

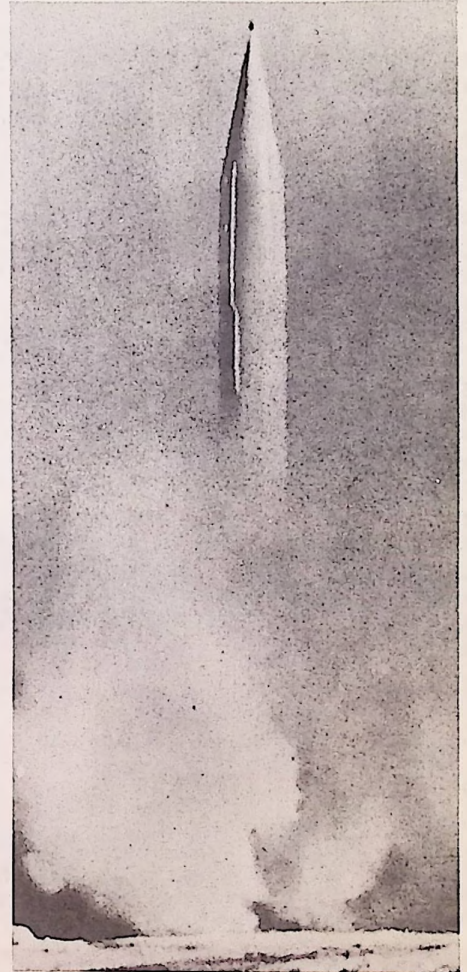
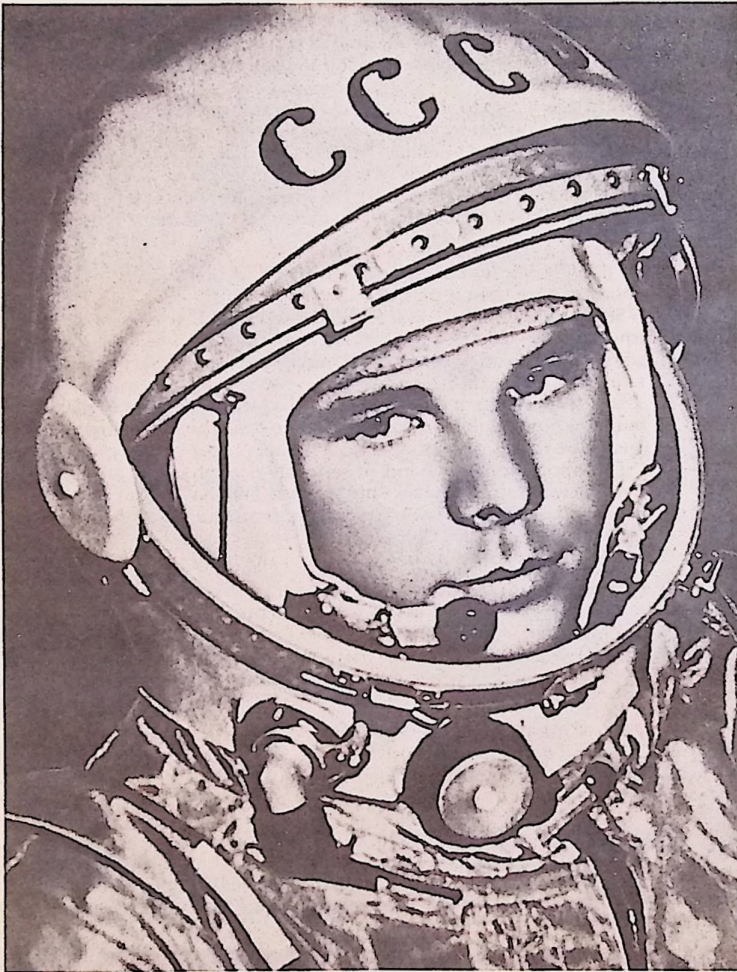
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International Standard Serial  
Number CN ISSN 0029-3199

# NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

MAY  
1986  
NO. 328  
85c

Peace — Work — Freedom — Equality — Friendship — Health & Happiness for all Peoples!



The man, and his rocket, that changed human history. Twenty-five years ago Yuri Gagarin entered the tiny capsule (hardly visible on tip of rocket) that was to take the first man into orbit outside the bounds of Earth. For Gargarin's own beautifully simple words, see our full quotation on Page-3.

## ***Robots Arrived***

PAGES 6-7

## ***Comet Explored***

PAGES 8-9

***Thousands Of Soviet Workers Found It Great to Be Fired***

PAGE 16

*Exclusive: new book on what's happening in Afghanistan — Page 26*

# NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

The Magazine of Socialism in Action

GRAVENHURST — ONTARIO — CANADA

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Subscription rates: \$6 for 10 issues, \$13 for 30 issues. When changing address you must send old address, preferably clipped from NN envelope, along with new address. Special Bundle Offer: 10 copies for \$4.00

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

This is our 37th year publishing reliable, exclusive news of Soviet developments.

"NN" has the International Standard Serials Number CN ISSN 0029-3199, and is available in micro-form from Microfilms International.

### WILL YOU SECOND THIS NOMINATION?

I'm very happy to enclose with this issue of NN a letter for you to send to the people who award Nobel Prizes. As you see, the letter proposes that they give this year's Peace Prize to Mikhail Gorbachyov.

Who else? Just look the letter over and you'll see that no one else on our Earth deserves the 1986 Prize more than the Soviet leader.

I'd be proud if this were my own idea. It isn't. It came in the mail from a well-known Reader. Here I extend my sincere and hearty thanks for a terrific idea!

And now it's up to all of us to use the letter. Sign it. Mail it, and then use the Order Coupon supplied to get MORE letters to send out to OTHERS who will be glad to nominate Mikhail Gorbachyov for the Nobel Prize.

This can be BIG, friends. A people's nomination to save the Peace.

Everybody would like to hear what you think of this, so let us know. And tell us what you did about it. You can inspire hundreds, thousands.

### AT LAST: A JOKE ABOUT AFGHANISTAN!

I don't go for humor based on human tragedies. But this is different. You may have seen it on CBC, TV News.

Seems that somebody got a heart-breaking appeal from Soviet soldiers who had defected from the Red Army in Afghanistan, and were pleading with the Canadian government to rescue them, take them to Canada for safety.

So a team was sent over. They found a lot of miserable Afghans (who fought against their own country) but no defective Soviet troops. Nary a one to be found. Lots of "freedom fighters" taking mainline drugs.

The whole story was handled seriously enough but to any intelligent viewer it was riotously funny. Among those "millions" of Soviet troops the media tell us about, *couldn't they have bought a few to be rescued?*

Surely some of the CBC's unemployed actors could have posed as defective Russians! But no. Too bad we can't buy a tape of that program.

### COUNT FROM ONE TO SEVENTY-EIGHT . . .

On pages 4-and-5 in this NN you'll find the remaining "points" in our summary of the 27th Communist Party Congress. I'm not boasting, but I do think you might file all four pages (first two were last month) and keep those 78 reminders where you can find them from now on. You'll be hearing more about them.

### THE SADDEST THING EVER, IN CAPITALISM

You no doubt know that USA youth groups, schools, churches, and parents, are all shocked by the frightening increase in teen-age suicides.

Only Capitalism could do this: develop a new professional occupation called (believe it) *suicide-ologists*.

Yes, they claim they are trained in the new "science" of . . . *suicidology*.

One thing Washington can be sure of: while the Soviet Union may be way ahead of Capitalism in Space, Socialism will never, ever catch up with Free Enterprise in the horrible task of counting each night's young suicide victims.

NN's Truth-of-the-Month: "We submitted many documents which irrefutably prove the truth. I fell victim to the political machinations of the authorities, the FBI and police, who seek to decapitate the movement of the American Indians in defense of their violated rights. We were witnessing a plot aimed at throwing behind bars, for good, or even physically eliminating the activists in the struggle of America's native population against destruction." Leonard Peltier, Indian leader, facing death in Leavenworth prison.

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You'd be surprised to find how many intelligent people "react" well to NN if they see it. We'll mail them copies if you'll send us their names. But, if you prefer, our "Four People Plan" still works. Send us four names-and-addresses, plus Five Dollars, and we'll send those people NN not just once, but three times, three issues.

# 25 years into the Future

On the 25th Anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's historic flight into orbit, not many of us realize that Man's progress in Space has already advanced astonishingly. Since Yuri's trip, over 2,000 space vehicles have been launched!

Today no authority doubts that the Soviet Union is far ahead in most directions of space progress. Think only of "space stations". Salyut-7 holds the record with 237 days operating in orbit. A dozen other Soviet craft have worked "out there" for months.

While many in USA question the future of Man in Space (after just half-a-dozen days in the Shuttles), in USSR all agree that the 60 spacemen who have orbited already (in Soviet craft) will be followed by hundreds, thousands. And not only Soviet people: men of nine Socialist lands (plus India and France) have worked in Space.

What have they accomplished? They've pioneered in new research in medicine, biology, chemistry, electronics, astronomy, semi-conductors . . . a page-long list.

Special credit goes to Salyut-6 (in Space nearly five years) and Salyut-7, up there since 1982. Both set the tone for future work by making use of complete research units, built on Earth and then sent up for use by men who travelled separately.

This makes feasible the building of Space Stations of any size, even manufacturing units . . . even solar mirrors that will light up the blackness of the Polar regions. This isn't prophecy, it is today's planning.

Not the USA Shuttle design, but practical Orbiting Stations, have opened the way to using such stations as a base to take off for exploring the Moon, Mars, asteroids.

The spectacular success of the Soviet Vega-1 and -2 in



taking photos of Halley's Comet convinced world science that multi-million-mile trips to Earth's future "colonies" are already on scientific blackboards.

Now fact, scientists in several lands (including USA) are right now considering a Soviet proposal to go for Mars, with human astronauts, in a world-cooperative project. Ten countries are working on this, including four in West Europe.

Listen back 25 years to the voice of Yuri Gagarin. . .

"The state of weightlessness passed, and the growing G-forces pinned me to my seat. They kept increasing and were much greater than those I experienced at take-off. The space-ship began to rotate, and I reported that to Earth. But the rotation that worried me stopped soon, and the descent proceeded uneventfully. It was obvious that all the systems worked smoothly and that the ship was going to land in the pre-determined area.

"Ten thousand metres . . . Nine thousand . . . Eight, Seven . . . The parachute opened. The Volga flashed below, and I recognized Saratov, its houses looking like children's blocks.

"At 10:55 the Vostok, having orbited Earth once, landed safely in the chosen area, on a ploughed field of the 'Lenin's Way' Co-Op Farm, to the south-west of the

town of Engels. What happened was like an exciting novel:

"I returned to Earth from space to exactly the same spot where I first learned to fly an aircraft.

"As I stepped on the firm ground, I saw a woman and a girl who stood near a spotted calf gazing curiously at me. I started to walk towards them and they moved forward to meet me. But the nearer they got the slower their pace became. The thing was that I still wore my bright-orange suit, and they were somewhat taken aback by its flaming color. They had never seen anything like that before.

"I'm a Russian, comrades! I'm a Russian!' I cried out to them, excited, having taken off my space helmet. The woman was Anna Takhtarova, a forester's wife, and the girl, Rita, was her granddaughter."

Since the triumphant Gagarin called out "I'm a Russian!" many other astronauts, and tens of thousands of researchers, have opened up developments which no one could foresee back in 1961, more astounding than sci-fic stories.

Relaying communications via space-satellites has changed human life the world over. Vast sums of money have been saved in cable lines over Earth and under the seas. Today a satellite hovering 36,000 kilometres above Earth can bring billions of people sports events, movies, concerts, and wars, while they happen.

Astronomers can't keep up with the flow of information coming to them from telescopes that "see" through Space unclouded by Earth's atmosphere. The Soviet observatory called Astron sees with X-rays, and reported the object Hercules X-1 had suddenly disappeared . . . only to discover soon that Hercules X-1 had reappeared in the cosmos, by virtue of some incredible switching force.

Other satellites constantly observe Earth's weather, reporting it to some 50 countries. Warnings of storms and tornadoes ever more often save lives, property.

Amazing progress has been made in "space geology", after the discovery that scientific "eyes" up in Space can see and report on Earth formations never before known, and impossible to see down here on the surface.

Fabulous metal deposits, oil and gas fields, are being mapped from Space, in places considered sterile.

Just recently a Soviet satellite discovered a vast lake of fresh underground water in the waterless Mangyshlak Peninsula. Space photo shows 4,000,000,000 cubic yards!

Soviet ships now safely sail the Polar Route, guided by "space pilots". Farms and forests are "patrolled" from Space. Fishing fleets make record catches by following what satellites observe. Roads, railways, pipelines and canals are routed accurately from Space.

Keep this, to re-read 25 years from now.

## More decisions of the Communist Congress

"We shall not perish, we overcome our weaknesses"

### All basic features of Soviet life except Socialism are changing

40. Between now and 1990 Soviet people are going to invest in their Socialist system some 235 billion dollars. That's 68 billion dollars more than in the last 5-year period. Total "capital" they own will exceed 1.4 trillion dollars!

41. To make sure their new technically advanced economy will have plenty of energy, and enough to share with other Socialist lands, they will greatly boost their investment in fuels and transport of them (mainly pipelines).

42. Their new Agricultural-Industrial program will expand faster than ever, mainly in huge food-processing plants.

43. But they face major problems in construction, where planned schedules have been badly violated. They blame this on gradual weakening of discipline of construction managers, who haven't been fulfilling their responsibilities.

44. Just imagine: USSR today has more than 300,000 building sites! They regard this as absolutely intolerable, and due to extremely poor management. Between now and 1987 they'll clamp down hard, insisting that construction jobs be completed strictly according to planned schedules.

45. This won't happen just "by decree". Soviet science and engineering is going to mass-apply new building materials, and factory-line prefab construction of all kinds.

46. They face a shocking situation in building-planning, with many designers following obsolete 25-year-old construction. Even in metal plants, machinery, vehicles, often they build "new" plants approved 20 years before!

47. New science-based plans call for swift expansion of their power industries, chemicals, machine-engineering, which are scheduled to turn out 40 percent of USSR's output.

48. And it won't be simply "more of same". In steel, for example, new methods of making finished products right in the big mills will save enormous amounts of metal and money. Plastics will replace vast quantities of metals.

49. Using advanced scientific-technological methods they will greatly increase their output of finished steel products (with no rise in consumption of iron ore or coke).

50. As in the recent past they'll multiply their output of electricity, and heat, mainly by means of nuclear power plants, already proving to be highly efficient and absolutely safe.

#### Science and scientific management on farms

51. In agriculture, they're going to rely on two separate approaches: more technology (machinery, fertilizers, pesticides) and better management. Confident of reaching 250 million tons of grain yearly, plus 21 million tons of meat. Some regions are exceeding this already, but others haven't yet taken the effective approach.

52. Food isn't their only goal in greatly boosting consumer good sales. But it's important because a much more varied food supply is Number One demand with their consumers.

53. Since they've never had unemployment, they've grown careless. Now a central task they face is to plan big new industries only where the young population is growing fast enough to fill the jobs. This solves two problems, but it demands advanced planning and determination.

54. Easier said than done! Many, many speakers at their Congress stressed the need for radical changes in the attitude of management at all levels. The day of the bureaucrat is fast departing in USSR, and fulfilling of plans will take precedence over all wordy promises and "directives".

55. This kind of criticism shook up a lot of Western newsmen at the Congress, and they let go with speculations about the Party "departing" from Socialism's principles. "We will never live up to their hopes," said Mikhail Gorbachov, as he stressed that management, associations, industries, trade unions, farms, all will get much more opportunity to fulfill plans independently, acting in the interests of the people who own the system.

56. They aren't just hoping they can do it. Already (and we've reported this here in NN) about half of all their enormous industries, communications, services, are working along the new lines of planning, for efficiency and accelerated growth.

#### People in business for their system.

57. But Socialism will become more business-like. Mainly, no longer will backward sections be able to make up their losses with profits taken from efficient producers. The entire system is going over to self-financing. At the Volga Car Works, and the complex in Sumy, this new way of planning is giving excellent results.

58. All across the USSR enterprises are tying their new housing projects closely to profits made by the enterprises where the people work . . . people who'll occupy the apartments. All kinds of social benefits are being linked directly to the production (and earnings) of the workers. Socialism, as public ownership, is directly paying more and more of the system's profits to its owners.

59. Congress delegates stressed that the big job is to change the attitude of management, away from issuing orders to the urgent job of encouraging the workers (factory lines right up to leading scientists) to figure out new ways to accelerate Socialism into its future of very much higher productivity. And workers collecting benefits right now without waiting for the end of a Plan fulfilled.

60. The Ministry of Finance, long a key factor in planning, is in for a heavy shakeup. Reason: Many Soviet Communists see this Ministry as hopelessly antiquated, and blame it for deliberately opposing new ways of using Socialism's billions for speedier growth, with little concern over whether some sector of the economy paid its way, or didn't.

61. Such a powerful economic lever as credit has only rarely been used to speed the USSR's progress. Vast sums were loaned without regard for how profitably they'd be used. But a new approach is already working: thus, a big farm that over-fulfills its crop plans can get any size of loan for further efficient expansion, whereas a backward farm is going to pay a penalizing interest-rate.

## They have no "market economy" to profit the rich at the expense of the people, but they're out to speed up Socialism's benefits

62. As you know, prices in USSR are "fixed". But as the economy became more complex, and the variety of goods multiplied enormously, the price-fixing "rules" they followed became uneconomic, or even ridiculous. This, of course refers to prices "inside" the system, such as the price charged for railway-car wheels or factory roofing. Their big drive for industrial **quality** required a full revision of prices charged for superior goods.

63. This doesn't apply to **consumers' goods**, which are, as a rule, **subsidized** to keep them low (one of the great public benefits of Socialism). But when people demand, and can get, higher quality (or newer) things, prices can and **must be increased** . . . otherwise no producers will see any point in improving output. Problems here are complex, discussed by millions of Soviet people.

64. Everybody appreciates the fact that when **millions** participate in running the economy, then **red tape becomes a way for planners to cop out**. "We've always done it thataway!" Overcoming this, in such a way as to encourage initiative (and progress) is difficult, but they're making practical headway. Only the Congress wanted **more speed**.

65. Maybe you can see why they are placing such emphasis now on **training people**. With tens of millions of workers called upon to discuss urgent economic problems, just "shooting off" isn't enough. So schools, high schools, trade union schools (to say nothing of university courses) are getting a drastic overhaul, in **adult education**. A new category is appearing: *people's economists*.

### Scientific Socialism is the foundation of their confidence

70. They face up frankly to the marked changes they must introduce, in *the way people work*. Millions of Soviet men and women do the same kind of monotonous hard labor which we know here in Capitalism. But Soviet workers are now demanding an end to this, and the development of creative jobs based on the Science and Technology Revolution. The Congress decided that it's now possible to **speed up** the radical change of labor so it can be introduced two to three times faster than at present.

71. Closely linked with this is **payment for work**. Many delegates reported on the tendency to "level" wages, something Scientific Socialism vigorously fought against from the time of Marx himself. Socialism must encourage **higher productivity** and **better quality of output**, and this can be achieved only by **paying more** to the best workers. Said the Congress: "We will insist on this being observed in the full."

### Social benefits are also due to soar

72. To make sure this wasn't just "good intentions" the delegates approved an ambitious goal: **all basic rates** in USSR must be raised on **an average of 25 to 30 percent**, and this has to be carried out **within five years**. Where will these vast sums of money come from? This will be solved by **collectives of trade unionists** right in the production lines: higher *productivity*, higher *profits* to the enterprises, higher *wages* to the workers. The Congress heard examples of how well this works.

73. **Soviet farmers** come directly into this picture. But their incomes are due to rise faster than the industrial average. In fact, within five years, Soviet families on the land should be on the same economic level as workers. In agriculture, however, **higher pay for bigger harvest** is going to have a very strong stimulating effect in the Co-Op and State Farms.

74. What they call "**social consumption funds**" (like non-contributory pensions, no-charge health care, free education through college, very low cost subsidized rents and transport) will markedly raise incomes in USSR.

They estimate that *each person* (including babies, children,

66. If that wasn't enough, many Congress delegates pointed out that millions of Soviet people must now become involved in *dealing with foreign countries*. The Soviet Party sees this as a vital step forward, developing the "international division of labor" on a higher plane. Peaceful trade and cultural relations will aid in solving problems of the entire world, and in this effort Socialism has long taken a leading stand.

67. Cooperation between the **Socialist countries** will continue to be the determining factor in creating a new world "atmosphere". The main drive now is to **share production** (and research), in the interests of developing production facilities and goods, while lowering costs. This *Socialist Integration* will become a leading feature of the world economic scene. At the same time, it will make the Socialist World immune to economic and scientific "boycotts" by capitalist powers, notably USA.

68. The cooperation of USSR and Less Developed Countries, over many years, is now paying off: Asia, Africa and Latin America are gaining economic and productive strength, *outside the circle of imperialism*. And in the case of India this is having increasingly beneficial effects.

69. However, Soviet Communists oppose any "isolation" from the major capitalist nations, and will vigorously promote cooperation in economics, science, technology, culture, sports. And in finances, credits. Provided all relations are for **mutual benefit** of those concerned.

youth, adults) will be enjoying \$1400 per year of such income by 1990. For a family of four, that's **\$5600 per year!** Yes, in addition to all regular incomes for work done. "Social consumption funds" of that size are, in fact, the *profit-dividends* paid out to the public in Socialism, *the economy they own*. Only a small percentage of families in prosperous capitalist countries receive dividends that large.

75. Still, they face problems there, also. Example: new hospitals are sometimes long delayed because local construction planners favor industrial jobs. And despite their huge housing programs, they're **still short** of the best accommodation. And they must keep in mind their steadily growing population. They plan to put more energy into housing plans carried out by enterprises where the tenants will live, funded by profits.

76. In all these Congress decisions, they kept one factor constantly in mind: what they call "the effective demand of the Soviet people." In Capitalism, we buy what we want if we have **the money**; in Socialism, they buy what they want if they can **find it** in the stores. And now their "demands" are rising sharply because they see that today, with the USSR's huge productive capacity, the stores (or factories) **should deliver the goods**. However, it's not only a matter of store-shopping. They're demanding expansion of their already large holiday-sports-entertainment facilities, which they enjoy at very low cost.

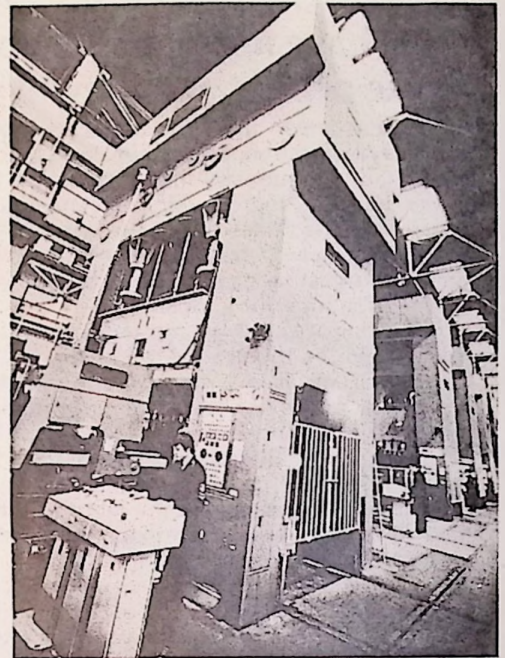
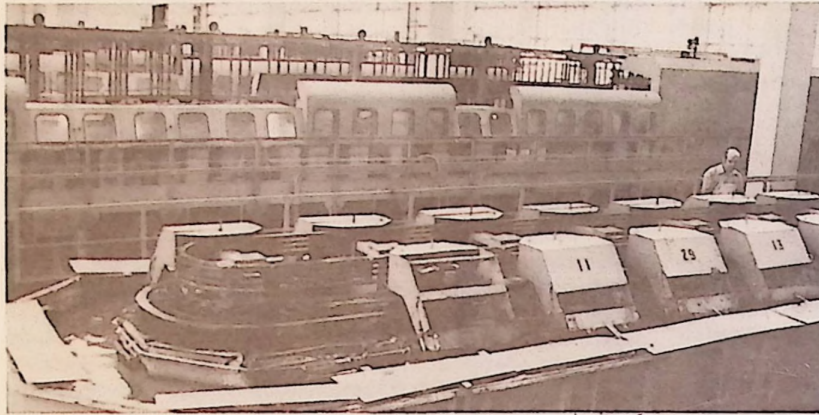
### They moved to revolutionize their society

77. This 27th Congress of their Party will undoubtedly go down as **historic**. It calls for **profound advances** in all aspects of Socialism. It summons the **vast social and economic forces** at their disposal. It amounts to a declaration of war against everything holding them back.

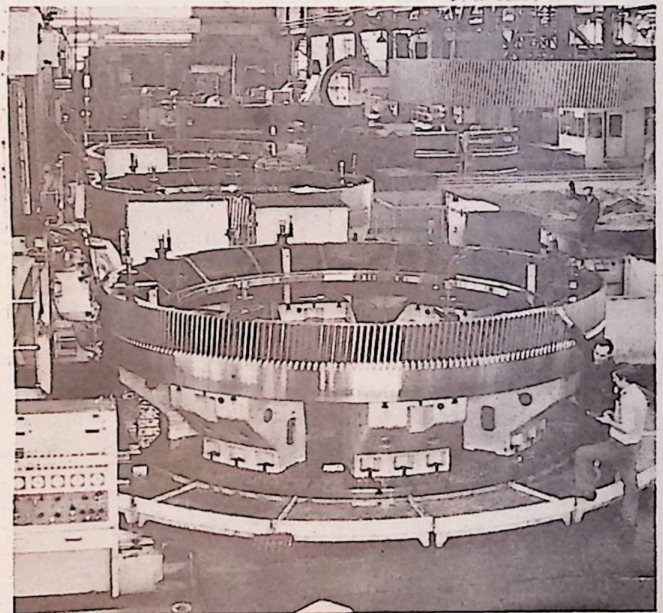
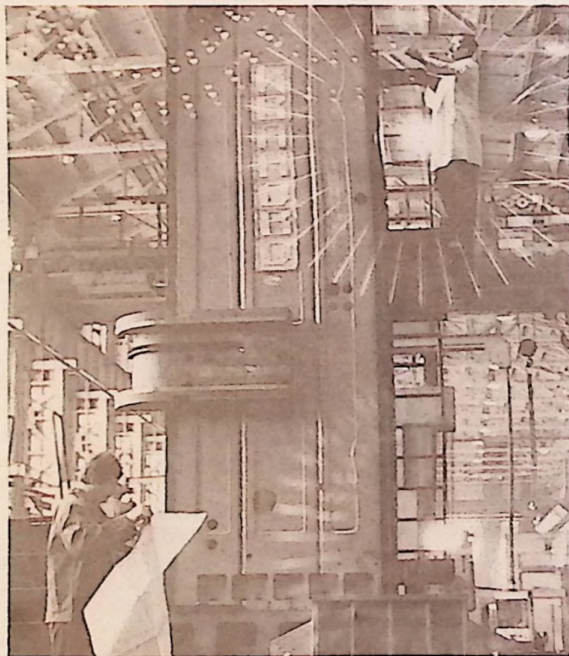
78. "All **revolutionary parties** that perished did so because they became conceited, failed to see the source of their strength, feared to discuss their weaknesses. We, however, **shall not perish**, because we are not afraid to discuss our weaknesses and will learn to overcome them."

(Copies of these pages, plus P-4-5 in April NN, available as Publication No. 260, 95c)

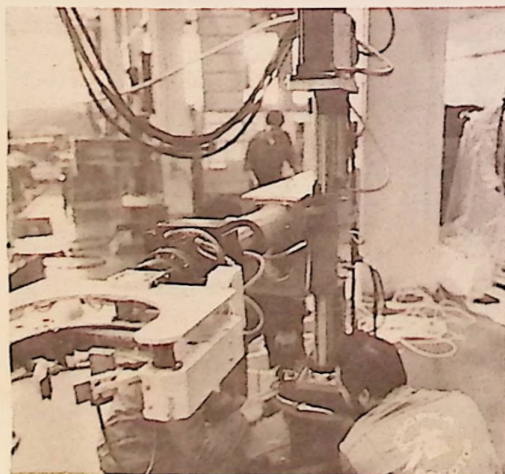
# Robots growing up



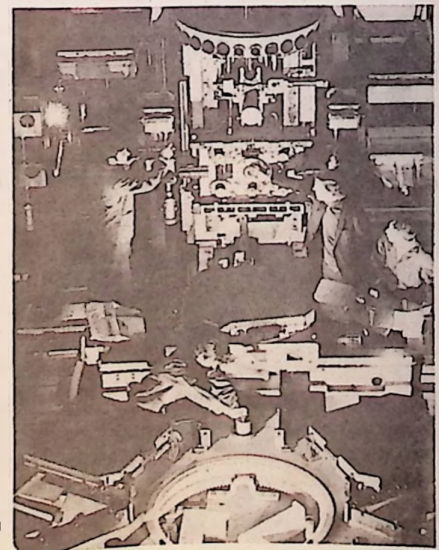
Big "empty" factory you see above is actually the electro-plating shop of "VEF" plant in Riga. Just one human supervisor. At right: worker-programmed robots here are really king-size stamping machines.



Above: this robot fills two floors of Ivanovo machine-tool plant. At right above: Novokramatensk factory turns out robots for making heavy machine-tools. This Soviet industry is being automated.



Left: two human workers here are assembling a robot manipulator of a type now widely used. Soviet tool industry is being completely overhauled with use of new robots.



Right: this big robotized machine-maker is being readied for export. USSR now does a big business in supplying other countries with the most advanced production machinery.

# Closer and closer!

The new Robots don't look like humans. They carry no guns. They cause no destruction. But they menace the very lives of millions of working people. Even capitalists fear them. Coming faster than you think.

According to the European Common Market figures, capitalists now have working for them 31,000 robots, in industry. Japan: 13,000. USA: 6,250. West Germany: 3,500. Britain: 1,152.

Those figures are *out-of-date already*. Thus, a leading Japanese robot-manufacturer, Kawasaki Jukogyo, says 170 plants in Japan are making robots, and by 1990 they will have made at least 1,500,000. Possibly, 3,000,000.

Each of these robots will displace four workers.

You hear a lot about Japanese efficiency in car plants. But our media shy away from the whole truth: working with robots, Japanese auto workers turn out **60 vehicles** per year per live worker, while USA makes only 20!

Looks great? Look again. Japan's auto-robots have already put 500,000 men and women out of work, permanently. In all, today Japan has 1,700,000 unemployed, plus many more partly-employed. That, in a small nation with a work-force of around 14 million people.

And the robot-makers firmly predict that they will put 7 million more out of work. **More likely, 10 million.**

Karl Marx, no admirer of Capitalism, never forecast any such unemployment-disaster as the Japanese face with the robot takeover.

*United States News* looks beyond the auto industry and concludes that, up to now, one robot has displaced about two humans. But from now on, with new robots that "see and feel", **one robot will do the work of six humans.**

This will happen all over the capitalist world, because corporations *must* robotize or *shut down completely*.

Look at our photo. It's a **heavy-industry robot**. It turns out heavy-industry machine tools. It can rapidly change over from one product to another as instructed by the two almost-invisible engineer-foremen (left side).

**No human workers at the machines.** They are in the city of Vilnius. This is robotization in **Socialism today**.

Our media don't know it, but the USSR now has *more machine-tools than workers attending them*.

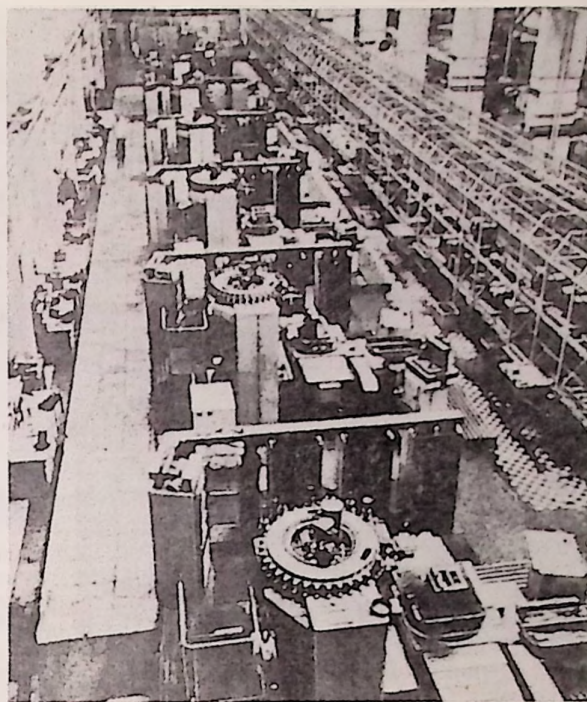
But robotization is going to expand still faster, all over Socialism, with the coming of "Inter-Robot".

The Socialist countries are going to eliminate duplication of efforts and apply **cooperation** on a massive scale so **every kind of robot** will be devised and produced.

Inter-Robot's first big task is to make all kinds of production machinery like the one in Vilnius (photo), capable of changing output at a moment's notice.

Then: perfect all equipment so it is operated **two full shifts** without any attention, with the third shift reserved for over-haul.

Inter-Robot's big advantage is that its "market" is **the entire Socialist system**. There will be no *competitive* manufacturers and designers (with all the duplication and losses they



The very newest trend is to robotize plants that make many small industrial items which *change* very often: robots do this marvellously, simply by "reading" instructions put into the computer that runs them. Big Allen-Bradley plant in USA has **50 robot operated machines** in one production line. They turn out 143 varieties of electric motor starters. *All untouched by human hand.*

Even workers not yet displaced by robots are feeling their threatening presence. Computers are now programmed to report continuously on what human workers do: how fast, how accurately. If they don't measure up to the foreman's demands, **they're out.**

One big food chain saved **15 million dollars** the first year when it **weeded out slow people** this way.

It means: workers must *work like robots* or the boss will find others who can.

Not only are the Unions fighting this trend every way they can, but some employers, also, are being warned by legal advisors that **nervous breakdowns** are multiplying, and damage suits could be costly.

But so far, *profits are too good to refuse.*

involve). On the other hand, there will be **guaranteed markets** for every device going into production.

**Bulgaria** will specialize in robots that assemble mechanical and electronic units, and also in applying coatings.

**Hungary** will concentrate on robots that control machinery and make complex measurements.

**Poland** already leads the way in making robot-welders. **Czechoslovakia** has the job of advancing its already proven heavy-machines for making pressure-castings.

**The Soviet Union** also will work on new casting techniques for robots, and other large-scale metal-working complexes.

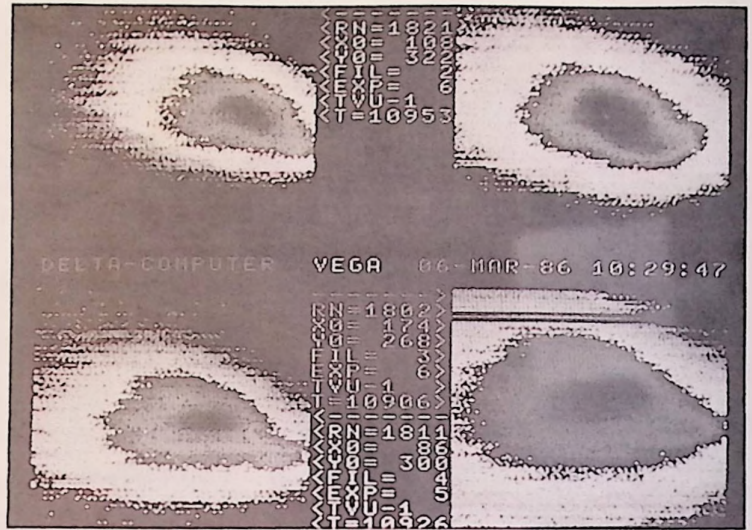
You can see that Socialism has a marked advantage over Capitalism in a way that is specific for robots: in the West some very costly robots are sold for only limited use, which makes them questionably profitable, whereas Inter-Robot will be able to enjoy **full-scale production** . . . and this will be strong motivation to tackle even the most elaborate new robotization proposals.

Equally advantageous: all Socialist enterprises will use **commonly produced parts**, and this standardization will have very great economic effects.

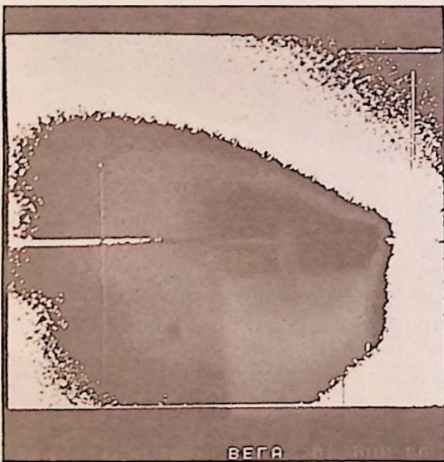
Incidentally, **Cuba** is joining Inter-Robot, first of the Less Developed Countries to exploit the most advanced systems.



Moment of triumph when scientists see first-ever photo of Halley's Comet, close up, taken by Soviet Vega ship.



Computer-processed photos of the comet reveal a wealth of facts to scientists. More than 1000 good photos were obtained, from a distance of a million miles, all transmitted to Earth by special TV equipment.



This closer-up photo was transmitted from the second Soviet ship, Vega-2. Shows comet's nucleus. Information cleared up mysteries that were thousands of years old. Data will be studied for years.



Scientists from many lands were invited by USSR and were able to enjoy the historic hours "with" Halley's Comet, thanks to latest computer-processing equipment.



At this special panel scientists could examine close up the elaborate devices used on the two Vega space observatories, also movies of their operations.



Here's Dr. Roald Sagdeyev, director of USSR's Space Research Institute, who is the creator of the elaborate Halley's Comet "expedition", which was a complex venture. (See next page).



# They did it AGAIN

**Sputnik was first in orbit. Gagarin was first man in space. And now they have first close-ups of a Comet.**



Scientists the world over rated the Soviet "Vega-1" and "Vega-2" space explorers as **triumphs**.

Most astronomers expected these space-craft to be seriously damaged by particles from Halley's Comet. But scientifically designed "armour" got them through unharmed.

One other point of admiration: USSR's Vega craft carried instruments designed in Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Poland, France, West Germany and Czechoslovakia: truly an *international triumph*.

Just **one** picture of Halley would have been remarkable for TV cameras working a *million miles* away. But Soviet scientists delivered **more than a thousand good photos**.

Remember: no one had ever looked at a comet's nucleus before. Now researchers have stacks of information to sort out and interpret.

This is extremely important to astronomy and other sciences, because comets (there are millions-of-millions of them) contain basic secrets of our Universe, **and Earth**.

The two Vegas were "backed up" by the European "Giotto" probe and two Japanese "observatories", but the information they obtained hasn't yet been evaluated.

As they so often do, USA scientists published a lot of **promises** for their super-telescopes that would study Halley's Comet. Unfortunately, those instruments disappeared when the Challenger Shuttle perished.

More big promises for more Shuttle space-craft likewise are embarrassing USA officials now, since no new shuttles are yet even planned.

However, **all** scientists, in every country are getting the full flow of information from the Vegas.

Maybe you're asking: **So what!**

Truth is, the human race has been fascinated by Halley's Comet (named by Edmund Halley of Britain in 1703) for *thousands of years*.

Records of observations have been traced back to 240 BC.

They confirm that this comet comes close to Earth every 76 years, and every *time* it has aroused every kind of *fear-and-terror*.

Modern astronomy has added a lot of information. Halley's **hasn't changed at all in 2000 years!** This indicates that this particular comet is **very, very old** compared to others.

What others? There are *millions of millions* of comets in our Universe, and great numbers of them disappear.

But not Halley's.

It's unusual other ways, too. Most astronomers figured that a close-up of the comet would show its nucleus darker than the bright "tail". But no. Vega-1 sent back photos showing the nucleus to be the **brightest part** of Halley's, which is a feature noted by ancient Man.

Still to come: analysis of all the spectroscopic photos taken by the Vegas, which will tell us, at long last, exactly *what comets are made of*. But facts already in show that Halley's has a **very weak gravity**, quite different from planets.

Why all this curiosity? Simple.

If you cut through all the very complex astronomical terminology (and the maths) you come down to this clear idea: probably, comets are made of the **very same stuff** that formed our whole solar system, ages ago.

"Primordial matter" some like to call it. But until the results are all in, from Vega-2 especially, the mystery remains.

Maybe what's in a comet doesn't particularly thrill you. It should. Because those two Vegas are really "time machines" which will let us look back **four-and-a-half billion years**, to the time when our Sun began.

To say nothing of **our Earth**. We haven't the faintest idea of what Earth was during its first billion years. Could it have been **then** what Halley's comet is **now?**

What about millions of **other comets**, Out There? They appear to make up a vast "cloud" hovering beyond our Sun.

Current theories about this are astonishing. For example: our Sun may have a *twin*. Not visible, it could be a "black hole" filled with comets! Every so often the black hole emits streams of comets, and some of these may bombard the Earth. Which is how dinosaurs and other early types were wiped out.

That's strictly theory. Anyway, comets could hit Earth only about once in 50,000,000 years.

You may recall from our report on it, that the famed Tungus Catastrophe is thought to be caused by a "comet bomb". But how it "exploded" on reaching our planet is still guesswork.

Of all the far-out scientific notions about comets, this is the most: these heavenly streamers **may carry life itself**. Possibly "Genesis" on our planet may have originated within *cometary dust*.

There'll be a lot more on that (for or against) when biochemists get a look at the data sent by Vega-2.

Another intriguing problem: how come Halley's Comet pours out a stream of whatever-it-is, reaching back 40 kilometers (24 miles)?

Is this "tail-stuff" stored in the comet? Made inside it? Where does it go?

How has this been going on for maybe a million years?

Some types may ask: **could we make use of cometary out-flow?**

Vega-2 got to within 8,000 kilometres of Halley's nucleus, so some of the many answers may soon be given.

When you think on these things you realize why so many Soviet boys and girls look to Space for their future. They aren't attracted by Star Wars fairy-tales, but the thought of *the way people guided those Vegas* through Space for 450 days and nights... this is where the challenges are Tomorrow.

All the kids know that those Vegas **first explored Venus**. Flew balloons across that planet. Sent down soft-landing ships that explored the flaming hot neighbor of Earth.

*And all this is just the beginning.*



# Capitalism confronts Socialism in School

Remember how USSR's "Sputnik" shook up USA's schools? Now there's "Challenger". And another outcry for real education.



Rutherford, education chief of the prestigious *American Association for the Advancement of Science*, says "Our mistake was in thinking that it was all over the day we got to the Moon."

So the rush for updated **science-and-maths** courses in schools quickly ended. Today, for every *three* hours USA kids spend in school, Soviet boys and girls have *seven* hours classes.

And few parents complain. There's the danger. The **public is technologically illiterate**, and couldn't care less about the consequences. Millions wept over "Challenger's" incredible failure, but couldn't explain it.

How about the USA's teachers?

In the last 10 years math teachers **decreased** by 77 percent, science teachers by 65 percent!

Shocking numbers of USA teachers can't pass **simple exams** themselves. And young people going in for teaching today rate **far below** others in elementary maths and speaking skills. But they get jobs, because teachers are very scarce.

The only capitalist nation that has taken a strong stand on this is France. There, they now insist that grade-school children get some *elementary* ideas about physics, chemistry, biology, geology.

The contrast with Soviet schools is startling. Millions of kids over there take **science courses** and the majority of them belong to science-oriented hobby groups.

The school situation is mild compared to the education level of USA's adult population.

Unbelievable, but *27 million* grown-ups **can't read or write at all**. Another *47 million* get by with a very low grade-school ability to read and write simple lines.

Maybe worse (in today's way of life): well over 50 million USA people **cannot count at all!**

It's hardly any better here in Canada. About **half** of all our people paying income tax can't understand the forms at all . . . *they can't add or subtract!*

According to *Aviation Week and Space Technology*, USSR now graduates five times more engineers than does USA. Youth in the world's richest country just aren't attracted to science and technology: they much prefer high-paid careers as accountants, lawyers; what USA senators call **parasitic jobs**.

Magazine asks: "How do we get America's most gifted minds out of business and law schools, back into science and engineering where they belong?"

Then the warning: "A faltering economic system desperately awaits an answer."

What they call **service industries** are booming. "But USA industry cannot live by software alone. **There must be hardware**, basic industries essential to the defense mobilization base."

Even before the Shuttle tragedy some large corporations were taking action. IBM is compelled to hire only those who have gone through *it's own school*, so they can read and count. They warn that this is "a national problem of crisis proportions."

It is **worsening**. Washington's Dept. of Education finds two to three million **more illiterate adults** appear each year in USA. **They couldn't take jobs if jobs were available.**

Tomorrow's **truck drivers** will need **maths and science essentials**.

Same applies to many skilled jobs banned for illiterates.

Now the alarm has spread to big companies **not** greatly dependent on high-technology. What's worrying them is that **customers**, by the tens of millions, won't be able to **read their advertisements!**

Worse: if they buy, they won't be able to read **directions-for-use**. In the case of medicines, this can result in **heavy damage suits**.

Of course the real point is that illiterate people **cannot function in our high-tech society**.

Turn briefly to the other extreme. Mathematics. Today, for the first time ever, major companies employ **many mathematicians**.

Indeed, as computers multiply in every field of industry, those who **know maths** will be as common as those who can type, today.

And the schools in Capitalism are still developing mathematicians as social rarities.

The situation could change. Our private-profit system has come up with a very bright idea: **make profits from teaching**.

In USA alone there are already 8000 profitable companies selling **education**.

One chain, National Education Corp., operates 49 big schools and makes good profits from 35,000 students. The giant "ITT" runs schools that are growing as **fast as its huge high-tech industries!**

Prospects: Capitalism will be retraining practically its entire present work-force, from now on, at fabulous profit.

*There's a catch*. Seems now as if industry will have to pick up the tab for modern high-technology education.

See another catch? In Socialism the **school system itself** is very well doing this job.

And not one soul is illiterate.

# New Oil World

You see alarmed headlines these days as the price of oil rises and falls. What you don't see is something the experts don't want to admit. Outside the Middle East, North Sea, Canada, USA, Mexico, another "Oil World" quietly builds up its potential. With Soviet help. As in India's big new Bodra field, opened by Soviet drillers shown in our photo here.



In all the countless articles written about world oil problems, no one ever admitted that some 60 young newly liberated countries, after World War Two, were **mercilessly exploited** by the major western oil powers because three-quarters of all the energy they used came from petroleum.

The Soviet Union was aware of this but couldn't help for years, while recovering from the war's damage.

- Soviet advice stressed the need to solve the fuel problem by **finding petroleum resources at home**.
- Develop an oil industry **publicly** (not privately) **owned**.
- First, train the highly-skilled **geologists** and **oil field workers** that are absolutely necessary.
- USSR gradually began offering one country after another a **long-term cooperative contract** for oil development.

**Example, Iraq.** Program for that country began back in 1969. Soviet specialists prospected and explored (drilling) the promising areas. Today Iraq has a big oil industry, notably the Rumayah Field. This has enabled Iraq to **take over its petroleum resources** from foreign owners.

As shown in Iraq, **nationalization of oil** opens the way to developing **other industries**, strengthening the countries that are resisting western monopoly domination.

**Example, Algeria.** Starting in the late 'seventies USSR sent many big drilling rigs to work for the "Sonatrach" state petroleum company. It now produces much of Algeria's big petroleum output. More: a fleet of **Soviet tankers** help deliver the production.

You should note that the tanker operation was Algeria's answer to the West, in 1971, when USA and others tried to organize a **boycott** of Algerian oil.

That behind-the-scenes united effort by Algeria and USSR was kept out of the headlines, although it was a **really bitter defeat** for the petroleum multi-nationals.

What galled them most was the fact that the USSR supplied the tankers in a **strictly commercial deal**, and Algerians (plus their neighbors) quickly got the message. Socialism does business without exploiting its partners.

Washington writhed in helpless fury, because the Soviet Union sent no "gunboats" to blackmail Algeria. On the contrary, the relationship was **profitably peaceful** to both sides.

But this lesson was due to be learned again.

Besides oil, Algeria is **rich in gas**. Multi-nationals had several plans to "deal" with this valuable resource. Like liquefying the gas and shipping it to the world market; naturally, on terms favorable to corporation profits.

Again, the USSR stepped in, with a "socialist program". No investments. Only a **gas pipeline 421 kilometres long**. Enabling the Algerians to get their gas to market **by themselves**.

This had a very broad effect. In just a few years Algerians developed their gas-and-oil industry to become the nation's **central economic program**, around which several other big modern industries were built.

**Exports soared.** Algeria thus earned large amounts of foreign currency, for still further investments to modernize this North African land.

**Example Syria.** USSR has helped this country to be a major oil producer, with big prospects. Even our business press keeps silent about this, but the Soviet Union has helped Syria bring into production **25 large gas and oil fields**. And the Syrian Arab Republic **owns them all, collects all profits**.

Besides, USSR, Rumania and Czechoslovakia have helped Syria to build up a **petroleum refining industry**, and Soviet tankers take the products to world markets.

Many other examples can be given. **Egypt** now has two big oil refineries, using the nation's own petroleum. **India** has 45 oil and gas fields, plus three refineries. **Libya** is now exploiting its big Safir field, discovered with the aid of Soviet exploration teams; and is finishing a pipeline 575 kilometres long.

**Ethiopia** is now in the petroleum business, expanding its big refinery at Assab.

**Yemen** had rough treatment when a USA multi-national pulled out all its rigs and geological findings. The USSR stepped in and has found oil prospects on **10,000 square kilometres!**

Much of this assistance is expensive. It isn't provided **free**, by the Soviet Union. On the contrary, **compensation** for these oil-and-gas projects is arranged so that the **developing nations gain a double benefit**: the Soviet Union **buys** whatever they have to export, and arranges for such exporting industries to **expand**, thus speeding the country's all-round development. In such a way that **debts** are reduced rather than multiplied.

Up to now, western financiers have chosen to ignore, publicly, this large and growing new sector of the international petroleum world. But you can be certain that its influence is reaching a level that must be taken into account.

Truth is, we have here what amounts to a "new oil world".

It is all based on assistance from Socialism.

It is all featured by public ownership.

It is still "behind the scenes", but the curtain is rising.

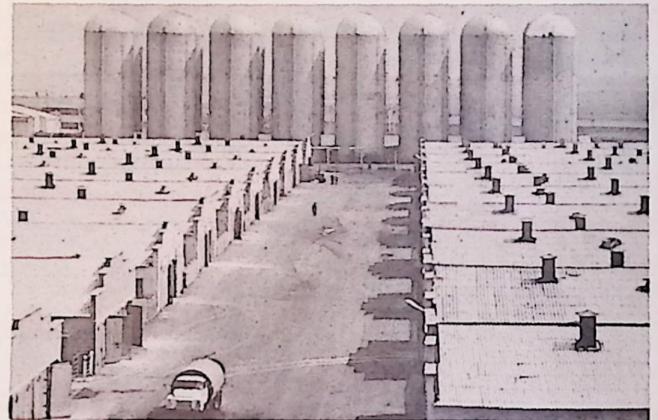


While agro-industry's big task is growing foods of every kind, it's second main job is to raise the rural standard of living. Here are farm offices and farmer's housing in Byelorussia.

**"AGRO-INDUSTRY"** is the name of the revolution in Soviet farming. Growing food is being combined with processing it, transporting it, selling it. More and more of their Co-Op and State Farms are going over to Agro-Industry, and the scenes shown here are common today.



Much has been done in recent years to improve the breeds of dairy cattle. At the same time better fodder is having a marked effect on milk-and-meat production. Prices rise as output rises: opposite to our situation.



You get a sense of the "industry" aspect of their farming from this view of fodder silos and barns. Farmers' incomes are rising steadily, in keeping with modernization of production.



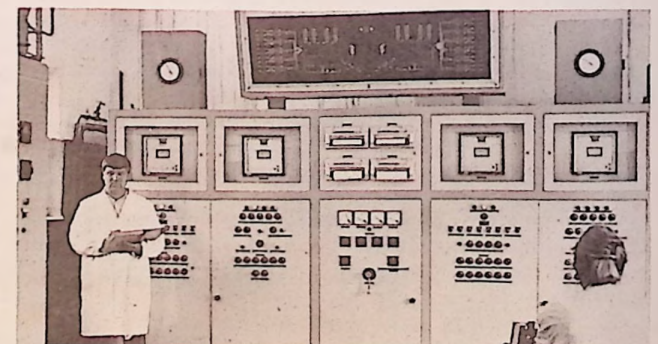
Farm policy certainly is "directed from the top". This dairy worker, Galina Kardok, was elected by fellow-farmers to the republic's Parliament.



Production of fodder is not only mechanized but now is automated on many big Soviet farms. From fields into silos is a no-hands operation.



A new sense of people's unity arises when large numbers of college students spend summer working on farms, using the machines they design and make.



Hard to distinguish this control panel from one in a modern factory. Incidentally, most Soviet farms today are efficiently gas fueled.

# Quietly Cooperating

It's great to know that people can prosper through friendliness. Behind the headlines Soviet Co-Ops are doing a lot for Peace.



Not many people over here know that **60 million** Soviet men and women belong to Consumers' Co-ops. Mainly they do business in rural areas, operate big food-processing plants, and run some of the finest markets in USSR, in cities.

But they are increasingly active, *internationally*.

Today "Centro-Soyuz" (their national Co-Op organization) buys-and-sells from 170 co-ops and companies in more than 50 countries. This business has grown ten times over since Centro Soyuz was formed in 1962.

About half of this increase is in trade with other Socialist countries. Here the advantage of the **system** shows up: deals are made on a **planned** basis, so that both sides can confidently figure on production needs for next year and often for five years ahead. In Capitalism that advantage is lacking.

Another field of growth is with the **developing** countries. They, especially, need co-op relations. Plenty of problems there, since the capitalist multi-nationals do everything possible to monopolize trade with former colonies. However, Centro-Soyuz is coming along in Thailand, Afghanistan, Malta, North Yemen, Ethiopia, Angola, Philippines and pro-western countries like Morocco.

A *new trend* has appeared recently. Some companies in the capitalist world have learned (by dealing with Soviet Co-Ops) that *long-term agreements* for trade can be profitable for both systems. Such deals have been made in France, Italy, Sweden, Iceland, Denmark, Finland, Austria, and are pending in West Germany and Japan.

Most co-ops and companies that **buy** goods from Centro-Soyuz do so because Soviet products are of **highest quality**, a fact that we don't often see in our media.

In fact, the **top-quality** (gourmet) foods market would take more than Centro-Soyuz can supply of delicacies like Bashkirian honey, cloudberry, mushrooms, famed Chardzhou melons, etc.

Other unusual exports include English walnuts (grown in USSR), pickled ferns, Siberian cedar and pine nuts, hazel nuts, fresh bilberries, ashberry jam, pumpkin seeds.

Soviet Co-Op growers are really cashing in on Western fears of "chemicalised" foods. They can't get enough of **natural** foods to supply the demand abroad. The advantages are nutritional content (especially vitamins) and superb flavor unspoiled by additives and processing.

Another new field is in the **world herbs** market. Big drug companies increasingly turn to active herbal ingredients for costly therapeutic drugs. The leaves of periwinkle, raspberries, currants and filberts are in much demand today. Soviet farm families (and also many city children) have developed a big "harvest" of many valuable herbs, which Centro-Soyuz can readily market.

It's interesting to note that the *most profitable trade* for Soviet Co-Ops is with *neighboring* countries. No problems of transportation and storage. Just "cross the border".

On a world scale, Centro-Soyuz is rapidly building trade because of one special feature: when Co-Ops in the West run into **troubles** (due to economic uncertainties), the response of Socialist cooperators is . . . *friendliness*.

With them it's not "How are the profits?" but rather "How are the people?"

If you'll look over the decisions of the recent Soviet Communist Party Congress, you'll understand that the very foundation of Centro-Soyuz is basic to their world policy.

## Their bankers cooperate too . . . for Socialism

Very few people over here, even in the "Left", know that the Socialist banking system of USSR has **changed**.

No, they're not out for *profit*, and continue to function as a *service* to their system. But! They now see their most important "service" as being a **stimulant to speeding up production and economizing expenses** of the system.

It's a huge task. If only because the State Bank now finances industry and farming to a total of *more than 560 billion dollars*!

For a long time the Bank simply *handed out billions* from the nation's budget. Now, those who need funds will have to **borrow the money**.

Why? Because credit has become a **terrific "weapon" for Socialism**. Cuts waste. Weeds out squandering managers. Exposes enterprises that fail to achieve plans.

Eliminates production of low-quality and obsolete goods.

How? Simple. If an industrial or agricultural enterprise isn't functioning properly, it is **clobbered by high interest on loans** which must be repaid.

But if an enterprise **succeeds**, the State Bank will offer **additional funds at very low interest**. More profit for the enterprise, more wages and salaries.

**Much more for Socialism**, so the entire system benefits.

A different kind of action relates to enterprises that want to expand, when they could better increase their output by **modernizing equipment**. In such cases the Bank "dictates": by giving all needed credit for up-dating production, but **not one rouble** for obsolete "expansion".

*Banks are serving the planners.*

They're getting **tough**. No longer can enterprises go to Soviet construction groups and "make deals". **All funds must come from the State Bank**.

And no money if deadlines are not fulfilled. Or if construction is sloppy. Anything less than the best is penalized by high interest.

But if a project is finished on planned schedule, **down go interest charges**.

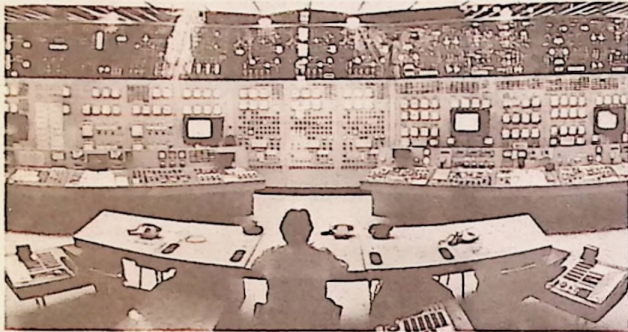
In that way the Bank is acting (where it hurts!) to clear away most of the **300,000 unfinished building projects** now draining Socialism's resources (and exposed at their Congress).

You find two **opposite** effects of this policy. Their **best** enterprises are booming (maximum credit, lowest interest). Their **failures** are penalized out of business.

*It's banking according to Lenin.*

# What's new in old Voronezh

The Soviet city of Voronezh is 400 years old this summer. It was mentioned in the chronicles of the 12th Century. Peter the Great built his first ships here. But this rich farming area was long impoverished. Here's the view you get now



The city is renowned for its advanced Nuclear Power Station, where hundreds of foreign specialists have been trained to operate safe, efficient plants. This station has supplied Socialism with 80 billion k-w-h.



Exquisitely beautiful old building has been converted into the Voronezh Puppet Theatre. City has three other (stage) theatres, its own symphony and circus.



Few people who ride the famous IL-86 Soviet airliners know that these advanced ships are made in "old Voronezh", in a really mod plant.



Voronezh, "cradle of the USSR," has the biggest play pool in the country. Parents take their hobby seriously and build ships they've built.

Voronezh was one of the first to teach babies to walk. This method now widely used.



Only if you are a ballet fan do you know that the Voronezh School of Ballet has produced many of the finest young dancers to theatres all over the USSR. M. Troyepolsky, whose book about a dog ("White Bim with Black Ears") is coming in a movie.



Left: the 400th anniversary of the city's founding. Right: the architect who prepared the splendid district of ancient Voronezh. The building is an apartment house.

# ezh?

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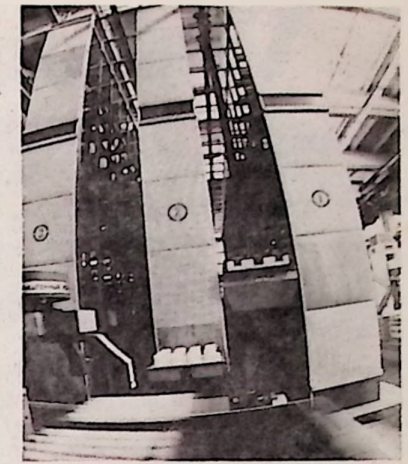


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Smart shoppers in USSR look for clothes made in Voronezh. This isn't a factory, it's a school where high school girls can try out for jobs.



This futuristic scene is really that: shows a factory in full production ("Voronezh Elektronika") which is operated by robots. And the robots were made right here. Exported to many Soviet cities.

At left you see a "ceremony" they follow at a big Voronezh Maternity Hospital. Parents are presented with their baby and congratulated on the arrival of this wonderful little citizen.

Photo at right: team of young fencers out for practice. Still another surprise? Voronezh is very sports-conscious. City has many gymnasiums, plus Palaces of Skin-Diving and Acrobatics. They've turned out an astonishing number of world stars, Olympic champs.



Below:  
The Morozov family was just one of 35,000 Voronezhians who moved into new apartments during the past five years.



"Lada" may be a Soviet car to you, but in USSR it's the name of a highly popular Folk Art Company, in Voronezh. Here shown with foreign students.

# Workers happy to be fired?

**In Socialism's new efficiency drive thousands of railway-men have lost their jobs. As you see, they're not all that upset. And they have reasons for feeling good about it.**



Even before the drive began, the Communist Party Congress learned that in just one railway system, the Byelorussian Line, over 12,000 jobs had disappeared.

*But not a single man or woman was left unemployed.*

Aside from a small number who decided to take their pensions and retire, all were given a choice of two or three alternate jobs. Mostly, they went into big-city factories that were short of labor, and were given training (with pay) to fit them for new skilled work.

Several hundreds went back to farming, in Co-Ops and State Farms being modernized.

**No conflicts?** Yes. But after discussions with their union officials and management, *only six* workers went to court to demand their old jobs back. Three **won** their cases. Three lost, and had to take offered jobs.

Incidentally, few opted for retiring. Two reasons. Age for pensioning in the Soviet railway system is 55 years for men, 50 for women, and few feel like dropping out at that age. Besides, new jobs offered them, in industry and on farms, usually paid better than the wages they'd been getting on the railway.

The firing wasn't all that satisfying. It was painful to tell 12,000 people that their work was *no longer needed* by *Socialism*. Right there you see the basis of the whole difficulty. Actually, the workers who were fired were doing **obsolete jobs** and thus were holding back the Line's modernisation.

The trade union grasped that fully, and so did the tens of thousands of retained workers. The planned goal of unions and management was to **expand** the Lines in keeping with the rapid growth of the socialist economy. **More** trains, **heavier** trains, **faster** trains . . . with **fewer** workers. They call this "mobilising internal reserves", in *Socialism*. It means an end to the former practice of increasing production solely by hiring more workers.

One important factor: railway productivity is rising sharply **without heavy additional investment**, and this has two major effects.

First: the Socialist system *makes more profit* for the people who own it. Second: much of that increased profit goes right into the *increased wages* of the remaining workers.

What's new: every division of the railway now keeps the money saved to **boost pay-rates** that are now tied to output.

In other words, increased profits aren't being held by the national economy but are being paid directly to workers in this industry.

Actually, *some* of the additional profit from railway operations does go to the nation, but there is now definite linkage between **labor efficiency and pay**.

Work intensification? Some jobs now demand more effort. Many jobs have disappeared: such as thousands of "crossing guards" who did little but jot figures in notebooks.

Plus a great many men and women in "**managerial**" jobs, people who did reams of paper-work that has been eliminated by computers and automation.

The experiences of the Byelorussian Line aroused such favorable comment at the Communist Party Congress because it has been repeated elsewhere in the Soviet economy: so the two million **unfilled jobs** that have been holding back many industries may largely be filled by workers whose *obsolete occupations* are going to disappear, like those Byelorussian crossing guards.

The economic reform now sweeping the USSR is fundamental. Formerly, the central planners took all profits (if any) and returned a portion to each enterprise, to pay wages. But with *Socialism* now producing a *fifth of the whole world's output* this arrangement is no longer efficient.

Actually, planning just one industry (like steel, petroleum) needs more "computing" than a big space-ship venture. Such **planning** needs to be **where the production is**.

And those in production now have a tremendous new incentive. Soviet basic wages are going to rise **25-to-30 percent** in this 5-Year Plan, but this will happen only when each enterprise makes the **additional profit** needed to pay the wage bill.

You're asking a sharp question: suppose an enterprise **doesn't** realize more profit, will people be fired, the plant closed down?

This problem they are facing right now in their **footwear industry**. Millions of poor quality unsaleable shoes are piled up. No longer is the "center" going to make up these **losses** (as in the past). No more subsidies to weak plants, paid for by *successful* plants.

Their view is that workers aren't responsible for poor goods, so their wages should not be cut. So then?

They've worked out a "transition system": **the nation will assist its "failures"** to reorganize for efficient production, provided management and unions introduce the **needed drastic changes**.

Trials have shown them that this is very effective, since workers see clearly what they must do with their *new machinery*, and what has to be done with *obsolete management* that proves reluctant to changes.

Some Western critics have said that this "help-the-weak" policy is a denial of the whole new program of "compulsory efficiency". *Socialism* does not accept that view.

First, because the "comradely help" they're extending is in no way going to be **lasting**.

Formally, they put it this way: the Soviet Union's planned socialist economy is capable of carrying out this huge and complex reform, *without any retreats in the social field*.

No one is going to be left unhappy.



# A Card For All Seasons!



## Glad times-Sad times

## -Anytime at all



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## The Chicken Yard Story

CAPITALISM among the hens-and-chickens. This is the uproariously funny little yarn by NN Reader Jack Russell. People have ordered it by hundreds. Makes young and old chuckle, then laugh....and then THINK. At Memorial Fund prices to help you send it around.

"THE CHICKEN YARD STORY" No.906 - 65¢ - 10-for-\$5.00 - 100-for-\$25.00

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- o They appeal to a very wide variety of reader, and you get them at Half Price.

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**"The Future In Our Time"** — Just opposite of Report above, this one will astonish you with its wonderful optimism! Maybe you shouldn't think so much of coming years, but enjoy what's going on in our world right now. Uplifting! 95 cents — 5-for-\$3 368

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**"Woman Defector Tells Top Secrets"** — You read endless tales of "Soviet spies". But what of Western spies who "defect" to world of Socialism, and tell all? Our media won't carry such news. You'll really enjoy this one, especially because the woman spy had plenty to tell! 95 cents — 5-for-\$3 380

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**"The Origins Of The Human Race"** — many brand new findings given here. Includes facts on latest Africa discoveries, which "move" Man's origin from Asia. Reasons why mankind may have begun millions of years earlier than was thought. Very concise and stimulating. 95 cents — 5-for-\$3 992

**"Who Needs Religion in Socialism?"** — Remarkable new factual report on believers in USSR today. Big surprises for many. Vital for your grasp of Socialism's attitude to individuals, churches, faiths. New, exclusive. 95 cents — 5-for-\$3 778

**"The Fate Of Christ In Russia"** — Cool factual record of what Socialist Revolution did to churches, believers. Many facts here are totally unknown in West. These days they are truly essential. \$2 — 5-for-\$6 898

**"Why God?"** — Though USSR is officially atheist they recognize widespread faiths based on belief in Supreme Being. Here you get surprising reasons why this is so, giving you deep insight into actual situation, today. 95 cents — 5-for-\$3 866

## SET "Q" — Best waker-uppers — Reports priced \$20.55 — SET PRICE \$10.25

## SET "R" — Where to get Health Help economically

**"You Don't Waste Your Time Sleeping"** — Uplifting scientific advice for all who like to "turn over". Might well put you on track of health. 793

**"Talk Yourself Into A Better Life"** — Here's new Soviet Approach to powerful force of "self-suggestion". 796

**"Royal Queen Bee Jelly"** — Doctors here scorn this but in USSR it's approved. This tells you why, shows how they use it. 790

**"Choose Your Own Health Fast"** — Shows how to get all benefits from fasting serious ills, discomforts. 421

**"Use Water for Vigorous Health"** — It's free, but studies of millions in USSR proves this a super "treatment". 447

**"Sleep Your Way to Health"** — Many find this the key to new enjoyment of life. Specific methods. 449

**"Swollen Feet, Puffy Face"** — Here's what you can do about problems that make so many people miserable. 450

**"Hypnotism"** — In case you are thinking of trying this treatment, brief yourself first with facts. 809

**"Watch That Sore Throat"** — A simple illness can be very damaging, but it's easy to avoid that. 442

**"Preventing Pregnancy"** — Facts here don't interest everyone but can be truly life-saving to many. 439

**"Who Doesn't Have Health Problems?"** — Millions in USSR learn of common ills and how to overcome them. 467

**"They Use Bee Hive Glue"** — Not for sticking things, but as a surprisingly effective health treatment. 207

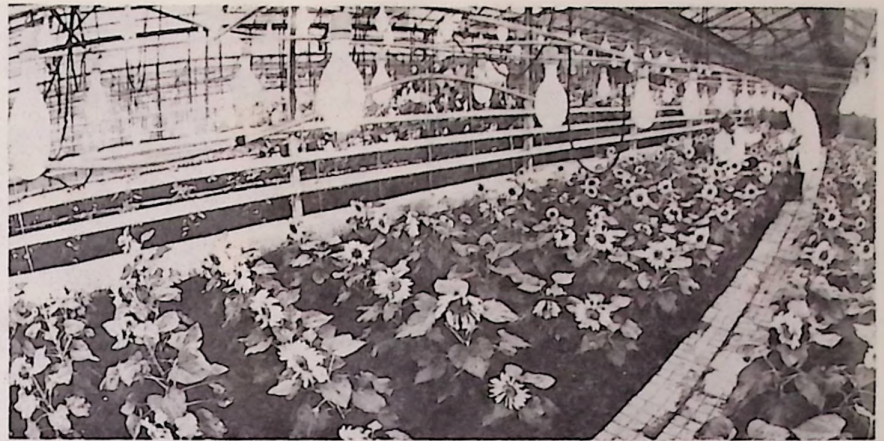
**"Is It Safe to Breathe Air Ions?"** — It is, but you don't need costly equipment, as explained here. 719

**"24 Motions to Normalize Blood Pressure"** — They use this to get people off drugs. Pleasant, simple, no-cost. 411

**"Hunger Way To Health"** — Even if you've tried fasting, this reasonable approach could be best for you. 843

**"Greatest Curing Bath is Free"** — They lead world in bath-therapy, but here you see how to duplicate their most effective one right at home. Very pleasant. It works. 876

## SET "R" — Economy Health Help — Reports priced \$10.40 — SET PRICE \$5.20



# HUNGER—or OVER-HEATING?

We think of limiting Earth's population according to **food supply**. But a new Soviet study reveals that people's demands for **energy** may be a worse menace than lack of food.

If this sounds silly, consider the fact that we in advanced countries use about 10 kilowatts of power per person. Vast numbers of people want to catch up to our standard of living. If they do, enormous new sources of power will be needed.

Scientists say the **limit** would be the power used by **10 billion people**. But population experts say Earth will have **15 billions** by the year 2100. The power experts warn that energy for 15 billions would **heat our planet disastrously**, wiping out everyone.

If this seems to you like just another gloom-and-doom prediction, let's check the facts.

- All systems that give us useful power also **give out heat**.

- Earth's "heat balance" is **very delicate** and cannot stand the vast new heat supplies that would be "dumped" into our atmosphere and waters, by 15 billions of "high energy" inhabitants.

This needs a closer look.

— We're talking here about "**additory**" energy: the energy we produce from burning fuels, including nuclear power.

— We also use **non-additory** energy: hydro power, windmills, solar energy.

— But these non-additory sources are **far too small** to satisfy that extra 5 billion humans, so they would demand "inexhaustible" power supplies from nuclear and thermo-nuclear power stations.

— Meaning **50 billions more kilowatts** of energy . . . **added** continuously to Earth's heat.

Any way Soviet scientists consider that addition to Earth's warmth turns out to be a **catastrophe**.

Actually, even now we are on "the borderline", heating our planet. This shows up vividly when you realize that **everybody** on Earth now **averages** only **two KW** of power consumption. We with our advanced way-of-life average **ten KW**. So, billions of humans are going to demand **billions more KW** just to reach our level.

*And our power consumption is rising year by year, rapidly.*

The cold facts show that we will pass the safe additory energy level just in the **next 80 years**.

But some Soviet scientists say we are due for **much faster** energy growth, when nuclear-fusion stations come into production.

Meanwhile, **billions more people** will come into existence, with their tremendous energy demands.

One eminent Soviet scientist, Dr. Vsevolod Troitsky, says flatly: "*The additory energy production threshold is inevitably at hand now.*"

For some, this may sound like another of those familiar "The end of the world is at hand!" prophecies by religious people. Many make their protest scientific by pointing out that we **must** from now on concentrate on **getting power from the Sun**, a non-additory source.

Indeed, solar heat is *different*, because it has always heated Earth slightly; and when we use it we just **re-distribute** that heat, without adding any.

**But!** For all their enthusiasm, fans of solar heating haven't yet come up with any practical ways to gather from our Sun's rays anything like **tens of billions** of kilowatts.

Solar-power plants in Space?

Covering our deserts with sunshine collectors?

Solar heat panels on every roof?

The best brains in Socialism and Capitalism can't see our Sun supplying us with **anything near** the power needed by 15 billion humans.

As if over-heating our Earth isn't bad enough, power engineers and agricultural researchers have come up with another grim warning. *We are eating far too much energy!*

The power used today to make fertilizers, insecticides, and do all the farmer's work, and transport everything, and make the machinery of modern agriculture — and preserve and cook our food — the total is enormous.

From 25 to 40 percent of **all** our energy consumption goes into **what we eat!**

You may not fancy the idea, but some researchers would like us to **consume alfalfa**. Costs much less than milk, steak or bread.

Like that or not, quite soon our advanced world will have to **drastically cut down** on the good things we eat today. Because our farmers and processors **use far too much energy** in these foods.

Brace yourself: we'll be switching to things like *processed alfalfa* and **soup made by bacteria** sooner than you think. By the year 1900, Soviet scientists believe.

Some of them say alfalfa, soya, sunflower seeds, cotton-seed, and proteins made by bacteria, fungi, algae and molds . . . well, they won't make it to MacDonald's just yet, but wait, wait a while.

Soviet agriculturists are on a more promising track. **Farming with Biotrons**. Big tanks instead of fields.

Fodder crops grow at the top in the sun. After processing they go down to cows, sheep, pigs, poultry. All wastes go to bacteria for re-processing and use again.

This isn't as weirdo as you might think. In USSR they have a Biotron planned (it costs about 45 million dollars) that could supply **all quality meats** used by a city of 100,000 people. And **Big M!**

# Like to meet interesting people?



**Tatyana Musaeva is a computer specialist. And an agricultural researcher. And a space scientist. In Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences. Working on control of crops via photos from space-ships in orbit.**



**Strongman Valentin Dikul (as you saw in last month's NN) broke his spine, in a circus stunt, at age 16. Hopeless. Weight-lifting in bed, for years, brought him back, as you see here.**



**Agafon Gorshkov fought in World War One, Civil War, World War Two. Wounded several times. But he has nine children and they brought their friends to his 90th birthday party at his home town in Orenburg Region. And he danced for them all.**



**Andris Liepa is youngest star of famed Bolshoi Ballet. First danced there when just 20. Audiences clamored to see him, because his father, Maris, is a world-renowned dancer. With them here is Andris' sister Ilse.**



**At left: Yelena Yermolenko supervises micro-processor output at a "robot" plant in Checheno-Ingush Republic (Grozny).**

**At right: State Farm family, Yefremovs, in Novgorod Region, were so popular they've gone on the air. Dad Viktor writes words, composes music himself.**



# Should you try TONIC FASTING?



Our Liberal Senator Hebert made world headlines by fasting, to attack government policies unfavorable to youth.

Millions now are curious about fasting. After three weeks total fast the man was still healthy. Any truth in what we hear about fasting for health?

Hippocrates, "Father of Medicine", widely used fasting as a curative treatment, back in 400 BC.

Ever since, people and doctors have heatedly argued *for and against* fasting.

This treatment lost favor when modern scientific medicine took over. But it has never disappeared, and is used by some specialists to this day.

Especially in USSR. One of their well-known medical men, the Armenian Dr. Grant Sarkisyan, is a fasting fan. Mainly because, in his 'forties, he fasted to restore his powers in the **boxing ring**, where he had been Armenia's champ for eleven times running.

Soviet research has shown that fasting has very complex effects on the body. Short-term fasts don't weaken vital organs.

As Pavlov showed, with dogs, fasting can bring about strong re-**invigoration**. It is a kind of **super-*tonic***.

Fasting is used in some of the finest Soviet clinics, under close medical supervision. They find no harmful effects if people lose one-fifth of their weight.

Prolonged fasting has been used in USSR, and in the West, in treating the severe mental disease schizophrenia. But results are questionable, unreliable.

Even strong advocates of fasting, like the eminent Soviet specialist Anokhin, repeatedly warn that a fast is **not a cure-all** (as some "naturopaths" claim).

This brings us up against the fact that fasting "**addicts**" have given this treatment a bad name, by defending *extremes*, whereas "*moderation*" is the key method in fasting for *health's sake*.

Only doctors can use fasting in its severe forms.

However, some special cases have won wide medical attention, as in the remarkable **self-treatment** of a Soviet patient literally "given up for dead." This man, Vladimim L., was in the last stages of a disease (**not cancer**) causing great pain. He went on a **total fast**. Within six days-and-nights he felt unbelievably *better*. And in 14 days he was walking around.

After 45 days with no food at all, he was pronounced **cured** (in spite of extreme thinness).

This "treatment" was really not fasting but *starvation*. No doctors here or in USSR recommend this. But they discuss it as evidence of the "restorative" effect of the body itself, *when deprived of all nourishment* other than what is obtained by internally consuming body tissues themselves.

## Fasting that's approved in Soviet Union

In the southern Soviet Republic of Armenia, fasting seems to have gained the most medical and popular support. For example, in one of their most modern hospitals, in Achapnyak, special wards are set aside for fasting patients.

These are mostly people who have ailments associated with **obesity**. Such as chronic heart cases. By fasting (sometimes with a weight loss of 25 pounds in a short time) they regain health even though taken off prescribed drugs.

People with frequent headaches, insomnia and weariness also seem to respond to what the Armenians call "the **hunger cure**".

Another group of patients have stubborn skin ailments, or bronchial asthma, high blood-pressure and hardening of the arteries. May respond quickly to fasting.

The treatment is exactly the same as the "political" fast of Senator Hebert: absolutely nothing to eat and only mineral water to drink. But in Soviet hospitals the patients get an **enema daily**.

Also, they go for walks outdoors, and take other exercise.

After the fast ends? Fruit and vegetable juices. Gradually, mashed fruit and vegetables are added to the drinks.

It is interesting to note that the medical profession in USSR is *not opposed to fasting*, although only a minority of their doctors regularly use it.

Fasting for **weight reduction** is used in many Soviet holiday-health sanatoriums. You find two main reasons for this. First, people definitely lose a lot of **pounds**. And while they fast they enjoy a **feeling of better health**.

Now what is their attitude to people trying such a Tonic Fast "**on their own**", at home?

You should note this very emphatic principle of theirs: never, ever go for one of those 20-day fasts **outside of a hospital ward**.

True, Senator Hebert did his in the Senate Chamber, just with a couch and sleeping bag.

But as you saw on TV, he was under the *constant care of a physician and specialist*.

Then what about you?

If you put that question to a Soviet doctor the likely reply would be: "Get an okay from your doctor and then decide on a **three-day total fast once every month**."

Plus: don't spend your fasting time lying around the house. Get **outdoors**. Keep walking or otherwise moving. When you get tired, turn to an interesting book, not TV.

If you're expecting to feel a **tonic effect** from your monthly 3-day fast, you're **almost sure to get it**.

But don't let that tempt you into **prolonging** the fast. Seventy-two hours is enough, in a month.

We must repeat what they stress: if you look forward to a **tonic effect** from your fast, you probably won't be disappointed. But if you think fasting will cure anything and everything, **forget it**.

Once you've done it for three days, it won't scare you **next month**. You'll look forward to it.

And you can smile at the fact that you're taking the only treatment known, which is based on . . . **nothing**.

# He went back to the Land

He is one of the most famous champions in all sports history: he took five world titles in wrestling plus the Olympics title in both 1972 and 1976.



Levan Tediashvili had no thought of sports in his youth. Leaving school, he got a job in a furniture factory, as an assembler and polisher.

But then he fell in love with Nana Mchedlishvili, a young doctor, and decided to go for a university degree in physical education. He did well, and got a job as sports official. This led him into work with problem children, and his investigations convinced him that sports could be the answer.

That wasn't surprising, since Levan was born and brought up in Soviet Georgia, where just about everybody is into some kind of sport.

The Tediashvilis had two sons and their father figured he should begin to take a career seriously. If he was going to influence the disturbed kids he worked with then he had better go for something they admired.

Like wrestling? Levan certainly had the physical form for battles on the mat. So he practiced more and more in his spare time, working hard on the techniques that he passed on to the youngsters.

The rest is sports history. From one championship in Georgia to another, Levan went for the Soviet national crown and then made it on their Olympics teams.

Nobody before or since has equalled his five world titles plus two Olympics wins.

*In Socialism, what becomes of a champion like that?*

Over here, fans might fix him up in a small business. In Soviet Georgia his most enthusiastic followers were farmers. Some of them, not so very good with their crops, sent Levan an official invitation to return to his native place, and help them run **The Red October Collective Farm**.

Hardly a spot for a world-renowned sportsman. But his wife, Dr. Nana, saw the job as a challenge to her man, and backed him strongly.

More to it than just the job.



The farmers tell you that Levan had things going for him. Whenever he went to any planning boards, he wasn't merely a farm chairman but ... a world-record-breaking champion. Which gets you a long way, down there in Socialist Georgia.

They tell this little story: about a couple of farmers who took some days off because of hand injuries. Levan sympathised. Then he revealed that many wrestlers (himself included) fought through tough bouts with **dislocated finger-joints**, with the pain almost unbearable.

He also reminded them that famed wrestler Rurua finished and won several bouts while suffering from **radi-culitis**, which he hid from the doctors.

"Evidently it's impossible," says Levan, "to tear away from a farmer's heart his feeling for the land. All my ancestors were farmers. I came to love the land in my early childhood, and there isn't much that I don't know about growing vines.

So the Red October Co-Op farmers elected him as manager. Pretty young for the job. But nobody could think of an older farmer who had won five world titles.

Today Levan is still just 38 years old. But you'd never take him for that: he looks as good as he did back in his wrestling days. Actually, *he's still wrestling*. Training any village boy who has ambitions on the mat.

As he noted from the start, this Red October Collective Farm hardly rates with Georgia's finest. But strange to say these farmers had attracted another Olympics champ: Gurman Kostava, a fencer. And several top-rated football players. So what the farm lacked in harvests they made up for in sports competitions.

Their Chairman, Levan, has taken his own time to get the farm's agricultural life up on a higher plane. He's doing it with **sports**. The incentive for crops. A new sports centre they can afford now: \$140,000. Next comes riding-horses and an equestrian school.

What's he after? Well, carrying out the program of the Communist Party on the land: **keep young people on the farm, plus reward them for farming efficiently**.

But Chairman Levan has no one-track mind. All the farmers, all ages, bought his great idea of piping a big mountain spring all the way down to the village, so everyone had **running water in the house, city-style**.

Then the old stoves were retired, when a gas pipe-line brought them **modern fuel**.

Then the pavers gave them sleek **asphalt roads**.

Then the young married couples got their own **daycare centre** so mothers could work.

All financed by more **sheep, more grain, more vineyards**.

So Doctor Nana doesn't see so many minor injuries as she used to.

Levan is ambitious. Not only is he working to make the Red October Farm the **finest rural sports place** in all Georgia, but he's got plans to open a sports centre for rural teen-agers.

"With modern rhythmic gymnastics to get the girls enthusiastic."

The farm itself is doing an awful lot better than in the past.

Everybody in the region could see that. Including the Communists of Georgia. So they elected Levan as a **Delegate to the 27th Congress of their Communist Party**.

Imagine: not one Western media-man guessed what world-famed champion they were overlooking there in Moscow!



## On your way to the Future!

"One thing strikes me about NN's letter page and that is the way so many people feel that they are on their way to the future. It shows up so very clearly." L.B.N.

"Would you kindly publish an 'In Memoriam' page for Samantha Smith. I make this as a very special request." L.S.K. **Note:** We did so, on Page 6, November 1985. Complete with the special photos we had. If you have lost your copy we'll send another (while they last) for \$1 postpaid.

"As a subscriber I read every word in NN and so I noticed an enquiry about the book by Samantha Smith. The publisher is Little, Brown & Company, and they aren't selling it through their regular bookstores. But we can get it from them at a special price, to sell for only \$10.00 (U.S. funds). We give the small profit to a worthwhile cause. Order from Harry Harrison, 200 Sweezy Ave., Freeport, N.Y., 11520 USA." H.H.

"When I saw a statement that Gorbachyov had run down Brezhnev, I read his full statement and I think it's great. We should circulate it very widely." H.A.

**Note:** See next NN for special offer.

"Russians never mistreated Germans or put them in concentration camps, but look what the Germans did to Russians! Exterminated millions in camps. Local paper prints this report of West German youth wanting to go to East Germany. One of 20,000 who left Socialism and now want to go back to escape poverty in West." G.T.

"Must ask you to take my husband's name off your list now, because I am a widow. I've always had my own NN subscription, so I won't miss any. Reagan is hurting us here as well as people the world over. We must save the world for our children!" B.K.

"I don't want to insult Reader A.V. but doesn't he seem too huffish? Attacking religious people can only help to start World War Three. I'm Christian and I don't see any 'ridiculous gullibility' about that. The great Socialist fighter, George Bernard Shaw, when asked if he believed in Jesus said: 'Yes I do, but not in the humble image, but as a most vigorous revolutionary.'" M.B.

"Too bad you can't afford a proofreader. In Jan. NN P. 21 you had the Chukota Peninsula in the Soviet far north-west, when it is in the north-east. Next to Alaska." W.N. **Reply:** NN is proofread three times but proofreaders do not 'catch' errors like that one. We'd have to hire another editor. But surely you see that the biggest newspapers (with many proofreaders and assistant editors) are forever apologising to readers for "errors". So how can we possibly prevent them 100%? We have to depend on smart Readers like W.N. for help.

"Your magazine is the only one printed in Canada that I subscribe to, so I'm glad to support it. Karpov won \$150,000 in the Chess Championship. Is he allowed to keep all that money?" O.S.

**Reply:** First deduct expenses (heavy, including travels), then their stiff income tax on high incomes. Probably he gives plenty to the Soviet Peace Fund: most sports winners, authors, actors, do that.

"We are mailing your amazing story on Page-16 Feb. NN to at least 25 of the leading Peace Organizations in North America, and if we get the response we hope for we will mail a lot more. Keep up the good work and we will stop 'Star Wars' and the worst president that we have ever had." P.H. **Note:** Would other Readers welcome copies of P-16 November '85 NN?

"Just got my copy of NN and I'm so happy I'm crazy. I really cried. After all these years, when my father watched the Soviet Union grow, it would be wonderful for him to see all the new things." L.D.

"Don't know whether you realize this or not, but years ago when you printed that story about Soviet medical people approving and recommending aspirin, a lot of health fans thought you had flipped. Now every week we get another official medical verdict, praising aspirin. I also remember Soviet docs pointing out that aspirin dates away back as a people herbal remedy for pain." L.V.G.

"To make an 'X' on a piece of paper and then sit back and wait years and get outraged when nothing happens, this is the sign of total political idiocy." G.W.L.

"In regard to recent events in Libya one cannot help wondering if the CIA itself set those bombs in the German disco for an excuse to continue harassment of the Libyan people." K.H.O.

"The safety of the world is uppermost in my mind. I enclose a letter to Mr. Gorbachyov about this; please forward it to him." A.P.

**Note:** We were glad to do that.

"I found 'Science & Revolution' very interesting. As a general practitioner for many years your comments on the practice of medicine here I found very appropriate." H.I.

"In your article on ice-water bathing (Feb. NN) you do not caution bathers to have an observer with them. If someone enters water through a hole in the ice he may have difficulty getting out. I am not going to try this method of retaining my good health as I am over 90 years of age, and the weather keeps getting colder." E.A.P.

## Let us take heart

It is rather difficult to write this, saying *Let Us Take Heart*, when at this very hour we do not know if Mr. Reagan and his group are starting another war.

But I say we must take heart, because events are proving once again that Imperialism is desperate, and believes that it has no way out but war.

And then war is still no way out for them.

Let us take heart because the peoples of the world are winning against Imperialism. Although the struggle may look bleak at times, let us remember that in a storm the sky looks blackest just before the sun breaks through.

The workers and all peace lovers of the world are uniting, and there is a glorious future ahead of us.

Socialism was only a little glimmer 69 years ago, and now it is a glowing torch leading us forward.

Let us take heart and not weary at the miles yet to go, for we can see the horizon and it is not that far off. Peace will surely win because it is a mightier force.

Not peace at any price, but peace for the world's peoples won by means of the people's might.

Take heart, encourage the youth, your relatives and neighbors, and stand firm for peace.

— Sally Carter

"January NN was extra good. Here's my donation. The best to all of you, and that includes 'Maggie' also." A.W.

"Thank God there's an interesting and truthful magazine left in Canada." S.E.W.

"Want to comment on the 'left-handed' question. I suggest it is the 'right-hand' who have the problem, not the lefties. The right-handed should be taught ambidexterity to match the left-handed. It is good for everyone. After all, up to 30 percent of the world's population is born left-handed, so why the discrimination?" G.G.B.

**Reply:** NN is advised that 1) nothing like 30 percent are lefties; and 2) teaching ambidexterity is very inadvisable for "righties", who have the same problems the lefties have when being "re-taught". Basic problem is within the brain, and can't be evaded by one or another "training". As we reported, USSR has ended the practice of forcefully "changing" lefties, and for the same reasons they wouldn't attempt to change righties, because the result can be disastrous in occupations like driving and piloting aircraft.

## Threats cannot turn Soviet people from their devotion to creating the Future

## Very condensed news

A yak-breeding farm has been set up in extreme northern Kharyala, an island in the Lena River. It's experimental, run by the Academy of Sciences. Yaks thrive here even in 50 below winters. They need minimum shelter (no barns) and herders have only to cut water-holes for them through the ice. But the main aim here is to cross Yaks with Siberian cattle, giving hybrids called **Khainaks**. They produce more meat than steers, of highest quality, and give more milk than cows.

Population of the USSR last year increased 2,400,000, to reach a new high of 278,700,000. Birth-rate varies greatly: highest in the Central Asian Republics, where as one-child families predominate in the European regions. But national plans must take account of the needs of *millions* more people yearly, just to "stand still".

Halley's comet lost part of its tail recently and this was photographed by astronomers in Soviet Georgia. In case you think Halley's is a rather trivial heavenly object, note that the Georgian photos show that just the lost part of its tail weighs approximately 250 million tons. No signs that Earth might run into this!

If you've ever thought of shrimp-fishing, soon you'll be able to try it in Beloye Lake, Byelorussian Soviet Republic. And they'll be delicious tropical shrimp, very big. It all comes of a fish-farming project based on a power plant on the shore of Beloye Lake. Even in coldest winter months the farm's water "tanks" are really warm, heated by waste cooling water from the power station. Tests show that close to 1000 pounds of quality fish protein can be grown this way on each acre of flooded farmland.

USSR has struck another big gas field. It's in the north-east Asian region of Kamchatka. One well delivers 300,000 cubic yards of gas daily. There are enough producing wells already to make the field commercial. Kamchatka Peninsula residents are very happy: previously they had to import fuel over long distances. Now geologists are optimistic about striking oil in the same region.

Many people did not live to see the restoration of Pavlovsk, former magnificent residence of the Czars; ruthlessly destroyed by the Nazis before they retreated. Huge sums were spent on reproducing the priceless art works, and the job took 40 years. One major task was to restore 70,000 magnificent trees in the park, all sawn down by the Hitlerite savages. Thousands of local people volunteered to help the expert restorers. Pavlovsk will soon welcome tourists.

This spring huge areas of dry land will be watered, for the first time, in the southern prairies of Ukraine. Part of the land-improvement program approved by the Communists' 27th Congress. In USA, 70 out of 100 acres of farmland have good water supply (rainfall) whereas only 15 out of 100 acres have that advantage in USSR. Irrigation is now beginning to even-up this sharply contrasting agricultural situation.

Big advance in the fight against air pollution is the discovery, by scientists of Moscow's Institute of Applied Geophysics, that *ordinary snow* is a highly efficient "collector" of impurities in air. As it falls, snow soaks up foreign gases and dusts like a sponge. Shipped to a laboratory, the snow gives "instant readings" of pollution. Already a thousand Soviet "observatories" are using this low-cost method.

Supplying the big Soviet space station "Mir" is now almost "routine", since the supply ship "Progress 25" docked with MIR, automatically, by itself, to deliver fuel for the rocket engines, food, water and equipment used by the astronauts (Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyov). Soviet engineers believe using "small" units to support a big permanent station is much more economical and reliable, than using space-craft the size of USA's ill-fated shuttle.

Soviet people can now use their own cinnamon, with the opening of their first cinnamon plantation, in Georgia. For many years they tried to grow this delightful semi-tropical plant; but no varieties survived freezing winters. So scientists at the Sukhumi and Batumi Botanical Gardens decided to improve on nature. Result: acclimatized cinnamon. New crop is valuable, used in food, perfume and drug industries.

A new kind of sea-water purifier, developed by the Black Sea Central Design Bureau, makes ocean-going ships independent of water formerly obtained at ports. Secret: using the gas **ozone**. Can produce 50 cubic yards of purest water daily. So freighters can carry additional 200 tons of cargoes, the weight of drinking-water tanks not needed now.

Biggest printing plant anywhere in the world is being built in Leningrad. Fully automated, it will turn out 175 million books per year. Intended mainly for very large runs of popular books. Using new Soviet designed robots, working with lasers, the plant will run three to five times faster than the best book-producing set-ups today.

First cotton plants grown in space have surprised Soviet biologists. Last June a batch of cotton seeds, specially selected from best Uzbek varieties, was sent up to Cosmonaut Dzhaniibekov. He succeeded in growing 22 plants, with green leaves. These were sent back to Earth, where the plants thrived and bore new seeds. These are now being tested so any changes may be studied.

Can you picture a freight train of 438 cars? It is more than three-and-a-half miles long, but it ran successfully on a Kazakhstan line from Ekibastuz (big coal centre) to Tselinograd. It took 14 sections of powerful electric locomotives to get the train moving and keep it rolling. Made good time. Broke up into sections which went to various destinations. Not a stunt, but part of a Soviet program to develop super long trains hauling 9,000 to 30,000 tons.

Soviet kids now start school at age 6, and to meet this change many new schools are required. To be exact: by 1990 they must have new schools seating seven million boys and girls! All Soviet schools are going to have fewer children per room. Besides regular education budgets, Socialism is setting aside an additional 15 billion dollars for the new accommodation.

The high cost of X-ray photos is slashed by use of a new Moscow Institute of Introscopy development. Instead of X-ray film, cameras use a plate made of selenium. Each plate can produce 1000 X-ray pictures. The pictures are obtained from the plate, on ordinary office paper, within a couple of minutes. Very low cost, speed, no need for "developing", and very sharp "contrasts" are features of the selenium material, which improves X-ray diagnosis.

Scale of Socialism's medical service is hard to grasp. Last year, their doctors attended to three billion patients. In that year, an astonishing total of sixty million people were given *complete* medical examinations, the start of their planned yearly exams for every citizen. Uncounted millions were treated by the famous Soviet health-holiday network, aimed at preventing future illnesses. But in their regular hospitals they have 130 beds per 10,000 citizens, almost twice the figure for USA.

More Soviet engineers are looking at volcanoes, because the first volcanic power-plant, at Pautzhetskaya Volcano has run up an impressive record since it started in 1967. Unlike deep-bored hot-water systems, Soviet method uses the dry, pure, non-polluting heat underground, near a live volcano. Some waters in volcano situations are very pure: melted snow. Inexhaustible. Tapped at low cost. Ideal for both heating cities and producing electric power. Big one is now being started at the Mutnovsky Volcano in Kamchatka.

With their new "accelerated growth" plan just out, Soviet workers early this year boosted industrial production 7.3 percent, and labor productivity 6.9 percent, above figures for 1985. Several major industries are away over their Plans.

Soviet foreign trade is booming: in the 1981-85 period it exceeded the previous five years by almost fifty percent, a record gain. More western firms than ever before found it profitable to link up with long-term Soviet expansion projects, which are not subject to Capitalism's fluctuating markets.



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