

NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

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Leonid Brezhnev is 70 years old this month. Above, left, you see him voting in 1975, with his wife Viktoria. At right, above, is a rare photo of the Soviet leader with his great-granddaughter Galya, in '73. Over at the right he is signing the Act of Detente in Europe last year. A recent historic statement by Leonid Brezhnev is below ...

"We have created a new society, a society the like of which mankind has never known. It is a society with a crisis-free, steadily growing economy, mature socialist relations, and genuine freedom. It is a society governed by the scientific materialist world outlook. It is a society of firm confidence in the future, of radiant communist prospects. Before it lie boundless horizons of continued all-round progress."

**Their Puppets Are Responsible
For Children**

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All Across Moscow**

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Easy To Lose Weight**

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Valuable new publications offered FREE in this issue

NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

The Magazine of Socialism in Action

GRAVENHURST — ONTARIO — CANADA

Canada's authoritative, independent magazine, reporting the U.S.S.R. This is our 26th 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 University Microfilms.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LEONID BREZHNEV!

Not often in history — and very rarely indeed in modern times — has the birthday of a statesman arrived at the same time as great good times for the nation. But there is no doubt at all that Soviet people will toast the seventieth birthday of their leader along with their own wonderful and accelerating progress.

NN cannot help comparing the sorry plight of political chiefs in USA, Britain, France, Japan, Italy, West Germany ... the entire world of Capitalism is shuddering with fear of a "renewed" crisis, even before the present crisis achieves its promised retreat. The most powerful Western figure, President-Elect Carter, is due to take over while the very ruling class he represents has gravest doubts that he or any man can set right the sorry affairs of the world's "free" economies.

Grudgingly our papers report that Leonid Brezhnev never looked better, never spoke more confidently, never had such a splendid accounting to give before his people. And all these makings of a memorably happy birthday are not passing good fortune, but are the culmination of the man's working life that began well over half a century ago. It is no exaggeration to say that Brezhnev, celebrating his 70 years, is a symbol of Socialism triumphant and joyous, for his splendid life is a reflection of all the wonderful lives of the working people who created our Earth's new system.

Happy Birthday, Leonid Brezhnev! Happy Birthday, Socialism!

WE HAD TO MAKE IT THREE TOURS IN A MONTH

Last summer we offered NN Readers a special *Harmony Travel Health Tour*, combining a visit to USSR with three whole weeks of authentic Soviet Trade Union health treatment at the spas of Sochi on the Black Sea.

Hard to believe: we had to guarantee to pay for treatment for seven people, the minimum acceptable. Risky, some thought.

Everybody is back (by the time you read this). As for the minimum of seven ... we had to exceed *the maximum quota* three times over.

Three groups of thirty Readers made it to Sochi!

And believe it or not, enquiries are steadily coming in about the next *Harmony Health Tour* for NN people, due this coming spring. See the notice in this issue.

SORRY FOR OUR MANY FRIENDS IN U.S.A.

Canadians don't know it, but delivery of parcels in the States is almost at a standstill. Due to a strike — not in the P.O. but in the private free-enterprise parcel system. We send all our books via the Post Office, but it's jammed down south.

We can only hope that NN people get their books by Christmas.

NN's Quote-of-the-Month: "Genuine literature has always been socially active, and never has shunned the problems agitating the world. I am not a self-loving intellectual, constantly feeling my pulse to see if I have enough inspiration. How can one look indifferently at the world when so many people suffer from injustice, hunger, illiteracy and countless other afflictions? Today, to stay away from where the fighting is, and away from politics, is not only hypocrisy, it also serves a policy. Its objectives more than once led the world to tragedy. Nazim Hikmet, a poet, an inflammatory speaker, once said: 'If I do not burn, if you do not burn, if we do not burn, then who will dispel the darkness!'" (Robert Rozhdestvensky, Soviet poet)

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Our "Four People Plan" ...
it really works for you!



Are you the kind of person who gets pleasure out of helping others? If so, here is a splendid way to bring happiness and enlightenment to someone else, and a rich satisfaction to yourself.

Try NN's long-proved, highly successful "Four People Plan." You send us Names and Addresses of four people you think might like this magazine and might benefit from it. Plus one dollar only. We'll send all four people NN. Not just once, but three times. If they like it, they'll subscribe.

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

Schools for Fun, or Schools for Work?

Something new has appeared in the competition between Socialism and Capitalism. It affects every child, every family in our world.



For close to 100 years school children in Canada and USA (and most other capitalist lands) slowly but surely got *more education* in their classrooms. But some 25 years ago a *decline set in*. All economic and ethnic groups are affected — boys and girls finish school *knowing less and less every year*.

Amazingly, our youngsters get *higher ratings* from their teachers than ever before. Equally strange, *the money* we spend on schooling has greatly increased.

The problems stand out glaringly when children are given **written tests . . . writing today is very poor.**

So you aren't surprised to find that teen-agers, trying to enter college, are being **failed** very often. Mainly because they *don't know enough*, and can't put down *in writing* what little they do get in school.

What shocks many educators is the fact that superior ("bright") boys and girls are *fewer than ever*, while the lowest-scorers *increase* alarmingly.

These trends are being confirmed on a mass scale. Thus in 1976 over a million teen-agers in USA showed a marked drop in ability to pass standard written tests.

Their showing in ordinary arithmetic was incredible: only 1-in-100 of the 17-year-old boys and girls could balance a simple check-book!

- **What's the basic problem here?** Authorities agree that the decline in schooling in our system dates to the idea that children learn better *if they have fun*, in their classes, *instead of work*.

- **A contributing factor** is the false "humanitarian" idea that poor students should not be made to catch up with good students . . . *even trying is wrong* because it is hard work.

- **The general approach** became known by the eloquent word "**permissiveness**" . . . letting youngsters do in school (and outside, too) *what they want to do*, instead of what they must do to cope with life.

- **All this was easier on the teachers**, since they no longer had to deal sternly with lazy children, and didn't have to *exert themselves* in classes based on fun. Today, in many regions of Canada and USA, *some teachers themselves can't pass tests* that measure basic knowledge.

Now that the situation has become serious, experts are trying to get at *the root problem*. Some believe it is at the very core of modern USA philosophy and morality, placing "*the pursuit of happiness*" as the main goal of human life, while *disregarding the responsibilities of the individual to human society*.

This "fun is all" principle fitted right into the least great prosperity era of Capitalism, when it seemed as if unlimited money would always be forthcoming, to satisfy unlimited and expensive pleasures.

Of course this USA notion of life and happiness was **completely false**: it was first put forward thousands of years ago, and proven wrong.

Truth is: **the best things in life are not fun at all.**

What all this did to schools was seen very sharply in Canada, where we *resisted*, and then *copied the USA*.

- Suddenly our school advisors decided that kids could learn by "absorbing" knowledge, not working at it.

- "Open classrooms" appeared, youngsters chased around all day "doing their own thing", yakking about world affairs, sex, drugs or whatever they wanted.

- But children "taught" that way naturally couldn't pass exams . . . so, out with exams!

- Next stage: few if any *required subjects*, with the children deciding what they needed to learn.

- For fun, they could play at writing, acting, buying and selling, abstract painting, even "psychology".

Two tragic results of this: children got less and less of the knowledge that they **must** have to cope with life today; and schools hid from them the wonderful truth that **knowledge brings deep personal satisfaction** . . . in the classic words of Maxim Gorky: "*To learn to work well is to learn to live well.*"

You get a very harsh view of the school problem in USA from this startling fact: latest survey shows that **five million unemployed (mostly young) cannot even read the Help Wanted advertisements.** (UPI, July 7 '76).

The contrast you get in USSR is **doubly powerful**.

First: in Socialism there aren't any unemployed.

Then: Soviet boys and girls today know far more than our youngsters did 25 years ago, when our schools were still educational, not amusement centers.

Last year 4,400,000 Soviet boys and girls **completed high school**, the largest graduating class ever.

- Soviet children are fond of school, but they *work hard at learning*, having fun is out.

- Teachers and pupils also try hard (with much success) to *bring poor students up* to at least average levels.

- The spirit of "permissiveness" is totally absent in Socialism's schools, and all children feel they are *responsible to the society which they will own*.

- Teachers are better educated every year, and all are now required to *renew and advance their knowledge*.

- Every day Soviet youngsters discover themselves that *working well means learning more*, and this brings deep personal satisfactions.

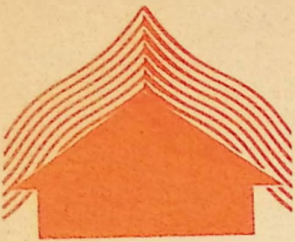
- The "fun" courses (like acting and playing) they take as comes natural . . . *after school, for recreation*.

- Indeed, **the main problem** now in Socialism is to give youngsters **more knowledge than ever before**, along with **the finest physical health ever achieved**.

What this promises for their system in the period ahead you can guess for yourself. In Britain and now in Canada the message seems to be getting through. *New schools* are springing up, run by *free-enterprise*. Here the stress is on **hard work for maximum knowledge**.

Here in Capitalism the new education is **very costly**. In Socialism it is **absolutely free**.

Where will our system rate, 25 years from now?



This man of labor is dedicated to the great cause of Socialism

Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, born December 19, 1906, is the only statesman in the world who began his working life as a stoker.

The Soviet Socialist Revolution brought his working-class family to power when he was eleven. So he never worked for a boss. It was only natural for him to join the Young Communist League when he was 17 and had become a fitter in the big Dneprodzerzhinsk Steel Plant.

Soon the YCL sent him to a land school, and when he was 21 he was out in the Urals as a surveyor. After two years "probation" the Communist Party accepted him as a member, near his 25th birthday.

From then on you discover that his career was typical of *whole generations of Soviet youth*, to this day.

Elected to a local Soviet (Council). Deputy Chief of a Land Board. Abilities recognized, sent back to study at the Metallurgical Institute. Graduated with honors as an engineer when he was 29.

At that time (in the 'thirties) Soviet people urgently needed *trained leaders* in building Socialism. Before he was 33, Leonid Brezhnev was directing Ukraine's fast industrial growth as Communist Party Secretary.

"Let me stay with the men at the front"

On the day the USSR was attacked by Hitler (June 22, 1941) Brezhnev asked the Party to send him into the lines, *and there he remained* right to the day of victory.

No ordinary commander. In 1942 he set up special commando forces of Young Communists and Party volunteers. Already by 1943 the Red Army was going over to big-scale offensives, and Brezhnev, then a Colonel, distinguished himself and his men in a seven-months fierce attack along "Death Road" in the Caucasus. Knocked unconscious by a mine, the Colonel was rescued, and the Party decided to recall him from action.

"I ask permission," he told them, "to remain at the front to the end." Permission granted. The Colonel became a Major General. Today, his priceless memento of the war is the special sabre he carried high, on the Victory Day parade in Red Square in 1945.

You may judge of the man's character from what he said about his war service. Nothing about himself except *gratitude for the experience*, because in the war "I came to understand and appreciate the greatness of soul of the Soviet man — the man of labor, boundlessly dedicated to our great revolutionary cause, a selfless patriot, a person who takes his heroism for granted simply as fulfillment of his duty."

Political career in Socialism

Victory saw the Soviet land devastated — 2,000 cities and towns, 70,000 rural centers wiped out.

Brezhnev was sent back to Ukraine to *organize the re-birth of its major industrial areas*. Mission accomplished.

Five years later (1950) he went to the Moldavian Republic to *develop industry, farms, culture*.

He was then elected to the *Central Committee* of the Communist Party. His military background brought him appointment as Deputy Chief of the *Party's Political Department of the Soviet Army and Navy*.

And in 1954 Leonid Brezhnev was honored by *one of the most difficult tasks ever carried out in USSR*.

Only today are millions of people (including not a few of our leading farm experts) grasping the immensity of Brezhnev's success in *the Virgin Lands of Kazakhstan*. In a remarkably short time over 100,000,000 acres of fertile land were opened to farming . . . and in the critical year of 1972 (when other Soviet "bread baskets" were stricken by drought) the farms created under Brezhnev's leadership gave an *incredible crop. 600 million bushels of grain*.

From now on, with an immense program of irrigation, the great farms of the Kazakh Republic will support the Soviet people with a *permanent enormous grain base*, immune to the whims of nature.

Fighter for Socialist Democracy

Here in the West we know almost nothing of Leonid Brezhnev's political reputation among Soviet People. Yet in 1957, when he entered the Political Bureau of the Party, and then in 1960 with his election to President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet — the USSR's head of state — Brezhnev became personally identified with a *new political upsurge in Socialism*.

The basic Soviets (Councils) at all levels were given *more powers, the people's initiative was stimulated*, and the entire "apparatus" of government was simplified, streamlined, made more efficient.

In 1964 Brezhnev achieved *his highest, present position*: First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Meantime, it was he who brought to the fore *the decisive importance of the Science Revolution*, for the future of Socialism everywhere in the world. And Brezhnev's grasp of this, as *the crucial factor in the competition between Socialism and Capitalism*, found its highest expression in his masterpiece: **the Plan he presented to the 25th Party Congress last year.**

Bigger than the whole world was in 1950

Leonid Brezhnev's modesty explains why he has never linked his leadership with the astonishing successes of Socialism in our day . . . just imagine, right now *Soviet workers produce more than was turned out by all the world's workers just 25 years ago!*

And in this same period the entire Soviet people have scored *cultural gains* that raise Socialism into very sharpest contrast with the moral and spiritual decay that is alarming western nations.

And who needs to be reminded of Brezhnev's personal, unremitting struggle to *lessen the danger of war*, to bring alive in all countries *the spirit of detente?*

In respect for his nature, only a few final words about the man himself.

People tell you of his contrasts . . .

Always cool and composed, very modest, still he is cordial, sociable, comfortable with people, and has a sense of humor that others enjoy. He is obviously happy to share himself with anyone from leaders of states to production-line workers and farm teams.

Since Leonid Brezhnev himself has described the new Soviet Man, the finest compliment you could give him on his birthday is to remind him that *he takes his whole life for granted . . . the fulfillment of his duty*.

if only our TV producers would listen to him

Sergei Obraztsov founded the USSR's famous **Central Puppet Theatre** in the 'thirties. This year, near his 75th Birthday, he was elected President of the International Puppeteers Union. It was he who raised puppet theatres to the high level of opera, drama, ballet. *But he does not regard himself as a mere entertainer.* He speaks to us.
SERGEI OBRAZTSOV....

Over many years we have presented our *Unusual Concert* show more than 5000 times, in Moscow and on tour, with a total audience of two and a half million people.

When it was shown recently on TV, it was seen by 180 millions.

In our theatre this show is seen only by adults. On television it was seen by everybody. Yet this show is not intended for children, especially small children.

Every year more and more puppets are shown on TV. Yet on television we can do the maximum harm, with each performance seen by millions.

If we put on a poor, harmful production, seen by 500 people, then, realising that it was a failure, we would probably take it out of our repertoire. But if we presented it just once on TV, we would do harm to tens of millions of viewers.

What do I mean by "harm"?

I mean arousing or extending base, evil emotions in the spectator — sexually pornographic, or sadistic, or racist, misanthropic (hateful of mankind).

An English puppeteer showed me a short scene in which Punch brings out a meat-grinder and places it on the stage.

Then he calls a very nice, cheerful little pig and invites him to have a look inside the grinder. As soon as the pig pokes his nose in, Punch turns the handle of the grinder.

The big begins to squeal and is gradually drawn into the grinder, from which a string of sausages emerges. *The children laughed.*

It is pretty obvious that such a presentation is harmful to children. But when I told my acquaintance that this sort of thing should not be shown to youngsters, he was very surprised and objected: "But they laughed, they were happy — surely that can't be harmful!"

Yes it can. Laughter is certainly not always the result of a good emotion. It

all depends on why one is laughing.

To laugh at the pain of a living being, whether man or pig, is vicious, sadistic laughter.

In saving someone's life, or the life of a people, an enemy may be killed; but an enemy must not be tormented on the stage of a live or a puppet theatre.

The presentation of such torture is an education in sadism and ruthlessness. *Imagine showing the pig being drawn into the mincer on television!*

In many plays for puppet theatres I have seen comic figures whose characterisation was based on stammering (stuttering).

The children in the audience laughed. But this, too, was harmful laughter.

The directors of such plays commit two sins. One is against those boys and girls who suffer from this defect; the laughter is an insult to them.

The other is against all the members of the audience. They have been induced to laugh at the defect of stammering, and when recalling the play they will laugh at those who stammer.

One should not laugh at illness; at the helplessness of old age; or at human grief. *This is not permissible.*

This means that each of us, when putting on a show, *must know for whom and why he is presenting it.*

He should have a clear conception of the age of his audience.

There is no essential difference between a spectator of 30 and one of 40, but the difference between a spectator of 5 years and one of 15 is enormous.

Our theatre includes in its repertoire the play *Puss 'n' Boots*, which is intended for children aged from 8 to 12. A dragon appears, a large amusing puppet, nostrils belching smoke.

His appearance is greeted with laughter by 10-year-olds. But a mother failed to pay attention to the recommended age limits printed on our tickets, and brought her daughter, who was 3 or 4.



The little girl cried in fright, and soon the mother had to take her, sobbing bitterly, to the exit.

Children's hearts are exquisite, like Venetian glass. They also must be handled with care to prevent them being cracked or broken.

It is much more difficult than we think, to mend cracked hearts.

I often hear it said: "Why should we protect children from terrible things, in art, when they will encounter them in life? Let their hearts be prepared and tempered for this." That is true.

But, firstly, one should always take age into account; secondly, to temper children's hearts they must be taught to fight against what is evil and terrible.

The terrible must not be show as something interesting, fascinating.

The hearts of children must not be taught, as thousands of sadistic crime films teach them, to take a sadistic pleasure in seeing what is terrible.

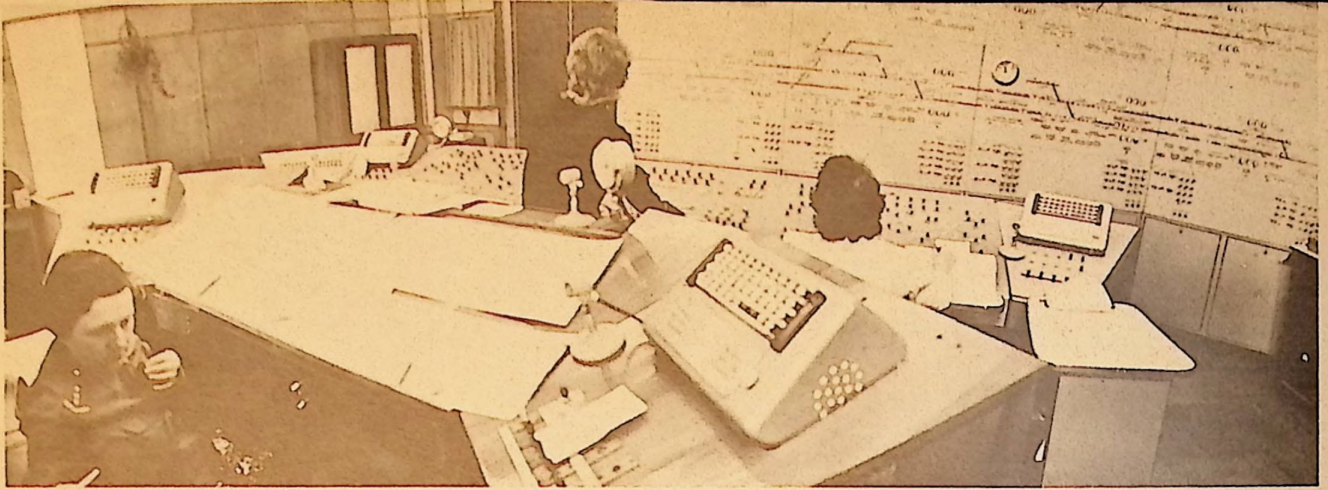
A 10 or 12-year-old boy will follow with interest Mowgli's struggle with the tiger, or Aladdin's battle with the evil vizier. Presenting such romantic heroism can also serve to educate children's hearts.

For this very reason that most puppet theatres are intended for children, those who run these theatres must feel themselves above all to be educators.

We Soviet puppeteers, playing mostly to children, see *ourselves primarily as educators.*

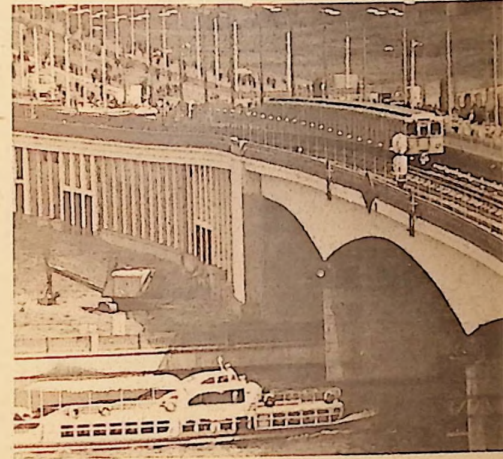
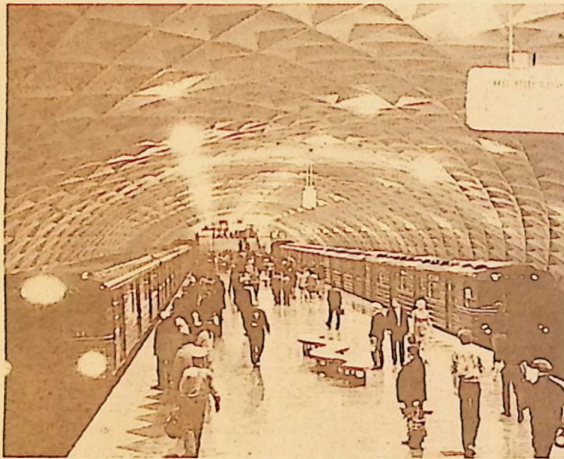
From this point of view each new play is discussed by the theatre's art council, which includes actors, designers and educators. After having been endorsed by the council, most of our plays are then discussed by *school-children and teachers.*

To my mind, if a director does not see himself as an educator of children's hearts, then he has no right to be director of a children's theatre.



You can cross Moscow (about 25 miles) by Metro in 30 minutes, faster than any other capital city. Now has 272 miles of line, 100 stations. Despite speed, it has remarkable safety record, carrying seven million (!) passengers daily. New lines appear every year, radiating out from center, to serve people living in newest housing areas. Note in central control room (above) all engineers are women. In transport systems of Socialism women play very prominent part.

Still only FIVE CENTS a ride



Alexei Golubev (left, above) is engineer on Metro. But many of their trains now run by automation. Drivers are still on duty, however, to cope with any emergency; only assistant drivers have been released. Above, center: "Sportsman" station you see here isn't in Moscow but in new Kharkov Metro. Here, also, fare remains five cents (unchanged since Moscow lines opened in 1935). At right above you see an "open" section of Moscow Metro away out at Nagatino (suburb).



Most entrances to Soviet subways are as beautiful as the station interiors. Every station is designed not only by architects and engineers but also by artists, and many foreign visitors first of all want to ride on the Metro . . . its fame has spread the world over.

While waiting for connections, or for friends, people can find seats in Metro stations. No matter how many trains you ride (all day long if you wish) once you are "down" the single Five Cent fare you paid will keep you travelling indefinitely.



MINER POWER

Coal-miners, doing the toughest work, are the most honored workers in Socialism. They're in power. Here's a quick look at what they're doing today.

Nobody "goes underground" in USSR as an untrained (dangerous) recruit. Socialism now has 192 Miners' Schools, where young workers get 2-to-4 year's training, the last part of it right on the job.

Those with higher school records can go through Mine Technicians' courses, in any of 53 centers. These advanced schools give the USSR's coal industry some 10,000 experts every year.

Many Soviet youth (girls also) take up Coal Mining Engineering. Course lasts 5-and-a-half years, in 29 colleges, and some 2,000 graduate yearly.

All this training is free, and in addition the youth get free board-and-room and work clothes.

Education of miners, technicians and engineers in USSR puts heavy stress on **safety** and **disease prevention**. As a result, in some 10 years the rate of injury and illness has gone down 40 percent. Underground "emergencies" have been cut to one-third.

Miners Trade Union of USSR runs the world's only scientific research center for mine-rescue systems, emphasis being on *disaster prevention*.

The respect Soviet people have for miners isn't limited to words: of all industrial workers, the men who go underground get the **highest pay**.

And hundreds of them are elected to government bodies, from local councils up to the nation's Supreme Soviet (Parliament).

Power "at the top" is solidly based on what we'd call the Union Contract with management of Soviet mines. It differs greatly from contracts here.

To begin with, as *joint owners* of the entire economy, Soviet miners decide with management *how they'll step up production* in a definite period. This basic factor in prosperity is then tied with *miner's wages and bonuses* in contract period.

Equally vital is miner's control over *safety*. Then follow items we never see in our Union deals: Soviet miners negotiate *education* (to raise qualification and pay); *housing, sports, recreation, transportation, free holiday accommodation, day-care for children* . . . dozens of **social services** they now take for granted.

Job security? As mines are rapidly mechanized and automated, the **transfer** of displaced miners becomes an everyday problem. Like other Soviet workers, **miners cannot be fired**. As a rule, displaced men go straight to **new shafts** (nearly all fields are expanding constantly). But if an older mine does **close**, miners get a choice of transfer to another field or another occupation.

This *absence of unemployment* requires the *continuous prosperity* of Socialism, and miners clearly know this. Few other Soviet workers have boosted the economy so greatly, for so many years. For example, in 1975 the **Plan** called for 685 to 690 million tons of coal: Soviet miners actually **delivered** 701 million tons.

Despite mechanization, jobs in Soviet mining continually **increase** . . . in sharp contrast to leading capitalist coal producers. In West Germany, for example, 300,000 miners have lost their jobs **for good**, in 10 years.



This year, Soviet miners will number **over a million**, a record high.

Now in the famed Donbas region they are opening "the mine of the future", near the city of Sverdlovsk. In this super-mechanized mine groups of 6 miners will operate each "complex", turning out *1000 tons of highest grade anthracite per shift!*

Thus **each miner** will produce coal worth **thousands** of dollars **every time** he goes down.

Their "futuristic" mine has something more going for it than the profits it will turn out for Socialism. It will *improve nature* instead of ruining it, as coal mines do.

All "tailings" from the mine will go straight to a *ravine*. As this is filled, it will be *topped with good earth*. This Man-created land will then be turned over to nearby Co-op farms, for food production.

To top that off, purified water pumped from the mine will *irrigate the new land* for bumper crops . . . and then fill up three small lakes, complete with beaches, for everybody's swimming and fishing enjoyment.

How Miner-Power brought ROSES to every citizen

If ever you're in a "coal town" you know what pollution (and plain miserable filth) can do to spoil human life. It was like that in the major Soviet coal center of Donetsk, right up to recent times.

Now? *You can't believe* that coal is mined in Donetsk. Mainly because a *million people* now live there, and the city has *one million rose bushes*.

It began not long after the war. Restoring the ruined mines gave people the wonderful dream of going right on to create a beautiful Donetsk.

Every street would be tree-lined. Today, 6000 miles of Donetsk streets are shady green drives.

Believe it or not, this city counts *50,000 acres of its land* planted to trees of shrubs!

But what gets the visitor most, in summer-time, is thousands of acres of **roses**.

It began when the miners in their Union and their City Council decided to plant a rose-bush for every one of the 800,000 people. They started. Problem was, people so long starved for beauty *picked the roses*.

But only at first. Today, a million Donetsk people have a million rose-bushes . . . picking isn't necessary.

Every citizen has "a tree and a half", plus some 3000 square feet of public greenery. Surprise pay-off of this was that Donetsk got *cooler by five degrees* in hot summer months.

Then, to irrigate everything, the once-dry mining city put in big waste-water supply systems, and today the place is *studded with lakes*, 19 of them for swimming.

Only one thing has *declined*. Donetsk used to be like other mining towns, a place of *hard drinking*. The local distillery has seen its *vodka sales slump 25 percent*.



Seeing Socialism . . .

- Two NN people spent three weeks over in the Soviet Union this autumn.
- Besides getting a lot of important material (to appear in the magazine) they also "just looked around".
- Nothing very serious here, but you might enjoy some observations.

◦ **You can hardly blame us** for eating more in Socialism than we do at home. Once you pay for a meal, you're hooked. For example: a hearty breakfast (at least by Canadian standards) with porridge, cheese, ham, keffir (like yogurt), lots of bread, and coffee — **for two** — would put us back \$2.35. Which includes room service in a top-grade hotel. Likewise, a very big dinner (fish, salads, soup, main meat course, dessert, coffee and drinks) for three people, never ran over \$17.00.

◦ **Incidentally, it's not true** that they serve the best food to foreigners or tourists. When in Moscow we stayed at a hotel where you hardly ever meet a non-Soviet person, and there the food is far better than you get in the big "travellers" hotels. Soviet people know good food, even if much of it is different from our daily dishes. And in little street "snack booths" you discover some exquisite items, often a lunch in themselves.

◦ **Your editor had strange feelings** travelling the road from Leningrad to the magnificence of Petrodvorets (restored after the palaces and grounds, with their spectacular fountains, were levelled by the Nazis). When last seen, 26 years before, this was a trail of war's devastation. Now the fields are green again, and only dozens of memorials mark all those places where thousands perished so that civilization survived.

◦ **How would you feel if you suddenly stopped on a Leningrad avenue, struck by the sign: "This side of the street is most dangerous during bombardment"**. And beneath it is a little tray for flowers. Always filled. In memorium for those who didn't get across. *Hundreds of thousands*. You know what they mean in those engravings seen all over USSR . . . "Nobodies forgotten, nothing is forgiven!"

◦ **It's one thing to read about vast housing programs** but it's something else to drive through one suburb in Leningrad for an hour and see nothing but new high apartment buildings, with schools, stores, parks. Near the end of our drive the man at the wheel

stopped and pointed. *That was where he lives now*. People of every occupation and income get the new housing. At "rents" of 5 to 8 percent of their income.

◦ **They have a Sports Lottery**, with tickets at 30 cents. In Leningrad it's building a huge all-enclosed stadium. We couldn't help think of our Ontario lottery and the scandal over money going to a rich man's yacht club. Incidentally: buy a Soviet Olympic Lottery ticket, tear it open, and you know right then if you've won or not.

◦ **Went to a big art exhibition**, very popular, everything done by young artists, and the admission was 20 cents. Students 10 cents. People on pension, or handicapped, 5 cents. Lenin wrote much about Socialism bringing the highest forms of culture to the people. It's happened.

◦ **More historical places** are being restored to their former grandeur, in Leningrad alone, than in all of Canada. Half finished, the Petropavlovsky Fortress is already spectacular. It's one place where the Czars tried to break the revolutionary will of political prisoners. Still, it is an architectural masterpiece, and no real-estate land-developers were able to get their hands on it . . . *the people own their country*.

◦ **Millions have telephones today**, which they never did have before. But you realize that it wasn't all that bad when you make a pay-phone call. *Costs you two (2) cents*. And in most places pay-phones are right there where people live. You can talk all afternoon if you want, for your two cents.

◦ **Funny thing about Soviet cops**, they seem to spring right out of the pavement when a driver breaks one of the complex safety-rules. From nowhere he's there, waving you down. On our quite extensive trips our drivers got hauled in five times. Reprimand; fined right there (minor offenses); or a summons to court. Mostly done by police on street duty, not by patrol cars.

◦ **Those cops get results**. In all our driving we saw *two collisions*, neither of which would be anything but "routine" in Canada. Yet cars move *much faster*, downtown in USSR cities, than here. Highway traffic is considerably slower, not nearly so dense as ours.

◦ **Went to visit a friend** and the family gradually dropped in. Son has just graduated as an economist, right into a Foreign Trade job. Daughter (more beautiful than ever) was getting set for a trip to the Philippines . . . she's a dancer with the famed *Bolshoi Ballet*. Her husband, researcher in heart surgery, just had a promotion. Grandson played happily with Dinky Cars while we had a Canadian-style Thanksgiving dinner . . . turkey.

◦ **Socialism's individualism** you can see most vividly in little children. Volodya is handsomely shy, thinks to himself while he plays. Natasha is highly independent and nobody can tell her what to do. Alyosha is vigorous, happy, but astonishingly polite and perfectly at ease with grown-ups . . . not yet in school, he speaks Russian, English, French. In Soviet kindergartens, while they teach children how to work and play together, teachers are ever ready to encourage individuality.



... right now

◦ **French-English language row**, here in Canada, didn't show up too well in Socialism, where we met many people who not only are bi-lingual but even have a third language. One friend surprised us by revealing that he can speak Russian, Ukrainian (native tongue), English, French and Arabic. Millions speak an extra language not native within USSR.

◦ **Thinking of barber-shop prices** we saw how Soviet girls and women save money. Shampoo and set is \$1.50, and they're right up with mod styles, like popular Sassoon haircuts.

◦ **No matter where you live** (even in middle of big cities) you'll find a "Nature Path" nearby. We've failed to report this wonderful feature of Soviet city "greening" programs. It's great to step away from traffic into the woods. And never see our signs: *Private Property*, *No Trespassing!*

◦ **Nature Protection Society** we saw in action. Often on Sundays members go out in groups to plant trees and shrubs. Individuals belong, but also entire factories and big farms. Costs 30 cents a year to join. Society now has over 28 million members, so they have some 8 million dollars to spend. In 5 years they've planted amazing total of 350 million trees, billions of flowers.

◦ **Amusing side to "women's lib"** we saw on a street-repair job. In past, as Western reporters never tired of telling, women would be shovelling while men supervised or drove machines. You guessed it: on this job a young woman operated the big roller and another directed the men who were powering the shovels.

◦ **About hard-working women:** our reporters don't realize that Soviet women, during the war, had to replace millions of their men (who never came back), in every kind of job. Later, many of them stayed on, coping very well and (by Soviet law) getting the same pay as men. Now with mechanization Soviet women are conspicuous as big-machine operators.



◦ **Where else in the world** can you go to see a marvellous wind-instrument symphony orchestra, in a full classical concert, with choir and opera soloists, with everyone but the women stars *members of the armed forces*. High cultural level of the Red Army is never admitted in the West.

◦ **You won't see famed Gorky Street** much longer, as millions remember it. Too crowded. So engineers are going to *move away buildings*, widen the big thoroughfare into a "prospect".



◦ **"Appearance can be deceptive"** and this has always struck us forcibly in Soviet life. We were discussing their remarkable medical-emergency-ambulance service, and asked pointedly: "Does all this costly aid really save lives?" The senior doctor put her arm around the young woman beside her (very quiet, modest, self-effacing) and then took her hands. "These wonderful hands of our Galina have saved many, many lives!" It turned out that this young specialist was one of the USSR's leading "reanimation" (reviving-the-dead) authorities.

◦ **Sure, you've seen it all before**, but we just can't help repeating here that people's transportation in Socialism means buying a \$6 monthly "pass", for which an average city person takes 6 rides per day, any distance, on bus, street-car or subway, for 3 cents a ride. If you must travel a lot (say 10 rides daily) you get all that speedy transportation for 2 cents a trip.

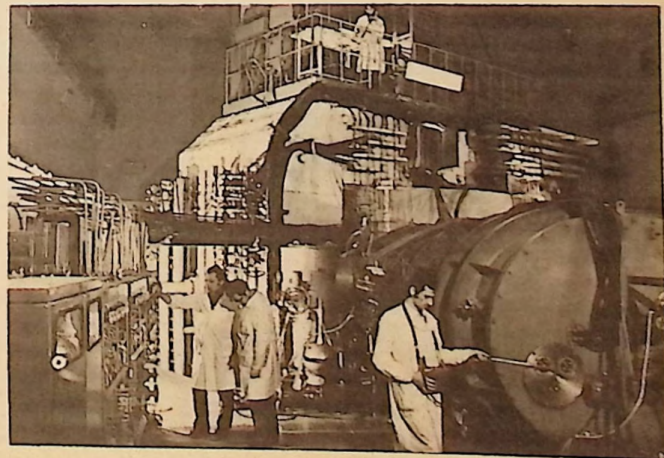
◦ **What's TV like in USSR?** Surprising, that's what. You never know what's coming. What a relief to escape from our every-week-same-hour program monotony! The variety of what they offer is fabulous.

◦ **Like showing a big school-kids contest**, in which teams *put out real fires set by firemen*. Winners got more cheering than a football team. Every youngster learned in practice how to meet a fire emergency. But it was fast, thrilling even for adults... *and fun!* Kids in Socialism grow up ready to take over.

◦ **Along came a friend carrying July-August NN**, and pointed out the Page-24 item about the famed 18th Army and its celebration. Pointed to his lapel. He wore the badge of that Army... *he had fought through the war and had never before mentioned it to us.*

◦ **Sport is literally for everybody there.** Now they have a kind of "neighborhood family Olympics". Called *Mama, Papa and I*. Parents and children compete (together, in teams of 3 or more) with other families in series of indoor races, obstacle-courses, skill-and-strength games. All very fast, exciting, sometimes funny. But for serious. All done as expertly as any Pentathlon. We watched one of the finals and it was amazingly good. With medals, prizes, great enthusiasm. *And healthy.*

◦ **Too bad our pessimistic intelligentsia** working in the arts don't spend a few weeks in Socialism. They'd discover that *theatres*, far from "dying out", are so popular it's harder than ever to get tickets. Same for every variety of musical performance. Opera. Ballet. Comedy. Variety. Circus. *Paintings?* So popular with the people that the countless galleries in USSR face a real problem of *crowds wearing out the floors!*



Just look at THAT!

In USSR people can see the circus all year. Every big city has one. Very popular. NN took a look at some . . . thrills, laughs, wonder.



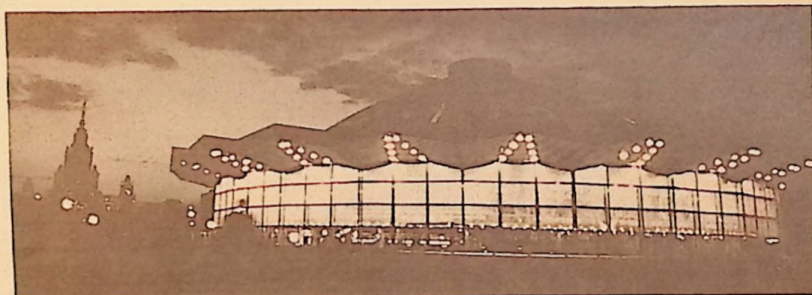
Newest act in Filatov's world-famed "Bear Circus" has everyone clapping. But his "Bear Hockey Game" still rates highest everywhere . . . amazing tribute to trainer's talent.



The impossible took years! Trainer Kuklachev proved even scientists were wrong, when he used love-and-kindness to create world's first Circus Cat Acts. Domestic cats not only perform (with a dog, too) but they love it. They even clown. Possibly all-time high in audience popularity.



New in Zapashny man-and-wife acts. This remarkable couple work with elephants, dogs, horses . . . and do aerial stunts.



This new year-round "circus theatre" in Moscow is magnificent building. But most Soviet cities have similar big permanent circus-theatres, large staffs, animal camps, training grounds . . . there is even a national Circus School attended by hundreds.



NN people were lucky to see famous Karandash . . . on his 75th birthday! Brand new act that keeps audience in stitches.



Looks easy, but Enghelina Rogalsky worked long and hard to create her easy-going act with full-grown bears.

NN Readers will soon be offered a special "Circus Tour" of USSR! Not only to see a circus every night in 5 cities, but meet performers, producers, and animals, for friendly talks.

easy way for YOU to LOSE WEIGHT — and stay alive



Another reducing system? Better check. Excess weight kills *millions*. Could be, in the latest Soviet findings you'll learn how to survive.

o **Not only older people**, but middle aged, and a shocking number of young men and women, are *dying* because their bodies are unable to stand the strain of excess weight.

Soviet specialists draw attention to **two such strains** which many of us ignore. Abdominal fat *pushes up the diaphragm*, putting pressure on the heart; and *the heart itself puts on fat*, seriously weakening it.

Recently, scientists have found an "eating center" in the brain — if this is disturbed, in animals, the victim *never feels hungry*, and starves to death; or, hunger is felt *even when the stomach is stuffed*, so the animal eats, eats all the time.

Unfortunately, so far there is no way to control this appetite-center in human beings. But it seems clear now that **if you have a weight problem it may be inside your head.**

And there is a valuable clue: to reduce (*and stay normal*) you must understand that you've got to **exert control** over your "hunger center".

This is possible for anyone.

Soviet specialists say this can be done, when you grasp fully what has been pointed out before: **a very small cut** in your daily food intake **will bring your weight down for good.**

Thus, if you eat 3,500 calories of food daily, cut that by 5 percent, or *only 125 calories*, and you'll lose **a full pound every month.**

You'll never notice 125 calories less, **but your scales will.**

■ **Even if you're very fat** you should not blame "heredity", Soviet doctors say. But you can blame your parents for *their way of life* — as a child you may have "copied" them by **eating too much and taking life too easy.**

That's the combination doctors find is *epidemic* in advanced countries.

So? So you must understand that a *lifetime's habits* are not going to disappear by using anybody's super magical 21-day crash diet.

For the great majority of people who are over-weight, first thing to settle is this: *reducing is easy if you do it easily, gradually.*

You should get yourself a *calendar* and keep it just for recording a **full year of reducing pleasantly.** It will show at least 12 pounds loss.

A caution about exercise. Avoid a sudden program of heavy work-outs. You could (as many have!) *stimulate your appetite* and wreck your plan to cut just 125 calories a day.

Indeed, over-doing exercise might well *put your weight up.*

However, weight reduction **must include increasing your activity.** Facts in USSR (and here) prove that people today eat **no more**, or even **less**, than our grandparents did. But we're *fatter* because we're *lazier*. We **don't walk, we ride and drive.**

To correct that, you don't need to take up karate or speed-skating. Just *move around more all day.*

► **Let's get it together:** Soviet doctors aren't telling their patients to starve and go for gymnastics. They're insisting that *nobody else's reducing rules* will work for them . . . to succeed, your weight-losing program has to be **individualistic, yours.**

And that's no great problem.

— Take time, sit down, check your entire day, and one whole week.

— First write down everything you do **physically**; especially record all the hours you **just sit there**, or lie down (don't count sleeping time).

— Then do a similar job on **eating**; but *everything*, including *drinks of all kinds* (liquor, beer, tea, coffee, sugar if any).

Then draw up your own rules.

First: look over your day, decide which times you are going to **move instead of sit.** Don't over-do it, but try for a reasonable amount of motion *which you don't get now.*

Second: go over your eating list and pick on one or two things which you can **cut down.** But use any Food and Calories list while you do this. You'll be *astonished* to see how you can knock off **125 calories a day** . . . without hunger, and often *without even noticing the change.*

Soviet weight consultants say this can sometimes be ridiculously easy. Say, *walk one place* instead of riding. And *put one portion of food aside*, like one slice of buttered toast will cut off the whole 125 calories!

Remember: this is going to take off **a pound a month.**

If that doesn't sound all that good, then return to your real goal: **to lose 12 pounds in a year.**

That weight will *stay off*, because you lost it *by force of habit.*

You'll be 12 pounds lighter regardless of fats, sugars, carbohydrates, fruits, drinks or *any other complex reducing factors.*

And 12 pounds *less fat* will mean less strain on your heart. You'll hardly be able to notice that, *but your heart surely will.* Chances are, your heart will get the message over to you, in the form of a **special feeling of better-health that comes when weight goes.**

One hint from USSR: experience has shown that taking a walk before you go to bed is one of the most effective ways to "get moving". Just possibly, it does something to speed metabolism, before sleep . . . a time when fat seems to be added.

■ **Here's the best for the last.** It's their strong recommendation that you try to use the "motion" part of this system, and the "food cutting" program, so **both are new to you.**

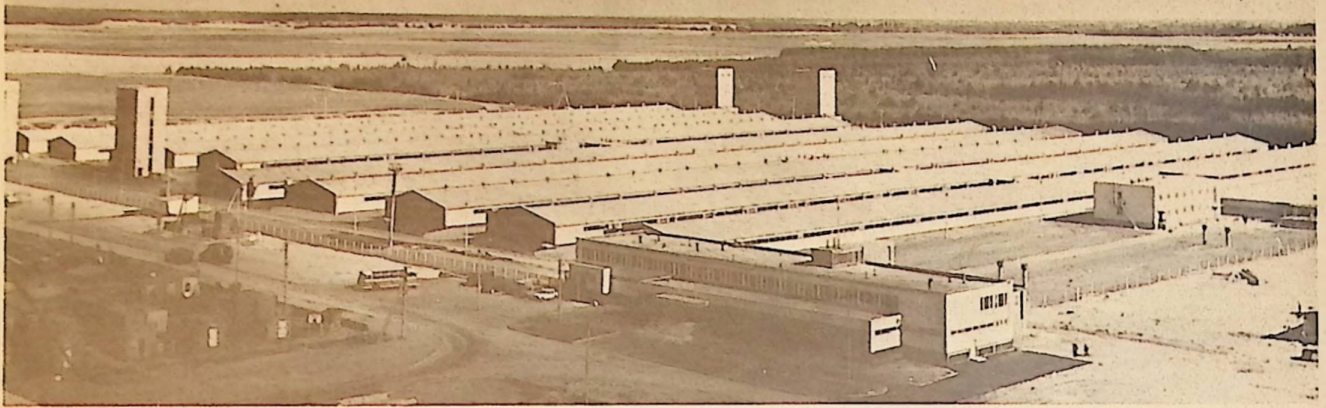
If it's new, you'll easily remember it every day.

Being new, whatever you do will more easily *form a habit for you.*

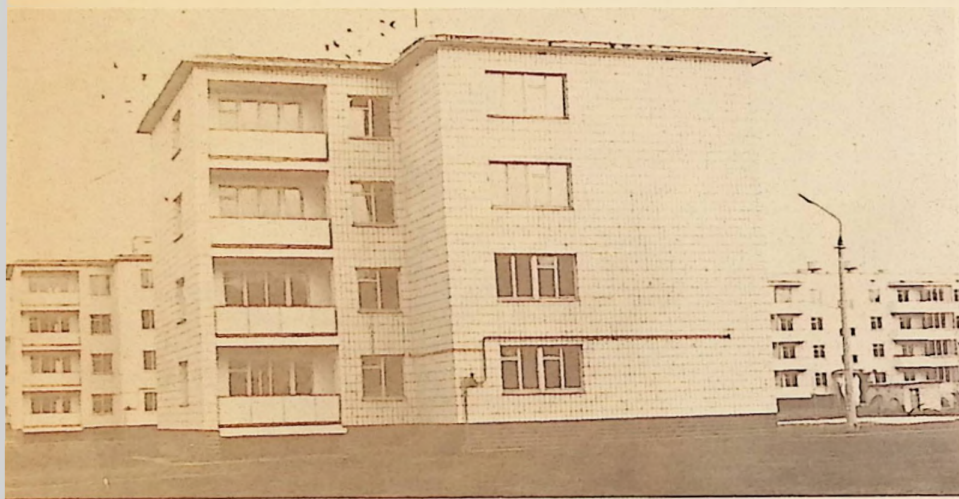
Above all, anything you do should be *your own thing*, and not some command you saw by Doctor No-No in the paper.

So, here we go breaking the rule, giving a kind of *command* by those specialists in USSR. But it's really a *different kind of "order"* . . .

Says just this: if 1 pound a month makes you impatient, don't be tempted to step this weight-loss method to cut 1 pound a week. If you do, *you'll feel it.* And the big thing with this system is that you *shouldn't find it any burden at all.*



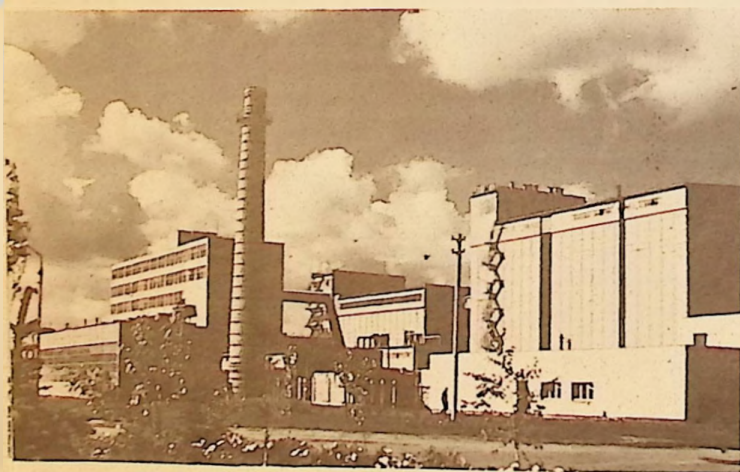
Here's a general view of the main breeding and rearing sections of Kalityansky State Farm visited by NN people this fall. It's really an industrial center, but even so its location — well out in the countryside — gives it a unique atmosphere. Workers do not live anywhere near the animal sector you see above, and go to work by bus (free) every shift. Entire plant (and processes it is based on) was developed by Ukrainian scientists-engineers. They've already built five farm-factories like this, and regard them as only a beginning for agricultural industrialization.



View of apartment buildings where Kalityansky workers live. Unlike Co-op (collective) Farm people, employees of State farms in Socialism are paid straight hourly wages (and bonuses) negotiated by their Trade Union. These apartments are not as well finished as our best (still short of skilled workers) but they're modern, centrally heated, comfortable.



Most workers at this factory-farm are highly skilled and some are college grads. Very close control over the "chemistry" of feeding process throughout life.



If this looks a factory . . . it is. Shown are part of elevators, and main feed processing plant, where pigs' "formulas" through entire life-cycle are scientifically, exactly prepared. Because production is constant all year round, entire farm-factory works on three-shift basis.



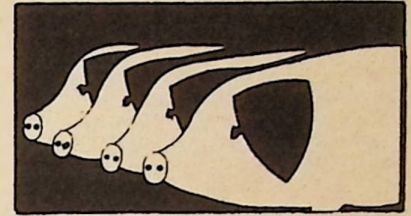
Sanitation of plant, in every section, and obvious health of animals, is very impressive. Type of pork is being continually varied by breed changes. But experiments are separate, since farm must maintain continuous output.



8,000 pigs live here

... 300 more come and go daily!

The Ukraine alone has five industrial-style pig farms raising 120,000 animals at a time. Your editor visited the Kalityansky State Farm Combine to see one unit of this enormous operation. Our stack of facts must be abbreviated . . .



It's a farm, it's a factory, it's a whole town that covers 4,450 acres. The *farmers* are *workers* who live two or three miles away from the pig "plant". They deliver about **108,000 pigs** (for pork) every year.

From scratch. The farm raises all its own selected breeding stock in a separate department. Right now, some 330 piglets are born here *every day*.

Just the fodder-factory itself is a multi-storey plant, completely independent. Matching it are big electric-power distribution and water-supply-purification stations. Locale is pretty countryside, something between our prairies and southwestern Ontario.

Pig's diseases just don't get started here: farm's two big sections — breeding and fattening — are *isolated*. All production is under constant veterinarian care.

Artificial insemination gives perfectly controlled breeding quality, and the breeding-farrowing-suckling cycles for the sows is precisely adjusted for maximum health. Sows near and after delivery are very closely watched.

As you can imagine, with about 600 sows "active" at any time, this is quite a chore. Keep in mind that workers on this factory-farm have *another 7,400 pigs* to look after *every day*, from newborn to fully mature.

Premises are spotless. Automatically cleaned and kept disinfected. Plant is very roomy, lots of space and corridors for animals and staff.

Unlike our pig farms, this one has **its own industrial feed factory**. Some of the advanced machinery came from Italy. The plant is something to see: huge water and sewage departments, pumping stations 3 storeys high, latest scientific filtration and control equipment. Output of feed: *far over 200 million pounds a year*.

Yes, their own grain and silage elevators, but big.

Actually they have two complete feed production "lines", each with a cycle of around 4 days.

For a visitor, of course, actual "**pig production**" is the most fascinating aspect of this "industry". From insemination through every stage the animals live in biologically perfect conditions. "Farmers", you soon discover, are mostly technically-trained young people. Some are engineers, some vets. One group specializes in newborn piglets. Others tend piglets at weaning time, through the vital periods of liquid-to-solid feeding. Piglets go on solid fodder after 120 days.

You're probably wondering about output? It is really steady, holding close to **300-325 pigs** shipped out to the packing plants **every day**; their weight runs 245-250 pounds. They're taken by cattle-trucks that work on a pretty close schedule.

During the main fattening period the pigs add about 10 pounds of weight every week or so.

Incidentally, the entire "process" and all techniques used here were developed by the Poltavsky Research Institute for Swine-Breeding, and the plant has been a marked success ever since it started late in 1974.

A main feature of the Poltavsky system is *separation of animals according to age*: grouped in their own sectors are pigs of 1-to-60 days, 60-to-120 days, 121-280 days, and from then on to maturity. *Conditions and feed* are distinctive for each grouping.

Care and feeding of the animals is about as **automatic** as possible. You see very little manual labor. To guarantee 365-day production the factory-farm has its own mechanical-electrical-electronics maintenance staff, and adequate centers for repairs.

The whole plant is served by a major highway and also by a branch-line railway.

Very different to farm-factory complexes you see here in Canada and USA, this place is completely independent; meaning that it is a **farm-factory town in itself**. Not just the plant but **the entire community** is built up around **this new form of Socialist Agriculture**.

Worker-farmers live in 4-5 storey modern apartment buildings. With stores. A school for nearly 1000 children, kindergarten for 280 young ones. Club with a big theatre and gymnasium. Modern clinic. Even saunas.

Average wage here is the same as that in Soviet industry, with a skilled worker taking in some \$250-\$275 monthly. That's *more* than many Soviet Co-Op farmers earn, but less than the take at the more productive farms.

Turnover of workers here is **zero**. Both men and women like the modern surroundings, 8-hour day, etc.

Check that "etc." yourself: main meal of the day is in a big dining room (workers go there by free bus) and priced at . . . *twenty-five cents*. Apartment rent is \$10 a month plus \$6 for all services, for what we call a 4-room flat (3-rooms there, they don't count kitchens).

Work clothing and footwear are supplied free.

Many wives work in the plant proper, but some don't, and they usually take service jobs. Surroundings are very attractive (many flower beds), all maintained at plant's expense, and the gardeners we saw were women.

Express buses run to the Ukraine's capital city, Kiev, twice a day, and the 60-miles return trip costs only 90 cents (70 kopecks their money).

This new factory-farm is really profitable.

First of all, *every pound* of hog is sold at *constant price* that prevails in Socialism — price varies by a few cents a pound for each animal depending on lean-fat.

- *Total costs* are such that the enterprise *clears well over a million dollars* yearly.

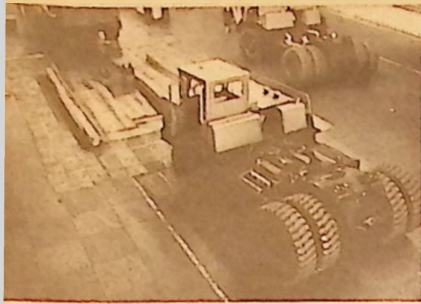
- Mainly because worker-farmers here are around **4 times more productive** than on small pig farms.

Incidentally, pork sells **retail** in Soviet stores at \$1.12 cents a pound. But now in Ukraine (thanks to the 5 pig "factories") store price is **down** to \$1.07.

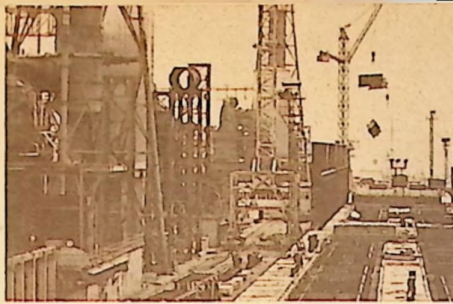
With that figure we said good-bye. Clearly, all that we saw is *in Socialism*. Where industrialized farming is hugely **profitable** the **people** while at the same time **bringing quality food prices down**.

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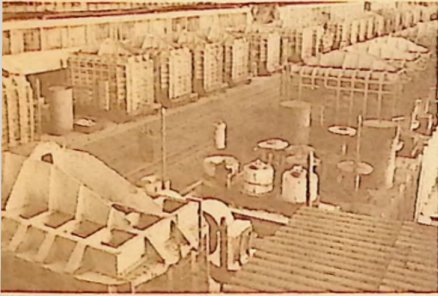
Today everyone knows that prosperity in Socialism. Vita USSR is making sure they'll



Everything has to be transported, so they are bigger than ever in trucks, today. These 40-ton jobs roll off assembly-line in Minsk (Belaz) plant, now very large.



Not a port but construction of a giant aluminum works in Regar, Tajikistan. Low-cost mountain dam power guarantees growing flow of lightest industry metal.



Rarely mentioned in press is this high cold-roll steel plant in Sverdlovsk. In this department 80 high temperature furnaces turn out quality steels.



In heart of Urals is one of USSR's biggest asbestos mines. Blasted, shovelled into trains, lowest-cost mining. Assures rising supply for needs of future power plants.



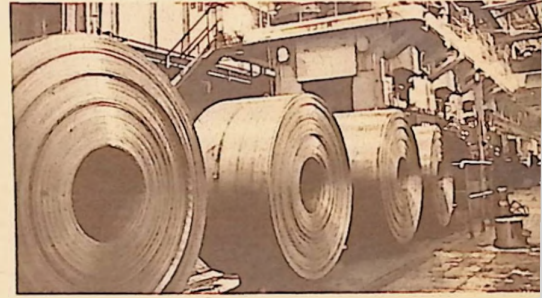
So you can see him, we've circled man at lower left, in a door of gigantic excavator taking out manganese ore. It's vital for USSR's continued expansion of quality steel output.



Looks like a science-fiction dream but it's real: Nizhnekamsk petroleum and chemical works, in Urals mountains. Refines and processes oil now flowing right here from Urals wells.



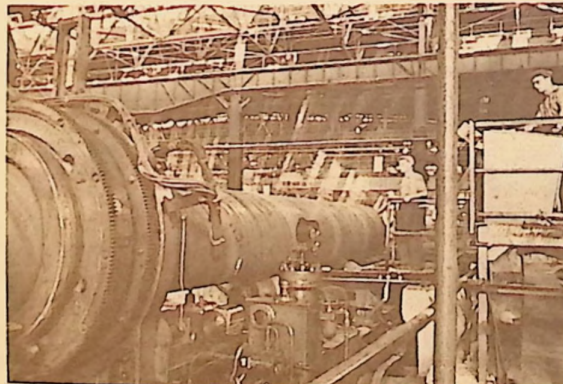
In one of Ukraine's big steel centers mills of Zaporozhstal are automated for maximum output, all of which is sold far ahead.



Power industry grows so fast in Socialism that special steels for electric generators and transformers are in soaring demand. Here is new Verkhisetski Plant which is on 3-shift production of "electrical" steels.



Famed Moscow Ball Bearing Plant never catches up with demand, but new computer control system is big help. Bearings also go to help under-developed nations.



New Ukrainian process you see here spiral-welds steel into giant pipes. Welding is done inside and outside at once. This Donetsk plant helps constant expansion of Socialism's oil and gas industry, so essential for tomorrow's energy.



World's greatest iron-ore field now opening up, the Kursk Deposit. Steel will be made directly from ore without blast-furnaces.

ns of their G BOOM

Planning is what guarantees
the future of Plans in the
Soviet Union. They have what they need tomorrow.



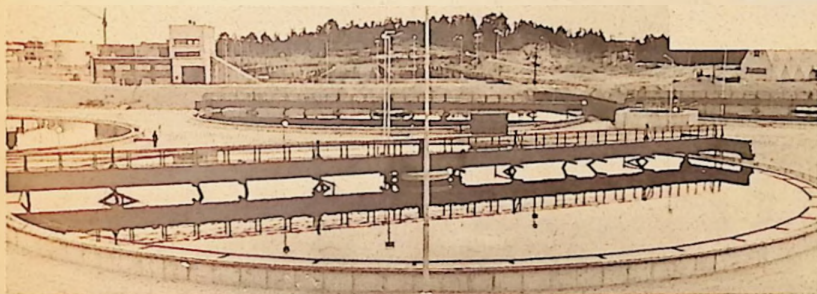
Consumer isn't forgotten . . . In fact, USSR's consumer industries grow faster than basics now. But TV tubes (this is Ekranas plant in Panevezys, Lithuania) require many raw materials, and this kind of production is possible today only because Soviet workers expanded basic requirements yesterday. Now, this plant can even export its tubes abroad.



Housing here isn't so hot . . . temporary only, far out in Siberia, Tyumen region, where just about every kind of resource is being rapidly developed. Long-term "basics" investment in Siberia alone now runs at 16 billion dollars every year, and prosperity dividends will be equally big.



Purest natural gas ever found comes from wells in Southern Urals, and here near Orenburg workers of seven socialist countries are pushing to complete a unique processing plant that cuts pollution very low. Gas from here will supply almost half of western USSR and nations of Europe.

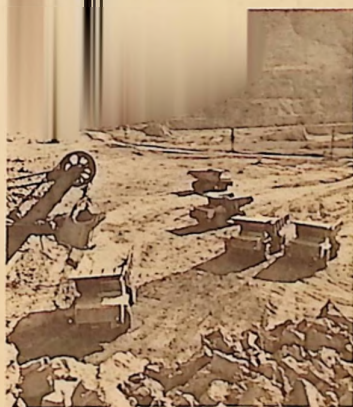


Reading is very big in Socialism, and so far rising demand for paper. But this Svetogodskaya New purification systems guarantee that environment. Note tiny human

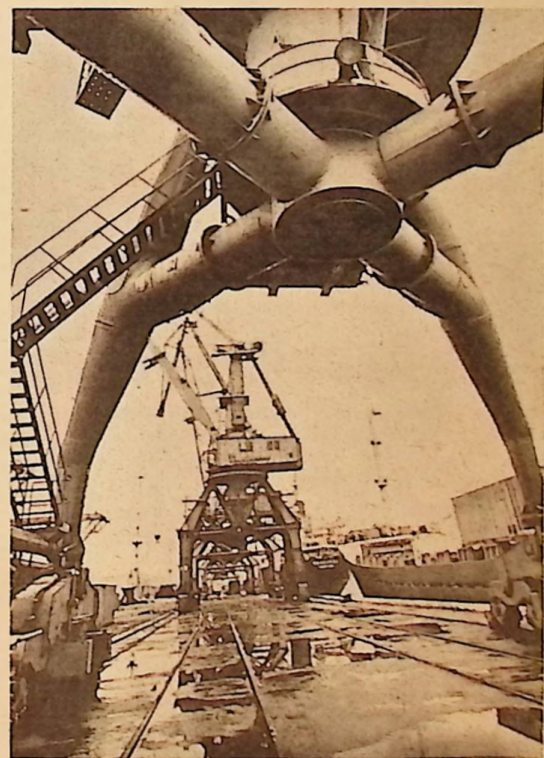
never kept up with
will do a lot to help.
pollute



Food is in greatest demand the world over, so potassium plants of Socialism grow every year, to supply one of the most vital of all fertilizers for food crops.



Copper is "surplus" in Canada but never in USSR, and this new mine in Armenia has it made, with very low cost open-cut operation. Ore here is also rich in costly molybdenum.



Newest of Black Sea ports is Ilichevsk, and it is equipped with most modern machines. Will specialize in container shipping, and these cranes can easily handle the biggest. Soviet ports grow continuously with their system.

Coming closer to Creation



You see a real tribute to Soviet scientists in the fact that the huge RATAN 'scope, in its *very first trial runs*, was able to clearly pick up *the most distant object* ever found in Space: Quasar QO172. Proving that the new equipment is watching to *the very edges of our Universe*.

It's first "reports" surprised many astronomers. Thus, RATAN has **proved** that the galaxies of our Universe are all **speeding farther and farther** away from each other.

Or, as they say, our Universe very definitely is **expanding**.

(Note: we exist inside one incredibly vast galaxy, our "Milky Way", and countless more exist beyond us).

The evidence is pretty solid now that "creation" took place 15 to 20 thousand million years ago. Then, our Universe was a "proto-world", all confined into a clot of matter.

For a reason unknown it **exploded**: hurling into boundless Space everything it now contains (though of course in different forms... our Earth formed long after Creation).

Fascinating view: when that colossal explosion took place, **radio waves** were formed... *and they're still moving round our Universe*.

So? **So RATAN listens to them.**

With this strange telescope Science now can "hear" *what happened thousands of millions of years ago*.

First aim: get the "messages" sorted out, studied in computers, and find out **when, where, how**, our Milky Way and other galaxies were born.

And all through Time, since Creation, endless radiation has formed... so when we can "read" it *we'll have the Past unfolding before us*.

Like the Creation of our Sun, our solar system, our Earth itself.

Even the radiation sent out by living things may eventually be "heard" here on Earth — history re-played!

Today, however, RATAN is looking for astronomical answers, rather than historical radio-remnants.

Maybe you wondered, last month, *what good* may come of USSR's new super-telescopes. One thing already: **no disaster** will overtake our Universe for at least **100,000 million years!** It's official, as a result of the "RATAN-600" having fantastic viewing-power out in Space. Those 895 "eyes", each 25 feet across, are bringing in information that will stir the feelings of millions.

One of the greatest *spiritual questions* of all time — will our Universe come to an end, is everything pre-destined to finish suddenly in catastrophe? — is now being answered by Science. But even as the answers come, *stranger questions arise*. Will Man soon be able to **look backwards** in Time, so far that **Creation itself** we will watch on our screens?

If you can grasp it, the task now given to the USSR's RATAN 'scope is to keep watch on *one section* of our Universe, a region that contains *about 1,000 galaxies or Milky Ways!*

Already one such survey has been done. The radio-scope examines every corner of this infinitely huge Space, line-by-line. Computers absorb the facts. Then give conclusions.

These answers have **upset** many of the world's leading astronomers. To see why, check their ideas...

- One "school" believes in the "open Universe", picturing all the galaxies *forever moving farther out*.

- Opposing scientists say that the expansion *will come to an end*; super gravity forces will start to *pull everything back* into the original dense mass that contained the entire mass before "Creation".

Well? RATAN's verdict, just come in, **strongly favors the first theory**, because the greatest "inventory" of the Universe's contents ever taken shows *there isn't enough gravitational pull* to stop our galaxies expanding. No way they could be "put into reverse", turning Time backwards, so all would return to The Beginning.

However, some astronomers have been waiting for such a find, and had their objections ready. They said that infinitely tremendous amounts of *matter* can exist in our Universe in the form of "thin gas".

Soviet scientists were eager to check this, with RATAN. No previous telescope could tackle it. But the new radio-giant is able to measure (or "weigh") the thinnest Space gas by listening to its effect on radio waves out there.

Verdict? In all those thousand galaxies the "gas" between them is **only a hundredth-fraction** of the billions of stars themselves... so a "fatal" gravitational pull just couldn't develop.

Another way: our Universe is **too short of matter** for gravity to start *getting it all together again*.

The meaning for us?

Nothing yet probed by RATAN gives any support to the idea that our Universe has a *limited life*.

On the contrary. We're living in a Universe that will **never stop expanding**.

In other words, Infinity is just that, and has *no limits forever*.

The die-hards, insisting on their Doomsday end of everything, say **other** situations may be found in other parts of the Universe. Soviet astronomers can't see that coming, not from the emphatic findings they've had so far from RATAN's searching.

Most surprising of all: the Soviet giant has given so many conclusive new facts, *in so short a time*.

What will come when it teams up with the other two giant 'scopes?

A lot closer to home are the Soviet **Moon-craft** explorations.

As you know, the latest ship had a **long drill**; it dug a **deep core** from Moon; another ship then **took off with that core** and returned to Earth.

Importance? Well, the Moon-core was obtained from a *very special area* of our beautiful satellite. A place called a **mascon** — concentration of mass, or *unusual strong gravity-pull*.

Some scientists say Moon has **superdense** rocks buried deep inside, from **giant meteorites**, and this explains the pull of mascons.

But others believe that 4000 million years ago Moon was violently disrupted by nuclear disturbances... with resulting volcanoes.

In that period, theory goes, **dense matter** formed where measurements now record the mascons.

Who's right?

Already cores brought back from Moon show that *highlands and lowlands are of very different rock*. Moon was volcanic some 4000 years back; then 3500 years ago highlands formed; 2500 years ago lunar "seas" formed.

What mascons are *we'll soon know*.

here's something you should see

Dear Sir: I have been a reader of "NN" for a good many years, and on many occasions I had guessed that some of your articles about the Soviet Union were slanted, and exaggerated.

In the meantime my partner and myself took advantage of your "Prosperity Tour" in September '76. As a result of that I find your recent issues of "NN" fully keep up with truth and reality. Which I guess has been the case all along.

We evaluate our tour of the Soviet Union as most exciting, educational and inspiring. No doubt the highlight of our lives. I have as a result of the tour over 600 slides that all turned out beautifully. I have shown them to a number of groups who could hardly believe their eyes.

The Soviet Union was found by us to be a gracious and hospitable host to open-minded and honest guests. We give the Tour our top recommendations to everyone.

Sincerely, T. E. S.

- o That letter came entirely unsolicited. We think it speaks for itself.
 - o However, there's something that just has to be added to it.
 - o These special Tours have been such outstanding successes, because they were arranged exclusively for Northern Neighbors Readers.
 - o And now we're very happy to tell you that Intourist (in USSR) has agreed to offer "NN" people a whole variety of Tours during 1977.
 - o While we can't give full details in this advertisement, as we go to press it is almost certain that the following Tours will be available. . . .
- MAY DAY IN MOSCOW: leaving April 24, and including visits to two other socialist countries, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, besides USSR. All on this Tour will have reserved places so they can see the entire "May Day Parade"—in itself, an experience of a lifetime.



SEVEN SOVIET CITIES: leaving on TWO different dates, May 19 and September 1. This will give you a remarkable opportunity to "take it" far more of the Soviet Union than most visitors ever get to see.

CASPIAN SEA TO SIBERIA: also leaving on TWO different dates, May 19 and September 1. Six cities, including Bratsk, Irkutsk, Novosibirsk, with excursion to famous Lake Baikal. In addition, you will spend time in Leningrad and Krasnodar, and of course Moscow. Adventure, far out in pioneer country.

ROUND THE WORLD SPECIAL: departure date not fixed, but this one is really "the most". Take off from Vancouver, fly to Tokyo, by luxury boat across the sea from Yokohama to USSR, then via the exotic Trans-Siberian Railway to major cities, then flying to Alma-Ata, Tashkent, Tbilisi, Yalta, Moscow, Leningrad, Helsinki....then by Aeroflot over the Atlantic and home. Start planning early!

NN's EXCLUSIVE HEALTH TREATMENT TOURS: the response is so strong that it looks now as if we will be able to offer you MANY departure dates from early spring in 1977 right through to late autumn.

Details of all these Tours, including prices, will be available very soon. You may send your enquiries to "NN", or directly to our Agency. We do suggest that you write soon, since accomodation is limited.

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Western experts can't explain struggles going on in China today. Using this exclusive insider-view of the dead leader, you'll be able to understand why he left China split wide open. Astonishing report by a man who fought beside Mao for years.

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Here, in brief, clearly-written publication, you get essential facts about WHY and HOW you should prepare a "will". Dangers of modern life make this advisable even for younger people. For your own peace of mind, and for those left behind. Our Reports also shows how to leave a bequest to any "cause" you'd like to go on supporting.

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Everybody talks Inflation now, and every politician tells you how to cure it. But what caused this disease? Is the cure going to be ruinous for you? This one lets you see right into what's coming.

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When two Jews got tired of reading stories about Soviet Jews, they packed up and went over to see with their own eyes. These two have never met. Yet their reports surprisingly agree. Fascinating.

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Over and over people buy this one out. Because it gives such clear answers to a problem millions are beginning to face. Tells it like it is, in our insecure, crumbling world. With this one, you know.

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In USSR they have 25,000 people over age 100. Most are in very good health. Here is how they do it. Only book of its kind in the world, not even imitated yet! Not one method in it costs you a cent. C.& D.Carter's

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Some people make a habit of being ahead of the times.

China can't move any farther out of the world

Now with Mao gone, and the people rejoicing, China has a chance to rise from its sorry mistakes of recent years.

128. USSR was first to urge China into United Nations, way back in 1950. After 22 years (!) finally the UNO admitted the PRC . . . but with a weird play by Mao.

129. Remember, in 1965 Peking "rejected" the UN, said it would no longer seek admission, and even boasted about "the possibility of setting up a new world organization".

130. This attitude was based on false hopes, that Mao was indeed winning the "third world" countries over to his policy of fomenting revolutions, pushing big nations towards war, accepting China as their "Red Leader."

131. In 1971 China was admitted to the UN, and Mao had to abruptly change his line. After all, UN gave him big new opportunities to contact all nations. So Peking, in one of its incredible right-about-face turns . . . "will side with all peace-loving countries, uphold world peace and contribute to the progress of mankind."

132. The words didn't fit China's actions. Every nation that pushed world peace inside the UN was *attacked* by China. Special viciousness was used against the demand for disarmament and the banning of nuclear weapons. Even the proposal to call a World Disarmament Conference was dismissed and ridiculed by Peking.

133. By that time China had won many supporters: all the nations opposing Peace and Socialism, from USA down to the most reactionary governments and spokesmen. At same time we noticed a marked change in our papers and TV . . . long *hostile* to People's Republic of China, our media suddenly found that "Mao had done wonders for his people, and China can even teach us some lessons."

134. First big shock to "Third World" came when people of Bangladesh, fighting for liberation under progressive leaders, were fiercely attacked by China . . . *Mao even used his first UN veto* to block Bangladesh's admission.

135. Then came the second shock: when the overwhelming majority of nations backed the resolution on *non-force* in settling disputes, *China voted against it*. Debates showed all countries (especially weak, developing lands) that Peking was working with Portugal (then fascist) and racists of South Africa.

136. Just about the only other friends Mao had, then, were the "liberals" and "leftists" in the West who had become politically sick worshippers of Mao-ism.

137. But soon many, in all countries, woke up: world anti-war movement began to *win historic victory in Vietnam*, so that Mao's fight against the peace forces (and against Socialism) became unacceptable to sensible people.

138. At the same time they couldn't see the USSR as the "main danger facing the world", since USSR and its allies played main role in defeating USA in Asia.

139. Yet right up to the time of Mao's death China was telling all diplomats that war launched by USSR is "inevitable"; in 1976, *after Mao*, British, USA envoys were told that USSR planned an "imminent" (!) war.

140. But even the anti-Soviet experts were sceptical, since it was quite clear what Peking was after: trying to kill the move towards *détente*, and get the big powers back on *military confrontation* with Soviet Union . . . something no sane statesman wanted to think about.

141. Just after Mao died, while his wife and other "heirs" still plotted to take over total power, it was vividly clear in international circles that China was solid with South Africa, Rhodesia, Chile . . . and was trying hard to boost Far-Right Germans into power.

142. But these efforts were unsuccessful: the Right lost in Germany's elections even when a big Chinese group was in Hanover offering *huge military-industrial orders*, mainly related to space-weapons and electronics. Few big capitalists (to say nothing of voters!) fancy the prospects of tying on to China's war plans.

143. Meanwhile, deep in liberated Africa, China found itself more and more isolated. Backing the fascists in Angola was a disaster. Add to that: very costly flop of the great 1,100 mile Tan-Zam Railway (which is starting to rust already) dimmed Peking's prestige.

144. And at highest policy levels in USA the push for some kind of anti-Soviet "alliance" with China is raising serious fears . . . Abramowitz (Defence Dept.) publicly wondered if Peking's booming nuclear-missile might could be intended for use against North America.

145. Fears aside, the West is grateful to China for its unceasing anti-Soviet, anti-Socialism line, in United Nations; the most obviously false, most irresponsible and dangerous propaganda, which USA and its allies can't afford to use, is loudly presented by Peking, and of course such things can be "quoted" by anyone.

146. The main question for China is: its UN policy of winning friends and influencing *the worst reactionaries* is, clearly, driving away the big majority of Third World countries, and this can hardly fit Peking's pose as the guardian of "weak people" everywhere.

147. This is very important today, when formerly weak Vietnam has become *the third largest Socialist nation on Earth*, with Laos and Cambodia gaining power daily, and Angola bringing Socialism to the richest part of the African continent . . . nobody can overlook the fact that USSR, World Socialism, is the "guardian" here.

148. All impartial observers agree that in external relations alone (to say nothing of internal crises) the People's Republic of China has *lost face badly* in all sectors from Left to extreme Right.

149. The plain fact of the situation is: China's loss of "face" is a prime cause of the *continuing state of crisis within that country*, because Mao's policies did not, and do not, correspond to a *Socialist China*.

150. Enormous forces yearning for Socialism obviously exist in China to this day . . . these forces brought on crisis after crisis, and revealed themselves strikingly in mass celebrations when Mao's "heirs" were arrested.

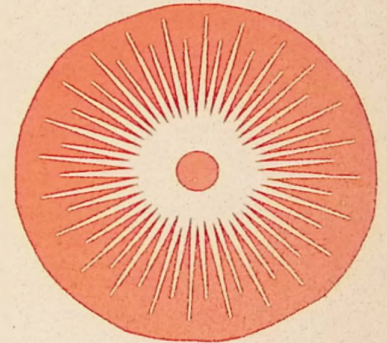
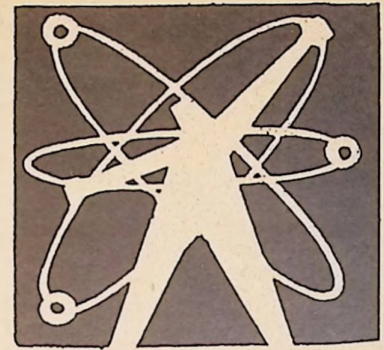
151. USSR's view is shared by most experts: "We do not identify declarations and actions of present Chinese leaders with hopes, wishes and true interests of the Communist Party of China and Chinese people."

152. With Mao gone, China can't go farther backward, and this remarkable spontaneous rejoicing of the people can be seen as *the first basic step* in China's long road back to its rightful place in the World of Socialism.



BOMBS to WORK!

In Socialism, where they lack workers, not jobs, they're using the greatest labor-savers ever discovered by Science . . . Atomic Bombs. Another example of the way the new system makes full use of the Science Revolution. Tell people . . . you'll find them interested.



Nuclear explosives are extremely compact. They release enormous amounts of energy, instantly, at very low cost. Not only can they replace men, and expensive machines, on the hardest jobs . . . but they can do *many things that were impossible up to now.*

Take the **Caspian Sea project.** Excess water of the great Pechora River will go to the Volga, thence to raise the badly-sinking Caspian. This requires a 65-mile canal through the worst, mountainous terrain.

Kept out of our papers is the fact that Soviet engineers *already* have used *three atomic bombs* (small, safe devices) on the canal route. They "blew" all three *at once.* Result was a channel (in solid rock) 2100 feet long, 1000 feet wide, 35 feet deep.

Now they know they can *finish* the job with about 250 nuclear blasts, set off in groups of 20.

Equal to 750 million tons of high explosives!

Such a job, done by conventional blasts, would be **prohibitively expensive and dangerous to workers.**

Very much practical knowledge, *from experience,* has been gained by Soviet explosives engineer-scientists, in the use of nuclear blasts. Their findings lead them to optimistic predictions of what will come.

Such as the **gigantic Ob River job.** This is another "turning northern streams backwards" project. In this case, surplus waters (now wasted in flood-lands of the Ob) will be used to **raise the Aral Sea level.**

But the real objective here is to bring irrigation water to sunny, warm, highly fertile regions of Urals and Kazakhstan. Included here are some of the *richest farm lands in USSR . . . lands subject to crop failures* due to lack of water.

Bringing the Ob to this enormous territory will powerfully strengthen Soviet agriculture.

But it's a **complex project.** Without nuclear explosives it might well be impossible. **Two long wide canals** are needed (170 and 250 miles!), and they'll have to be 475 to 540 feet wide, 25 feet deep.

Hard to picture, but the flow of water they'll get this way will be *2 cubic miles, yearly . . . something like 140 thousand million cubic feet!*

Many millions of acres of land will thus become immune to bad weather.

Also, large new industries will be established . . . long postponed because of lack of water.

Finally, an enormous area of dried out forest-land will be restored, *with immense benefit to nature* in this water-starved region.

Using conventional explosives, and machinery, this Ob River diversion would be out-of-reach even for the budgets of Socialism. But with **atom bombs** doing all the major work the cost is estimated at about 10 billion dollars.

Return *from farming alone* will be close to 2 billions a year.

Entirely different work for the atom may prove to be even more beneficial to Socialism. This is the general field of **deep-underground blasts**, to form chambers; multiply oil and gas production; open up rich new coal and metal-ore mines.

— **Consider dangerous wastes**, such as radioactive wastes from nuclear power plants. USSR is putting them deep down in *blasted caverns . . . atom bombs* opened the caverns, *sealed the walls forever* by melting rock (or salt) at sun-like temperature.

— Similar chambers are being used now for dangerous **industrial wastes** (poisonous chemicals).

— **Gas and oil storage chambers** are created in USSR by deep atom blasts; no metal required, and storage is *absolutely safe* (unlike giant "farms" of surface storage tanks).

— Note also that **underground** structures made by bombs take up virtually **no surface space** and thus eliminate spoiling a natural environment.

Maybe it all sounds easy but note that *thousands* of Soviet scientists and engineers worked long to perfect methods of setting off nuclear blasts **safely, effectively.**

However, big and important as the projects are, noted above, many experts in the West are most impressed by Soviet "**atomic bomb mining**".

For example: *one* scientifically designed atom blast will *lay bare a valuable deep ore body . . . and at the same time crush the ore* for easy, low-cost removal!

Not only *money* and *years of time* are thus saved, but *many human lives*, since **no** deep mine ever operates without **some** bad accidents.

You may well ask: what about bad (even frightful) accidents, using nuclear explosions?

• Remember that Soviet engineers for many years have used large (conventional) blasts, in mining, dam-building, construction. This has taught them *how to control* even tremendous explosions. Today they can control blasts to *avoid touching off earthquakes* in sensitive zones, long held by some (in West) to be a grave atom-blast menace. USSR experts "wrote the book" on blast safety . . . their Science Council in this field *began in 1959!*

• The International Atomic Energy Agency (of the UNO) has decided to offer "blasting services" to many countries, and this happened largely because of Soviet successes. More, the USSR fully supports the IAEA decision and intends to give it full assistance.

The Bombs are going to work, you can be certain. Maybe not over here, for a long time. But in Socialism, *where progress picks up speed every year,* atom-bombs will increasingly save money, time and lives . . . while doing *the impossible.*

PEOPLE



Our Arctic city of Dawson is a ghost-town now. Same might have happened to Norilsk, in USSR, above the Arctic Circle. Mrs. Yekaterina Sukhanova came there as an engineer 30 years ago. Soon the rich ores began to run out. The young woman defied all experts, went out into the wasteland, and discovered the now-famous Talnakh Deposit (copper-nickel-cobalt). Great boom followed, and today Norilsk is a big modern city. And Yekaterina is "The Chief", beloved by the whole population.



Although many Eskimo people in the Soviet north today prefer to take jobs in towns, the majority still go for traditional hunting-trapping work. Nowadays women often lead in this . . . Mrs. Lyudmila Lentamo, above, is one of the best hunters on the huge Baikitsky State Farm. She goes by herself, but some hunters work in teams (above, right). It's not unusual for individuals or teams to have "their own" areas that are more than 10,000 acres in size, so animals aren't wiped out.



Dr. Yevgeny Longinov, in the Far East, is a specialist in anesthetics, who took up music as a hobby while he was still in medical college.

Actually, he went after two careers, managing to attend music school as well. When he began his practice he took part in amateur concerts. Both sides of his life prospered. First he was a surgeon, then took on anesthesiology, to become head of his department in the major Kamchatka Hospital.

Now Dr. Longinov is a concert artist. In 1975 he entered the USSR national contests and won the Grand Gold Medal. But he's determined to stay with medicine.

"... to emancipate hundreds of millions from the senseless power of an insignificant minority"

Our world could not believe that Socialism had come to life

For centuries, toiling people had been assured that a New System would come. It arrived in Czarist Russia. From the very start Socialism was attacked mercilessly on every side.

1917. Two weeks before Revolution, Lenin's proposals were adopted, and on the night of November 6 armed workers, with soldiers and sailors, took over the powers of government in Petrograd (Leningrad now) ... so easily and swiftly that the **first Socialist Revolution** triumphed the next day, and within a week, in Moscow.

At once the Congress of Soviets passed the *Decree on Peace*. Within days, the new people's regime offered both sides in World War One an immediate halt to all fighting.

Through December, Lenin and his comrades worked incessantly, laying the basis for a *radically new kind of government and economic system*.

But the world regarded the historic Revolution as a kind of maneuver in European war-politics. Diplomats and the press simply ignored *the very birth of Socialism* ... the Decree that set a **Supreme Economic Council**.

Yet from that day on, *Planned Economy* was destined to change the world.

Fighting, Dreaming, Planning ... stormy was the birth of the USSR!

1920. In a land devastated by World War and now Civil War, Lenin put forward his daring scheme to bring backward Russia into the age of mass production ... *his program to electrify the Soviet Nation*.

The West replied by invading via Poland, a grave new military threat. But in the undeveloped East, former Czarist colonies began to join the revolutionary center, with the people taking power in what is now Soviet Central Asia. Immediate gain: they established *their very first University* at Tashkent (Uzbekistan.)

Armenia, an important nation of high cultural significance, went over to the new Socialist nation.

These eastern victories shook the capitalist world, since it was clear now that Lenin and his Party were determined to **aid liberation of all peoples who appealed for help** ... help to overthrow the old system.

The Young Communist League grew swiftly, fighting and rebuilding.

1918. Russia's governing body, the *Congress of Soviets* (Councils) was firmly in revolutionary, Communist hands. It adopted sweeping new laws on the rights of workers.

In January the Soviets established their *Workers and Peasants Army*, to become the Red Army later.

The same month saw the Church made *separate* from the State; and all schools away from churches.

In March, Lenin's government made *peace* with Germany. Immediately, the "allies" (Britain, France, USA) **launched war against the Soviets**.

The first attempt was made on Lenin's life. British officers brutally murdered the legendary "26 commissars" in Baku, center of foreign oil properties.

But Revolution continued to gain massive power; especially with formation of *Young Communist League*, henceforth a mighty arm of Socialism.

Worker and farmers of Ukraine began uprisings that eventually cleared their land of invaders.

1921. A very bad year, although it opened well, as the Soviet regime made its first important gains on the world scene: Iran, Turkey and Afghanistan all signed treaties of friendship, and this helped to make one of the "flanks" of the embattled new system secure from invasion.

Another breakthrough came with Britain's reluctant signing of a **trade agreement**; followed a similar move by Germany. Lenin's insistence that Capitalism would not be able to ignore Socialism thus won very early confirmation.

Georgia became still another of the new Soviet Republics. **Mongolia** signed a broad agreement, recognizing the stability of Socialism in the Far East.

However, the very existence of the revolutionary government was threatened by one of Russia's terrible droughts and crop failures. Mass support by working people around the world arose to fight the grim famine.

Story of the coming of socialism



— year by year

1919. Byelorussia formed its own Socialist Republic, but elsewhere the going was grim, with foreign powers backing every anti-Soviet force they could put together.

By spring, however, Soviet troops scored remarkable victories over the armies of both Kolchak and Denikin. Gradually the whole people began to realize that Socialism's powerful enemy was Capitalism — *world-wide and determined to crush the Revolution*.

They won two decisive battles by liberating both Kiev and Kharkov, so that all Ukraine gained a base for its Socialist liberation.

Despite all-out military struggles the new system had time to pass one of its most potent decrees: though many of the men and women who were fighting for Socialism *could not yet read or write*, they made the decision to **abolish illiteracy forever**.

Thus began the cultural revolution which Lenin foresaw as the great hope of people creating Socialism.

1922. Even before this year brought Soviet people a splendid crop, it was clear that the Socialist regime had crushed both its foreign and native enemy forces, and had taken stern emergency measures to avoid mass starvation. **Capitalism finally had to recognize** that the new system in our world showed no signs of collapsing from within or without.

As a result, Soviet statesmen for the first time appeared at world conferences (Hague, Genoa), presenting novel, total unacceptable appeals for **international disarmament**.

To climax this, a final peace treaty was signed with Germany; and Japanese forces were crushed in Far East.

1922 was the decisive year. It was climaxed by a great triumph. Led by the Communist Party, worker-farmer delegates gathered in Moscow to form a tremendous new state, the **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics**, at the same time establishing in power USSR's **First Congress of Soviets**.

[NN will continue its 60-year Summary of Soviet History in the January issue]



Thank you for telling us and others

"Can't agree with **S.R.O.** (Nov. **NN**). Facts show that people who live in pollution free areas also get cancer much more often if **they smoke**. Same with heart disease. Seems that chemicals in smoke, not nicotine that gives the 'kick', is what does the damage." **F.M.**

"Left Russia in 1913. Returned for a visit with my two daughters. Was exhilarated by great change in life of people, their happiness and hopes for even better future. Daughters impressed by warmth, friendliness of people, beauty of preserved buildings, great museums, performing arts. If only people of deprived countries, and we also, could learn from achievements of Soviet people!" **R.L.**

"When talking to others I often make this point which may be of interest to your Readers. I sincerely believe that anti-Soviet falsehoods in our press and on TV do much damage right here. They build up an incorrect picture of life (and policies) in Soviet Union. This false picture is later knocked out by developments. This leaves intelligent people very distrustful of our media (sometimes the government too). A case in point is all the flak we had about the Soviet system being a total failure on the land, when the truth was that two years of very bad weather caused the crop failures; but now, you see, Moscow is celebrating a tremendous harvest. So what is 'to blame' for that, if not the Soviet system! I suppose you can say that the more people distrust our media the better, but I don't agree. I am strong for truth, for everyone. I would like to know what my fellow **NN** Readers think about this." **G.H.**

"Yes, as the crisis of Capitalism deepens, the lies about USSR will become more virulent. Just read enclosed review (of anti-Soviet book by George Feifer). Actually this slanted and largely false description of Soviet life is a good description of our decaying capitalist system. Feifer just got his geography mixed up." **E.R.N.**

"But what I really want to say is this: I've been reading yarns about the Soviet people and their system for many a year, and it's my firm conviction that the lies are getting thinner, as if the liars have to strain harder now than ever they did." **W.E.W.**

"In the past 30 months you were, unfortunately, proven right about the Maoists in Peking. Their infamous role in Angola will never be forgotten. Keep up **NN**'s good work for peace, understanding, detente, progress and Socialism, and keep on exposing the so-called dissidents and right-wing Zionists." **W.F.**

"I am often impatient to get **NN** when it arrives 'late'. But then I check my other papers, and find that they all come much later than they used to. Too bad, but it's the system (breaking down before our eyes) so what to do?" **L.A.**

"**NN** is improving, but keep it up. Try and make remarks as simple as possible. Use even cartoons occasionally. Good cartoons might go over." **H.D.**

Note: We're thinking of publishing a special cartoon supplement dealing, in a funny way, with problems of our way-of-life here. *Would you welcome it?*

"I note that you're having more Tours in 1977. Back in 1967 my wife and I went to USSR on their very fine ship, the *Pushkin*. I might be interested in going again if I could go by ship. Or maybe take the World Tour." **J.B.**

"What have you got on **Makarenko**, great Soviet teacher who gathered war orphans and developed remarkable methods of teaching?" **J.E.P.**

Reply: Just see this **NN** for **Makarenko**'s greatest work, long out of print, now available in *complete* two volumes.

"Send me 100 *Thou Shalt Not Sin Against Food* and 100 *How To Understand Cuba*. I mail your Reports out all the time." **C.A.H.**

"Rush me 100 *Happy Birthday, Savages!* which is something we've needed for many a year. These Reports are tops." **J.S.**

"Although my opinion of **NN** has not been completely formed, I want to say that it is a very interesting publication, and I enjoy it very much." **A.V.C.**

"Coming after **NN**'s report on heroin exported from China we have the scandal of Americans trying to smuggle Chinese heroin out to the West through Moscow. But mind you, not one paper (that I know of) had the decency to tell people that those smugglers weren't trying to get the drug into USSR, only out to the West. Why? Because there is no drug ring and no drug problem in the Soviet Union." **K.F.E.**

"Tell me, is it just a coincidence that North Korea has been involved in smuggling heroin through its diplomats? Or is it a deal they make with China? Shame on socialist diplomats!" **M.L.**

"Your '*Happy Birthday, Savages!*' contains some good material. I cannot agree with you making no distinction between U.S. ruling class and the American workers and other working people." **C.C.M.**

Reply: Ask the people in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia how "the American working people", in uniform, behaved in their countries. This is a question that caused much grief in Europe and USSR during World War Two, when "the Nazi working people" could not be distinguished from their ruling class. Theory must always be tested by practice. A savage is a savage regardless of his class... as millions of graves so tragically testify.

"I was long under the impression that while medical care is all free, in USSR, still they charged adults for dental work. I was wrong, according to *Moscow News*, which states that even X-rays and other treatment (of teeth) are free. Only charge is for dentures. Complete upper and lower set costs just 14 roubles, or about \$18.00." **K.P.S.**

"What country grows the best *ginseng*? What's better: tea, root, powder, liquid? What about the three different qualities being offered?" **N.F.**

Reply: Huge amounts of *ginseng* are now sold in North America, and quality is very confusing. No doubt at all, much swindling goes on. Only advice **NN** can offer: buy only Oriental *ginseng*, from a large supplier with best reputation.

"I still insist that somehow you should make **NN** twice-a-month." **T.Y.**

"Problems are a function of people, so the more people the more problems... large populations have no great virtues to commend them. A shrinking population of expanding superior quality is more to be desired... for the lasting good of human race. With all due respects and admiration for Soviet Union I think they err in favoring and promoting a higher instead of a lower population density." **A.V.**

Note: Reader comments on this viewpoint will be welcome. What do **you** think?

"How splendid it is that at long last some of the criminal war-collaborators of the Nazis are being exposed over here. But many are still enjoying freedom in Canada and USA. We should hunt them down like rats carrying bubonic plague. No mercy!" **V.B.K.**

NEW SOVIET ANTI-FLU VACCINE made by nuclear-physics process, so many impurities (which cause bad effects of vaccines in many people) are totally removed. It not only prevents 'flu but cures it if it has already hit the patient. Soon available in all lands. Promises to reduce 'flu to less than a mild cold.

RIGHT AROUND MOSCOW IN THE CITY'S BIG WOODS they took a census of moose this fall and the count has soared to over 8,000! From just 300, in 1956, when special measures were taken to help moose . . . or elk, to use the proper scientific name. In USSR as a whole the moose population is now over 750,000

MANY FARMERS IN CENTRAL RUSSIA traditionally lived in tiny "hamlets" of a few dozen people. Life was far poorer than in cities. Changing fast now. Typical town of Spitsynno has 2,000 people, with modern homes, schools, hospital, even indoor swimming. In this one region (around Kursk) some 20,000 tiny hamlets are merging into up-to-date agricultural communities.

IN SIX MONTHS OF 1976 the noise-control authorities in Moscow banned from the city some 5,500 vehicles, mostly trucks. Permissible noise level is now being lowered, so thousands more rickety trucks will go.

MOSCOW'S FAMOUS MAIN PUPPET THEATRE has two halls, one seating 800, other 230. Every day, one show for adults, two for children. In 45 years not one single seat has been unsold . . . and to this day many gather outside in hope that someone won't take a seat.

FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1976 were highly successful for Soviet industry. Workers produced 4.8 percent more goods than Plan called for, and this amounted to some \$5,850,000,000 worth of "extra" output.

SIGNS OF THINGS TO COME you see out in Siberia, on big "BAM" Railway project. Being built by 65,000 people, average age 24. Most are skilled, and wages run twice those of worker in older regions. Top pay (for big machine operators) reaches \$1300 a month, a figure unheard-of in Socialism just a few years ago. As skills rise, wages match them, since productivity gains go to the entire economy of Socialism.

IN SPITE OF HUGE COAL AND OIL PRODUCTION, Soviet engineers work hard to cut fuel consumption. They succeeded, in previous 5-Year Plan (1970-75) in lowering fuel-burning, in big electric power plants, by what looks like a tiny quantity: just one ounce of fuel less, per Kilowatt-hour of power produced. But because total power is now colossal, the actual savings to Socialism reached 60 million tons of fuel! That's output of 50 large coal mines. Now in 1976 workers fully expect they have economized another eighth of an ounce per KWH, or 1,500,000 tons of coal.

IF YOU PLAN ON A TRIP TO USSR you'll be in good company. During their just-completed 5-Year Plan "tourism" in Soviet Union climbed a whopping 50 percent, and in the final year alone they welcomed people from 155 other countries. Hotel accommodation naturally remains a big problem, but usually you can get around it by choosing a tour in "off peak" seasons. However, the planned further increase in tourists is another 50 percent (by 1980), so whenever you go you're not going to feel lonely.

TOURISTS AREN'T USING IT YET, but business-men have seen the giant port that's under construction out on the Pacific. This is Vostochny. Will be Pacific's biggest shipping center. Today, hardly started, Vostochny can handle "only" 1,500,000 tons of cargo yearly. But that's with just 4 terminals . . . and 56 more are being built! At one time they'll be handling 1,700 big ship containers. Full capacity by 1980.

BIG NEWS FOR FRUIT LOVERS comes from Odessa Technological Institute scientists. They find that fresh fruit, put into chambers at ordinary temperature, *with the air saturated with air-ions*, will keep fresh not just over winter but for several years. Works for most vegetables also. Bonus: foods like tomatoes, stored in ionized-air, actually increase their content of Vitamin-C. Discovery is just being applied, but already it is used to speed yeast-fermentation (production of alcohol), and to make bread-dough "mature" much faster, with higher quality loaves. Possibly biggest advantage: wet harvested grain stored in ionized-air does not rot, can be held until drying process available

WORKING ON IMPORTANT PROJECTS FOR SOCIALISM, during summer vacation, sure is "an idea whose time has come" in USSR. Last summer over 650,000 boys and girls from colleges carried through construction jobs worth nearly one-and-a-half billion dollars. Projects ranged from much-needed rural schools up to the biggest steel plants. As a rule students choose work that's related to the careers they're studying for, but the summer spent doing the "roughest" toil gives them a very good picture of the realities of a working life. Money they get, at good rates of pay, is welcome too.

YOU'D THINK OUR PAPERS MIGHT FIND IT INTERESTING to tell people here that the number of specially-trained Soviet doctors, who are "on call" at *flying ambulance stations*, now exceeds 20,000. They include nearly all specialties, and are on 24-hour (shift) duty. Available for them are various kinds of aircraft at some 200 fields.

THE FORMERLY ISOLATED REGION OF SOVIET ALTAI now has such a big working population that the trade unions have greatly expanded the beautiful health-holiday center at the Belokurikha resort. Newest is an 8-storey "hotel". So now some 3,000 working people can get accommodation at this center, at one time.

DAY-CARE CENTERS FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN in USSR now accommodate over 11,500,000 little boys and girls while parents are at work. In addition, five million more youngsters, in farming regions, get all-day (and sometimes all-week) care in rural, seasonal (harvest and planting-time) periods. But still the demand rises. So in 1976-80 places for another 2,500,000 tots will be built. Soviet parents pay no more than *one quarter* of the actual cost of day-care. Remainder comes from nation's publicly-owned economy.

NEW DRUG TO CURE ALCOHOLICS is gaining favor among Soviet specialists. Intended originally just to reduce craving for alcohol, the new compound (carbidine) has a marked curative effect on disorders resulting from long-time excessive drinking. Spectacular speed shown is overcoming serious "hangover" symptoms. Best of all, nearly all alcoholics tolerate the drug, and rarely show side-effects.

FARM SCIENTISTS ARE PAYING GREAT ATTENTION to a new system of "fogging" plants. Still being perfected on experimental farm near Moscow, the equipment produces a dense mist around crops, in dry weather. Very little water is required. And "fogged" plants sharply reduce their consumption of water. Fog lowers temperature, and leaves of plants get surprisingly cool even in hottest weather.

ASTRONOMERS HAVE THEIR FINGERS CROSSED but the evidence is growing that our solar system has another planet, as big as Earth, circling our Sun, and so far undiscovered. If planet exists, it is some 54 times farther out from Sun than we are. So far, only proof of its existence is the fact that gravitational pull, *by something*, is shifting the flight-path of Comet Number 1862-3. Scientists will know for sure in 1982, when that comet returns for a swing fairly near Earth.

STUDENT SERGEI ALBITSKY CORRECTS HIS HISTORY TEACHER, and teacher doesn't get mad. Sergei knows what happened away 'way back then. *Because he was there*. Sergei was born in 1882, he's 94, and has entered Moscow University because he was bored. Studying journalism, and plans to write a novel. Gets along fine with other students.

AIR-CONDITIONERS WORKING ON SUN-POWER will be available for homes in Turkmenia in two more years. Long tests convinced engineers that air-conditioning is a field in which present knowledge of solar power can be efficiently applied to save fuel costs.

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This is NOT a Clearance Sale

Friends, you *might* view this page as a Sale. An **Opportunity Sale**. Here's the situation. More than ever in the past, Soviet books in English *sell out fast*. Over there in Socialism, printers are jammed with orders, so **publishers have a hard time getting repeat editions**. You may have these while they last. *Won't be around again for years*.



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