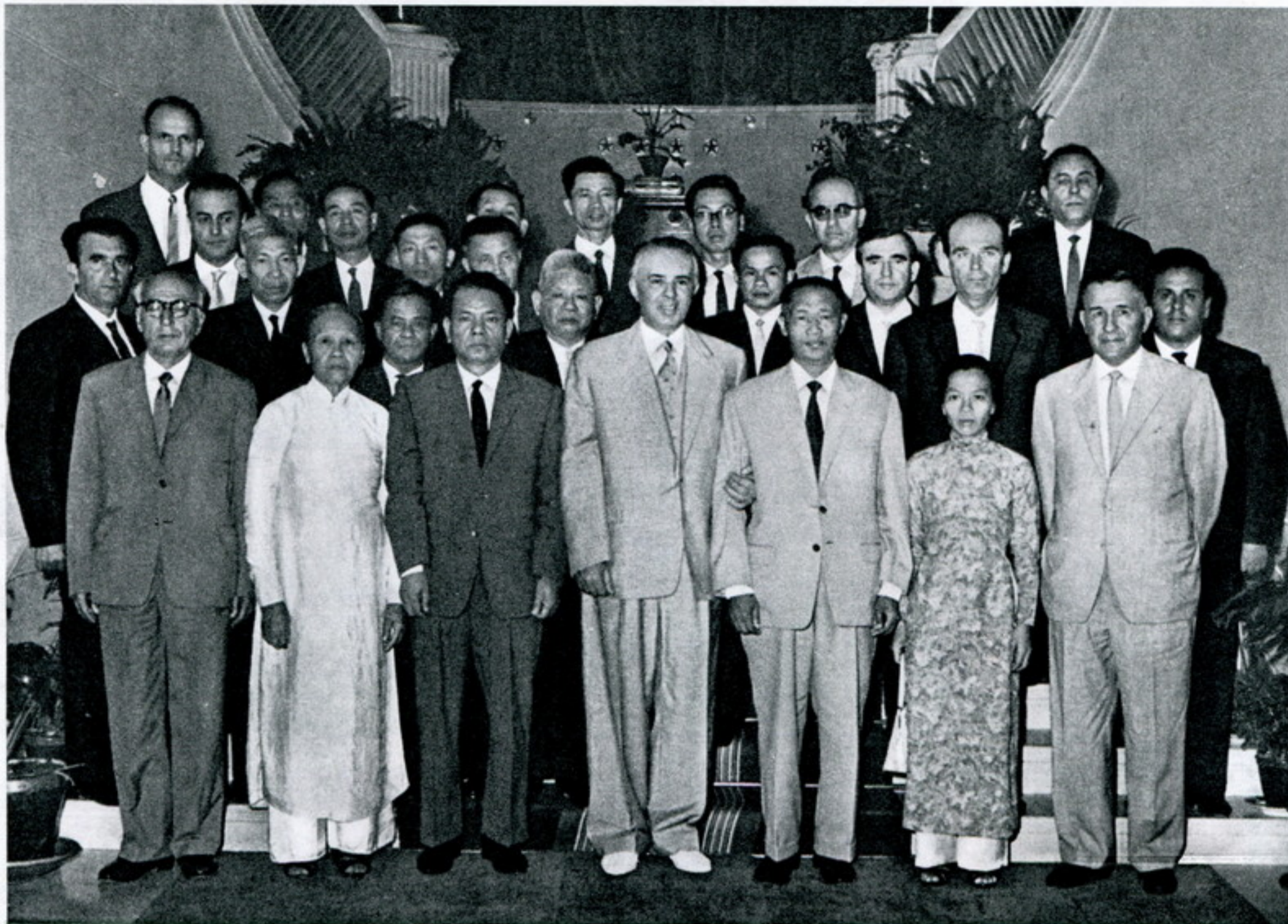
collective farm under his patronage and helps the collective farmers to increase agricultural productivity.

So our agricultural science is not confined within the walls of the Institute or of the experimental stations, but it develops in thousands of collective farms and state farms, so science has become of the masses now, of the thousands of workers, of our socialist countryside.

In the year 1969 on the collective and state farms, 4,800 agricultural scientific experiments were carried out and the results were good. In the same year 89,000 hectares of high yield plots were mowed. In the great socialist transformation made to our backward agriculture by the people's power, one can feel the great contribution of the Albanian science of agriculture.

"The green laboratories" are being extended everywhere and the yields of agricultural crops are increasing to give thus more food-grains, vegetables and fruits to the people.

Turhan srilegu



At the invitation of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Albania a Delegation of the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam headed by Comrade Huynh Van Hoan, Member of the Polit-Bureau of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Workers Party and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the DRV made a friendly visit in Albania from the 15th to the 22nd of July 1970.

The Delegation of the National Assembly of the DRV was received by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the PLA, Comrade Enver Hoxha and by other Party and State leaders.



At the invitation of the Central Council of the Albanian Trade Unions, a Delegation of the General Trades Union of Rumania headed by Comrade Florian Danalache, President of the Union's Central Council made a friendly visit in the PRA from the 15 to the 20th of July 1970.

The Rumanian Delegation had talks with Comrade Rita Marko, President of the Central Council of the Albanian Trade Unions, and with other leading comrades of the Trade Unions of Albania.

Associations of Friendship



INAUGURATA L'ATTIVITA' 1970 A BOLZANO

Grande manifestazione con la partecipazione degli studenti dell'AMIE.

Il Circolo di Bolzano, nel 1970, ha organizzato una grande manifestazione per il 25° anniversario della liberazione dell'Albania. La manifestazione si è svolta il 25 novembre a Bolzano, in un'aula della facoltà di Lettere. Ha partecipato un gran numero di studenti dell'AMIE, che hanno ascoltato con interesse le relazioni e i discorsi.

RIPRESA ORGANIZZATIVA DELLA ASSOCIAZIONE A NAPOLI

Il Circolo di Napoli ha ripreso l'attività organizzativa dell'Associazione. Sono stati convocati i membri del Comitato di gestione e si è discusso delle attività da svolgere nel 1970.

CONVEGNO PROVINCIALE A BARI

Un convegno provinciale dell'Associazione si è svolto a Bari. Sono intervenuti i dirigenti provinciali e hanno parlato dell'importanza dell'Associazione nel territorio.

A RAVENNA INAUGURATA LA NUOVA SEDE DI ITALIA-ALBANIA

La nuova sede dell'Associazione di Ravenna è stata inaugurata. La sede è stata allestita in un locale ampio e luminoso, adatto alle attività dell'Associazione.

CONFERENZA DI ITALIA-ALBANIA A PIACENZA

Una conferenza di Italia-Albania si è svolta a Piacenza. Sono intervenuti i dirigenti provinciali e hanno parlato dell'attività dell'Associazione.

RINNOVATO IL COMITATO DEL CIRCOLO DI GENOVA

Il Comitato del Circolo di Genova è stato rinnovato. Sono stati eletti i nuovi membri del Comitato.

INAUGURAZIONE DI UN NUOVO CIRCOLO A VENEZIA

Un nuovo circolo dell'Associazione è stato inaugurato a Venezia. Il circolo ha sede in un locale storico e centrale della città.

MANIFESTAZIONE A REGGIO EMILIA

Una manifestazione si è svolta a Reggio Emilia. Sono intervenuti i dirigenti provinciali e hanno parlato dell'attività dell'Associazione.

APERTO IL CIRCOLO ITALIA-ALBANIA A LEQUILE

Un nuovo circolo dell'Associazione è stato aperto a Lequile. Il circolo ha sede in un locale ampio e luminoso.

NUOVO CIRCOLO DELLA ASSOCIAZIONE A MODENA

Un nuovo circolo dell'Associazione è stato aperto a Modena. Il circolo ha sede in un locale ampio e luminoso.

For the Friendship with the Albanian People

by **GIORGIO ZUCCHETTI**
Secretary of the Italian-Albanian Friendship Association

The aim of our Association is the development and strengthening of the friendship between the Italian and the Albanian peoples.

Our Association tries through its activity to make known to the Italian public the People's Republic of Albania and its economic, cultural and social development.

The Italy-Albanian Association, has attracted through its work broad masses of Italian workers, youth and students, progressive intellectuals and people of goodwill of all strata who nourish sincere feelings of friendship for Albania and her people.

In order to inform the Italian public of the achievements and successes of the Albanian people in building socialism, the Italy-Albanian

bookshops and different cultural centers, too.

The Association's forms of activity are of different kinds: Conferences, talks, discussions, etc. Through these activities the Association raises general and specific themes, according to the sectors and strata of the population, such as for example: meetings with former partisans of the "Gramsci" Battalion, meetings with youth, discussions about the national liberation struggle of the Albanian people, about the economic, cultural and social development of Albania, about the Albanian literary works and about the Albanian folk music. Naturally the Association does not neglect other forms of activity which have proved to be fruitful, such as the preparation of different exhibitions about Albania, the publication of documents as well as Comrade Enver Hoxha's speeches to the youth etc. Among the most important activities up to now the film performances have proved fruitful.

The Italian-Albanian Friendship Association has been strengthened from the organizational viewpoint. Besides the National Council with its headquarters in Rome, there exist today many branches of the Association in many cities of Italy which do a good job in popularizing Albania and in promoting friendship between our two peoples.

The discussed themes and the debates organized by the Association make quite clear the role Albania plays today in the world, with that contribution to the building of a new society,



Chairman of the Japan-Albanian Friendship Association, Shosaku Itai, in his office.

The Revolutionary Struggle of the Albanian People Is a Useful Example

by **SHOSAKU ITAI**
Chairman of the Japan-Albanian Friendship Association

The Japanese working class and the Japanese people have a lot to learn from the experience of the struggle of the Party of Labour of Albania, especially from its loyalty to Marxism-Leninism, from its close ties with the people and proletarian internationalism.

To make known this rich experience of the revolutionary struggle of the Party of Labour of Albania and of the Albanian people, the Japan-Albanian Friendship Association has organized and is organizing various activities with Japanese workers. On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of liberation of Albania in November 1969, our Association organized a commemorative meeting in Tokyo where besides the speech made on the occasion, a photo-exhibition with Albanian products was opened. In this exhibition the participants admired the successes of the Albanian people in building socialism. We have published in the form of a booklet, in the Japanese language the speech delivered by Comrade Enver Hoxha in Tirana, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Albania.

The Japan-Albanian Friendship Association sponsors time and again various meetings at which the Japanese workers become acquainted with the important documents of the Albanian Party and Government, with the history and the revolutionary struggle of the Albanian people.

The "Toho Shoten" Revolutionary Publishing House in Japan amicably undertook and published in Japanese "The History of the Party of Labour of Albania" (the first and the second chapter) prepared by the Association.

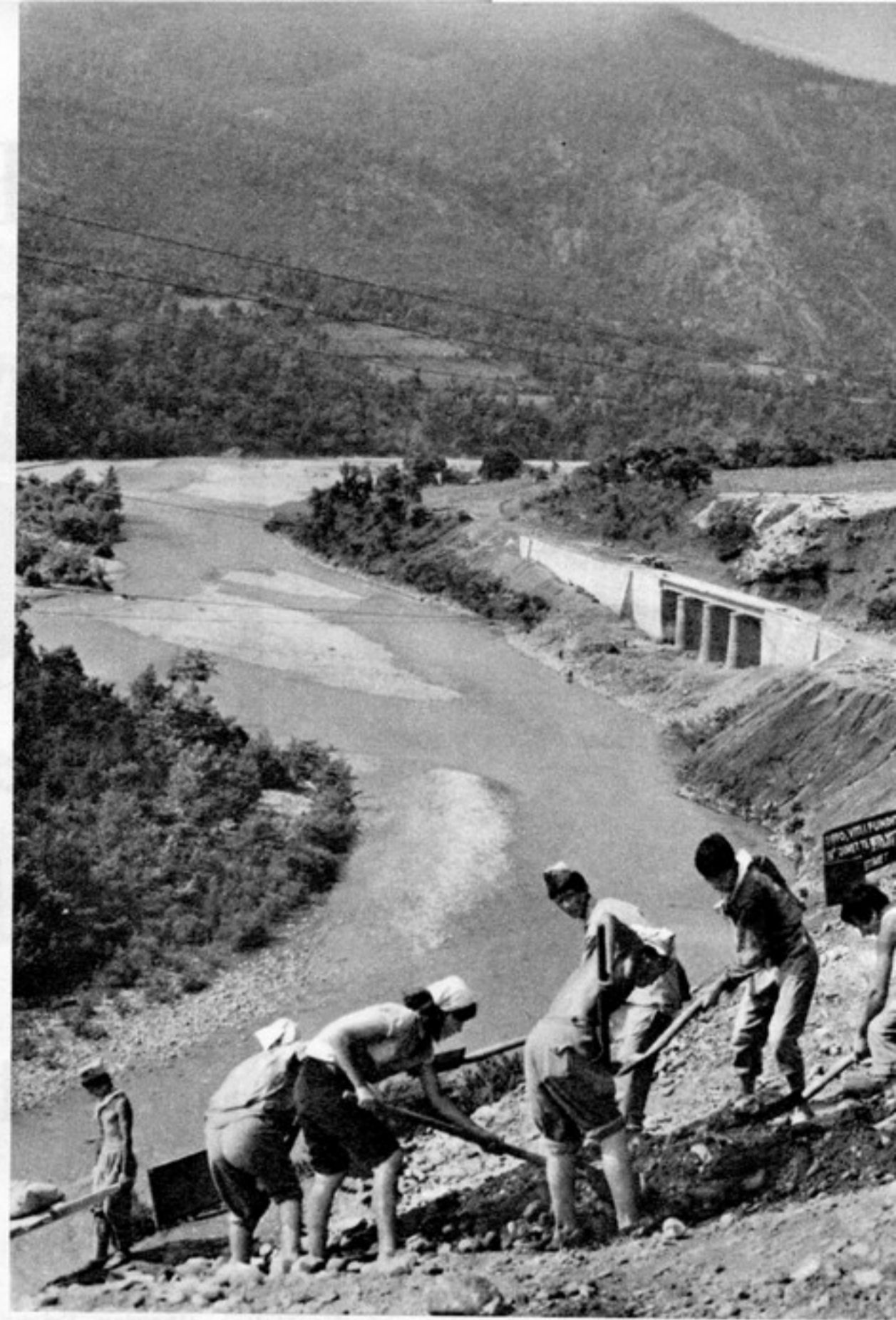
We are convinced, this work published in Japan, which treats of the period of the foundation of the Party and the struggle of the Albanian people for their national liberation, will be very useful and encouraging to the Japanese people in their struggle against U.S. imperialism, revisionism and reaction, for their independence, freedom, democracy and peace. We are happy that our Association helps through its activity in strengthening the friendship and the revolutionary solidarity between the Japanese and the Albanian peoples.

In summer, this year, after studies, tens of thousands of young girls and boys of middle and higher schools worked for one month in various mass undertakings, such as in the building of the Elbasan-Prenjas Railroad, in opening terraces, in building electric lines and installing them in the peasant houses, in preparing the ground for planting fruit trees along our coastal area.

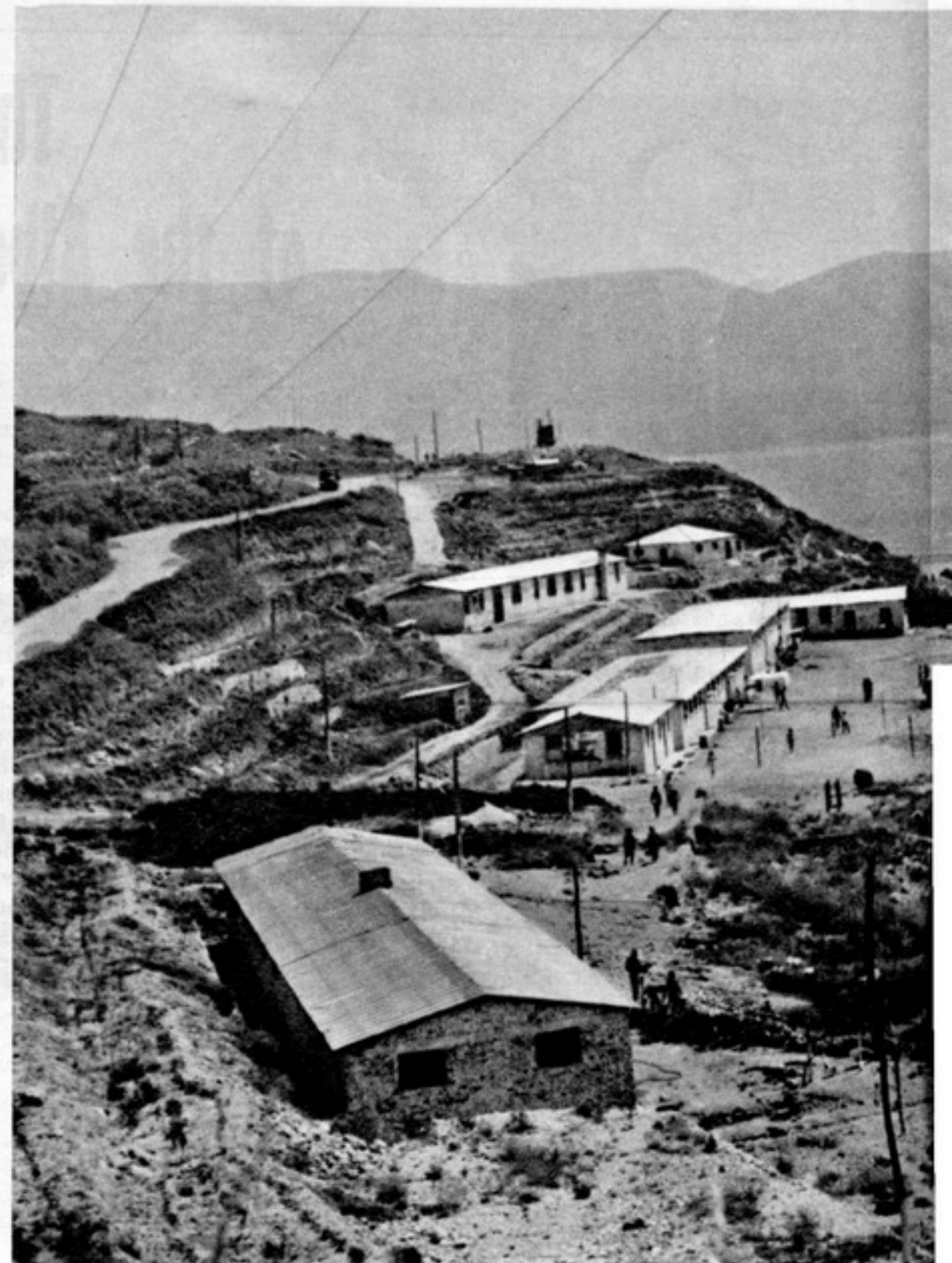
These mass undertakings besides the economic profit have a great importance for the education of the youth with the feeling of love for work, for their physical and ideological tempering.

After the undertakings our youth started the summer holidays.

The photos you see show some aspects from the work and life of the school and student youth in the building of the Eibasan-Prenjas Railroad and in the opening of terraces along the coast.

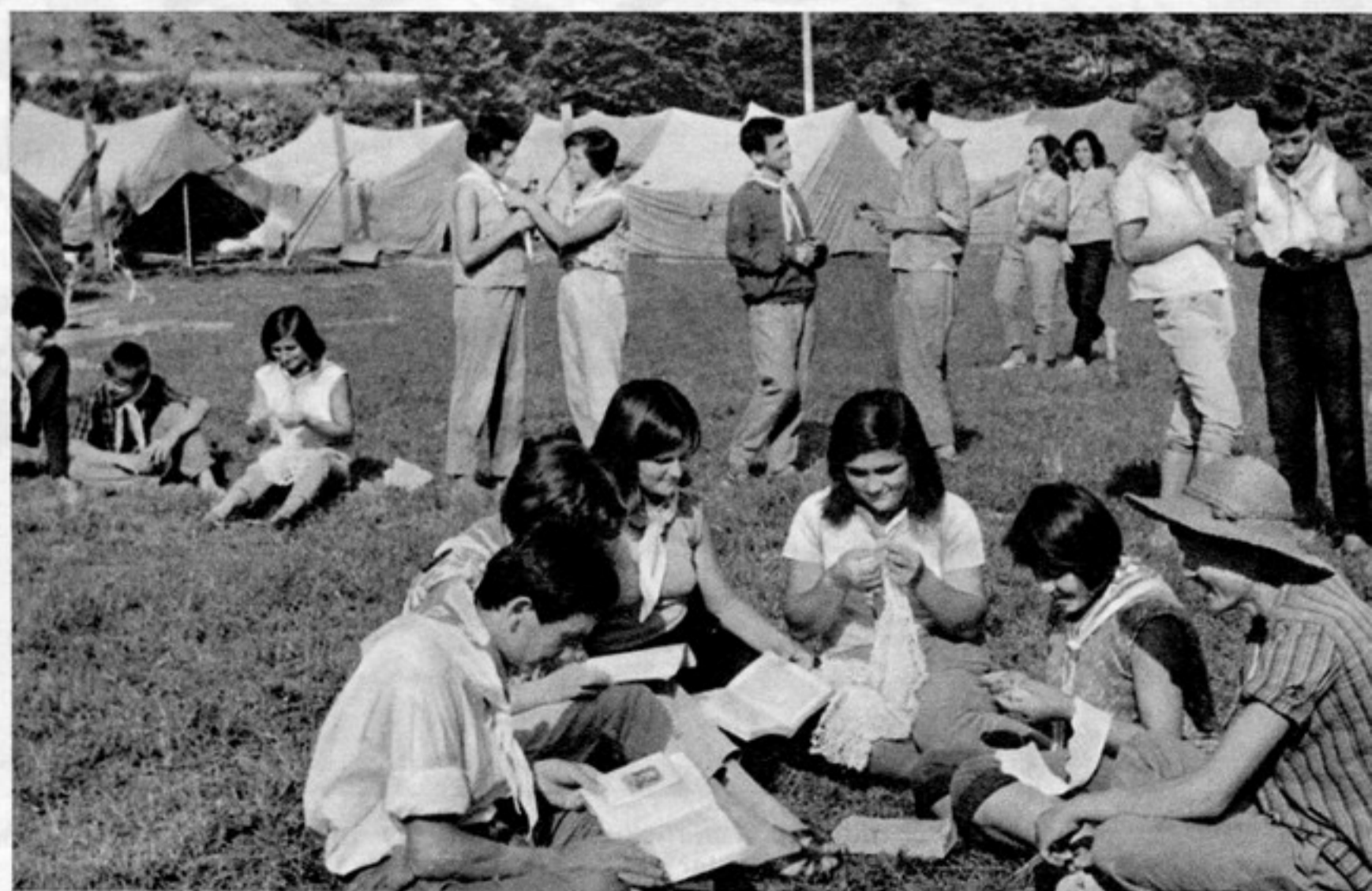
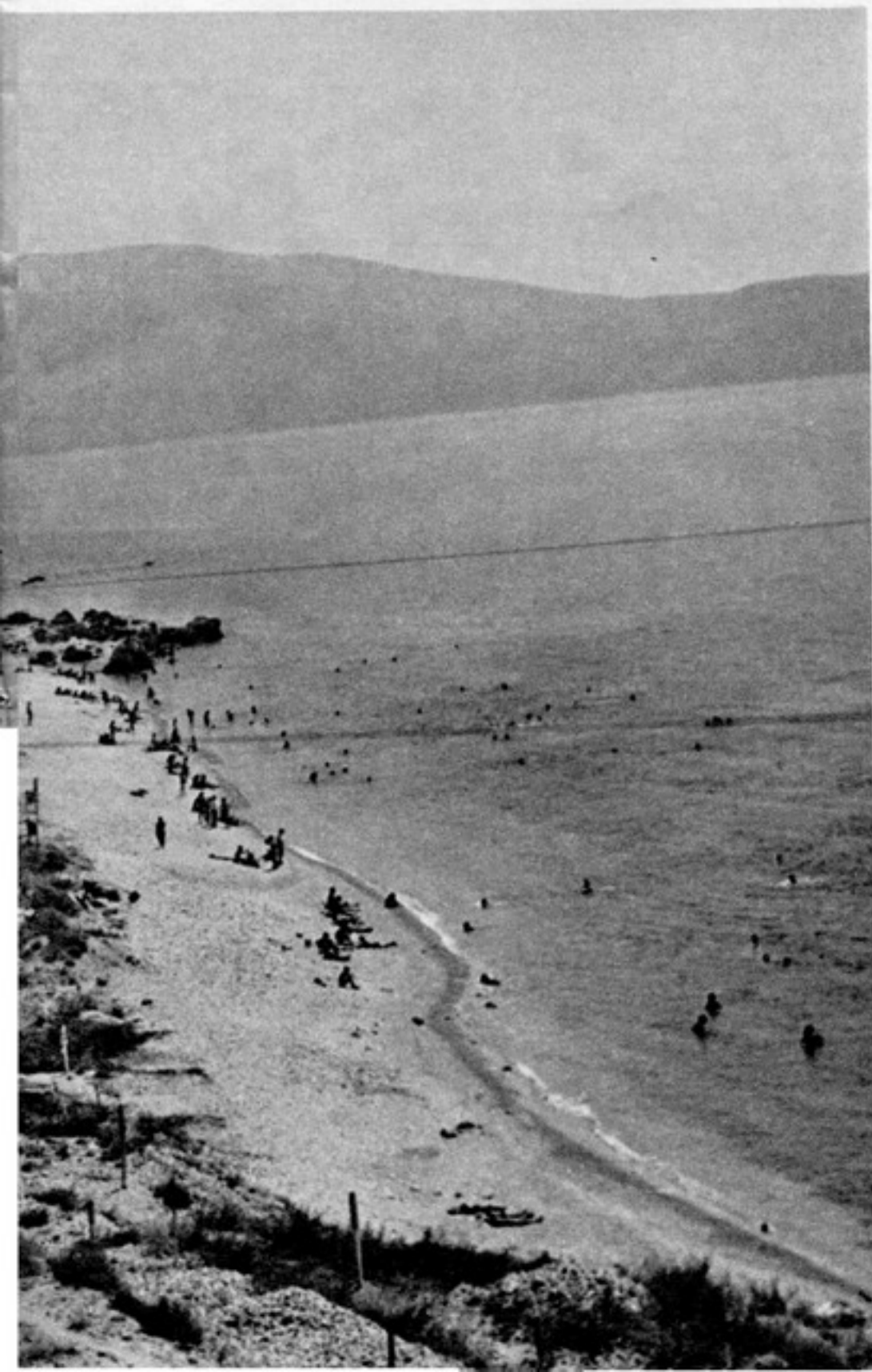


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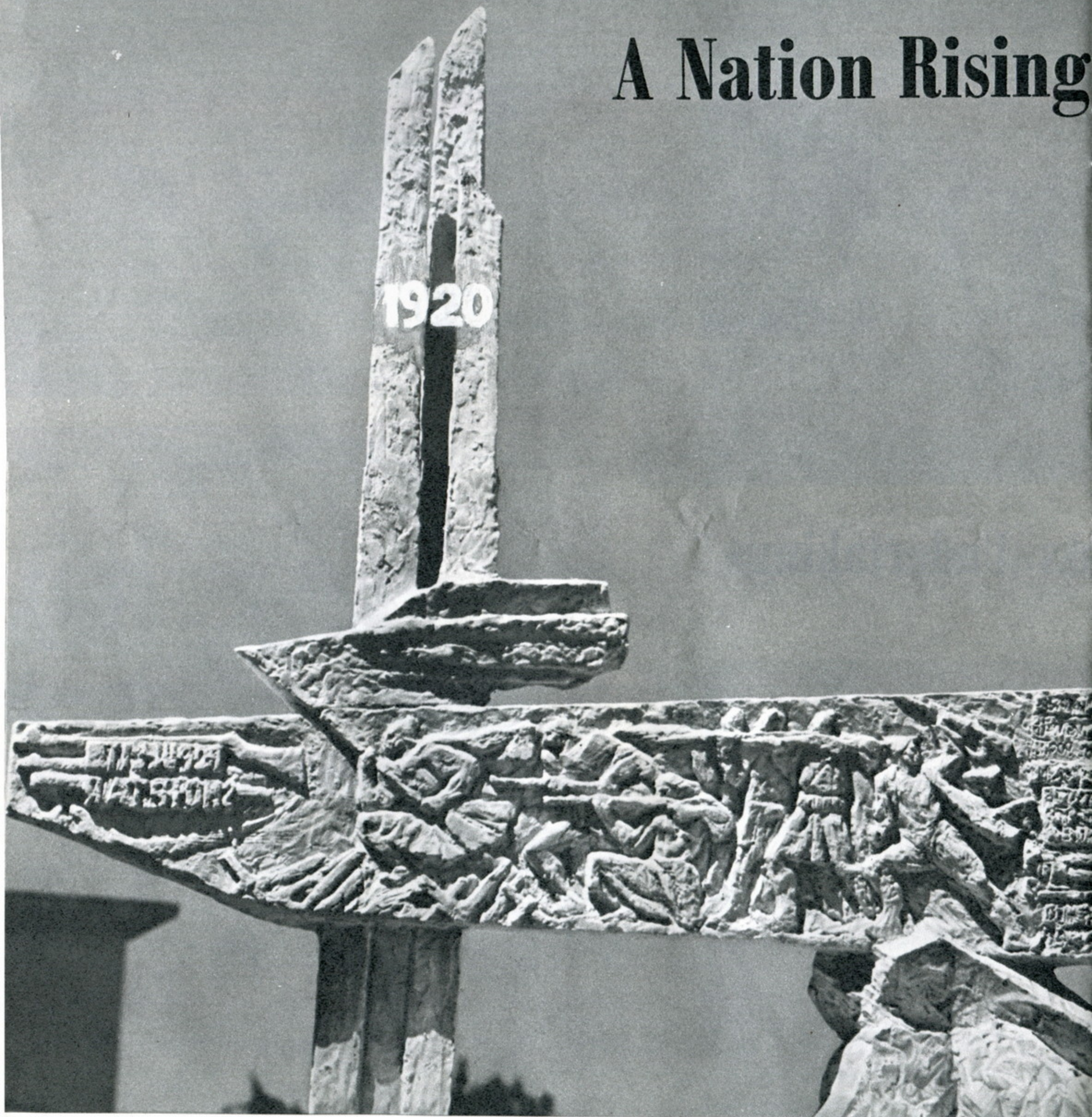




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A Nation Rising



Monument to the 1920 Vlorë battle. A work by the sculptors Muntaz Dhrami, Shaban Hadëri, Kristaq Rama, Hektor Dule.

in Arms



At the beginning of September this year is the 50th anniversary of the victory of the Vlorë battle when the Albanian people through an armed struggle threw into the sea the Italian imperialists who had occupied the Albanian territory.

After the First World War the political situation of Albania on the national as well as on the international arena became very grave. Italian imperialism as a great power and favoured by the international combinations, since the beginning of the First World War had occupied the greatest part of the Albanian territory and was mainly concentrated in the Albanian seaport of Vlorë—from here the Italian imperialists secured the realization of their expansionist plans not only in the Balkans but in the Mediterranean Sea, too.

The news coming from the Peace Conference in Paris and from the foreign press etc spoke about the preparations of the Great Powers to dismember the whole of the Albanian territory. The Albanian progressive press issued a call to the Albanian people to prepare for the armed struggle. The newspaper "Drita" (Light) which was published in the city of Gjirokastra wrote in one of its articles:

"Let us challenge by means of arms all those who covet this country let us redden every hand which seeks to stretch on the life of Albania. . .

Better honoured dead under ground than alive but ashamed".

The all-round preparations for war, made in Vlorë and in districts around it, continued to meet the support of the poor peasantry and of the working masses of the city. The Italian occupation command was aware of the danger. In May of the year 1920 it made a number of arrests among the organizations of the center, it proclaimed in Vlorë a state of emergency and threatened those who would dare to take up arms against the Italian army.

The Albanian people were determined to follow the road of the armed struggle.

On the 29th of May 1920, in a village South of Vlorë a national council was set up and a staff which was to lead the military activities was created. The decisions of this meeting were made known throughout Albania. A call was directed to the people to act in accordance with them. These quick organizational measures were required by the character of the battle which was to begin very soon. The Albanian armed forces which took up arms within a few days became some thousand men strong.

On the 3rd of June 1920 the Albanian armed forces sent an ultimatum to the Italian military forces, reading in part as follows:

"The Albanian people, united more than ever, not tolerating to be sold out like cattle in the markets of Europe, as a reward to the Italians, Greeks and Serbians, decided to take up arms and demand from Italy the administration of Vlorë, Tepelena and Himara, which must be handed over as soon as possible to the national government of Tirana".

The Italian government was asked to give a reply before the evening of June the 4th. The Italian command gave a ridiculous reply. At the end of the set deadline the leading national committee ordered the beginning of the uprising according to the plan prepared in advance.

So on the 5th of June 1920 the armed uprising began against the garrisons of the Italian imperialists.

From all the parts of the country volunteers came to Vlorë, among them many were women. They came from different cities of Albania to fight for the liberation of Vlorë.

The Italian army in Vlorë was surrounded. The Albanian patriots headed by Selam Musai threw themselves upon the barbed wires, which protected the Italian garrisons. Heavy fighting continued for a long time and the Albanians though badly armed, emerged victorious. The Italian General Piacentini asked Rome for new reinforcements. The Italian commissar in Durës, F. Costaldi sent the following cable to Rome: "If we are to continue for a long time the present fighting, the tired and weak Italian forces present in Vlorë will not be able to resist the situation, not matter whether new reinforcements come or not".

Though Rome promised new reinforcement, they never came. The revolutionary situation in Italy worsened the situation of the Italian imperialists.

The Italian proletariat rose up against the imperialist intervention into Albania, giving thus an international help to the liberation struggle of the Albanian people. In the streets of the Italian cities, in the progressive Italian press and in the parliament of Rome, rose strong voices of protests. They asked from the Italian government to withdraw the occupationist troops from Vlorë and to respect the national rights of the Albanian people. In the main Italian cities the proletariat passed from simple protests to strikes and demonstrations. In the coastal cities of Trieste, Bari and Brindisi the call of the Italian Socialist Party was distributed. This call invited the Italian soldiers not to go to Albania. The attempts of the Italian government to send new reinforcements to Vlorë met with the resistance of the Italian army itself. On the 26th of June 1920 units of some Italian battalions refused to leave for Albania and joined the demonstrations of the workers and came into bloody clashes with the carabinieri.

Being faced with the armed struggle of the whole Albanian people and with the increase of the revolutionary movement of the proletariat within Italy, the Italian government was obliged to sign a protocol between Albania and Italy. According to that protocol the Italian government acknowledged the Albanian sovereignty over Vlorë and the territorial entirety of the Albanian state.

The Italian army was to withdraw within a month from Vlorë. On the second of September, the Italian army withdrew from Vlorë and on the 3rd of September 1920, the Albanian uprising forces, entered victoriously liberated Vlorë, where they were enthusiastically welcomed by the representatives of all the Albanian districts, who had come there to celebrate this great victory of the Albanian people.

The Vlorë battle supported by the Italian proletariat too, was a successful crowning of the efforts of the Albanian people against the plans of the imperialist powers to wipe Albania out of the map of Europe, and of the efforts of the people to see their fatherland free and independent.

The war against the Italian occupiers bears witness to the fact, that when a nation is fights for a just cause, like that of defending its freedom and independence, it becomes an invincible force; it can't be defeated by the imperialists with their great armies and their modern technique of arms.

JOYFUL HOLIDAY

Joyful holidays!

This is the wish you hear now in the hot summer days in the railway stations platforms or in the suburban bus stop lines. Workers, and their children, luggage in hands, are setting off for the most beautiful places of our motherland, where the doors of the resting houses have been opened. Their destination is to the mountainous health building resorts: Qafë-Shtamë, Voskopejë, Dajt, Razëm; to the beaches: Durrës, Vlorë, Gelem, Dhërmi; to the shores of the picturesque lakes: Pogradec and Shirekë. This year the number of the workers and their children, who will spend their holidays in these centers, is greater than the previous one. The accessories of these resting homes and camps also had changes, and the material basis for cultural and sport activities excursions by sea etc.

The state has created all the facilities that these centers be frequented by a great number of workers and young pioneers. It pays two thirds of the expenses on the workers, three fourths on the young pioneers, and four fifths on the ill people, who spend 25 days of rest at health resorts. Thus the whole sum of expenses that the worker pays out for himself or his children make up but nearly one sixth of his monthly average wage. He gets the full wage for the whole time he is on holiday. As far as the other children are concerned, i.e. those who do not go to the rest homes, rest camps and daily centers for the whole period of summer, that supply them with dinners have been set up in every city by economic enterprises and in countryside by the co-op farms. This summer 800 such centers is but symbolic.

The children come back from these rest homes and centers more healthy and with unforgettable impressions.



①



②



① Albania has a littoral of about 472 km. along which there have been set up health resorts for the working people.

Photo: by S. Xhillari

② In summer, in many climatic places of Albania are built "quarters" with touristic tents for the working people to spend their holidays.

③ A day of rest at the artificial lake of Tirana.

④ Children spend their holidays joyfully at the beach.

⑤ A common view of the Durrës Beach.

④



⑤



③



An Ever New Innovating Literature

Llazar Siliqi — poet

We, the writers of the People's Republic of Albania, have as a fundamental principle the teaching of our leader Comrade Enver Hoxha to live "arm in arm with the people". Our writer is the son of the people and the fighter for the cause of the people, he is not a describer or a hymn player of the life, but an active participant in the socialist construction of the country, in defence of the motherland and the victories of revolution, in defence of Marxism-Leninism. He shares joys and sorrows with the people. He works together with the people and is tempered in the anvil of life, struggles to revolutionize life and himself, for he knows quite well the great truth that the revolutionary art can be created by revolutionaries only. Our writer is a communist fighter for the victory of socialism and communism in his own country and in the world, being well prepared and armed for this struggle.

Alongside with his ever deeper knowledge of life he

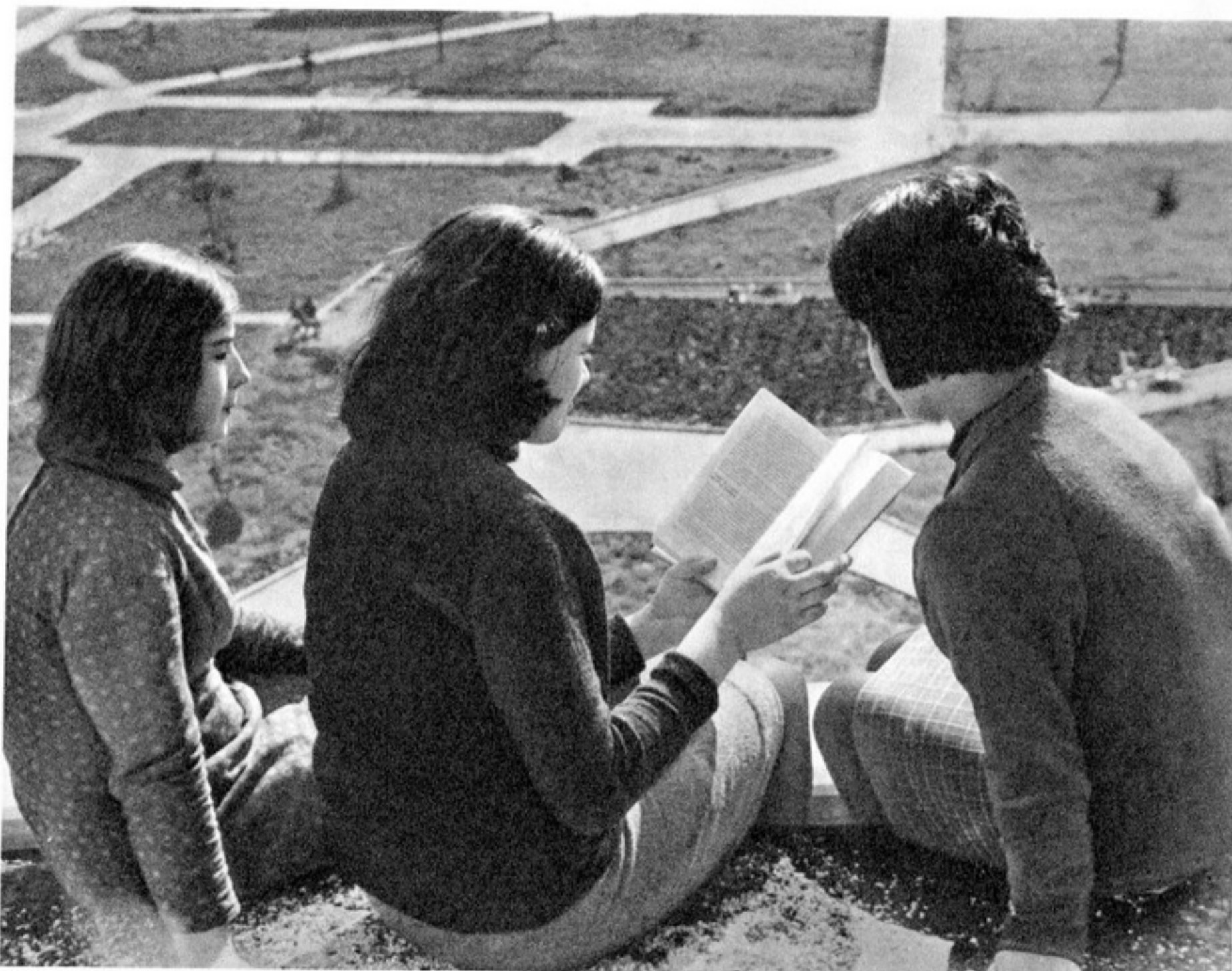
what we mentioned above consists in fact the innovating character of our new literature. The up-to the present attempts of our writers and their struggle led by the Party for the further revolutionization of the literature of socialist realism, which is not a stale formula, nor a dogma, but a guide to action, are a guarantee for ever fresh victories, are the foundation on which our assurance that the new and innovating Albanian literature of socialist realism is based. With red banners of revolution in hands we have entered the second quarter of a century of our free life, a beautiful and heroic life, beautiful in its heroism, in boldly overcoming the innumerable difficulties from the sorrowful tury long content up blockades trained

encourage us for revolutionary action, information about the complete electrification of our motherland at astounding time limit fill our eyes with light. In such an enthusiastic atmosphere the fact that our writers have preserved pure the banner of socialist realism fighting against decadentism and revisionism, as well as the apparent achievements of our literature in the recent years are also a source of inspiration for fresh victories. Suffice it to mention that this year there have been published or are being published more novels than in any other year; 12 poetry prose and dramaturgy works were honoured this year with the Republic's prize. We have a gallery of well created characters in the works of our authors, the number of which has been really increased; we have a determined struggle of the new against the old, we have revisionist influences, any conservative and inhibitive tendencies, struggling for the strengthening of the socialist character of our literature to make it an ever effective weapon in the hands of the Party for the communist education of the masses. Our goal is that through Marxist-Leninist theory creatively relying on our past and present traditions, without neglecting the experience of world literature, we should make all our efforts for the blossoming of the literature of socialist realism, which is always being developed and consolidated having the life as its basis, and a communist prospect and passion.

Socialist realism brought in the literature new heroes, the working class, the communists. Strengthening the class character of our works, treating first of all, the most typical features of our life, we widen our possibilities as true artists, we perform both our national and international task.

Interest in our literature, just as in other arts is greater now in various countries of the world. Our fiction works, translated in foreign languages, contribute to this fact; "New Albania" Magazine, as well as other fiction works translated in other countries have been warmly received by foreign readers. No doubt, the source of this interest in our literature consists in growing of its artistic values, but above all it consists in the purity and the militant spirit of its ideology, in its popular innovating character, that is, in its content, because the question of innovation is a question of content.

It is not the elements of the form nor the experimentings of separate artists those which determine the true innovation. One of our critics has beautifully expressed this idea, that the first window was not built to make the room beautiful and symmetrical, but to let air and light come in through it. Albanian revolutionary writers appraise high qualities of the people, they call on for progress and revolution, they discard the nonsense of pacifism and abstract humanism. Just raising ever high the banner of socialist realism, the Albanian writers make sure that the Albanian literature with always be new, innovating.





On the 200th Birth Anniversary



BET'HOVEN IN ALBANIA

Bet'hoven, one of the most brilliant figures of the world musical art, is known and loved by all art-loving Albanians. Penetrating the suffocating atmosphere of the European reaction of the times, he showed in his works the belief in the brilliant future of humanity, the belief in the victory of revolution. His music, rife with militant intonations which are permeated by the ardent spirit of heroic expressions of revolution, is heard by our people with a keen desire and attention over our radio broadcasts and in the concert halls. Bet'hoven's music occupies a fundamental place in the programmes of 8-year musical schools which have been opened in a number of cities and towns of our country where workers and peasants' children study. Almost everyone of the pupils of violin, violoncello, or pianoforte presents in his exam something from Bet'hoven. Whereas in the programmes of the Tirana Artistic Lyceum, a 12-year school rightly called by people "Nursery of young talents", a number of sonatas from Bet'hoven are recommended as necessary for every pianist.

Likewise, in the programmes of the High Institute of Arts, without mentioning the place occupied by Bet'hoven in the musical literature or in the lectures of the history of music, Bet'hoven's works are very important. His music has been having a place of honour in the range of concerts performed in the 26 years of the people's power by the professional collectives of the country: by the orchestra and chorus of the Albanian Philharmonic as well as by the symphonic orchestra of the Opera and Ballet Theatre. A number of our opera singers have a large repertoire of arias and ballades from Bet'hoven.

The symphonic orchestra of Tirana Broadcasting Center since 1961 when it was set up, executed the Nr. 1 symphony in the first public concert and later on it executed a number of other works of the great composer.

Bet'hoven's music is preferred in the Tirana-Radio programs rather than the music of any other classical author. The many letters received by the listeners' choice program, show that many of Bet'hoven's works are popular in the radio listeners. Radio-Tirana from time to time organizes special programs about Bet'hoven's life and works. With great interest are followed by many listeners the broadcasts of the range "Music in centuries". This range of weekly broadcasts given on Sundays, has as its signal the motif of Bet'hoven's fifth symphony.

There are many studies on Bet'hoven in Albanian language. First, we should mention the critical study by F. Noli with the title "Bet'hoven and the French Revolution", published in Boston in 1947 (and later was translated in Albania), a work which enriched the musical bibliography,

making an original contribution to the complete acquaintance of Bet'hoven's figure. The author of this monograph; who is known for his wide and many-sided activity as a noted personality of the Albanian culture, pointed out convincingly and dialectically how much Bet'hoven was influenced by the ideas of the French Revolution and how much is his music imbued with heroic spirit. Not in vain this very important work made fuss in the international arena and was cheered by Bernard Show, Thomas Man, Sibelius and other personalities of world culture and art. Very well received by our readers is Romen Rolan's monograph "The life of Bet'hoven", translated in Albanian. This monograph written by a powerful pen is written not only for specialists and scholars, but for every common reader who wants to know Bet'hoven, as the most distinguished representative of that historic turn which opened great prospects for music too.

As a matter of fact such monographs help better understanding the spirit of his music, which is no longer a combination of pleasant sounds which lack content, but it is an expression of deep feelings and thoughts standing above empty formalism, it is a reflection of life itself in a period of social transformations and political revolutions which smashed the feudal order.

Another volume with the title "The masters of the musical monuments" which was published by the "Library of the Youth", contains only one chapter on Bet'hoven's life, but still it is of great interest because it presents him not only as a master of tune, but also as a great thinker who involved himself in social problems, especially in the question of freedom, as a man that deeply felt the social role of music and the ethic mission of art.

The anniversaries of distinguished people are convenient chances to know better their life and activities.

On the 200th anniversary of Bet'hoven's birth, the Albanian people will know better the magnificent composer's figure, through conferences, publications, radio-broadcasts and various concerts. On the occasion will be heard many of his excellent works which remain actual for their heroic ideas and the revolutionary pathos, for the democratic features of the content, for the universality of the musical expressions. Bet'hoven's creativeness remains as one of highest summit of the world music history. The inculcation of Bet'hoven's creativeness in the musical life of our country, the honour and love for his music show the high and true esteem the Albanian people and the Party of Labour have for the progressive traditions of the past.

Ramadan Sokoli

This school-year, from the high-schools of our country graduated 1,943 cadres, for different branches of the economy and social sciences. This is the greatest number of the high cadres graduating within a year; all of them have been appointed to their posts according to speciality

and once the summer vacations are over, they will start working. Our editor met some of them. They spoke to him about their desires and dreams, now, on the eve of the start of practical work.

Drita Kotri,—I just finished my studies at the Medicine Faculty. Five years passed very quickly, and now I stand on the threshold of life. It is but natural for me to feel a sort of timidity at those moments— one can learn in life much more than in books and halls auditoria. I think that this is particularly so with the doctors to be.

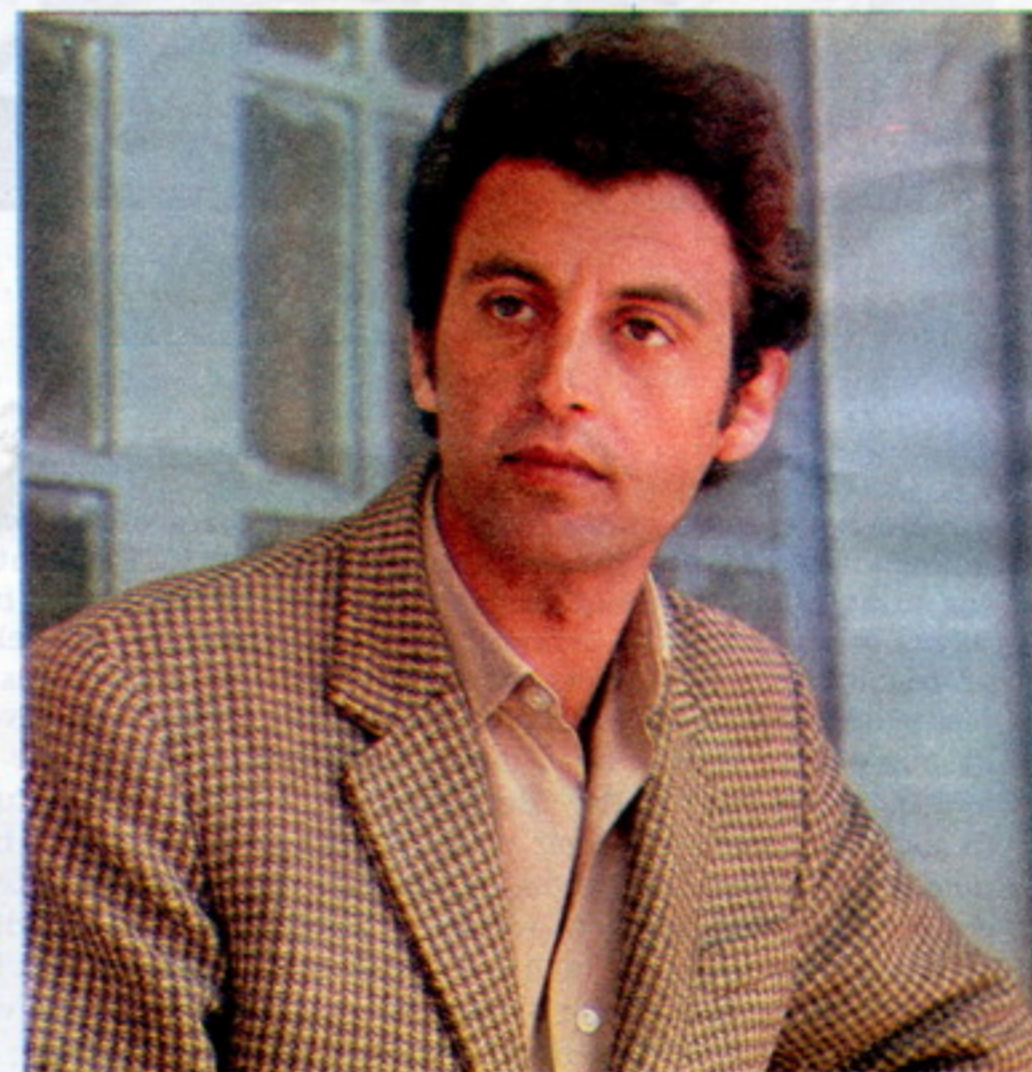
I came from Shkodra five years ago. From that time on I have received state scholarship. The state spent for making me a doctor great sums of money. This makes me feel even more the weight of the tasks awaiting me.

This year from our faculty graduated almost 240 physicians and dentists. This figure is greater than the number of physicians working in the whole of Albania before the liberation. Now we will begin to serve the people. To be a servant to the people— this is my supreme aim.



Ahmet Pasha,—I liked dramatic art since I was a pupil— eagerly I took part in the artistic groups of our school and in those of the city's Palace of Culture. When I graduated from the middle school my ardent desire was to follow my studies in the High Institute of Arts. I won the entrance contest and my dream became a reality. With the state's help, I, the son of a waiter, became an actor. Recently, we gave three different performances. In two of them I played the leading roles, as for example in "Shadows of the Night" by our writer V. Kokona, and "The girl without dowry" by A. Ostrovski.

My greatest desire is to be able to present on the stage, full of dignity, the heroes of our time.



Nazmiye Murati,—I well remember the time when my uncle would come back from the geological expeditions. Every time he would bring back lots of impressions and would tell us about the difficulties and discoveries of new mineral resources. At first they seemed like fantastic tales to me, but later on they were deeply rooted in my soul, and woke in me the desire to become a geologist, too. The state granted a scholarship to me and I, the highland lass, from Mati Regions came down from my mountainous village, to realize my dream and climb them later on as a geologist.

When I think of my future, I want to resemble my uncle, to become like him tireless, to detect as he, as much as possible subsoil riches for the prosperity of my fatherland. My region is full of high mountains. They are full of useful minerals, awaiting us, young geologists. And we will go, discover them and put them at the service of the people's economy.

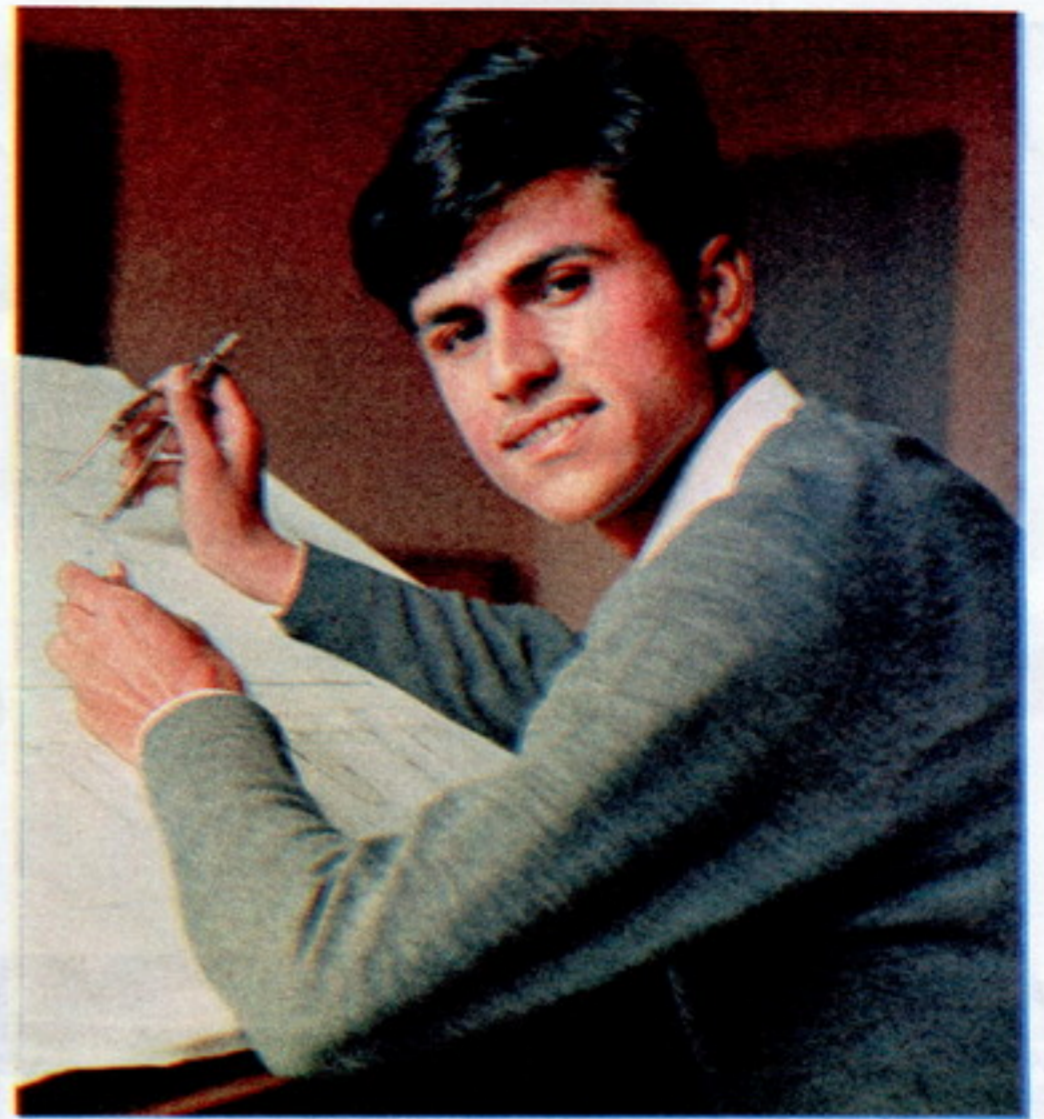


ON THE EVE OF LIFE

Kujtim Sinani, — I too, just graduated from the mechanics branch — I liked it opens wide prospects to our country. I graduated from the faculty with very good results.

The preparing for the diploma is one of the most interesting stages in my life as a student. It is the epilogue of the student's life and the beginning of life as an engineer of mechanics. I mention this, because during the preparation of our diplomas, my fellow-student Francesco Fiore and I met with such difficulties, the solution to which could not be found in books. So we were in trouble which caused us some sleepless nights. At last we overcame every difficulty, and we are gladder now than we would have been with an easier theme.

The putting into practice of our modest knowledge will further mechanize the process of the transportation of the products in the Glass-Ware Factory in Tirana. So, our work as young engineers had a good start.



Halime Mersni, — Our country is a country with a developing planned economy. In order to achieve this it needs economists. That was the reason, why I chose this branch. Just as to many other thousands of young people, the state created to me the possibilities to continue my studies granting to me a full scholarship. I have achieved good results in my studies. An interesting moment for me has been the preparation of my diploma. I chose the theme: "On the small organization of the work" — a problem this, much discussed about especially at the 9th Plenary Meeting of the C.C. of the P.L.A. During the preparatory stage I got acquainted with various working places and working conditions, and met with many workers. Now, to tell the truth, I am satisfied with my work, because I think it will help a little bit the sector I have chosen. It touches upon every aspect of the working place, starting from the discipline at work, and ending with the colours of the environment.

For us, economists, there is plenty of work everywhere. Though I am greatly interested in industry, I would be glad to work there, where the need greater, that means in agriculture.

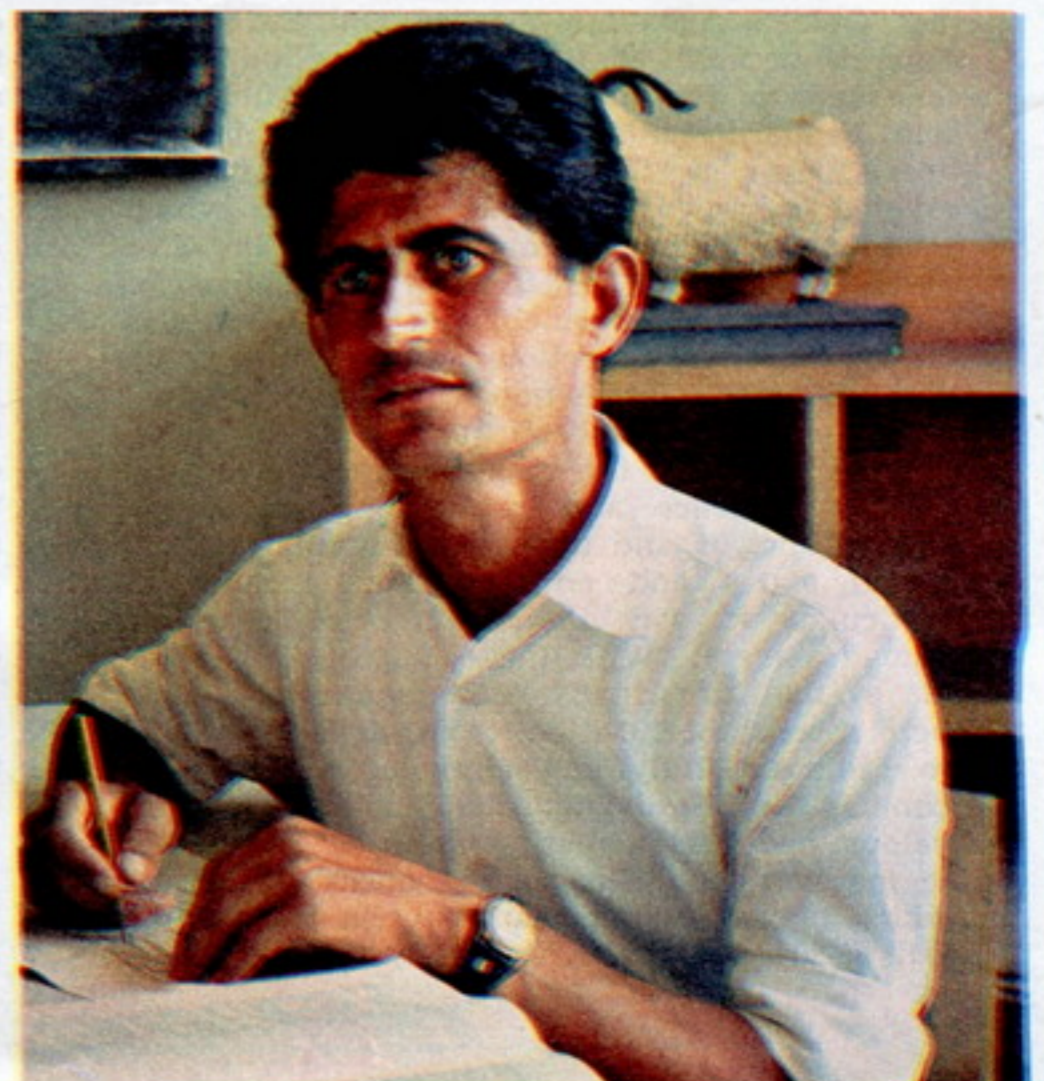
I like the profession, I have chosen, and I will try to keep the book beside me for the whole of my life and to continually study and not to be a mere figure — registering clerk.



Vangjel Paçi, — I have come here from an agricultural district, from Lushnja. My parents have always worked in agriculture. Our Agricultural Cooperative "The New Life", like the other cooperatives all over the country, is applying into practice with each passing day, new modern means and methods of work. To achieve this, first of all one needs cadres, well trained specialists. That is the reason, why I attended the Veterinary Middle School for 4 years in Shkodra. Here I received a scholarship from our collective farm. Then, after having worked for 3 years in our collective farm, I entered, on a state scholarship basis, the Faculty of Veterinary at the Higher Institute of Agriculture. Having a rather long practice in my speciality, I liked very much the theoretical subjects, because they open new vistas before you. At the end of my studies I had very good results.

I started work at once, as an assistant in the chair of pharmacology, at our Institute.

My aim is to become a good pharmacologist, therefore I will try to wider my knowledge in biochemistry and physiology.



The Albanians of Vicenza



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- (1) The façade of the "Monte di pieta" building.
- (2) Bas-relief "Pieta", mercy.
- (3) A box in the first storey of the basilica.
- (4) The basilica called "Palazzo della ragione".
- (5) Two columns on the main square of Vicenza.



Three generations of artists of Albanian origin, were distinguished in the "Golden Age" of the Vicenzan architecture and sculpture. Some historians consider the XVI century as the "Golden Age" for Vicenza and Europe in general, because at that time came out such colossuses as Servantes, Shakespeare, Michelangelo, Leonard, Luther, Palestrina, etc. At that time Christopher Colombus, Magellan etc discovered unknown continents and oceans which gave marvellous riches to Europe. But the XVI century was also the time of Copernicus, of Galileo and of Campanella etc that is, it was the time of firm objections to free thinkers by the ill-famed inquisition which persecuted progressive people and burnt them at the stake. The XVI century for many countries was the time of violence and brutal oppression, the time of furious and disastrous invasions which ruined states and empires. For Albania in particular, it was the century of complete Osman slavery. With the occupation of Albania by the Turks many Albanians, after a long heroic resistance, flitted from their homeland to Dalmatia, Italy and elsewhere. These Albanians were distinguished both for their valour and their creative abilities. Suffice it to mention the "Albanians' dynasty of Urbin" which played an important role in the mental, artistic and political life of Italy for more than

two centuries running. One of those families which emigrated in the XV century, had settled in Vicenza of North Italy. There, this family was called "Albanese" after the surname of origin. There emerged from the bosom of this family generation after generation famous architects and sculptors as Francesco Albanesi and his sons, Gjon, Jeronim, together with his nephew Francesco, who ornamented Vicenza, Padova and Venice with their works. We haven't got any exact information so far about Francesco's life and works. Maybe in the future we shall have further information. It is known that Gjon (or Giambatista, as he is called in Italian) was born in 1573, at a time when the city of Vicenza was flourishing and he received his first knowledge on art from his father. At such a time when our country was suffering from the foreign yoke, destroyed and ruined from century long struggle thus spring the European civilization, Vicenza was being decorated with mansions and imposing palaces. It was very famous at that time the figure of master Paladio (1508-1580), one of the most renowned architects of the Italian revival. Gjon shared his achitecture skill with this master in many of his construction works. The great upsurge of constructions during the XVI century had made all branches of figurative arts subject to architecture: Many sculptors of that



time worked first of all, to ornament entrances, steps, and the fronts of the buildings with bas-reliefs and statues. Thus, Gjon Albanezi completed the works of master Paladio with the best busts which beautify the boxes of the Paladian basilica at the big square called plathea "Peronit" at that time (now called "Piazza dei Signori", as well as the stair leading down to the piazza. Gjon engraved the busts for the Ruzare chapel in Corona and that of Joseph for St. Lorenzo's altar in the cathedrals as well as two high stone columns with Venetian emblems (photo 1) on the big square. His works beautify streets, too. Just in a very narrow road, next to the main square, you are attracted by the elegance and purity of the classical lines of the imposing palace "Monte di Pieta". There, in the middle of this palace stands the church of Vicenza, designed by Gjon. He has also built its hall and the grand box with the five busts which crown the "Mercy" bas-relief in its front. We may mention here the oratory of Servits, the arch of triumph (photo 2) at the foot of the stair which leads to the Berico Mountain. In 1619 he

worked in Venice also (five statues in front of "St. Giorgio Maggiore"). He has left other works besides these. Jeronim (or Girolamo-as they call him in Italian) has also left a number of sculptures with mythologic and religious content, especially in the Vicenza Palaces, for example in the Paladian Basilica (no "Palazzo della Ragione"-photo 3), in "Villa Kanra" (So called "Rotonda") built in the form of classical temples on the top of a hill, in the vicinity of the city. Besides sculptural decorations, Jeronim designed the "Gonfaleon" Oratory in the cathedral, where he chiseled various objects with a powerfully decorative ability. The last of this family, Franchesk the II Gjon's son, a sculptor educated to his grandfather, father, and uncle's example worked hard but he was not distinguished as much as his forerunners in his works.

The past of these emigrated "Albanezi" was kneaded with artistic inclination, as the mastery of carving and construction was inherited in every generation of this family bringing with them many impressions from the Albanian soil.

In 1650, a plague epidemic caused Gjon's death. Whereas Jeronim died in 1660. The life of these Albanian artists was rife with attempts for effective work.

Though emigrated in foreign countries, they with their talent, with their persistent zeal and will in their work, overcame the many setbacks and difficulties, thus winning the general respect of the people.

In "Lotë Parnasi about Jeronim Albanezi's death" published by G. Molini in Vicenza in 1663 you can see the high esteem about these artists, it maybe seen especially in the inscription engraved with respect on the front of their house, in S. Biaxhio street;

Illa alter Phidias;
hic Poliecleter erat

(Meaning; he was another Phidias; This was another Poliecleter) This inscription which compared our two masters with Phidias and Poliecler was later put off to their sarcophagus in "S. Lorenzo" where the most famous inhabitants of that city are buried or honourably commemorated.-

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⑤



The songs of a village



If we could imagine ourselves as being on the Mountain Vela of Kallmeti, in the evening hours, it would seem to us as if the sun has forgotten on the hill of Blinishti Village a bouquet of rays. It is the House of Culture of the "Scanderbeg" Collective Farm in Zadrima Region of Lezha District.

It is the cultural center of the three villages, which this Collective Farm is composed of. There is a great liveliness in the halls of the House of Culture. Men and women dressed in their best clothes move to and fro much preoccupied. The great hall with 500 seats is filled to capacity. There can be seated in it almost half of the number of the inhabitants of the three villages. Soon the artistic groups of the House of Culture will give a performance.

The curtain rises and the communication between the stage and the spectators begins. The air is full of melodies. One out of ten inhabitants of these villages takes part in an art group. One tenth of

Blinisht, Pirej and Bacel is on the stage tonight.

The concerts of the amateur art groups are a mirror of the district's temper, of the successes achieved by the people.

Listening to their songs one learns about the past full of sufferings of these highlanders, and about the great changes made during those past 25 years. In the past these villages were almost surrounded by marshes. A few houses of the past stand like witnesses on top of hills far away from one another. Today instead of stagnant waters and bushes there are cultivated fields. As compared with the first period of collectivization the area of the arable land has almost doubled. The number of the cattle is almost 5 times greater, that of fowl is 10 times greater as compared with the year 1960.

The increase of welfare has resulted in a reduction of death rate from 54 per thousand in 1941, to 3.4 per thousand last year.

To these successes is singing to-

night, Zina Sallaku, this peasant woman worker of Blinishti. She is dressed, like all the other amateur participants in clothes embroidered with golden threads. In this fine work of silk, in which the red and the yellow colours are more conspicuous, is blended the fantasy and the gusto of the people. Preng Martia, too, has changed his usual appearance and role. Instead of the hoe, he is holding in hand now a musical instrument and is singing a new song composed by himself. All the spectators applaud. Drane Zefi, Hile Tuku and Sade Skendaj through their songs and dances express the rich spiritual life of their compatriots. Among those youth, who give an impetus to the life of the Collective Farm, is Luke Skenaj too. She just passed into the sixth form. We see her singing a highland song now.

The song reflects the life of the village.

Once Blinisht was a poor village Men were born and grew up Without bread undressed and

barefoot, . . .

But Blinisht is reborn now. If in 1938 there was not a single pupil here, today a new school is established in which there learn 200 children. In the Collective Farm one can see everywhere new buildings, three nurseries, kindergartens, three dining-halls and all the other social cultural institutions. In the Collective Farm there are agronomists and veterinaries. A lot of songs are dedicated to the new socialist traditions, to the girls leaving for youth undertakings, to the women distinguished in the work.

We are singing to Blinisht
And we wish it great successes
Under Party's leadership it has flourished
And made great progress in every field.

On the stage appear also some old-aged amateur artists. They follow the steps of the youth, bringing on the stage the progressive traditions of the popular art of the district. That old man who is pas-

There is vividness at the House of Culture.



Ndrec Skenaj and his daughter Luke Skenaj on stage.



The girls' choral group of the United Agricultural Cooperative of Blinish.

Photos: By P. Kumi

sionately playing the fife is called Kel Noca. Besides him we see Palok Marku. Though blind he does not lag behind his comrades. We see him execute popular songs by fife and other popular instruments.

After the concert is over the music continues on the beautiful terrace of the House of Culture. Instead of the pop singers one listens here to the light music and dancing music. The fife is replaced here by the accordion and by the violin. Hil Zefi that youth who so skillfully commands the accordion has graduated from the Artistical Middle School in Tirana, and now he is the director of that House of Culture, and at the same time he teaches musical lessons in school. He himself has composed many new songs.

It is a summer evening and the young couples are dancing on the terrace.

The tunes of music echo over Blinisht deep into the late hours of night.

Art Engraved in Wood

Stilian Adhami

People's art is a lawful reflection of the history of the Albanian people, it is a reflection showing their creative and constructing abilities.

In the whole of Albania, the artistic spirit of the Albanian is expressed in every object of the everyday use, in spoons, pots pipes, spindles, boxes, in cradles, looms in some wooden musical instruments etc.

Besides the interesting shapes that our people gave to wooden objects, they expressed in them their sentiment for the beauty. With the exemption of textile products, never did art find in any other material a prettier expression than in wood which is commonly used in houses shelves, in kitchen wares, work and production tools. In the artisanship of wood-cutting, the ornament follows the way of embroidering folk costumes. Common objects, worked by popular artists, shepherds or wood masters in mountains and fields originally preserve traces of our ancient culture.

The Dibra masters won a Balkans' reputation and their products reaches even small Asia, whereas the masters of South-East Albania left traces of their art more in southern parts of the peninsula. Their works are distinguished in style and combination. The Dibra people are distinguished by their work full of wit and widely use loom motives, whereas the South Albania inhabitants use a combination of loom and zoomorphic motives. In general the wood-cutting motives represent the primitive cults of nature, work, production, life etc., which are figuratively expressed.

The woodcutting traditions of our people was also professionally raised producing objects for a wider use. In the areas which enjoyed more favourable conditions to raise the art of woodcutting to a higher level and which had their own regional characteristics, were set up, so to say, special woodcutting schools such as those of Dibra, Berati and South-East Albania. These schools reached the climax of their development in the XVII-XVIII centuries when the Albanian masters had a rare artistic perfection and virtuosity which make their way into other countries, while the XIX century marks the fall of this popular art.

After the liberation of the country, with the authors of the popular art coming to power, matters changed for better. The traditions of the people's art which were purely preserved in the peasants, are becoming sources of the further development of our artistic traditions. Our artisanship has reborn once again with new forms on national bases.

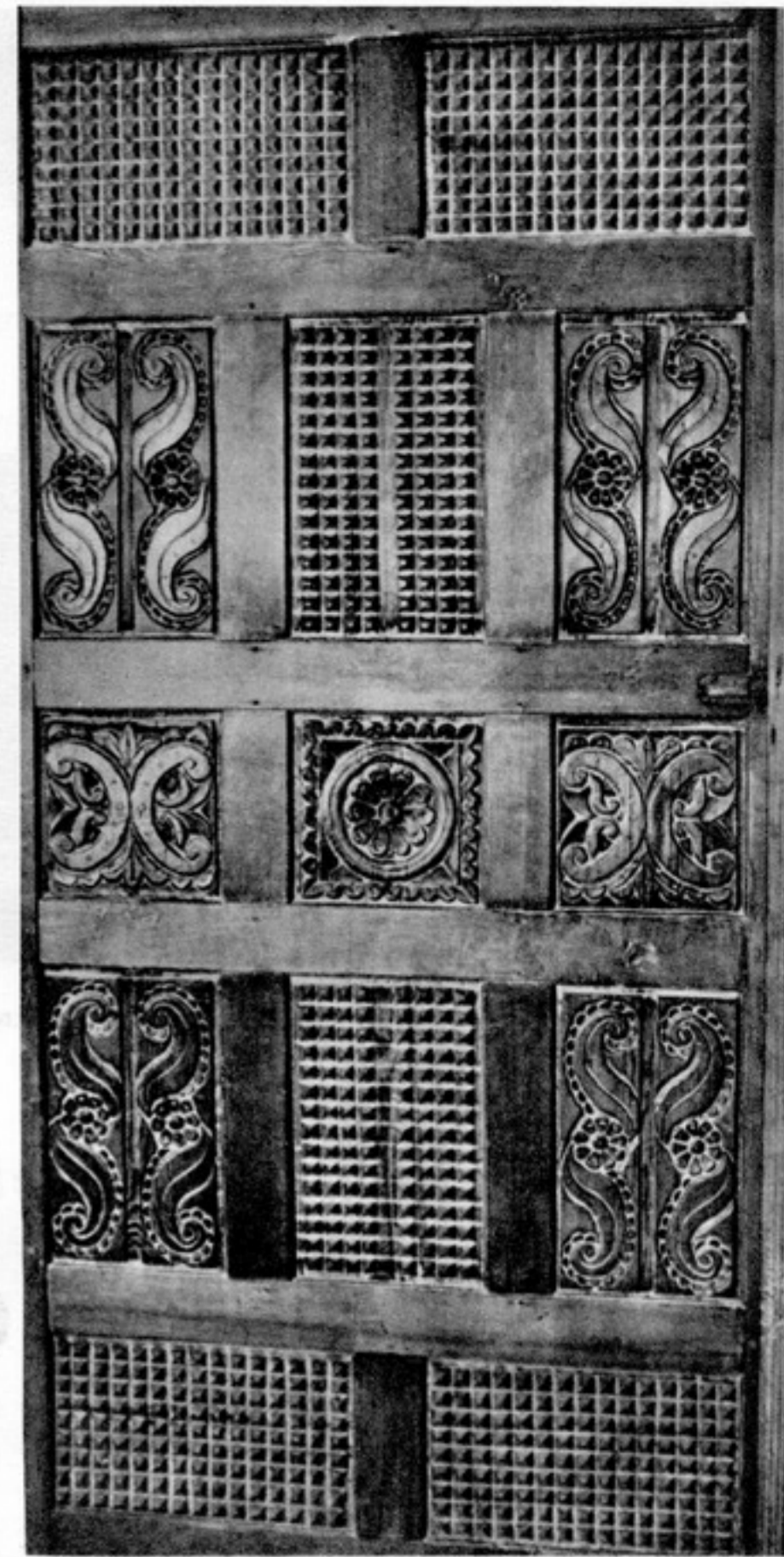




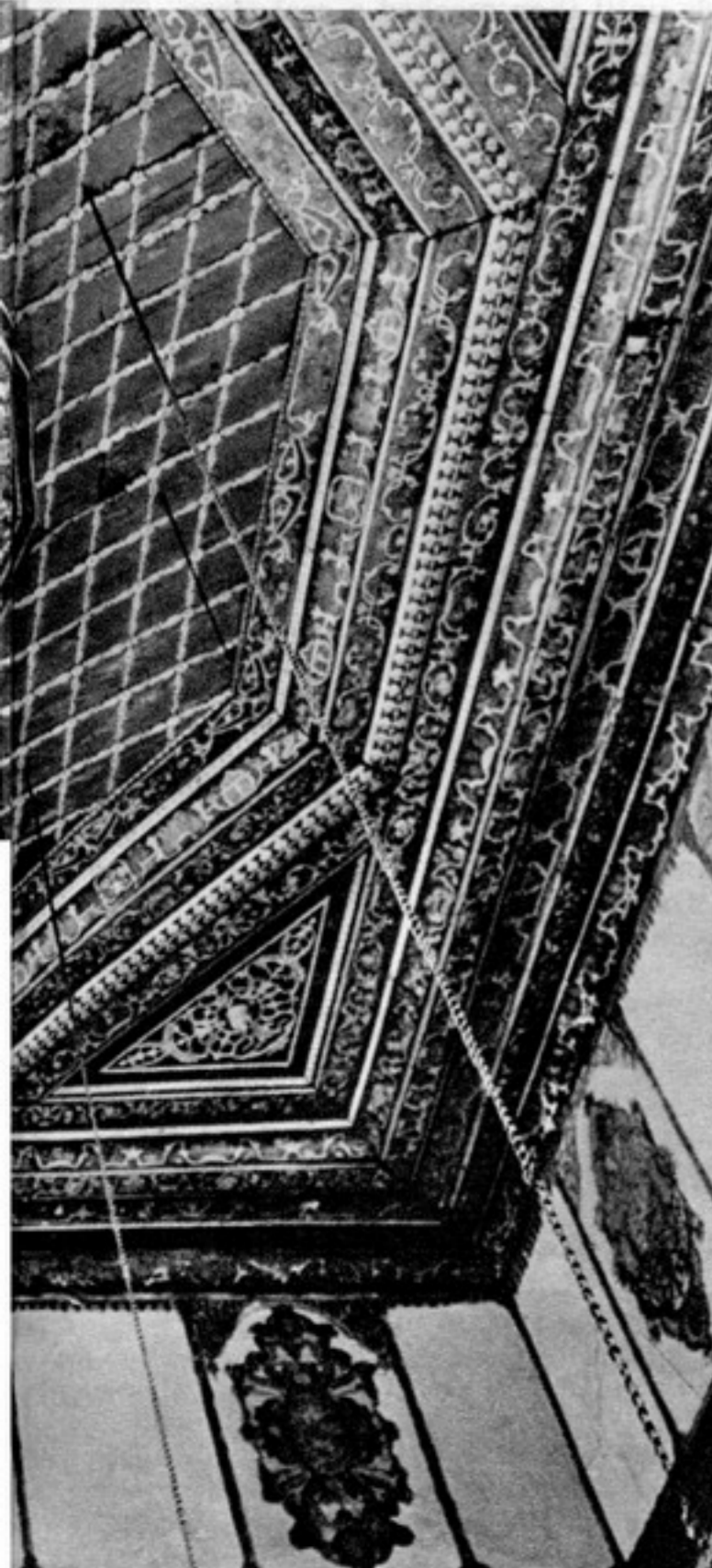
Fragment of the icon of the Life-giving Source Church in Korça.



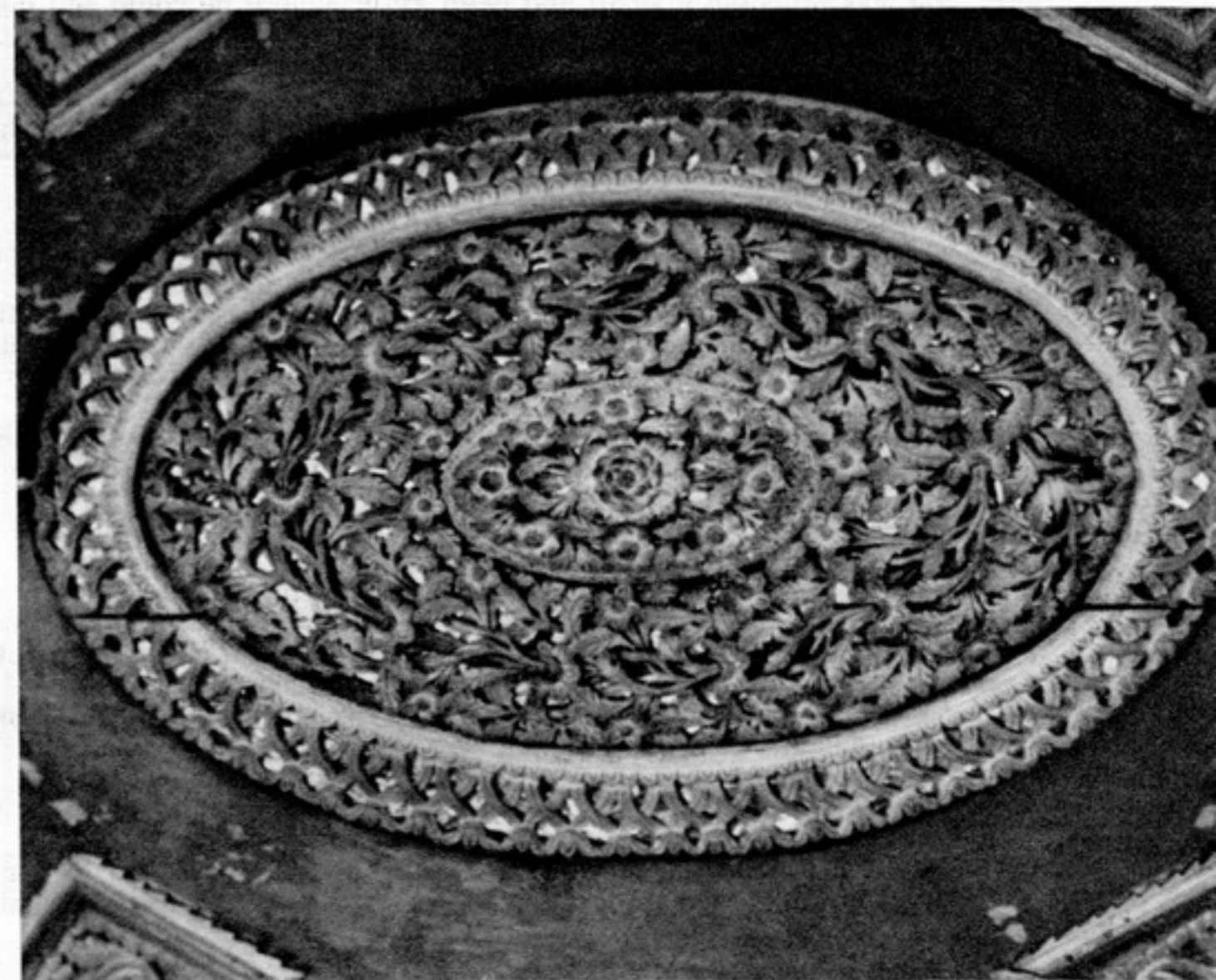
The gate of a characteristic house of the city -museum of Gjirokastra.



Rosette of a ceiling in a house of the city-museum of Berat.
Photos: by R. Veseli



A wall-shelf of the Shkodra house.



The ceiling of the Helvets tekke in the city -museum of Berat.



Comrade Enver Hoxha cordially talking with the hero of socialist labour.

The Hero of a Novel

At difficult moments of misfortune man is known by his comrades, but at the same time he knows himself too.

No one knew the character, the firmness of Nuredin Hoxha, till that day when he fell on the railway tracks and accidentally had both his legs cut off. Until that day he didn't even know himself well. At that time he was only 18 years old. But that which happened to him, seemed to make him more mature in his thinking, to give him the judgement of an old-man.

— What can I do? he asked himself.

Without a moment's delay he answered.

— I can breathe, eat, drink. . . Is this really the man? The man must have a future at all costs. There is no life without it.

This soliloquy might have been the climax of despair or a new starting point to begin the life. Nuredin chose the second. And forward he passed through the clouds of despair. On bleeding prosthesis he strolled along the gravels of Zaranika for months on end, close to his city of Elbasan, till he learned how to walk. Then one day he went to the Pension office, handed in the certificate and said in short:

— I don't want to be an invalid any longer. I want to work.

He was proposed a small and calm kiosk, where he could sell cigarettes, he was mentioned some other places, which were usually offered to invalids, but he preferred the noise, the difficult work with daily fights.

He did not only like to work. He wanted to know what the result of his work would be. He became an innovator at work. To learn about his creations it is not necessary to open up files or read the old newspapers. The whole collective of the work-yard of the State Building Enterprise in Elbasan speak about them.

One day, by chance, walking-stick in hand, he passed by the sector where construction materials were being produced. He noticed tens of women rubbing the slabs with their hands. That was a tiresome work, with a low productivity. — That day Nuredin stayed in the workshop some hours after the work. Fill he threw on papers the idea of constructing a machine to replace the hand work.

His name is now linked with a score of innovations. In the factory he works, there is a very simple room in which usually the light is on till the late hours of night. On the door of that room is written:

"The Party Office". The bureau meetings are held here and the Communists discuss here, too. Among them there are carpenters, drivers, mechanics etc. Here they talk calmly, there hot-blooded, but always straight forward in the way only the Communists know how to speak. The Party Secretary Nuredin Hoxha, listens attentively, takes down notes in his note-book, approves by nodding his head or wrinkles his forehead.

The Party Secretary! How much these two words mean, because he is always one of the best Communists.

Last year he was awarded the title of "Hero of Socialist Labour".

At leisure time you can often see him with his child strolling through the city of Elbasan, which so greatly changed its appearance.

Strong will of this man, his past and his present served to our writer, Dhimiter Xhuvani, to write a novel on the new man of today's Albania.

THE RED HILL

It's many years since this part of Tirana is so called. It bore this name because of the red clay of the narrow streets, because of the red colour of the clay bricks, with which were built the small huts. Such a scene told upon one thing: the miserable life of the people who dwelled in those huts.

So did poverty christen it. . . The years rolled on and the Red Hill entered in the great event of the liberation struggle. You thought that these lanes and zigzag alleies were built purposefully to lose the traces of the guerillas, which had rose up in the liberation struggle. And true it was. The blood covered the red ooze of the lanes sprinkled on the walls of the clay bricks, and the Red Hill became truly red. It would surely take such a name had it not had it before. 22 memorial inscriptions appear in its squares and its walls. They do not only speak of and recall the events of the stormy years, but also to use the past as a teaching for the future.

The seething crowds of children fill up these streets and squares. They are the rising generation of the Red Hill. They read these commemorative slabs and pay homage to them. Each of them speaks about heroes, about battles, meetings, actions. In moments, a mother or an aged father who had experienced these days approaches the children. While he or she contemplates the commemorative slabs, it seems as if he hears the echo of those stormy events. As soon as he feels he has plunged himself in that world, he begins to tell the young people and the children. Thus the tradition is handed down from one generation to another. . .

It was the fierce night of October 7th 1942. Just like many others, a mother was keeping watch new on this side of the yard, now on the other. She was Ije Farka. Three Communists; three young men — Vojo Kushi, Xhorxhi Martini, Sadik Staveleci, were in her house. There was heard a din in the street.

They are besieging you!

Hundreds of policemen, darker than the night itself encircled the house, and filled up the by-streets. The Red Hill awoke and anticipated what would happen. The three brave men saw that all the ways were blocked up. In these moments, the word of Vojo were heard:

We shall all die together. None of us should fall into the hands of the enemy!

They hugged each other, as the partisan habit was, and then they passed some yards until they reached a coal store. The fight had almost four hours that was going on. The brave men shot from different positions. This made the policemen think that they had to confront a lot of Communist forces. "They are many, and have heavy guns" were the words hoarsely uttered. On came the prefect of Tirana-Qazim Mulleti.

The battle was very furious. The enemy brought 6 tanks. Six hours on end, the three young people turned that clay bricked house into a real impregnable fortress. Xhorxhi Martini and Sadik Staveleci were shot dead. Vojo Kushi remained alone. A tank, after having razed to the ground of the wall of the yard, rushed towards Vojo Kushi, while the other tank rushed from the back of the yard. They were the moments of duel between a man and a tank. Vojo hurled himself upon the tank that was vomiting iron and fire.

A shot ensued which was followed by a burning light. On such a red background appeared Vojo's silhouette as a red flag. . .

He had climbed up over the tank and after he moved away the lid, he threw his grenade inside the bunker where the tanker was staying.

Today, in the Red Hill, instead of those huts are set up over 150 new and big flats. There have been built kindergartens, department stores. . . .

Instead of the lanes, there have been built wide and asphalted streets.

A Village Museum

Many villages have got today their own museums which reflect the history of the village alongside of the present.

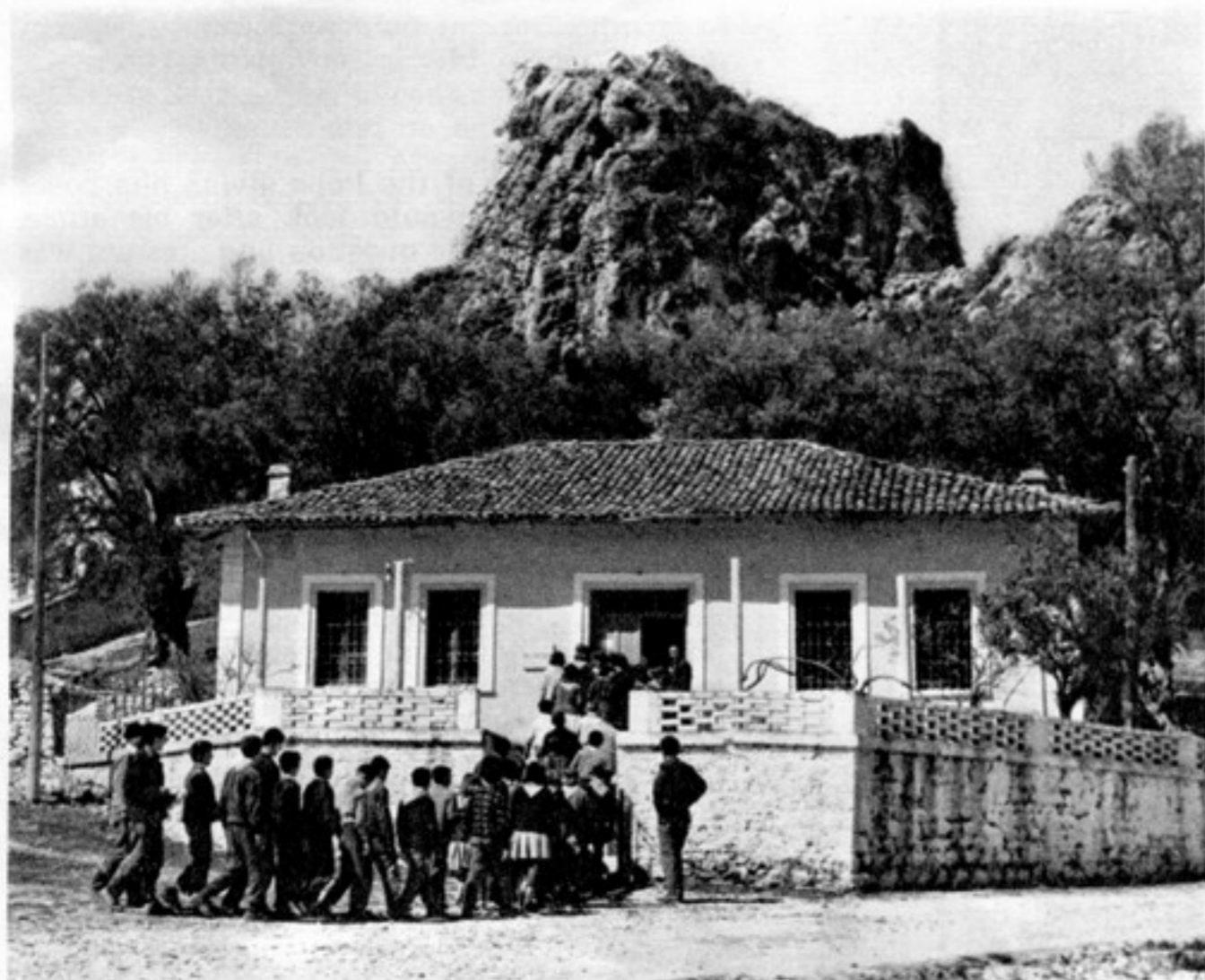
Such a museum is set up in Petrela Village Tirana District. The history of this Village is very old and even the most ancient events have found their reflection in this museum. The walls of an Illyrian town belonging to the fourth century before our era, are preserved in the eastern side of the Village. Ceramics objects, coins, lances, etc., displayed in the museum, have been found there. Over the village stands the very old Castle of Petrela which played an important role in the strategic system of Scanderbeg during the struggles against the Ottoman hordes. You come to know in the museum the great support given to Scanderbeg by the inhabitants of Petrela Village who joined the struggle of the whole Albanian people. The museum tells you how the villagers secretly learnt their native language after the Turkish invasion.

Many are the interesting data in the museum about Petrela during the Zogu monarchic regime. 40 families were landless, 40 other families owned only 4 dynyms of land. The whole land and olive groves belonged to 5 rich families. In 1932 the Zogu regime closed down the Petrela school but the strong protests of the villagers forced the government to reopen it in 1933. Despite ruthless pursuits the patriotic teachers educated their pupils with home-love feelings and with feelings of hatred for the feudal blood-suckers.

The museum speaks a lot about the national liberation struggle. This village has given 28 partisans, 10 martyrs, 7 invalids, 22 exiled persons and 12 burnt houses to the national liberation struggle, material damages were very heavy.

A new life sprang up in Petrela after liberation. In 1959 the agricultural farm was set up. The successes achieved by this village are displayed in the museum windows. There have been built in the collectivized Petrela, a maternity home, a kindergarden, a dining-hall, the House of Culture and an 8-year education school attended by 190 pupils and where 8 teachers give lessons, etc. Peasants, pupils, students, soldiers and excursionists visit this museum which has become an important centre for the education of the people.

Pupils of the village school visiting their village museum.



Urani Thana (left) manager of the Ready-Made Garments Enterprise in Vlora.

The Path of a Heroine

Vuno, the village where she was born, is a distant corner of our homeland, like a flower grown in the Himara seaside. She is called Urani Thana. I found her among workers. She is a simple woman of about forty-five years reminding you of other Albanian women. She modestly speaks about common things and ignores the talk about herself. Long and hard has been the path along which she has passed. The fear, the fanaticism, the complainings and the malice of evil-doers had to be overcome. . . . When the struggle broke out the shots of the partisan guns were heard in mountains. Kiu of the Thana's family first took the way to the mountains. Later on his two sisters Hrani and Elipiniqi joined him.

At first Urani worked as the tailor of the partisans. She also opened a course with 20 girls and women to teach them her profession. The main aim of this course was to propagate the Party teachings about the way how to fight enemies and help the partisans.

Then together with her women-comrades she joined the ranks of the liberation fighters. She was appointed as a Vice-Commissar of the company in the Fifth Brigade. She was revered, loved and respected by all the partisans.

— Never will I forget that day when a partisan from Terbaçi Village breathed his last saying: "Fight for me too, my sister".

That day Urani received the news of her brother's death, Kiu. She deeply felt the loss but didn't yield. She was filled with more revenge and hatred for the enemy. She poured them by bullets.

The victory of people's revolution brought about the new life to Urani. Her words as a Party worker were felt for years on end by the Vlora City and its villages.

Today Urania is the manager of the State Enterprise of the Ready-Made Clothes. The collective of this Enterprise standing in the van is the winner of the title of honour: shock worker of the Fourth Five-Year Plan. There work more than one thousand girls and women. Urani is always on the fore, Zubaja an old worker of this Enterprise tells me. She works selflessly and vigorously. The spirit of self-sacrifice, order, experience and the respect for the people are characteristic for her.

She knows what care, patience, firmness and discipline mean. We are glad that the deputy to the People's Assembly, the heroine of socialist labour, our comrade and sister, Urani Thana manages and works among us.

LXXII

1467 gennaio, 24 Roma.

Gli stessi agli stessi. Scanderbeg malcontento per non esser aiutato dal papa, in seguito alle trame veneziane.

... Scandarbecho ancora sta qui quasi desperato con poca speranza de havere soccorso dal papa per lo facto de Croja et de Albania, ni de dinari ni d'altro. Et li pare essere tenuto in tempo, maxime perché intende che uno d. Paulo Contarino venetiano, che se trova qui²²⁴, ha dissuaso et dissuade la S.à autelata²²⁵, d'igando ch'el non è necessario faccia altra spesa per lo soccorso de Croja²²⁶, imperoché la Signoria de Venetia l'ha tolta in protectio: et ben la farà guardare et dentro li sono soy fanti et altra gente. Et per questo non se pare il papa curarse tropo. Et epso Scandarbecho chiaramente comprende la integione de quella Signoria tendere a sottemettere quella terra, ma più presto dice la darà con tutto lo resto al Turcho ...

Orig. *Ibid.*

LXXIII

1467 febbraio 1, Roma.

Gli stessi agli stessi. Scanderbeg si trova ancora a Roma.

... Scandarbecho, el Gran Maestro de Rhodo e lo S. Sigismondo et

LXXVII

1467 febbraio 14, Roma.

Lorenzo da Pesaro agli stessi. La partenza di Scanderbeg, senza aver ricevuto dal papa alcun sussidio.

... Scandarbecho hogge è partito²²⁸ desperato, ni ha havuto dal papa alcuno dinaro. Uno cardinale gli donò ducento ducati²²⁹. Elio va desperato e per un'altra mia advisi V. [Ill.me S.]²³⁰ della sua volontà²³¹. Elio beffando disse l'altro di a uno cardinale che nante voria fare guerra alla ghiesa²³² che al Turcho ...

Orig. *Ibid.*

LXXVIII

1467 febbraio 19, Roma.

Lorenzo da Pesaro e Agostino de' Rossi agli stessi. Particolari — piuttosto tristi — intorno alla partenza di Scanderbeg per il regno di Napoli.

... El S. Scandarbecho fu facto expectare fin al proximo consistorio con speranza se faria qualche provisione al facto suo, secondo ve scripsemmo per l'altre nostre²³³. Tu tractata la cosa, è molto stretto²³⁴ el papa ad non lo lassare partire in quella desperatione. Densum se condusse ad volergli dare chio millia ducati. Et replicando i cardinali non volevano essere manco de VII²³⁵ cinquecento, secondo richiedeva epso, impeso ché li pochi serasno zitati via

prei. Ma non se potendo partire per certo debito de l'hostaria, lo revrendissimo cardinale de San Sisto gli donò CC ducati, quali spese tutti qui, excepto XL con li quali s'è partite (!) per andare fin da la M.à del Re. Verum poy sentendo per così el papa, gli ne mandò dreto II²³⁶ CCC²³⁷. Et ita se n'è andato via.

Questo capitolo deli cavalieri hierosolimitani s'è fornito et loro se partano tutta via. Ma il Gran Maestro s'è amalato qua de panceura. Non sapemo como farà²³⁸.

Li ambassatori franzosi ancora sono qui et credemo partirano lunedì proximo²³⁹.

Orig. *Ibid.*

LXXIX

1467 marzo 1, Roma.

Agostino de' Rossi agli stessi. Brano di relazione concernente gli ambasciatori polacchi a Roma e quello inciato da Balaban pascià, comandante turco in Albania, al re Ferrante.

... Li oratori del Re de Pollana hoggi hanno data la obedientia in publico consistorio. Et sono duy, uno prelado et uno cavaleo con una bella compagnia et bene in ordine, in verità. Havevano portate certe turche de

²³⁸ Nel doc.: *risponderiano.*

Historical Documents

Below we are publishing three documents taken from Francis Pally, brochures on the Italian-Albanian relations in about the middle of the XVth century, regarding the Pope's stand towards the war of the Albanian people headed by George Castriot—Scanderbeg against the occupant-Scanderbeg against the occupationist attacks of the Turkish empire. The Ambassadors of the Milan Duke to Pope Paul III Lorenzo Da Pesaro and Agostino de Rossi, reported the following:

Document LXXII

January 24, 1467, Rome

Scanderbeg is still here already despaired and hopeless of Pope's help to Kruja and Albania's affairs, hopeless of receiving money or some other help. It seems to him that they want to deceive him, for he is informed that a don Paulo Contarino from Venice who is here, has informed and does inform His holiness mentioned above saying that, it is not necessary to make expenses to help Kruja because the Seigneur of Venice has taken Kruja under protection and will protect it well because his soldiers and other soldiers are in the city. For this reason it appears that the Pope doesn't care. Scanderbeg himself quite clearly realizes the Seigneur's aim

to subdue that city

Document LXXVII

February 14, 1467 Rome

Today Scanderbeg desperately for not receiving money left the Pope. One Cardinal presented him with 200 dukates. He was very sad; In a second letter I informed you of his aim. Yesterday he said to a Cardinal that from that moment on the would fight against the church not against the Turks.

Document LXXVIII

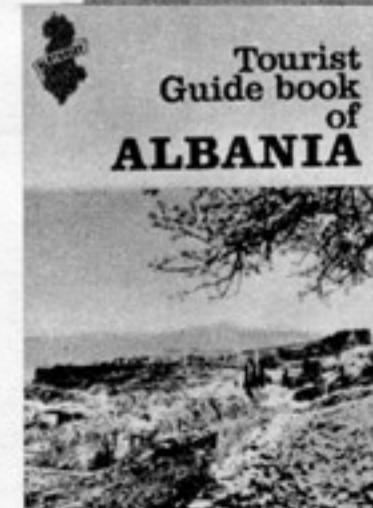
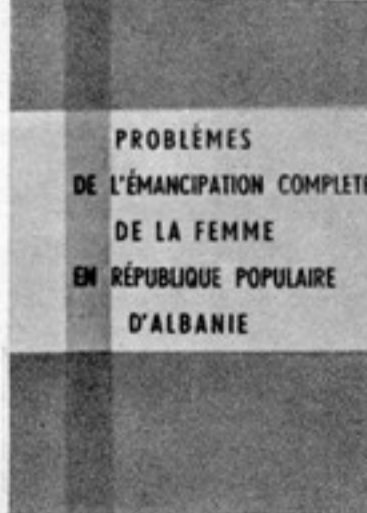
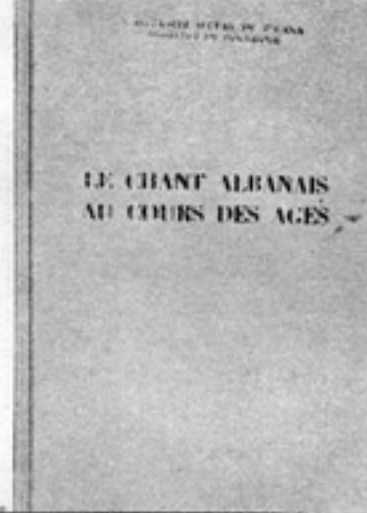
February 19, 1467, Rome

Mr. Scanderbeg was left waiting till the

coming council of the Pope giving him hopes that somebody would look after his affair. They discussed the question and pressure was exerted on the Pope to cheer up Scanderbeg before he left. At last the Pope agreed to give him 2,000 dukates, but the Cardinals wanted to give 7,500 instead just as much as Scanderbeg had asked; 2,000 dukates would be of no use whereas 7,500 dukates would be of help to Scanderbeg.

Finally His Holiness said that he was pleased to give that sum of money on the condition that the Cardinals lent him this money . . . Some consented, some others objected saying that Pope would make a habit of borrowing money from the Cardinals. Thus they did not solve this question and told Scanderbeg that they would answer him some other time. When Scanderbeg

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heard this he decided point-blank to leave and said that there was not such a greater malice in this world than that of those priests . . .

It is quite clear the Pope's stand towards the struggle of the heroic Albanian people during 1466-1467 years, the most difficult and at the same time the most glorious years during which the Albanian people though alone, faced the unprecedented military campaign undertaken by Mehmet the second to bring Albania to the knees by hooks or by crooks.

The entering of the countless Osman troops into Albanian soil troubled other countries of Europe, particularly Italy for it was foreseen that the Osman troops being in front of the "Gates of Italy" would begin occupying it; This forced the Pope to call on the meeting of the council and of the Ambassadors of various countries on May 28, 1466. The meeting required not only the bringing together of the forces of the Italian states, but also required help even over the Alps because "King Ferrant alone would not be able to face the danger of his kingdom which was nearing doom neither Pope would risk his riches, nor Venice its ownership and, as a consequence other's contribution was necessary".

The fresh news which reported that the Albanians led by Scanderbeg were not defeated, dismissed the fear that the Turks would attack Italy.

At such an extraordinary difficult situation, hoping that the heroic struggle of his people, which would stop the Turks to cross on to the other side of the Adriatic, would find the necessary and powerful support deserved, Scanderbeg requested help from the main Italian states. He sent his son to Venice. He himself decided to go to Naples and Rome, instigated by the thought that Ferrant was obliged to him for the effective help given by the Albanian troops in 1460-1462; Scanderbeg, as the representative of the heroic Albanian resistance was convinced that (as it was said in 1465) the debt of 100,000 dukates appointed for the support of the anti-Turkish war, would belong to him "Because Scanderbeg is continuously fighting, has much expenses and no help at all". The grand welcome to the Albanian hero of the inhabitants of Rome was the highest inspiring and comprehensive estimation for the Albania resistance, thus creating an open contrast with the narrow-sighted policy of the state leaders, including even the Pope who had started already his first attempts to establish peace with the Turks.

Pope Paul II about whom Karl Marx has said that "This bastard was to avaricious" to help Scanderbeg, tried by means of empty justifications and after the official ceremony to disguise his real stand and to make Scanderbeg leave Rome as soon as possible. After a two month stay, Scanderbeg set off being fully aware of the real hostile stand towards him and was filled with feelings of hatred and scorn which he make them known when leaving Rome and which today are reflected in the documents we are publishing.

"The Battle for the Liberation of Tirana": This book written by Comrade Mehmet Shehu depicts some of the stormy and glorious days of the National Liberation War. The battle for the liberation of Tirana had required a well worked-out plan by the General Staff of the National Liberation Army. The tenth day of the battle, November 17th, marked the liberation of the capital.

This book has been translated in French. **"The Albanian Song through centuries"** This book has been compiled by the oral folklore branch of the Institute of Folklore, and consists of 164 pages. It includes lullabies, folk, erotic and wedding, mourning, and emigration songs, legendary songs and ballads, historic songs starting with the period of Scanderbeg and ending with the liberation of Albania. At last, there are 29 songs of the epoch of socialist construction. This book has been translated in French.

"The Song and the Rifle": This book is a collection of stories by Dhimiter Shuteriqi, which deals with various themes and has 294 pages. It is translated in French.

"Our Friends Ask": This book translated into French, gives answers to different questions asked by foreign friends, about Albania.

"Transparent Look": The short story "Transparent Look" by Viet Koci, which has been translated into French, treats of ethical-moral issues of family relations, of the stand to the family and society problems of the struggle against petty-bourgeoisie tendencies, as intellectualism, technocracy etc.

The author finds the solution to these problems not only in the struggle that is waged within our socialist families, but also in powerful influence of society through various forms of its own.

"Problems of the Full Emancipation of Woman in the People's Republic of Albania": This book which is translated into French gives to the foreign reader a reflection of the issue of the emancipation of the Albanian woman in all spheres. The book carries articles by various personalities as well as studies on particular questions of the emancipation of woman in the People's Republic of Albania. The 280 pages of the book contain 19 articles and studies.

"Tourist Guide Book of Albania", is written with the purpose of serving the foreign tourists as well as those that come to visit Albania; As such it offers them the information they would need, be it prior to their arrival in the country, or during the trip and sojourn in Albania. It is published in English, French, German and Italian.



One of the Lura Lakes.



A view of a coastal area.

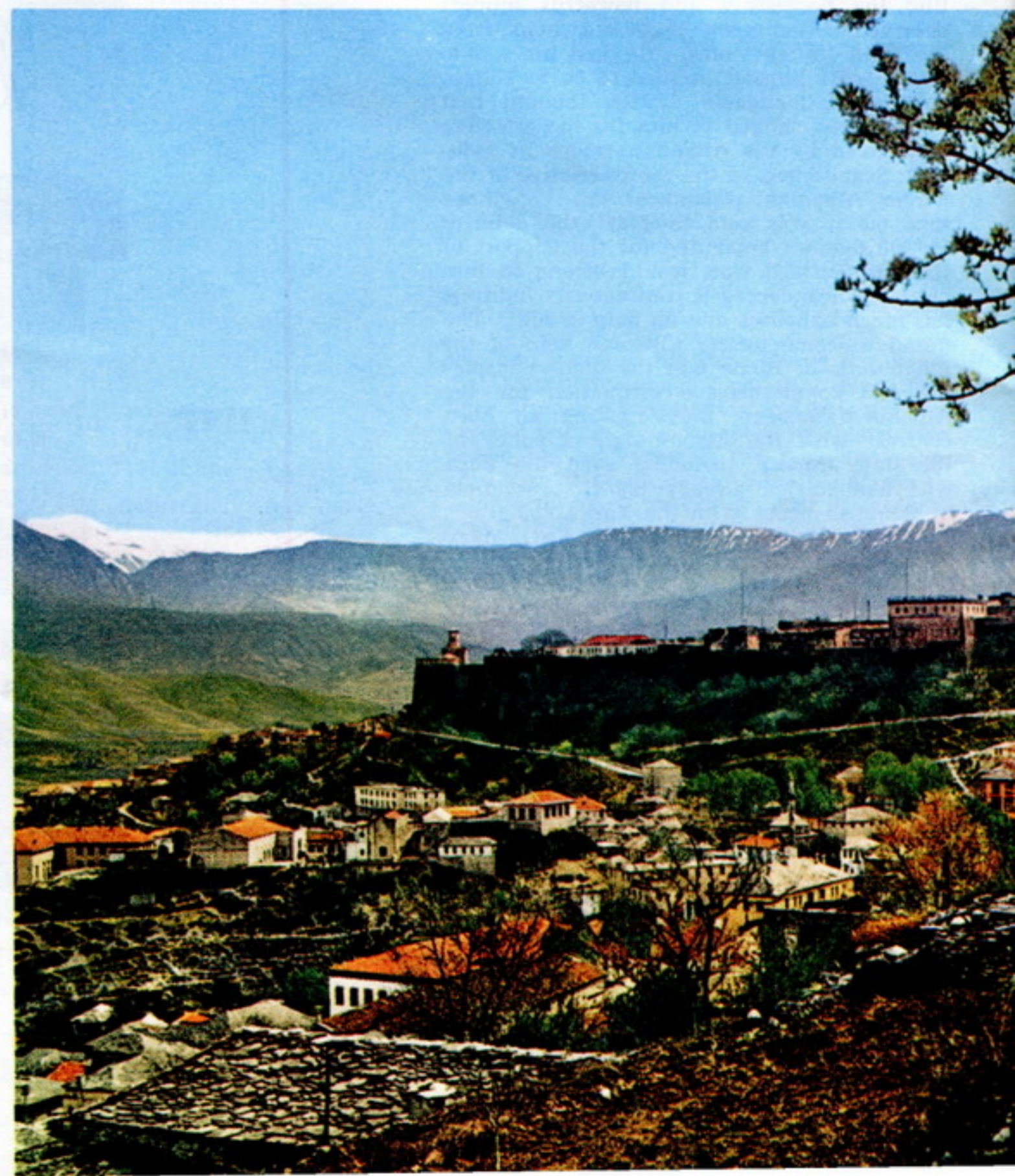
The medieval bridge of Mesi on the Kiri River, Shkodra District. This bridge is 112 meters long made up of 5 arches the longest of which is 27 meters long and 15 meters high.



A view of the town of Saranda.

TOUR IN

View of the Gjirokastra citadel.





In the Scanderbeg Square of Tirana.



Riviera (Porto Palermo)

ALBANIA

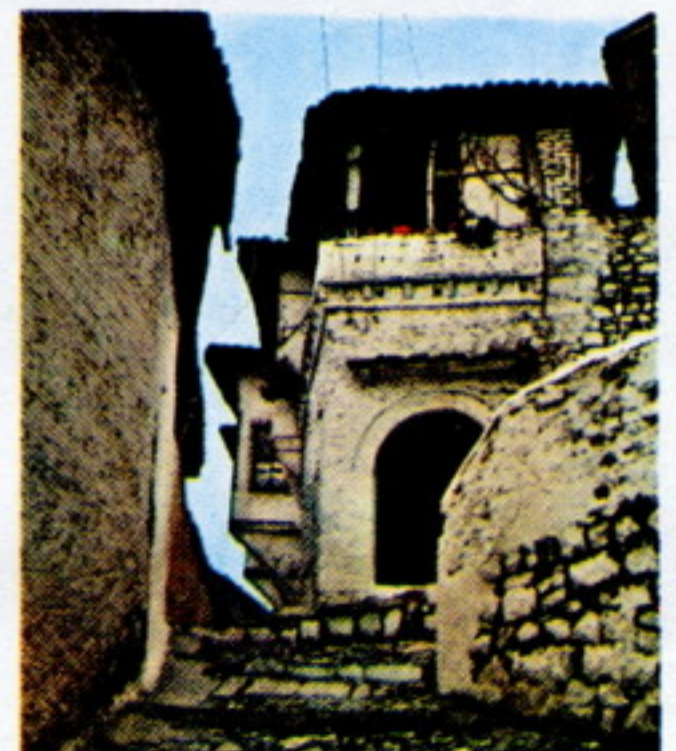


In the North Albania alps.

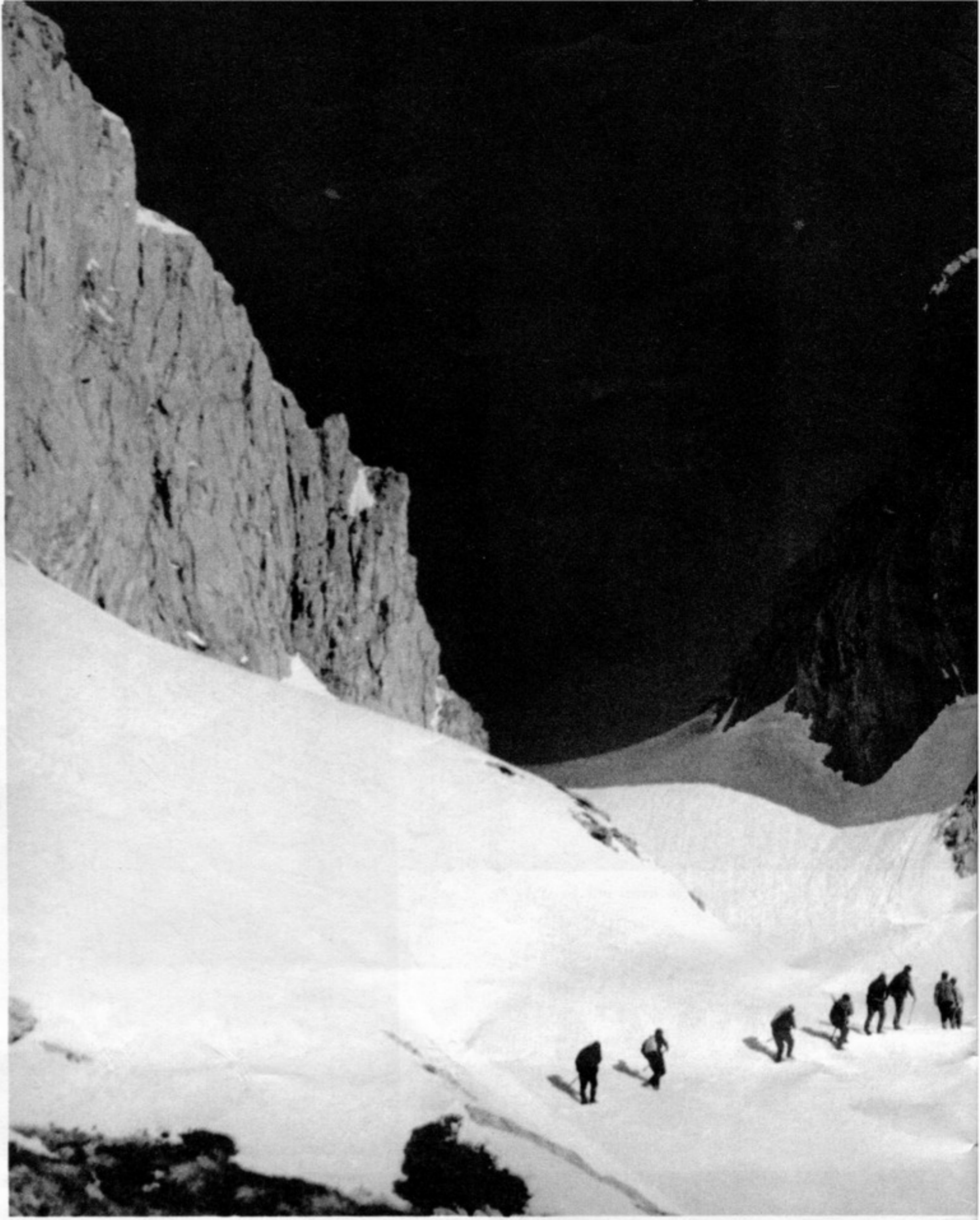


View of the entrance hall of a medieval church, Berat.

View of a turn in the town museum of Berat.

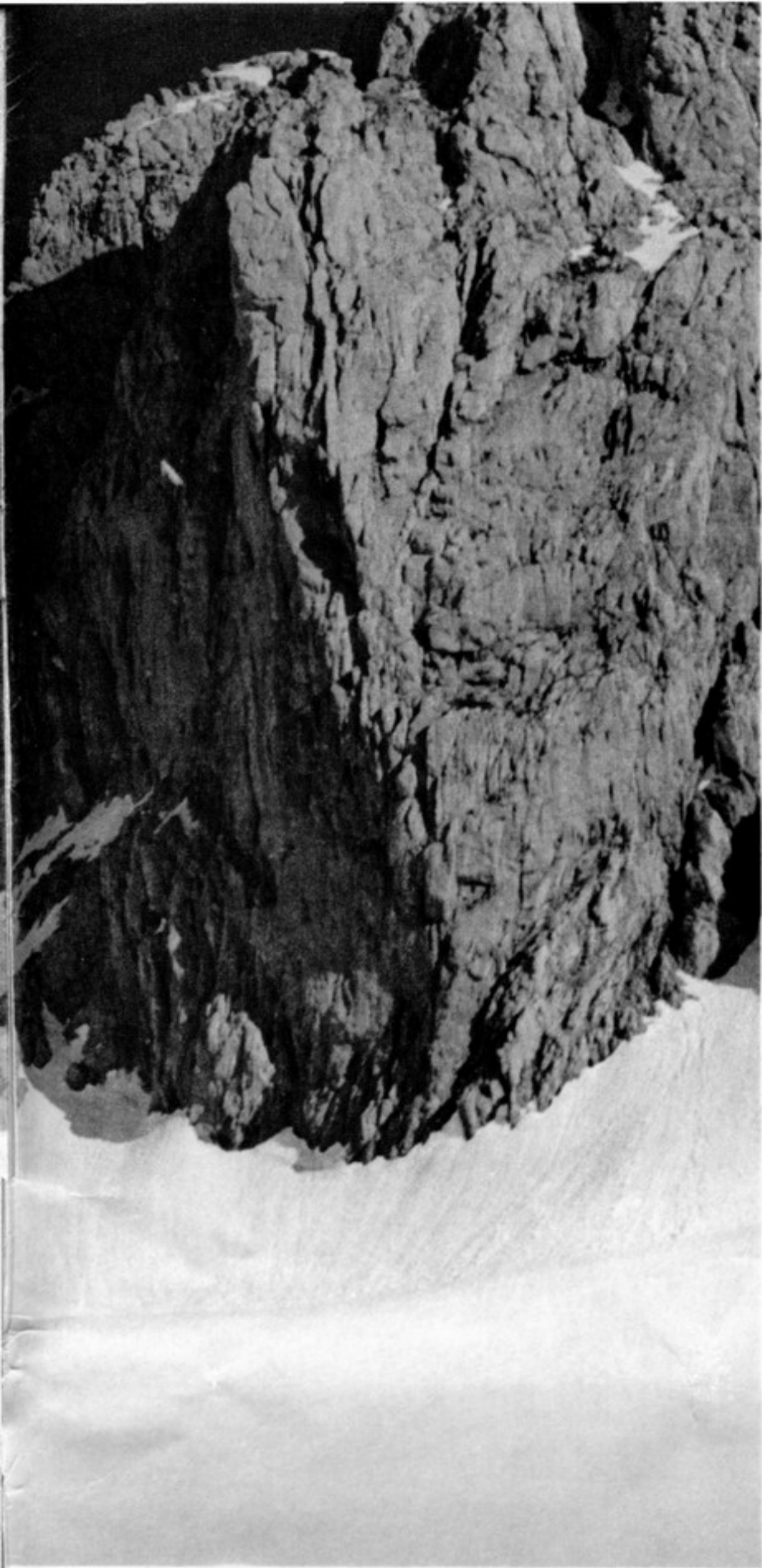


SPORTS



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① — The highest peaks are the places preferred by skiers.

② — A sport feast in the Tirana artificial lake.
Photo: by E. Shabani.

③ — Swimmers' national game.

④ — Mountaineers climbing up one of the summit of our Alps.

④



③

