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NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

International Standard Serial

APRIL 1982 NO. 283 85c

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

How They Boss Their System

PAGE 3

Biggest Deal In Economic History

PAGE 8

You Can Spot The Hot Spots

PAGE 5

Miracles For The Blind

PAGE 12

Like Playing With Balls?

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Doctors' Advice Is Free

PAGE 16



No mystery why Soviet young people smile. They've never had it so good, for jobs, for careers, for deepest satisfactions that come from uniting personal ambitions with society's progress. See some examples on Pages 6 and 7.

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 31st year publishing reliable, exclusive news of Soviet developments.

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I'M SURE YOU KNOW ... THIS IS MY COLUMN

Several Readers have asked that I come right out and tell all that this is the spot reserved for your editor.

Well, this month it's the spot for thanking you: all the small army of NN people who answered my appeal letter in our January issue, and sent contributions to keep this magazine alive.

I don't have to remind you that paper, printing and (above all) mailing NN add up to a very serious problem this year.

So, along with these warmest of thanks to all who responded (many wrote terrific letters too!) I'm making another appeal right here-and-now: if you didn't find time to send NN some help in January, will you try now?

The cold truth is that postage increases, which we knew were coming, turned out to be worse than anyone expected.

PERHAPS YOU, TOO, WANT A HEALTH-HOLIDAY?

Up to now, no NN-USSR Tour for 1982 included one of those Vacation-Treatment Trips to the famous "medical holiday" centre in Sochi, Soviet Georgia, on the Black Sea. I've just found out that our Harmony-Intourist friends, answering requests we sent, are going to make one such Tour available for NN people.

In brief: you fly to Moscow, then to Sochi, have a medical exam, treatment is prescribed for you, and you combine a holiday with that free treatment. You pay only for travel and board-and-room (hotel) plus small exam fee. It is really a bargain, as a great many people have discovered.

Caution: no one with serious medical problems will be accepted, since no hospital care is included. But they achieve "wonders" for people who have common chronic health problems.

DO YOU LIKE MAKING COMPARISONS?

By chance, and not by intent, this NN points up quite a few sharp contrasts between life here, and over there.

For example: while our Auto industry (and its many affiliates) is a disaster area that appears to worsen every month, in USSR the only way they can fill the waiting jobs is to train new young workers. See Pages 6 and 7.

And then: while our Transport authorities are slamming us hard with higher and higher fares (even for pensioners and disabled people), Soviet people celebrated their 50 years of Subway Travel with the same fare since the first train ran!

A fact: you can travel all day long, if you wish, on Moscow's big Metro system, for the one universal fare costing 5 kopeks (8 cents our money).

And all their new Metros (even in Siberia) have that 5-kopek charge.

NN's Quote of the Month: "We must remind our governments of their solemn duty. Their task is to make secure the lives of the people ... The arms race feeds only those few who profit from war. Let the people of the world clearly identify those responsible for development and deploying of new weapons of mass destruction ... Let us have deeds, not words; let us have life, not death; let us have peace, not war; let us have disarmament, not arms. It can be done if the people of the world unite to do it!" World Peace Council Meeting in Athens, February 1982.

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



"People's Control" in the Soviet Union covers a much wider field of action than any boss' powers over here. It involves not only working life but also trade, services, housing, sports, transportation, health, government, management, to say nothing of incomes.

People's Controllers are into everything: profits-and-losses, waste, red tape, violations of the law and the nation's plans, sloppy management, price increases, etc.

- Example: Moscow's controllers got together and figured that a lot of plants (owned by the city) could turn out needed consumers' goods; result was, shops now sell more new goods worth 100 million dollars, without any additional factories.
- In Byelorussia (Republic) some 19,000 controllers tackled wasting of electric power and fuel; in a year the people's economy saved tens of millions of dollars.

In our system if a boss discovered that one of his managers isn't doing his job efficiently, out he goes. In their system you can't fire people just like that. Controllers take a more positive attitude.

If it's a small problem, they take it up in the trade union concerned or in the local press, radio, TV.

When YOU are BOSS

In Socialism, the economic system is publicly owned. As owners, the people also are the system's bosses. Not just on paper, but for real.

Today over ten million Soviet men and women serve on on what they call People's Control Committees.
All are elected by fellow workers and farmers.
Last year they made more than 150,000 detailed check-ups on how Socialism is working.
Think you'll make a good boss in Socialism here?

If it's a major difficulty they'll go to larger newspapers. Even right up to the People's Control Section of Pravda: its enormous circulation and prestige will set the whole nation talking, and, usually, bring in a lot more comments and proposals.

Speaking of public reaction: it works in reverse, also, with People's Controllers getting "tips" from the public as a whole. Thus, all over USSR the Control bodies now read carefully some 600,000 letters a year, sent to them by citizens who have a sharp eye for shortcomings.

Anyone investigated by People's Control really pays attention. The powers of Control are broad, set down in the USSR's Constitution and in a special Law. Control can levy fines on unsatisfactory managers (only about 40 per year); reprimand them publicly (80 on average); as a last resort (with Union approval) fire them. Hardly one a month deserves firing.

Who are People's Controllers? Over six million are workers and farmers. Three to four million are other employees of Soviet enterprises. The rest are students and pensioners.

Controllers get no extra pay, but do collect regular wages even if they are off-the-job on some inspection. Travel expenses are paid.



Rarely, but sometimes, bureaucrats fight People's Control. Like the top director of a lime factory, in Porkhov, fired the local Control chairman when he investigated financial discrepancies. In no time Control fired that director.

Major national jobs now face the millions in People's Control. In sharp contrast to the bickerings and incompetence of Canada's provincial "leaders", haggling over our economic woes, the rank-and-file bosses of Socialism are now out to give the whole system an overhauling. Not one defect, Leonid Brezhnev told them, "should escape the proprietor's eye of People's Controllers."

Soviet people watch profits closely . . . those profits are their own

Since they own the entire economy, Soviet people get all its profits, indirectly, by means of everything their national planners pay out.

But few people in Capitalism realize that Soviet people also get a piece of profits directly where they work.

Indeed, their Trade Union contracts (freshly drawn up each year) specify how multi-million incentive funds are paid out to workers whose labor produces them.

• Typical Minsk Watch Factory in 1980 made a total profit of 32 million dollars; of that, nearly 10 millions went into the social fund spent right at the plant; many new apartments were built for plant workers.

• Ball Bearing Plant in Kuibyshev has spent millions of profits building apartments, sports centres, a resort in the Zhiguli Mountains with 300 cottages for workers' families, and a big marina on the Volga.

• On a national scale Socialism's enterprises last year took out well over three billion dollars, in profits, for spending

directly on the workers whose efficiency made those profits.

But total profits are, of course, very much higher. Even so, a huge chunk of those national profits (one third of Socialism's entire budget!) go to pay for services used directly by the people. Such expenditures are rising rapidly in USSR, sharply contrasting to the "social austerity" being imposed by the Reagan administration.

Still, the fact remains: Soviet workers are personally, keenly interested in making profits where they work, since their incomes rise accordingly.

Such pay increases have doubled since 1976. By taking on bigger production plans, workers guarantee themselves correspondingly bigger slices of the profit pie.

And, as noted above but worth repeating, rising profits also raise the "national" share which all Soviet people divide, through Socialism's budget.

People's Controllers eye these billions closely.

You can't live with one dream for 65 years

The people behind Reaganism are having nightmares now

Far from representing any new trend in USA thinking, the people who counted heavily on Ronald Reagan have been around for many years in that country.

They are of many backgrounds, but they have something in common: burning hatred of Socialism and the USSR.

They all believe Winston Churchill was right when he never forgave the West for not "killing the Soviet baby in its cradle" in 1917. They all tell you, after a few drinks, that USA should have backed Hitler. They all curse the presidents who didn't drop atomic bombs on Soviet cities, when no A-bombs would fall in return on USA.

Every night they had the same dream of eliminating the people who have built a new system without capitalists. And when Mr. Reagan was swept into power, they figured their time for action had come.

Not only would they knock off Socialism "over there", but at the same time they'd knock off anybody at home who thought about Socialism, or Liberalism, or racism, or feminism, or... the Right is right, see, and to hell with anyone who won't go along.

Panic revived this dream

President Jimmy Carter, back in 1979, made public the growing fear that USA was "losing its grip" on the world. In December he tried that line on bankers and industrialists, and many of them cheered him. So in January 1980 he told the world, via Congress, that USA was out to regain leadership of our Earth.

Ronald Reagan expanded this theme in every way possible, and pretty soon the world realized that the Rightist Dream was taking shape in official USA policies.

It sounded wonderful to those who had voted for the Hollywood President. USA has tremendous economic power, absolutely the finest scientific brains. So there will be no further "dialogue" with anybody, friend or foe, on false "equality" foundations, for the simple reason that USA is the most, which only nuts will deny.

So let there be no misunderstanding.

Washington will go all out racing Moscow to guarantee overwhelming military superiority. Sure, it'll cost the people a bundle. But an arms race will bust the Soviet people.

Go for broke to get that dream

Mr. Reagan found himself backed up solidly by a man nobody really wanted to remember: Richard Nixon. He wrote the book "Real War", in which he dreamed right out loud about letting fly with every nuclear weapon in the stock-pile. Don't wait for the Soviets. Blast them off the Earth before they can even start!

Never mind that USA and USSR could both retaliate if the other started nuclear warfare.

Let's eliminate them 1000 times over with cruise missiles, neutron bombs, brain-poison weapons, deathly plague sprays.

Never mind that such weapons can be made not only by USSR and USA but many other nations also, who might want a piece of the action if they saw that the whole world was up for grabs ... by survivors.

If there were no survivors?

You don't ask such questions. From the Right you get it straight. Like in that dream.

Better dead than red, see?

A lot of the dreamers began taking extra doses of sleepingpills, because the possibility of them being dead never was in the original dream ... only the Soviets were dead.

But then, not everybody lives in USA. And not all the profits are made in USA. Think of the mines, oil wells, factories, banks, everything profitable, on this Earth, being buried underneath the smoking ruins of that dream war.

When "going for broke" means giving up billions it is hard to remain faithful to such a dream.

Maybe USA is no longer "leader"?

A number of movies, and books, have pictured the USA's armed might as concentrated in some unstable types who have their fingers on doomsday buttons, ready to press the world into disaster.

That's fiction. But many important people round the world have also seen facts. For example, the Pentagon's own admission that 70 percent of the men and women who volunteer for their armed forces are now lower-than average in tests for intelligence.

What about the "higher" levels of the services?

Well, who made the decisions that wiped out the USA in the Vietnam conflict?

Who led Washington into disastrous Middle East policies like Camp David?

Who disgraced Washington all through Black Africa and the countries of Central and South America?

Coming right down to Capitalism's holy shrine: who brought USA to the brink of a ruinous depression, making its former economic leadership a joke on Wall Street?

Who leads now in oil, steel, coal, autos, housing? God forbid ... it's those Reds who are leading!

That dream wore itself out long ago

It's no mystery why Reagan, Haig, Weinberger and the CIA are meeting with such mistrust and suspicion throughout the Western world. No sane persons can accept the Washington "policy" that views nuclear suicide as an acceptable answer to Capitalism's problems.

Only in Hollywood can human beings play push-buttons with H-Bombs ... and then go home to sleep because the movie ends while the world remains with us.

In real life we can't dream all day, we must stay awake to

The people who still follow Reaganism are daytime dreamers of the most murderous kind. They cannot see that the statesmen before them moved towards a lasting world peace because there is no alternative.

Human history is moving Capitalism and Socialism into peaceful coexistence for the clear reason that no other future for our Earth is possible.

"Consolidation of Peace," said Brezhnev, "that is the clue to the future."

Even at night the dream of exterminating the Soviet people no longer makes sense, even on the Right.

NN'S HOT LINE

Here's some vital world news our media didn't give you. The *inside facts*, from observers who saw it happening. Some of this you can use to make your own predictions. Could be, you'll be surprised at how right you are.

The newest Italian terrorist, Luigi Scriccolo, was exposed only after his arrest in Rome. This man was a leader of the "Italian Union of Labor". He called a meeting with newsmen and there stated boldly that he had made links with Polish "Solidarity" leaders who have gone underground to wage war on the government. Now police have linked him with terrorist Red Brigades. His wife Paola has visited Poland.

Question of Poland's debts makes USA bankers uncomfortable. When the Shah ruled Iran for the CIA, he advanced 30 billion dollars to pay for arms. Those arms were never delivered. That 30 billion is still in USA banks. The interest alone is billions per year. All owing to Iran.

A storm of indignation rose in West Germany when the weekly TAT published secret USA "Document 100-1". It sets forth rules-and-regulations for 400,000 USA troops, now in West Germany, if there is any "tension" or "disorder" in that country — then the White House will transform its armed forces into "police" who will use their guns to see that Germans obey ... well ... obey whom? Europeans and Britains want to know if there are "Documents 100-2" or "-3", "-4", "-5"? Or maybe just "Document World"?

Watch India rising. Nation now has 684 million people. Scoring big growth in production. India today has over 3,000 cities, swiftly multiplying working-class. Amazing increase in literacy in past 10 years. Average life-span up from 32 to over 50 years. Real boom in major industries owned by the nation. Huge new aluminum, oil, steel centres built with Soviet aid, and trade between India and USSR keeps breaking records. USA maintains very hostile attitude.

India's neighbor Pakistan, close ally of USA, is in trouble, internally. Strong forces in "The Sword" movement are out to get dictator Zia. Also growing is opposition led by widow and sons of President Bhutto (murdered by Zia). Situation is worsening because people are not sympathetic to "rebels" coming from Afghanistan, and many would welcome end of all interference in Afghan affairs.

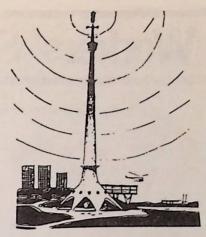
Not only auto and TV imports are making serious friction between USA and Japan. Media over here pretended puzzlement that Tokyo deliberately snubbed Haig on his Far East tour. Actually, USA's arrogance in military matters has roused Japanese fury. First: USA is bent on heavily arming China. Second: U.S. Navy violated Japanese law by sinking a freighter (April 1981) and carrying nuclear weapons in Japanese waters. Japanese are determined to see their economic powers respected.

Ghana, another African nation, is now out of "free enterprise" camp, since young officer Jerry Rawlings scored his second victory over regime controlled by West. Observers were surprised by mass public support for new National Defence Council headed by Rawlings. Sharp warning to West: Ghana from now on will back liberation of Namibia and racist white South Africa.

Situation in Afghanistan is now greatly improved. Real economic and social advances are being scored. Attempts to rouse people against Socialism, by appeals to Moslem beliefs, has lost effect since many millions of Moslems are now committed to Socialism (as in Libya, to say nothing of Soviet Central Asian Republics). More significant: brutal raids by "rebels" based in Pakistan and armed by USA are intensifying people's hatred for this senseless 'struggle". What western press calls armed actions by rebels are nothing but hit-run raids aimed against defenceless civilians. All signs point to elimination of this interference.

Sudan, a USA ally, is another Mid East nation in serious difficulties. Since USA troops demonstrated there, several episodes of rioting have occurred. Demonstators were stopped only by guns and grenades. Anti-USA slogans appeared for first time. Nimeiri's regime has arrested 3,000.

New leadership in Egypt, despite visit to Washington, is obviously most concerned with overcoming Egypt's isolation from Arab world (brought about by Sadat's "Camp David" support of Israel and USA). Egypt is no longer a bulwark of western power.



Oil-rich Saudi Arabia, long held to be firm ally of USA defending Persian Gulf oil, is now quavering because of growing influence, prestige, of Arab Steadfastness and Resistance National Front. This movement actually cuts across national borders and appeals to all Arabs threatened by expansionism of Israel. Seems little doubt now that even Crown Prince Fahd will take an Arab position on burning question of Palestinian liberation.

Very existence of Israel is now being threatened from within. This was exposed by Shmuel Lahis when he quit as head of "Jewish Agency". Gravest problem is mass emigration of Jews from their "homeland", as Israel's position worsens. In 1981 30,000 pulled out. Over 500,000 former Israelites now live in USA. Perhaps most significant: Tel-Aviv Stock Exchange has suffered shattering collapses. But in Lahis' view, loss of youth (representing 12 army brigades!) is the fatal illness.

New African nations have become the Western world's third major suppliers of petroleum. Hundreds of new big wells come into production every year, with drilling in 31 countries. In this boom, USA is playing an incredible part: like threatening Angola with invasion (via South Africa) while Gulf Oil is frantically trying to improve relations... hundreds of millions are at stake. On the whole, billions will come from petroleum sales, helping to speed several important countries on their way to Socialism.

When Reagan pulled USA out of Libya, hoping to wreck its big oil industry, many Canadian workers and engineers hurried over there. Unreported in our press was this fact: Iran, long boycotted by USA, offered to help Libya with needed experts. More than 2000 highly-skilled Iranian oil men are now in Libya. This is another big success for the Gadhafi government of Libya, committed to Socialism and now strongly linked with Soviet Union and its allies.

Workers' System Guarantees Work



On Lada auto assembly line. Not only is every auto worker in USSR on full time, but managers scramble to find more youth to take these jobs, opening because of continually increasing vehicle production in Socialism.



Big majority of Soviet auto workers are young. They're recruited in high school. But thousands of them keep on with education after they start work, as part of continuing program to raise skills, and wages.



Assembly line at Kama Truck Plant. This is largest industrial enterprise in the world, and USA tried hard to kill it by withholding machine-tools. Tools were either made in USSR or purchased in Germany, France.



Big Volzhsky Auto Plant (on Volga) opened complete with housing centers for workers. Housing is kept distant from factories. Because of shortage of workers, managers have to guarantee housing as well as permanent jobs.



All "secondary" auto jobs are permanent in USSR, as vehicle output keeps on increasing.



Left: researchers developing new sound-proofing systems. Right: all auto plants have their own treatment centers for workers with physical problems. Socialism can't afford to lose workers through illnesses.

Cars today in our Two World Systems

Not so long ago the Automobile, and the tremendous industries built around Detroit, symbolized the greatness of Capitalism. Well, the times they are a-changin'. No arguments here, just straight facts.

Heavy truck production in the Soviet Union is now at an all-time high, and headed up. Main output comes from world's biggest industrial enterprise, the "Kama Complex". But now they are farming out to other factories the trailers needed for Kama's big trucks. In Nizhnekamsk, also, they're starting up heavy truck production.

(In desperate effort to save famous White trucks, USA sold assets to Volvo. But demand is so low that total bankruptcy now hovers over Volvo White Truck Corp.).

Farming in USSR is expanding so fast that demand for special new forms of trucks had led to four-wheel-drive rig with high clearance, special wide tires. Ideal for off-road work (harvesting) this new vehicle is being made at the Kutaisi Auto Plant in Georgain Republic. It can do 45 miles per hour on the road.

(In February General Motors had to stop all production in eight car and truck plants. Ford, Chrysler and American Motors then announced similar sweeping closures).

Booming industries in Socialism have led to a record demand for resources (metals, coal). In turn, ever new and bigger quarry trucks are required. One plant in Minsk has been completely rebuilt, so its automated machinery can produce trucks of 120-tons capacity, with 180-ton model under test.

(The worsening slump in demand for metals has rocked even such mighty multi-nationals as International Nickel. Heavy mine trucks simply aren't needed. Interestingly: gigantic "Titans" made in Canada are being exported to the Soviet Union, regardless of Reagan).

Converting to diesels is proceeding in USSR as rapidly as possible (considering that all industries are working at capacity). Big plants at Naberezhnye Chelny, Minsk, Zhodino, Moscow and in the Urals are now putting diesels in all trucks. That also goes for the high-speed bus (LAZ-4202) made in Lvov, Ukraine.

(USA plants were going to spend 80 billion dollars on modernizing output, including diesels, but the slump is now so severe that this program has been suspended).

Bus production in the Soviet Union has failed to cope with demand for years (they *imported* from other Socialist nations). To improve the situation they're rebuilding the Likino Bus Plant in Moscow region.

(Reagan's cancellation of public transportation programs has plunged USA bus companies into a severe crisis).

Many new models of passenger cars are coming from Soviet plants (front wheel drive Ladas, and bigger Volgas from the Gorky plant, along with improved minis under the Moskvich and Zaporozhye labels). But chronic problem is that public demand far exceeds supply.

(USA car makers now face a public that won't pay \$8900 for a car sold 10 years ago for \$3700. Quality may be there, as Detroit claims, but buyers lack money).

Pollution control has become big in Soviet car industry. As fast as possible they're changing over to liquefied natural gas (LNG), which slashes poisonous emissions by 65 to 75 percent, in both cars and trucks.



(In the USA, to avoid further price increases, Reagan's government is giving the car industry an indefinite "holiday" from motors that cut down pollution).

"Suppliers" for car industry, in USSR, have a crisis we would welcome. They all supply industry in general with vital parts (such as bearings). But these parts now must be of advanced design, so factories are swamped with orders which will only increase in next five years.

(Parts suppliers in Canada and USA are dropping out, many for good. Situation is so bad that Chrysler warns about a collapse...chairman Iacocca believes all but five car makers in entire Western world will disappear).

Cars make boom towns in USSR. Before Kama plant came, Chelny had 35,000 people. Today: 350,000. Probably it's the world's newest major city. Complete not only with housing but every kind of public service, right on to big vacation districts for auto workers.

("An air of desperation pervades Motor City" says U.S. News about Detroit. There, as in our Windsor, houses are for sale at give-away prices, but who needs them?).

As living-standard rises, in Socialism, demand for cars goes out-of-sight. As late as 1956 USSR produced only 450,000 cars and trucks; now figure is 2,100,000. But trouble is, friends of Socialism abroad clamor for Soviet cars, so they export now to 70 countries. And this only worsens the shortage at home.

(Detroit economic analysts say that 3,500,000 families in USA now need new cars. But grim fact is that many of the "needy" are ... unemployed by Free Enterprise.)

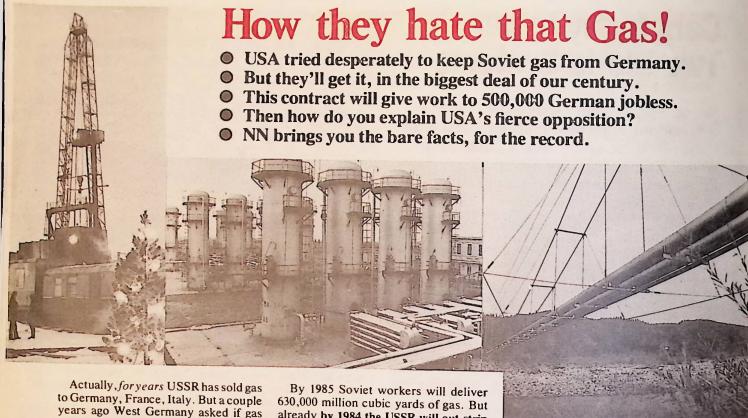
World sales of Soviet cars, long ignored in the West, are suddenly major economic news. Remember, their firm "Avto Export" started in business only 25 years ago. In that time its sales abroad have soared 3000 percent! Total sales of cars, trucks and busses (in 450 models) have now passed the five million mark. And main point is that Socialism has to "sit on its car exports" because of continually rising demands at home.

(Not only is Detroit unable to sell cars abroad, due to poor quality and high price, but Japan is the big threat today because that country long ago *modernized* its plants while USA depended on mere advertising power).

Export of Soviet vehicles is never a cut-throat "market" operation, but is always linked with mutually-beneficial two-way trade. This is now firmly established with Canada, Finland, Belgium, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Sweden, and many Less Developed Countries. However, in all cases Soviet cars had to compete on a quality basis, with Free Enterprise, since trade deals were made with private firms, not governments.

(As this goes to press the USA car industry has laid off 245,900 workers. But the problem is Free-World-Wide. In Italy, for example, over 100,000 auto workers are out, with no end in sight for this catastrophe).

If you are curious as to why Lada cars are in such demand in Canada (in only three years sales rose from zero to 15,000 in 1981) here's a clue: famous Paris-to-Dakar car rally, rated toughest in the world, was won this year by a Lada (driven by Jean-Claude Briavoine and Andre Deliare).



years ago West Germany asked if gas deliveries could be greatly increased.

Because fuel in West Europe is in short supply, high-priced.

The Soviet government called on its scientists, and planners, to see what might be done to build further economic cooperation in this field, as an effort in peaceful coexistence.

Soviet experts hotly debated this question. The big Tyumen gas fields could deliver, but the job of getting that gas thousands of miles out, through Siberia's severe wilderness, would be physically tough. Financially, it might be impossible.

Late in 1981 a kind of "super commission", headed by Dr. A.A. Bakirov (Lenin Prize-winning scientist) studied the facts again, and decided that the enormous reserves of gas available justified getting it to Europe.

Furthermore, opening this gas field would enable Soviet planners to work out new, ambitious long-term plans for economic advancement.

Little known in the West is the fact that long before Ronald Reagan the leaders of USA tried to halt Soviet gas output. In 1945, when USSR had almost "zero" gas industry, USA firms delivered some pipes, some gas compressors, reluctantly, slowly.

To get the first short gas pipeline from Saratov to Moscow, Soviet workers finally had to make their own pipes and compressors.

So USA's attempts to hold them back, in the end turned out to be the 'push'' that gave USSR its tremendous gas transportation industry of today.

already by 1984 the USSR will out-strip the USA and become the world's greatest gas producing nation.

Just look at that figure again, while you recall that in 1945 the USSR used barely 3,000 million cubic feet.

Expanding to meet the needs of West Europe and the Socialist world, USSR will lay 80,000 miles of new pipeline. That includes five giant-size lines just from the Tyumen field alone.

The main line for exporting to West Europe is the Urengoi-Uzhgorod line. This was discussed in West Germany in 1980 when Dr. Klaus Liesen, chief of the government Ruhrgas Company, asked if Moscow could supply 10,000 million cubic yards per year. As it turned out, Soviet gas workers will deliver to West Europe 40,000 million cubic yards each year, quite soon.

Imagine: that's well over 100 million cubic yards every day.

The German firm Mannesman will supply a good deal of the required piping. French companies will make gasprocessing equipment.

One Soviet processing center, Orenburg, already is bigger than all other such plants in the world, together.

Gas for Italy ran into problems, when USA exerted extreme pressure to halt any Rome-Moscow deal. Only when USSR finally ran out of patience did Italy sign up for Soviet gas.

Along with Austria, Belgium, Greece, Spain, Netherlands.

President Reagan personally made a last-ditch effort to sabotage this "deal of the century", last July, at the Ottawa conference. Rejected, he tried one final move.

He sent a personal envoy to Chancellor Schmidt, just before Leonid Brezhnev arrived to finalize the deal.

That plea, too, was rejected. All the world's media (including TV) were at the "signing ceremony" which sealed the historic agreement on November 20, 1981.

No capitalist nations, let alone countries of the two systems, have ever concluded such a vast trade deal.

Incidentally, two other Socialist lands (Czechoslovakia and Hungary) will aid in the construction work, since the gas pipelines will cross their territory.

Some western commentators, after Mr. Reagan cancelled all shipments (from USA) that might aid in building the pipeline, pointed out that this White House action was pathetic ... because it was futile, and would harm only the USA. One company, Caterpillar Tractor, loses more than 100 million dollars in equipment sales.

Not only pathetic, but funny ...

USA itself can't supply pipes for the line because no company has the necessary equipment or technology! Indeed, only West Germany and USSR can make these 55-inch-diameter pipes.

And now USSR, in the Vyksa Steel Works, is turning out a revolutionary pipe (multi-layers) capable of handling extreme gas pressures. To boost deliveries to Europe by one-third.

King Canute once ordered the ocean's tide to stop coming in. But all he got for that was wet feet.

Our World is not a Movie, Mr. Reagan

James Reston, noted USA commentator, says
Ronald Reagan made up policies as a kind of
Hollywood movie scenario. On one side good guys,
on the other bad guys. And the Sherriff always
winning. Well, see what happened to this screen play.



Our media pictured the White House as a political "Vatican" commanding absolute obedience from believers.

o Suddenly those "believers" in West Europe told the Washington "Pope" that they can't possibly deal with Poland and USSR as if they were merely Bad Guys.

o Nearby, in Central America, neither Congress nor the Pentagon wants to get involved in action where the Bad Guys turn out to be the side the people like best.

o In the Mid-East Oil World, the USA's Arab friends refused to buy the idea that distant Moscow is the enemy, when everyone knows who is shooting: Israel.

So, over the past few months, you've seen Mr. Reagan ease up on West Germany, France, Italy, Britain; while Mr. Haig starts whispering to Mexico and Cuba; and the Arabs get more arms for use as they see fit.

In USA this has made the President's "red-neck" friends purple with rage. Hard to explain to them that other people don't buy the Good-Bad-Guys screen story.

However, our media love a Hollywood Image there in Washington, so you don't get many of the highly significant happenings that have upset the White House lately.

Official Office of Technology Assessment (OTC) has told the President flatly that "punishments" handed out to USSR won't have any real impact.

Certainly Reagan's "energy sanctions" can only have an opposite effect: boost Soviet energy production.

The "penalties" USA imposed, three years ago, over the Afghanistan affair, markedly helped West Europe and Japan to take big orders for equipment away from USA firms.

Greatly boosting energy sales to the West, Moscow has sharply improved its cash-flow situation, contrary to the "Hollywood script" calling for money-pressure.

The OTA report (Science Vol. 214 P-1216) tells how USA cut off repair parts for huge oil pumps previously sold to USSR; contrary to Mr. Reagan's "script", Soviet oil flow didn't lessen ... they serviced the pumps themselves, then replaced them with their own models.

As for equipment needed for the historic gas deal with Europe (see opposite page here in NN), "sanctions" mean the loss of many billions of dollars in orders for USA companies who are now forbidden to deliver.

Same outcome for USA's grain sanctions. The White House now faces a ridiculous situation: Mr. Reagan's own Agriculture Secretary, John Block, told the press (Jan. 25) that "Reagan moves will spur Soviets to buy grain elsewhere." He added: "the Soviets have, in effect, learned how to get along without USA."

Today the situation is worse, for the White House, since a world record supply of grain is obviously building. The "good guys" of Capitalism are lined up to sell their surplus to Socialism's "bad guys" ... so where do they fit into Reagan's Hollywood story?

Something funny happened on the way from the White House over to West Europe. No less a staunch Good Guy than Otto Wolff von Amerongen, President of the Association of (West) German Chambers of Industry and Commerce, on returning from a trip to Soviet gas fields, said: "Siberia is the future of cooperation of my generation, and generations to come."

It's a plain fact: Soviet energy is becoming a major factor in the world's economy, Capitalism included.

Canada's Financial Post (Jan. 23) coolly exposed the uselessness of trying to make the modern world fit into a script written by the White House and Pentagon.

• "Punishing" the Soviet Union can't possibly work when the Western nations, trapped in a depression, urgently need to do more profitable business with Socialism.

• Since the world of Socialism is now enormous, and is growing, without any economic reverses, a long-term "embargo" against deals between the two systems will have only bad financial effects on the West.

• Much worse: such "sanctions" have been imposed against Soviet people many times in the past 65 years, but every time the USSR succeeded in passing the West by, while producing their own needed goods.

In a very real sense Mr. Reagan's Hollywood-style "policies" are backfiring against USA, economically and politically.

Even in the most dangerous field of military strategy, the prestigious Hudson Institute is alarmed by Reagan's latest "script"—it calls for attacking Socialism on several fronts if USSR won't accept USA "punishments". The Institute's top right-wing thinker, Colin Gray, is horrified that such threats are "a game which more than one can play." The world today offers quite a few "fronts" where anti-USA feeling is at the explosion-point.

But risks of war aside, the White House "movie" is a box-office flop right at home.

— U.S. Chamber of Commerce is upset that the childish anti-gas-pipe-line policy "is aggravating our already poor international reputation for commercial reliability." You can't build trade with "sanctions".

— While West Europe is rejoicing over millions of jobs developing with Soviet trade, USA for first time since 1930 is facing intolerable unemployment.

— White House and Pentagon are enforcing an all-for-arms program that is wrecking the economy, infuriating those rightists who voted for slashing federal expenditures to balance the budget.

The USA's President was trained in Hollywood, where the "policy" is to escape from reality for an evening's fun. Trying to carry movieland scripts over into the problems of our world is hopeless, to put it mildly.

There is no escape from humanity's future.

In Socialism People's Transportation leads the world

Fifty years ago Soviet people surprised the world by announcing that they had started to build a "metro" (subway) under Moscow.

The world's reaction was ridicule.

At that time the USSR was, indeed, very backward industrially. Even the western experts they called in, for subway consultations, shook their heads—Socialism didn't have enough skilled people to tackle a job which required a very high level of labor and technology.

Just three years later, on May 15 1935, that Moscow Metro started its own trains, on its first line 7 miles long, with 13 stations.

Foreign observers soon realized that the Metro in Moscow ran faster than elsewhere. The 13 stations could only be called "palaces", they were so magnificent artistically.

Biggest surprise of all: by the end of its first year, Moscow Metro had carried 77 million people!

For comfort and speed that subway system has never ben excelled. In rush hours, trains run every 60 seconds, averaging 24 miles per hour.

No wonder they carry far more than two thousand million people per year!

The much longer (and older) New York subway doesn't handle half that traffic. The oldest, in London, carriers not quite one quarter of Moscow's fares.

Some 50 cities in the world now have subways. USA has seven, USSR eight, plus four more soon to open and three more in blueprint stage.

Many years ago Soviet planners told the world that all cities over one million population should have subway systems, to avoid the pollution and discomfort of traffic jams. Once rejected, this idea is now getting world-wide acceptance.

Carrying it out is another matter.

Only in USSR have workers perfected subway construction by advanced methods. In the 'thirties, 75,000 workers built the first Moscow line (7 miles in 3 years), while today 12,000 workers can complete 12 miles each year.

So they are working on several new lines inside Moscow, besides Metros for other Soviet cities.

In all these projects the lines are planned along with new housing projects, so that as the cities of Socialism spread out, subways are there. You can see one advantage of socialist planning in this fact, known by few over here: seven big railway stations in Moscow are directly connected to the subway system, and the one remaining station will also soon be linked into the Metro.

But socialist *pricing* may be most impressive. All Soviet Metros charge only 5 kopecks (8 cents). Fare price in New York is seven times higher, and in Milan, Italy, 12 times higher.

Rapid expansion features Soviet subways today. They now cover 222 miles, with 234 stations. But by 1985 they'll have another 50 miles, including brand new systems in Minsk and Gorky. Construction will also proceed in Novosibirsk, Kuibyshev, Sverdlovsk and Dnepropetrovsk.

Technically (which really amounts to passenger service) Soviet subways are continually advancing. Traffic density in Moscow is far greater than any other system in the world can handle.

Since this is obvious to all visitors, the Moscow Metro building organization has been invited to work on projects in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, East Germany, Rumania, Lebanon, Syria, Finland and some other lands. Soviet crews are active in the first India Metro (in Calcutta), which will be using Soviet equipment.

Soon a new *noiseless* Soviet car will start running on Metro lines.



Construction methods have changed radically since those 75,000 workers started digging under Moscow. Incidentally, many of them were volunteers from all over USSR, challenged by the task of giving the People's System the finest subways.

Major Soviet advances have been made by Leningrad workers and engineers. In the beginning, tunnellers could hardly beat 100 yards a month. By 1954 they were finishing 250 yards monthly, and in the 'sixties this rose to over 10 yards per day.

A big break-through came in the 'seventies, when Leningrad workers created a "tunnelling combine", which dug the route and laid all structural work in one operation. This upped the rate past 27 yards daily.

Latest methods drastically cut labor consumption. By 1979 their complex equipment was able to average more than 40 yards per day.

Right now (as NN people saw firsthand, last year) Moscow Metro builders are able to extend new lines at a world record rate: 48 yards daily.

One and a half miles in two months!

In Socialism, subways are planned to "fit" closely into all available surface transportation. Thus Moscow today has by far the largest network of busses, trolley-busses and streetcars in the world ... over 11,000.

Just servicing this huge fleet requires 51,000 workers, continually on the job in 31 major depots. The transport system even has a construction company of its own, and one of its jobs is to build new housing for the system's army of employees.

Not only is unemployment unknown to them, but employment is a big problem: Moscow builds new districts accommodating 250,000 people in a single area, and all such areas must get transportation.

The main purpose of surface transport in big Soviet cities is to take people to subway stations or railway (commuter) station. This has required, in five years, 84 new bus and streetcar routes, which now total well over 3,300 miles.

To take the passenger's viewpoint: in the last five years, 90,000 more seats have been added to Moscow's surface lines.

No problems, then? Wrong. The total job is so big, and they lack so many workers, that transport is not keeping up with demand. As a result, a new plan for Moscow calls for 70 miles more trolley-bus and streetcar lines out into the busiest housing areas.

Transportation helps to keep Socialism's economy booming. Moscow alone is placing orders for 700 streetcars, 1,460 trolley busses, 7000 regular busses; you can picture the size of the factories.

By 1985 you'll be able to take your choice of 8,100 busses riding routes 3,600 miles long, including 50 lines not yet even started.



From very beginning 50 years ago Moscow's Metro provided people with stations that were "underground palaces". Aim was to make travel-to-work a real pleasure. No other subways come anywhere near this artistic excellence.



When new housing areas open up, usually the Metro is there to provide speedy transportation to work, shops, sports, theatres. This is Novo-gireyevo, in Moscow.



Moscow's streets now extend for 2200 miles, but every block is accessible to low cost public transportation, so cars are quite unnecessary.



Subway fares have been 8 cents for 50 years.



Subways are favorite spots for meeting friends.

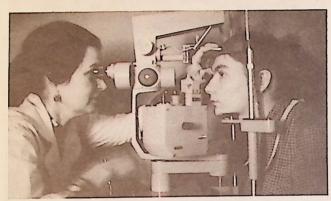


Soviet subway cars are spotless, perfectly ventilated, comfortable, and muggers are unknown day or night.



New subways, like this in Baku, reflect different artistic traditions of people, and widely varying climates.

No wonder they're flying to Moscow



Dr. Asya Rysayeva checks Marina Pronina, 22, a radio worker with serious uveitis and cataracts. Advanced anti-glaucoma operation, and treatment, has stabilised Marina's eyes, and she can enjoy useful sight now.



Dr. Maria Agranovich takes special X-ray of Larissa Gladkova's eye. She then gave successful treatment for diabetic retinopathy, using laser beam.



Dr. Lev Katsnelson treats Maria Tarasova with laser ray. Patient is 70, has chorioretinal dystrophy. Now she has vision good enough for normal living.

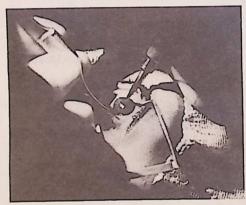
If you think you might get helpful treatment in USSR, or know someone who might, it won't help to write 'NN'. First get a complete official medical statement about the patient's diagnosis, treatment. Send this, with your letter, by registered airmail, to: Ministry of Health, Council of Ministers, Moscow, USSR. If reply is favorable, 'NN' can arrange for travel. You must pay for that, but all treatment is free in Socialism.

Hardly a day goes by without our papers reporting that yet another adult, or youth, or child, has been successfully treated for disease or injury termed "hopeless" by doctors over here.

'NN' brings you some pictures of the latest in Soviet eye treatments.



Dr. Mikhail Krasnov uses revolutionary Soviet method to cure completely "myopia", common eye problem.
System is today being used all over the world.



Painless, swift operation (orthokeratomy) restores normal sight to myopia victims.



After many years wearing glass for myopia, now she sees perfectly with no lenses at all.



BALLS and PEOPLE

One of the oldest ball games in human history was Poc-Ta-Poc, played by ancient Incas and Mayas. Teams of three or four players tried to toss balls into wooden baskets.

The Aztecs had a similar game, but it was refereed by a priest, and the "game" was really a religious ceremony. In all these games the balls were made of natural bouncy rubber.

Poc-Ta-Poc disappeared, only to surface again long after ... in Doctor Naismith's "basketball". In that game, as we all know, the ball is big (originally a soccer ball) and inflated for bouncing.

Nobody has ever been able to count all the ball-games invented. Some "took on" by accident; as when an English soccer player took a ball to the beach, one summer day, and before he knew it water polo was being enthusiastically played.

Incidentally: water polo gained much popularity in Czarist Russia, where it became more-or-less a player's sport (as it is to this day up to Olympic level).

The oldest ball game known has come down to us as volleyball.

They played it in Rome and Greece at least 4000 years ago. Much as we still play it, as you can see from one game that was forever recorded on a beautiful Grecian vase.

Regardless of size, shape and performance, balls have fascinated people from the beginning of social life. Small bouncy balls were used several thousand years ago in Rome, when trigon and follis were popular. Long afterwards, the English Major Wingfield combined those roman words, and a couple of games from France, to give us tennis.

The modern mass sport enjoying the longest history may well be soccer. That variety of football originated in ancient Rome, in a version called *spheromachia*. The British put soccer on the modern map.



Oddly enough, Britain's kings prohibited the game for three hundred years...around 1500 you could even be put to death for playing football!

Football, basketball, baseball, handball, volleyball, tennis, cricket, golf, field hockey, lacrosse, and even croquet, all are ball games enjoyed by millions.

Only now are psychologists and social scientists beginning to study the ball as an inventation of truly infinitely powerful effects.

In a philosophical mood, you may well ask whether balls have influenced mankind over thousands of years, even more powerfully than the "immortal" inventions of fire, the wheel, money, religion, printing, steam ...

But on the other hand, human society in its present highest form, Socialism, has revolutionized the ball.

Never before have balls been part of the personal life of countless millions, as they are in USSR.

In Soviet nurseries and kindergartens every child plays with balls of every color and size (some balls are bigger than the tots whacking them!).

In schools, parks, yards, gyms and stadiums virtually every Soviet child, and nearly all adults, play with balls.

There's much more to this than just fun or competition.

True, balls amuse us. They also exercise us, sometimes in ways more "complete" than any other pastime.

Balls develop the central nervous system (eyes, muscles, brain), and in very real ways help people think, respond, act skillfully.

Balls relax people, wipe out the strains and worries of the hardest day.

This is why Soviet doctors make wide use of ball games in almost every kind of treatment center.

To them, the ball is a universal means of treatment, physical and mental. That is why, in USSR, you see more workers (with hand and brain) playing ball than in any other land.



A very sharp difference between Socialism and Capitalism — never considered in our media — relates directly to balls. In both systems, vast numbers of people watch ball games; but only in Socialism does the great majority of the population play ball games.

You won't be exaggerating if you say that balls are propaganda for Socialism. Millions upon millions of youngsters and youth, in the Less Developed Countries, became involved with balls only after the USSR and its Socialist allies rose to a dominating position in the Olympics.

Since then, thousands of Soviet coaches (to say nothing of doctors, teachers, workers, diplomats) have wakened tens of millions to make balls part of their development.

In many impoverished lands the ball is the first means of achieving personal liberation, physical and mental.

You could not count the populations who today identify the promise of advancing life in Socialism with ... books plus balls.

Of course in Capitalism (especially due to professional profitized sport) balls mean competition.

In Socialism, too, competition is good for people, when it isn't obsessed with winning money. But in the Soviet view ball-games not only bring people the pleasures of health and gracefulness, they also teach honesty, fair-play, kindness, sensitivity and respect for others.

The ball is respected in USSR as an invention of the very highest political importance.

As no other invention, balls bring together peoples of all nations, races, beliefs, systems.

Thus the ball is a tremendously mighty weapon against war.

Balls unite people for the enjoyment of a world at peace.

Balls create friendship and happiness, pointing the way to Man's future.

Almond trees and girls are equally lovely.

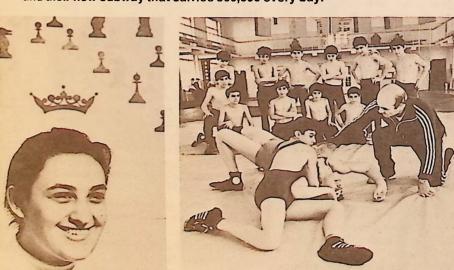
Tbilisi, Georgia's capital, is a beautiful modern city now. Georgians are equally proud of their ancient heroic history and their new subway that carries 500,000 every day.

World's Oldest Ge

For thousands of years before the USA's state was set up, the country of that name was ren history. In Socialism, Georgians are really w



If you visit Georgia you'll marvel at their magnificent tea plantations, world's most mechanized. After you sample their teas, you'll certainly load up with them for gifts. They grow tea in areas never before thought to be warm enough.



Georgians are famed in sports. Left: Maya Chiburdanidze is world women's chess queen. Right: wrestling is very big. Roman Rurua won world's crown four times running.



Georgia ships to the world via Black Sea, and confidence of Batumi is crowded now, with exports of manifold industrial and agricultural products.

orgia

=f Georgia =vned in ■th seeing.



Georgians boast of famed health resorts used now by millions. You really should try the sea-and-sand at this Pitsunda spot.



Magnificent resorts like this have been put up in many Georgian regions, mainly by Soviet trade unions. Area is also favored by medicinal waters and curative muds.



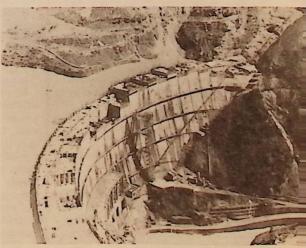
Georgia in Socialist times has become a land of heavy industry, and these Rustavi steel workers turn out metal that has world markets. People of Georgia are intensely proud of their ancient heritage and their tremendous revolutionary achievements.



Georgia's climate ranges widely, and includes some of world's highest mountains. In Tsiteltskari region shown here, grain gives big harvests. Here Kirov Co-Op is testing different Soviet combines on 1981 crop.



In recent years Georgians have moved forward into advanced sectors of industry. This is a synthetic fibres plant in Rustavi. It is staffed mainly by women, following Socialism's planning that guarantees employment to workers of both sexes.



Not yet finished, this Inghuri Hydro Dam has huge output (2,865,000 KW). Dam will be 890 feet high! Intended not only for industrial power but to supply vast new farms with water, never before available.

When they ask their Doctors



Often Soviet specialists let millions in on their replies to patients. Their views can benefit families here, too.

Soda good for stomach ulcers?

Many people take baking-soda to relieve "heartburn" after eating. But this shouldn't deceive anyone with ulcers: relief of heartburn doesn't "carry over" to relieve symptoms of ulcer.

Further, the gas (carbon dioxide) formed when soda reacts with stomach (acid) fluids can seriously irritate an ulcer, because carbon dioxide leads to formation of more acid. This is a "vicious circle".

Any symptom (or suspicion) of an ulcer should be discussed, without delay, with a specialist.

Pregnant after the menopause?

It's very wrong to think that a woman who had gone through the "change of life" can no longer become pregnant. That false belief leads quite a few women, age 45 and over, to unwanted childbirth.

In USSR women are cautioned to continue birth-control methods for two or three years after menstruation ceases.

And not just for "convenience". Their studies show that pregnancy after 45 can place a great strain on the woman, and can be a meance to the "late" child.

Sex life may even *improve* after the "climacteric" (menopause), and so the need for precautions is very real for many women.

Are hair rinses at all useful?

Yes, if the water in your area has a dulling effect on hair.

With some waters (containing salts) soap forms compounds which coat every hair. These can be removed by careful rinsing.

Boiled water is the purest "natural" rinse, and should be tried before others. If it works, fine.

If not, add a tablespoon of vinegar to a basin of water and use it for thorough rinsing.

Many women say that beer works to restore hair's natural sheen, when boiled water or vinegar will not.

In eastern parts of USSR, where fermented horse's or camel's milk is available, it is a favorite rinse with tradition's approval.

Soviet cosmetologists today tend to favor the vinegar rinse or lemon juice rinse, especially for blondes.

You need a rinse after every wash.

Is sheep's cheese nutritious?

Usually called "brinza", this food is considered to be a very distinctive and valuable delicacy, by Soviet doctors. If you aren't on the "prohibited" list!

Brinza is one of several cheeses made in **brine** (water saturated with common table salt).

It is made of sheep's milk, or both sheep-and-cow's milk mixed.

Don't try to make it yourself. It takes a complex fermenting process, carried out in warmth, and careful packing of the "clots" that form. Finally (key treatment) it is cured in big tubs, submerged in very salty water.

Brinza is a very rich protein food, easily assimilated, containing oils and minerals also, along with Vitamin A, B-1, riboflavin. Often given to weak, elderly, or convalescent people in USSR.

But wait! Brinza should never be eaten by people with heart problems, high blood-pressure, ulcers or kidney disease (because it is extremely high in salt ... just taste it).

Is cabbage all that good?

It's better, still better!

If you eat cabbage generously, all year, you can forget spending money on vitamin-mineral pills.

Cabbage is not only rich in vitamins, minerals, pectin, lipids, folic acid and "cellular bulk", but it also acts as a diuretic" (helps rid body of excess water).

And it is low in carbohydrates, for weight-watchers.

Widely prescribed in USSR for people with stomach and intestinal problems.

What cooking pots are best?

In USSR, because stainless steel is not yet plentiful, they rate enamel vessels as best for household use, with cast iron for frying or other hightemperature cooking.

Aluminum is very widely used over there, but doctors don't favor it, and tell people to avoid it when cooking any processed foods (like salted or vinegar flavored).

However, they say flatly that no harmful effects are found in food cooked in aluminum, though its dark oxides may discolor food.

Stainless is best, and it's used in virtually all Soviet public eating places.

What keeps people awake all night?

Nothing. Research everywhere shows that when you complain of "not sleeping a wink all night" you're really kidding yourself. Even deep sleepers may get the impression that they never shut an eye.

Problem is disturbed sleep.

It's really for serious! May be caused by *internal-organ disorders* that wake the sleeper. Or by central-nervous-system problems.

The extreme misery this sleep problem causes is a warning that any sufferer should take it to the doctor for a full check-up.

Get a permanent while pregnant?

Soviet obstetricians recommend that women either postpone a permanent or get one early in pregnancy.

Fact is, the major biological changes occurring during pregnancy do affect the hair. "Resources" of the body are deflected to supply the needs of the developing child. In most mothers, hair loses its usual elasticity, becomes brittle, fragile, dry, dull. Often there is some loss of hair.

The usually harmless chemicals used in permanent-waving may worsen these changes.

Finally, pregnancy may reveal some allergy to permanent-waving chemicals. Therefore no wave should be tried, for the first time, while pregnant.

Hair coloring should be avoided for the same reasons. So should any cosmetics not used before (especially eyebrow and eyelash colors).

Is Pepsi-Cola harmful?

This drink is manufactured now in USSR and was approved only after long analysis and testing.

All the contents in Pepsi are natural substances, including two mild stimulants obtained from plants: caffein, theobromine; and the flavorings: vanilin, cardamom and aromatic oils.

Similar Soviet drinks contain the tonic herb eleutherococcus, used in stronger form as a medicine.

Pepsi is harmful to people who have digestive-system problems, but only because of the carbon-dioxide gas which gives its sparkle and sharp taste; the gas is an irritant for some people.

Pepsi is "prohibited" for people with diabetes and weight problem, because of its sugar content.

News for You



The CHARLOTTE CARTER MEMORIAL FUND Inc.

announces a WORLD-WIDE ESSAY COMPETITION.

Subject of the Essay: " THE LIBERATION OF MANKIND "

This is a different essay contest, for amateur and professional writers alike, in commemoration of Charlotte Carter, who died 10 years ago, April 19, 1972. Charlotte spent a life-time in the service of others. First, working as a nurse among the native people of Northern Manitoba. She was an astute observer of life who later became a writer and collaborator with Dyson Carter. She founded the magazine "Northern Neighbors" and established "Northern Book House". Despite a grave and lengthy illness, Charlotte carried on to the end of her life as a dedicated publicist and truth-seeker.

Soon after her death, friends set up in her memory The Charlotte Carter Memorial Fund, and several years later this was incorporated. The Fund's charter, from the Government of Ontario, specifies only the single broad aim: "The Liberation of Mankind".

This aim has been furthered, over the past ten years, by assistance in publishing many factual and inspirational reports, supplied at low cost to readers who have circulated this material to ever-wider circles of people, in 81 countries. In addition, The Charlotte Carter Memorial Fund issues a "Listing of Names", which permanently memorializes all supporters of the Fund, and all whose names are sent in by contributors.

RULES of THE WORLD-WIDE ESSAY COMPETITION on "THE LIBERATION OF MANKIND"

- 1. Write in 500 words or less, in your own words, how the liberation of mankind can, should, or ought to be achieved.
- 2. You may enter in one of three classes: Public School students (First Prize \$100); High School students (First Prize \$200); Adults (First Prize \$300).
- 3. When submitting your entry, state in what Class you are competing; if you are a student, state your age and the school you attend.
- 4. All entries-will be the property of The Charlotte Carter Memorial Fund Inc., and may be used, in whole or part, in publications, without payment.
- 5. The closing date of this Essay Competition will be December 31, 1982. All entries must be postmarked no later than that date, addressed to The Secretary, The Charlotte Carter Memorial Fund, P. O. Box 1000, Gravenhurst, Ontario, Canada, POC 1G0.
- 6. Sole judges of this Competition will be the Directors of The Charlotte Carter Memorial Fund Inc. They are: Dyson Carter, President; Dan Berketa, First Vice-President; Stella Choptiany, Secretary; Bonita Carter, Treasurer; Sally Carter, Second Vice-President; Iim Tester, Third Vice-President; Irja Paul, Director.

The Directors appeal to all Readers to enter this Competition, and draw it to the attention of all teachers and students, in Canada and abroad.

The Sixth Listing of Names is now being printed. It contains the name of every supporter since the Fund began, and all other persons memorialized by Fund contributors. Also included is a brief biography of Charlotte Carer and her photograph. Sent by First-Class mail for \$1.00.

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things going for you

Like you living in Socialism. You don't have to wait until the new system arrives here. You can enjoy that kind of life NOW. On one of our NN-USSR Tours. Then what happens is....you're IN the SOVIET UNION!

Your enjoyment is all the greater when you get top value for your travel money. Our Tours, all arranged by Harmony Travel and Intourist, are priced so they're almost cheaper than staying home with inflation! MAY DAY - SPRINGTIME in MOSCOW With a place reserved for you to review the May Day Parade on Red Square. Trips to Minsk and Leningrad. All First Class. EVERYTHING in one Tour price: flights, hotels, meals, busses, not a cent more to spend. Leaves April 29, returns May 13. \$1630 per person.

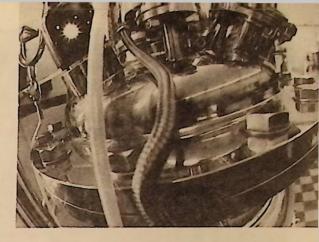
GOLDEN AUTUMN. Live inside Socialism in 3 Republics. Then get 10 days in the sun at Sochi. Three whole weeks. Moscow, Yerevan, Tbilisi. Best season, best price. September 2 to 23. \$1865 per person. SUPER VOLGA RIVER CRUISES! People rave about these. Luxury Soviet cruise ships. Ten days sailing, then Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev. All kinds of excursions, side-trips. Everything in one price. But prices vary depending on accomodation you choose. July 22 - Aug 12; July 18 - Aug 12. From \$2364 to \$2837.

ALSO DNIEPER RIVER - UKRAINE CRUISES! Full details if you request them.

ALSO OUR SUPER ROUND-THE-WORLD TRANS-SIBERIAN TOURS! \$4528 to \$4628. To start it all happening for you: get information you need, by checking on our Coupon Page-26. Or PHONE 'NN': 705 - 687-2591. We recommend EARLY Reservations this year.

Engineers of Life

The Science Revolution is unfolding before humanity a New Age. Soon we'll create new living things as we have long created machines. Good to see that Socialism is right out in front in Engineering Life.



For 115 years scientists made some use of the discoveries of Mendel. He pointed the way to "breeding" new plants and animals, useful to Man, by taking advantage of their natural hereditary properties.

All that time biologists dreamed of "intervening" in nature, to change the hereditary features of plants and animals. About 9 years ago this at last became possible.

- Extremely small genes (bearers of heredity) were separated.
- A disease virus is controlled by just a dozen genes or less.
- A disease bacterium is so complex its life is "programmed" by several thousand genes.
- Human beings (and other animals) have thousands to millions of genes.

So far, scientists have been able to separate single genes, with the aim of deliberately using them to create new kinds of life. A lot can be done this way (as we'll see). But regardless of newspaper stories, creating new animals, or "making" humans, is nowhere in sight.

However, what is being done is of tremendous promise to mankind.

For example, take the hormone called insulin, which diabetic people need to stay alive. The hereditary unit (gene) that makes insulin, in healthy people, has been separated. When it is "inserted" into certain other living cells, it makes those cells produce insulin.

Produce it very much faster and cheaper than animals can.

Another valuable hormone, called somato-tropine (which can be used to make dwarfed babies grow), also is being produced from its gene.

Interferon, promising as a cure for colds and cancer, is another hormone being made-in-the-laboratory. Along with many other valuable substances like vitamins and enzymes.

In practical terms: scientists can now use living cells or tissues (masses of cells) as factories to produce valuable substances, by introducing genes having the power to do that production job.

Besides producing substances useful in medicine, genes can also be used to make foodstuff like protein.

And even to make fertilizer right inside plants that need it; such as nitrates, made out of air.

As you can easily see, the prospect of setting up "living factories", producing valuable substances at very low cost, has excited the world's capitalists. A whole group of stocks on Wall Street reflect the hope of making billions in profits from engineering based on living things.

In the "other world" of Socialism, biologists long ago saw the almost *unlimited benefits* (profits for **people**) in biological engineering.

Indeed, the 1981 Congress of the Communist Party in USSR spelled out the enormous promise of this work.

The fear that some people have, regarding "life engineering", is based on ignorance. Because Man for thousands of years has used these principles, copied from nature, in raising bread (with living yeast), fermenting beer and wine, etc.

Biological engineering simply improves on nature. Thus man-made "ferments" now produce highly nutritious fodder-protein from petroleum. Remarkable advantages for human life already are appearing. The new "biological factories" don't require costly, dangerous equipment. They use very little energy. Waste from them is easily made harmless.

Socially and economically, too, the advantages are astonishing. These biological factories require hardly any workers. In some of them you find almost no cost of production.

Making food this way may forever eliminate hunger, malnutrition.

Even more revolutionary prospects are now being considered. While nature does not mix animals and plants, by manipulating genes it is possible to get an animal-plant hybrid, at least in cells or tissues. This could bring the revolutionary transformation of everything we have known down the ages as agriculture.

Famous Soviet biologist Dr. Alex Bayev reminds us of still another sign of wonders to come. Unlike most scientific work, which requires huge laboratories, staffs, and money, the finest research in biological engineering is done in the minds of brilliant individuals, using as a rule very simple equipment.

One reason why we can expect very swift advances from now on.

- For over 20 years Soviet biologists have been producing animal fodder from man-made single cell "engineering" preparations.
- Dr. R. Rychkov told the world (in *Pravda*) in 1980 that USSR Micro-Biological Industry planned to increase its output of animal fodder to some 12 million tonnes per year in the many plants they operate now.

• Fodder in these "genetic factories" is produced, by living cells, from such raw materials as sawdust, cotton hulls, corn cobs, paper-mill wastes.

• British magazine New Scientist stated (April 23 '81): "The USSR is undoubtedly the world-leader in SCP (single-cell protein) production" and pointed out that success in this industry will make the Soviet Union independent of foreign protein sources, and also independent of weather.

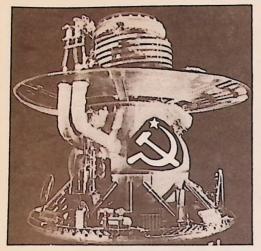
• Dr. Yuri Ovchinnikov predicted (Nov. 15 '81) that by 1990 biological engineering will "intervene" in animals, creating entirely new breeds.

• Decision of the Soviet government, in 1974, to concentrate on this field, has thus been remarkably justified by sweeping advances.

• But Dr. Ovchinnikov stresses that, despite progress, biological engineering "is still in its cradle."

• Scientific fact is that 9-out-of-10 of the major projects today being carried into practice were not even imagined by scientists in 1974.

The promise for Mankind is almost unimaginable, since biology now is focussing on eliminating deathly disease and abolishing starvation forever.



What do you see out in Space?

Probably you noted how our media tried to down-grade the magnificent Soviet achievement of landing two working spaceships on Venus. But Science doesn't progress by propaganda. Here "NN" briefs you on new developments.

Back on Page-10 (or Page-20) our newspapers told you that in early March Soviet space scientists landed two "Venera" craft on Venus, after a precision flight of 300 million kilometres (180 million miles). That's like hitting the bull's -eye on a dart board that's five miles away from you.

Unnoticed by our editors is the fact that French and Austrian scientists took part in that achievement, by contributing new instruments to measure radiation and magnetism.

During the 4-months flight the "aim" of the space-ships was adjusted twice (Nov. 10 and Feb. 21), by tiny rockets fired by those who controlled the experiment.

After going into orbit around Venus (36,000 kilometres above it) the ships released, precisely, their landing craft, at a speed of 40,000 kilometres per hour. First, the dense atmosphere of Venus (about 13,000 pounds per square inch pressure!) slowed the landers. Then very rugged sails were used to brake speed during a fall of 47 kilometres.

While falling, the lander's instruments analyzed in many complex ways the Venusian "atmosphere", clouds, sunlight, electrical storms.

At same time elaborate cameras, equipped with new kinds of color filters, took many photos of Venus as seen "on the way down".

These are the first ever color pictures of that planet.

On landing, the ship (and its delicate equipment) had to resist Venus' surface temperature of 457 Centigrade (850 Fahrenheit). Of course in that furnaceheat equipment lasts only minutes: Soviet designers hoped for 32 minutes for "experimenting", but the landers kept functioning for 90 minutes.

During all that time, "fridges" inside the landers kept temperatures down to

around 30 Centigrade.

A separate machine took soil samples. which were analyzed on board. All information (photos included) was transmitted by radio to receiver-laboratories on Earth.

Meanwhile, back at Cape Canaveral in Florida ...

World-wide press reports (Feb. 21) frankly raised the possibility that the USA's much-publicized Space Shuttle "will turn out to be an economic disaster.

Writing in Science (Vol. 214 No. 4520) famed USA space scientist Van Allen pointed out that in 1980 USA launched only 13 satellites — 8 military craft, 4 for business, one for Science. In that same year USSR sent up 83 (including 18 military) plus 6 manned flights. Van Allen attacked the Space Shuttle: "May well turn out that (it) is a technical success but a financial monstrosity.

Spending 11 billion a year on the Shuttle is returning nextto-nothing in real Space progress.

Just one delay in launching the second Shuttle cost no less than 20 million dollars.

Meanwhile, President Reagan, boosting military funds by tens of billions, is threatening "to dismantle much of NASA's science and space empire" (U.S. News), thus ruining one of the finest research organizations in history.

As a result, USA's allies are cancelling arrangements made with NASA, going ahead on their own and with the Soviet Union, in peaceful Space research.

"Ariane-Space" (European rocket-launch company) has even won Western Union away from the Space Shuttle, since

chances of the Shuttle performing seem very slim. Not only is the Shuttle defective in principle but it is being taken out of scientists' hands. "We are watching the militarization of the Shuttle, perhaps of NASA itself' (Congressman Ed Boland).

USSR's vigorous Science-in-Space program is moving ahead fast =

In the past (10th) 5-Year Plan Soviet scientists operated two big orbital stations (Salyut-6 and -6); sent up 21 Space Ships to those stations; supplied them with 12 automatic Progress cargo-craft

All the spacemen in those Salyuts proved there is nothing human crews can't do out in orbit, including complex repairs while "floating" outside ships.

Soviet engineers state firmly that it is possible now to build ships carrying 10 and even more men.

No serious problems remain in supplying crews with food, exercise, recreation and contact with families back on Earth.

Today, Soviet scientists point to the facts of their Salyut ships, and state flatly that they have already started the new era of living in Space for long periods of time.

The scientific world understands this, despite continuous USA claims that they are "superior" in Science.

In recent international Air Shows (especially at Paris in '81) all researchers paid close attention to the newest Soviet exhibits ...

o Plans to switch aircraft over to super-efficient hydrogen fuel, apparently sooner than expected.

 Huge airship (dirigible) designs using helicopters for propulsion, for low-cost freighting anywhere.

o New laser-ray airport guidance system so pilots can safely take off and land with no visibility.

Already USSR can put more than 600,000 pounds of "payload" into Space, yearly, with total reliability, and they are working on a rocket 6-to-7 times more powerful than the Shuttle's.

It's clear to technical observers that USSR isn't plagued with such problems as failure of tiny fuses, which ruined the super-costly "Solar Maximum" ship sent up by USA.

When the experts of the West add up these facts, they raise privately the fear that sometime not far away USSR is going to startle the world, in orbit, just as Sputnik One did.

PEOPLE IN ACTION IN SOCIALISM



Unique Ciurlionis School in Vilnius (Latvia) teaches all its pupils three arts: music, dancing, painting (and sculpture). Many grads are famous now. School has 700 students, and now has to expand.



These Vietnamese engineering grads from Soviet college now operate big power plant (built by USSR) in outskirts of their capital, Ho-Chi-Minh City.



One of five amateur parachutists who jump into active Avacha Volcano in Kamchatka. But not just for thrills. They proved feasibility of chuting supplies down to scientists working deep in.

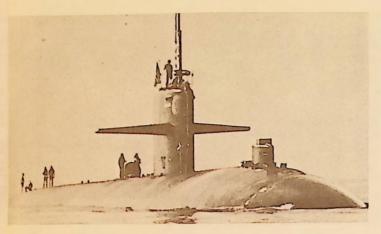


Drs. Yelena Godina, Vasili Deryabin and Irina Semyonova are artist-scientists. They developed the Gerasimov method for re-creating human heads and faces from bones. Samples here are three types who roamed Earth well before our times.





Just four years ago this "Khoroshki" group started performing, in small towns of Byelorussia. Quickly won fame in USSR and beyond. Coming here soon?



A war to end the world?

USA's hushed-up Military "Weakness"

After you take a look behind the curtain of secrecy, you can see for yourself the real arms picture.

As you've seen in our media, lately the USA's allies have been cool towards Washington's demand that they aid in building up Western military strength. But editors never give us the reason: what "aid" does USA require, when already it has more powerful arms than Great Britain, France, West Germany and Italy put together?

Surely, if the White House wants to strengthen the USA's own security, the Pentagon should *bring home* the forces now deployed abroad, which amount to four-fifths of all USA's military men and armaments.

This remarkable fact doesn't fully explain why NATO countries raise questions about defending USA.

The Pentagon makes no secret of the fact that the overwhelming majority of its military strength is called The Strategic Offensive Forces.

Though our papers never reveal this, those Offensive Forces today include over 2100 rockets, 411 bombers, and submarine missiles, which together can hurl 10,000 nuclear missiles in a single blow.

o "In reserve" they have another 2,330 similar "launchers" for nuclear weapons.

• Inside the USA are now mounted world-range missiles that can send 2,150 super-powerful H-Bomb to targets anywhere on Earth, in one blow.

This is the situation our media never discuss.

This is why every military authority in the world knows that The Strategic Offensive Forces of USA are "in place" to deliver, at a moment's notice, "a pre-emptive nuclear strike"—jargon for a knock-out blow.

A blow against the USSR.

And aside from USA-based offensive missiles, the Pentagon directs submarines on continuous patrol within striking distance of Soviet "targets"; they carry more than 645 deathly H-Bomb loads.

And besides submarines, they fly 411 bombers equipped to deliver nuclear disasters to that many targets.

Yes, USA also has Strategic Defense Forces.

They include army, air force and navy groups under the "Aerospace Defense Command". But the name brings smiles to military intelligence experts, who see clearly that this Command actually serves to alert the Offensive Forces everywhere, at all times: by "defense" is meant readying USA's power for that "pre-emptive strike".

The uneasiness of USA's allies surfaces whenever they discuss the President's "General Purpose Forces". These are army, airforce and naval groups in many locations round the world. What for? The answer is no secret in Europe, Middle-East, Africa, Asia, Latin America.

General Purpose Forces are just that: they enable USA to take military action in any "crisis" situation abroad; meaning whenever USA "interests" are threatened — as in Iran, Angola, El Salvador, the Persian Oil Gulf, Egypt, Kampuchea ... consult today's headlines.

So far, you haven't seen even a hint that USA interests could be threatened in Western Europe. But everything is ready if that happens.

o Just the "ground forces" operated by the Pentagon now have ready hundreds of nuclear-bomb launchers.

o "Standing by", the United States Navy has 845 warships of every variety (including carriers and nuclear submarines) with an "umbrella" of over 5,000 aircraft.

• Fully controlling this tremendous force, just in the "European theatre" alone, are 336,000 men wearing USA uniforms and commanded from Washington.

All this, you understand, is in defense of the interests of USA. What does that actually mean, in Europe? It's no secret. Defense of USA there means massed offense against the USSR and other Socialist nations in Europe.

Our media in Canada, taking their line from the CIA, believe it's quite fair to ask Europe: "Well, gentlemen, which side are you on, the Soviet side or the Free World?"

But to Europeans that is not the question.

As they see it, USA has massed its forces to attack USSR in a war that would wipe out ... Europe.

If it happens, the question becomes: Europeans, which side of the grave will you occupy?

Remember (Europeans certainly do!) that those millions of graves won't be in the USA.

Meanwhile far away from Europe ...

• USA has gigantic forces in the Pacific.

o Air, naval and ground forces ready for Central and South America, to "settle" any revolutions.

o Plus the brand new emergency forces put together under "Readiness Command" — for go-anywhere warfare.

Both Europe (which needs the oil), and the Arab and African nations (which have it), are increasingly disturbed by the Readiness Command's plans for the Middle East. Caspar Weinberger, Mr. Reagan's chief wielder of the Big Stick, seems to be preparing for a whole new future of "Readiness", called Strategic Mobility Forces.

These would make use of already-enormous Airforce Military Airlift and Navy Military Sealift groupings, capable of putting USA in the front line against any nation on Earth, literally at a moment's notice.

That last factor has become decisively dangerous.

In our time of the Science Revolution, when millions of us can watch on TV what is happening, while it happens, anywhere on Earth, the Pentagon's new Readiness Command can decide within seconds what should be done in the interests of Washington everywhere. More than 130 top level USA agencies now serve this Command.

It is difficult for the rest of the world to picture this situation as one of military weakness.

(Further NN Report on this question next month).

This page is for your own use

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Sorry we don't have enough pages to run all your interesting letters. Some, we condense. For your privacy we pring initials only.

"Enclosed is to pay for 10 issues of NN to be sent to Prime Minister Trudeau and 10 issues to President Reagan. They might read it and it would do them good." G.V.

I think you missed another victory for the Soviet Lada car, besides the Paris-Africa rally you reported. Last year Ladas won the Manufacturers' Team Prize at the Royal Auto Club rally in Britain. That prize is tops in the car world. Run was four days, two nights. Lada sedans finished first, second and fifth in their class. A good car!" M.K.E.

"Your explanation of the Polish crisis was very simplistic, just a repeat of your reasoning that attempts to justify the status quo. Enjoy NN, have for years." J.F.

'NN is reason to be alive in the world. I wait from issue to issue for it. You have the right on your side, which is our side. Sanity and logic make NN great." S.G.

'Enclosed for renewal and donation. I've been reading your magazine for 25 years. NN predicted the inflation plus unemployment crisis that now exists away back 7 or 9 years ago. The wealth keeps accumulating in fewer and fewer hands, while the general population is in dire straits. Capitalism at its worst."

Note: If you missed it, our Report No. 908, Inflation Into Depression (75 cents postpaid) still remains convincing.

"So glad NN's cat Maggie was found. Enclosed is donation for the magazine and \$1 extra for a fish treat for Maggie." O.C.

"NN's report on Poland is the best one yet. Wonder why that reader from Toronto seems to have so much trouble with it? Maybe some day we'll read a report on 'what happened in Toronto'!" G.W.L.

"Here's fifty to help keep NN coming. I'd be lost without it. Best to everybody, and beautiful Maggie." A.K.
"Have been with NN since its inception

and I'll not let you down. Fifty enclosed. NN's dedication and sincerity are an inspiration to all of us." R.E.

"Truth is hard to find these days. NN is wonderful for learning the truth and big difference between Capitalism and Socialism. Keep up giving us truth." G.K.F.

'For enclosed cheque please send NN to my friend in East Germany. A gift, so please enclose gift-card. I met him in Cuba." S.T.

"Hope you people at NN live forever. Eventually our world will be rid of these billionaire war mongers, and then exports between nations will only be goods for use and life and therefore happiness. Yours for a long and happy future!" W.H.



"NN subscribers in 81 countries, do they get it in English only? (NN: yes). The USSR is now first in many industries, categories. etc. so how about a fact-booklet that we can use for reference? (NN: problem is, who will prepare it?). How about a page or two on USSR short-wave broadcasts, which I tune in nightly on my short-wave receiver?" J.H. Reply: We'll try to do a short-wave report but there's a problem of changing times, wavelengths, etc. Do our best! We'd welcome very much Readers' experiences, tuning in Soviet stations.

"New York Times (2/14/82) carried a wonderful letter by a Ukrainian movie director, who reminds people about Nazi atrocities at Babi Yar. Zionist Jews claim USSR hides the frightful slaughter of Jews there. But this filmmaker, who lived there, stresses that many nationalities besides Jews perished at Babi Yar. Kiev was occupied by Nazis for 750 days, and after the first mass-killing of Jews, every victim of the Hitlerites was thrown into that terrible ravine. Truth is, Soviet people revere the memory of all who perished there. Sooner or later the truth will out, just as night follows day." A.B.

"Don't know what I'd do without NN, so here's a donation of \$500 to help you. It is in memory of my wonderful husband who passed away last year. He liked NN. The magazine is almost food and drink for me, something I must have to keep going." A.W.

"Have you ever considered publishing some of the 'predictions' made in NN which turned out true? I believe this would be very impressive. My belief is NN has a record second to none for calling the shots in world affairs." P.B.

Note: Warm thanks . . . but remember, NN reports Soviet views, and they're so often right!

"Delighted to hear all is well at NN. I hope Reagan's bloodthirsty puppets in Latin America will be defeated and the people freed of all terrible oppressive dictators.

W.J.W.
"Enclosed my donation. I feel so good to note the deliverance of the people of Grenada. All Central American countries should take note of Grenada's action and get out from under CIA and the multi-national corporations." E.G.D.

"You have my support. Without the enlightenment your magazine offers people it would indeed be a dismal and frightening outlook for mankind. But I believe there's hope." R.N.R.

"Part of this donation is for The Charlotte Carter Memorial Fund. Would like my name entered in the Listing, and would like to receive listing when it appears.'

Note: the Fund's Directors had a full meeting in March, and the Sixth Listing of Names was authorized. Should appear this month.

"Wish I could donate more, to help in efforts that will eventually eradicate the dread social disease of Capitalism, and its evident advanced symptoms of Glumitis, as the depressions become worse. I suspect that Maggie would go up a tree if she was aware of all the media dogs yapping at us." L.P.G.

"Can you find out if Anatoli Karpov, Russian chess champ, will be taxed on the \$100,000 he won? Would also be pleased to hear more about him and his young wife.'

Reply: Yes, they have an income tax in USSR, which is small for big majority, but rises steeply for high incomes (some movie stars, authors, singers, etc. get a lot of royalties round the world). However, Karpov would deduct his heavy expenses and that would cut his tax.

"I'd like to appeal to all NN Readers to send at least \$5 from time to time, if they can afford it. We all need the magazine, it's the best ever, and as a reader I can't thank you enough." A.H.

"Here's \$100. We live in a senior citizens high-rise. Eagerly await NN every month. Read it to the last word. After, we take it down to the lounge library for others to enjoy it." W.O.

"You quote fact that USA has spent 2 million million dollars on armament since World War Two. (Some estimates are larger). Now there are 5,280 feet to the mile, or 63,360 inches, and a dollar bill is 6 inches long. How far would 2 million million bills reach if placed end-to-end? I get the astonishing figure of 1,136,439,395 miles long! Can't believe my own pencil. Is this possible. That's more than six round trips to the Sun (roughly 92 million miles away." A.V.

'Just finished a college course on writing and will now write the book I've had in mind for years, on the involvement of my family in struggles of the British Columbia miners. My grandfather, from Scotland, worked in the linen mills with Andrew Carnegie as bobbin boys. Those who worked long on that developed tuberculosis; my grandmother and her four children all died of it. If you have anything on the mine struggles, please send. I must work hard because I was 79 in January and want to finish book by end of 1983 when I'll be 80."

Readers! If you have anything, or know of any books, on the early B.C. miners' battles, we'll

forward them to H.H.L. More power to him!
"NN January P-12 says 70,000 foreign students are studying in USSR. Moscow News of Jan. 31 says 90,000 foreigners from 149 countries are studying there." M.J.S.

Reply: Well, Moscow News is closer than NN so is probably right. Anyway, you can't say NN exaggerated about that situation! Either figure looks big to us.

Why they enjoy their papers

News in USSR reflects optimism and progress towards a good future

BIG SIBERIAN CITY of Novosibirsk is building a subway system. Designed to handle major part of travel inside the city, which now has population of 1,500,000. This is USSR's eleventh Metro, but it will be especially appreciated because it solves the very cold winter transport problem. Fares already fixed: 8 cents.

EXERCISING ON THE JOB has become far more popular in the Soviet Union than jogging. More than 36 million working-people, in 200,000 plants and offices, now have "exercise breaks". But joggers aren't doing badly — they now number just over 11 million men and women.

SOVIET WORKERS HOLD ANOTHER RECORD: with new plants opened, they now produce far more tractors than any other country. More than USA and Japan combined. Five times more than Britain. Newest farm tractor being tested is a monster with 500 horse-power motor.

DIAGNOSING HUMAN ILLS by examining the eyes (especially the iris) is making steady progress. In some cases specialists can instantly see in the eye the "record" of certain operations and injuries. "Iridology" was known thousands of years ago but fell into dis-use because of lack of certainty. Researchers in Patrice Lumumba University (Moscow), after studying 5000 patients, can now diagnose stomach ulcers (even in very early stage) almost "in a moment". By observing lacunae (depressions) in the iris, which differ in color and form depending on ailments in the body. Still problems to solve, but it seems sure that iridology offers tremendous advantages in detecting illness before any other signs appear.

THOUSANDS OF SOVIET WORKERS are taking pride in fact that they are creating largest industrial project in Tropical Africa, a great iron and steel works in Ajaokuta, Nigeria, on River Niger. In absolutely impassible jungle they've laid highways. Now a railway and big port on the river. The plan calls for a city of 250,000 steel workers' families within a dozen years. Completed, the works will produce 5 million tons of steel annually, never before imagined in "darkest Africa".

UZBEK GRAPE GROWERS ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVERED that vines respond remarkably if grown inside a foggy atmosphere. Cuttings are planted in crushed stone, supplied with fertilized water, and then "fogged" inside portable plastic greenhouses. Such grapes bear fruit already in their second year.

A GROUP OF RARE SCIENTIFIC SPECIALISTS, known as Lightning Physicists, have gone to Vietnam to help solve very serious problem there. Vietnam is rated as Earth's very worst region for thunder-and-lightning storms. They cause great damage to modern enterprises — sometimes knock out 70 percent of the country's electric-power lines. Both prediction and damage-prevention are possible today, using methods worked out by Soviet power engineers.

SOVIET UNION IS THE ONLY COUNTRY that has an architectural firm specializing only in the design of theatres, Gipro-teatr. Over the years these men and women have created 60 big theatres and 16 permanent circuses, besides great many smaller cultural centers and libraries. They handle not only outer structures but all technical equipment required by modern drama theatres. Just now the "company" is engaged in designing and building 50 new theatres, reconstructing many older ones. Newest trend is to make theatres distinctive in each city.

"RED STAR" IS MOST POPULAR ARMY PAPER IN THE WORLD. Though intended for Soviet Army people, it has a huge popular circulation. Reason is: Soviet people know their Army intimately, feel very close to it. Citizens write to Red Star more than 10,000 letters every month!

AGRICULTURAL PLANNERS are re-making Soviet agriculture continually, without fanfare. For example: this year they'll *irrigate* 1,700,000 acres of dry fertile land, while *draining* 1,870,000 acres of boggy land. Thus they are creating over 3,500,000 acres of farms that never existed before.

BREAK-THROUGH IN TREATING EPILEPSY, and brain-damage after strokes, is announced by renowned Leningrad Institute of Neurosurgery. Doctors Tatiana Vasilyeva and Boris Rachkov discovered that brain fluid differs widely in its "types" — much like blood types. A single prescribed transfusion of proper fluid type has ended epileptic seizures in some patients. Tested on 500 cases, it is now being extended to other clinics. (Note: NN Readers are cautioned that this treatment is not yet available generally in USSR, and cannot be given to patients from abroad.)

BY USE OF "GENETIC ENGINEERING" Soviet biologists have created a new living organism which "feeds" on partly decomposed peat. Such peat is useless otherwise. But now it produces highly nutritious yeast, for cattle feeds. One ton has the same nutrient value as 3.6 tons of grain or 14 tons of potatoes. (See NN's Report on Engineers of Life in this issue).

PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS OVERLOOKED the really big "gas line deal" in USSR. Besides pipe-line they will run to West Germany (and France) Soviet oil workers are preparing to lay five more similar giant lines from same Urengoi deposit, but to other industrial centers inside the USSR. It's now official that the Urengoi field has 3-to-5 times more gas than all the reserves of Mexico, Canada, Britain, Algeria and Holland combined (and they are leading Western gas sources). As those five big lines start up, another 40,000,000 Soviet people will switch to gas from other fuels.

FAMED SOVIET ARTIST NEMENSKY stood critics, and art-loving public, on their ears, by proposing that art galleries give "shows" consisting of one single painting. Telling the art world of tremendous effort he puts into a major painting, Nemensky believes the public should have an opportunity to "create for itself" everything the artist has poured out on canvas. City of Penza has decided to take up the challenge. In 1982 it will open a one-picture exhibition hall, complete with sound-proof floors and walls, and comfortable lounge chairs so people can spend an hour or more if they wish.

WOOD IS "FIRED" LIKE CERAMICS in a revolutionary Estonian process. First, wood is vacuum-treated to fill it with new types of plastic. Can then be shaped into any desired form. Finally, put into a furnace. Wood tissues and plastic undergo basic changes, and finished product is as strong as ordinary forms of iron.

PEOPLE OF UKRAINE ARE PROUD of achievements since their nation arose out of the horrors of World War Two. Astonishing fact is that today Ukrainian industrial workers produce 250 percent more goods than the entire Soviet Union turned out in 1940 (last pre-war year). Ukraine now has 200,000 scientists, and every third person is studying.

BRAND NEW MOVIE STUDIO has opened in Tallinn. Its manager is the oldest employee . . . he's 16. Youngest is the scene-painter, who is 7. Idea is that children have such vivid imaginations they should create remarkable films. First is "Seeing Is Believing", but Soviet public hasn't yet passed any verdicts.

ASTONISHING BENEFICIAL EFFECTS reported by Byelorussian research group studying the influence of magnetism on human patients. Results have always been very "spotty". New system does not use steady magnetic field, but applies stronger fields in "pulses". These brief, high-energy treatments are said to benefit remarkably.

TASHKENT RAILWAY ENGINEERS have carried out first big-scale test on new, very thin plastic film. Less than two quarts will cover an acre of sand with this microscopic film. Within two years, grass begins to grow. Soon after, shrubs can be planted. Latest test covers an 18-mile stretch of sand dunes.

THIS HOBBY REALLY PAID OFF for N. Tagrin of Leningrad. His lifetime collection of post-cards now numbers 700,000. Tagrin has supplied exclusive pictures for 1,700 books in 42 languages! Every volume of the Great Soviet Encyclopaedia (now translated into English) carries authentic postcard illustrations available nowhere else on Earth. Besides, some 150 documentary films have used this priceless collection of "the past".

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