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NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

FEBRUARY
1986
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Peace — Work — Freedom — Equality — Friendship — Health & Happiness for all Peoples!



Above left: we don't have such a production line here, where young workers are turning out factory robots by the thousands per month. Youth were trained for this job while still in school. Center: World's first unmanned (robot operated) rolling mill, the M-250, which rolls a steel railway car axle in 35 to 40 seconds. Only workers are engineers supervising the computer-controls. Right: Yelena Usova has mastered the control of many factory machines which have "brains" in the form of programmed electronics. See Pages 8 and 9 inside.

What's **Underneath** Everything? **Terror Hit The Fascists**

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They Have This Idea That Cold Is Good For You

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The USA's Terrorism

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Who Inherits Socialism?

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Many Things In Space Besides The Shuttle

PAGE 19

First Book that exposes radio-TV lie-makers — Offer on P-25

NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

The Magazine of Socialism in Action

GRAVENHURST — ONTARIO — CANADA

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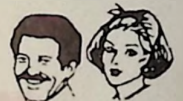
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NN's Quote-of-the-Month: "In order to save the people of our planet, it is necessary to erect formidable obstacles to nuclear war. Nuclear weapons must be destroyed before they destroy people. There is only one way out of the dangerous situation — immediately start honest, equal and effective negotiations. This is what our country proposes: concrete measures to limit, reduce and ultimately destroy nuclear-missile arms. Humanity can and must achieve this goal." Dr. Y. Chazov, famed Soviet medical authority, speaking back in 1981.

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

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

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

SOMETIMES MONEY IS THE MOST

Remember, last month I sent you a letter explaining how important it is for 'NN' to start the New Year right, with a bank account strengthened by your Donations.

Even more welcome: your LETTERS.

This year, every Reader who drops me a line, regardless of "money enclosed" or not, will get our two challenging new Reports. One is "Do People Need Vitamins?" The other: "Do People Need God?"

I think *neither of these Reports is what you think it may be.*

And I'm sure many Readers will be surprised by both of them. You should have them. You can have them just for the price of a stamp.

AGAIN, MONEY ON MY MIND?!

I'm not apologising. Just passing on to you an idea.

Every year in our house February 2 gets celebrated. First, because that date marks the surrender of the Nazi armies at Stalingrad.

Second, because it happens to be my birthday.

So I've got an idea I must pass on. If you missed our Financial Appeal letter last month (or just put off answering it), why not send me a birthday greeting in the form of a donation to NN?

You'll be greeting Stalingrad, NN, and me.

Incidentally, don't miss our "memorial" to Stalingrad on Page-11.

REMEMBER ME TELLING ABOUT "SOLD OUT" BOOKS?

It happened again, but in a big way.

We offered a marvellous two-volume set about the Second World War, by Marshall Zhukov.

Our big stock sold out immediately. We contacted all other dealers who handle Soviet books. They had copies left (that's a compliment to you, folks, you snapped up every one!). We bought every available copy. SOLD OUT ENTIRELY.

If you missed out on that one, stay hopeful, we just might locate more.

SORRY I HAVE ONLY PRELIMINARY NEWS...

If you are thinking of going to USSR one of these days, to take some of their world-famed health-resort treatments, here's the good news:

Our agency, Harmony Travel, is arranging a whole summer-long series of Health Tours. **One every month.** May into October. Very reasonable charge. (Actually the *treatments are free*, you pay only for travel and hotel).

So you can take your pick of SIX different months to go.

Prices will vary with the season (due to higher plane fares in summer). But they'll be very reasonable, and include EVERY expense in one price.

Watch 'NN' for full details. This could be your big year for health.

Drilling down towards Hell

Why did our ancestors locate Hell deep down in Earth? Soviet scientists laugh as they discover very, very hot regions mile after mile under the surface. No sign of any Hell, but plenty of evidence that fantastic reserves of gas, oil and minerals await super-deep drilling.



Since you last read NN's report on the Soviet deep-deep well (on the Kola Peninsula) the drillers have gone far past their former record depth of 45,000 feet: **over 8 miles!**

Deepest hole Man ever made.

No accident that they drilled it on the Far North Kola Peninsula. Even at the surface there, rocks are 1,500,000,000 years old. And rich in minerals. So looking deeper seems promising.

Definitely. Already past 6,000 feet they came across seams of copper-nickel ores. Other "deposits" appear to be even more challenging.

"We don't simply drill," says Dr. V. Lanev, chief geologist. "We explore the space around the drill-hole at every stage."

Accepted geological theories have been upset at Kola. Ordinary sedimentary rocks did not cease at 15,000 feet, but continued on past 21,000 feet, something the text-books never taught.

So the "model" of Earth that's used today has to be revised.

And the deeper they drill, the less eager Soviet geologists are to guess what's coming as they proceed down into Hell or whatever.

This drilling actually is a very big scientific research project, planned and supported by many institutes of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. To say nothing of ministries responsible for such practical activities as gas, oil and mineral production.

To say that the project is tough is putting it very mildly.

While the big crew working at the surface keeps sheltered from the Arctic weather, down in the hole their equipment has to function at tremendous pressure (over 1500 pounds per square inch) and temperatures steadily rising past 250 degrees Celsius.

The drilling rig, most advanced in the world, is 100 percent Soviet designed and built at the famous Uralmash plant. Since it is impossible to rotate the drill by turning pipes that stretch downward 20,000 feet, and weigh some 300 tons (!), the Soviet drill spins **only** the drill device at the bottom of the hole. It's powered by high pressure fluid.

Every **second** 35 quarts of this "flowing power" spins through the drilling-bit.

Maybe the toughest job is to see that the drill runs full speed **24 hours day and night**. If it stops, everything is messed up.

Imagine: to get a sampling device down all those miles takes about 18 hours. Then, to bring it up, another 18 hours of tense work.

And you need *patience*. If all goes well, they'll make their goal of 45,000 feet depth by the end of USSR's next 5-Year Plan.

But right now an entirely different crew of engineers and scientists is readying **another super-drill** for an ultra-deep well in the very Far North Tyumen region.

Plus similar wells in Ukraine.

Not only there (at Anastasyevo-Troitsk) but also in Azerbaijan. And Norilsk. And in the Urals.

Millions of Soviet people follow another super-deep well going down in the fabulous oil-and-gas field at Uren-goi. Actually, the job here is to go through the gas "cap" and see if there is a similarly super-rich deposit of oil, in "hell".

As you can guess, Soviet scientists are going all out for exploring the depths, as a result of successes with the Kola super-well.

Latest word NN has it that they already have planned **22 of these projects**. Most will be based on signals from space-craft which now explore Earth from high in orbit.

The Tyumen well is the most exciting, because that region is now recognized as the world's largest reserve of petroleum.

But some scientists expect even more surprises from their well at Verkhnyaya Tura, in the Urals, where there may be a gigantic "trough" of valuable raw materials.

Geologists the world over are studying **fluids** brought up at the Kola well. Evidently these are being formed on a colossal scale, down in geological infernoes which have never been tapped, and they may signal the beginning of radically new mining systems.

So far, science knows more about Space than about the place where Hell has always been located. But the USSR is fast leading the way in this astonishing exploration.

Truth-of-the-Month

Soviet people are leading the way to Socialism

You won't find any confusion in USSR about mankind's future

The term "Socialist World" today is not a kind of political-geographical label applied to a group of countries simply because they no longer fit into the opposite, Capitalist World.

In the Soviet view the community of Socialism is made up of the nations that are united in **The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA)** and in **The Warsaw Pact**.

The latest Communist Party convention in Moscow will undoubtedly strengthen this view. But already the Socialist World is a highly influential force on our Earth, promoting peace and democracy, and serving as the main barrier to Capitalism's imperialistic war policies.

This situation will develop more rapidly and powerfully, as the Communist Parties of USSR and its allies strengthen their cooperation in all directions. This will take place at "grass roots" level, among Party memberships, and at the very top, with more frequent leadership meetings.

Soviet people are fully committed to this, because they see most clearly the direction in which humanity is moving, and their own historical responsibility to the future.

Not any "blueprint" but vigorous action

The foundation of the Socialist World is a real material force: **the economics** of the new system.

Economic ties between the Socialist countries have been rapidly strengthening. New forms of cooperation have appeared. The separate economies of quite different countries are becoming ever more closely inter-woven.

Figures are sometimes most effective: actual goods moving between some CMEA countries now equal 30 to 40 per cent of their total production.

This isn't merely a matter of "mutually beneficial trade". The swiftly rising exchange of goods is enriching each country with the production experience of all the others. Any marked advance in one nation is quickly applied to its partners. Today this new kind of economic progress, exclusive to Socialism, is spreading in a kind of chain reaction.

A basic reason for this is the fact that, unlike Capitalism, the new system uses no force or threats on its members, so that all economic energies can be channelled into growth.

While the Western countries go from crisis-to-crisis, always in fear and trembling of what the USA will do next, Socialism debates its one crucial issue: speeding the progress of all.

Serious problems are being faced today

The two worlds do not live on separate planets. And Soviet people clearly understand that **the international situation** directly affects almost every action Socialism takes.

Far back to the earliest years of the Soviet Revolution, when a Socialist world was only in human hopes, Capitalism took every conceivable action (from the bloodiest wars of history down to assassinations) to retard the Soviet people.

To this day the most powerful financiers on Earth burn with their lust for "social revenge" — anything, everything is permissible if only they can kill or disable Socialism.

You see this in **Poland**: The Poles have been compelled to make tremendous efforts just to overcome the economic and financial sabotage inflicted on them. Soviet people have borne quite a share of this burden.

All Socialist countries recognize the fact that mistakes made by *themselves* have encouraged Capitalism and made that system's attacks more damaging.

Several years ago a number of Socialist countries fell for the bait of taking tremendous **monetary loans** from the West to finance faster Socialist progress. Capitalism then applied the screws of high interest and trade restrictions. Years of effort were needed to escape from bankruptcy.

The one positive outcome of these needless set-backs is the realisation now that Socialist nations can only be harmed by ignoring the views of partners, who have nothing to gain but mutual advance free from senseless blundering.

Hi-Technology: battleground of the Systems

As the Scientific and Technological Revolution sweeps ahead, World Capitalism is striving to weaken Socialism economically, and militarily, by "denying" the USSR and its allies the latest developments in research.

The response is very intriguing. No doubt whatever, with Soviet assistance all the Socialist countries are **pooling their scientific efforts**, and this unprecedented planning of research may well turn the fist of Capitalism back into its own face.

One related danger can't be overlooked. The West is trying to repeat its "financial baiting". By offering one or another Socialist nation one or another super-computer, then a "wedge" might be driven in the new system's unity.

The technical-expert view in the West is that this new conspiracy is unlikely to succeed. Truth is: Capitalism is no longer strong enough to resist the lust to sell anything if a buyer appears. In hi-tech, many corporations are wobbling into bankruptcy ... the *sellers* are everywhere.

Despite the "spy scares" handed to us by our media, it is Capitalism now that has the most intensive technology espionage turned on to the USSR and its allies.

Indeed, in which direction will tomorrow's "secrets" flow?

Great new world alliance and its "threats"

Leave Capitalism, leave Socialism, travel over the vast remaining world, and what will you see?

The tremendous marching nations, liberated from colonialism, warming to the Soviet people more every year, realizing that only Socialism can resurrect them, **this is the other world** whose existence is like a political nuclear missile.

But not "only" political! Today the Soviet people never cease to show the new nations that the world needs a **new international economic order**.

Socialism can only benefit from this.

For Capitalism it would mean the end of imperialism.

But this is the direction our world will take. Soviet people are convinced of this, and they will not be moved.

This is the alliance of Socialism with National Liberation.

Both forces have one common feature. They grow very much stronger every year.

Their sole opponent, the Capitalist world, stumbles from one crisis to another.

History still has to write the headlines of our future, but to the peoples of the USSR only the details are missing.

Problems of 'Consumerism'

As the standard of living continues to rise in USSR, critics of Socialism say people are going strong for material things, losing their "ideals" of earlier times. So in a few years they'll be chasing goods just like consumers here? Truth is stronger than anything, and it's interesting to see exactly what's going on in the land of Socialism.

Real Socialism, as distinct from early "Christian" communism, is not at all opposed to people living well, but scorns those who accumulate things to "show off" their worth.

It's a principle of working-class society that "things" are produced for use-value, and not to serve as symbols of "success in life".

However, Socialism's planners have never taken this problem for granted, and believe that, as the system produces more and more, *what is produced* should be guided by rational thinking. Such planning in USSR today stresses **unlimited development** of people's mental and physical abilities, and **reasonable increase** in material consumption.

We in our free-enterprise world have serious consumerism problems, because production of goods is controlled only by the money people have to spend on them, so that even religious celebrations like Christmas and Easter degenerate into a race for what the almighty dollar will buy.

Leaving "theory" aside, how about some consumer facts?

— In USSR and Socialist Europe **food consumption** is just about the same now as in the West, with main differences due to climate, national preferences, etc.

— Socialist Germany consumes more meat now than West Germans and the French do.

— Meat consumption is lower in USSR but much more fish is eaten (nutritionally a very good situation).

— More dairy products are consumed in some Socialist lands than in Britain and West Germany.

— More vegetables and fruits are eaten every year, in the East, while the opposite is true in Capitalism.

Income (and **employment!**) governs food consumption in Free Enterprise, whereas **production** remains a limiting factor in Socialism, and will soon be completely solved.

Soviet people are confident of that because they now have just about all the quality footwear and clothing they can "consume"; a very big advance of recent years.

A big majority of families in Socialist lands have radios and TVs. Nearly half (East Germany and Czechoslovakia) have cars also.

As for household appliances, the public is split between ownership and service-centers (like laundromats), but nearly all families have fridges. There is a strong unsatisfied demand for better furniture.

Even the most hostile Western critics have given up describing the "poor Soviets" and have switched to gloating over what they say is our kind of consumerism.

Not really. The problem is quite different. As material things are plentiful enough to satisfy all reasonable people, it becomes ever more important to see that **their mental, physical, cultural demands** are even more fully and quickly satisfied.

It's rarely admitted over here that Socialism is doing a remarkable job in advancing human society this way.



A vivid example is Cuba. When Socialism began there, a million adults were illiterate, and very few children ever got to high school. *Two years later* all adults could read-and-write and, according to UNESCO, the advance of education in Cuba has outstripped most major lands in the West.

The rise of planned cultural consumerism in USSR you can see from a remarkable fact: already by the mid-70's some six-out-of-ten students in Soviet universities were workers and farmers, or their children.

Soviet people visiting art galleries and museums has doubled in 20 years. New theatres can't fill the demand for plays. Books are being bought in unprecedented quantities. Soviet people "out-read" us in the West by a very big margin.

Thus *the broad picture* is very optimistic.

But many criticisms appear in Soviet papers, about youth who try to imitate boys and girls in the West whose culture is sadly distorted by our "rock" atmosphere.

Some of these youngsters use "things" (mainly clothes) to advertise their individualities. This offends millions over there, young and old, because such consumerism violates fundamental principles of Socialism.

However, most Soviet people can laugh at boys and girls dressed to draw attention. Most convincing critics firmly believe that such fads will pass as they have in countless generations before us.

Strongly supporting this sober view are the many surveys (polls) that are being taken in USSR these days. Tens of thousands of individuals and families are happy to give the public their feelings and views on every topic you can name.

- One outstanding fact: everybody agrees that material and cultural life in USSR is improving continually.

- Workers and farmers, who used to be in lower-income brackets, report faster material advancement than do the "professionals" in Socialism.

- Exactly **opposite** to our situation, over there **the poor are getting richer**, and they have no rich to compete.

- People with the **least education** rank material goods highest, but as millions advance their knowledge that kind of consumerism loses its appeal.

Their system isn't pushing them to buy what they don't need.

Life on the Roof of the World

Although human beings lived in the high Pamir Mountains thousands of years ago, only in 1925 did Socialism create for these mountaineers their own country: **Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region**, as part of the Tadjik Republic.

On the north it borders the Kirghiz Republic. In the East its neighbor is China. South and West, Afghanistan.

This country may well have the greatest wide-open-spaces on Earth, since its 145,000 people average less than two men, women and children **per square kilometre!**

They fit perfectly into the Tadjik Republic since 9-out-of-10 are Tadjiks. 7-in-100 are Kirghiz. Plus a few Russians.

You can hear some very strange speech here. Although everybody understands Tadjik and Russian, thousands speak "Pamir" languages: Shugni, Wakhani, Ishkashmi, Yazguiami and others. All "Iranic" tongues.

This country is regarded as the USSR's "roof". Its highest mountain (Communism Peak) is 7,495 metres (32,875 feet). The region has thousands of glaciers, including the world's largest, the *Fedchenko*. Hard to picture, but this huge body of moving ice has an area of 900 square kilometres. All the glaciers in Gorno-Badakhshan Region total 8,000 square km.

Khorog is the country's capital. You won't find it on any tourist routes because . . . well, all "routes" in this land are very, very rugged. First thing the Soviet government did, back in 1925, was to survey possible roads. In 1934 the first "highway" crossed the Pamirs, along ancient caravan routes. Transportation really arrived in 1940, when, in just three summer months, builders completed a mainline railway from Khorog out to Dushanbe, capital of the Tadjik Republic.

However, several air routes operated back before then, though flying is pretty grim at times.

Truth is, anything and everything you want to do, in this part of the world, is very tough. Because nature and all its conditions are, well, *extreme*.

But the other main truth is that this Pamir country today is thriving and developing ambitiously. Up to now its people are nearly all farmers and ranchers.

They grow grain, silk, fruit, vegetables, livestock. In recent years their herds of yaks (very hardy wild mountain cattle) have proved to be surprisingly profitable.

Pamir people have a good sense of humor. One of their favorite jokes: the Soviet system has to ship into these mountains everything people use, so it would be **cheaper** to move everybody out to health resorts on the Black Sea for permanent holidays!

That's stretching the truth. In summer, when truck roads are open, a lot of freight flows down the mountains: beautiful Dashtak marble, clothing from a Khorog factory, dried fruits.

Plans are well advanced for large-scale mining of industrial stone, tin, copper and wonderful semi-precious stones. Their spinel is world-renowned among jewelers. And they already operate, at Porshnev, a factory for cutting gems like sphen, amazonite, topaz, smoky quartz, rutile.

As you can imagine, Socialist planning doesn't come so easy in a Region where, a generation ago, just staying alive was regarded as a commendable feat. And when they talk about industry now they have to face two realities.

One is **energy, power**. No real problem since mountain rivers like the Gunt can deliver any amount of kilowatts.

But the other is familiar in USSR. **Manpower**.



Although the population of Gorno-Badakhshan has **doubled** since the coming of Socialism, and a family of five is thought to be just average here, still they're up against a severe shortage of skilled people in every field.

And they can't just invite anyone with a love for mountains. Life here is very severe: high altitude, lack of oxygen, intense solar radiation, extreme temperature changes.

Their saying: "*You need two hearts to live and to work up in the Pamirs.*"

And yet, as perhaps you can guess, "there's something about life up here" that makes people love it. If they survive!

Take Muminsho Abdulvasiyev. Today he's the head of the government (Chairman of their Soviet). When young he was the first inhabitant of this region to graduate from university. Top-flight, Olympic class wrestler. And he chose to accept a scientific position (geology) **outside** the mountain land.

Couldn't stay away. Headed for the mountains once again, this time as a geologist hunting for mines.

But with his political push Gorno-Badakhshan has been transformed. The mountain kids now go to 270 schools, their parents use 165 libraries, enjoy 180 clubs. And everybody watches TV, thanks to relay services on the high peaks.

"We're keeping pace with the times," Muminsho tells us, "and the general rate of Soviet progress".

The little farm town of Alichur proves his point. People live here 12,000 feet above sea-level. About 1000 people. In some 200 houses. With sheep, goats, yaks. In fact they now herd 4,500 yaks, and these tough cattle need no shelter even when it's 50 below outside. No fodder: they can dig it up through the snow!

A team of two or three herders looks after 100 yaks, but they keep the animals down lower, at "only" (!) 11,000 feet or so. If the adults all go herding, the children go to comfortable boarding-schools for the season.

This state farm started just 9 years ago. It was the first settled existence these nomad people ever knew. Now they are **exporting** pure-bred yak stock to other lands. And growing special varieties of barley, for stock fodder.

The chairman of this farm, Osman Atabayev, has 11 children, and all the older ones are on their way to higher education for specialized jobs. They all plan to return home.

Says Osman: "The mountains are severe. But we love them. No better place to live in the world, than the Pamirs!"



Porshev is typical tiny village high in the Pamirs. At left: In rich alpine pastures breeding sheep and yaks is very profitable, now that special breeds have been developed for this region.



Pamirs region has several large power plants now, and this one on River Gunt is first of many that will utilize mountain streams. But extremely severe winter conditions make construction and maintenance difficult.

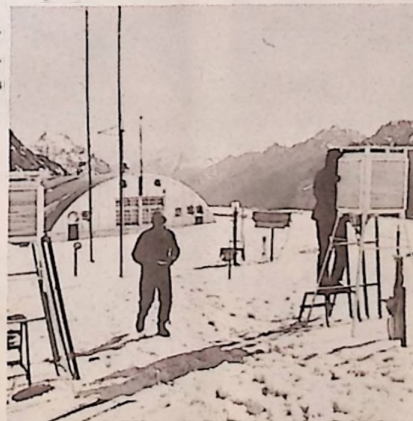


Already the Pamirs region is mining many kinds of valuable semi-precious stones, useful for jewelry and also in high-tech instruments. Besides quality wool, and meat, the stones industry will provide rapidly growing incomes for the people.



Despite cold winters, climate of Pamir Mountains has proven to be highly rewarding for farmers, now that Soviet breeders have developed special strains of grain. Above is new perennial rye, excellent for cattle fodder and requires no planting after it's established.

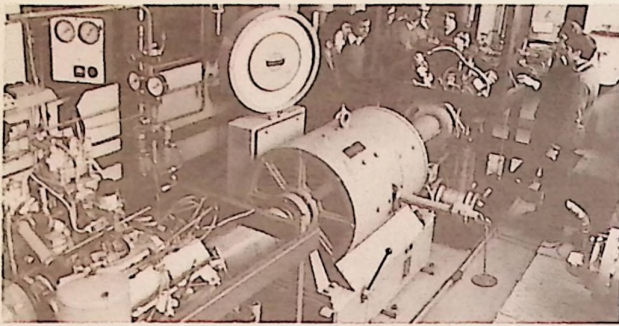
At right you see the world's highest weather station. It's near top of world's largest glacier, Fedchenko. Information from this station has been of greatest value to Soviet weather-men. But life up here not too popular in the profession.



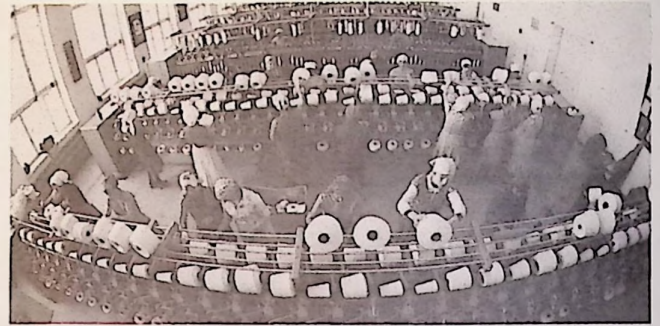
Here's famous Fedchenko Glacier. It has no rival anywhere else. But this photo was taken in good weather. When it's bad, it's terrible.



At left you see part of a big herd of yaks, specially bred for Pamir stock-raisers. These animals are ideal for "roof of the world" breeding, since they need no shelter whatever, even at 50 below. Best of all, no matter how deep the snow is, they can dig down and get natural alpine pasture grasses. Wool, meat, and milk are of very highest quality.



High school seniors actually work in "class" at big Likhachev Car Plant in Moscow, for skilled jobs.



These high-schoolers will take top-skill jobs in the Chernovtsy textile mill (Ukraine) when classes end.



These girls will operate modern telegraph machines when they graduate from high school courses. Soon they'll be running Soviet communications systems.



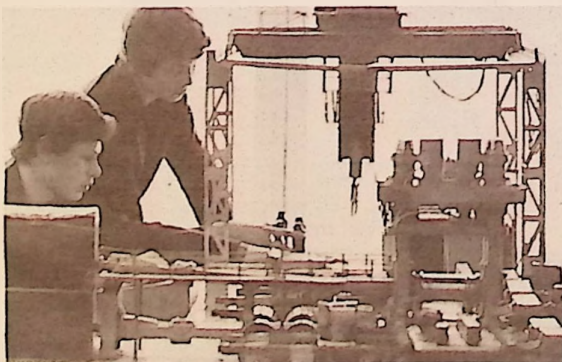
Still in grade school, Gennadi Pozhidayev works part time at actual production. From there he can go into a job, or decide to try for an engineering college.



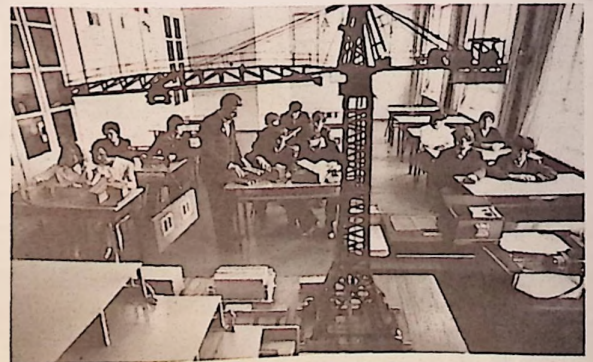
In Far North school these youngsters learn how to operate radio equipment vital to reindeer herders.



Lithuanian youth head for skilled jobs or engineering when they finish "optical instruments" that prepares them.



Not playing games, they're aiming to take over the Cherepovets Steel Plant, model shown here.



Many jobs in transport are learned in this school, where youth discover what they're going to manage.

Tomorrow belongs to them

Over here, for young people in high school (and their parents) the problem of what to take up, to get a job, is the main concern of the majority.

Others are luckier, confident they can choose a profession, go for it, and enjoy making a success of their lives.

Over in Socialism you see an entirely different picture. You can hardly appreciate this unless you look at their system.

True, jobs for all, no unemployment, that makes for a feeling of security in Soviet young people.

But the main fact of life for a youngster in Socialism is that when he or she grows up and starts working, no matter what the job is, **he or she begins to take over the system.**



From the very beginning of school life, and before then in kindergartens, even nurseries, Soviet children understand that everything to do with their education is **public property**. They (or rather their parents) **own it all**.

Early in grade school pupils learn about the three kinds of education they can strive for:

— **Vocational schools**, which train boys and girls for available jobs.

— **Specialized high schools**, giving courses in more difficult professions.

— **Universities, colleges**, for the most advanced occupations.

Soviet youth are all aware of the **major changes** they are facing now.

Because of the swift advance of science and technology, education has to prepare youth for ever more complex jobs. Soon, every Soviet boy and girl must complete **nine years** in grade school (minimum compulsory education). Then, their choices. . . .

- Take **two more years** in school.
- Enter a **vocational school** for three years, to prepare for a good job.
- Enter a "**specialised technical school**", leading to jobs such as foreman, skilled machinist, etc.

As you can imagine, students who complete a full high school course have a better chance getting higher paid work, than those who drop out for vocational training. But nobody has to choose, *over there*, on the basis of "*will this or that job be open*".

Every boy and girl knows that work for wages is waiting, *after any type of school is finished*.

Something very new: no longer need any boy or girl feel in any way "inferior" for taking up "a trade" in school. From now on **every Soviet school child** will learn a trade, with a choice of **760 jobs useful to Socialism**.

Another new development: many factories, state farms, collective farms, railways, etc., have started to offer young people on-the-job training (plus full high school), to fit them for work that's waiting to be done.

As a rule, young people already know the work they choose to take up, and often their parents are working in these enterprises.

You should note that these youth don't "go to work for father", but for the Socialist system . . . **which father does, indeed, own.**

There are now about 1,500 different jobs, requiring training less than what is provided in universities.

Of course, many Soviet boys and girls set their hearts on the highest, college education. Tough. Today only 50 make it into university for every 100 who apply.

Who "wins" entrance? Not those whose parents has "influence" or money. First, the **school record** is checked. Then, it helps a lot if young people show their talents in clubs, hobby circles, contests, etc., during school years.

But most of all: youngsters need the "**best background**". Meaning, they come from families of **industrial workers or farmers**.

That's not all. Most Soviet higher schools today welcome **working youth** who take courses by correspondence or evening classes. Of course such boys and girls must pass minimum tests before getting into college. But now Soviet colleges welcome them in **preparatory classes**, where they can "catch up" with high school grads.

These "late comers" to college get liberal benefits (from places where they hold jobs), including lots of time off (paid) to study for exams.

Soviet working boys and girls really have it made, entering college, if their "employers" send them to study as an **assignment**. Collective farms, especially, pay "their" students really good bonuses, and provide houses, etc. when they graduate and return to the job they temporarily left.

The different levels of higher education we've mentioned here now accommodate well over 11,800,000 Soviet youth.

All, without exception, are *learning in order to advance themselves and their Socialist system*.

Same thing! They **own it**. The more they learn **the more they'll be able to pay out to themselves** when they work.

It has taken many years to develop this system, but you can now safely say that the Soviet people have solved the very difficult problem of **training skilled workers at all levels**.

This is of immense importance when you consider the extremely rapid advance of new high-technology work.

Picture one "industry": **building**.

Socialism is building hundreds of big new enterprises, housing for millions, hundreds of cities. With yesterday's machinery it couldn't be done. Today, radically new construction methods are practical because Soviet youth are training in no less than **1,700 schools for tomorrow's builders**.

Millions of school-children in USSR work **computers**, which they'll use in tomorrow's super-automated plants.

Millions of average Soviet workers tomorrow will **know more than engineers today**.

And they'll be fully aware of a fact that is beyond the grasp of our college students and professors: the future of mankind depends on all humanity owning and working all the resources of our planet and Space around us, for the good of all.

28 ways to think about the UNITED NATIONS

Propagandists of Washington's policies are now busily selling the idea that the UNO isn't worth keeping alive. Unfortunately, even some who defend Peace are influenced by this line. So the facts become more valuable every day.

- Since it was formed in 1945 the UN has coped with the transformation of our world that resulted from nuclear energy and Man's conquest of Space. Nothing on our planet is the same.

- Influence of the UN can't be exaggerated. Hard to name a single major problem that hasn't been tackled by the UNO in these 40 years.

- Not only is UN the main influence in shaping world public opinion, but it has become a most important force for solving a wide range of problems influencing human life everywhere. Because of its international "contracts" the United Nations is now the mainstay of law and order on our Earth.

- For the majority of peoples, whose nations are not powerful, UN provides a forum of vital diplomacy, for stating views and seeking reasonable solutions to their problems.

- It's vital to recall that the UNO was formed by nations of very different systems, at a critical time when they were fighting for their lives against the fascist threat to civilization; and these powers vowed to save succeeding generations from "the scourge of war".

- The USSR took the initiative in "assembling" the UNO, because Lenin had appealed for the creation of such a body, with capitalist and socialist nations joined on an equal footing, for peace.

- The need for this was presented in 1943 at the Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers (USSR, USA, Britain) with the aim of continuing cooperation after the anti-fascist war was over.

- Basic was the decision to require unanimous voting in the Council, so that no action would be taken that violated views of the major UNO powers.

- At its opening, the USA strongly approved of this, as a guarantee of security for all nations, large and small.

- But the Council never was a "club" that bossed the rest of the world, and the "right" of veto stressed not the privileges of the major powers but their responsibility to all nations.

- The General assembly rapidly became the body where all nations, all systems, received equal, respectful hearings.

- No mystery why USSR strongly backed UNO: "to live together in peace with one another as good neighbors" was Lenin's basic attitude.

- Resistance to others' views showed up at start, and Soviet Union continually favored any and all means that would reduce threat of war.

- USSR in 1946 proposed to eliminate use of nuclear energy for weapons and the scrapping of all such weapons on hand; this could have eliminated 40 years of threatened extermination.

- Now the two opposite "poles" are: Socialism, for total security through ending arms and wars, and Capitalism, for military superiority to carry out a power policy in the world.

- This is becoming so clear now, that USA is steadily being more isolated, and Washington complains that UNO takes a "wrong" position in siding with peace forces always.

- USA makes no secret of "checking" the UNO votes of all nations, so as to restrict relations "accordingly", an outright policy of blackmail.

- Since 1970 the three Capitalist powers in the Council have vetoed policies they didn't favor 70 times; in past four years, 18 vetoes; but USSR used veto only twice in that same period; vivid proof of "which side" is sabotaging UNO efforts.

- Now USA has completely withdrawn from UNESCO, claiming "the others" go against Washington's interests in education, science, culture and information;

- Actually, outside of NATO powers, only three countries go with USA: Grenada (!), Salvador (!) and Israel; Arab lands go against USA in 90-of-100 issues; Africans in 80-of-100; Mexico in 90 of 100; India 93 of 100.

- Through Prof. Frank of N.Y. University USA calls for a "new UNO of the NATO type"! Its aim would be to "defend the democratic world", evidently against "threats" from all the non-NATO countries.

- But in June 1985 overwhelming majority of Security Council members voted for sanctions against racist South Africa ... and only USA and Britain abstained from voting!



- USA can't stomach fact that majority of members in UNO are of non-aligned countries; definitely do not follow any "Soviet" line; and are distinguished only by their unfailing adherence to the UN's principles.

- Their attitude towards USSR and USA is simply that they strongly recommend those nations to resume the 1977 policy of "détente", which had excellent and far-reaching benefits to world.

- In proposing an end to UNO the USA appears in a ridiculous light; since it was formed the United Nations has seen its membership soar from 51 to 159 nations, obviously a tribute to the organization's permanence and effectiveness in promoting mankind's vital aims.

- During UNO's existence, tremendous advances have taken place throughout the world, largely associated with United Nations efforts to support science, culture, health, agriculture, education and above all peaceful coexistence, changing the lives of hundreds of millions of people.

- Today the UNO and all its organizations capture the imagination of humanity by proposing such practical ways to the future as banning all nuclear weapons tests, freezing and eliminating such weapons, banning nuclear arms in space and on the seas ... and, not least, developing a new world economic relationship aimed to end poverty.

- None of these UNO proposals are visionary dreams; indeed, the long-term existence and advance of humanity depends on these United Nations programs being carried through into life; and the UN Charter is now nothing more or less than a blueprint for mankind's survival.

"The very word *Stalingrad* terrorized us"

Forty-three years ago this month Soviet people won what some experts believe was the greatest victory in war's history. The Battle for Stalingrad raged for 200 days and nights. The final victory there astounded every military observer in the West. Especially Hitler. Why so? Here is NN's abbreviated explanation.



Some historians mistakenly date this Battle from the start of the Soviet offensive in November 1942. Actually it began on July 17 of that year, when Hitler gave the order to his commanders to push through to the Volga and wipe out the Red Army defenses.

No mystery why Western observers were pessimistic about the outcome. With no Second Front opened by the Allies, the Soviet High Command faced difficult decisions. So, in the spring of 1942, Stalin planned only limited Red Army attacks, while building reserves of men and armaments for large-scale offensive action later.

As early as January 1942 Hitler personally boasted to Japanese ambassador Hirosho Oshima:

"The Soviets will be routed next summer. Nothing can save them. As soon as the weather improves we shall undertake an offensive towards the Caucasus, to reach the oil fields of Iran and Iraq".

Because the war on the Soviet front was being waged on a gigantic scale, without any decisive break-through by Nazi forces, Hitler decided to launch one tremendous offensive in a southerly direction where, as he believed, "nothing can save them".

What followed was Hitler's notorious Directive No. 41. This instructed all his commanders to undertake a really strategic drive, smashing once and for all the Soviet armies facing them, and open the way to the Caucasus.

The situation for the Soviet Command worsened in the summer of 1942, with a number of localised Nazi advances.

Then began the drive of the Hitlerites towards Stalingrad, in July.

Soviet authorities divide the Battle into two periods. They were on the *defensive* all that summer into late autumn. In November 1942 they passed over to their famous *offensive*, which ended on February 2, 1943.

From its start, the Battle for Stalingrad obviously was crucial for both sides.

If the Nazis took the city they'd cut the Volga, vital transportation line for Baku oil and Urals industries.

If the Soviets held Stalingrad they'd be able to attack several Nazi armies from the rear, endangering the front.

Truth is, Stalingrad was part of Hitler's dream of world conquest, since he believed that victory there would open the way to **India**, striking a major blow to the British Empire.

The Nazis were so confident of crushing Soviet forces in the Volga city that they figured General Von Paulus could do it "himself", with his powerful and experienced Sixth Army.

To everyone's amazement, after hundreds of attacks with everything in the book (including massed tanks, artillery and bombers), the summer months passed without any surrender at Stalingrad.

And then Stalin was able to start his main strategic preparations. The new "Stalingrad Front" was formed under Marshal Timoshenko. In mid summer several big Soviet armies moved from other fronts, to Stalingrad. Massive defense operations prepared the city for the still distant offensive.

Right through September Nazi soldiers were arrogantly confident of victory.

On Thursday September 3 Gerhard Hofman wrote home: "On Sunday we shall become masters of Stalingrad." His letter was found on his corpse.

On September 26 soldier Willy Schmidt told his folks: "The fighting at Stalingrad is nearing its triumphant conclusion." Nobody mailed that one either.

Then everything changed.

Wrote Sergeant Walter Geisler: "The nearer our goal, the more fierce the Russians fight. We are having to retreat."

Corporal Otto Kreppel: "Stalingrad is more than we can swallow. Only seven men are alive in my company. Wherever you look you see cemeteries. *The very word Stalingrad terrifies us.*"

Private Paul Bolze: "The number of killed grows faster than they can be buried. *Death is all that is left for us here.*"

That became clear to all when the Red Army began its amazing offensive across the Volga on November 19-20.

This was the greatest "encircling" attack in history. In just **five days** Soviet forces completely closed in on Hitler's celebrated 6th Infantry Army and some of the 4th Panzers (tanks).

Said Corporal Wilhelm Schierbach: "When the Russians surrounded us our officers read Hitler's order not to retreat. The troops began retreating in panic."

Altogether a total of **22 Nazi divisions**, and 160 smaller units, were encircled by Red forces.

At Stalingrad the crusaders of fascism lost 1,500,000 officers and men.

To the very end Hitler and his fascist mob could not, would not believe. They threw everything they had left in the entire region, attempting to break the encirclement. The Fuhrer ordered General Mellentin to use the crack 57th Panzer Corps and get through to the surrounded forces. But Mellentin reported: "By December 26 almost nothing was left of the Corps. It literally died suddenly."

The Soviet Command had anticipated "rescue" operations. And so fleets of Soviet fighter planes, batteries of anti-aircraft guns, slaughtered all Nazi aircraft attempting to drop arms and supplies to the trapped forces.

The climax came after January 8, 1943. Then the Soviet Command ordered General Von Paulus to surrender all the encircled troops to avoid senseless slaughter. Paulus refused. The final Soviet offensive began next morning.

It's on record that some 360 Nazi troops were executed by their officers for refusal to obey Hitler's "no retreat" order. Retreat or execution, the cream of Germany's fascist armies perished.

German author Heinz Rein: "Stalingrad was the 'decisive blow' which knocked us out. It smashed us morally, after we had been, in fact, defeated."

Doctors on the job

In recent years occupational illness has decreased markedly in USSR. Trade Unions, who employ the doctors, take credit for this.

Most people over here know that Soviet citizens can get prompt medical attention wherever they live. But in addition to consulting doctors in their neighborhood clinics, Soviet people can also get splendid health care on the job.

Work-place doctors are organized by the trade union to which their patients belong. Originally, this service placed main emphasis on prevention of job injuries and ailments. But today all big plants also offer advanced service in surgery, heart problems, gynaecological care for women, all sorts of physiotherapy (such as mud baths).

The big Moscow Car Factory has 12 such departments, plus 10 in-the-shop medical stations, staffed round-the-clock.

Industrial doctors carry out complete medical examinations of every worker, once per year.

Dr. Stalina Kalinina, deputy head of the Moscow Car medical service, points out that "these thorough examinations allow us to diagnose occupational illnesses, and prevent them. We can identify 'risk workers', prescribe special care for them, and check up on how well this is followed."

Tool-maker Nikolai Kabanov is an example. Perfectly healthy. But close examination showed he was coming down with "vibration disease" (very common in modern industry). He was transferred to another job and given special treatment. Today he shows no further symptoms.

This is a huge plant, with 30,000 workers. Some shops have high temperatures, others are dusty or cold. In the annual collective agreement such problems are tackled, with the doctors, in planned efforts to correct unhealthy conditions.

This is part of the goal of the Social Security Commission, directed by the union, since reduction of illness is of prime concern to all union members: less time lost, fewer payments for medical care and rehabilitation, the more funds are available for production incentives and such programs as improved housing, sports, etc.



In Odessa port heart specialists often do diagnostic tests on workers in action, as with this crane operator.



Dr. Vasili Vasilkov is a bit concerned about Alex Serezhkin's health, so he visited the tool-maker in his shop.

The plant doctors are also intimately involved in four other "branches" of health improvement: eliminating unsanitary conditions, introduction of accident-prevention equipment, expanding the plant's big dietary facilities (where prescribed meals are served) and acquiring more facilities at spas and other health resorts.

Sometimes, recommendations are expensive for management. For example, when doctors traced down a higher-than-average rate of colds they found that frequent opening of big plant doors was the basic cause. No way the doors could be kept closed. So a special heavy-duty heating system was installed, and illnesses promptly declined.

Soviet women workers are "unequal" in one sense: they get more medical (preventive) attention than do the men. They get preventive exams more often. When pregnant, they are transferred to easier jobs in special departments, but without drop in pay. Very few Soviet women workers are on night shifts.

The Moscow Car Plant recently pioneered in the formation of "medical-engineering teams". They consist of rank-and-file workers, engineers, doctors, trade union activists and sociologists.

It wasn't long before these teams came up with important recommendations. Besides new protective devices, they demanded an all-out attack on three old problems that plague most factories to this day: vibration, noise, poor ventilation. But in addition, the teams called for baths-and-massage facilities, right in the plant.

Already the plant budgets hundreds of thousands of dollars for new health measures; including \$30,000 just to improve the menus in their diet dining-rooms, which serve over 1,000 workers getting prescribed foods.

Moscow Car management and unions are now expanding their health-resort services. Main problem now is to provide resorts not only for workers, but for their wives (or husbands) and children also, so families can enjoy them together.

Since many other Soviet plants also have this difficulty, Moscow Car is building its own big resort on the beautiful Crimean coast of the Black sea.

Already the plant provides resort services at Baltic holiday centres and in the Caucasus mountains.

Workers using these facilities get accommodation that is either free or at 70 percent off costs.

You should note that none of the medical services mentioned here are in any way paid by "deductions" or "health insurance" schemes, familiar to us. All costs are met by the Socialist economic system, which now has available vast annual profits, for distribution, in one way or another, to the owners of the economy: the people.

What's newest? The plant is setting up the most advanced equipment available for rehabilitating heart patients, including acupuncture and "reflexology".

To get WELL - get COLD!

In our modern world sickness is treated with more than 100,000 medicines. Many of them can make you sicker than you are. So millions of people try non-medicinal treatments. Like swimming in icy waters. If this sounds crazy to you, it is working on great numbers of people in Socialism.

Over here, swimming in freezing waters is regarded as a publicity stunt to attract media photographers. But in the USSR and its Socialist allies bathing in ice-water has become a mass health-sport, strongly endorsed by medical authorities (with reservations).

Be doubtful if you wish, but just USSR alone this winter saw *millions* go for romping, sloshing and swimming in water crowded with thick chunks of ice.

Mainly for health but also for fun.

All ages from tots to seniors.

Apparently the champion ice-water pensioner just now is Vasily Yevsyukov. He's 77. Belongs to one of Moscow's 20 Winter Swimming Clubs which have thousands of members. Besides these fans in clubs, the Soviet capital has many more individual "walruses", mainly doing it for sport.

Not Vasily. He's been into ice-bathing for many years, because he's convinced that cold cured him of a lot of things and now keeps him absolutely fit.

In fact, most Soviet ice-bathers are fanatical in their belief that water-holes which keep freezing over *will cure anything*. The medical rebuke for that is "panacea".

Real ice-water fans do it **every winter day**. Warm up exercising, then a good rub-down with snow, finally a run for the coldest looking hole in the ice.

A friend of NN, over in Moscow, had a chance to meet this beautiful girl Lena Privalova. She boasted of taking her first ice bath when she was *only three*.

Seems to have done her good. She's four now.

Lena introduced her old sister (12). And her parents, who are veteran walruses, believe in bringing up children in the narrow spaces between ice-floes. (You have to travel too far to make it with ice-bergs).

Says Mrs. Valentina Privalov: "Our kids are never ever sick. Except sometimes in summer. If it's too hot they get nose colds."

Along came Dr. Anatoli Palko. Believe it, he's one of the "cold conditioning" medical specialists working for the Moscow City Soviet (Council). Seems his job is permanent because "Cold conditioning doesn't last, so it has to be continuously trained every winter."

He's so enthusiastic you can forgive him for brushing aside this fact: the City Soviet Health Department gets Doc Palko and others to *examine very carefully* everyone who wants to sign up for an ice-swimming club. Some people, it seems, might give too big a gasp when they first go head-over-heels into the big ice cubes. (Could be that proverbial last gasp, but don't mention that where Vasily Yevsyukov can hear you!).

City Soviet records show that people who **don't** ice bathe are down sick **8 times more often** than bathers.



People who go for icing for health usually start with blood-pressure problems, breathing disorders, nervous system troubles, weight worries (obesity and its opposite). The kind of complaints that those 100,000 medicines don't seem to cure.

Dr. Palko says this frigid sport helps people to break the alcohol and tobacco habits. Also gets you off things like pep pills and sleep drugs.

So, you can't wait to get started?

There are two ways, the Walrus Specialist says. Do it **gradually** in one of his training classes. Or close your eyes and **jump in**, underwear only.

Incidentally, sceptics often walk over to Moscow's famous outdoor *winter* swimming pool, the Chaika, just to see 300 human walruses having fun when the thermometer is away below zero and you have to be careful that there's a hole in the ice when you come up for air.

What's with other Socialist countries?

Czechoslovakia: advocate 30-minute swims, so only most physically fit people allowed to take it.

East Germany: other extreme, they encourage even young children to ice themselves as long as they want.

As for costs, most clubs charge 5-to-10 dollars for the season, mainly (don't laugh) for people who chop the ice holes open when they freeze over very fast.

Now for the good news.

You've probably decided that you're too busy this year to make it with ice-water. But even so, this kind of cold-fun way to health appeals to you?

You can do it.

Some years ago NN researched the whole subject, and came up with methods used on a mass scale in USSR, to bring you the benefits of **cold-conditioning** without the spine-chilling ice-hole treatment.

And it's safer and it's really **pleasureable**.

First: this method called **Zakal!** (means conditioning or toughening by cold) can be started at any level of physical fitness; in USSR they apply it to *people sick in bed*, and tiny tots.

Second: you start at the level which makes you feel good, and progress as you see fit, feeling better and better, right through a **7-stage course**.

Third: the entire system, to follow and use, costs you only \$2.00 postage free.

Ask for Publication No. 704. (See P-26 in NN).

Not a bad year for them



Galina Kalinina Bolshoi star, made it big at home and abroad. Her singing won the Young Communist League's coveted prize.



Drs. Nechayev and Jafarov, in Azerbaijan's Scientific and Production Institute, won success with their space observations in agriculture, forestry, irrigation, mining. New "maps" guide developers.



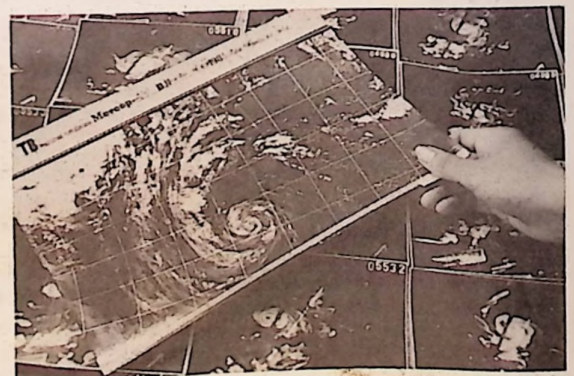
Girl above is Galina Gagarin, daughter of world's first space-man. She just won doctor's degree in science. At left: remember this? Littlest girl is Galina, with her famous dad, shortly before his tragic death.



This little one will never forget 1985. Not only her birth year, but she also made it on May 9, Victory Day. Name? Viktorina.



At left: Dr. Rim Iskanderov teaches in small Bashkirian town, and has just published a text-book on the language. He's also a poet, and in 1985 his work was acclaimed.

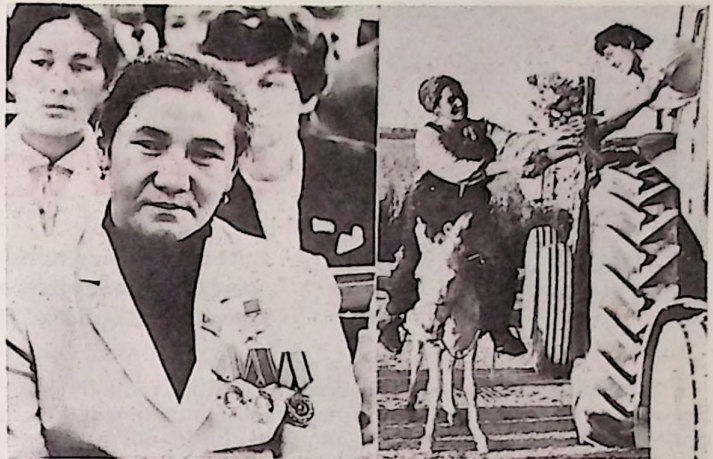


At right: Far-eastern Research Institute of Meteorology found way to use laser rays to predict deadly hurricanes and typhoons.

Everything seemed to turn out just right



Lithuanian artist Morkunas won high praise for his stained-glass panel, part of big memorial to victims of terrible Nazi camps.



Mrs. Jadyra Taspambetova, became real "specialist" in tractor driving. She and her team broke records for harvest of corn and fodder. She's renowned as Hero of Socialist Labor, holder of Order of Lenin, now Hammer and Sickle Gold Medal. She is bringing up five children, too.



Man at right is Lev Yashin, USSR's greatest football goal keeper. Here Samaranch, head of Olympic Committee, awards him the Olympic Order.



Altai Mountains scored records for earliest and deepest falls of snow. In just three days nature closed everything up for the winter. But these people can cope, and the Altai is "running" again. (Gravenhurst came a close second!).



In this Tadjik family, the Rakhimovs, it was good to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Victory, but no one forgot that Hitler had listed the Tadjiks as a people to be utterly exterminated. Kadyr (center) shows two French Resistance fighters he met after escape from a camp. Victory had a special meaning for them.



While still engineering students these two youth developed a new local rail network approved by the USSR Railway Transport Research Institute.



Planning the end of the World



In the technology world there's no need to speak of secret plans. Just the openly known projects of Washington are enough. Put this report in your favorite history book. The facts aren't there. On the ultimate terrorism.

• Ever since World War Two ended the USA has counted heavily on using nuclear weapons to establish a dominant position in the world. The Soviet Union was considered the main obstacle to the new atomic imperialism, and therefore all Pentagon plans were aimed against Socialism.

• The Security Council (Directive SNB-7, March 1948) said flatly that the total defeat of world socialist forces, led by the USSR, was vital for the "security" of the USA. This was considered to be quite practical because Washington had an absolute superiority of nuclear weapons.

• This attitude lasted for some 30 years. Only in the 70's did Washington realize that USSR had reached a level of approximate "parity" (equality) with nuclear arms and advanced rocketry to deliver them. The Pentagon and the Security Council were compelled to "review" some of the facts-of-life that had radically changed.

• At the beginning USA called its nuclear plan "mass retaliation"; then "flexible response"; later "realistic deterrence"; and then "direct confrontation". All these labels identified nuclear-imperialism.

• Joint Intelligence Committee (November 3 '45, Report 329) found that USSR was "strategically vulnerable" to an attack by USA bombers, and listed 20 Soviet cities that should get the Hiroshima treatment.

• Not until June 1946 did the Joint Chiefs of Staff draw up Plan Pincher, a comprehensive program for starting war late in 1945 or early 1947, using conventional bombers to deliver "Hiroshima" bombs to 20 Soviet cities studied by the Joint Intelligence Committee.

• However, they argued about Soviet defenses, and Plan Pincher was revised to Plan Broiler. This was somewhat less "ambitious". First, the new Socialist countries of East Europe would be given the Hiroshima treatment, after which the USSR would see the hopelessness of the situation and surrender unconditionally.

• Disputes still raged. In January 1948 a broad conference of brass hats was held in Key West, Florida. This drew up a "new" policy-and-strategy for eliminating the USSR. The novel feature was an "instant" war-of-surprise to kayo Socialism overnight. They dubbed this scheme "Grabber".

• The Chiefs elaborated "Grabber", deciding that the USSR was a tougher nut to crack, and stressing both the "instant" nature of their attack and the need to build bombers for exterminating not 20 but 70 Soviet cities. Called "Fleetwood", this plan counted on dropping 70 nuclear bombs.

• However the National Security Council, in Directive 68 of September 1950, warned that the "Soviet threat" had worsened greatly, and that war would be a matter of life and death for the entire capitalist system. To destroy Socialism had become a matter of great urgency.

• "Pre-emptive nuclear blow" was now the name of the White House game, using the Strategic Air Command's newest scheme called Trojan. This called for delivering 300 of the biggest nuclear bombs, on no less than 100 Soviet cities. And this would require not only one night but some three months.

• A more cautious approach followed. The Pentagon revised its 1949 plan, to use "allies" for attacking USSR. Evidently a "coalition" was needed to clean up on Socialism. This "partnership" in nuclear slaughter was given a name previously used: Plan Dropshot.

• Now war was to begin in 1957, and cover USSR, Europe and Asia. Not only 300 nuclear bombs but also 200,000 "conventional" bombs. Not only bombs but 69 USA troop divisions backed by 85 divisions of "allies". The aim of this war was simply to defeat all Soviet forces and occupy the USSR.

• This plan "advanced" again in 1954-55. Now it was split into three phases. "Bravo" to knock out Soviet defences. "Delta" to polish off remaining military resources. And "Romeo" (!) to crush European Socialist countries.

• The work of General LeMay, this newest military terrorism was to clobber Socialism within 30 minutes, using 400 large nuclear bombs. But they might not finish the job, so another 600 or 700 nukes would be dropped during the following 30 days. (Maybe they nicknamed this the 30-30 war?).

• The code "SIOP" now was generally used. Single Integrated Operations Plan. SIOP-2 had 6,000 "targets" for bombs. SIOP-3 and 4 marked 10,000 cities. SIOP-5, 16,000 cities. Not enough, so SIOP-5D counted 40,000 Soviet targets. It was all-ready to go in December 1978.

• Meanwhile, planes were getting obsolete. Nuclear bombs now had to go by missiles. Minute-men, Poseidon (subs), Cruises, Pershings, MX-s, Tridents (super-subs). While earlier bombing-raid plans required many hours between launch and strike, nuclear missiles made "instant" war a real possibility.

• More-more-more, in the 1980's. No limit to the number and destructive powers of missile-bombs. It became gradually clear that Ronald Reagan had adopted the newest "plan" of all: mobilising all the USA's nuclear strike forces (land, sea, air) so tens of thousands of bombs could be launched against USSR in no more than minutes.

• And so within 30 years Washington's plans to exterminate Socialism have "expanded" from 70 targets to 40,000 targets. Some commentary on the growth of the world's new system! Yet the aim remains unchanged: to "replace" Socialism by Capitalism, even if the old system becomes nothing but atomic smoke and radiation.

• Ronald Reagan's hollywoodish Space War has added nothing new to the nightmare of the 40's, by taking imperialism into the heavens, confronting not the peoples of Socialism alone but every human being on Earth.



Charlotte Carter

STALINGRAD speaks to the World

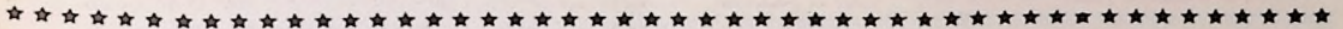
Personal report. First appeared in 1951, in English. Then in translations all over the world. Written in Stalingrad itself, when city was still in ruins. Remarkable for its passionate account of people's mass heroism in defense of their city, and their final triumph. This is latest of many printings. Young people you know may appreciate a souvenir copy. Shows them Stalingrad's place in human history.

"AND WHAT DID THAT WAR ACHIEVE?" This is an unusual reply to that question. By Editor of Northern Neighbors. Takes you back to fateful days of 1941-2, when people here in the West instinctively grasped the truth that Stalingrad was actually humanity's front line.

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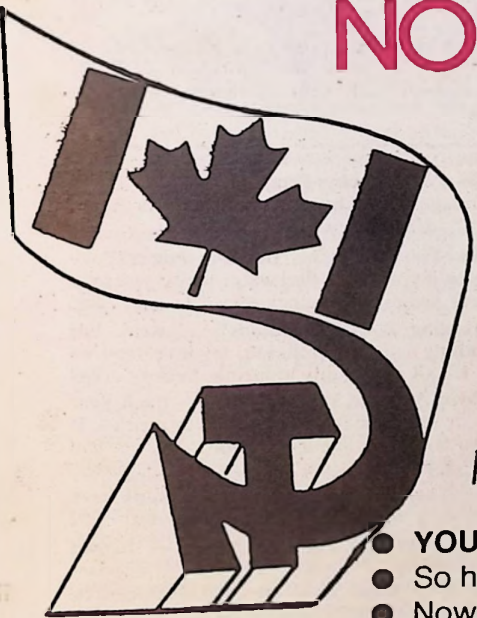
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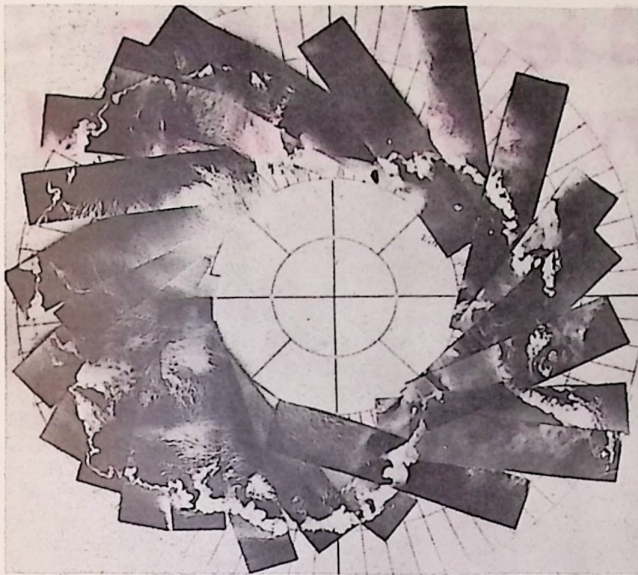
- "Human Gravitation" — Sounds crazy but there is evidence that people have attractive force which can be put to practical use. 217
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- "Dollars, Gold, Bombs, Bread" — Armament and poverty and profits tie together in this challenging expose of war-makers. 367
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- "Human Unity vs. Dollar Americana" — All-time best-selling (brief) report on why the rest of the world mistrusts Washington. 821
- "Retarded Children" — This is becoming a major world problem, and view from USSR is well worth your consideration. 828
- "Pollution Or Profits?" — Problem we face is far simpler than 'ecologists' admit, and here you get facts to prove it. 829
- "Family & Divorce In Socialism" — Truth is USSR has had much more experience with this problem, so approach is valuable. 830
- "Black Man Looks At The USSR" — Few have ever expressed the moving truth so well as USA Negro did when he returned. 890
- "The Ghosts Behind Solzhenitsyn" — Turns out that this famous defector's background prepared him for role as people's enemy. 901
- "How The Soviets Hide Their Unemployed" — Fact-packed, but at same time it's very funny exposure of line our media take. 902
- "Are They Insane?" — We're never told when defectors end up in asylums here, but the facts are right in the records. 910
- "Is Pornography Progressive?" — Much damage is done by theory that porn is "modern". USSR view is very different. 945
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- "Healing Power In Hands" — Real, but nothing to do with religion, say investigators in USSR who study amazing 'healers'. 949
- "Men Are The Weaker Sex" — Each year more scientific facts come in to prove this. If you doubt it, take a close look. 950
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- "The Big Grain Lie" — If you think Soviet farmers are backward it will pay you to see facts our media never discuss. 981
- "Are You Being Zapped By Deadly Rays?" — You may need to take another look at your radio, TV and similar devices, all menacing. 354
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Single Report 65 cents, postage free. Any 10 Reports for \$5.00, postage free.

Any 20 for \$8.00, postage free. All 57 Reports above for \$17.00, postage free.



AHEAD in SPACE

Soviet space-craft named "VEHA" (Venus, Halley's Comet) flew 500 million kilometres to make a bulls-eye strike on their first target, Venus. One section is off to the Comet. What the others did you find summarised here.

When VEHA arrived close to Venus, a descent vehicle was separated. This divided into two craft: one for landing on the planet, the other (balloon) to drift over it.

Everything that happened then was transmitted by radio to many Soviet and foreign observatories.

The "landing module" came down softly and went right to work. A drill took samples of Venusian "soil" and made chemical analyses of it (results went by radio), in spite of terrible heat (452 Celsius) and extreme "air" pressure.

The "drifting module" was the first-ever balloon sent to fly over another planet. It drifted about 50 km (30 miles) above Venus. At 200 km per hour. Covered a total of some 10,000 km, continually "reporting".

Scientifically, this was a triumph for the socialist nations whose researchers designed the remarkable devices.

Oddly enough, up where the balloon cruised the temperature was moderate and "air" pressure less than on Earth. But the equipment had to withstand the "super-rotation" of Venus' atmosphere: hurricane winds of 360 km per hour. These winds travel round Venus in about 100 hours.

The Soviet balloons operated for 46 hours as planned, and covered 12,000 km. Strangely, our media didn't cover this feat, although *all the largest radio telescopes in the world were "tuned in"*. And working together on the fascinating data transmitted to them. France's Institute of Space Research coordinated this world-wide effort.

The two separate balloons encountered different streams of "air". Different temperatures. Violent up-and-down "pockets", sometimes plunging a mile in seconds.

Balloons and instruments had all been designed to withstand this kind of Venusian atmospheric violence.

Scientists the world over marvelled at the reliability and sensitivity of this equipment, which had to function in conditions never before encountered anywhere.

However, it turned out that the USSR's own receiving equipment was in quite a different class to that used in Western space-radio-reception centers. For obvious reasons, the transmitting equipment carried on board those cruising balloons was exceedingly light-weight and compact. But it worked together with new earth-based receivers of exclusive Soviet design, and thus carried a tremendous flow of information from the "observers" on Venus.

The superiority of this equipment was evident all through the unprecedented experiment, something not lost on the USA's "Star Wars" enthusiasts.

Probably the most striking observation made is that the famous "cloud cover" over Venus does, indeed, shroud the entire planet. No breaks in the clouds were found at any point, in "day" or "night".

Earlier, astronomers were convinced that the "air" of Venus is rich in deadly sulfuric acid. (Earth-based telescopes reveal this). However, such observations could not show how the acid was distributed. And how much of it poisoned Venus. So the Soviet equipment included amazingly delicate apparatus for decomposing the acid and measuring its composition exactly.

It became clear at once that sulfuric acid on Venus does not play the same role in the atmosphere as water does in Earth's clouds. Much more complicated situation. "Air" in Venus contains sulfur, chlorine, phosphorus. Some of the sulfur is in the free (powdered) state, and this is what makes Venus' clouds appear yellowish.

The poisonous mix on Venus is so thin that we'd call it a very light fog.

Incidentally, this finding disproved earlier statements made by USA researchers in 1974, when they sent up their "Pioneer-Venus" probe.

The two Soviet devices landed 1500 km apart, and they did report some differences in the clouds. Now some scientists wonder if Venus has what we call "weather". If so, it sure would be something to complain about!

Soon, Soviet space explorers will send a craft called "Phobos" to Mars. It will fly 200 days. It's a joint work of USSR and quite a few Western countries. Absolutely peaceful, Phobos is in stark contrast to "Star Wars" craft being put together by some nations.

What's got the scientific (and military) world talking about Phobos is that it will be equipped with the world's first "side view radar" that can "monitor" Earth and its oceans continuously, regardless of weather or time of day.

It will send detailed pictures not only to 70 special stations in USSR but also to more than 500 receivers all over the West and the Third World.

It has already proven its value in the high north, where it rescued ten Soviet freighters trapped in heavy ice. The Soviet radar found them a pathway to freedom.

Some years back the USA experimented with a similar device, in the "Seasat" craft; but it quickly went out of order. And USA devices have to bring their findings "home" by returning to Earth, whereas the Soviet robot-radar reports instantly whatever it sees.

Worth stressing: USSR is the only nation with vital side-view radar permanently in orbit over Earth.

Grimacing, perhaps, Soviet scientists offer to use this device to spot hurricanes threatening ... the USA itself.

A teacher of a very different kind



Sergei Loiko, 31, teaches English. But with all kinds of games. The silly idea that everything in USSR is "uniform" is exploded in his classroom, envied by many teachers.



Loiko is a "mover" in school drama society. He and the kids take their plays very seriously, and audience is astonished by high quality of staging, acting. Secret: teacher Loiko loves school, kids, acting.



Teacher often takes part in school plays. Here he is "Fine Talker" in Volodin's drama "Lizard", a play with deep meanings.



This is a serious lesson, but in Loiko's class it's fun. They are playing a favourite Russian kids' game, "Broken Phone". Word is passed from child to child, by whispering, and gets changed beyond recognition. Great fun when you're learning English.



Evenings at home are fun, too. Little Styopa is good at English, but mother and dad wish he could hit the right notes.

Why our farmers thank the Soviets

Canada has just closed the biggest trade deal in our history. Selling to USSR over the coming years, hundreds of millions of dollars worth of grain. Surprise! Instead of weeping for those hungry Russians, our media shut up tight. The FACTS are known now to too many business experts. You'll know even more, when you finish reading this.

In spite of all the propaganda they've shoved at us for years, Western editors know that Soviet farmers have overtaken all others, everywhere in the world, in production of wheat, cotton, sugar beet, potatoes, milk and butter.

They don't yet have enough meat. But in the past five years they increased supplies by a huge 10 percent.

Everybody (adults, kids, babies) ate an average four-and-a-half pounds *more meat* last year than in 1980. Plus much more milk, fruit, vegetables, eggs.

Just by the way: the well-fed USA has to **import** 18 billion dollars worth of food every year. And none of it reaches their starving citizens.

All the big Capitalist nations buy vast quantities of food.

While buying lots of grain from us, USSR **sold** millions of tons per year, after Soviet farmers increased harvests to 200,000,000 tons per year.

Consider even meat: Soviet people eat **lots more** than people of Norway, Greece, Spain, Japan, Israel.

The Soviets buy more from us every year because they sell food to the people **below cost**, even while their **incomes rise sharply** every five years. Planned nutritional prosperity!

Of course, they **can't** grow all they want, like fruits. Neither can we. Citrus orchards don't particularly thrive in snow-drifts.

However, that's a small part of the world food business. Here's a fact worthy of a lot of serious thought in our financial circles. Soviet farmers are getting into **the export of foods** more and more. Fairly soon they plan to do a significant amount of food **selling** every year.

How will our farmers react to that? Already, USA Secretary of Agriculture admits, profitability of farming there is **falling sharply** even as production goes *up-and-up*.

In the homeland of prosperity, USA farmers took in 17 billions in 1984 compared to 25 billions in 1979.

Their debts have climbed to well over \$215 **billions**.

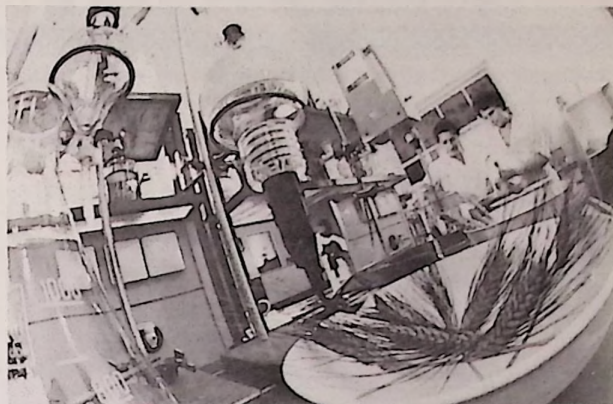
Look closer. Six-of-ten USA farms are small operations. They produce only 10 percent of the country's agricultural output. But the **big farms** (they number some 25,000) deliver 40 percent of all the crops!

Capitalism's farmers grow more every year and sell for less. The 1985 bumper crops are a *disaster*.

Canadian grain farmers are in the same position, only worse. Their "allies" in Europe (the ten European Community nations) have started to unload surplus wheat, driving down the price.

It is almost amusing to note that the Soviet "enemy", through its huge long-term buying contract, now wins more thanks in Canada than ever for keeping grain prices from collapsing.

But no concerned people in the West are laughing. As U.S. News points out, where wheat prices are lowest (in USA) there **hunger** is "the most prevalent and the most insidious problem facing the nation's cities."



Take a look at the photo above.

You are probably the first to see the very latest thing in the grain world: **black wheat**.

As you see, this new super durum wheat has glassy black grains. It is called **Corundum**. You'll be hearing a lot about it from now on.

Corundum has been developed in one of the richest grain territories of the USSR: Krasnodar. It's a product of the Krasnodar Agriculture Research Institute. Quite a few researchers played a part in producing Corundum, but the man behind the project is the well-known Soviet agronomist Vitali Kostin.

Possibly his name isn't familiar to you, but one of his earlier wheats, Crystal-2, is known (and grown) in many lands. That variety of durum also has large, glassy black grains and is renowned for its "performance" in quality macaroni products and the finest pastries.

But Corundum is going to make waves because of a feature that some of our grain farmers will find hard to believe. Given **irrigation**, and **fertilizer**, this durum has repeatedly yielded **150 bushels to the acre!**

Besides high yields, Corundum is resistant to lodging and to three most common varieties of rust, powdery mildew, and covered smut. To top that, the new durum is hardy even in the very cold Krasnodar weather.

Incidentally, Krasnodar weather is almost identical with that of our own Alberta grainlands.

Grain breeding and selecting started many years earlier, here in Canada, than in USSR. It has taken the Krasnodar selectionists half a century to develop durum wheats. (Much less, if you count the war years and the desperate struggle to restore farming). Even so, in the 'twenties quite a few Canadian and USA farmers gave up "Pellisse" durum because of its rusting, and switched to the new "Mindum" and "Kubanka" durums developed in Krasnodar.

Even that long ago the very high quality of flour from these Soviet durums made up for the low yield (and high cost per bushel).

The very first **winter** durums came from USSR, back in 1931. But in the Depression the wheat market didn't support much in the way of experimenting. And the first "world class" wheat from Socialism was Pavel Lukyyanenko's famous **Bezostaya-1**. Soon after, Bezostaya-2 won favor over the entire grain world.

But the newest black **Corundum** obviously is going to raise Soviet grain prestige in most countries. Even though many growers will be wondering what 150 bushels to the acre will do to our bin-busting grain surplus.

It seems almost like a bad joke to think that perhaps we'll be growing Corundum ... *and they'll be buying it from us!*

"VERASI"

One of the top Soviet groups today is from Byelorussia



They travel a lot. Whenever their little bus arrives. People know some good concerts are for sure. Letters in English spell "Verasi". Just a name.



They're very popular on the radio. All are talented musicians. Original founders of Verasi were doing their thing in the Byelorussian Philharmonic.



They've been a success since 1974, but they can go a lot farther back. They try to be authentic when they tackle earlier numbers.



Old time Byelorussia is getting hard to find now, but for their TV performances they like to show people the way it was. Their pride is real folk music of the real past.



One of their biggest hits was a revival of "Ah, Andryusha!", one of the greatest favorites of the 'thirties, in USSR.



Some of the Soviet Union's top poets write for "Verasi".



When they sing of the war all Byelorussian hearts are moved, paying homage to the millions who will never be forgotten.

Long cold winter didn't hold them back

Socialism advances in all the seasons

Unusual weather break in Siberia in November, when mass of Pacific warm air pushed far into interior. Along Eastern Siberian Sea temperature shot up 33 degrees in few hours. Then heavy summer-like rains moved over the frozen tundra and all across Chukchi Peninsula. Much snow disappeared before winter took over again.

Giant new Soviet plane "Ruslan", which you saw in NN, has officially won records formerly given to USA freighters. "Ruslan" carried far more weight, 171,219 kg, soaring up to 30,000 feet, setting 20 new records of International Aviation Federation.

Where would you fit, in new Soviet health categories? Worked out by mass tests on 1,500 men and women workers in Moscow factory. Class One: perfect health. Two, three and four: increasing number of symptoms that should be attended to. Five: people with definite illness which they don't suspect. Will be applied to new system they're expanding, which calls for complete examination of all people once per year.

Wild ducks make faithful pets, as Andrei Bashmakov discovered. He saved a duckling, which stayed with him seven years. Then he took it with him to Far East, visiting a friend. Trip was 4,000 km (2,400 miles). But when Andrei returned home (to Alma Ata) he found the duck waiting for him. With a wild drake boyfriend. Puzzle: the duck made it home in direction very different to natural flight paths. How?

People in Novosibirsk, Siberia, are enjoying their first subway rides. City of one million is eleventh in USSR with a "Metro". Line connects heavily populated areas on both sides of Ob River, crossing on a 2-km bridge that is completely glass-enclosed, to protect against high winds and 50 below temperatures. Bridge gives wonderful view.

Although she has retired now, from competitive skiing, the Udmurt school-teacher Galina Kulakova still holds amazing records. No other woman ever won four Olympic and five World titles. But Soviet people are proudest of her because, in addition to international contests, Galina was USSR champion 39 times, in a wide range of ski events.

Everywhere in Soviet Union people are discussing two facts. With only 6 percent of world's population, USSR accounts for 20 percent of our planet's production. And from now to year 2000 (14 years) they'll start up as much new production as everything Socialism achieved since the 1917 Revolution!

You might get a "beloship" on your line, up north in Lake Ladoga (Leningrad). This fish has never been seen before. Soviet Baltic scientists bred this hybrid sturgeon. It lives in fresh or salt waters. Tolerates dirty streams ordinary sturgeon can't stand. Eats water plants and small fish both. Grows to commercial size three times faster than regular sturgeon. Now being bred by the millions each season. They're confident they can re-populate Baltic waters with beloships.

Sweeping changes in Socialism's management you can see from their elimination of four of their biggest Ministries (operated by cabinet ministers). Even Ministry of Agriculture is gone! Plus Ministries of Fruit and Vegetables, Meat and Dairy Industry, and Food Industry. All replaced by hi-technology State Agro-Industrial Committee. But don't conclude this as "more centralization". Actually it links up all sectors of agriculture with the producers-and-processors, with no in-betweeners getting in the way of rapid expansion.

Soviet Communist Party is playing bigger part in all sectors of farming and food production. Rural Party organizations are fast multiplying. In Ukraine, with total Party membership of over three million, half of these men and women now are directly engaged in farm work. Soviet people are confident that this will guarantee success for new State Agro-Industrial Committee.

Contrary to what our media tell us (via USA) Soviet press, radio, TV report on marked successes of Ethiopian people in re-settling about 550,000 people, moved from drought areas to fertile lands. As fast as buildings and machinery can be supplied, more people go to western and south-western regions where they thrive as farmers. USSR plays a major part in this rescue of starvation victims.

Another big high-technology advance is startling western engineers. Soviet researchers have developed a system for transporting freight containers inside oil pipe-lines. First line, Kirshi-to-Leningrad, is 115 km long. Now speeding application of this to Siberia, where pipe-line transport can solve grim problems of lack of roads, severe winter conditions, immense distances. Siberia is criss-crossed with whole networks of world's biggest oil and gas lines.

We could do with this: canary singing contests. First ever national song fest, exclusively for canaries, was set up by Construction Workers' Club in Moscow. Seventy canary-fans entered their birds, and it took the "jury" two days to narrow down choices. All Soviet canaries now are trained by the "bunting method": other birds, buntings and tom-tits, are able to teach canaries how to make best use of their superb voices, which need training. Now have over 50 "canary voice clubs" in USSR. Moscow owner, Vlad Bureyev, heard his canary win the Grand Prix.

End of poison-spraying of forests? New Soviet biological substance, Tuverin, developed by Tuva forestry researchers. Dusted on forests by aircraft, tuverin causes an "epidemic" of disease that kills forest pests. Ants and other useful insects help to spread the stuff, which is absolutely harmless to them and humans.

Soviet space-men now enjoy a big variety of foods, 70 in all. Soups, meats, fruits, juices, sturgeon, berries, spring onions. The latter they grow right in the space station. Favorite food? What else: that most popular Russian dish, buckwheat porridge.

"World's best athlete of 1985-- is title awarded informally by sports reporters of 30 major news agencies. Went to Sergei Bubka. Just 22, Sergei is first man to jump six metres. Broke world record five times in two seasons. Won every major competition in 1985, through Grand Prix Tournament.

Mevludu Davitadze celebrated his 125th birthday. Lives in Khети, Soviet Georgia. First to congratulate him was his oldest son Osman, just turned 90. Mevludu has 120 children, grand-children, great-grand children. Dr. I. Dalakishvili, who heads the Georgian research group on longevity, says "Davitadze is just one of 907 living Georgians who have crossed the 100-year mark."

Another Soviet vehicle will soon hit world markets. This is the PAZ-672, a very comfortable bus. It's made in ancient Russian city of Pavlovo. Already Paz buses are favorites in some Asian and African lands. Not large, this bus can negotiate practically any route. In 19th international bus rally the PAS won top Grande Coupe prize for performance and efficiency.

High-tech future for Soviet schools is assured by new course to be introduced next year: Fundamentals of Informatics and Computer Technology. Actually the new Course is already used in many schools, and Russian Federation has trained 10,000 science-maths teachers. Some 34 special schools will teach "programming".

Socialism as a "farm creator" is vividly seen in Turkmenia. Before Revolution farmers had only 750,000 acres of poor land. Today their total in crops is over 30 million acres, all irrigated, all publicly owned.

Readers sure do come up with some really good ideas



"Sending donation early this month. Sally Carter's messages in 'Let Us Take Heart' become more meaningful as time goes by. She wrote of the 'chains' binding us; once they were homes, cars, jobs; now these things are disappearing; unemployment and destitution are becoming chains. It is time to get rid of all these chains. Sally's July-August column fits in so well with her April 1983 one." R.T.

Note: Glad to say Sally has a column this month after missing several issues due to heavy work load here.

"Just read this *Associated Press* report about the woman facing a marshal who was serving her with an eviction notice for non-payment of rent. The poor soul excused herself, went to her bedroom, and killed herself with a gun. Yes, we are free in this system to commit suicide when we can't pay the rent." B.A.

"Stalin has to be considered in his era. He knew the enemy existed, he knew what had to be done. Some innocents suffered but the guilty were caught. Who would have had such courage as he? Not only the 'purges' which were so necessary but withholding reserves at Stalingrad until the crucial moment arrived. Stalin was needed and he came through with the backing of a great nation. What wonderful people! And they've created a New Man. Without Stalin this could not have happened." L.G.M.

"In regard to reader's request for information about a two-volume history, I offer these facts. The two-volume edition is out of print. But there is a new, three-volume edition of 'The Bolshevik Revolution' by Edward Hallett Carr. Available from Barnes and Noble, 126 Fifth Av., New York, NY 10011. Price of this paperback set is \$36.85 in USA." P.K.

"When I was younger I was able to get Edward Bellamy's books and they started me dreaming of the world becoming Socialist. I'm a senior citizen now and I'm still dreaming. But I can see some of my dreams coming true, thanks to what I read in NN. The enclosed (a very generous donation) will help a bit somewhere." A.W.

"It would be wonderful if NN could arrange for some of its Readers who are World War II or Spanish Civil War veterans to spend some time in the Soviet Union visiting their 'hero cities'. Next year. Maybe a 'Victory Tour'. Have someone write about it." J.B.

Reply: We would welcome views of Readers about this, especially those who would welcome joining such a Tour.

"I really enjoy your magazine. I always pass it on to someone else. I find that they'll read it because of all the news you print which we never get in our daily newspapers." A.P.

"I am well into my seventies and recently went on a tour of the Soviet Union. Wasn't very well (caught a cold). Had a fever and was taken to hospital. Got X-ray, heart check, urinalysis, and other checkups. Given medication and taken back to hotel. No charge for any of this. I really went over there to pay tribute homage to USSR and its people for all the things they've made possible in this world, especially the defeat of fascism, the universal struggle for peace." G.J.B.

"Here's the *Fortune* magazine's list of USA's 'finest' companies. Their ancestors used the colonists to wipe out millions of native people and steal billions of acres of their lands. Best to everybody at NN." L.D.S.

"NN carried reports on wonderful things Soviet specialists are doing for the eyes. I'd like to correspond with someone there concerning my case as there doesn't seem to be any help here." J.H.

Reply: Soviet clinics are swamped with patients, many from abroad. We are making arrangements, through our travel offices, to get assistance for NN Readers. In the meantime, send medical details of your condition to Intours Ltd., 1013 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON, M6H 1M1. Be sure to mention that you get NN.

"I have a suggestion. Set up Robot Fan Clubs, everywhere there is Socialism. Factories, farms, schools, co-ops. Popularize their robots, give them names, adopt them. Millions of people would become involved in 'robot fan clubs'. I'm a senior, but I hope my idea is that of a younger person. Long live Socialism!" E.M.

"Keep up the good work! I just can't imagine my life without NN. Sometimes I feel your magazine is my only ally." C.B.

"Have read NN for 20 years. After visiting the Soviet Union, seeing the people and what they're doing, I have no doubt that they will win." C.C.J.

"I've thought of acting as an agent for socialist publications. But no one seems interested. All those I talk to seem more interested in griping and doing nothing. If you know of any way of getting through to some of these people please let me know." B.L.

"With all the additional material coming out about that Korean 007 plane I believe your staff should consolidate the comments and give a summary now." W.C.R.

Reply: Just when we planned that, a full book appeared in Japan. If we can get the English edition, we'll push it. It appears to be authoritative, factual.

Let us take heart

This year has been designated as the International Year of Peace, and for this we can take heart.

It is difficult to think of peace when we know of so many places in the world where there is no peace. But this should make us more willing to work even harder this year to ensure there will be peace.

As workers of the world we must put aside racial and national boundaries and work together as the sisters and brothers we are.

A song comes to mind which I have not heard for some time. The words were written by John Connell, an Irish journalist. It is the official anthem of the British Labor Party, and was sung on August 1 1945 in the House of Commons. It is sung to the tune of *Maryland* or *Tannenbaum*. Do you remember it?

The Red Flag.

The people's flag is deepest red,
It shrouded oft our martyred dead,
And ere their limbs grew stiff and cold
Their heart's blood dyed its every fold.

Chorus:

Then raise the scarlet standard high!
Beneath its folds we'll live or die,
Though cowards flinch and traitors sneer,
We'll keep the Red Flag flying here.

It waved above our infant might,
When all ahead seemed dark as night,
It witnessed many a deed and vow;
We must not change its color now.
It well recalls the triumphs past,
It gives the hope of peace at last.
The banner bright, the symbol plain,
Of human right and human gain.
With heads uncovered swear we all
To bear it onward till we fall.
Come dungeon dark or gallows grim,
This song shall be our parting hymn.

Hundreds of millions are fighting now under this "banner bright". Let us not only struggle to bring peace, but let us take heart and raise our voices in this song.

Sally Carter.

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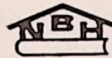
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