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THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE'S STATE



THIS DOMED BUILDING, SITUATED IN A QUIET SECTION OF KIEV NEAR THE DNIEPER RIVER, HOUSES THE SUPREME SOVIET (PARLIAMENT) OF THE UKRAINIAN REPUBLIC.



By **NIKIFOR KALCHENKO,**

Chairman, Council of Ministers

of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

An age-old history lies behind the Ukrainian people. Hundreds of years ago Kiev, present capital of our republic, was the center of a great East Slavonic state—the Kiev Rus. This ancient state became the cradle of three fraternal peoples: the Russian, Ukrainian and Byelorussian.

Throughout the long history of the Ukrainians it has been their fate to wage long and persistent struggles against numerous invaders from foreign lands. It was not until the October Revolution of 1917 that the Ukrainian people finally freed themselves from social and national oppression and were able to create a sovereign state. As a result all Ukrainian lands are now united in one single national state—the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

The Ukraine blankets a great expanse of the Soviet Union, from the Carpathian Mountains on the west to the Don River basin on the east,

Continued on page 2



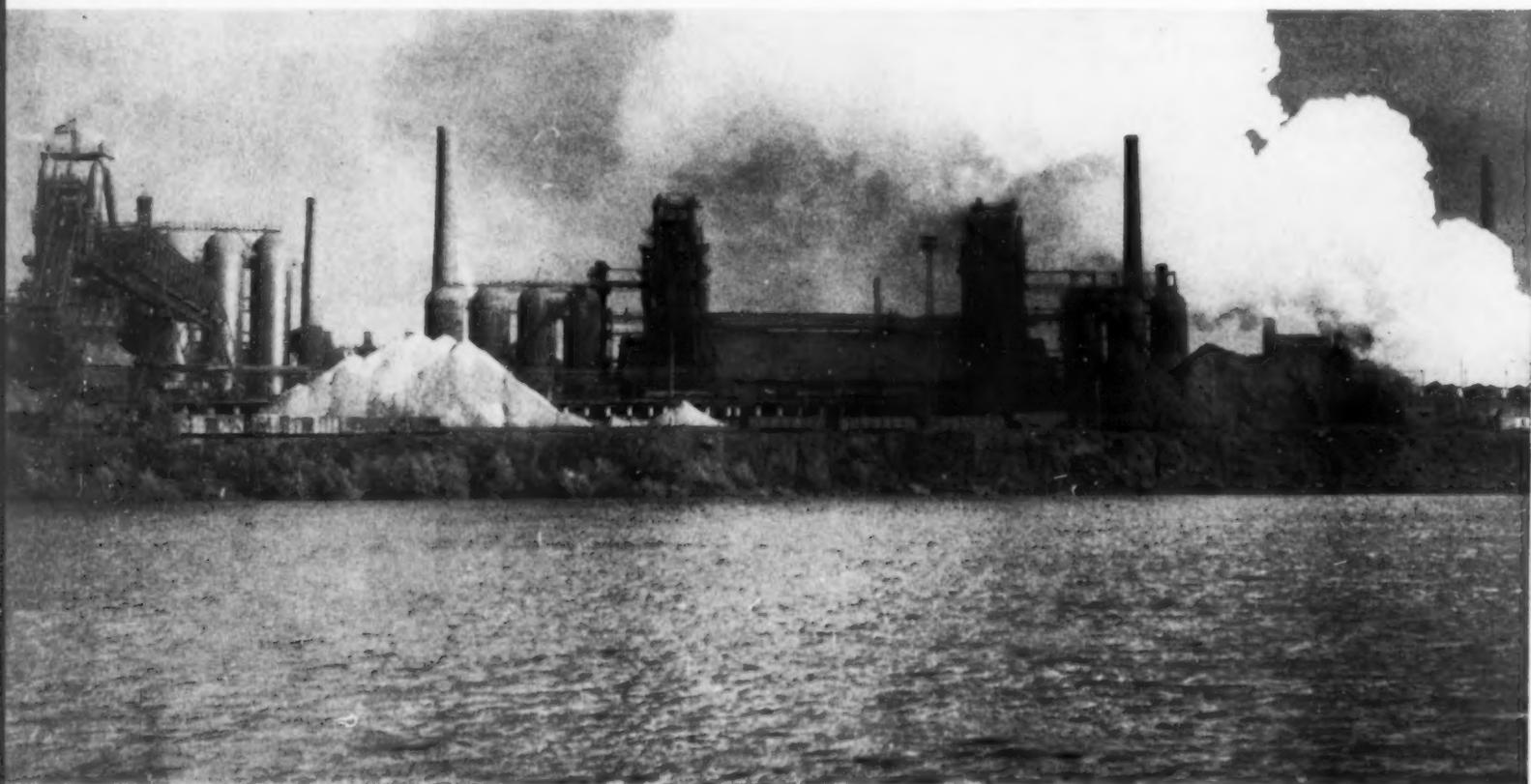
Molten steel pouring from a Ukrainian furnace. Metallurgy is a leading industry in the Ukraine.



Inspecting TV tubes in Lvov plant, West Ukraine. This precision industry ranks high in importance.



A diesel locomotive is nearing completion in a plant at Voroshilovgrad in the Donbas region.



BECAUSE ORE, COAL AND MANGANESE ARE FOUND NEARBY, THE UKRAINE IS A NATURAL IRON AND STEEL PRODUCING CENTER. PHOTO SHOWS MILLS AT DNEPRODZERZHINSK.

THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE'S STATE *Continued from page 1*

and from the swamplands and forests of Polessye on the north to the steppes on the shores of the Black and Azov seas on the south.

The republic covers 232,000 square miles of rich agricultural land and major industrial centers and ranks third in area among the fifteen Union Republics of the USSR, led only by the Russian Federative Republic and Kazakhstan. With its 42,000,000 people, the Ukraine ranks sixth in population among European countries, following the Russian Federation, Germany, Britain, Italy and France.

Many Changes in Forty Years

This year marks the fortieth anniversary of the Ukrainian Republic. Although this is not an extensive period of time for any country, the Ukraine has witnessed many major changes that have affected the appearance of the country and the life of its people.

The Ukraine is richly endowed with natural resources and has a diversified economy. In industry the leading roles are played by metallurgy and coal mining, machine-building and chemical production. In agriculture our lands yield abundant grain crops, fat cattle and other livestock.

Sugar beet farming and the accompanying refining industry of the Ukraine rank high in world production. We also have many picturesque orchards and fertile vineyards.

All of the natural resources and production facilities that are the pride of the Ukrainian Republic were developed and created by our people over a period of many centuries, but the rate of economic growth has been especially swift in the past forty years.

In 1955 industrial production of the Ukraine was more than sixteen times the volume of 1913—the highest level of the pre-revolutionary period. And it should be remembered this increase has been achieved despite the havoc wrought to the Ukraine by two world wars.

Even brighter prospects for developing the productive forces of our republic are envisaged in the Sixth Five-Year Plan for 1956-1960. By the end of this period industrial production will have reached a level twenty-seven times greater than the 1913 total.

At the present time highly efficient machines and labor-saving devices are employed in Ukrainian industries. Automation is being introduced on an ever-growing scale, and atomic energy is finding broader applications in peaceful production. The technical advance we make lightens the



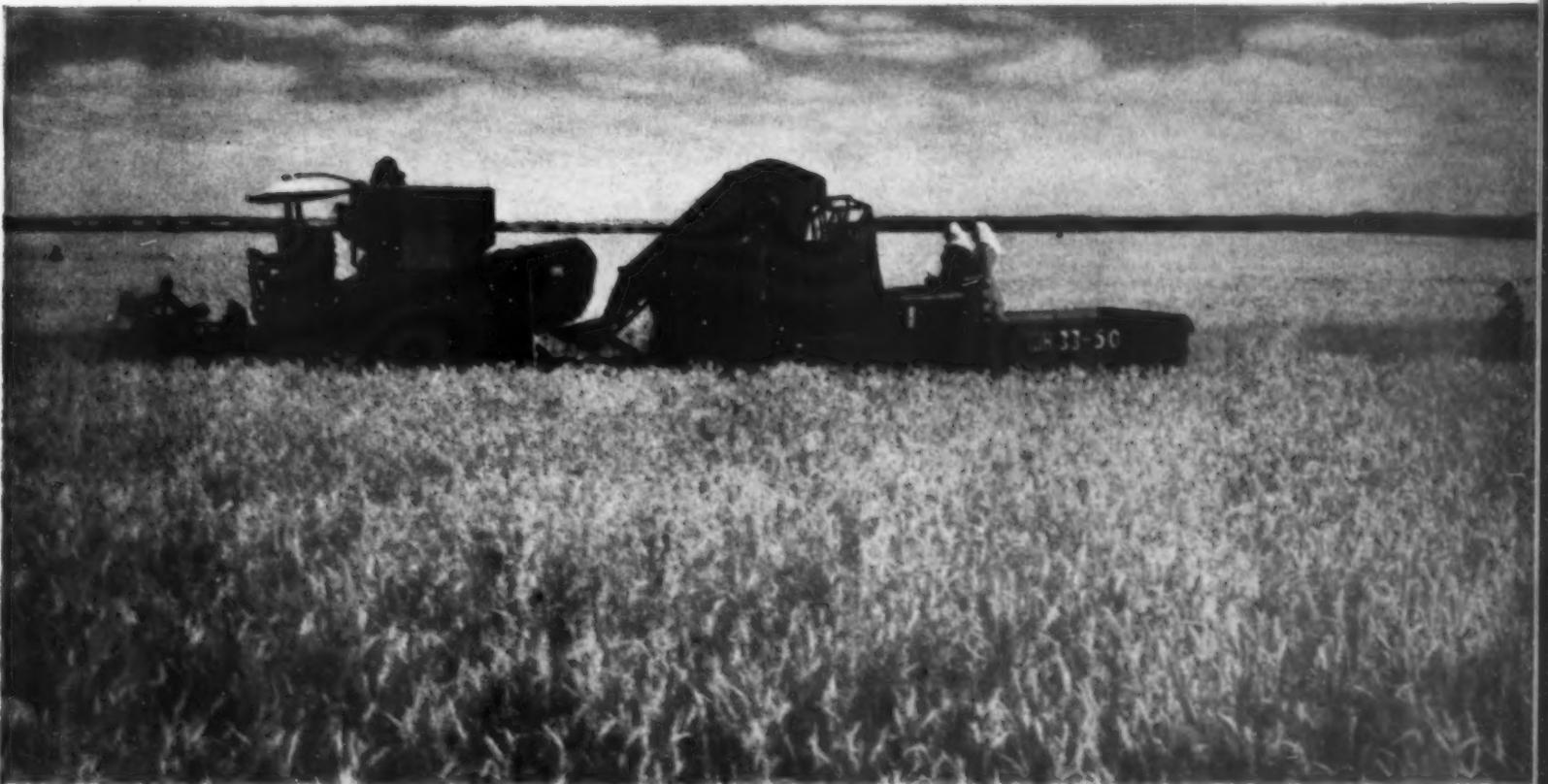
Gathering grapes near Kiev. Many farms in the Ukraine increase their incomes with viticulture.



A rural scene which is typical of so many areas in the Ukraine. Most farms have poultry sections.



Both dairy and beef cattle production are high in the Ukraine, due to good pasture and fodder.



GRAIN IS A LEADING UKRAINIAN CROP. IN RECENT YEARS, HOWEVER, NEW LANDS IN THE EAST HAVE TAKEN AWAY THIS REPUBLIC'S TITLE OF BREADBASKET OF THE USSR.

labor of our workers and increases their productivity to ensure them higher incomes. At the same time these gains cause no unemployment. The continuous expansion of production requires a continuous flow of new workers to our economy.

Progress in industry has been accompanied by all-round development of agriculture. The Ukraine has 15,200 collective farms, uniting practically all the farmers of the republic. They are served by 1,397 machine and tractor stations equipped with the latest types of farm machinery. Back in the old days many peasant households lacked even the simple plow and harrow, but now almost all field work is mechanized, and mechanization is moving swiftly to our livestock sections.

All branches of Ukrainian agriculture are showing steady progress and development. Our republic now has six million more head of cattle than it did before the 1917 Revolution, three million more cows, ten million more hogs and five million more sheep and goats. Successes achieved in agriculture in recent years will considerably increase supplies of farm produce and particularly meat, milk and eggs.

Increased agricultural production means larger incomes for our rural population. In 1955 the cash income of collective farms increased more

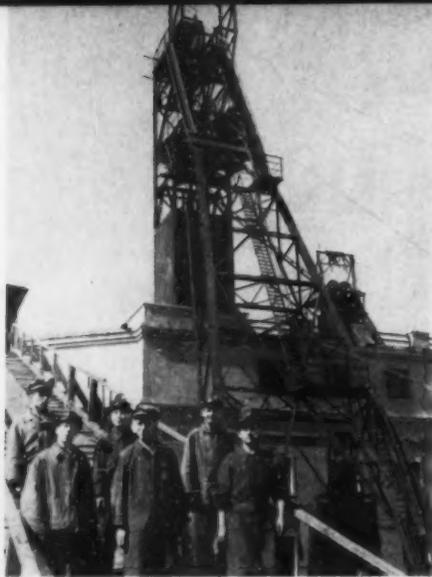
than four times above that of the prewar year of 1940. Last year the average annual income of a collective farm in the Ukraine came to one and a half million rubles, while many of them took in five or six million and some more than ten million rubles.

Advances in Culture

At the time of the 1917 Revolution about three-quarters of the population of the Ukraine was illiterate. Today illiteracy is unknown. Tuition in all schools, including colleges and universities, is free.

Before the Revolution there was not one elementary school in the Ukraine teaching in the native language of our people. Now our children are taught in their own tongue. We have more than 34,000 schools attended by about six million pupils. The number of students in our secondary schools has increased to twenty-six times the 1914 figure. Whereas the annual expenditure on public education in the Ukraine before the Revolution averaged sixty-five kopecks per capita of population, today this figure has reached 228 rubles.

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A group of student miners. Coal production is expanding rapidly in the Donbas industrial area.



The heart of the Donbas is the city of Stalino, very largely rebuilt after the Second World War.



Girl athletes like these have won many medals in both national and international sports contests.



THIS RESORT ON A PICTURESQUE ISLAND IN THE DONBAS INDUSTRIAL AREA IS POPULAR WITH MINERS AND STEELWORKERS, WHO OFTEN SPEND THEIR VACATIONS HERE.

THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE'S STATE *Continued from page 3*

There are seven universities and 127 colleges in the Ukraine now with a student body of 326,000. This figure is more than nine times higher than the 1913 enrollment. In addition we have 635 technical and other specialized secondary schools with 375,000 students, or thirty times the 1913 totals.

One of our main achievements has been the training of Ukrainian specialists in various fields of endeavor. There are almost a million engineers, agronomists, doctors, teachers and other specialists working in the republic's economy. All of them have had college training or a specialized secondary education.

Since the establishment of Soviet power in the Ukraine, an Academy of Sciences, an Architectural Academy, and an Agricultural Academy have been founded. There are now ten times more scientists in the Ukraine than there were in the whole of old Russia.

Postwar Progress

We have numerous foreign delegations visiting the Ukraine each year.

All are most welcome. Our guests from abroad wonder where the Ukraine found the strength and means to restore the city of Kiev and make it more beautiful than before in the short period since the end of the Second World War.

Indeed, the Ukraine had a titanic problem of postwar restoration. And it was not only in the capital city. We had to restore hundreds of other towns and villages, practically all the coal mines, iron and steel works, machine-building plants, power stations and railroads—everything that was barbarously destroyed by the Nazi invaders with torch and shell.

Restoration of the coal mining industry alone was a task of tremendous proportions and may be used as an illustration of what was accomplished in other fields. When the fascists had been driven out, we found it necessary to pump billions of gallons of water from the mines—a quantity equal to draining a lake thirty feet deep and covering an area of twenty-seven square miles. We had to restore more than 1,500 miles of wrecked, clogged tunnels and shafts—a distance equal to that from New Orleans to Salt Lake City.



Taras Shevchenko, a beloved Ukrainian national poet of the 19th century. Statue is in Kharkov.



Freshmen attending the university in Uzhgorod are typical of the Ukraine's 326,000 students.



The Crimea is a world-famed resort on the Black Sea. Vacationers come from all over the USSR.



A THEATRICAL SCENE OF A UKRAINIAN FOLK DANCE. THUS MODERN STAGECRAFT, AS PRACTICED IN THE REPUBLIC, CAREFULLY PRESERVES RICH NATIONAL DANCES AND SONGS.

In a comparatively short time we not only restored all that had been destroyed in industry and agriculture, but we also erected many new projects. This was made possible by the mobilization of internal forces of the Ukraine and the tremendous aid given by fraternal republics of the USSR.

The Ukrainian people have long since become convinced that their close alliance with all the other peoples of the Soviet Union, bound by their common historical development, was the means to uphold their freedom and national independence. We know that this is the road to ensure a peaceful and happy existence for ourselves and our children,

Ukraine Is a Sovereign State

As a Union Republic of the USSR, the Ukraine is a sovereign state with its own constitution, parliament and legislation, as well as its own coat of arms, flag and national anthem. The Ukraine is a people's state administered by the people themselves. More than one million men and women take part in the work of governing the republic.

The highest bodies, the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and the Ukrainian Council of Ministers, along with the various ministries, decide independently on all matters relating to the republic's affairs. The Ukraine maintains various contacts with many foreign countries and takes an active part in the work of the United Nations.

Problems which concern all the republics of the Soviet Union, as, for example, the coordination of the development of productive forces, are decided by the union government with a strict observance of the interests of each republic. To secure the interests of the Ukraine our government has its permanent representation attached to the USSR Council of Ministers.

The main task of our Ukrainian state is the achievement of a continuously rising standard of living for our people. We have done a great deal in this respect, and much more is being done. Everyone knows that the prosperity and welfare of the people can be maintained and advanced only in an atmosphere of world peace. That is why the Ukraine devotes so much effort to promoting international security and friendship among all nations. ■

A glance at the large map here will show the diversity of the national economy of the Ukrainian Republic. The symbols identify the principal products of industry and agriculture.

Before the October Socialist Revolution of 1917 the economy of the Ukraine was incomplete and underdeveloped. The republic was mainly a producer of raw materials, especially coal and iron ore. The bulk of the mines belonged to foreign companies, as did most of the Ukrainian metallurgical plants. Machine building and other modern industries were only slightly developed.

The story is altogether different today. Cooperation from the other Soviet Republics helped the Ukraine modernize its old industries, create new ones and develop its agriculture. And yet, as prosperous as the Ukraine is now, it would have been much richer had it not been for the Second World War.

The Nazi invaders reduced the republic's industries to heaps of rubble. Its electric stations were blown to bits. Millions of gallons of water flooded the coal shafts. Agriculture also suffered heavily. The farms lost the greater part of their livestock along with equipment.

Hundreds of cities, towns and villages were laid waste by shell and fire. The Ukraine lost half its prewar housing, and casualties of the population ran into the millions. The Nazis occupied the entire territory of the republic, and what was not destroyed in battle, they managed to burn or wreck before being smashed back by the avenging Soviet Army.

When liberation came, the Ukrainian people, along with the rest of the Soviet Union, turned to the task of rebuilding their economy—much of it from scratch. But in a short time, with the assistance of the whole country, the Ukraine's economy was not only restored, but it reached a point far beyond the prewar level.

Donbas Industrial Region

The most important industrial region of the Ukraine is the Donetz Coal Basin, known as the Donbas. The specialty of this region located in the eastern part of the republic is coal mining, iron, steel and engineering industries. Its importance may be compared with the Ruhr in Germany or Pennsylvania in the United States.

The Donbas is rich in many varieties of coal. In the northwest are coals ideally suited for use in the chemical industry. Coke-forming coals predominate in the central area, while in the eastern section, lapping over into part of the Russian Federative Republic, are world-famous deposits of high quality anthracite. The Donbas was considered to be fairly well prospected, but the work of Soviet geologists bared many additional coal deposits, and the basin's boundaries are being greatly extended to the east and west.

There have been radical changes in the coal industry of the Donbas. Dozens of new mines have been constructed. Old-fashioned manual mining, characteristic of the pre-revolutionary period, has been replaced by mechanization and automation. On the eve of the Second World War Donbas mines were 92 per cent mechanized, compared with only one-half per cent before the Revolution. Mechanization today has further advanced and is practically

THE UKRAINE— PROSPERING REPUBLIC

By NIKOLAI SEMENENKO

Vice-President, Academy of Sciences
of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

complete in most phases of mining operations.

Technical development was accompanied by a steadily mounting increase in the production of coal. Last year the Donbas mined 130 million metric tons compared with 23 million in 1913—the highest level before the Revolution, and the goal for 1960 is 200 million.

Geologists have found that Donbas coal deposits do not equal some of those in the Asian part of the Soviet Union. But technically and

economically, additional new seams may be put into production more easily in the Donbas, and this gives it a position of a leading coal basin of the country, alongside the Kuznetsk Coal Basin in Western Siberia.

In addition to coal, the Ukraine possesses many other valuable minerals. These deposits represent an exceptionally advantageous combination for the development of metallurgical production. Most metal producing centers of



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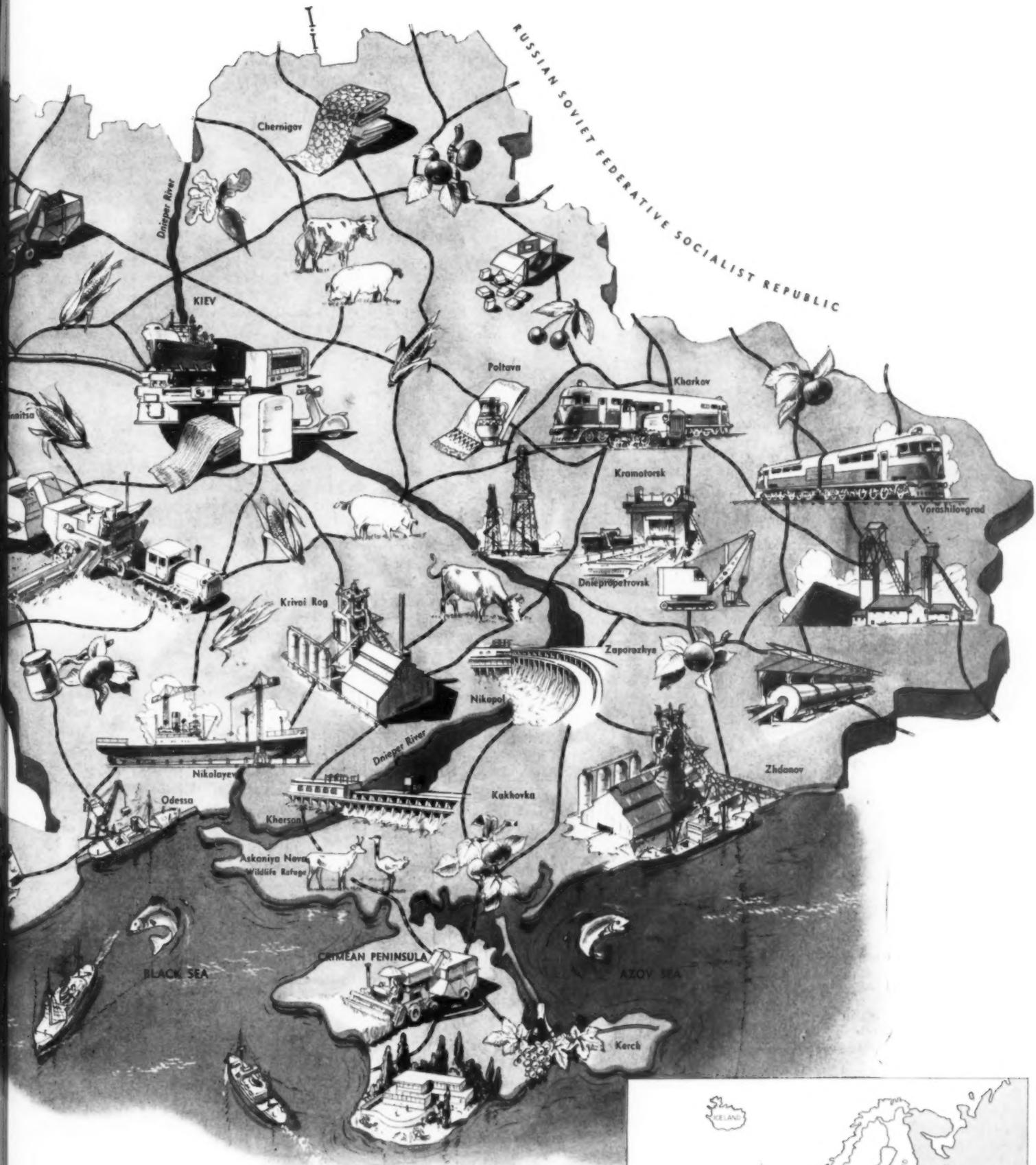
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the world lack one or another of the essential raw materials — coal, iron ore, manganese or limestone — which ordinarily must be brought in from afar. But the Ukraine has tremendous quantities of all these available in comparatively close proximity to each other.

Some 280 miles to the west of the Donbas, beyond the Dnieper River, lie the iron ore deposits of Krivoi Rog. These rank with the

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THE UKRAINE—PROSPERING REPUBLIC

Continued from page 7

Ukraine, with less than a fortieth of the Soviet Union's territory and about a fifth of its population, supplies about a third of the total coal and steel production and almost half of the country's pig iron.

The by-products of the coal, iron and steel industries served as a base upon which the Ukraine built a powerful chemical industry, which also utilizes the republic's rich mineral deposits. Among the products of the Ukraine's chemical industry, fertilizers and paint pigments occupy an important place. A sodium industry has risen from the salt deposits in the north of the Donbas, and there are also important nonferrous metal plants and a glass-making industry in the region.

In recent years oil has been discovered in the eastern part of the Ukraine. These new deposits will add to the oil production of the republic, which before was concentrated in Drogobych Region of the Western Ukraine.

Modern Machine Building

Perhaps the most striking change in the Ukrainian economy during the years of Soviet government has been the creation and rapid development of machine-building, the core of modern industry. One of the republic's largest centers of the engineering industry was built up in the Donbas, which is now known principally as a major center of heavy machine building.

A large plant in the city of Kramotorsk, for example, is producing machinery and equipment for the iron and steel, mining and other heavy industries. The annual output of this plant—one of the biggest of its kind in the world—is sufficient to equip fully several modern metallurgical works. Heavy cutters and coal-mining combines made in Gorlovka are used in many coal-mining areas of the Soviet Union and foreign countries. Powerful locomotives manufactured in Voroshilovgrad play a major role in hauling for Soviet railroads.

Northwest of the Donbas lies Kharkov, another big engineering center, whose many and most diversified products include machinery for railroads and agriculture, machine tools and bicycles. In the early thirties one of the first Soviet tractor plants was erected here. Since that time Kharkov tractors have helped mechanize agriculture in many sections of the nation. Many power projects get huge turbo-generators from Kharkov, each equal to a whole electric plant.

Through the years of Soviet government an engineering industry has been built in Kiev and Odessa, in the Dnieper River region and other areas of the Ukraine. It makes hundreds of types of machines, ranging from heavy industrial equipment, seagoing and river craft to precision instruments requiring less metal but more highly skilled labor, such as optical and radio equipment.

One of the changes that helped turn the Ukraine from an underdeveloped province into an industrialized, thriving and busy republic has been its electrification. The power indus-

try had to be built from the ground.

Scores of large steam electric stations were constructed to operate mainly on Donbas fuel. But the commissioning in 1932 of Dnieproges, the Lenin Hydroelectric Station on the Dnieper at the city of Zaporozhye, was of special importance. On the eve of the Second World War Dnieproges alone was producing twice as much electricity as all of pre-revolutionary Russia. After the war the electrification of the Ukraine continued at an increased pace.

Ukrainian transport has kept pace with the rapid growth of the national economy of the republic. It has 12,500 miles of rail trackage, and every year sees new lines added to this system. The maritime industry of the Ukraine is of growing importance to its economic life, as well as to that of the Soviet Union as a whole. The chief port is Odessa, which handles more than half the republic's imports and exports. Odessa and its environs are also a popular center for vacationers, and resorts dot the Black Sea shores.

The Ukraine's industrial development has made it possible to supply its agriculture with needed machinery. There is no district, however remote, that does not carry on the bulk of its farm operations by machines.

Diversified Agriculture

The fertile soil and warm climate of the Ukraine offer most favorable conditions for many kinds of bumper crops and almost every available acre is under the plow. Even lands between the bustling tipplers of Donbas mines have been put under cultivation.

The character of the Ukraine's agriculture changes from north to south. A strip across the northern portion has pine and oak forests alternating with fields sown to rye, buckwheat, flax, hemp and potatoes. Good pasturage here forms the basis for livestock breeding.

Farther south the forests thin out to a

A new sugar refinery. With 160 refineries, the Ukraine is the country's chief sugar producer.



The tractors, made at Kharkov, help mechanize agriculture in many parts of the Soviet Union.

richest in the world both in quantity of ore and iron content (58 to 62 per cent). Krivoi Rog is one of the most important iron ore mining centers of the Soviet Union.

Just over sixty miles to the east of Krivoi Rog, at the city of Nikopol on the Dnieper River, there are equally rich deposits of manganese ore. Nikopol supplies its abundantly rich manganese to many iron and steel plants in the Ukraine and other parts of the Soviet Union and has enough surplus to export.

Changes in Industry

Before the October Revolution most of the iron and steel plants of the Ukraine were concentrated in the Donbas. Since then these plants have been so enlarged and improved that they could be called new works. Side by side with the small blast furnaces of former years tower gigantic furnaces of which the pre-revolutionary Ukraine did not even dream.

Major changes also took place in the distribution of the iron and steel industry. Since the thirties many new works have been established at Krivoi Rog and in the Dnieper region, about halfway between the coal and iron-ore deposits. By supplying coal from one side and ore from the other, railway trains never "deadhead" back as in previous times.

A similar arrangement sends Donbas coal to the iron and steel giant at the city of Zhdanov on the Azov Sea. This plant is supplied its ore from the very rich Kerch deposits in the Crimea, and again the location permits the utmost economy in transport, with resultant savings in production costs.

Technical re-equipment of the old works and the development of new plants have resulted in a great increase in the metallurgical industry. The output of pig iron in the Ukraine increased from 2.9 million metric tons in 1913 to 17 million in 1956, and a similar increase was registered for steel production.

Before the Revolution the Ukraine supplied from 70 to 80 per cent of the coal, iron and steel of all Russia. Since then other areas have moved into these fields, but even now the



On the vast expanse of the Ukraine's fertile lands the farmers cultivate a great variety of cereals. The top position belongs to wheat which occupies almost half of the total acreage under the grain crops.

mixed forest-and-steppe area, with vast expanses of fertile black fields. This is the most densely populated section of the Ukraine. The principal crops here are sugar beet and wheat.

Sugar beet plantations cover a wide belt across the Ukraine from the southwest to the east-northeast. With more than 160 refineries, the republic is the chief sugar producer of the Soviet Union, and the wastes of the sugar refinery are used as cattle fodder.

Still southward and closer to the Black Sea are the vast expanses of the steppe zone. Wheat, corn, sunflower and barley are the main crops here, with wheat holding the top position.

Wheat is cultivated in almost every part of the republic and covers almost half the area put to cereals. The Ukraine's heavy grain production gained it the title of "breadbasket" of the Soviet Union. This was true even though the crops suffered from drought in some years.

The recent opening of vast new lands in the eastern regions of the Soviet Union has produced changes that put the Ukraine in third place for grain output, following the Russian Federative Republic and Kazakhstan. With this shift in emphasis, Ukrainian farmers are beginning to devote more attention to corn and industrial crops that are no less profitable to them than wheat.

Of special importance in this connection is cotton, which was first widely introduced in the southern part of the Ukraine not long before the war. The textile industry is growing here as a result, with an especially large mill nearing completion in the city of Kherson.

Prolific gain production and especially the expansion in recent years of the acreage put to corn has formed the foundation for steadily increasing livestock production in the Ukraine. The overwhelming emphasis is on pork, because pigs fatten quickly there. The republic also raises dairy and beef cattle, and large flock of sheep are a fixture on many farms.

In total number of pigs and cattle, the Ukraine ranks second among the Soviet Re-

publics. In sheep raising it is third, after the Russian Federative Republic (ranking first in both) and Kazakhstan.

In addition to being one of the main producers of grain, livestock and sugar beet in the Soviet Union, the Ukraine is also one of the major fruit growing areas. This has given rise to a large canning industry in the republic.

Crimean Resorts

The Ukraine's southernmost part is the Crimean peninsula. The Crimea has a host of attractions for the vacationer, with its world-famous health resorts, sun-flooded beaches, warm sea and picturesque mountains. It is also known for its verdant orchards and vineyards that produce Masandra wines, sold nationally, and one of the largest botanical gardens in the country. The Crimea has a metal industry based on the Kerch iron ore deposits, and a great amount of fishing. But it is famous primarily as a tourists' and vacationers' haven.

In the course of forty years, since the establishment of the Soviet Union, the Ukraine has been able to develop its own pool of scientists and engineers, craftsmen and industrial artisans to make full use of the findings of science and technology for the benefit of the entire country. Its wholesome economic growth demands more and more skilled workers, technicians and scientists. To help meet this demand, the Ukraine's 127 colleges and seven universities graduate some 40,000 young men and women each year—a total greater than the graduates of France, Belgium and Norway combined.

Industrious, thrifty and prosperous as they are today, the people of the Ukrainian Republic have by no means exhausted the bountiful natural resources and potential of the land and its economy. With their united will to achieve even more for themselves and their children through a rapidly expanding culture, industry and farming, they look to the future with confidence. ■

THE DNIEPER

Main Artery of the Republic

The Ukrainian Republic is crossed by many rivers flowing over its expanses to empty into the Black, Azov and Baltic Seas. Their total length comes to more than 160,000 miles, but the principal stream is the historic Dnieper. It means quite as much to the Ukrainian as the Volga to the Russian, the Thames to the Englishman or the Mississippi to the American.

Coursing its way for 1,410 miles, the Dnieper is the third largest river in Europe, topped only by the Volga and the Danube. From its source in the Russian Federative Republic, the Dnieper runs through part of the Byelorussian Republic and enters Ukrainian territory not far from the city of Chernigov.

A stretch of about half the length of the Dnieper crosses the Ukraine from north to south, turning first to the southeast, then to the southwest. The river divides the Ukraine into two parts and gives equal service to both.

From time immemorial the Dnieper has been an important waterway, but in its lower reaches its progress was impeded by huge rapids. Smashing over the rocks, the river rushed on with its tremendous power to the Black Sea.

It was at this very spot, near the city of Zaporozhye (the name means "Beyond the Rapids"), that the Ukrainian people, with the aid of the whole Soviet Union, undertook the construction of the Lenin Hydroelectric Station known as Dnieproges. This station with a capacity of 558,000 kilowatts was the largest in Europe at the time.

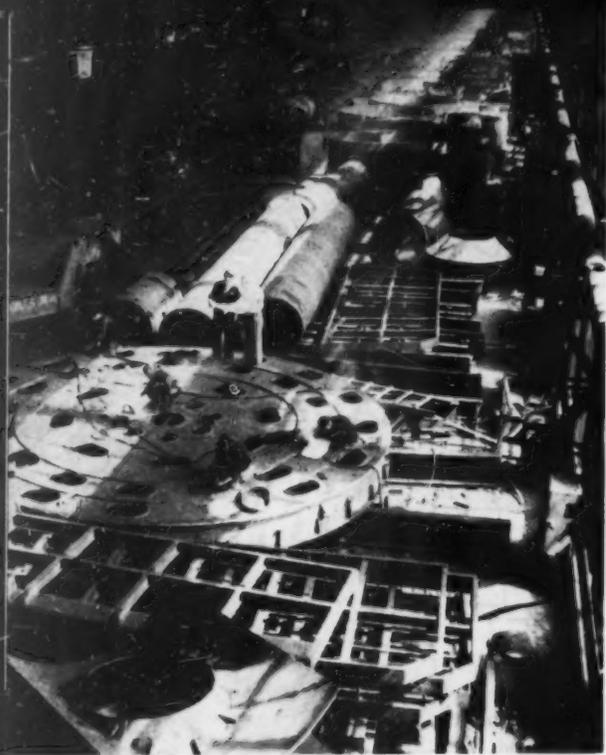
A great concrete dam blocked the Dnieper, and soon the huge reservoir's clear surface covered the rapids and deepened the river for a distance of sixty miles—to the city of Dnipropetrovsk. Locks were built past the dam, and the Dnieper became navigable throughout its length.

Chain of Coordinated Enterprises

This station was only one link in a whole chain of enterprises that sprang up in the cities and neighboring steppes on the Dnieper's banks where the stream changes its course to turn sharply westward. These enterprises, combined, formed a large industrial center known as Pridnieprovye, or the Dnieper River Region.

The numerous plants of this region include a metallurgical combine producing pig iron, high-grade electric steel, and rolled iron; an aluminum combine composed of electrolyte, alumina and electrode works; a coke-chemical combine; a ferrous-alloy works; a magnesium works; a plant utilizing metallurgical scrap

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Overhead view of an assembly of a walking excavator at Dnepropetrovsk metal-working plant.



Photo shows an aerial view of a recreation and amusement park in the city of Dnepropetrovsk. This city is one of the Ukraine's largest centers of iron and steel production and metal-working industries.

THE DNIEPER

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The machine room of Dnieproges, the first large hydropower station built on the Dnieper River.

A wide street runs from outskirts of Zaporozhye into the heart of the metallurgical center city.



for building materials; and a number of machine-building plants.

All the enterprises of the Dnieper industrial region are in very close technological connection with each other, making possible the maximum utilization of raw materials without the expense of transporting by-products and semi-manufactured goods. The waste materials of one group of plants are consumed by the others. The industrial process is therefore accomplished with the maximum economy.

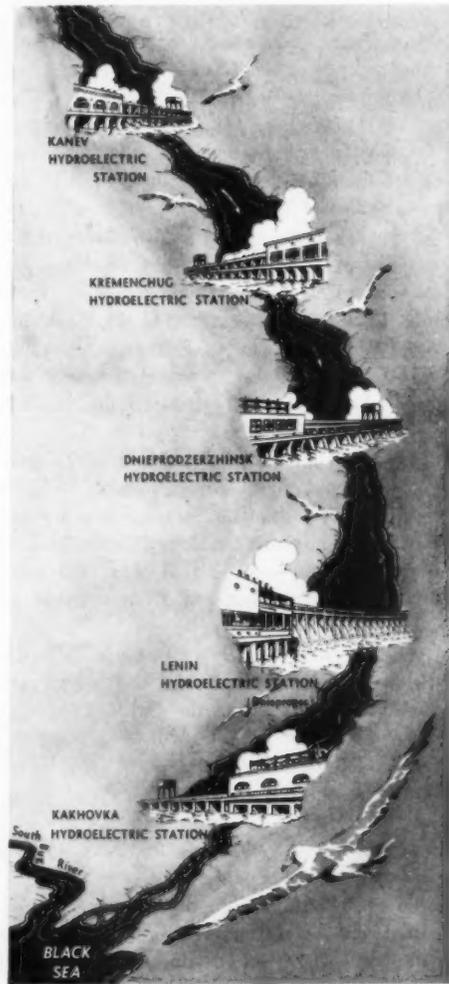
For capacity, comprehensiveness, and technical perfection, the Dnieper industrial region is an example of high industrial coordination. The iron and steel industry and metal-working plants have taken full advantage of their close location to the iron ore of Krivoi Rog, the coal of the Donbas and the manganese of Nikopol. At the same time the entire region benefits from the cheap electricity supplied by the Dnieproges.

Nikopol also lies on the Dnieper. In addition to its famous manganese ore, the city has an important tube-making industry. Further south, not far from the Dnieper's mouth, is Kherson—one of the Ukraine's ports and a new textile center supplied with cotton from the surrounding steppes.

Just below Kherson the Dnieper is met by the Southern Bug, and they form a common estuary. At the point of confluence lies the city of Nikolayev, the most important ship-building center on the Black Sea.

The Dnieper passes through all the zones of the Ukraine — forest, forest-and-steppe and open steppe—which give the republic's agriculture its distinguishing features. On the right bank, at the threshold of the forest-and-steppe zone, is Kiev, capital of the Ukraine and one of its largest industrial cities. In picturesque spots throughout the length of the stream, there are many vacation resorts.

The Dnieper is throbbing with a full and diversified life both along its banks and on its waters. One of the current operations is concerned with the complex reconstruction of the river. The projects provide for the building of new hydroelectric stations. They will not



only produce more power for the growing economy of the Ukraine, but also deepen the waterway which plays such an important part in the republic's transport system.

The map on this page shows these stations. Two of them—the Dnieproges and the Kakhovka—are in operation. The others are under construction. All of them will soon form the Dnieper cascade. The mighty river has been put to work for the good of man, and it will render a still greater service to the national economy in the years to come. ■



OPERA THEATER IN STALINO, HEART OF DONBAS INDUSTRIAL AREA. THE UKRAINE HAS 79 THEATERS AND 28,500 RECREATION CENTERS.

Cultural Progress of the Ukrainian People

By Maxim Rylsky, poet



Maxim Rylsky belongs to the older generation of Ukrainian writers. He has written dozens of books of poetry since 1910 which have been translated into many languages. Rylsky is also known as a translator of the Russian classics into the Ukrainian language and for his research work in the field of Ukrainian folklore. In 1943 he was elected to the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. He has been a member of the Parliament of the Soviet Union since 1946.

The Kiev Opera House recently gave a performance of Borodin's opera *Prince Igor* for members of a big Ukrainian collective farm, and I happened to be in the audience at the time. The visiting farm people, decked out in their holiday best, were in a festive mood.

I was very interested in the intense, almost reverential silence that fell on the hall with the first strains of music. Borodin's musical production was heard with rapt attention. Between acts the audience discussed the merits of the performance, and I must say that they knew their subject.

On other occasions I have attended concerts given by ensembles, orchestras and choirs for our workers and farmers, and I am always thrilled by the deep attention and emotion with which these audiences listen to Beethoven or Haydn, to the Fourth Symphony by Tchaikovsky, or Lysenko's overture to *Taras Bulba*, to compositions by a whole list of world classical and contemporary composers.

The people not only appreciate the works offered from the stage, but also advance their own demands. Several years ago farmers of the village of Kamenka, where Tchaikovsky lived and worked and where Pushkin spoke of liberty, published an open letter to Ukrainian poets and composers. The villagers asked for more new songs.

Similar appeals often appear in the press. And they have proved very effective. In re-

cent years our poets and composers have completed many new songs which are now enjoying high favor and being sung by the people.

The annual district, regional and republican amateur art festivals acquaint the public not only with old but also with new folk songs that are being created every day, as well as with classical and modern Ukrainian music. The music of other peoples of the Soviet Union is very popular, too.

Apart from contemporary plays and works by such outstanding Ukrainian playwrights as Karpenko-Kary, Krapivnitsky, Staritsky, Lesya Ukrainka, Korneichuk and Kocherga, the repertory of workers' and farmers' amateur art circles includes Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, Pushkin's *Stone Guest* and Lope de Vega's *Fuente Ovejuna*.

Although art represents only one aspect of the people's cultural life, it should be mentioned that the considerable progress made in this field is characteristic of all other aspects.

It has become commonplace for farmers to enrich agronomy by making reports to students and scientific personnel of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences on their practical experience in raising sugar beets or corn. A recent machinist who still continues to maintain close ties with his former shopmates has become a gifted scientist and has been nomi-

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THE UKRAINE NOW HAS SIX MILLION SCHOOL CHILDREN, AN INCREASE OF 26 TIMES OVER THE 1914 FIGURE.

Cultural Progress

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nated for membership in the Academy of Sciences. This is also a fact which surprises no one in our country.

As for classical and contemporary literature, the demand for it is really immense. Some 100 million copies of books are published annually in the Ukraine. Although the number of books published increases from year to year, the publishing houses still fail to meet the constantly growing demand. Quite frequently it is difficult to buy a book by a favorite author even when it has just come off the press.

And I still remember the time when Ukrainian intellectuals dreamed of seeing at least one new book published each month!

Our writers are often invited to participate in literary discussions organized at factory clubs and collective farms. They are always greeted very cordially, but they have come to know that they are facing a very exacting audience. We get our most trenchant and just criticism from the workers and farmers, whose remarks are filled with that gentle, good-natured and at times sarcastic humor typical



MEMBERS OF A KIEV AMATEUR THEATRICAL GROUP.



THE BANDURA, POPULAR INSTRUMENT IN UKRAINE.

of the Ukrainian. More and more of our talent comes from the villages and factories or mines.

I remember the time when fiction produced under a stringent censorship was the only medium through which Ukrainian national thought could be manifest. Scientific or political literature was strictly forbidden by the czarist authorities, and no one could even dream of printing Ukrainian newspapers. The Revolution of 1905 brought some very limited opportunities in this respect. But it remained for the October Revolution of 1917 to dispel this terrible nightmare.

It is difficult to believe that there was a period when the Ukrainian theater was not permitted to give performances in the Ukraine, of all places! It enjoyed tremendous success in many cities of czarist Russia, particularly in St. Petersburg (now Leningrad), but could not play in Kiev. Now we have many opera and drama theaters celebrated throughout the Soviet Union, whose brilliant actors are known far beyond the borders of our country.

Speaking of the progress of national culture in the Ukrainian Republic, one cannot but note that this culture is developing alongside deep respect for the culture of the fraternal Russian people and all other Soviet peoples. It derives its strength from close contacts with them and reciprocal exchange of values.

The brotherhood of all nations living in the USSR is the high-flying banner under which the national cultures of all the Soviet peoples are flourishing.



IN THE FOREGROUND IS A BUST OF TARAS SHEVCHENKO, FAMED UKRAINIAN POET, IN THE KIEV STATE MUSEUM.



GIRL MAIL CARRIER DELIVERS PAPERS TO FARMER.

STUDENTS RELAX IN MUSIC SCHOOL AT UZHGOROD.



KRESHCHATIK IS THE MAIN THOROUGHFARE IN KIEV. NEW BUILDINGS HERE, AS IN MANY OTHER SECTIONS OF THE CITY, WERE ERECTED ON THE RUINS LEFT BY THE NAZIS.



KIEV

Ancient Ukrainian

Capital

By Mikola Rudenko

To a visitor accustomed to the rush and bustle of Moscow or New York, Kiev may seem a slow, staid and leisurely city. Even on Kreshchatik, the Ukrainian capital's main thoroughfare, pedestrians stroll along as though they had loads of time. The easy tempo carries over even to the slow drawl of Ukrainian speech.

But this relaxed pace is deceptive because it is merely a surface appearance of placidity. Beneath it is the humming, tireless energy of the industrious Ukrainian people. If you watch them on the assembly lines of factories and on countless construction sites or measure their progress in education and science, you'll find the true yardstick of their activity and accomplishment.

Eleven Hundred Years Young

Kiev is an ancient city. Slav chronicles make references to settlements here as far back as the ninth and tenth centuries of our era. In the eleventh and twelfth centuries it flourished as the capital of a great East Slavonic state—the Kiev Rus.

The position of Kiev on the Dnieper River, one of the main waterways of Europe, was responsible for its development as an important trading center. Later, as the Ukraine's industry began to develop, Kiev continued to be a city composed mostly of merchants, tradesmen and officials. It had only a local industry under the czars.

Kievites proudly assert that the last forty years, since the establishment of Soviet government, have done more to change the face of their city than a thousand previous years. The present generation looks at a newly born city.

In their own quiet way, Kievites worked steadfastly to develop their ancient city into a modern industrial center. Kiev now produces precision machinery, automatic lathes, stout ships, equipment for the chemical, sugar and leather trades. In addition, it has maintained its leading position in light industry and consumer goods' production.

Work is bustling in scientific-research centers of the city. Kiev is the home of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences established during the years of Soviet government.

Gifted poets, writers and dramatists of Kiev are enriching the literature of the multi-national Soviet Union. There are numerous theaters and museums, colleges and libraries here now, whereas under the czars Ukrainian culture was all but stamped out and continued by virtue of the will of the people to maintain their native tongue, culture and customs.

Nine Hundred New Streets

Kievites remember the suffering the city went through before the Nazi invaders were driven out. Only the shell of a city remained. The fascist armies not only destroyed housing and factories, but also reduced theaters, schools and ancient monuments to piles of wreckage and rubble. Property losses reached the enormous total of ten billion rubles.

But that is yesterday's history. The wounds of war have long since healed. There are 900 new streets on Kiev's map. Many of them are as yet unnamed, known simply as "the new streets."

The city has grown past its prewar boundaries, has more housing

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THIS LARGE BUILDING HOUSES THE UKRAINIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.



BOGDAN KHMELNITSKY SQUARE NAMED FOR A UKRAINIAN NATIONAL HERO.



UKRAINIAN CAPITAL IS A GARDEN CITY; THE CHESTNUT TREES ARE IN BLOOM



MANY NEW HOMES ON THE OUTSKIRTS PASS THE CITY'S PREWAR BOUNDARIES



OVERLOOKING THE DNIEPER RIVER IS ASKOLD TOMB, WITH PRETTY SURROUNDINGS



APARTMENT BUILDINGS IN THIS SQUARE ARE TYPICAL OF POSTWAR HOUSING.

PEOPLE LIKE TO REST BY THE FOUNTAIN. THERE ARE MANY SUCH SPOTS IN KIEV.



KIEV

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than before the war and an industry whose output is many times greater than in prewar days. The population of Kiev is now almost one million people, and it is the third largest city in the Soviet Union following Moscow and Leningrad.

Garden City

Kiev is a city of high embankments and sloping streets, built on a series of hills on the Dnieper River. Looking across from the low left bank to the high right side on which the old Kiev stands, you can make out only the 300-foot ancient belfry of the Kiev-Pechersk Monastery and the tall modern buildings of the Council of Ministers. The rest of the city is hidden behind trees.

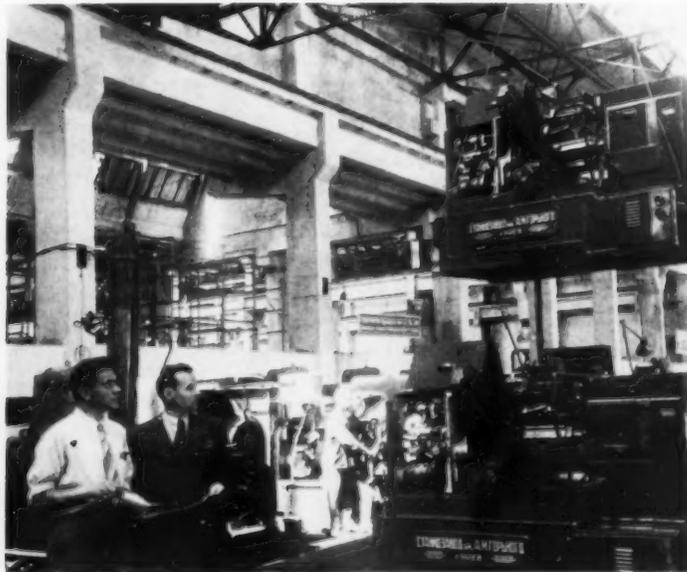
The Ukrainian capital is truly a garden city, one of the most beautiful in the Soviet Union. Its streets, parks and boulevards are decked with greenery.

The granite embankment of the Dnieper, Petrovskaya Boulevard, and the yellow sandy beaches of Trukhanov Island are favorite strolling spots and picnic areas for Kievites. The voices of children are heard here from dawn to dark. These places attract visitors from every section of the Soviet Union and foreign tourists as well.

After nightfall automobile traffic on Petrovskaya Boulevard is halted and the beautiful walk along the Dnieper, bright with the lights of its cafes and restaurants, open-air theaters and dance pavilions, becomes a playground for thousands of Kiev's citizens.

The visitor from a more bustling city who remains in Kiev for a while begins to comprehend why Kievites don't rush. They like their city—the home town they rebuilt—and they take time to enjoy it while they stroll. The visitor soon finds himself walking more slowly and drinking in the charm and eye-warming kindliness of this old-new city of the Ukraine. ■

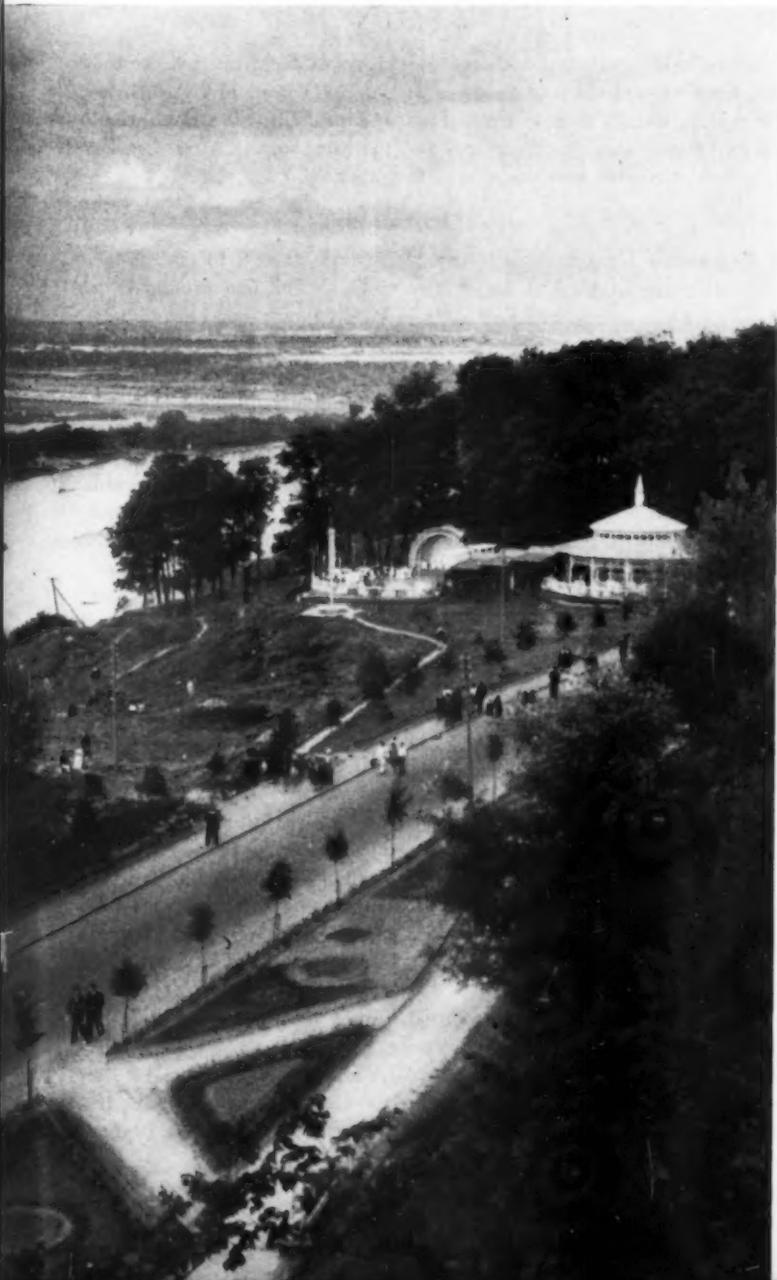
VIEW OF MODERN ASSEMBLY SHOP IN THE GORKY MACHINE-TOOL PLANT IN KIEV.





FLOWING PAST KIEV IS THE DNIEPER RIVER, ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMERCIAL WATERWAYS OF EUROPE, WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY.

A PARK WITH THEATER AND DANCE PAVILION IS LOCATED ON THE RIVER'S BANK.



THIS IS KIEV-PECHERSK MONASTERY, AN ANCIENT STRUCTURE OF THE SLAVS.





THERE WILL BE A HOUSEWARMING PARTY VERY SOON FOR THE RIMARENKO FAMILY.

A NEW HOUSE FOR THE RIMARENKOS

By Mikhail Sukhanov

I was on the way to Muzychi, an old Ukrainian village a short way out of Kiev, to look in at the collective farm named after the great Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko, when my car decided to stop running. I checked the spark plugs, and that about exhausted my fund of automotive knowledge. I was ready to start walking when a motorcycle came rocketing by.

"Need any help?"

"And how!" I said.

The young fellow stuck his head under the hood, jiggled a wire or two and the car started. He jumped back on his motorcycle, yelled, "You're welcome," back into the wind, and was off.

I got to Muzychi without any more trouble and asked for the collective farm office. There was no one there. I knocked at one of the houses and asked whether there was anyone around who could tell me about the collective farm.

"It's Sunday," the man said sleepily.

"I know," I said apologetically.

"Nobody's around on Sunday," he added. "Everyone's taking it easy."

"I know," I repeated, and added that I was sorry to have awakened him.

"Well, since you already did," he said matter-of-factly, "I'll show you around."

"There are some facts and figures I'd like to get," I said.

"Facts I can give you, but figures aren't my strong point. I'll hunt someone up for you."

As we walked down the road I told him about my car trouble.

"That sounds like Afanasi Rimarenko," he said. "All he has to do is to whistle at an engine and it starts running. He's one of the collective farmers. He's in charge of farm machinery."

We walked through the sleepy village to the greenhouse. Through the glass I saw a young man potting plants. "That's Dmitri Dmitrienko, our agronomist. He's the man for figures. I'll leave you here."

"Going back to sleep?" I asked.

"No," he smiled. "I'll go over to the clubhouse and see if I can stir up some activity."

Everybody else in town may have been sleepy, but the agronomist certainly wasn't. He veritably popped with facts and figures. He wanted to show me every one of the fields in the 6,900 acres of wheat,

corn, potatoes and vegetables and every one of the fruit trees in the 540 acres of orchard, not to speak of the 2,000 head of livestock in the barns, the 19 cars in the garage, the machine shop, the brickyard, the slate shop, the flour mill and the carp ponds. After a while I was able to slow him down to a fast walk.

Problems of a Dairymaid

We stopped for a breather at the dairy farm to talk to one of the girls who was working at the electric milkers. She was dressed in a starched white smock and had a white kerchief over her hair.

When I asked her how it was going, she said, "Nothing to brag about."

"How come?" I said.

"This section of the farm is new. The automatic troughs haven't been installed yet. We have to bring in the water by hand and as a result the milk yield is low."

"There's nothing the matter with the milk yield," the agronomist told me as we walked out of earshot. He explained that she had come to work in the dairy after she had graduated from the village secondary school and that she was doing a fine job. Last year she had milked an average of 8,800 pounds per cow; the general average of the farm for the year was 8,300 pounds.

"Then why all the pessimism?" I asked.

"The point is that she wants to beat Galina Borisenko, the best milkmaid on the farm. And Galina's average is 12,000 pounds per cow."

"She has quite a way to go."

"She'll make it," the agronomist said.

How Much Does a Farmer Make?

"How is the collective farm as a whole doing?" I asked.

"Our income has more than doubled in the last three years. It went up from 2,798,000 rubles in 1953 to more than six million in 1956. And the earnings in money—that is in addition to payment in kind—increased from four rubles to ten rubles per workday unit."

"What is a workday unit?"

"The income of each farmer depends upon the total income of the farm. The share each farmer gets depends upon the work he has contributed toward the total income. The measure is provided by the workday unit, which takes into account the amount of labor and its quality. The workday unit is not a calendar unit. A collective farmer

may earn two, three or more workday units in a single day. Each unit is credit for a definite amount of money and products.

"What does the average family income come to?"

"On our collective farm an ordinary family with two or three working members will earn from 1,000 to 1,200 workday units a year; some will earn as much as 2,000 or more. If we base our figures on the minimum number of workday units, we find that the average annual income per family in the last three years has gone up from four-five thousand to ten-twelve thousand rubles. You have to add to this the money value of the payment in kind, approximately seven-eight thousand rubles. It brings the total average income up to seventeen-twenty thousand rubles. This money is exempt from taxation. The farmers do not spend any of it on implements or seed; farm expenditures come out of the common treasury. Every farm family also has its own house, with its own garden, orchard, poultry and livestock, which adds eight or nine thousand rubles to the family income."

A New House

I wanted to visit one of the farm families. "How about Afanasi Rimarenko?" I asked.

"You know him?"

I explained how we had met and that he hadn't given me a chance to thank him properly.

It was a short walk to his house. Rimarenko was pleased to see me again and waved away my thanks. "A simple adjustment. It isn't worth mentioning."

Young Mrs. Rimarenko showed me around the house. There were flowers on every windowsill and the rooms were colorfully decorated with the traditional hand-embroidered Ukrainian towels. The house was immaculate but small and seemed crowded with furniture.

I complimented Mrs. Rimarenko on her housekeeping and commented on the furniture.

"We've been buying it for our new house."

She opened the window to show me a brick house going up next door.

"How much will the house cost you?" I asked Rimarenko.

"About twenty thousand rubles."

"Did you get a state loan?"

"No, we're managing without it. But the collective farm is helping out with the trucking and skilled labor."

"You must have done a lot of economizing to save up all that money for a house."

"We've had to put off buying certain things—items like a TV set that my daughter Lydia has been pressuring me for. You know how these teen-agers are. If Sasha's parents and Luba's parents, and so on, have a TV, why can't we? But we haven't had to skimp on clothes. And as for food, that's one thing a farm family can't afford to economize on. A farmer works hard and he's got to eat well. Besides," he laughed, "did you ever hear of a Ukrainian who could get along without pork and dumplings?"

The Rimarenkos are a sizable family—that's the reason for the new house. There are the two children and Rimarenko's mother and father. The old folks and Mrs. Rimarenko do light work around the collective farm. The three of them earn as many workday units as the head of the family.

Last year the family earned 22,680 rubles in cash, 1.9 tons of wheat and 4.2 tons of potatoes. Besides that, they had their own milk, meat, vegetables and fruit. Whatever they couldn't use themselves they sold at the public market in Kiev.

"That's why I don't need to borrow money for the new house," Rimarenko said. "We get along fine, thank goodness. And our family is not an exception. You'll find new houses all over the village."

As we were getting ready to leave, the old man put in a word: "Why don't you tell him about the pension?"

Rimarenko said, "I forgot about that. I still have a way to go before I qualify."

He explained that the pension system set up by the Agricultural Artel—the Farm Cooperative—qualifies men for a pension at the age of 60 and women at the age of 55. The regulations also provide for sick benefits regardless of age; for special assistance in case of need; and for vacations in rest homes—all paid for by the collective farm.

I thought as I left that farming may not be the easiest way in the world to make a living, but there were certainly a good many things to be said for it. ■



TOMATOES ARE ONE VEGETABLE THAT GROWS IN THE COLLECTIVE FARM HOTOHOUSE.



MOTHER AND DAUGHTER DON'T AGREE ON THE STYLE OF A NEW DRESS.

THE VILLAGE LIBRARIAN TELLS RIMARENKO THAT MANY NEW BOOKS HAVE ARRIVED.





IVAN KOVALENKO IS A STEELWORKER AND HE SAYS THAT IN THIS TRADE YOU'VE GOT TO SENSE THE METAL WHICH IS SOMETHING LIKE INTERPRETING MUSIC.

THREE MEETINGS WITH IVAN KOVALENKO

BY LEON BAGRAMOV



IT WOULD BE TRUE TO SAY THAT IN THIS ORCHESTRA CLARINETIST IVAN KOVALENKO "PLAYS FIRST FIDDLE." HE ALSO EXCELS AT PLAYING OTHER WOODWIND INSTRUMENTS.

At a Concert

It was at a concert given at the Palace of Culture at Dneprodzerzhinsk in the Ukraine. A tall, broad-shouldered young man in a white suit and dark tie was playing a medley of folk songs on the clarinet accompanied by an orchestra.

The music he made had the murmur of water, the sound of grass rustling in the summer breeze, of rain tapping at window panes, of the wind on a lonesome winter steppe. Suddenly his music changed, quickened. His clarinet began to laugh as though it were making fun of the mood it had just evoked. It was teasing, merry laughter that ended the medley on a high rollicking note.

"He's quite a musician," I said to my neighbor, an elderly man in spectacles.

"He is indeed."

"Who is he?" I asked.

"He? Why, that's Ivan Kovalenko," as though the name were self-explanatory. He looked at me and must have seen that the name did not register. "He's one of the most popular performers in town. He formed a quartet not long ago that's the star attraction at every concert given around here. The other day the Kiev Radio broadcast a recording

he made recently of a Weber composition."

I excused my ignorance on the ground that I was a stranger in town and mentioned that I would very much like to meet Kovalenko.

"That isn't hard," my neighbor said. "Come around to the Dzerzhinsky plant tomorrow morning and ask for me. I'm Taras Ostapchuk. I'll introduce you."

"Why the plant?" I said. "Is Kovalenko going to play there tomorrow?"

"No," he laughed. "He happens to work there. He supervises a crew in the rail and girder shop. I'm an engineer in the same shop."

At the Plant

"Watch out," Taras Ostapchuk yelled in my ear. I jumped aside as a small engine pulling cars loaded with girders rolled past with a high-pitched whistle.

On my right a steel saw cut long rails into sections as though it were going through tinder, fanning out a blinding sheaf of sparks. On my left, red-hot steel ingots weighing I don't know how many tons were being shaped on a rolling mill into blooms that were on the way to becoming rails, girders, sheet steel and pipes. High overhead, up near the ceiling, a crane slowly swung over, lifted a rail as

though it were a toy and lined it up on a big stack.

The immense shop, half a mile long, was going about its day to day business.

"Here's the fellow you want to see," Taras Ostapchuk told me. He had stopped near a tall man who stood watching a saw slice through a red-hot bar of steel.

Ivan Kovalenko did not look much like yesterday's clarinetist. The white suit and dark tie had been replaced by overalls, and his face, smudged a little by dirt and grease, had the concentrated frown of a man doing a job which demanded all his attention.

I introduced myself and told him I wanted to know something about his work. The frown vanished, his face livened, became animated. "I used to be a rolling-mill repairman," he told me. "Now I've got a more responsible job. I'm a sorter. You wouldn't know what that is. Let me tell you . . ."

He talked with enthusiasm, gesticulating broadly. He was a little impatient with me, like all people who are wrapped up in their work, when I didn't immediately catch on to some of his technical lingo.

"In our work," he tried to simplify for me, "know-how isn't enough. You have to get the

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IVAN'S VIVACIOUS WIFE, EVGENIA ADMITS THAT HE IS AS HANDY IN THE KITCHEN AS HE IS ON HIS JOB AT THE FACTORY, OR PLAYING AN ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENT.

THREE MEETINGS WITH IVAN KOVALENKO



A TENSE MOMENT IN SON SASHA'S CONSTRUCTIONS.

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feel of the metal. It's something like interpreting music. You've got to sense the soul of the metal." He said this slowly and hesitantly, as though he had thought this thing through carefully for himself but wasn't sure that someone else would understand what he meant by the comparison.

I knew what he meant. Kovalenko the steelworker and Kovalenko the musician were both artists—the difference lay only in the tools, the materials and the setting.

We talked for a while over the noise. Before he went back to his saw and his steel bar and his frown, he asked whether I would like to drop in at his home.

At Home

I came a little early. The door was opened by a tall young woman with a bright, vivacious face.

"Come right in," she told me almost before I had explained myself. "I'm Evgenia. Ivan will be home any minute now." She spoke with a slight Ukrainian accent and with all the heartiness and exuberance which is so characteristic of Ukrainians.

In the short half-hour before Ivan came home, I learned that the Kovalenkos had two children. That the eldest, Sasha, was preco-

cious and went to music school in addition to his regular school and was doing brilliantly all around. That Valya, the daughter, was a perfect beauty and took after her father and that she had had measles two months ago but was fine now. That Evgenia herself was an economist and that she preferred working to keeping house. That she had managed to get a wonderful nurse to take care of the children, a real paragon of virtue.

Also that she had visited Moscow last year and had been thrilled by the theaters but would hate to have to live in a place which was so noisy and where people were in such a hurry all the time. She argued, with much heat, although I hadn't said a word to contradict her, that the world's two best writers were Jack London and Mikhail Sholokhov, London because his characters were so strong, and Sholokhov for his beautiful portrait of a Russian woman in *And Quiet Flows the Don*.

No doubt I should have been bombarded with dozens of other such fascinating items, all delivered with the same breathless speed, if Kovalenko and his son had not come in at that moment, the boy shouting, "I got A in arithmetic, mother. And I wrestled with Volodya and beat him." Little Valya dropped her toys and ran to her father, yelling hello at the top of her high voice.

Finally, we all sat down for some tea.

Evgenia insisted I taste her jam. She had made it from a recipe all her own and there was no comparison between her homemade jam and the stuff you bought in the store because jam is something you have to have a touch for, like a green thumb for gardening.

After tea, with the children out of the room and relative quiet established, I got Ivan Kovalenko to tell me about himself. It was the story of a bright farm boy growing up in a big family in a Ukrainian village.

Like most other boys his age, he sailed his toy boats on the pond near the village and stole apples from the neighbor's orchard. But more often than most boys, he would run out into the fields, lie in the high grass and listen to Yukhim, the shepherd, play an endlessly long drawn-out melody on his horn.

When Ivan was through with elementary school, he went to a vocational school in the city. At school he joined the music club and learned to play the clarinet. He chose the clarinet because it reminded him of Yukhim's horn.

When the war broke out, Ivan had just finished school and started to work. His town was occupied by the Nazis. He told me, speaking quietly but with a kind of restrained violence, about the three hundred townspeople the invaders had executed in retaliation for the murder of a German officer. Most of his friends were seized and shipped to Germany for forced labor. He managed to escape by a series of minor miracles.

When the Soviet Army liberated the town, he joined up as a machine-gunner, scout and musician. I asked him why he hadn't become a professional musician after the war. I'm a good amateur clarinetist . . .

"Very good," I interposed.

"Maybe," he said, "but I knew I could never stack up against the best of the professionals. Besides, I happen to like working in a steel mill. This way I can do both."

What kind of music did he prefer? Well, he liked listening to classical music occasionally, but it was folk music that he really went for. Any kind of music, he thought, had something to say and people who wanted to listen. He didn't have much use for people who looked down their noses at jazz.

At this point Evgenia, who obviously hadn't run out of facts, chimed in explosively, "You didn't tell our guest that you can play almost any wind instrument and that you organized a brass band at the factory and that . . ."

"My press agent," Kovalenko interrupted her with a laugh. "She even loves me when I practice scales on the clarinet."

"It's your music I love, not you," Evgenia smiled at him, turning back to me. "And what a success he was when he played at the talent show in Kiev, and . . ."



SASHA IS A FINE STUDENT, AND HERE HE IS ACCOMPANYING HIS FATHER AS THEY PUT ON A HOME CONCERT.



YOUTHS FROM A WESTERN UKRAINIAN COLLECTIVE FARM ARE ENJOYING ONE OF THEIR SUNDAY AFTERNOON OUTINGS.



REUNION TRANSFORMED THE WESTERN UKRAINE

By Arkadi Kustov

When traveling through the Western Ukraine one's heart is inevitably captured by the beauty of this picturesque land, which stretches wide and free over the hill-studded plains bordering on the northern slopes of the Carpathian mountain range. The roads wind along vast fields which please the eye with the mighty ocean of their golden wheat and

IN LVOV'S MUSEUM OF WRITER IVAN FRANKO, NATIVE OF THE WESTERN UKRAINE.



the luscious greenery of their beet plantations painted in large squares on the rich black soil.

Neat cottages of the Ukrainian villages sparkle in the sun. They are set on flowery carpets, with hollyhocks tall as a man along the fence rows. There are collective farm clubs that are the center of the social and recreational life, and almost everywhere houses under construction, some lacking only roofs, others just rising from their foundations.

In the rural districts of Rovno and Stanislav Regions, near Tarnopol and in the vicinity of Lvov, as everywhere in the Ukraine, the people are energetic and cheerful. They like to spice their speech with sparkling witticism and a sharp word, and are hospitable and friendly to visitors.

The history of the Western Ukraine is a story of six centuries of foreign invasion and separation from the Ukraine proper. Although this land formed an integral whole with the Ukraine both geographically and ethnographically, it was forcibly torn away from the main massif of the Ukrainian lands and remained that way until recent times. The old Polish magnates were replaced by the generals and gendarmerie of the Austrian Hapsburgs, who in turn were unseated by the Polish nobility. The rulers changed, but nothing changed the lot of the Ukrainian working people.

Generation after generation of Western Ukrainians led a bare existence, in hopeless poverty, in the chains of political impotence and national discrimination. Their national interests were completely ignored, and their national culture disdained.

In the fall of 1939 the Western Ukraine gained its freedom and immediately reunited with the Ukrainian Soviet Republic by the will of an overwhelming majority of its people. However, serious trials and suf-

fering awaited them in the years of World War II under Hitlerite occupation. In the Janovsky death camp alone, only one of the fascist concentration camps in this area, 200,000 lost their lives. Nevertheless, the Western Ukraine continued its struggle; its partisans helped the Soviet Army with devotion and courage.

Very little time has passed since those days, but there is nothing in the appearance of the Western Ukraine to suggest the dark pages of its past. In these few years quite a number of prominent political figures and statesmen have emerged from the people—rank-and-file workers, peasants and professionals. The Executive Committee of the Lvov Regional Soviet, the local governing body, is headed by Semyon Stefanik, a former college teacher and son of the famous Western Ukrainian writer Vasili Stefanik. His deputies are Maria Koch, a former Lvov seamstress, and Grigori Moseichuk, son of a peasant who lived near Rovno. The Western Ukraine is represented in the USSR Supreme Soviet by Anton Kochubei, Anna Gogol and Grigori Gavrishchuk, all born and brought up in this area.

Today old-timers recall the days when the vast majority of the farmers wore clothes made of homespun and shoes made of tree bark, sent their children away at a very early age to earn their keep and did not even have the means for elementary subsistence.

The economic transformations of the Western Ukraine have forever rid its people of worry about their daily bread and the morrow. For ages the local peasants could only dream of owning their own land; now they have it. The landowners' estates, to which nearly three-quarters of the farming land of the Western Ukraine belonged, were dissolved as far back as 1939, immediately after the proclamation of Soviet power.

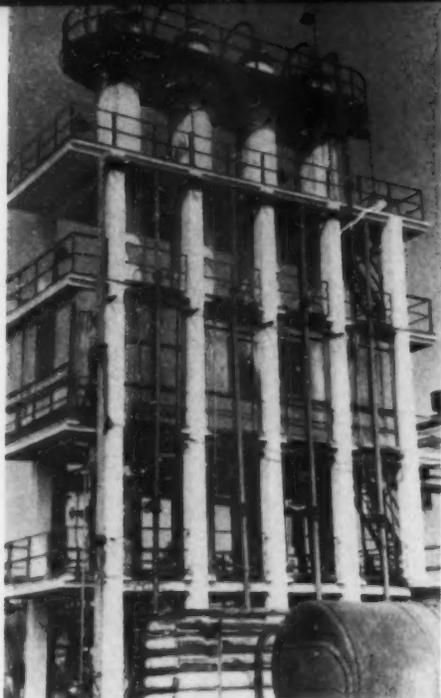
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CULTIVATOR GOES THROUGH SUGAR BEET FIELD OF A FARM IN ROVNO REGION.

LVOV IS THE LEADING INDUSTRIAL AND CULTURAL CENTER OF THE WESTERN UKRAINE. ITS OPERA AND BALLET HOUSE (BELOW) RANKS WITH THE BEST SOVIET THEATERS.





A POSTWAR OIL REFINERY UNIT IN DROGOBYCH.



AN ANATOMY CLASS AT THE LVOV PHYSICAL CULTURE INSTITUTE—ONE OF THE CITY'S 12 COLLEGES.



FARM MACHINERY MADE IN LVOV IS TYPICAL OF ITS INDUSTRY SINCE THE LAST WAR.

RUG-MAKING IS ONE OF THE NATIONAL HANDICRAFTS IN THE WESTERN UKRAINE.



WESTERN UKRAINE *Continued from page 25*

The state machine and tractor stations supply the farmers with first-class agricultural machinery. No wonder that the people who love to till the land and know how to work are now living well there.

In Podgorky village, Kalush District of Stanislav Region, collective farmers have built 112 houses of their own within the last few years, houses more spacious and cozy than the ones they replaced. The members of the collective farm in the village of Tarakanovka, Dubno District of Rovno Region, decided to build a good village club at the farm's expense. Dubrovitsa District, now part of the Ukrainian Polesseye, has twenty medical establishments which provide the farmers with good medical service free of charge, while before Soviet power was established there wasn't even one. The district also has twenty-three schools which were non-existent before; twenty-four village clubs and sixteen libraries—also new to this area. There are many other things in the life of the countryside of the Western Ukraine that weren't there before.

Great changes have taken place in the cities, too.

Lvov, the largest industrial and cultural center of the western regions of the Ukraine, was built by gifted architects of many nationalities and many epochs. Gothic architecture stands side by side with baroque, cheap ostentation flanks neat severity. The city's ornamented temples pierce the azure sky like gleaming lances, and full blocks of light, wide-eyed buildings seem themselves to reflect sunlight. The variety of style has its own unique charm, the charm of "bubbling life."

Today Lvov is no longer the nursery of coupon-clippers and a center of unemployment. It is a thriving city filled with activity, all in motion, driving ahead. Its stony gray hair merely sets off the strength and beauty of its present-day youth.

Lvov has a number of large plants operating with modern equipment, the farm machinery works and the automatic loader plant; bicycle and bus factories; electric bulb and instrument plants; an electrical appliances factory and a bacon packing plant; telephone and telegraph works; shoe and knitgoods factories, and other enterprises too numerous to mention. Almost all of them, with few exceptions, were set up during the years of Soviet government. In the postwar years alone more than two billion rubles were invested in Lvov's industry. The output of industrial goods has increased ten and a half times in the past decade. The products of some of the new plants have found a good market even outside the Soviet Union.

But there is more to the change in this city than the large industrial enterprises tell about. The factories are located on the outskirts of Lvov; educational establishments have taken over its central area. Walking through the streets, what stands out most of all are the plaques of numerous colleges.

Here, for example, is a massive building with columns, the sign near the entrance reading: "The Ivan Franko State University of Lvov." It



THIS STREET IN LVOV IS NAMED FOR THE UKRAINIAN POET TARAS SHEVCHENKO.



A VETERAN TEACHER WITH HIS PUPILS IN THE GARDEN OF A RURAL SCHOOL.

bears the name of the eminent Ukrainian writer of the past, a native of the Western Ukraine. Lvov now has a polytechnical institute, a medical school and a forestry college. Its twelve institutions of higher education have a total student body of 31,000. Many thousands of young men and women from all parts of the Western Ukraine and other areas of the country are studying in its thirty-three technical schools preparing various specialists for industry. Prior to 1939, in all of Western Ukraine, including Lvov, there were only 4,000 students, most of whom were not, of course, Ukrainians, and certainly not the children of workers and farmers.

A local branch of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences is located in Lvov. Thus the city justly deserves to be called not only a large hub of modern industry but also a prominent center of science.

The variety of creative activity in all spheres of culture and the arts also play a role in determining the character of modern Lvov. Among its numerous theaters are an opera and ballet house, drama theaters in the Ukrainian and Russian languages, and a theater for young people. They enjoy wide popularity and make successful tours all over the country in the summer months.

Many Lvov painters, sculptors and musicians, both young and old, have gained reknown. Stanislav Lyudkevich, a veteran composer who has seen a thing or two in his day and enjoys the general esteem of his people, recently stated: "I have produced my best compositions in the past seventeen years."

This is also true of the many writers of the Western Ukraine, who belong to the Lvov section of the Writers' Union. With every passing year more and more of their novels, stories and collections of verse are coming off the presses in the local publishing houses as well as in Kiev and Moscow.

Life is humming in Lvov, the city is growing. It already has a population of 387,000 and still it is eager for new people to come there to work, study, advance technique, science and culture. Its new citizens need new houses, and they are going up on a large scale and at an increasing pace. Last year alone 26,000,000 rubles from the state budget was invested in Lvov's housing construction, and even more will be put into it this year.

This city wins the hearts of travelers not only, and not so much, with its architectural memorials, beautiful fountains, abundance of flowers and crowded streets. The charm of Lvov lies in its sociable, friendly people. Life here has many of the attributes of the colorful south. In the evenings the streets are filled with merry people, melodious tunes come from the open windows, and in the summer the entire town resembles a huge park because of its tremendous quantity of greenery and flowers. When, after all this, the visitor sees in the local museum pictures of the recent past, photos of haggard, ragged, reticent people roaming the streets or sitting in despair without hope of getting work, bread, a place in life, he is hard pressed to relate it to present-day Lvov.

Time has gone ahead in this area with remarkable speed. So rapid has its pace been that the few years since the reunion of the Western Ukraine with the Ukraine proper has put many centuries between its past and its present. ■



ONE GREAT ATTRACTION FOR UZHGOROD JUVENILES IS THIS CHILDREN'S RAILWAY.

RECREATION CENTER IN BORISLAV OFFERS MANY ACTIVITIES FOR OIL WORKERS.





THE YEAR 1945. AMERICANS COMPLETE A PONTOON BRIDGE ACROSS THE ELBE RIVER TO MEET WITH THEIR SOVIET ALLIES. THIS LINK-UP SMASHED THE NAZI FRONT IN TWO.

The Link-up On the ELBE

THE YEAR 1955. SIGHT-SEEING AMERICAN WAR VETERANS ARRIVE IN MOSCOW TO COMMEMORATE THE ELBE MEETING TOGETHER WITH SOVIET WAR VETERANS.



By Pavel Troyanovsky

The author was a war correspondent and accompanied army units from Moscow to Berlin. He was present at the link-up of the First Ukrainian Front Army and the American First Army at the Elbe River in the heart of Germany.

It was twelve years ago that Soviet and American soldiers shook hands at the historic link-up on the Elbe River, near the German city of Torgau, but the meeting is so sharply etched in my memory that I can still hear the excited voices yelling "Russia—America . . . America—Russia." The German army had been cut in two.

The day before that historic meeting which symbolized the cooperation of the United States and the Soviet Union in the war against fascism, the Rifle Regiment of the Guards, with whom I had gone to the Elbe, had been fighting with an SS unit. Although the Guard regiment was greatly outnumbered—more than half its men had been lost in the battles for Stalingrad, in the fierce hand-to-hand fighting in the Kursk Salient and in the battles on the Vistula and Oder—they defeated the SS forces.

The following morning, April 25, the company, commanded by Senior Lieutenant Grigori Goloborodko, to which I was attached as correspondent, reached the Elbe. On the other side of the river lay Torgau. It had been evacuated, and from where we stood it looked like a dead city.

But then observers reported that the town had been occupied by the Americans. Was it true? It was almost too good to believe.

I heard the tremor in the Company Commander's voice when he gave the order to set off the red rocket—it was the signal that had been agreed on by the allied troops. We waited for only a minute before the green rocket shot up in answer. And then everybody started running toward the river.

Lieutenant Goloborodko was ahead and then Vasili Dubrovin, a scout, beat him to the river. I saw tears running down Dubrovin's face, but I'm certain he didn't know that he was crying. He had been in one battle after another without let-up, and now the war was close to the end.

Then we saw the Americans on the streets of Torgau. They waved to us and yelled across the river. The only words that came through were "Russia—America . . . America—Russia," yelled over and over again.

A rowboat pushed off from the American side. We stood there, waiting for it. American Lieutenant Buck Kotzebue shook hands with Lieutenant Goloborodko, almost before he got out of the rowboat. Vasili Dubrovin, who hails from Saratov, a city on the Volga River, embraced a tall soldier from California. Sergeant Pyotr Gorobetz, who comes from the Ukrainian city of Kharkov, exchanged helmets with George White, a New York taxi-driver.

Everybody swapped souvenirs—company badges, pipes, cigarettes, lighters and what-

ever else. And on all sides you heard "Moscow . . . Washington . . . Zhukov . . . Eisenhower . . . friendship . . . peace . . ." mispronounced in both languages.

I remember looking at the tall, cheerful, hearty Americans and being a little surprised that they were so much like ourselves.

Time has not cooled the friendship born in the fire of battle. That was shown when American and Soviet war veterans met in Moscow in 1955. Although the visit was a short one—the Americans stayed for a brief four days—it was enough to bring back memories of the war we fought together and the handshake at the Elbe.

Wherever our American guests visited—a

Moscow restaurant, a workers' club, a school, a reception given them by the Chief of the General Staff—they were warmly greeted as old and tried friends.

Before taking the plane for home, Joseph Polowsky, ex-Lieutenant in the American Army, who participated in the Elbe link-up, spoke for himself and his fellow-veterans when he said, "Leaving Moscow, we feel as though we are leaving a part of our hearts behind."

The war was a curse and an affliction, but it was also a stern school for all nations. It demonstrated that our two countries could be loyal allies during dangerous and critical days. In that friendship lies the hope that the Second World War will be the last. ■



WITH THE HISTORIC ELBE AS A BACKGROUND, AN AMERICAN SOLDIER IS DECORATED BY HAPPY RUSSIAN WOMAN.

AMERICANS ENJOY SEEING THEMSELVES AMONG PHOTOS TAKEN AT THE GREAT OCCASION OF THE ELBE LINK-UP.





SCULPTOR KONENKOV, IN HIS STUDIO, ENDEAVORING TO EXPRESS "THE LIBERATION OF MANKIND" THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE FIGURE OF SAMSON BREAKING HIS CHAINS.

The studio of SERGEI KONENKOV

By Grigori Yershov

Sergei Konenkov, the distinguished sculptor, has his studio on the main floor of a building in the busy center of Moscow, at the corner of Gorky Street and Tverskoi Boulevard. Behind the big curtained windows in one of the rooms are great oblongs of wood, twisted trunks of trees shaped into fantastic forms. In the next room are the carved figures of bears, rabbits, owls, mermaids, nymphs, wood sprites—a gallery of contrived animals and mythical spirits, Russian folklore in three dimensions.

The sculpture in the studio is very diverse. Here is a towering marble statue of a Biblical hero. Alongside it is a statue of the Soviet poet Vladimir Mayakovsky, carved in wood. The Mayakovsky carving looks as though the poet were about to take a great stride across the country, his head held high to the wind. Even in its half-finished state the figure has the strength and vigor of Mayakovsky's poetry.

Deep Russian Roots

All of Sergei Konenkov's sculpture, made in marble, wood, stone and ceramics, is infused with a sensitivity to nature, a freshness of perception, and a profound conviction of the potentialities of man for greatness.

His work covers a half century. The *Stone Breaker*, shown at the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow, was done in 1898. His *Nika*, carved in 1905, at the time of the first Russian Revolution, symbolizes man's inevitable victory

over the forces of evil. His sculptured figures of famous men of Russian science, art and literature are in many of the big museums, universities and theaters in the Soviet Union.

The love of nature, carved into much of his work, stems from his early peasant youth in the village of Karakovichi in the nineties of the last century. He roamed the forests of his native countryside in Central Russia and acquired the "keen eye and sensitive ear" which he thinks a man must have to understand nature.

"The man is not an artist," Konenkov says, "who has not pressed his ear to Mother Earth." He followed the plow with an ear tuned to the noises of the earth and an eye watchful for its stirrings. He sat at campfires and listened to stories of goblins and fairies and good and evil spirits.

Young Konenkov began to carve these things he saw and felt and listened to. His family, poor as it was, managed to scrape together enough to send him to Moscow, where he entered the School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture. He later studied under Vladimir Beklemishev at the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts.

Konenkov won recognition quickly. Critics spoke of him as a sculptor "whose creative spirit has deep Russian roots," an artist who

"is able to blend great originality with the national spirit." In 1916 he was elected a member of the St. Petersburg Academy of Arts.

Sergei Konenkov spent more than twenty years of his life in the United States. The work he did there, though, continued to be truly Russian in spirit and style. Many of his creations of that period are recognized gems of Russian sculpture, for example, his portraits of the writers Dostoyevsky, Gorky and Mayakovsky, and of the scientist Pavlov. In 1945 he returned to his native country.

Youthful Energy

The sculptor's lined face, his gray hair and beard belie his amazingly youthful energy. His capacity for work is enormous, and a simple listing of all his sculpture would make a formidable volume.

The most recent of Konenkov's works, aside from the unfinished Mayakovsky figure, is a decorative sculptural composition for the Theater of the Karelian Republic in the city of Petrozavodsk. He also recently finished a symbolic monument to the writer Mikhail Prishvin, who died a short time ago. It is a mythological figure, half woman and half bird, carved out of a white marble mono-

lith resting on a base of black labradorite. The marble has a pink cast, so that the wings seem ready to open and carry the figure aloft in the glow of an early dawn.

Konenkov plans to devote the next year or two to monumental sculpture. Judging from the superb work he has already done, it will combine the delicacy of his animal figures with the vigor of his heroic portraits.



MARBLE BUST OF MAXIM GORKY'S GRANDDAUGHTER.

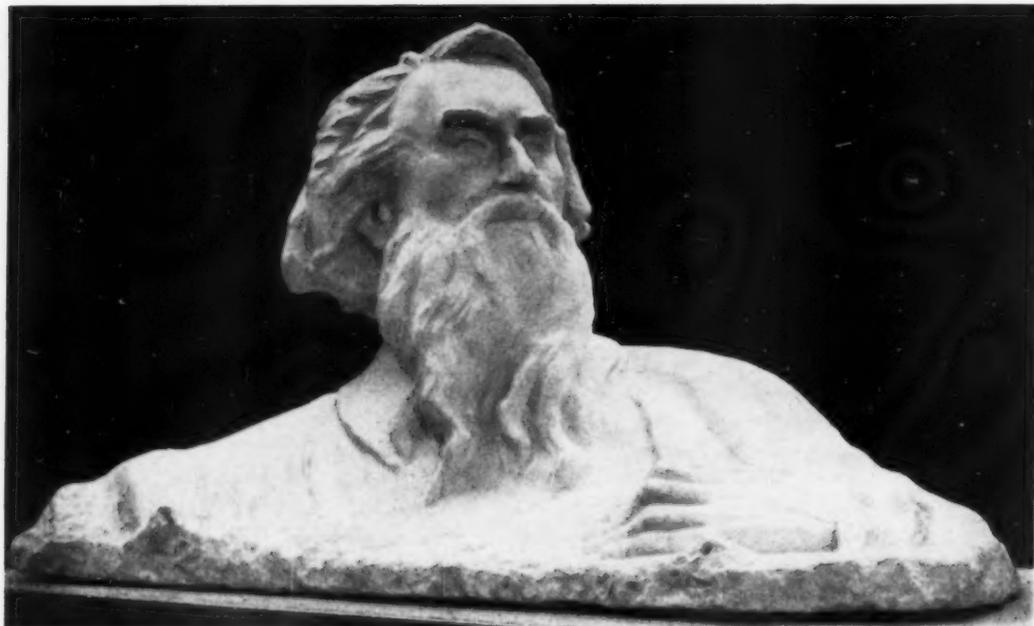
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THE STRONG AND HAPPY CHARACTER OF THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE IS WONDERFULLY EXPRESSED IN THIS IMPRESSIVE BUST OF A WOMAN FARMER, CARVED IN SOLID WOOD.



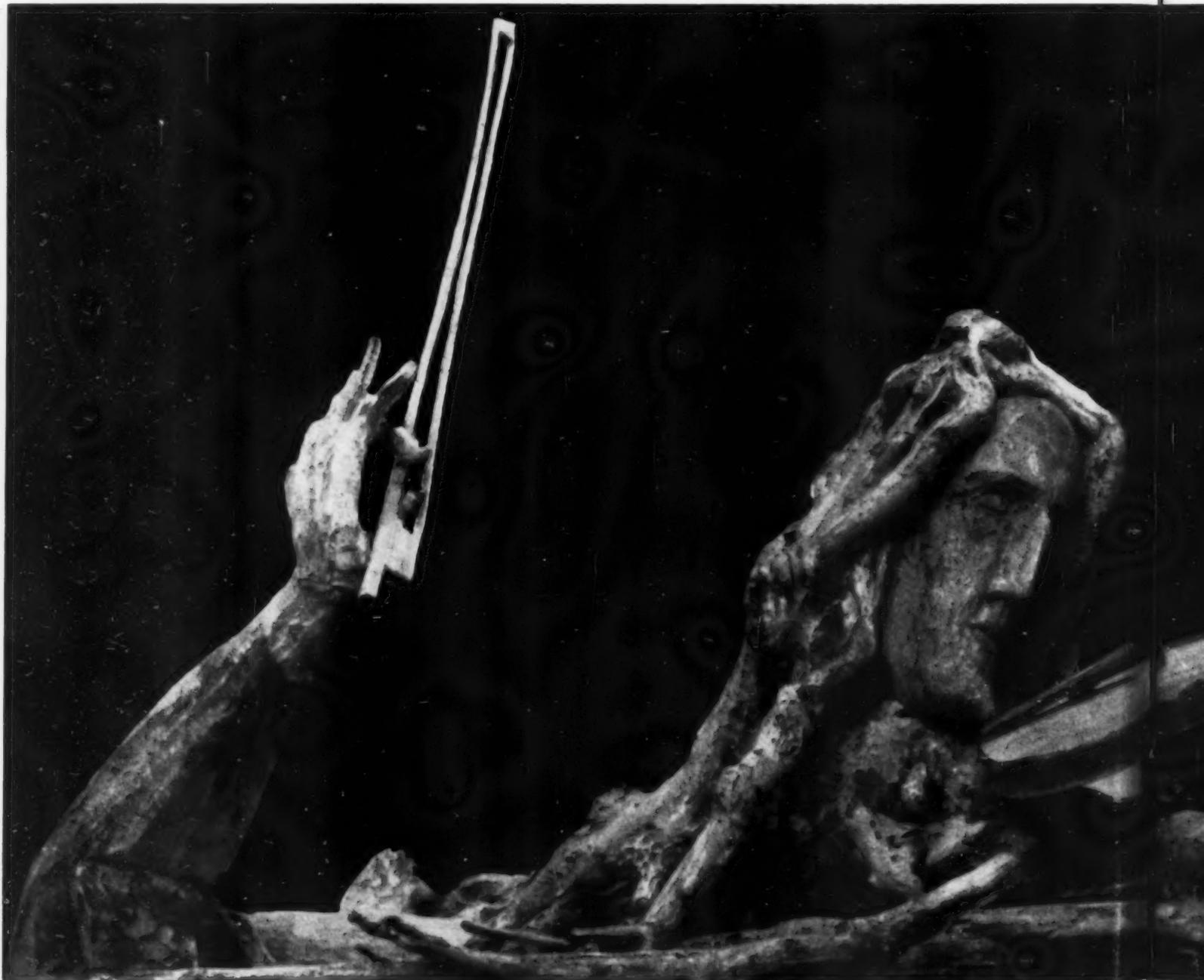
SERGEI KONENKOV

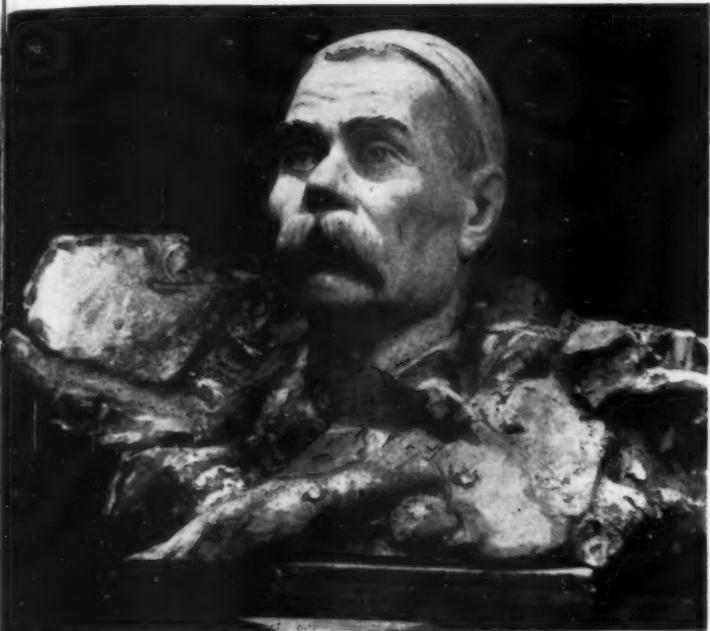
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THIS SELF-PORTRAIT SEEMS TO CAPTURE SOME OF THE STRENGTH, IMAGINATION AND CHARACTER OF THE GREAT SCULPTOR.

MANY OF KONENKOV'S WORKS ARE DEVOTED TO PROMINENT FIGURES OF WORLD CULTURE. THIS IS HIS CONCEPTION OF NICOLO PAGANINI, GREAT ITALIAN VIOLINIST.





KONENKOV'S GALLERY OF WRITERS INCLUDES BUST OF MAXIM GORKY.

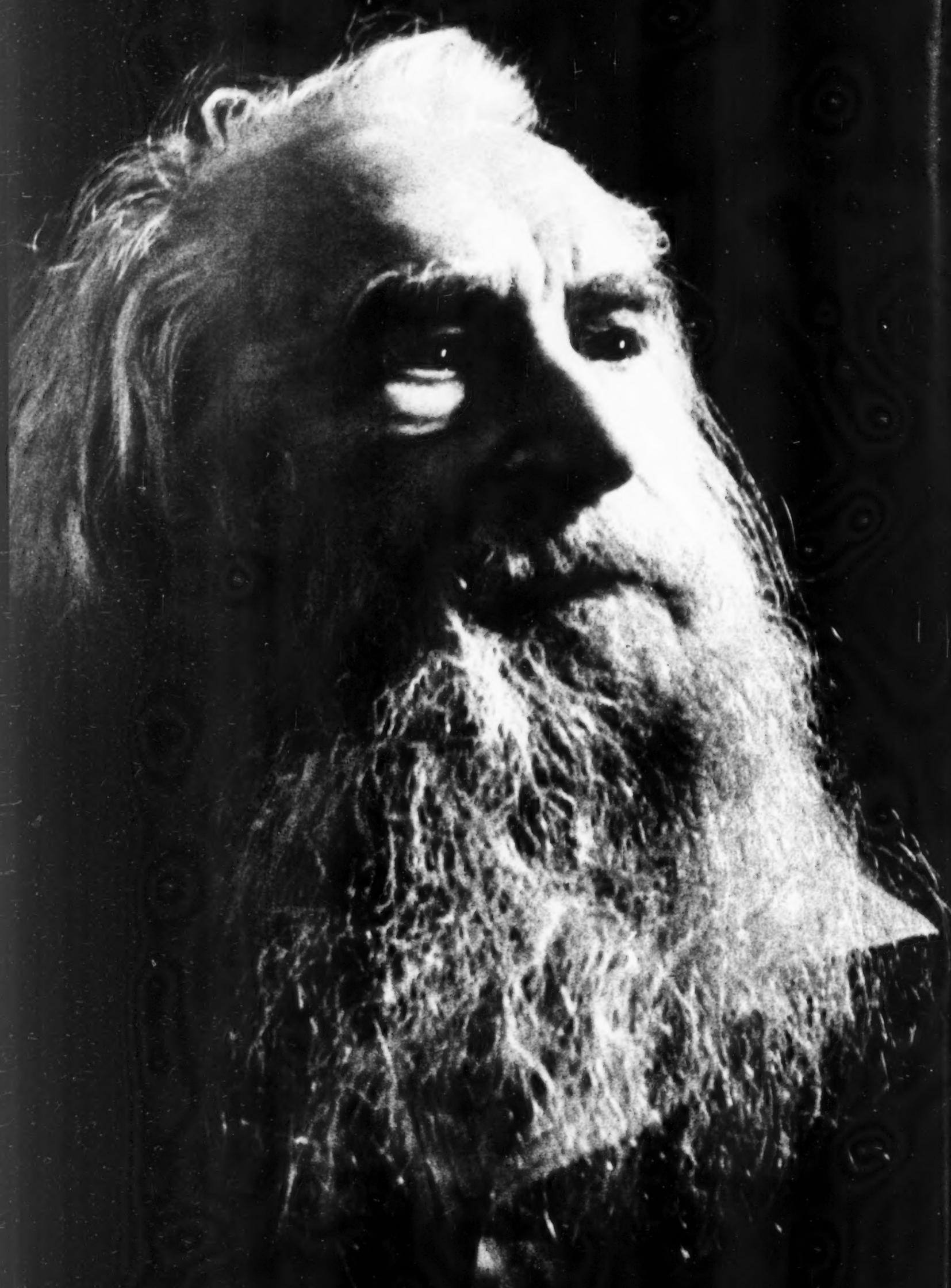


PIECE OF SCULPTURED FURNITURE; AN EASY CHAIR OF WOOD IN A GRACEFUL SWAN DESIGN.



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THE FIGURE IN THE CENTER IS THAT OF THE SOVIET POET VLADIMIR MAYAKOVSKY. EVEN IN ITS UNFINISHED STATE IT HAS THE STRENGTH AND VIGOR OF HIS POETRY.

A SCULPTOR'S

CREDO

By Sergei Konenkov

Nature has strewn her riches before man with a lavish hand, in the thousands of forms that flowers take, in the wonder of snowflakes, the color subtleties of a rainbow, the ever-changing shapes of a wave. From the multitude of impressions the artist is exposed to, he selects those that are the most significant to him and uses them to develop his leitmotif, his own major theme.

To see beauty, to catch even its most subtle manifestations, is one thing; to express that beauty in art is quite another—and much more difficult. It is only too easy to stray onto paths already beaten.

The power of created beauty lies in its uniqueness. Phidias and Praxiteles, the sculptors of classic antiquity, were discoverers of beauty. They discovered, in stone, the beauty of man's body, and with it, man's nobility and spirituality, and expressed it in the symmetry and rhythm, the unity and grace of the statues they carved.

The catchword "there is no arguing about tastes," is only a partial truth. There is no arguing with the laws of beauty and harmony either. They established themselves as laws long ago—proportion, perspective, line, composition, color. The sculptor must obey these laws if he is to transform his shapeless raw material into an image that will move the imagination.

Stone and marble are no longer inanimate minerals once they are shaped by a sculptor; they breathe and speak—of man's hope, of his strength, of his insight, his struggles. The image of the ideal man, which artists have always striven to express, permeates the art of all centuries.

No work of art can be great if it retreats into the unintelligible. More than simple craft, industry and even talent are required to make the artist. A work of art must express an idea. It must know the life of its time if it is to have either depth or passion. ■

◀ KONENKOV IS RATHER OLD IN YEARS, BUT HE IS VERY YOUNG IN ENERGY.

MAJOR BANK OF THE SOVIET UNION

By Vasili Popov

For the past ten years Vasili Popov has been the president of the State Bank of the USSR

The State Bank of the USSR is the country's only bank of issue and its central agency for settlements and cash operations. The bank's manifold activities in the financial field are closely related to the development of the entire national economy of the country. It handles settlements involving foreign trade and payments between the USSR and other countries. It grants short-term credits and also handles long-term credits but on a limited scale, as these are the business of special, long-term loan banks. Banking needs of individual citizens for loans or other financial business are handled by special banks.

The State Bank carries on its operations through the central office in Moscow and its 5,000 branches in every part of the country. It has 130,000 employees. The Bank is headed by a board of directors named by the Council of Ministers of the USSR. Its president is appointed by the Soviet Parliament.

A staff writer for the magazine *USSR* asked Vasili Popov, president of the Bank, to give a more rounded picture of the Bank's work and role in the economic life of the country. The following article was compiled from this interview.

Material Wealth Backs Credit

The State Bank of the USSR as well as its principal customers, whether they are from a single enterprise or an entire branch of industry, are nationally owned. Other enterprises, such as collective farms and cooperative societies, are also based on the principle of public ownership. This has resulted in the Bank's developing into the one agency for accounting and regulating the country's economic activity.

In the Soviet Union banks are used for the planned accumulation and redistribution of free funds for the steady expansion of the economy and for accounting and control of production. Speculation plays no part in their operations. There are no dealings in stocks, bonds, vouchers or securities. Credit is based on the sound, material wealth of the borrowing agency.

The total amount of credit and its allocation to the various branches



of the nation's economy is determined in the State Bank's quarterly credit plan. This plan is built upon the requirements of the various ministries and other national economic agencies and is approved by the Council of Ministers. It is the financial reflection of the current period for the economic plan.

In normal situations all industrial, business and commercial enterprises have sufficient funds of their own to meet their obligations. But there are occasions when special circumstances make a bank loan necessary. This may come in the event an enterprise needs funds to buy a seasonal stock of raw materials or to expand production of a particular type of goods not foreseen earlier.

The specific cases in which the Bank is empowered to grant loans is outlined in its charter. These are short-term loans, granted for a year or less against the borrower's note. The loans are fully secured by goods or other material pledged as collateral. Interest rates vary from one to two per cent per year, depending upon the use to which the loan is put.

Occasionally a borrower may fail to repay a loan when due. In such instances the pledged property is not sold at auction. The State Bank applies different sanctions: it may refuse further credits or declare the

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MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE STATE BANK OF THE USSR, A BANK WHOSE ACTIVITIES ARE SUCH THAT IT IS CLOSELY RELATED TO THE COUNTRY'S ENTIRE NATIONAL ECONOMY.

THIS GOLD IS PART OF THE NATION'S MATERIAL WEALTH THAT GUARANTEES CURRENCY.



SIGNAL SYSTEM BOARD IN THE BANK'S VAULT.

THE BANK'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS TO DISCUSS SHORT-TERM CREDITS PLAN.



**MAJOR BANK
OF THE
SOVIET UNION**

Continued from page 36



TAMARA MOZHEVETINA'S JOB IS WITH FOREIGN EXCHANGE OPERATIONS, ENTIRELY.



GERALD E. GOSLIN PICKS UP U. S. EMBASSY'S PAYROLL MONEY AT THE BANK.

THIS STATE BANK CALCULATING MACHINE PROCESSES 10,000 DOCUMENTS HOURLY.



ROSA FURNAKOVA, AT MOSCOW'S METROPOLE HOTEL, EXCHANGES SOME RUBLES.



THE MONEY KEPT IN THESE BAGS WILL BE PLACED IN CIRCULATION AS SOON AS AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF WORN-OUT AND UNUSABLE CURRENCY HAS BEEN DESTROYED.

enterprise insolvent. In special cases where the defaulting enterprise is of great importance to the economy, the Bank may grant it additional credit at the next quarterly period.

In the past few years, because of the increased pace of mechanization and automation of production in Soviet industry, the Bank has been granting credit in an increasing number of cases for the purchase of new machinery, for modernization of equipment and rationalization of production. These loans are granted for a two or three year period, provided there is reason to assume the increased output resulting from the additional equipment or improvements contemplated will cover the amount of the loan.

All loans normally have a very rapid turnover so that the total amount granted by the Bank to meet the needs of production and circulation adds up to several trillion rubles, an almost astronomic figure, and yet the total in short-term loans outstanding today is roughly 200 billion rubles.

Where does all this money come from? In addition to its own funds, the Bank is a depository for free funds of industrial, transport, agricultural and commercial enterprises as well as reserve funds and balances of current accounts of the national budget, which always reflects a substantial surplus of revenues over expenditures. The Bank, of course, pays interest on its deposits at a rate varying from one-third to one and a half per cent annually.

Bank Issues Currency

The State Bank is the sole agency for settlements. Cash settlements involve only small sums—under 1,000 rubles; the rest are book settlements. All settlements covering transactions made anywhere in the country are handled by the central office and branches of the Bank.

One of the important functions of the Bank is the regulation of the

country's currency. It is the only institution which has the right to issue bank or treasury notes and coins and to increase or reduce the amount of money in circulation. All this is accomplished in accordance with the government's decisions.

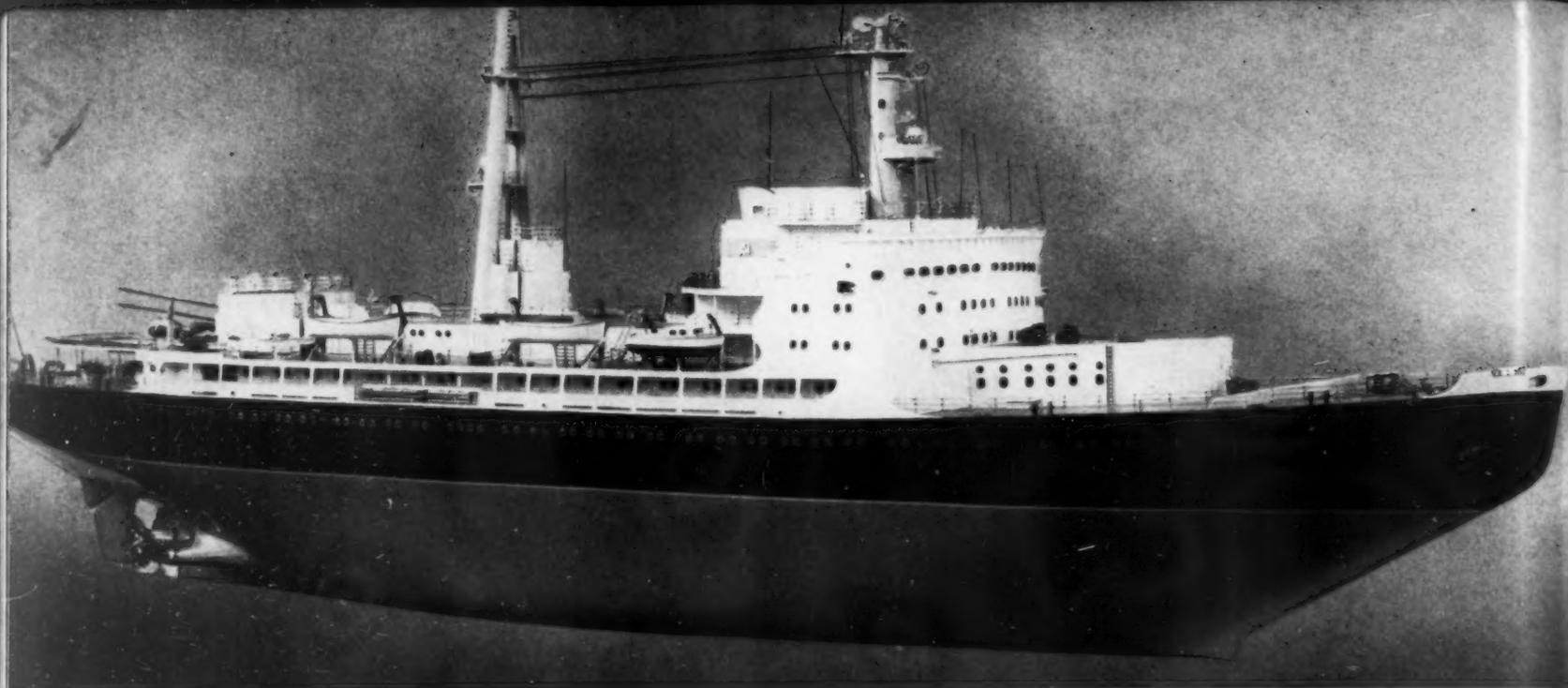
The Bank is charged with limiting the amount of issue to the total necessary for cash turnover. This is of vital importance because the stability of the national currency is based upon the material wealth of the country, the vast and increasing quantities of goods and commodities produced by publicly-owned enterprises and marketed at firm, state-controlled prices. Its stability is additionally ensured by the country's foreign exchange funds which are held by the Bank as a reserve of international currency.

All these factors are an effective barrier against the possibility of inflationary tendencies and serve to steadily increase the purchasing power of the ruble and thereby improve the living standards of the people.

The State Bank is the country's only cash agency. It issues cash to all Soviet enterprises against their accounts. It is their depository for cash received for the sale of goods and services, for taxes collected and similar transactions. Last year's cash receipt and payment turnover exceeded two trillion rubles, while the turnover for all transactions—loans, payments and cash—amounted to more than ten trillions.

The State Bank has been charged with settling export and import accounts of the Soviet Union. Most of these settlements are effected by clearing. The Bank also effects settlements covering credits granted by the Soviet Union to other countries.

With the growth of international economic and cultural relations of the Soviet Union, the Bank's connections with foreign banks have correspondingly expanded. Today the State Bank has connections with more than 400 banks in foreign lands. ■



A MODEL OF THE ATOMIC ICEBREAKER BUILT TO SCALE SHOWS EVERY DETAIL OF THE ULTRA-MODERN SHIP. THERE IS A LARGE AREA DEVOTED TO THE CREW'S QUARTERS.

THE FIRST ATOMIC ICEBREAKER



This huge skeleton framework rearing up above the scaffolding in a Leningrad shipyard is the hull of the first atomic icebreaker. The eighty-ton steel sections are lifted by tower cranes, placed gently in position on the stocks, ready for welding, to form part of the assembly for the stern and upper deck.

The displacement of this new ship powered by atomic energy will be 16,000 tons; its speed in open water will be 18 knots; it will generate 44,000 horsepower to drive its propellers.

This most powerful of icebreakers will be able to sail an almost unlimited range, touching both poles in one voyage. It will not need to stop for refueling. Instead of burning 50 to 60 tons of oil every twenty-four hours like an ordinary ship of its size, this icebreaker will use up a few grams of atomic fuel.

While the hull is being assembled in the yards, 250 plants in other parts of the country are at work building machines, instruments and equipment for the icebreaker. Mills in

the Ukraine and the Urals are making extra strong steels the ship needs to knife its way through thick Arctic ice. Moscow, Kharkov and Leningrad are producing the electrical and radio equipment. Kaluga is making the turbogenerators, Stalingrad its propeller shafts, Tallinn and Uzhgorod its furniture.

All the latest navigational equipment is being installed, with the most powerful radio, sonar and radar instruments available. The radio will enable the vessel to communicate with any mainland point desired. A portion of the afterdeck is being designed to handle and service two helicopters. They will be employed to scan the seas over vast miles ahead in scouting the best and safest routes.

The most interesting section of the ship is the one which the crew will never see once the ship is completed—the compartment where the atomic reactor is to be installed. The reactor will be operated by remote control. The section will be shielded from the rest of the vessel to protect the crew from radiation.

For the non-technical visitor, separate miniature models provide an idea of how the ship's engines operate. The thermal energy produced by atomic disintegration in the reactor will heat water and convert it to steam which will move the main turbines. They, in turn, will drive turbogenerators that produce electric current for the powerful engines.

An unusual feature of this ship is the amount of space allotted to the crew's quarters. In an ordinary ship approximately a third of its space is devoted to bunkers. Designers of the atomic icebreaker could afford

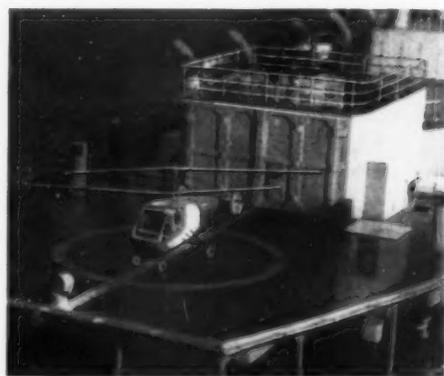
to be lavish with space.

The cabins will be large and commodious, fitted with either single or double berths. The ship's offices will be unusually spacious and so will the club, library, music room, print shop and hospital. These will all be air-conditioned to provide maximum comfort.

Standing on the upper deck, the visitor gets an over-all view of the atomic icebreaker. The fore-section of the many-decked ship has been assembled. In the stern he can see the gaping holes for the big driving shafts.

The ship's graceful outlines are already taking shape. Although there is a great deal of work still to be done, an onlooker can almost hear the champagne bottle shattering against the hull and see the powerful vessel slide down the ways into its natural element.

(Abridged from the newspaper *Moskovskaya Pravda*)



MODEL OF HELICOPTER, SHOWING ITS LANDING AREA.



ALEXANDER



SEMYON



YURI



SPIRIDON



MIKHAIL

A QUINTET OF TALENTS

By Nikolai Fomenko

The five Kravchenko brothers—Alexander, Semyon, Yuri, Spiridon and Mikhail—are known around Odessa as "The Quintet." They make up the five-man crew of their fishing boat, the *Dmitri*; they compose the amateur Kravchenko string quintet, and all five work at the same machine building plant in Odessa.

The eldest, Alexander, started work at the plant forty-odd years ago. He followed in the footsteps of his father, Yevstafi Kravchenko, who is still remembered in the shop where he worked as a smith for a full half-century.

Alexander is now a foreman in the mechanization department. His younger brother, Mikhail, a highly skilled lathe operator and a crackerjack at machining precision parts, works under him.

Spiridon is efficiency expert at the plant and a talented inventor. Practically every department has introduced one or another device designed by him.

Yuri has developed an important marking system; he is skipper of the *Dmitri* when the Kravchenko brothers take her out.

Semyon has just celebrated his fiftieth birthday with a party, to which most of the plant people came, including the plant's soccer team. Semyon, one of the oldest soccer players in Odessa, was a team stalwart until three seasons ago.

He retired under compulsion, his wife Paulina having expressed herself very forcibly on the question. She said it was indecent for a grandfather to be running after a soccer ball in front of a whole stadium full of people. Semyon still sneaks out to the stadium for practice when Paulina isn't around.

There was a sixth brother—Dmitri. He was a boilerman at the same plant and a fine musician. He fell at the front during the war. It was his name the brothers gave their boat, which has won a reputation for itself as prize-winner in yacht racing.

The five always take their vacation together. Every summer the plant trade union committee offers them fine accommodations



A CULTURAL PASTIME, THE KRAVCHENKO BROTHERS AND THEIR WIVES IN A BOX AT THE ODESSA OPERA HOUSE.

THE KRAVCHENKO STRING QUINTET, DIRECTED BY YURI WHO IS THE TALENTED MUSICIAN AMONG THE BROTHERS.



at resorts without charge, and every year they refuse with thanks.

The Kravchenko brothers are not the resting type. Their idea of a vacation is sailing and fishing for mackerel in the Black Sea off Ochakov, a fishing town not far from Odessa. They've been out in more than one bad storm and have had to use all their sailing craft to get back to port.

It was only last summer that they were caught out at sea in heavy weather. Storm signals had gone up after they had left Ochakov, and if not for Skipper Yuri's seamanship, the boat would have swamped. There were a couple of bad hours before they got back to the dock where half of Ochakov was waiting for them. Paulina, Semyon's wife, had a good

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SPIRIDON IS HERE COPYING A WORK OF KARL BRYULOV, THE FAMOUS ARTIST.



YURI KRAVCHENKO IS WONDERING HOW BEST TO TACKLE A NEW MACHINE PART.



"GOOD FOR YOU!" SEMYON KRAVCHENKO COMPLIMENTS A YOUNG APPRENTICE. SEMYON, UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO, WAS AN ACTIVE AND OUTSTANDING SOCCER PLAYER.

A Quintet of Talents

Continued from page 41

deal to say about this exploit, too.

Ochakov fishermen are always glad to see the Kravchenkos because they are good fun: things get lively when they are around. All five are good dancers and excellent musicians. Their string quintet is very popular. That is also led by Yuri, who is the most musical

member of the family. Besides the violin and piano, he plays all the string instruments.

It's a family tradition for the five to play together every Sunday. Although they live some distance apart, they don't let that interfere with their Sunday get-togethers. Neighbors and friends drop in to listen to Tchaikovsky, Moussorgsky, Chopin, Strauss waltzes or folk music.

Spiridon is also something of a painter in whatever time he has to spare. The apart-

ments of all five of the Kravchenkos are hung with copies he has made of paintings by famous artists, besides his original sketches.

Yuri, not to be outclassed in any respect, is a rare book collector and has gathered a very respectable library of out-of-print books and first editions.

And, last but not least, each of the brothers has several children who seem to be growing up with all the vigor, sparkle and love of life of their respective fathers. ■



MM-M-M, HOW DELICIOUS THE FOOD TASTES AFTER A DIP IN THE SEA. OUTINGS LIKE THIS ARE QUITE COMMON WITH THESE FIVE HAPPY AND CONGENIAL FAMILIES.

UKRAINIAN PROVERBS AND SAYINGS

Rebuke from a wise man is worth more than praise from a fool.

An hour lost may take years to regain.

A handsome husband is good to look at, while a clever husband is good to live with.

Look at us: the wolves have eaten the mare, but we saved the cart.

The wise man does not speak everything he knows, but the fool does not always know what he speaks.

A beard does not make a man wise.

To hear him speak he takes cities, but in practice he runs from a frog.

Not the axe, but the man does the job.

Wish your son sense and good health, rather than wealth.

You will not get done in the evening what you have failed to do in the morning.

The eye sees far, but the mind—still farther.

You may saddle a pig, but that would not make it a horse.

A head as big as a kettle but without a spoonful of sense.

A good man is more reliable than a bridge built of stone.

A good anvil fears no hammer.

THEATER IN THE UKRAINE

By Gnat Yura

YURA IS ACTOR, PRODUCER AND ORGANIZER OF THE IVAN FRANKO UKRAINIAN DRAMA THEATER.



It was my good fortune to have been present at the birth of the Soviet theater in the Ukraine. Back in 1920, I joined a group of actors from Lvov and Kiev who helped build the theater which was named for Ivan Franko, the Ukrainian poet and philosopher.

We were indebted to the older generation of actors and directors for a theatrical heritage and a body of experience. We looked for guidance to such masters of the Russian and Ukrainian stage as Stanislavsky, Shchepkin, Krapivnitsky and Saksagansky. It was no simple task to find the dramatic forms that would embody the way of life of this new Ukraine, express its strivings, dramatize its democratic character.

The affection with which Ukrainians now regard their national theater measures its success. It has been able to present in word, gesture and music the Ukrainian character, its humor, its love of music, its robust and pungent language, its colorful dress.

Today, some eighty state theaters—theaters for drama and opera, for musical comedy, children's theaters and puppet shows for young people—play to Ukrainian audiences. The repertoires are large and varied.

Last season more than 500 productions were staged, 320 written by Ukrainian playwrights and performed by such eminent artists as the late actor Amvrosi Buchma and the opera stars Ivan Patorzhinsky and Maria Litvinenko-Volgemut. One of the most memorable of the performances was that of Boris Romanitsky in Ivan Franko's *The Dream of Prince Svyatoslav*.

Both on the stage and off, our theater people keep in close touch with their audiences. They study the locale and people in day-to-day activities when preparing a production.

In preparation for staging *Earth*, based on the novel by the Ukrainian writer Sofia Kobylanskaya, members of the theater company

Continued on page 46

PRINCIPALS PERFORM IN FOREGROUND, IN A SCENE FROM BALLET *NUTCRACKER* BY TCHAIKOVSKY, ON STAGE OF SHEVCHENKO THEATER OF OPERA AND BALLET IN KIEV. ►

EXTERIOR VIEW OF THE SHEVCHENKO THEATER OF OPERA AND BALLET IN THE UKRAINIAN CAPITAL CITY. IT IS ONE OF THE FINEST AMONG EIGHTY STATE THEATERS.

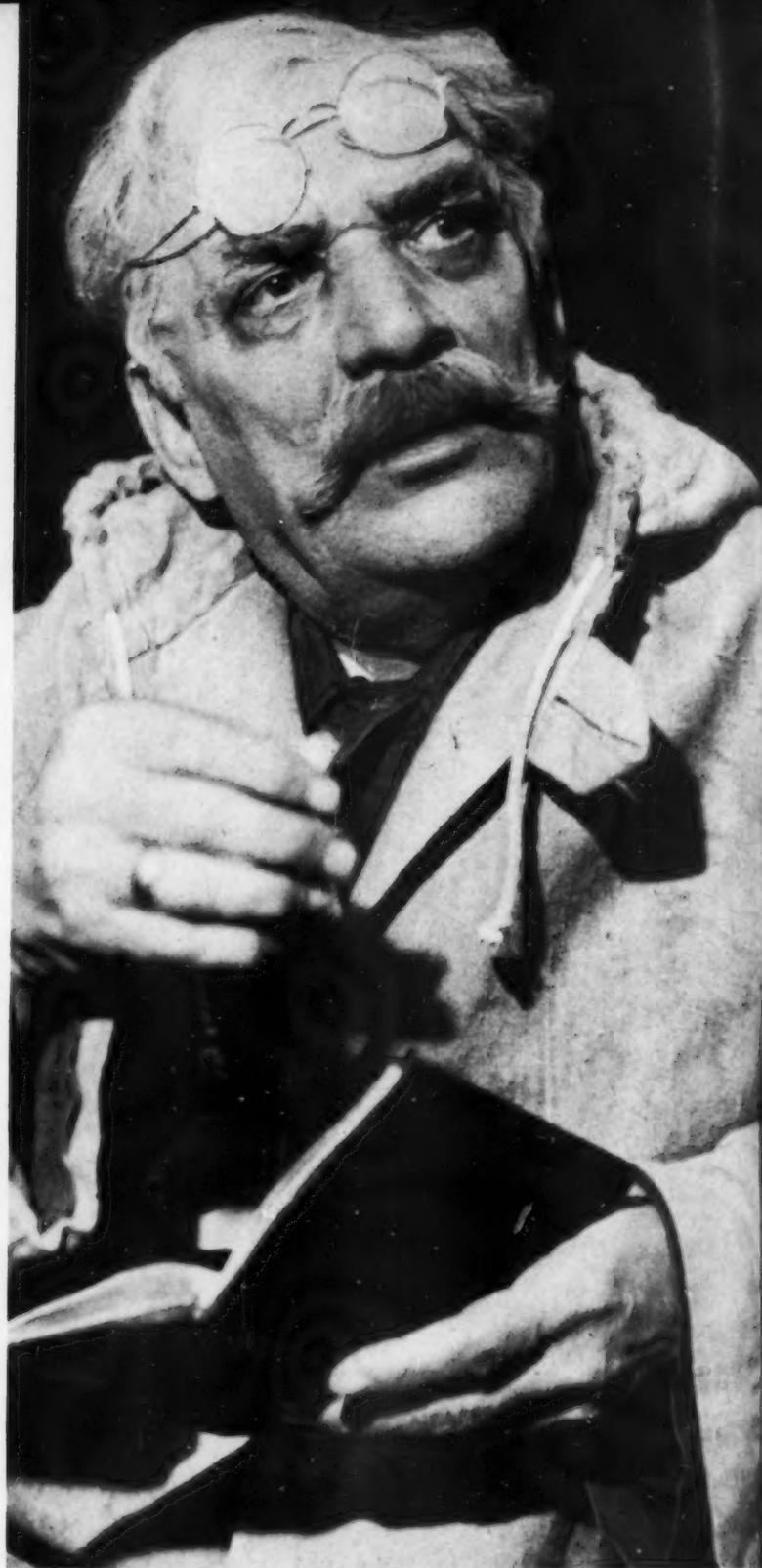








IVAN PATORZHINSKY, BASSO, IN THE TITLE ROLE OF THE OPERA TARAS BULBA.



THE LATE AMVROSI BUCHMA, AS THE MINER IN KORNEICHUK'S MAKAR DUBRAVA.

UKRAINIAN THEATER

Continued from page 44

made many visits to the village where the action of the play was set, to watch and listen and make careful record of folk songs, dance and costume.

An even more important contact is maintained through a close working relation between professional theater people and amateur groups throughout the republic.

When I visited Lvov not long ago, I looked in at a newly organized regional amateur theater, which was being trained by some of the

best known people from the Ukrainian stage. An amateur theater group from the village of Dymka recently scored a great success in the play *Earth* put on in Kiev. They were coached by actors from the Drama Theater of Chernovitsy.

There is mutual benefit in such collaboration. The amateur theatrical groups are an inexhaustible source for dramatic talent. When the Ukrainian composer Grigori Veryovka organized the State Folk Chorus, more than half his singers came from amateur groups in farms, factories and offices.

In the little town of Zolotonosh, a year or two ago, the amateur theater group celebrated its birthday with a performance in which the

veteran Ukrainian artist Natalia Uzhvy was featured. She began her stage career with the group.

The Ukrainian theater does not limit itself to the work of Ukrainian playwrights. The plays of both the classic and modern Russian writers as well as the work of writers of other republics have an important place in our repertory. Plays by Ukrainian authors, of course, are staged everywhere in the Soviet Union.

We do many foreign plays also. Last season the Ivan Franko Theater produced Jack London's *Theft*. My production of Jaroslav Hasek's *Good Soldier Schweik* was recently commented on by Czech critics. The Shevchenko Theater of Kharkov did an unusually fine pro-

duction of *Hamlet*. *The Trees Die Upright* by the Spanish playwright Casona, and the *Morals of Pani Dulskaya* by the Polish writer Zapolskaya are in this season's repertoire of the Lesya Ukrainka Theater in Kiev. The local theater of Rovno produced *King Lear* and the theaters of Stanislav and Uzhgorod staged Theodore Dreiser's *Jennie Gerhardt*.

There is a constant exchange of guest performers and visiting theater companies between the Ukraine and other republics of the Soviet Union. Our theater has also been host to artists from abroad, the United States, Poland, Germany, Bulgaria, India, Rumania, and other countries. Our artists, in turn, have appeared in many countries, including Canada, Finland, Germany, China, India, Rumania, Denmark, Poland, Iceland, Syria and Vietnam.

Such exchange performances help us to evaluate our own work and to enrich our background of theater experience. Their value in larger terms is to strengthen the ties of friendship between nations, so necessary if we are to have a peaceful world in which plays can be written and staged.



"ANY NEWS IN THE PAPER?" FILM DIRECTOR ASKS ACTOR, WHO PLAYS BOGDAN KHMELNITSKY IN HISTORIC FILM.

HERE IS AN "OUTDOOR" SCENE IN ALEXANDER KORNEICHUK'S PLAY, *THE GUELDER ROSE GROVE*, STAGED BY THE IVAN FRANKO DRAMA THEATER IN KIEV.





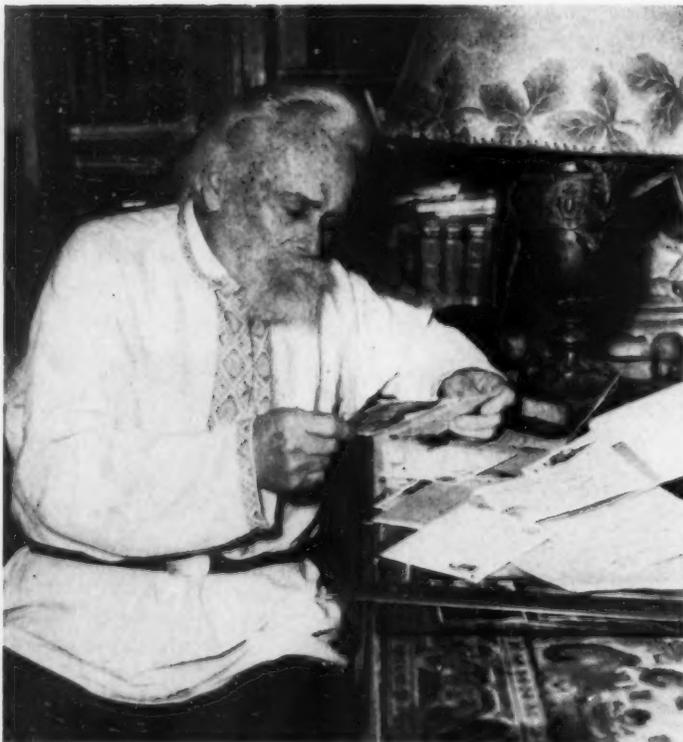
A wedding, 50 years ago. Yevgeni and Yelizaveta look youthfully radiant after the ceremony.



Here is a toast to the happy couple. The guests all rise, raise their glasses and shout, "Bitter, bitter." According to an ancient custom, the groom then kisses the bride, and thus the bitter wine is sweetened.

Golden Wedding Anniversary

By Yakov Tabarovsky



In his days of retirement, Yevgeni Kozinetz does much to keep himself busy with a wide correspondence among former pupils and old acquaintances.

Showers of love and a deluge of good wishes fell over Yevgeni and Yelizaveta Kozinetz when the Ukrainian educator and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary a short time ago.

A noisy crowd of friends attended the party, taxing the capacity of the heavily laden table. Guests repeatedly raised their glasses and clamored for the "bride and groom" to seal their anniversary with another kiss. Whereupon Kozinetz would stroke his mustache and tenderly embrace his life's companion.

The couple's combined age is almost 150 years and they have spent a half-century as man and wife. Over the course of these many years of mutual love, they have had many joys and some grief. Their daughter, Tatyana, is a lecturer in an agricultural college and has a son eighteen years of age.

Kozinetz had some difficulty in enrolling in Moscow University because his family was poor, but was graduated with honors. He loved his native Ukrainian tongue and culture but before the October Revolution there were no Ukrainian language schools, and the young teacher was unable to prove his full talent as an educator.

But this is part of the dreary past. Today the veteran teacher is honored and respected. He has won the honorary title of Merited Teacher of the Ukrainian Republic and received many other awards during his long and fruitful career as an educator. Now he is receiving a state pension. Though retired, he still hears from former pupils who have become devoted friends.

Many of these former pupils came to the Golden Wedding party at the couple's present home in Lvov in the Western Ukraine. And soon after daybreak the postman brought the first of a long series of telegrams. They were congratulations from well-wishers all over the country. They were from Lyubomir Dmiterko, the Ukrainian poet and playwright; from Anatoli Mefodyevsky, an engineer; from the staff and pupils of the school where Kozinetz last taught; and from the company of the Children's Theater he helped stage a play on school life.

There were many presents for the couple. One was a book by his former pupil, Vladimir Belyayev containing the following dedication: "To my dear Yevgeni Kozinetz, one of my first teachers, with great gratitude and deep respect."

These cheering and wonderful expressions from former pupils and old friends were a real stimulus for the elderly teacher. The eyes of the gray-bearded "groom" were sparkling all during the party and his voice rang out as he sang a Ukrainian song and raised his wine glass high as the guests all joined in the chorus. ■

SHE TAUGHT HERSELF TO PAINT



Late last year the Ukrainian Republic conferred the honorary title of People's Artist on Yekaterina Belokur, a self-educated artist from the village of Bogdanovka.

Before the October Revolution of 1917, while Yekaterina was still in her teens, she had to help her peasant parents make ends meet. Despite the long hours of work, she spent almost every night with books she borrowed from her teacher.

One day the teacher loaned her an album of reproductions from Moscow's Tretyakov Art Gallery. The girl realized she had found her field of work in the new world so wonderfully full of beauty. She has devoted every moment of her leisure since then to drawing.

"You'd better stop that smearing," her father argued. "That's no work for a farm girl."

But the girl would not give up painting. With each year her colors became richer and more vivid, her hand and eye more practiced.

Today Yekaterina Belokur is a recognized artist with a wide circle of friends and a varied social life, but she remains in her beloved home village of Bogdanovka. Her easel is set up in a bright room—or placed in the richly flowered fields of her native countryside that is so often reflected in her works.

Yekaterina Belokur's floral works are gentle and appealing. Many of her paintings are of Ukrainian farm life. Her pictures have been exhibited in the Ukrainian cities of Poltava, Cherkassy, Kiev and in Moscow, where they have found great favor with the public. ■



Spring

Simplicity in both line and trimming is the fashion keynote this season. A number of current models for 1957 spring and summer buyers are illustrated here from the creations of Moscow designers.

Wide stitching, a belt of contrasting material, or perhaps a row of buttons settles the trimming needs. General outlines vary, with the most popular being the close-fitting bodice with a flared skirt and the stylish high-waisted design.

Fashion designers have a wide field in the USSR, and experienced men and women are to be found in every major city. Soviet styles may come from the Central House of Fashion in Moscow and similar houses in most metro-

politan centers, or from the various garment factories. These designers, as well as those in specialty shops, participate in seasonal style shows and contribute their work to fashion magazines and pattern publishers.

Shops offering tailor-made services are extremely popular. Dresses and suits may be purchased there for only slightly more than ready-made styles. Private dressmakers frequently take out vender's licenses and are kept busy meeting the demands of buyers.

Each section of the country adapts its styles according to the national traditions and tastes of the area. A model that might have a wide appeal in Latvia could be a sort of "white elephant" in the Ukraine. ■



This afternoon dress of printed silk is lovely. The sheath is uncut at the waist and the bolero is edged with black silk which ties in front to emphasize a high waistline. The black straw sailor and matching gloves nicely set off the ensemble.

Young-at-heart model. Off-the-shoulder sleeves and a flattering tiered skirt present something different in pale blue kapron brocade designed for evening. Pale pink gloves complete the outfit.



A dress of printed silk which can be worn around the clock. This model with a full skirt has a shawl-collar jacket which fastens to show the high waist. The three-quarter cuffed sleeves add a crisp touch.

Fashions



A hostess design that is comfortable, soft and flattering. Of printed silk with flared skirt and inverted front pleat, dress has an Empire-line belt.



Business and pleasure can mix in this soft wool suit with a bolero jacket. Contrasting buttons are emphasized by the matching hat and gloves.



Here is one group of artists' sketches in color which show Moscow's new spring fashions. The polka-dot number in red is interesting with its flouncing pleated skirt in the wide style. A simple street dress is next, with patch pockets breaking the straight lines. The jumper-type bodice of the orange style is nice with its deep pleats. The suit jacket has a fitted waist to touch up its appeal to the business woman.



SERVICE IN BOGOYAVLENSKY CATHEDRAL, OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, IN MOSCOW. THIS DENOMINATION HAS THE LARGEST NUMBER OF ADHERENTS IN THE COUNTRY.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Religion in the Soviet Union is the personal affair of the individual. The law guarantees the right of each citizen to profess any faith and provides for the punishment of any type of religious intolerance.

There is complete separation of the church from the state and the school from the church. The state cannot intervene in the internal affairs of the church, nor can the church interfere in the activities of the state.

In the Soviet Union no distinction is made between citizens because of their faith. Official documents, such as passports and marriage and birth certificates, do not designate the citizen's religion. Officials are not allowed to inquire into the religion of applicants for jobs or admission to educational establishments. The clergy enjoys the same politi-

cal rights accorded every citizen, including the right to vote and to be elected to political office.

Believers of any faith who wish to observe religious rites together may unite into congregations. Central and local authorities grant these congregations the free use of buildings for their services, assign premises for academies, seminaries and other schools which train clergymen, provide paper and printing facilities for the publication of religious books and church magazines. Congregations may also build new houses of worship. Churches of all faiths are supported entirely by funds raised voluntarily among their adherents.

Before the October Revolution of 1917 the official religion of the country was the Russian Orthodox faith. Now there is no state religion, but

the Russian Orthodox Church continues to have the largest following, with adherents living mainly in the central regions of the country. It is headed by Alexii, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, elected in 1945 by the General Council of the Russian Orthodox Church, which was attended by representatives of all the Christian Orthodox Churches of the world. The Patriarch has an advisory body—the Holy Synod. The Moscow Patriarchy has charge of a number of Russian Orthodox parishes located in many other countries.

The religion having the second largest number of adherents in the Soviet Union is the Moslem Faith (Mohammedanism). It is most widespread in the republics of Central Asia and in some regions of the European part of the country. There are four Moslem religious boards, based on geographical location and historical background of the Moslem communities.

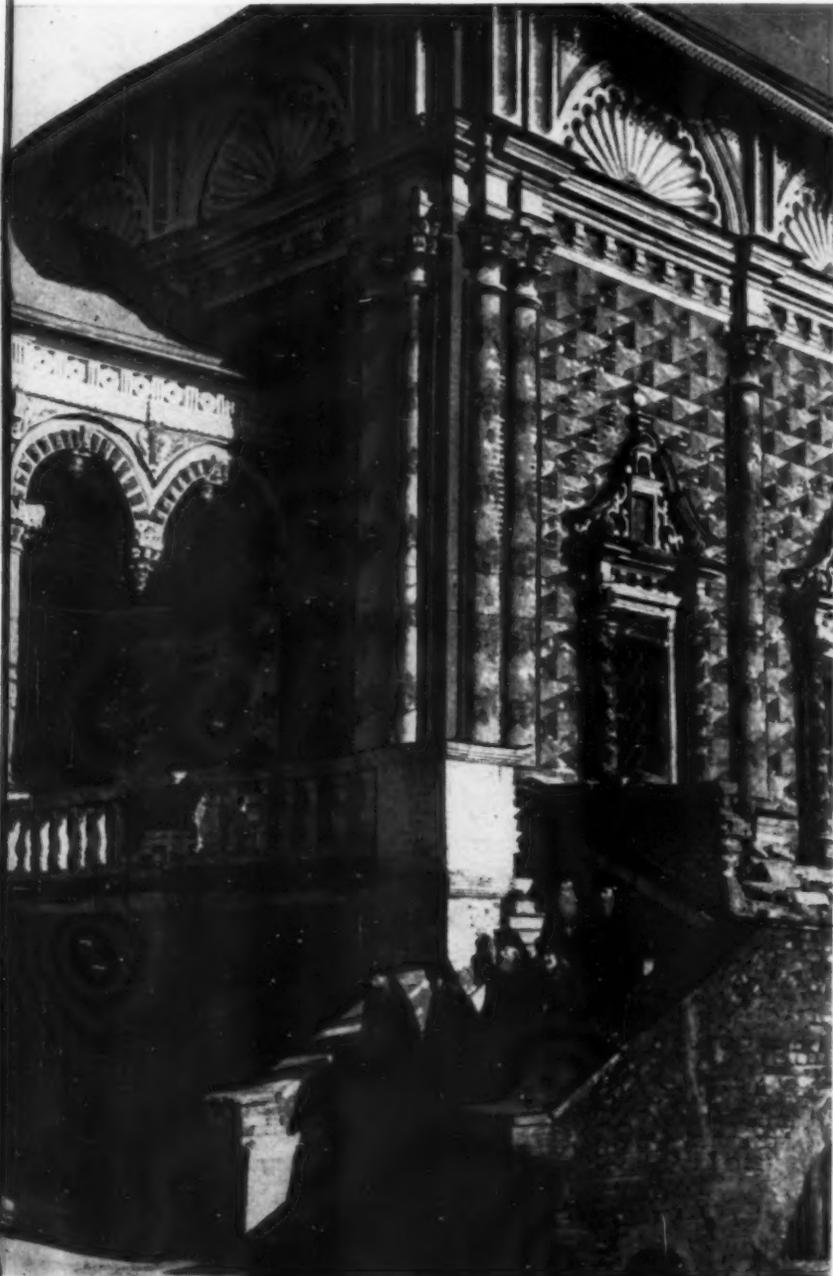
The next largest denominations in the country are the Evangelical Christian Baptist Church, the Starobriadzi (Old Believers), the Jewish religion, the Armenian (Gregorian) Church, the Orthodox Church of Georgia, the Roman Catholic Church, the Buddhists and the Lutheran Church. There are also many denominations with smaller numbers of adherents, like the Seventh Day Adventists, Methodists and other faiths. All these religious associations, regardless of the number of their adherents, enjoy the same rights as the larger denominations.

Central ecclesiastical bodies convene congresses or conferences to consider problems relating to their respective denominations. They are attended by both the clergy and representatives of the laity. Ecclesiastical centers of the Soviet Union maintain contact with religious bodies abroad by exchanging correspondence and delegations.

A brief picture of the life of various religious communities is given on the following pages by leading representatives of some denominations who were interviewed by a staff writer for the magazine *USSR*.

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RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH'S HOUSE OF WORSHIP TYPICAL OF ANCIENT CONSTRUCTION.



A MOSLEM RELIGIOUS LEADER SPEAKS DURING SERVICE IN A MOSQUE.

THE MOSLEM FAITH IS THE COUNTRY'S SECOND LARGEST DENOMINATION.





Archimandrite Pimen (left), Dean of the Troitsa-Sergiyev Monastery at Zagorsk, talks with Methodist Pastor Frank Hartley (right) of Australia.



Members of the delegation of the American National Council of Churches attend divine services in the Troitsky Cathedral located near Moscow.

Metropolitan Nikolai of the Russian Orthodox Church

Nikolai, Metropolitan of Krutitsy and Kolomna, who is a member of the Holy Synod, occupies one of the leading positions in the hierarchy of the Russian Orthodox Church. He was asked about the right to worship.

"The right of each citizen of the USSR to worship is expressed by his freedom to belong to any of the religious associations of the country. He can follow the dictates of his religion and observe its rites without hindrance. He is free to join any of the religious groups or to withdraw from them."

Asked if there were any conflicts between the various religions in the Soviet Union, Metropolitan Nikolai replied:

"Since freedom of conscience is protected by law and all religious groups, regardless of the size of their membership, enjoy equal rights, we have a climate that does not engender conflict. Each religion respects the others. The Russian Orthodox Church, for its part, extends its good will to all other faiths and cooperates with all other religious groups in the general effort to maintain world peace."

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Continued from page 53

THEOLOGY STUDENTS GROUPED AROUND ONE OF THEIR TEACHERS. RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCHMEN RECEIVE TRAINING IN 8 SEMINARIES AND 2 THEOLOGICAL ACADEMIES.





PRESBYTER ALEXEI KARPOV OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH IS ADMINISTERING BAPTISM.



Alexei Karpov of the Evangelical Christian Baptist Church

CHORAL WORSHIP SERVICE OF THE MOSCOW COMMUNITY OF EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHRISTIANS.



The protestants are most numerous in the western parts of the Soviet Union. The Lutheran Church, for example, has its largest following in Latvia and Estonia. At the same time, many Protestant communities may be found in other regions. For instance, most of the Evangelical Christian Baptist communities are concentrated in the Ukraine, but this denomination also has a big community in Moscow. Our staff writer interviewed Alexei Karpov, Presbyter of the Moscow Baptist Church.

"This year," the Presbyter said, "the Evangelical Baptist Brotherhood of the Soviet Union will celebrate its ninetieth anniversary. It was ninety years ago that the first Russian Baptist, Nikita Voronin, was baptized in Tbilisi, now capital of Georgia.

"As a rule all of our churches hold services five times a week. Every congregation selects from its membership those best qualified to preach the sermons. Each church has from five to ten preachers. Many of our communicants sing in church choirs.

"We maintain contact with our congregations through the columns of *Bratsky Vestnik* (Herald of Brotherhood), which prints articles, sermons and news about the activities of local churches. The brethren of the different communities also exchange frequent visits.

"The Evangelical Church lives in peace and mutual understanding with other Christian churches of the Soviet Union. Doctrinal and ritual differences are no reason for disputes between churches. We are equally dedicated to the teachings of Our Saviour.

"In the past few years we have had an increasing number of meetings with representatives of churches of other countries. In March 1956, for example, we were visited by ten leaders of the National Council of Christian Churches in the United States, headed by Dr. Eugene Blake. A delegation representing the various churches of the USSR, headed by Metropolitan Nikolai of the Russian Orthodox Church, visited the United States last June."

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THRONGS OF WORSHIPPERS ATTENDING THE DIVINE SERVICES IN A SYNAGOGUE.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

Continued from page 55



Solomon Schliffer
of the Jewish Religious
Community in Moscow

Jewish religious communities exist throughout the Soviet Union, but the majority of them are located in the European part of the country. Our staff writer interviewed Rabbi Solomon Schliffer, head of the Jewish religious community in Moscow. Speaking of the life of these communities, Rabbi Schliffer emphasized the leading role of the Moscow group and the contact it maintains with co-religionists in other cities.

"Jewish communities in other parts of the Soviet Union refer their problems and requirements to us. These may be the opening of a synagogue, choosing a Rabbi, obtaining a Torah scroll and prayer books, or it may be a question regarding ritual.

"Moscow has three synagogues and many dozen *minyans* (a group of ten Jews who gather for prayer). It is difficult to estimate the exact number of *minyans*, since any Jew may lead the prayers and a rabbi is not necessary.

"The Jewish faith has its specific rituals, and there are no obstacles placed in the way of their observance. Matzoth, for example, the unleavened bread required for the Passover holidays, are baked at many bakeries, and kosher meat is sold at stores under the supervision of inspectors I appoint in my office as rabbi.

"For the holidays last fall we prepared a new edition of the Siddur, our book of common prayer, and the Luah, our calendar. At present we have a sacred duty to perform. During the war, hundreds of our Jewish communities were completely destroyed by the fascist invaders. Torah scrolls have recently been found, and the authorities turned them over to us. Now we are restoring and allocating them to the communities that need them.

"We are also preparing to open a *yeshiva*, a rabbinical college. Many of our communities are cooperating in this endeavor, but the main work is being carried on by the Moscow community.

"Not long ago a delegation of the Orthodox Rabbinical Council of America, headed by Rabbi David Hollander, visited the Soviet Union. We also received a delegation from the New York Board of Rabbis, led by Rabbi Israel Mowshewitz. We maintain contact with the Jewish communities of many other countries, including Israel. During the first half of 1956 we received forty-eight foreign delegations and were happy to welcome them all."

THE READING OF THE TORAH IN A MOSCOW SYNAGOGUE.



Joseph Buturowicz of the Catholic Church

The Roman Catholic Church has the largest following in the western parts of the Soviet Union. Catholics are most numerous in Lithuania, which has six diocese. There are also many Catholics in Latvia and in the western regions of the Ukraine and Byelorussia.

Our staff writer asked Dean Joseph Buturowicz, of the Church of St. Ludwig, to describe the relationship between the Catholics and other denominations. He replied that their relations were based on mutual respect and equality.

"We Catholics," Dean Buturowicz said, "respect all other faiths. Their equal right to worship eliminates the possibility of religious discord."

Dean Buturowicz spoke with gratification of the international contacts maintained by the Catholic Church of the Soviet Union. "Among the latest official visits to our country," he said, "most noteworthy were the visits of a delegation of Catholics from Vietnam and that of Dr. Mark Reding, dean of the College of Divinity at Graz, Austria."

In conclusion, Dean Buturowicz said: "I believe that all possibilities exist here in the Soviet Union to enable anyone to freely profess his own religion and to worship in the faith of his choice." ■

NEW MEMBERS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY EXECUTIVE ORGAN IN RIGA. ►

VIEW OF ALTAR DURING SERVICE OF THE MASS IN A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.



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For fifteen days, from July 28 to August 11, a group of 30,000 young people gathered from 140 countries will exchange greetings and views, examine each other's artistic, cultural and social progress and compete in an enormous international sports competition.

The event will be the Sixth World Youth Festival. The place will be Moscow, and widespread preparations are nearing completion to give these visiting delegations the time of their lives.

There will be 3,000 interpreters and guides on hand to help the youths and girls hurdle language barrier; there will be medals, cups souvenirs galore, and a program that will run almost continuously.

The Sixth World Youth Festival is a continuation of the series that began in Prague, Czechoslovakia ten years ago. The Fifth Festival was held in 1955 in Warsaw.

Attracting young men and women from countries throughout the world, these Festivals afford them an opportunity to meet and associate with their counterparts of all races and creeds. The delegates come from farms and cities, from factories and classrooms, and represent many tastes, varied cultures and the broadest political and economic views.

Preparations for the Sixth Festival were formulated by the International Preparatory Committee meeting last summer, with delegates from 51 countries in attendance under the chairmanship of Govino Sahai of India.

Delegates to this, as well as to the previous Festivals, are from youth clubs and organizations of various sizes and interests. They all come as representatives of their group or as individuals. None are government-sponsored.

A staff writer of the magazine *USSR* asked Sergei Romanovsky, chairman of the Soviet Preparatory Committee for the Festival, about the program and arrangements. The chairman replied that the Soviet Union was only one of the 51 countries represented on the International Preparatory Committee, and that the IPC had recently reported the plans well advanced.

"There will be rallies of youth by professions and trades, interests and religious creeds," he said. "The list likewise includes seminars for students, complete theatrical per-

formances, variety shows, concerts and international art competitions. There will be a moving picture festival, many types of exhibitions, sports events and almost continuous carnivals."

As in previous festivals, the International Preparatory Committee has emphasized the fact that there shall be no dominating political, philosophical or other trends at the Festival. It will be operated completely in the spirit of mutual respect and understanding.

Romanovsky continued to detail the plans for receiving the visitors by stating that the delegates "will live in hotels and student dormitories and will be provided with meals, complete medical service and other accommodations. A total of more than 2,000 automobiles and busses will be at their disposal throughout the Festival period."

Asked what Soviet young people were doing to prepare for the event, the chairman of the host group replied:

"The young people of our country regard the coming Festival as a great holiday event. Local youth organizations in practically every town and rural community are doing something for the Festival, and as a result there are many new amateur art and sport groups developing in the country. There will be 7,200 amateur art groups participating in local festivals in the Ukraine alone.

"These district and city festivals will be followed by regional, territorial and republican festivals. Our figures show that almost six million youths and girls have already participated in art events alone. Winners of these competitions and sports events will be in Moscow for the World Youth Festival."

By decision of the IPC, the expenses of delegates will not exceed two dollars per day, including lodging, meals and transportation. The transportation includes the fare from point of entry in the USSR and from Moscow back to the border point.

Youth groups in many countries are successfully raising funds in various fashions to cover the expenses of their delegations. It is expected that delegates with especially difficult financial conditions will be assisted by either their own country's preparatory committee or by a Joint International Fund.

THE SIXTH WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL

Altogether there will be ninety railroad trains and dozens of planes to bring the 30,000 to Moscow, where 100,000 young people of the host country will welcome them. Anticipating that the 3,000 official interpreters will not be able to be everywhere, intensive short-term classes are being held in all 25 city districts of Moscow teaching young people foreign languages. Visitors who do not know Russian will be able to get along very well.

Employees of Moscow publishing houses have been extremely busy preparing reference material, guide maps, song and conversation booklets, posters and picture cards for the event. The Foreign Languages Publishing House is issuing itineraries of Moscow and guide books in German, French, English, Spanish and many other languages. With these aids, guests of the Festival will be able to go sightseeing without guides.

The culinary task of preparing for the influx of delegates is a tremendous one requiring 100,000 more meals daily, and chefs of the capital are meeting with experts to learn the national dishes of other countries.

Moscow school children as well as collegians, young workers and office employees are making gifts for the Festival delegates. Trade and technical school trainees will present each with a photo album of views of Moscow, inlaid boxes and souvenirs of metal, marble and stone. There will be fancy dolls in the national costumes of the peoples of the Soviet Union, fancy needlework and embroidery, badges and buttons of all types.

July 31 will be especially observed as "Girls Day," and a fashion show with the modeling of native costumes will be a big attraction. Experts of the USSR Central Fashion House in Moscow are working fast to get ready for this event.

The sports events of the Sixth Youth Festival, known as the Third World Youth Sports Games, is a gigantic program in itself. The Soviet Preparatory Committee's sports organizer, Yuri Lyapunov, is chock-full of information about it.

Lyapunov said that "picked teams of national sports associations of various countries, workers', students', and other sports clubs as well as individual athletes will participate in

the competitions to be staged simultaneously in ten Moscow stadiums during the Festival.

"The program consists of 13 sports for men and eight for women," he said. "The biggest attractions will be the track and field events, gymnastics, basketball, swimming, Rugby, soccer, tennis and badminton. It will be the first time that international figures in Rugby and badminton will appear in the Soviet Union.

"A beautiful sports badge will be presented to each Festival guest who passes three simple athletic tests. Non-athletes will have no difficulty in qualifying for the badge.

"Of particular interest," the Soviet sports organizer said, "will be the mass competitions between teams of the various delegations for all sorts of Festival prizes in table tennis, volleyball, a cross-country race and chess.

"In addition we will have an international rally of the visitors on the shore of the Moscow Sea—the great man-made lake near the capital. A tent city to be erected there will be the starting point of many excursions into the suburban areas of the city."

Lyapunov said this tourist center would be the scene of the traditional relay event in which the visitors compete in orientation, surmounting natural obstacles and pitching camp.

Summing up, he observed that the USSR Olympic Committee has invited more than 86 national Olympic committees and international sport federations to the event and that acceptances have been received from a majority. The USSR Olympic Committee is the sponsor of these games and it expects them to outdraw the Second World Youth Games which brought 4,580 athletes to Warsaw in 1955.

The fortnight-long Festival will wind up with a peace and friendship meeting in one of Moscow's largest squares, followed by an evening carnival on the Moscow River embankment with decorated barges, floodlights and a wide variety of entertainment. On Sunday, August 11, there will be a final concert with a grand ball attended by thousands of the visitors and witnessed by many thousands of Moscow citizens. This will bring down the curtain on the Festival, but it will be only the beginning of the rich new friendships engendered there. ■





One and a half hours remain before curtain time. As usual Sergei takes Clara to the Theater of the Cinema Actor and then drives on to the Art Theater for his performance.

A Family of Screen Stars

By IVETTA KAPRALOVA

Before I could get in to interview Sergei Lukyanov, the stage and screen star, I had to be approved by his six-year-old daughter. She met me at the door and said politely but firmly, "My daddy can't see anybody unless I see them first. What's your name?"

I identified myself and stated my business.

She looked me over gravely, decided that I would pass muster, and confided to me that her name was Oksana, that she went to kindergarten, that her teacher was a nice lady, that her mother was at rehearsal, and that she was taking care of her daddy—all in one breath.

Her daddy came in, swung Oksana squealing on to his shoulders. "My private secretary," he laughed, "and bodyguard."

Sergei Lukyanov made his first film only seven years ago, but since then he has become one of the most popular film stars in the country. He plays a wide range of characters. In *The Return of Bortnikov* he stars as a soldier who comes back to find that his wife has been unfaithful. As the dashing Gordei Voron in *Kuban Cossacks*, he is altogether unlike Grandfather Matvei, the 80-year-old pensioner who has worked for half a century in a shipyard, whom he portrays in *A Big Family*; or the kindly investigator Afanasiev in *The Rumyantsev Case*.

"I don't like to be typed," Lukyanov told me, "so that each part I take means a lot of close study and hard work. My teacher,

Amvrosi Buchma, a wonderful Ukrainian actor, used to keep telling me that an actor has to be like a piece of modeling clay; for every new character you have to knead the clay into a lump and mold it into a new shape."

"How did you become an actor?" I asked.

"It just happened," he answered. "A touring company came to the town in the Donets coal basin in the Ukraine where we lived, and I went to see the play. I thought I would like to try my hand at theater work, so I applied for a job with the company as a stagehand. Then they made an actor out of me. Before that I'd worked as a carpenter, miner and stevedore."

Oksana had been on her best behavior all this time, sitting curled up in an armchair and listening. It was time she put in a word or two. "Daddy," she ordered, "show the lady the toys you make." She turned to me. "He made me a doll's bed. But he hit his finger with a hammer and my mama told him he shouldn't say those words."

"Here, here, don't give away any family secrets." He picked his daughter out of the chair and swung her up in the air. She was delighted and yelled for more.

I had noticed the clay figurines standing on the table, the TV set and elsewhere in the room—dogs, a ballerina, a dragon. "I like to fool around with clay modeling in my spare time," Lukyanov told me. "There were a lot

Six-year-old Oksana says, "Wait Mama, we haven't washed my dolly Natasha's neck yet."



more of these around, but my wife gave them to friends."

"What is your next picture going to be?" I asked.

"I'm reading several plays right now," he said. "The Mosfilm Studios want me to play Kochubei in a film about the Russian Civil War hero. They've also offered me the part of the eighteenth century peasant leader, Emelyan Pugachev, in the film *Captain's Daughter*."

"Does that mean you're giving up the stage?"

"Not at all. The theater is my first love. I wouldn't think of giving it up. I'm rehearsing a play right now, as a matter of fact. I'm doing the part of the pastor in Shaw's *The Devil's Disciple*. The Art Theater of Moscow is producing it."

Lukyanov's last role was Yegor Bulychov in Gorky's *Yegor Bulychov and Others* in a production by Moscow's Vakhtangov Theater. It ran to crowded houses for a full year and ended its run only because Lukyanov had to leave the cast to do a play with the Art Theater Company.

"*Yegor Bulychov*," he said, "is my favorite stage role. It took me a long time to figure out how the part should be played. Then I happened to hear a recording of Chaliapin singing 'Farewell to Joy' and it suddenly dawned on me what Yegor should be like. He had to be expansive, spirited, in love with life. Even when he was dying, I had to try to show him grabbing at life with both hands. Do you remember the play?"

Before I could answer there was a pleasant voice at the door saying "Hello, everybody." It was Clara Luchko, Lukyanov's wife, a star in her own right.

I first saw her in *Kuban Cossacks*. It was the first picture she made after graduating from the Cinema Institute of Moscow, and it won her considerable popularity. And not only with moviegoers. Sergei Lukyanov was playing in the same picture, and they were married soon after. After *Kuban Cossacks* she did three pictures in a row—*Donets Miners*, *A Big Family*, and *Twelfth Night*. In *Twelfth Night* she played dual roles, Viola and Sebastian.

"You should have seen Clara dressed up for the first time with boots and a sword, swaggering around," Lukyanov laughed.

"That was some part," Clara said. "I had to learn to carry myself like a man and to fence like a real swordsman. But the worst of it was that I had to learn to ride horseback, and I've always been frightened to death of horses."

What were her plans? I asked.

"I'm leaving for Leningrad the day after tomorrow," Clara explained, "to begin work on a new picture, *At Our Side*. Sergei always gets in a tizzy when I have to leave for a while. To tell you the truth, I don't like being away, either."

The Lukyanovs are not separated very often. They usually play in the same pictures and always travel abroad together for film festivals. They have dozens of friends among motion picture people in India, Finland, Italy, Poland, France, Bulgaria and China, and they keep open house for friends who visit Moscow. ■



WOOD CARVING IS FUN AND AN EXCELLENT HOBBY . . . BUT SOMETIMES LITTLE ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.

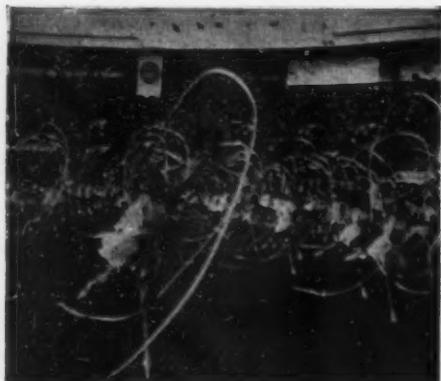
"YOU KNOW, THIS TASTES VERY GOOD," SERGEI LUKYANOV SAYS IN PRAISING HIS WIFE'S CHERRY LIQUEUR.



world's oldest athletic event

Throughout recorded history man has sought health, strength and vigor through physical conditioning. The ancient Greeks wanted their youth to attain this perfection and they named the vehicle through which it was reached gymnastics. Eventually developing into a competitive sport, gymnastics was the foundation of the first Olympic games.

Early in the nineteenth century gymnastics was taken up by the Germans, and the Swedish educational system adopted it at about the same time. The Swedish system of physical culture is world famed.



GIRLS PERFORM GYMNASTICS MUCH LIKE A DANCE.



ON SWINGING RINGS, ALBERT AZARYAN OF YEREVAN, ARMENIAN CAPITAL, SHOWS OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIP FORM

GYMNASTICS

Russian traditions in gymnastics date back to the beginning of the eighteenth century. Watching gymnasts train in 1883, the Russian writer Chekhov said: "These are the people of the future. The time will come when all people are as strong as these. This is our country's fortune!"

There is much of the original gymnastics left in the exercises today, but a new quality has been added. In the Soviet school of gymnastics the old goal of health, strength and vigor remains, but an aesthetic quality has been given an equal position that finds expression throughout the exercises and particularly in the free drills, now so popular.

Great stress is laid on harmony of move-

ment, development of ease and grace along with muscular coordination and rhythm. Most of the free exercises are done to music. The horizontal and parallel bars, the vaulting horse, swinging rings and other apparatus of formal gymnastics coupled with the free exercises contribute toward making this event one of the most spectacular and graceful in sports. So not only are gymnastics popular as a sport, but as acrobatics and eurythmics as well.

Gymnastics is part of the physical education program as a mandatory course in all Soviet schools, elementary and secondary, colleges and universities. But gymnastics are extremely popular with the people generally.

One could only guess at how many millions do their "daily dozen" each morning when the gymnastics program is broadcast. Thousands of sports clubs and recreational centers have teams of gymnasts that participate both in local and national tournaments held every year.

After a visit to the Soviet Union Mr. Avery Brundage, President of the International Olympic Committee and long a leading figure in the American sports world, told correspondents he had seen hundreds of thousands of people go in for gymnastics. And he added that a sports festival he witnessed made it clear to him why Soviet gymnasts are regarded as the best in the world today.



OLYMPIC CHAMPION LARISSA LATYNINA OF KIEV, UKRAINIAN CAPITAL, PERFORMS ON THE LONG HORSE.

Truly nation-wide participation in this world's oldest sports event and its long-established tradition in the country help explain the successes of Soviet gymnasts in international competition.

At the Melbourne Olympic games last year, the Soviet squad took home a total of eleven of the fifteen gold medals. This followed up similar victories at Helsinki in the 1954 Olympics, in the 1954 World Championship in Rome and the competitions for the European Cup at Frankfurt-on-Main in 1955 and 1956. The key to success here is long, hard training.

This may be illustrated by the example of Japan's gymnastic team. At the Helsinki games they placed fifth, but their zealous scouting activities made it obvious they were looking ahead to future meetings. Japanese trainers and coaches literally swarmed around the Soviet squad during actual performances and in their training and warm-up sessions, taking moving pictures with portable cameras.

Four years later at Melbourne the Japanese showed the results of their careful study and training—they placed second to the USSR. They had learned the most important single feature of gymnastics: discipline of movement. It is this discipline of movement rather than sheer brute strength that makes gymnastics so appealing, and it cannot be obtained overnight.

Competition in international gymnastics is becoming more intense each year, and by the time the next Olympics are held in 1960, the contests for gold medals are sure to be the hottest on record. Chief rivals for the Soviet crown will come from several countries—possibly from the United States, too.

Soviet athletes welcome more competition in gymnastics. It is the oldest athletic event in the world, and it deserves more attention and more competition. ■

MOSCOW STUDENTS REGINA PANKRATOVA AND GALINA MATVEYEVA DEMONSTRATE ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS. THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST GRACEFUL EVENTS IN SPORTS.



Victor Chukarin, whose article appears below, met the veteran American track star Jesse Owens at the Olympic stadium in Melbourne last year. One member of the Soviet squad told Chukarin that he had broken one of Owens' records at Helsinki, and another observed "it was probably the first time in history that a gymnast beat a runner without once meeting him on the track."

This is strange, but true. In the 1936 Olympic Games at Berlin, Jesse Owens won four Olympic medals to set a new record for a single competitor. That record stood until 1952, when Chukarin won six medals for his gymnastic performance.

Gymnastics is a family affair with the Chukarins. His wife, Klavdia, is a former top-notch gymnast herself, though now her time is taken by her children.

Chukarin, a modest and unassuming man of 35, is a teacher of the physiology of sports at the Lvov Pedagogical Institute. He announces here that he is retiring from competition, but not all his friends and admirers are completely convinced on this.

By Victor Chukarin

World and Olympic Gymnastic Champion

When I returned home to the Ukrainian city of Lvov from Australia early in January, I was greeted by my wife, Klavdia, and two daughters, Vicka and Olga. I told them about my trip and I showed albums with views of Australia and pictures of athletes from the world over with whom I'd made friends.

Looking over these photographs again this spring I recalled the final day of the contests in gymnastics. When our team mounted the victor's stand I turned "eyes right," like the old gymnast I am, and my glance found familiar faces. There were boys and girls from Moscow and Leningrad, the forge-press operator from the Armenian town of Leninkan, the youngster from Ishim in Siberia's snows, and the girl from the city of Kherson in the Ukraine. People from every part of the Soviet Union go in for gymnastics and my glance took in the whole sweeping panorama of the geography of our country.

The competition at Melbourne was more sweeping, too. While at Helsinki our chief rivals in gymnastics were European teams, we had formidable competition from a newcomer—this time Japan, the Asian entry.

At the end of the first day's events, the compulsory program, we were only two-tenths of a point ahead of the Japanese. A hundredth of a point could make or break a performer in the scoring of gymnastic events, and when the referee tabulated the first day's results, I was in fourth place.

On the next day the Japanese went into action first, and we had their scores before we were called. But the results were not heartening. The high rating of the Japanese spoke well for their athletes.

We started with the rings. Azaryan got 9.8



USSR GYMNASIIC SQUAD AT OLYMPIC GAMES IN 1956. CHUKARIN, SECOND FROM LEFT, IS ALL-ROUND CHAMP.

Hard Work Is Key

to Gymnastic Victory

points, Muratov and I each drew a 9.6. Things were not going too badly after all. We got gold medals in the rings, long horse, parallel bars, pomeled horse and the free exercises.

Just before I got set to start the last exercise, our coach whispered: "9.6 points and you pass the Japanese in the all-round showing." As luck would have it, I had a sore foot from a bad landing in a somersault in a training session. Every jolt made itself felt. But I went on, and as I walked off I heard the referee intone: "9.55!"

I felt as though I had been hit by a ton of bricks and tried to slink away. I failed to understand what the coach and the rest of the team were grinning about. I had missed it by 5/100 of a point. It took some time before what they were saying really sank in: "You really needed only 9.55—and you got it. We said 9.6 to give you some margin. The all-round title is yours."

The Japanese took nineteen medals in all. The Soviet team got thirty-one. Some statistical-minded fans estimated that the two all-round champions Latynina and Chukarin scored more points than a full team the size of

the Canadian, numbering dozens of athletes.

Later that day we saw the young Ukrainian girl we all liked so much take her position on the victory stand. She was Larissa Latynina, a student from Kiev, daughter of a charwoman. Larissa, with her suggestion of a pug nose and curly hair, is a newcomer to major competition. She was making her debut in gymnastics at a school competition when the Helsinki games were held just a bit over four years ago.

I keep an album of Olympic photos on my desk. Many times I look at one of the victory stand. One short step and you're on top. But that one short step is perhaps the longest in the world.

When I flew to Melbourne at the end of November, I went as a gymnast. When I disembarked from the motorship Gruzia at Vladivostok at the beginning of January, it was as a trainer. I want to hand down my experience and knowledge to the younger generation of gymnasts who will defend our sports leadership at Olympic games of the future. My appearance at Melbourne was my last as a competitor. ■

VICTOR CHUKARIN ON THE PARALLEL BARS, SHOWING THE FORM WHICH HELPED HIM WIN OLYMPIC HONORS.











"GRANDPA, YOU'RE OFF KEY!" SAYS NATASHA TO IVAN PATORZHINSKY, POPULAR UKRAINIAN BASSO.

