

# NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

JANUARY  
1974  
NO. 193  
35c

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## *Did Life All Come From Outer Space?*

PAGE 5

## *Where Car Plants Have No Layoffs*

PAGE 16

## *Somebody You Know Is On The Booze?*

PAGE 21

## *Their Native Women Now Reach The Top*

PAGE 9



HO-HO-HO! Well, whatever it is that the REAL Santa Claus says, up at the REAL North Pole. But you see how far they've gone with Women's Lib in the Soviet North . . . Santa here isn't even a boy, she's Tanya Gugulova, riding her Dad's favorite reindeer. Tanya is a Nenets Eskimo youngster sending all us "NN" people a Happy New Year. What's Tanya going to be when she grows up? You get a reasonably good idea of her future on Page-9.

What our papers never tell us about Soviet Jews — Page 10

# NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

The Magazine of Socialism in Action

GRAVENHURST — ONTARIO — CANADA

Canada's authoritative independent magazine reporting the U.S.S.R.

Our 24th year publishing reliable, exclusive news of Soviet developments.

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## NEW YEAR NEWS ISN'T ALL THAT BAD

Frankly, we didn't like to start 1974 off with the kind of facts you get over there on the next page. But so many Readers wrote in, asking for an NN Report on our Energy Crisis, that we have to come through.

We're not apologizing for the Gloom. For two reasons.

First, a couple of little economic birds have told NN that facts to come are probably going to be a lot worse than you see on P-3.

And then, Readers of this magazine are used to taking a world view. And that view is pretty good. A part of it you get on P-4. After all, if the world's future is working so well, the outlook here for us can't be depressing.

Anyway—HAPPY NEW YEAR! From all at NN to you.

## ALCOHOLISM: THE BIG DRUG PROBLEM

Neither this magazine nor the Soviet specialists we often quote are supporters of "prohibition". But all of a sudden it turns out that our permissive society is face-to-face with a mass alcoholism problem which, for the first time since the early years of Capitalism in England (the Gin Plague) is afflicting teen-agers and children. So our Page-21 Report this month may be useful to you. We suggest that you might even use it (privately, of course) to determine which of your friends is just a "problem" drinker or a real alcoholic.

## READER "W.S." SENDS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT

We at NN are only human, so we felt a nice glow when we read a note from "W.S.". Said he: "I would like to compliment you for your exclusive write-up in December 1970 issue. At that time many brushed it off as 'Russian propaganda' but today it is a fact."

What was it? "Will Power and Fuel Cuts Hit You?" They sure will hit you, said NN. Three years ahead of the Energy Crisis. So close was our forecast that it reads like a preview of this issue's Page-3.

(By the way, that forecast ran on Page-21. Maybe we'd better keep that page special for looking ahead?)

## NEW YEAR'S PRESENT FOR YOU

To start 1974 off, our "Free Book Club" offers not 2, or 3, but SIX new free publications, for only the 25¢ mailing cost.

**LAST WORDS!** Please look out for the Special January Letter you'll be getting from NN's Editor... it's extra important this year.

NN's Quote of the Month: "The Soviet Union has enjoyed our respect and aroused our admiration since the early days of its existence. The Great Socialist Revolution and the mass struggle preceding it had a most profound effect on the national liberation movement the world over. We in India are living through a prolonged period of transition from the feudal and colonial past to a new, Socialist society which we have set as our goal. It is a magnificent task to carry out radical transformations on such a scale. Our friendship rests, above all, on a common interest in peace, in developing broad cooperation for peaceful purposes. This is very important when our two peoples make up almost a quarter of mankind... very important not only for us but also for all other nations." (Indira Ghandi, Nov. 26, 1973).

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This Plan gave better results in the past year than ever before!



Our Profit System starts its

# Unhappy New Year

- We face an economic situation that baffles leading experts.
- But you don't need to wonder which way things are heading.
- Taking the cool view of Scientific Socialism enables you to see how our system's problems look "from a distance".
- NN's 30 Points can help in your personal outlook on 1974.



1. No more Wall Street crashes, they told us? In 3 months of '73, stocks fell 198 points, more than in Great Crash of 1929.

2. West German, Japanese, Italian, Swiss stocks fell heavier than USA's. Britain suffered what papers called "a bloodbath". Entire world capitalist system is in very deep trouble: its **General Crisis**.

3. Despite its boasts, our system failed to make use of the Science Revolution (as Socialism has), so the "energy crisis" staggered our economists . . . they try to blame "The Arabs" for a situation which top Canadian economist says "is beyond anything I have ever seen".

4. World-wide unscientific use of oil for energy has left Capitalism desperately backward, entirely apart from Mid-East oil problem.

5. Example: West's steel industry is ridiculously dependent on oil for heat (!), and can't switch back to coal for years.

6. As steel production lowers, USA can't increase output of steel pipe it must have to get more oil and gas flowing; to build more railway cars for coal; to make more coal-mining machinery.

7. Aluminum can't help out the steel shortage . . . it requires far too much electrical energy.

8. "Automobile civilization" of West, as it is sharply cut back by fuel shortage, will drag down mass employment industries such as glass, rubber, textiles, road construction.

9. Airlines and aircraft plants have reacted with panic. They never ever thought about fuel!

10. Plastics, another scientific industry, likewise never thought it would run out of raw material, which is petroleum and gas.

11. So mass consumer industries like clothing, containers, and phonograph records, will soon be laying off armies of workers, for lack of stuff to make into goods.

12. Our, "food abundance" could end for lack of farm machinery (steel), fertilizers, chemicals, fuels to save crops from frost (in California, Florida, Texas), thus raising another financial problem for USA —slump in crop exports.

13. Ford Foundation's Energy Project chief, Freeman, sees this as "the end of an era", but he does not know that Soviet economists years ago analysed what we now experience . . . it's the General Crisis of Capitalism.

14. Never again will USA, with only 6 percent of Earth's people, devour 33 percent of our planet's energy. From now on the balance of power for prosperity will turn in favor of mankind.

15. Never again will USA, and Canada, live high off the wealth stolen from other peoples; Israel's chatter about "Arab blackmail" cannot hide the truth: Israel and the West have prospered vastly at the expense of people who now won't tolerate our piracy.

16. The great USA stands naked in scientific backwardness—it's coal, shale and nuclear energy programs are far behind, and can't relieve the crisis for years.

17. Incredible waste of energy (in cars, industry, home heating) is coming to a dramatic end, with shocking consequences to public.

18. USA's skyscrapers, long the symbol of affluence, now are seen as intolerable heat-sewers, grossly over-lighted, over-heated, then cooled at enormous energy cost.

19. Solutions for the crisis are available—slash road and air traffic in half (switch to economical rail-ways), eliminate autos for public transport; but copying Socialism that way would bring Western Capitalism down in chaos.

20. But if they don't take fuel from consumers, for industry, no consumers will be left . . . as plants close, payrolls will end.

21. Capitalism is not powerless to solve its energy crisis; but all solutions point one way . . . great cost and price increases for everything we consume. In Capitalism's General Crisis the "over-production" problem is being replaced by ever increasing shortages.

22. Monopoly Capitalism proved incapable of accepting the Science

Revolution, preferring to ignore new energy sources in order to reap fantastic profits by concentrating on petroleum and gas.

23. "Competition" turned out to be not stimulating but ruinous, as oil monopolies wrecked the basic coal and railway industries, which now cannot be revived without huge investment of public funds.

24. "Smartness" of Capitalism's top economists turned out to be total stupidity: they burned oil as if it were sea-water, unable to see disaster even when it stared them in the face.

25. Steel is shocking example of backwardness: USA's giants just couldn't be bothered changing to oxygen furnaces which save much fuel. But why should they, while they could plunder the Mid-East?

26. Now the Science and Socialist Revolutions are coming together, and Capitalism is losing out both ways . . . backward technically, and defeated politically as Socialism backs liberation movement.

27. No White House gimmicks can solve the energy problem for USA, and even if Mid-East oil returns Capitalism must make gigantic new efforts to find power sources that will expand fast enough.

28. Immediate problems will be severe, since petty "measures" so far (turning off lights, cutting car speed, wearing sweaters) do not touch the stupendous energy waste in Western world.

29. Entirely new political forces have appeared: Arabs cut oil off from anti-Black-Africa nations (Portugal, Rhodesia, South Africa) in gratitude for Black support against Israel-USA, and this spells grave troubles in future.

30. Finally, USA and its allies cannot use military force, since their armies, navies, air forces are critically short of fuel . . . the most glaring of all evidence that mindless Monopoly Capitalism has been blockaded by its own General Crisis.

Feeling depressed by it all? Just turn the page for a tonic!

# It's **HAPPY NEW YEAR** for Socialism!

## World's new system enters Fourth Stage as decisive force on Earth

Not many NN Readers will be able to think back to the 'twenties and 'thirties. But it's worth while for all of us to make that effort, looking at the Soviet Union in its formative years.

Call it **Stage One** in the rise of Socialism. You had to have pretty solid faith in the new system then, because it was starting in the **most primitive** of all the major nations. Just think: in 1921, the affluent USA could boast of producing **half the entire output** of the world; whereas workers in Socialism faced their own dismal production of . . . **one-half of one percent**.

Capitalism was 100 times farther ahead.

But already by 1937 Socialism had multiplied its share by 20 times.

**Stage Two** astounded the world. During that period the liberated Soviet working-class crushed fascism; rebuilt their devastated republics; and then swept on to create the new Socialist World reaching from eastern Europe to Asia.

**Stage Three** saw Socialism leading the Revolution in Science, by opening the Space Age and achieving the military superiority of Peace and Liberation over the cracking forces of aggression and colonialism.

And now . . . we are living in the midst of Stage Four.

### Decisive new force in world affairs

Although world production has tremendously increased since 1921, the USSR today makes **one-fifth of everything turned out in all our planet's factories**.

Just yesterday, Socialism was so far behind USA that comparisons were plain silly. Today, out of the 33 main industrial-production groups, **USSR is ahead of USA in 15**. Including coal, iron-and-steel, iron ore, coke, cement, timber, diesel and electrical locomotives, glass, tractors.

To say nothing of secondary outputs: milk, animal fats, leather footwear, woolen cloth, sugar, fish.

If you prefer the statistical view of economists then in the past 21 years (a generation) Socialism has **averaged an industrial output increase of 9.9 percent each year**. The USA? 4.3 percent.

In the same period the national income of the Soviet people **averaged a rise of 8.3 percent yearly**. For the Americans? It was 3.5 percent.

No, USSR has **not yet equalled** the output-per-worker we have achieved here in North America's factories and farms. But Capitalism's lead is **shrinking faster** in every succeeding year.

Lenin stressed that Socialism will win the world when it is **victorious economically**. Stage Four.

### In "life style" who is now ahead?

Through all the first three stages, visitors from the West, in the Soviet Union, would smile pityingly at women dressed unfashionably; men without cars; families living in apartments instead of suburban homes; children studying hard in school; movies with no sex scenes; and so forth.

What has changed? Plenty. The life-style in Socialism has remarkably improved, while the Western tourist is no longer sure about our life-style in Capitalism . . . pollution, traffic, inflation, housing, crime, drugs, chemical foods; now the energy crisis.

Suppose you look at other facts-of-life.

They now have 95 million working men and women in USSR and **never one unemployed**.

In five years average pay rises 22 percent, and **never anything goes up in price one cent**.

They have fewer cars, but **5-cent public transport**.

Modest apartments, but **\$8 per month rent**.

No drug problem. Crime fast decreasing. Only one tax, soon to disappear. Nobody in debt, not even the government (which has huge surplus funds).

And when they look over here . . . before the energy crisis they could count (our own figures) more than **fifteen million unemployed** in major capitalist countries.

### Socialism now holds "balance of power"

In this Fourth Stage of our era we live in a brand new situation, never before known in history.

The economic, scientific and military power of the USSR and its allies is now so great that if Capitalism dared attack the new system . . . **that would be suicide**.

As a result, all anti-capitalist forces in our world have behind them the very forward-motion of history, so that any attempt to defeat them . . . **is doomed**.

The end of the USA's terrible war in Vietnam is an outstanding example of Fourth Stage Socialism.

So is the USA's **reluctant effort** to seek peaceful co-existence with the USSR.

Just at a time when the Soviet Union achieved far reaching agreement with the world's most powerful non-aligned nation, India, the USA found itself trying to pick up the pieces of its long-time alliance with NATO countries and Japan, shattered by Kissinger and Schlesinger and their obsession with Israel.

History, in one of its grimmest moods, has topped these developments with **Capitalism's energy crisis**. While Socialism brings into production vast stores of oil, gas, coal, hydro and nuclear power, with all its boasted technical experience the USA leads the capitalist world into a preview of doomsday.

Indeed, literally, **world power has changed hands**.

### Lights are bright on Kremlin's stars

Always, day and night, the great golden stars of Socialism, and its magnificent scarlet banners, shine brightly on the red towers of Moscow. But this year the center of World Socialism has a new brilliance.

All the more striking because the lights on the White House are dimmed, and the drinking-parties on Wall Street are breaking up early.

A whole year ago Soviet leaders had the courage to tell the people that 1973 **must be a decisive year**.

With their labor the workers, farmers, intellectuals and managers of Socialism took up the challenge. The year of decision was their triumph: in industry, agriculture, science, the arts, and world politics for Peace; Soviet people made sweeping gains.

For them and for their allies and their friends the world over, **this is truly a Happy New Year**.

No sensible person expects Mankind's splendid future to come for us now along a smooth highway. Hard struggles, of a kind we can't yet anticipate, are waiting for us this year and next.

But as one of NN's oldest Readers put it . . .

**"Things sure are different this year!"**

Happy New Year, the Future is with us!

On the border-line of Science

# REACHING FOR THEM ... OUT THERE

You saw the news that Soviet radio-astronomers may have picked up Outer Space signals from intelligent beings. "RATAN 600" is one device they listen with. Its aerial is 1900 feet across. Double the size of USA's largest. In charge is Dr. Nikolai Kardashov (often reported in NN), a space-communications enthusiast. What's going on?



You'll recall earlier NN Reports on "CETI"—that's respectable scientific term for Communications With Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence. Used to be strictly for science-fiction nuts. But now, CETI is in.

Several world conferences have been held, with Soviet scientists in the lead . . . counting the new RATAN they now have five CETI listening posts (in Murmansk, near Gorky, Ussuri Territory, Crimea, North Caucasus). In 1972-73 scientific publishing houses in Moscow brought out two volumes on CETI, over 800 pages!

You discover a lot of excitement in the Science world today, partly because of a weird idea going around. In a few words: **maybe all Life on Earth started when it was sent here by Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence, super Beings somewhere very far Out There.**

Then we really were "created"? Or . . . **exported?!**

Scientists are thinking about this very seriously.

—They know that our entire section of the Universe, our Galaxy, is about 13 billion years old.

—Therefore, at many points in our Galaxy (countless planets similar to Earth) "somebody" had about 7 billion years to become Super Intelligent, and ship some living things to Earth (life began here about that time).

Maybe this stirs your memory? Yes, long before our age of super-astronomy, the scientist Arrhenius had the idea called "Panspermia". Sperms or bits of life all through the Universe. But now the favored theory has become **Directed Panspermia** . . . highly advanced Beings sending life to selected breeding spots. **Like Earth.**

Soviet and Western researchers have been discussing this since it was raised at a world conference in Armenia some two years ago.

You see, it now looks as if life-sperm drifting in Space would have a **poor chance** of landing on a planet at just the right moment to start begetting, etc. But suppose life-starters were **deliberately sent** by Beings capable of biologically populating the most favorable planets in the Universe?

Research has proved that in the kind of space-ship we humans already can make (after just 20 years at it!) we could ship bits of life Out There, and they'd be alive and well **millions** of years from now.

By the way: a **new mystery** adds to the Imported Life idea. Living things here on Earth all need the metal **molybdenum** to make them function. Yet Earth is **very poor** in that metal. Wouldn't you guess that maybe Earth life came from a **molybdenum planet?** (We know of molybdenum stars, or suns.)

Well, let's face the **main** question.

Using CETI, can we get in touch with the characters who originally exported life to our planet?

Kind of like . . . well, trying to phone God!

Soon as you take up that question, scientifically, you run into some terrific problems.

First: how could you "talk" with Beings who were highly advanced **billions of years ago**, and today must be billions of years still farther ahead of us?

It would be like a **germ trying to talk to us.**

Indeed, some scientists believe that any creatures who are only 1,000 years past us (in development of their intelligence, civilization, Science) **couldn't care less** about picking up a radio-astronomy phone to take a call from us backward types. So anyone who is a billion years ahead of us . . . well . . .

You see any catch to those sceptical arguments?

Man, just tell any scientist on Earth that some new device is **giving us messages from a bacterium**, and you'd get trampled down in the rush to listen!

Another catch. Scientists are notoriously weak in ability to foresee radical discoveries **beyond** their own well-studied knowledge.

Nobody, 25 years ago, imagined that we'd have the new (Soviet) "quantum amplifiers"; extremely small radio devices; working in super-cold; able to "hear through" the meaningless noise filling Space. These outfits have **tremendously increased** the distances, out in our Universe, which we can probe for Intelligence.

To date, Soviet researchers have "bugged" stars (or suns, with planets around them) which are **600,000 billion miles** away from Earth. They are studying two kinds of "signals": those which have a sinusoidal (wave) pattern, and those which come in pulses.

Such radio-astronomy projects get most of the publicity today. But quietly the USSR is completing the world's **biggest optical telescope**. On Mount Seven-Springs in the Caucasus.

This remarkable outfit has a perfect mirror, able to pick up radiation from so far out that it takes **10 billion years** for a flash of light to reach Earth!

Let's see what that means. Scientists will be looking at places as they were **billions of years ago.**

Or, if you prefer, looking for Beings who are, **now**, 10 billion years farther on than they were when their "pictures" started out for the new telescope.

Again: what we'll see in the Seven-Springs 'scope all **happened 10 billion years ago!**

And worse still. If we tried to send **pictures of us**, back to Them, they wouldn't get a look at us, as we are today, for **another 10 billion years.**

Does it sound totally beyond common sense?

Better to say that such research is far out on the very border-line of Science, touching the Unknown.

That's where **BIG Science** always triumphs.

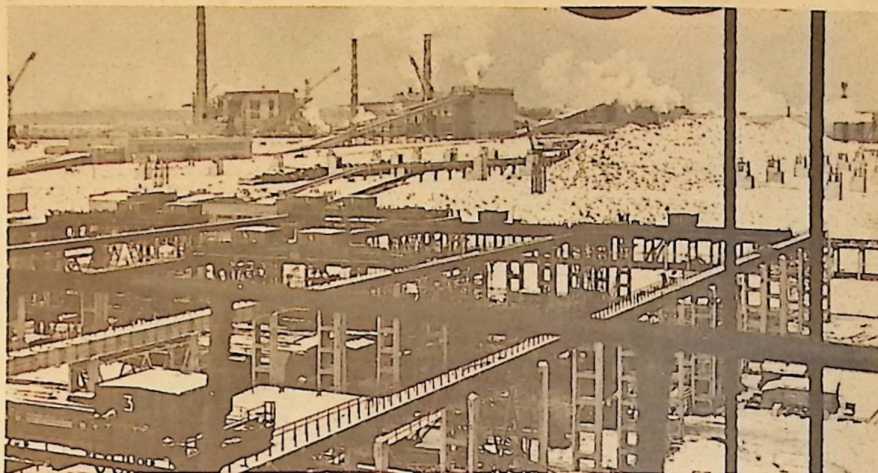
If other Beings started life going here on Earth, you can be sure they'll have a way to see **what became of their experiment.**

Which is us.

And we'll find a way to see **where we came from.**



Like Canada, USSR has tremendous forest areas . . . but publicly owned.



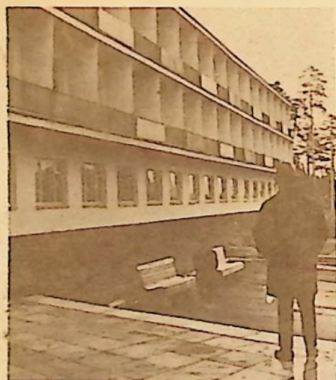
Last year's photo shows you Bratsk Paper Combine shops under construction. But first units have been going full blast.



Vladimir Nesterov (right) gave 10 inventions which save plant \$93,000 yearly, making cardboard.

## PLENTY OF PAPER

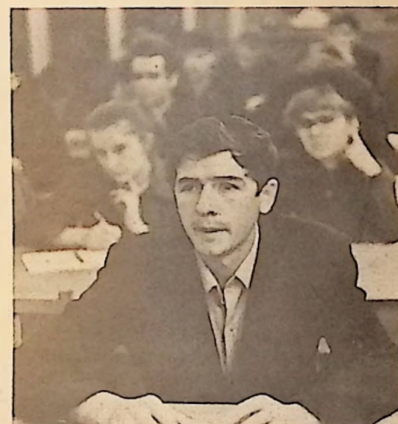
Canada, world's **biggest** pulp-paper producer, is **starving** now for paper. Most of it is grabbed by **foreign** (USA) publishers (like N.Y. Times). **For years**, USSR was paper-hungry. Not now. **The people own their forests, plan paper industry.** Like this gigantic center away out in Bratsk. Socialism in action in paper puts our "affluence" in doubt.



Before plant opened, Trade Union medical department had planned, built fine modern sanatorium rest-home near Irkutsk, for paper-makers and their families, all year round.



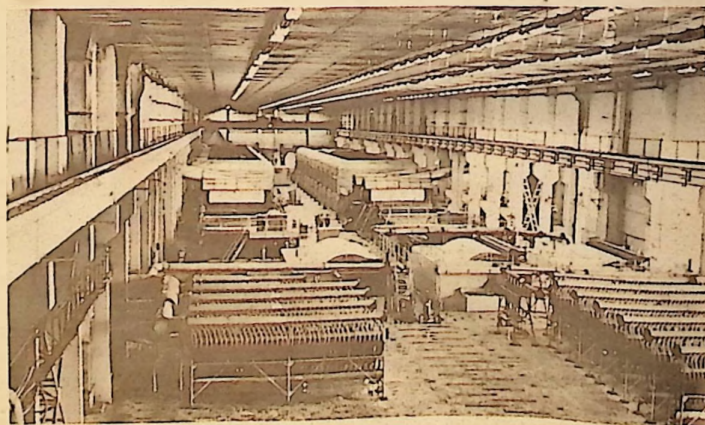
Winters are cold in Bratsk, but families don't worry: youngest (pre-school) boys and girls are well cared for in splendid kindergartens, nurseries. They play, learn, go outside, have their main meals here.



As part of giant plant they planned advanced school where workers study, either for higher pay jobs or for entrance to college. Full pay while here.



It's their school. Pupils are maintenance workers in Bratsk mills, getting briefed on new equipment. Some heavy machinery here was made in Canada, but instrumentation is from Socialist nations.



Size of Bratsk Combine evident . . . this is just one corner of cordwood-pulp mill. Production lines are miles in length.

# how they plan their wilderness

**Our giants in the forest (timber and pulp) industry say they can't meet the cost of restoring cut-over woods. Our housing developers say they need all land around our cities, no room for green belts. Somewhere it's nice to know, the people are winning.**

◦ In 1948 (quarter-century ago) Soviet scientists set up a Forest Design Organization. This took over the highly successful "forest belt" systems (planted to combat ruinous dry winds), but expanded research to include city forest belts and great timber forests . . . world's first center for planning The Wilderness.

Size of work today you see from FDO efforts in the current 5-Year Plan. They are supervising re-planting forests on 30,000,000 acres, and draining water-logged (dying) forests on 3,000,000 more acres.

Organization today has 25 design-research centers, 21 working branches, across USSR. Its work now goes far beyond "just trees" . . . planning is closely linked with Socialism's agriculture, waterways, mining, health services, recreation and city development.

Example of latter: see our photo at right, showing beautiful Tsaritsino Forest, not far from Moscow, a true wilderness within reach of millions

Another example: Soviet cities are assured ample supply of good water by FDO management of big forests (watersheds) . . . sometimes planting them.

◦ Protective forest belts are major projects. Right now, some 130 belts are being established from plans of FDO. Scale of work is big: trees must be started covering 300,000 acres, in the Russian Republic alone. In the Caucasian region, 86 new forest belts are stretching a total of 2,400 miles!

Those belts are intended mainly to aid farming. But recently the FDO has planned—and almost completed—very big forest belts which surround large man-made "seas" . . . the vast water-storage basins formed by hydro-power dams. The Kremenchug and Kakhovka basins now have trees that cover 25,500 acres, areas which formerly were totally or nearly bare. Three other "seas" (Volgograd, Kuibyshev and Tsimlyansk) will be forested next, and at the same time wide wilderness strips will be planted along the Moskva and Severny Donets-Donbas canals (hundreds of miles).

These projects have three aims: to increase the beneficial weather effects of the new "seas"; to end erosion and improve local water regimes; and to give large populated areas new, nearby wilderness.

◦ Ukraine's tree belts are outstanding. In fact, even though the Carpathian mountain area is a big source of timber, today thanks to FDO Ukrainians are foresting four times more acres than they are cutting.

In this 5-Year Plan they'll finish planting well over 1,500,000 acres of new wilderness. Much of this work is being done on formerly repulsive land: salty prairie, wind-torn desert and impassible ravines.

However, shelter belts of trees intended for the protection of crop-land remains the most important work of Forest Design in Ukraine. These tree strips are laid out scientifically after prolonged study of winds (summer and winter). Trees are mixed with tall and low shrubs for maximum wind-breaking. Such belts have been planted at the rate of more than 100,000 acres a year, since 1970, just in Ukraine!

The entire cost is, of course, met by Socialism, out of profits of the publicly-owned economy. And the cost is high, not only for preparation and planting, but for necessary maintenance.



◦ Wilderness production is a new industry. It starts with tree seed output, and when millions of acres are being forested, this is industrial production. In the last few years Forest Design has organized 56 large tree-seed plantations, using the very latest equipment and methods.

Tree nurseries are everywhere in USSR now. They cover about 50,000 acres. On many of them fruit trees already yield big crops in new Soviet wilderness plantings.

Surprisingly, hundreds of Co-Op and State Farms in USSR are turning to Forest Design for help in setting up new food industries based on forests. In four years, in the Russian Republic, eight such plants have gone into full production and 12 more are under construction.

These farm-owned factories collect and process nuts, berries and mushrooms. In the Andreevsky Forest plant they now turn out 1,000,000 cans per year.

In addition, more Soviet forest factories are supplying the "health industry" with highly potent vitamin products made from conifer nuts, needles, bark.

◦ Fire-fighting, road-building, pest-control . . . all these activities are rapidly expanding with the aid of Forest Design. Believe it or not, FDO forest fire protection now covers 1,500 million wilderness acres, and it designs 100 wilderness roads each year.

Today, work relating to cities is multiplying fast. About 400 new projects are underway now, mainly forest parks being created near centers which never had them.

And Forest Design has branched out into planning wild-life sanctuaries and special controlled-hunting preserves . . . 75 have already been completed.

Just last year Forestry Design was required to make plans on into the year 2000. Scientists coped with that task thanks to a new computer. Using it, they estimate they cut the cost of long-range planning by some half million dollars.

One factor makes work easy for Forest Design. In Socialism, where there are no capitalists, no one ever opposes the preserving and creation of wilderness. Since the new forests are intended to benefit people directly—and in many cases to make a good profit also for socialist farming and industry—they meet with universal approval in the People's System.

# Would you take up farming on the Arctic Ocean?

Bryan Pearson, Canadian Member of Parliament, told the press (Jan. 23 '73) our Eskimo people in Arctic exist in "living conditions which I believe to be the worst in the world".

Perhaps Mr. Pearson should visit the Far North over in Socialism. Here's an example of what he'd find.

If you have a World or USSR Map handy, check where we're visiting. It's about even with Canada's Arctic Ocean (above Great Bear Lake), above the Arctic Circle, and roughly 500 miles west of Archangelsk.

This is the USSR's "Nenets National Area". In area it covers 68,000 square miles. You wouldn't call it crowded—no more than 39,000 Nenets (Eskimo) people inhabit that vast Polar expanse.

In 1963 some hardy Russian farmers (who had been there a long time) pooled their small Co-Op Farm with some 2,000,000 acres (!) of frozen taiga, owned by Nenets reindeer breeders, to form what may be the biggest Collective Farm in the world, the **Rossia**.

Idea behind it: **boost output, raise incomes, improve life.**

Note this: never was there any interference with the life-style of the Nenets people, and they joined the Rossia Farm of their own free will.

—However, Nenets who joined the farm had only (!) 12,000 reindeer; total herds of Area are 190,000.

—Deer herders kept to their age-old grazing routes, travelling great distances all year.

—But as the Farm built houses, creating a real village, more and more Nenets families moved in.

—They began to take up other farm work: the Rossia now has 334 dairy cows, a very profitable operation in Arctic Circle areas.

—Vegetables, especially potatoes, are grown on a bigger scale every season . . . they're profitable too, in region where all such food must be flown in at high cost.

—Nenets farm families brought in another age-old skill: fishing Arctic Ocean and rivers flowing into it.

—Co-Op now has eight "fishing teams", and they range hundreds of miles away from farm's village.

—In 1972 their catch exceeded 440,000 pounds; all high grade fish, much of which is processed by a modern factory (it buys from many Co-Op farms in this Polar area . . . Rossia is only one, and a late-comer in the field).

—Finally, this farm has several hunting teams, going mainly after polar foxes and partridge.

While experimental farms have been set up in Canada's Arctic, and in far-northern Alaska, only in the Soviet north is farming carried on in support of **steady development of polar resources**. Co-Op farms offer the northern peoples a practical way to **raise their living standards**, assist the development of the whole socialist economy, and yet **retain those traditional life styles** which they cherish.

The Soviet Co-Op is an **ideal form** for this, since it is an entirely **voluntary** economic unit. It seeks only to "advance" the native work methods on the basis of **self-interest**.

And the collective basis of such Co-Ops is **very close to the spirit of age-old northern family-and-tribe societies.**

Incidentally, in Nenets Area there are now 10 Co-Op and two State Farms. Like the Rossia they are all based mainly not so much on "farming" as we know it as on **stock-raising**.

Besides satisfying all their own family needs for meat and skins (a big item in Arctic) Rossia now sells over 400,000 pounds of top-grade deer meat per year, plus thousands of hides.

Farm's profits should hit **half a million dollars this year** (440,000 in '72). Growth has doubled members' since 1967. Average men and women get \$7 to \$8 per day cash (profits after expenses, expansion costs). But families make much more, since they have 10 to 50 deer of their own, for personal needs.

Now more and more Nenets families are growing their own potatoes, onions and other vegetables, on their personal land-plots.

If you were to seek a "**hidden**" motive, in the development of these Soviet Co-Ops in the Far North, you would find only this: careful study, in actual life, shows that it is better for reindeer breeders to **work from a central village, and live in real houses, retaining their tents only while on-the-trail.**

**Better for babies, children, youth, adult workers, and the elderly.**

Entirely through their own experience, the majority of Nenets people today have changed to village living.

◦ Socialism (national economy) pays **two-thirds of cost** of houses built for Northern people (balance payable without interest over 15 years).

◦ Reindeer teams live **two weeks at home, two weeks out in the tundra**; while at home they do other farm work.

◦ It's a **gradual change in life-style**, which is approved by Nenets people themselves (they really supervise it).

◦ Thus in Rossia Co-Op, 33 of the 58 Nenets families have moved into houses, while 25 still prefer to follow the farm's herds more or less continually.

◦ But even on-the-trail, **life is improving**; many camps have electricity, all people carry personal radios, and helicopters carry mail, passengers, in all seasons.

◦ Nenets **read more periodicals** than any other nationality in USSR . . . 39,000 people get 54,000,000 copies yearly!

See our photo. Semyon Yavtyay (left) is first Nenets Captain of air-crew. He symbolizes a trend (so far not very big) in North . . . native youth going for higher education and the jobs guaranteed them by socialist law.

But don't jump to conclusions: as **life improves** on the Co-Op Farms in polar regions, most educated youth **return to their villages**, bringing their new skills. They like the new Plan of the Soviet Northern Peoples . . . in a few years they aim at a remarkable total herd of 4,000,000 reindeer.





# BOOZE

Unlike other health problems, you can cure boozing without spending a cent, and do it immediately. Just quit drinking alcohol.

So how come it's a multi-billion dollar health crisis?

Because it's **not nearly so simple** as some tell you. Mankind has been drinking for thousands of years. And if 11 million North Americans can't handle the stuff, many more millions get along just fine.

And as you saw reported here in NN (Nov. '73 P-6) the healthy 100-year-olds in USSR (thousands of them) nearly all drink; some of them get tanked at parties.

Now some of our own doctors (courageous souls) say they "prescribe" liquor to many old people. Alcohol is a useful diuretic; excellent for expanding blood vessels; splendid for making you sleep well; and helps people to feel more sociable with others.

All right, let's talk about "alcoholism".

Experts **can't agree** now about what the problem is.

o Is it a **crime**? Prohibit drinking? Doesn't work.

o Is alcoholism a **disease**? Widely accepted. But not in USSR, and doubts are growing rapidly over here.

o **Doctors** supported the "disease" approach because alcoholism (in some people) **causes** grave liver, brain, pancreas and even bone disorders.

o Psychiatrists say alcoholism is a "**dependency disease**", because when a boozer suddenly stops he shows serious withdrawal symptoms . . . his body has come to **depend** on alcohol continuously.

International Congress on Alcoholism heard all the arguments. Especially one that's **new here in the West**, but long accepted by Soviet specialists . . .

Disease, by all medical standards, is a process in the body which goes on **independent of the patient's will**. You can't "think" yourself into a case of tuberculosis, or ruptured appendix, or hemorrhoids. You can't think yourself out of diseases, either. But you can . . . with alcoholism.

Millions have **decided** to quit that "disease". So how can you call it a disease at all?

Further, unlike most diseases there is **no specific cure** for alcoholism; yet millions of victims (one in 10, maybe twice that many) **cure themselves all at once** with no treatment at all. That's a disease?

Now look at teen-age drinkers. Many "**learn**" to be alcoholics, just watching their parents. Many just **decide** to get drunk each day. Some disease!

Well, if alcoholism isn't a disease, **what is it?**

Do **Soviet doctors** have all the answers?

No, they don't. But see how they tackle boozing.

—A drunk in USSR is sick **only** if he is found to be ill from **some specific disease** other than drinking.

—If not, he gets it rough. In a "sobering up" station. Charged equivalent of \$50 or \$100 here.

—Then his place-of-work is informed; there the boozer gets **the full publicity treatment**.

—Repeaters are put under **public** (Trade Union or other organization) **control**, severely **criticized**.

Idea behind this is: "Don't hand us that 'sickness' line . . . **quit drinking if you can't handle it!**"

If you can't quit? Either you choose to go, or you are sent, to a **special alcoholism clinic**. Full time, or just night-times (you go on working).

**Results?** They stop alcoholics drinking for months; years; or permanently.



**Suddenly alcohol is our Number One health problem here in Canada and in the USA.**

**Boozing, but heavily, is rising fast. Some 11 millions of us are alcoholics. Many are kids, many more are mothers.**

**Cops arrest 7 million a year for offences while drunk.**

**Fines total over 112 million dollars. Cost of boozing (hospitals, doctors, jobs) has climbed up past 17 billion dollars yearly. Nobody escapes this problem.**

Note: they also discover the **very, very few cases** who are permanently, uncontrollably alcoholic. They don't make up what is known as the alcoholism problem.

What astonishes Western doctors (and police) in the Soviet Union is the **legal attitude** to alcoholism.

o If you commit a crime over here, while drunk, the judge will "take that into account" (be lenient).

o In USSR, the penalty for any crime, done while drunk, is **at least twice as severe** (as done sober)!

o If you injure or kill someone while **driving drunk**, you've really had it . . . drinking at all, before driving, is a **very serious crime**, and as a result they simply don't have the cars-and-booze problem we have.

Maybe you now have a clue to their general approach. Yes, alcoholism is a **disease**, in Socialism. But not a medical disease. It's a **social disease**.

o They **totally control** alcohol, socially; private enterprise doesn't make or sell the stuff **anywhere**.

o Social control **prohibits** all advertising of booze.

o Society **strictly limits** hours of sale, so alcohol is less and less available as time goes on.

o Socialist society keeps **raising the price** charged for liquor; a small bottle now costs four times more than a seat in a drama theatre!

o And the individual alcoholic is **helped by social measures** so he or she can quit and stay off.

They haven't eliminated boozing. But you only have to spend one night in a Soviet city—on the streets, with the cops, in hospitals—to see that their alcohol problem is **drastically less than ours**.

And that's not much help to us, is it? One thing that **does help some** (facing themselves, or friends) is to get the **modern scientific view** of boozing.

► Just how do you tell a "**problem drinker**"? He or she has to drink to get through the day; often gets really drunk; works, drives while drunk; does things while drunk that would never be done while sober.

► But a **real alcoholic** is something different. He or she can drink a great deal **without showing it**; will freely admit they have **no control** over drinking; **suffer terribly** when they're cut off (no mere hangover but a medical emergency); and the alcoholic cannot cope with life because **alcohol wrecks his social relations all down the line** (family, job, police).

Unfortunately, the "alcoholism is a disease" notion has **ruined** countless heavy drinkers . . . "if it's a disease I've got then they've got to cure me!"

Over here, one ray of hope seems to be the answering fact—that millions of alcoholics kicked the habit, cured their "disease", **by themselves**.

By quitting, period.

Imagine people dying of heart, kidney, or muscle diseases, who could say: "I'll quit, I'll be cured!"

Alcoholics can say it. Quit it. Cure it. Their disease is entirely within their own will-power.

(More FACTS? See "Sin and Science", Page-17)

# *greetings from the world's largest postal services*

If your Christmas mail was late this year, it wasn't because the Post Office didn't try. But maybe our Services could learn a few pointers from the P.O. in Socialism?

Soviet postmen and women deliver 48,000,000,000 pieces of mail a year. Well over 135 million every day. At holiday time they take 900 million items to the people day after day!

Most significant: their mail service has much improved in recent years. Here's how they do it.

You see how popular the mail is, in USSR, when you realize that their postmen carry **very little** advertising, so nearly all mail pieces are people-to-people. And every ten years the volume of mail in Socialism doubles!

Today they have 82,000 Post Offices, but hundreds of new ones are opened each year, mostly in new towns and cities. Average service now is one P.O. for 6500 city people, and one for 1700 country citizens.

That's by far the biggest mail network on Earth.

o Soviet mail experts say the size of USSR's postal service reflects the **growing economic and cultural standards** of the people.

o For example: today more than 40 million men, women and some younger citizens get **pensions by mail** in the Soviet Union, and the number is rising . . . more pensions, more people living a long time.

o Can you believe: Soviet postmen and women deliver checks and money orders totalling over 100 billion dollars a year; besides, they handle P.O. Saving Bank business, for people who aren't near regular banking outlets.

In one way, the USSR's mail trade is **far below ours**: what we call Mail Order sales. However, from almost nothing a few years ago, Soviet stores (mainly the Co-Ops) have built up a shopper's list of some 8 million people. Just about that many get books by mail (they look on that as a different "business") or borrow from libraries.

In response to many requests the USSR Post Office is helping various suppliers to develop a "Gifts by Mail" service, and when it gets going they expect to have more P.O. problems.

One of the biggest specialized uses of their P.O. is serving just under a million youth and adults who take **advanced education by mail**. You can easily figure the volume of postal work involved, and it's rising by leaps and bounds . . . learning by mail is booming.

So far, you haven't seen anything impressive enough to be picked up by our struggling Post system. But when you turn to **mail transport** you realize that USSR may indeed have something for us to consider.

—Although the USSR is vast, even by North American standards, they have not gone **all-out for handling mail by air**.

—Contrary to the situation over here (Canada scrapped its last railway mail cars recently) USSR has built 3,000 super-modern cars solely for mail-by-rail.

—P.O. crews man these cars (and live comfortably in them when on the road) on 560 train routes.

—Those travelling mail-men did 350 million miles in 1972!

—They find their high-speed trains are **far more economical than trucks** . . . and maybe we'll have to change our approach soon, with the gasoline shortage (and cost) making us more conscious of **wasteful transport**.

—Lately, Soviet railways, with the P.O., set up special fast trains which carry **mail and luggage only**; usually they have 10 mail cars and 7 luggage cars, and travel on most heavily-used lines.

—But such trains actually move **several times** as many cars in one run . . . dropping cars en route and picking up others.

**Don't they use trucks?** Yes, they have about 25,000 trucks moving the mail outside of cities, over some 600,000 miles of regular route. But mainly trucks are used to take **newspapers and magazines** from big cities to places not far away.

**Air-mail?** Yes, on a big scale. Last year Soviet planes carried over 750 million pounds of mail. But this work is changing: many distant places used to get papers by air-mail, but new electronic mail-by-wire systems have cut much of that service . . . faster to wire the latest paper and have it printed in many localities.



What strikes you most in Soviet Post Offices is the fact that they are **expanding very fast**, yet have no "crisis" such as we face.

In fact, with millions of copies going by mail every day, the newspaper Pravda now gets to 8-out-of-10 readers on the same day it appears . . . some of them 1,000 miles distant.

o **Automation** is rapidly applied in their P.O. system. Not only new ways of sorting mail, but also loading, unloading, wrapping and now shipping in big protective containers.

o They have excellent new machines to sell stamps, envelopes, money orders, make change, and even weigh and stamp parcels automatically.

o Their **big advances** are coming with "automatic transfer lines," in which human operators will only supervise the high-speed throughput of mail of all kinds.

o **Newest Soviet mail** (railway) car loads and unloads itself, and goes into mass-production in '74.

However, automation cannot solve the problem of expanding the P.O. While we are closing Post Offices, Soviet people in this 5-Year Plan are getting more than 60 large new mail centers and more than 5,000 new, modern local P.O.s.

Today, some 330,000 men and women personally deliver the mail all over USSR. Problem is to hire enough additional people every week . . . difficult because there isn't one unemployed worker in USSR.

So now they are **paying bonuses** to postal workers, for good service, and studying every proposal to lighten their load.

Long ago Socialism out-did our private-enterprise system in the mails, and clearly the outlook now is for more of the same.

*New Year news round-up from  
current Soviet newspapers*

**NO OIL SHORTAGE** for Soviet people and their allies. Fifth big pipe line from vast Samotlor field (Siberia) now started. Longest (1350 miles) and largest in USSR. Much of its flow will go into "Friendship" line supplying oil to Europe's socialist countries.

**SOCIALISM'S NEW HEALTH DRIVE** starts 1974 with big boost. Soviet people have 35 new swimming centers, 104 more stadiums, 244 new ski bases and 2,254 additional gymnasiums, built in '73.

**TRADE WITH YUGOSLAVIA** is booming, raising prosperity for both nations. For first time, USSR becomes biggest importer of Yugoslav goods. Total trade now over \$2.7 billions, due to hit the \$3.3 billion mark by 1975.

**INDIA LEADS ALL ASIA** with new Soviet-built plant that turns out big electric turbine-generators, on steady production line. Units are 200,000 KW. They'll bring power to 300,000 of poorest Indian towns . . . all publicly owned. Plant, at Hardwar (foothills of the Himalayas) will demonstrate to Asians how to overcome poverty with power.

**SOVIET TEACHERS ENTHUSIASTIC** over new re-training program. To cope with big school changes, 3 million Soviet teachers must up-date their skills, to match those of 100,000 new youthful "recruits" each year. No lack of competition: new teachers must pass stiff tests, which many can't do. Teaching is very highly respected in USSR.

**INTERNATIONAL BANK** of socialist countries is now one of largest in world. Has already handled business totalling over 360 billion dollars!

**SOVIET TV COMES CLOSER**, as new "Molniya" (Lightning) Space Broadcast Satellite now supplies Cuba with TV of USSR and other socialist lands. New service will also handle much long distance communication. How long before Canada builds a receiving-relay unit to give us quality Soviet TV?

**SOVIET CARS WON** tough "Tour of Europe" competition. All five Moskvich cars and all five Lada (Zhiguli) sedans finished first. Not one Soviet car had any breakdowns in 7,800 mile course, though 17 Western cars dropped out.

**NEW GRAIN ELEVATOR** just completed is stuffed with 3,330,000 bushels of grain. It can handle ten times that in a year. Where? Of all places, it's out in Omsk, Siberia! By 1975, total Soviet elevator (new) capacities will exceed 800 million bushels. All automated.

**"SEVENTH HEAVEN" RESTAURANT**, still highest in world (1066 feet), in Moscow's TV tower, has served 1,500,000 diners in six years. Now you can eat on 3 levels, but there's still a long waiting list.

**GRAY WHALES ARE MULTIPLYING**, a joint USA-USSR survey proves. Grays travel from California to Chukotsk Sea. They've increased (protected) a third, now number at least 7,000.

**RANK-AND-FILE JUSTICE** is strongest ever in USSR, with 600,000 men and women now elected as "assessors" on 3-person courts of USSR. Two ordinary citizens to one full-time judge.

**NEWEST AIRLINE** flies from Rome to Moscow to Tokyo. Slashes time to Far East . . . flight is under 14 hours.

**SHORTAGE OF HUMAN KIDNEYS**, desperately needed for transplants into many very ill people, is partly overcome by new computer-aircraft link between two biggest research clinics of Socialism: Institute of Experimental Surgery in Moscow and Humboldt Urological Clinic in Berlin (German Democratic Republic). Each center has list of waiting patients, their kidney characteristics fully recorded by computers. Immediately a kidney is available (usually because of death in accident or stroke) it is examined and "matched" to a patient. If patient is in other city, kidney is at once preserved (new devices) and flown to that center. Already the system has saved lives of 60 men and women. Expected to be expanded to cover many cities.

**BIG SAVINGS IN HEATING (FUEL) COSTS** gained with new Soviet architecture principle, which designs large buildings (even districts) to reduce cold wind. Cut of few miles-per-hour in wind speed markedly lowers heating required. In Arctic, city of Norilsk, "wind control" used to eliminate big snow drifts costing millions of dollars to clear each winter. In Soviet South, similar design lowers temperature around schools, apartments, hospitals. Two large research centers (Moscow, Riga) are speeding application of this principle.

**SOVIET "WALKING EXCAVATORS" GROW TO COLOSSAL SIZE**, with new giant that bites 100 cubic yards at once; on the end of an "arm" (boom) 300 feet long; which can reach down into a pit 150 feet deep, swing up, dump load on a pile 135 feet high. It walks on four "feet", moving 270 feet in an hour. In a year it can move 30 million cubic yards. Used to greatly raise coal output.

**DID YOUR DAILY PAPER MENTION THIS?** On October 22, 15 psychiatrists of the International Association of Psychiatrists visited several Soviet hospitals for mental patients. There they saw and examined a number of individuals headlined, in West, as "dissenters". The foreign specialists saw for themselves that these patients needed psychiatric treatment, and were receiving best care available for their ills. Doctors rejected newspaper claims that such "dissidents" are put in hospital for their "politics"; the patients were all obviously mental cases who required institutional care. (Know any editors who would like to exercise their freedom to apologize for lies?).

**TRAGIC COMMENTARY ON ISRAEL'S RULERS** appeared in brief news item, reporting the death of Alexandra Kalinycheva. She was killed when Dayan's bombers flattened the Soviet cultural center in Damascus, Syria. Alexandra, it turned out, served in Red Army all through World War II, right into the capture of Berlin. Hitler-fascism failed to stop her, but Zionist-fascism succeeded.

**FULL-COURSE DINNERS FOR COAL MINERS**, on the job, are becoming very popular in Ukraine coal-fields. Donetsk area now serves 200,000 per shift. It's such a big catering job that management has started its own farms, market-gardens, food processing plants. Charge for meals is less than home-cooked. Now being expanded to include miners' families.

**COMING BIG TRADE WITH JAPAN, CANADA, USA** will be speeded by one of largest sea-ports in world, now being built in Wrangel Bay on Pacific. Will take freighters of 100,000 tons. In a year its automated machinery will load 10 millions tons of coal, wood pulp, other bulk commodities. Besides, it will load 140,000 truck-size ship containers. Expected to handle much freight from Europe . . . cuts delivery time to Asia by one-half.

**NO COLD HOMES IN SOVIET CITIES.** And no fuel needed to heat them. As you've seen in NN, millions of apartments in USSR now are heated by boiling hot water piped from big power stations. Here in free-enterprise we have oceans of boiling water, too, but profit-minded (?) corporations spend millions to cool it down (using more fuel to power the coolers!) This winter, Moscow alone had 1,100 miles of hot-water pipes, from 13 giant power plants, heating 33,000 of the biggest dwelling blocks, public buildings, factories . . . all without using a drop of oil or whiff of gas. Yes, piping the heat does cost something. Cost is: \$3.60 per person per winter!

**MOVIES WITHOUT VIOLENCE, CRIME OR SEX**, or any problems disturbing to children, are shown in 327 theatres in Moscow. That's right, they show only children's films. We don't have such movies any more, but 10 of the largest Soviet "Hollywoods" produce full-length films for youngsters (besides fun cartoons and shorts). They're shown in thousands of kids-only theatres across USSR. Usually, such places have a play center as well as theatre, s&b boys and girls can spend the day there. In the Soviet capital alone one thousand millions of tickets were sold last year. Price? Ten cents.

**YAKUT (ESKIMO) BRAIN SURGEON**, Dr. Yuri Pakhomov, has gained renown for pioneer operations using super-cold "knife". An electronic device (called a cryo-surgical instrument) can be made like a fine needle. With it, tumors can be destroyed deep inside delicate brain tissue, without harming brain (as often happens with usual devices). Dr. Pakhomov began as Arctic village doctor, took up surgery, neurology, now specializes in most difficult cases.

**WONDERFUL NEW TOURIST ATTRACTION** is the new Kazakh skating center high up in mountains near Alma-Ata, at Medeo. For nine months of year the huge rinks have good ice, but it's always sunny, and air temperature never drops to freezing. They've built grandstand for 12,000 spectators. Beneath it are five floors of gyms, cafes, bars; even a medical center. Olympic athletes say Medeo is unrivalled anywhere for ice sports.



# Start your year by joining people here

More new Readers than ever will get together on this page. You'll see that a lot of differing views show up. How about your ideas? We print only initials of Readers.

"History of Man series interests me very much. I would like the entire series. Will you print it?" **D.F.**

Reply: Yes, just as soon as we can.

"Giving 6 NN Subs for Christmas. Keep money you'd send me, and send NN to people listed here. Some wonderful person sent me my first NN, that is how I found out about it. So if it helped me it should help others. Keep up the work." **E.M.C.**

"Please send 6-dozen Subscription Forms and I'll try for that many new Readers. Wishing you the most of success." **O.S.**

"When you ran that article on why USSR still uses DDT I got a bad reaction from my son who studies Ecology in High School. Imagine my surprise: he asked me to find it again. And showed me the clipping from Washington (United Press Nov. 1 '73) about bringing back DDT over here to save beautiful forests being wiped out by 'gypsy moth' plague. I found the original Soviet attitude very logical and now, of course, my belief in their sound reasoning is strengthened." **L.P.**

"Jewish New York paper 'Freiheit' printed statements that my article in 'Meet My Soviet Jewish Relatives' was not written by me but by Dyson Carter, editor of NN. I wrote to expose this. I spent 22 days with many relatives and wrote exactly as I reported. The 'Freiheit' article spins a web of lies and innuendoes. History and experience have taught me that such people wind up arm in arm with the Jewish Defence League (of Rabbi Kahane)." **E.S.**

"Reading particularly 'Israel Picked the Wrong Friends' (November '73 NN). I have long wondered whether U.S. imperialism would eventually abandon their Israeli stooges . . . your article was fascinating and strange enough, courageous. I agree that 'sad to say the great majority of Jews in our capitalist world enthusiastically greeted this alliance of Israel with imperialism.' I suppose it is necessary to distinguish between Zionists and Jews, but, of course, it is very hard to tell where Jews leave off and the Zionists begin. Appreciate your article and would be interested in hearing what response you have." **H.D.**

Note: Zionists and other Jews are very, very different people. Please read our pages on this serious problem in this NN.

"This 'goody-goody' of H.F. in Nov. Readers' Page kills me. If H.F. doesn't believe the 'goody-goody' things in NN he should go to USSR and see real goody-goodies for himself." **F.M.**

"From a friend here I just received my first copy of NN. Here is my Sub. Please send all lists of books and publications and I'll order, also for my relatives." **H.B.**

"My friend and I send Greetings and Congratulations for 25th Anniversary of NN and this \$20.00." **J.T.**

"Enclosed \$3.65 for my copy of 'Hot Snow'." **R.H.D.**

Reply: Sorry, 'Hot Snow' sold out and we cannot get more in near future.

Please note: as number of NN Readers rapidly increases, our books sell out faster (in spite of larger orders). If you want any offered book very much . . . order immediately, please.

"Have NN's economists inform your Readers what to do, to preserve their lives and their life savings. If we know what to do in these stressing circumstances we may come out of this mess somewhat better off than the rest of the population." **J.A.H.**

Note: Sole advice our economists give is do nothing that depends on continued boom in Capitalism.

"Excellent magazine. Congratulations. How about compiling a 'News Brief' record of 25 years of progress, for 25th Anniversary of NN. A sort of 'index' to past issues." **A.P.**

Note: What do other Readers think of this proposal? Please write!

"Congratulations on size, content of NN, can hardly be improved on. The world is such a wonderfully interesting place now. I may go to USSR in '74." **L.C.T.**

"Please send me 100 copies of 'Lest We Forget Palestine'. Want to spread a little truth about this vicious system we live in." **C.B.A.**

"Here is a short story which I guess is really 'my life.' If it is worth including in NN's special Anniversary publication, use it." **T.K.J.**

"Would this article of mine fit into the 25th Year book you are going to print?" **M.A.**

"Well, you asked for it so here it is. This is the way I look on the world now." **N.C.**

Note: Many thanks for the articles sent in so far. NN Readers surely do have some fascinating things to tell others. If you 'came in late': NN will print a collection of longer letters, articles, essays, etc., as a 25th Anniversary tribute to Readers. Subjects? Anything which you think will appeal to people reading NN.

"We have never heard before that Georgi Dimitrov was a Jew. Are you sure of this? From what sources did you find out? I'm an internationalist all my life, but still find it interesting, though it is absolutely unknown here in USSR."

Reply: NN must apologize to Readers for printing the statement that Georgi Dimitrov (famed Bulgarian hero) was Jewish. Two Soviet friends assure us that such was not the case. Many NN Readers say the same thing (including Jewish people). Then how did we make the mistake? We simply accepted the word of two Readers (one Jewish, one non-Jewish), both of whom claimed that it was "a well known fact." But we wish to stress that Dimitrov fought all his life against vicious anti-Semitism, and to those who will ever revere his memory it makes no difference whatever whether or not he was Jewish.

"Can we get 8 mm. movie films from USSR? Do you have any?" **J.H.**

Reply: They are available. How many NN Readers would buy them? At what average price? We need to know before tackling the import problem.

"Just wanted to tell you that NN is the big treat here each month." **B.P.**

"Your books and pamphlets priceless. Have started personal library." **J.C.**

"Please send definite data of your USSR-NN, also cost." **G.F.**

Reply: We can't. Not yet available. Immediately the facts are settled we'll publish them in full in NN.

"In Edmonton Gardens, packed solid, audience and Red Army Chorus clapped together for a long time after performance. I particularly liked the young women's chorus, all of the same size and very attractive. I've never written NN before." **R.W.**

"I'm quietly showing around the Toronto Star (Nov. 14 '73) with the famous Dr. DeBakey explaining why heart transplants are 'out of fashion.' I can remember people saying Soviet surgeons did not do those transplants because they did not know how. But NN told the truth. What USSR said years ago Dr. DeBakey says now. Operation is not perfect, and it is immoral to take a live heart." **M.T.S.**

"NN's page 'How They Live Past 100 Years' isn't an article I would pass on. The man who wanted to would get confirmation that 'eat, drink and be merry' is all right. When I was young I remember a man making a remark that anyone who drinks will be done for physically by 40. A man who has lived to 100 and done all the wrong things is remarkable. How long would he have lived otherwise if he had done the right things?" **A.C.B.**

"Was I ever glad to see NN's article on how those Soviet people live so long. High time, my friend, that we got away from this 'if you like it, it's bad for you' approach to health. Remember all the health magazines screaming at us not to touch butter, but cook everything in vegetable oil? Now they're upside down, don't touch vegetable oil (causes cancer), stick to butter! As for me I stuck to the solid advice Soviet docs gave which you published in 'Sensible Eating is Safest System'." **N.S.**

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