

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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(SEE KEY SEE REVERSE)

Enclosed are six Soviet pamphlets which are being forwarded to you in the belief that they will be of interest. The pamphlets, which are FREE when detached from the covering memorandum, are as follows:

- a. Constitution of the Trade Unions of the USSR (1949)
- b. Social Insurance in the USSR (1953)
- c. Odessa Dockers (1953)
- d. Labour Protection at Soviet Industrial Enterprises (1953)
- e. American Workers Look at the Soviet Union (1952)
- f. Trade Union Health Resorts in the USSR (1953)

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Odessa Dockers

Ships in the Port of Odessa





SKETCHES
OF
SOVIET LIFE

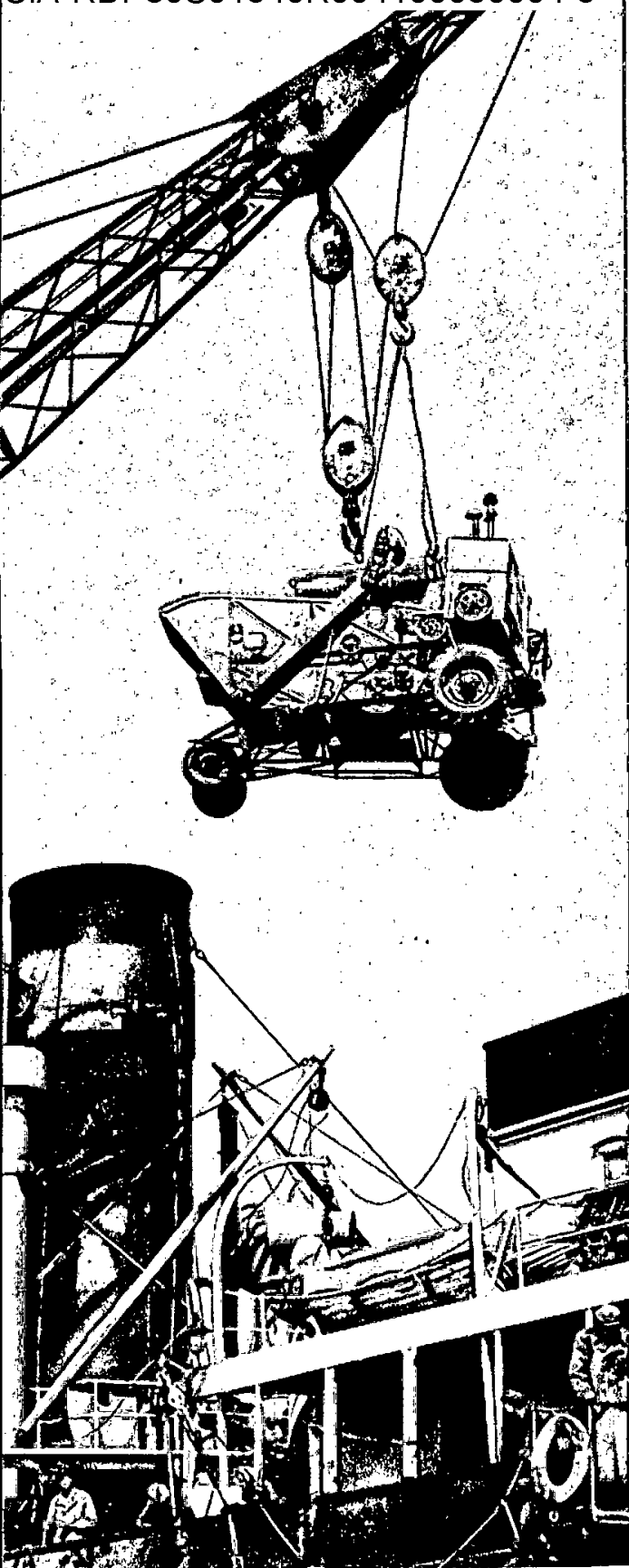
B. SMOLYAKOV

Odessa Dockers



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE

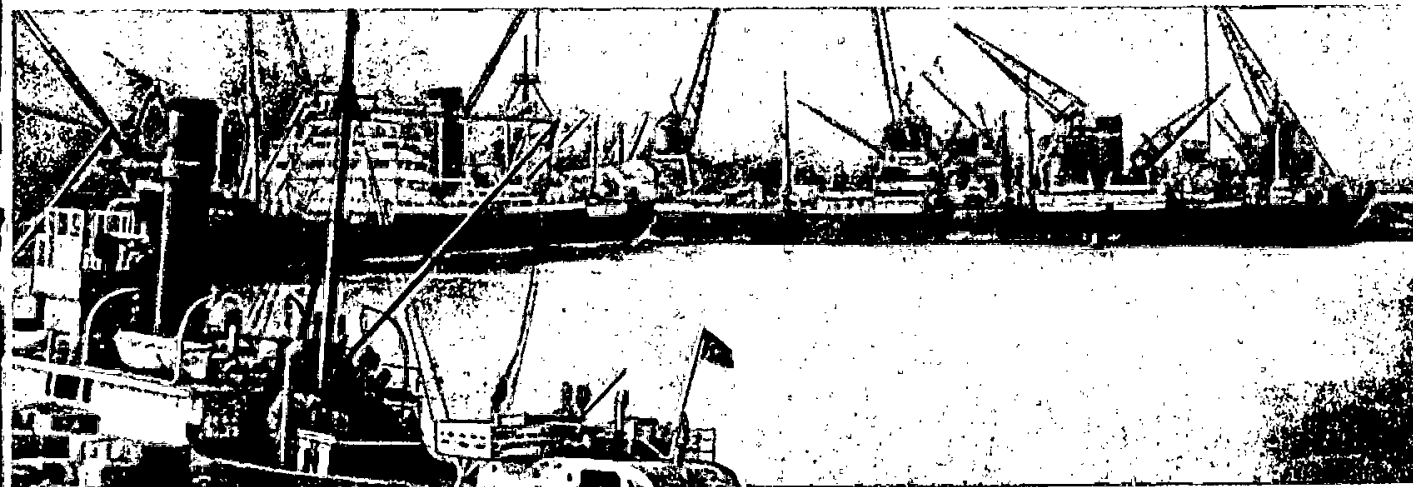
Moscow 1953



Soviet-made self-propelled harvester combines are being loaded on a ship

FROM the corner of the Primorsky Boulevard, where the citizens of Odessa have erected a monument to the great poet Pushkin, you get a view of the port, spreading before you like a panorama. Away down, as far as the eye can see, ships are moored to the quayside, and over them, turning this way and that, swing the latticed arms of cranes. They hoist to the height of a three-story house harvester combines, automobiles, huge steam boilers which from afar look like toys. From time to time you hear the shrill of steamship sirens and the prolonged, high-pitched shriek of shunting engines.

The docks are filled with all sorts of mechanical apparatus that do the heavy work of loading and unloading formerly done by human muscles. Rostislav Lubenov, the chief engineer of the port, informs us that 96.5 per cent of all operations have been mechanized. The traditional docker is vanishing; in the vast majority of cases his work



A view of the Port of Odessa

now consists of operating the machines that load and unload ships—the portal, self-propelled and floating cranes, power trucks, stack pilers and conveyers.

Odessa port, wrecked by the Hitler invaders, has not merely been restored; it has been reconstructed on the most up-to-date technical principles. Nearly everything had to be built anew, for the enemy occupation forces had wrecked 74 per cent of all docking facilities, 60 per cent of the protective structures, 91 per cent of the warehouses, and all the machinery.

It was a sad spectacle that met the eyes of the workers who returned to liberated Odessa and gazed at the lifeless port. Everything that had been created and built by the Russian people in the course of one and a half centuries had been reduced to rack and ruin. But in less than six

months the Port of Odessa was able to receive the first ships.

The captains of English vessels, amazed at the scale of destruction, said sceptically that it would take no less than twenty years to restore the port, but the Soviet State almost completely restored and reconstructed it in only four years.

Unlike the ports in the U.S.A., which are a chaotic jumble of piers, wharves and other structures belonging to different private firms, at the Port of Odessa all the work is distributed among three sections, each of which handles a definite type of cargo. All the work is conducted according to a definite plan, based on the schedule of arrivals and departures of ships. Each section has a permanent staff of workers who work in teams, and is supplied with the necessary machinery. Loading and unloading goes

on all year round in three shifts a day. The amount of cargo handled far exceeds prewar figures, and the portal cranes now in use have a much greater lifting capacity. The port is equipped with floating cranes, a floating coaling crane, a huge mechanized granary, a grain transporter and grain suction pumps with which two men can unload a barge of grain in five or six hours. Formerly, this job required forty men working ten days. Thanks to the extensive mechanization of operations, the number of men employed on loading and unloading work has

been reduced by nine-tenths during the past four years.

In capitalist countries the introduction of machines usually causes unemployment, but in the Port of Odessa not a single man was put out of work for this reason. The labourers received two, three or six months' technical training at a special school that has been set up at the port, acquired new trades, and all remained at the port as skilled operators of machines and mechanisms. They work the conveyer lines and mechanical loaders and serve as motormen on the floating grain elevators. A



Former dock labourer Sergei Gordeichuk has become an electric welder

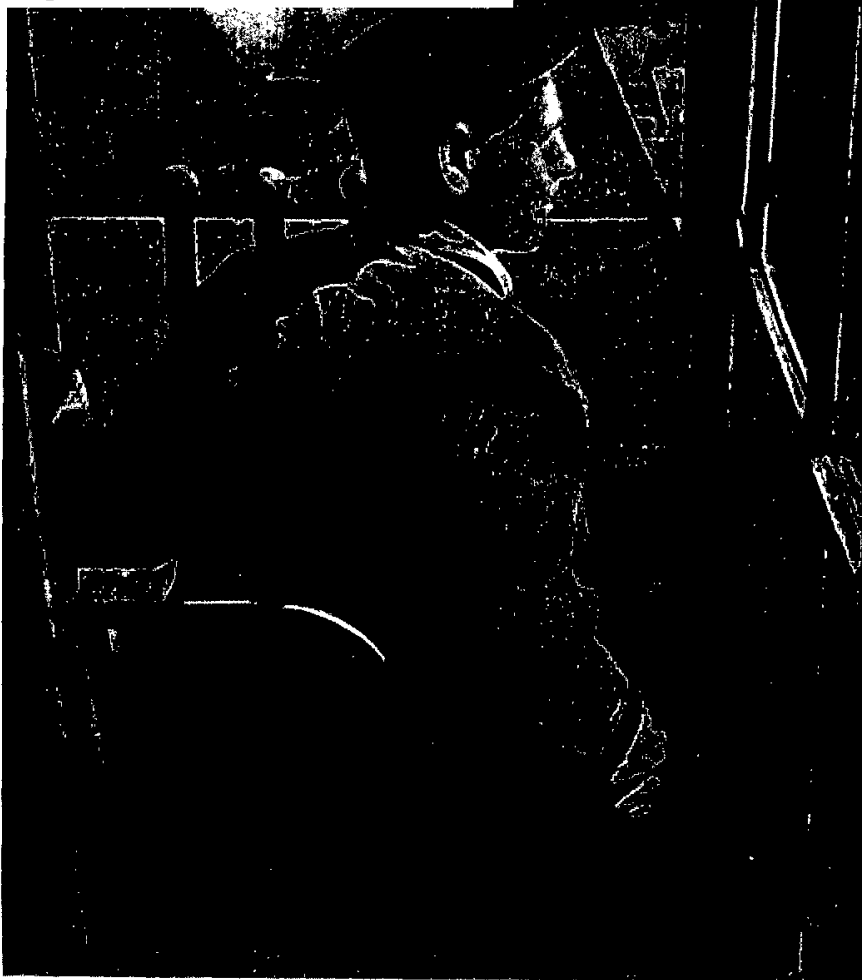


Pyotr Bryushko is another stevedore turned mechanic—
he is a riveter in the ship repair yard

large number of the former dockers are now skilled mechanics working in the repair shops; others are managers or assistant managers of warehouses. An important point to note is that all of them received their average pay while attending these training courses.

During the past three years over 3,000 dock workers, includ-

ing 500 men demobilized from the Soviet Army, have learned new trades. The training covered such subjects as safety rules and regulations, draughtsmanship, metallography, physics, mechanics, electrotechnics and mathematics. The courses were conducted by university lecturers and by engineers working at the port.

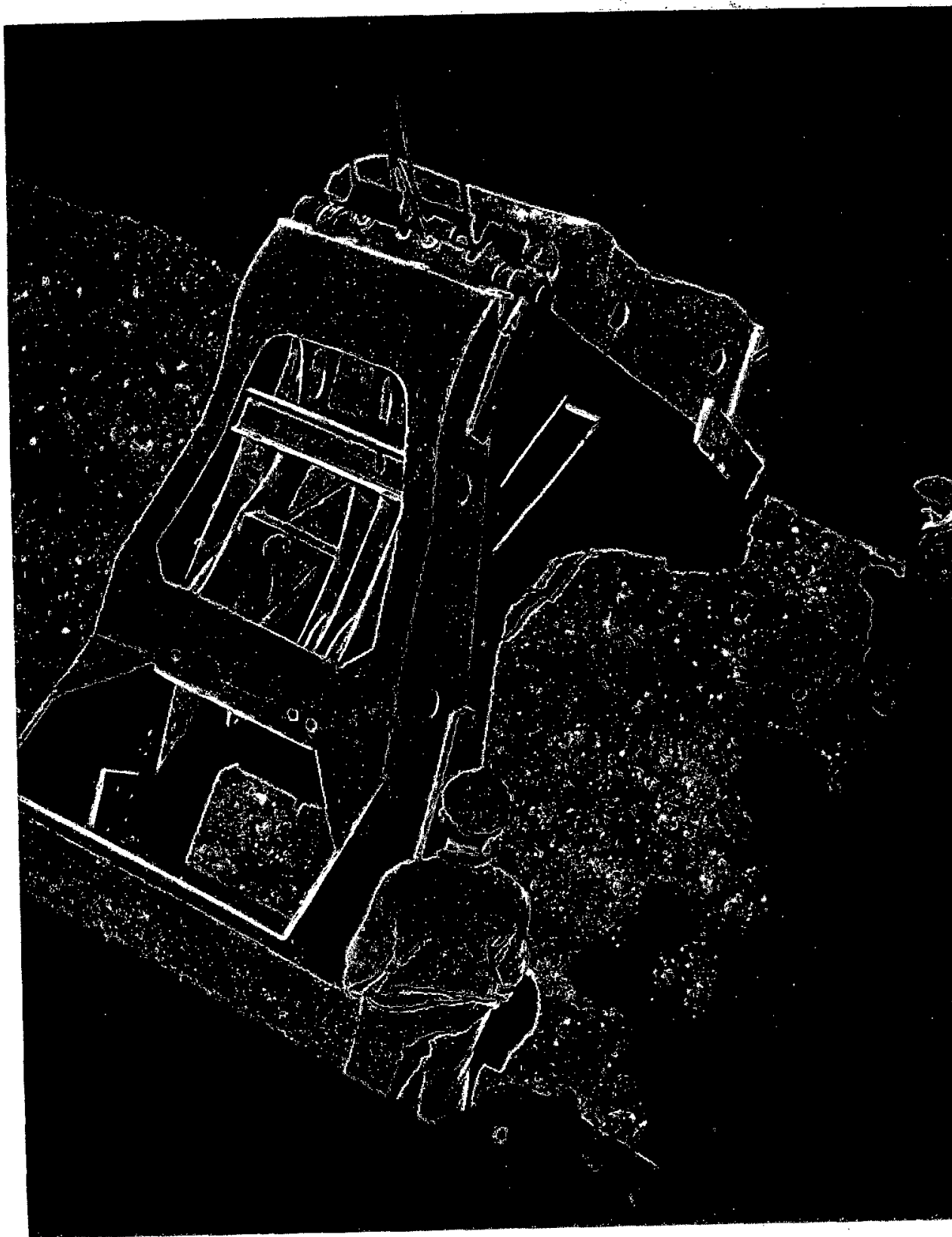


Nikolai Shabinsky, graduate of a six months' training course, now in charge of a coal-loading crane

The Soviet docker is thus a new type of port worker—a skilled and educated operator of intricate machinery. Representative of these new port workers is Vasili Turlenko, senior craneman in Section 2, at the Port of Odessa. He was demobilized from the Soviet Army in 1946 and was given a job at the port. He went through a six months' course of training, after which he worked on portal cranes of various

types. He thoroughly mastered the handling of these machines, achieved high efficiency, and even introduced a number of improvements. One of these was particularly important. On his proposal portal cranes designed to handle only piece goods were altered so they can also handle cargo shipped in bulk. This increased their efficiency and at the same time brought about a considerable saving in electric power.

This coal-lifter has done away with manual labour in the coal docks:
All the docker has to do is to show the crane-man where to drop the coal



Loading and unloading is mechanized not only in the docks but also in the ships' holds. Fyodor Shelest, senior craneman in Section 1, proposed that the lift trucks used for laying out cargoes on the quayside should also be used below deck. This proposal was adopted, and now a stack piler is lowered by crane into the hold where it performs all the heavy work.

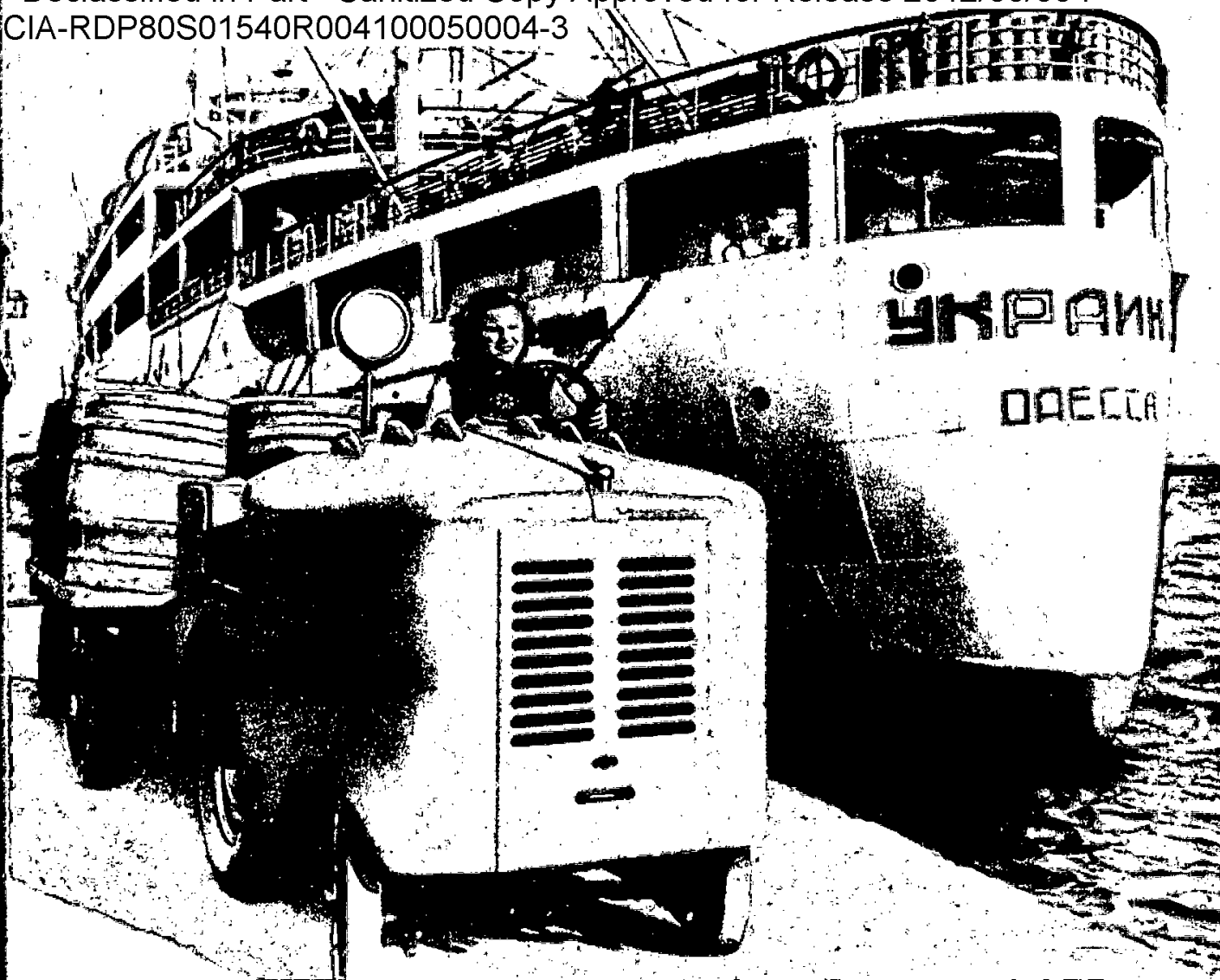
Last year alone 116 rationalization proposals made by workers were put into practice.

A group of port engineers, together with the Stakhanovites, organized the loading and unloading of ships according to an hourly schedule. When a ship has to be loaded or unloaded the technological council of the section, together with the workers, draws up a definite schedule and technological chart showing what each team has to do every hour of its shift, what cargoes have to be handled, from what warehouse they are to come, and what mechanical appliances are to be used. This method has considerably increased efficiency in the handling of cargoes and has resulted in a 40 per cent increase in the workers' earnings.

The life of the Odessa docker today is quite unlike the lot of the dock worker in the past. An interesting comparison was made by the veteran docker Andrei

Lysyuk. He is sixty now, and he has gone through a great deal in the course of his life. For years he was a homeless wanderer, roaming from port to port in all parts of the world, occasionally working as a shiphand on a merchantman. This was before the Revolution.

"I began to feel I was a human being only with the coming of the Soviets," says Lysyuk. "And so did the other waterside workers, who formerly used to lug on their backs as much as seventeen tons of cargo a day for a mere pittance. How happy I am that my sons never had to go through anything like that. My oldest son, Leonid, has had an education and is now an engineer and safety inspector. There was no such job in the port before the Revolution. Safety regulations! How many of my mates have been killed by falling into holds either because it was too dark or because the rotten hatch ladders collapsed. Today no job is started until the safety inspector gives permission. Before the Revolution, if anyone dared to demand that guard rails be put on the gangways he'd be kicked out at once. There were always hundreds of homeless 'bums'—that's what they called us then—outside the dock gates eager to get any kind of work. The things you saw in the Port of Odessa



Tamara Kizilova, one of the port's front-rank power truck drivers

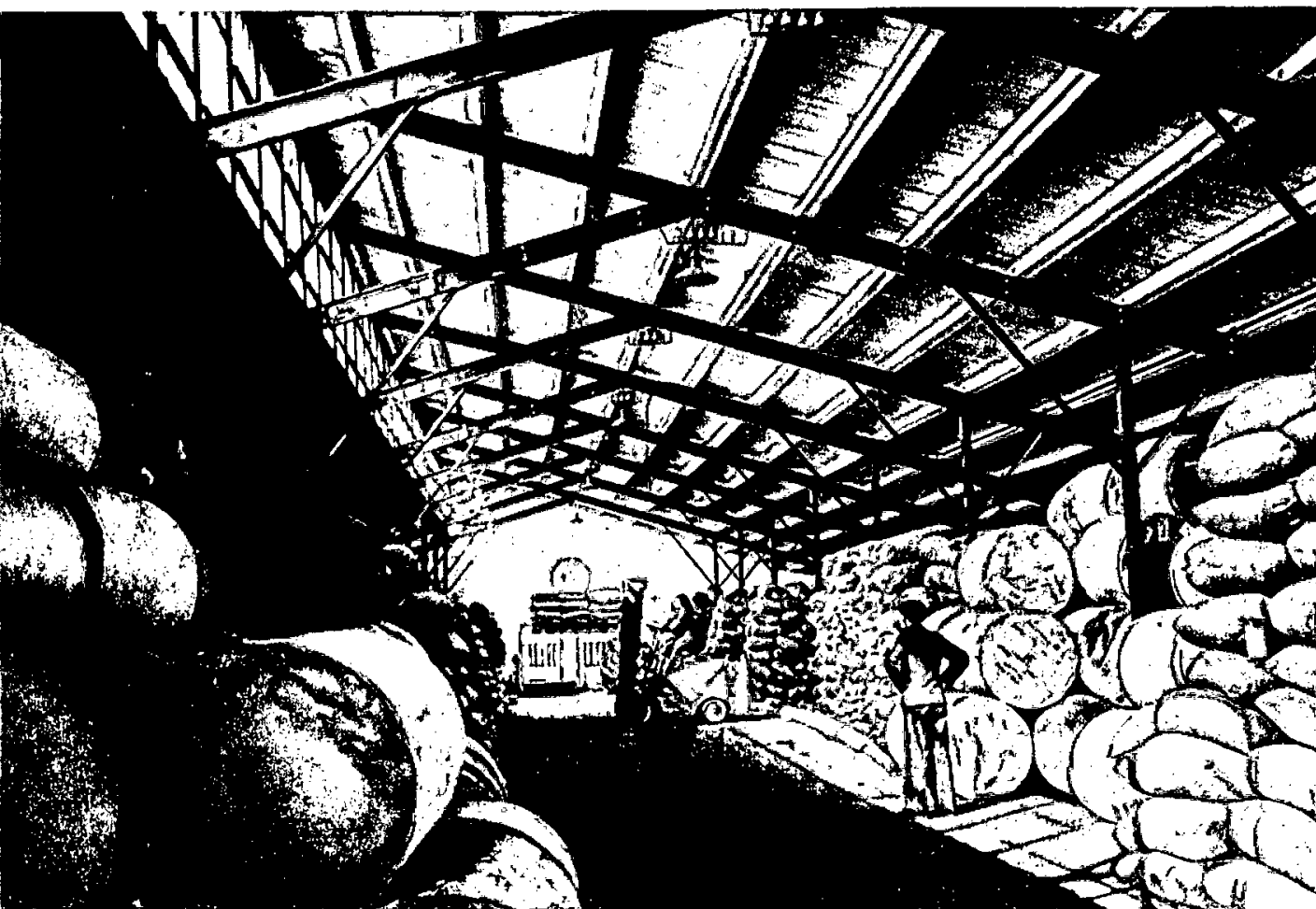
before the Revolution can be seen only in capitalist countries today."

Andrei Lysyuk's second son Nikolai is attending a six months' training course for crane operators and getting his average pay. He doesn't have to worry about his future.

Dock workers are paid at progressive piece rates. Higher rates are paid for night work and

double rates for work on holidays. All workers receive an annual vacation with pay.

Earnings range from 1,000 to 2,000 rubles per month. A meat dinner of three courses at the port canteens costs from 3 to 3.50 rubles. Meals cooked at home cost even less. Consequently, the docker's earnings suffice for buying clothes, domestic furniture, and other requirements.



Stack pilers are extensively used in the port's warehouses

House rent does not exceed four or five per cent of earnings.

Lysyuk's family consists of six persons. Three of them work at the port. When the family returned to Odessa after the city had been liberated from the fascist invaders, they found their home completely ransacked. The Hitlerites had stolen everything. After a short time, however, they were able to refurnish their home and buy new clothes; Lysyuk's sons own motorcycles. When the

oldest son, Leonid, married and his wife had a baby, the family decided to build a cottage in the country. In this they were assisted by the trade union. The port trade union committee, by arrangement with the Executive Committee of the City Soviet of Working People's Deputies, had a former estate assigned to it near the health resort "Arkadia" on which members of the trade union can receive a plot of 1,200 square metres for a cottage and

garden. The Regional Municipal Bank grants those wishing to build a loan of 10,000 rubles to be repaid in seven years. The Ministry for the Merchant Marine assigned funds for building a transformer substation to provide electricity for the workers' cottages.

Lysyuk's family spend the summer in their country cottage, which stands in an orchard—they grow peaches, strawberries, grapes and plums.

In 1948, the average monthly earnings of Soviet dockers were 100 per cent above the prewar year 1940, and in 1950 were 152 per cent above the prewar level.

Maritime transport workers enjoy a number of special privileges. Among other things, they are entitled to higher old-age and permanent disability pensions. They also receive service bonuses: ten per cent after three years' work, another five per cent after the next two years, and an additional two per cent for each subsequent year. Long and devoted service receives recognition from the state in the form of Medals and Orders.

Soviet dockers' real wages do not comprise only what is entered in their paybooks. One must add the benefits all receive from the state insurance fund: pensions, sick pay, cultural services, accommodation in sanatoriums

and rest homes, physical culture and sports facilities, and country holidays for their children.

The dockers have a recreation club, libraries, reading rooms, a polyclinic and medical centres, the best swimming pool in Odessa, and so forth.

Waterside workers often gather in their club in the evenings to listen to lectures on the Stalin plan for transforming Nature, the great construction works of Communism, the latest technical improvements introduced in the Soviet marine transport service, the international situation, etc.

Often the young workers gather round the veteran dockers to hear their reminiscences of the revolutionary struggle in tsarist



Young working girls find it easy to operate a stack piler



The year-old grandson of docker Andrei Lysyuk is ready for his afternoon outing. The whole family is there to see him off. Left to right: Andrei Lysyuk; Larisa, wife of his oldest son Leonid; Leonid Lysyuk and his brother Nikolai

times and of the heroic defence of the city during the second world war.

The working people of Odessa are proud of the fact that in their city arose the first workers' organization in Russia—the South Russian Workers' Union (1875), and that the great Lenin was the

delegate of the Odessa Bolshevik organization at the Third Congress of the Russian Social-Democratic Labour Party.

During the 1905 Revolution the Odessa dock workers fought vigorously against the autocracy, and rendered assistance to the insurgent sailors on the battle-

ship *Potyomkin*. It is with rapt attention that the young folks listen to the stories told about that thrilling time by the veteran docker Mikhail Kodubinsky, who was a participant in those events. He was one of the dockers who carried coal to the revolutionary warship and maintained contact with the insurgent sailors.

The magnificent stairway that leads from the Primorsky Boulevard to the beach was drenched with the blood of workers. Here, on the night of June 15, 1905, the tsarist gendarmes shot down nearly two thousand strikers as they were streaming out of the port, which had been set on fire by police agents.



In addition to his home in town, Andrei Lysyuk has a cottage in the country, near the well-known "Arkadia" health resort. Photo shows him in the garden with his son Nikolai, a crane man in the port

In January 1918, the Odessa dockers took part in the barricade fighting against the counter-revolutionary troops of the Whiteguard generals, and a year later they helped to rout the French interventionists who had occupied the city.

The inhabitants of Odessa contributed a glorious page to the annals of the Great Patriotic War the Soviet people waged against the Hitler invaders. Although cut off on land, they, together with the men of the Soviet Army, kept the fascist hordes at bay for



Veteran dockers M. Kodubinsky and I. Vetrov tell their younger comrades assembled in the dockers' club about the great Russian writer Maxim Gorky, a stevedore in the Port of Odessa in the 'nineties

seventy days. Eighteen picked Hitler divisions were demolished at the walls of this hero-city. Under constant enemy fire the dockers unloaded the Soviet ships which arrived at the port during those memorable days.

On one of the quays in the port there is a red two-story brick building. On the wall facing the sea is a memorial tablet with a carved inscription relating that on September 2, 1941, under continuous enemy artillery fire and air bombing, "the dockers of the Port of Odessa unloaded ahead of schedule the motor ship *Belostok* which had brought an important cargo of military supplies for the defenders of Odessa."

This was the last ship to arrive in the besieged city.

The militant, revolutionary career of the Odessa dockers has now been crowned with all the blessings of peace.

At a long table, dockers are sitting in the open air, waiting for the change of shift. Some of them are playing dominoes, others are reading newspapers, still others are just basking in the sun, smoking and watching the loading of cargoes. Soviet ships are lined up at the docks.

A foreign vessel is moored at dock No. 1. It has come to get Russian grain. Soviet agricultural



Repair shops mechanic Sergei Katkov (left) and docker Alexei Nikiforov, like many other workers at the port, spent their vacation at a southern health resort. Photo shows them en route to the resort

machines, iron castings, pipes and boilers, rolls of wire and motor trucks are laid out on the quay ready to be shipped to the People's Democracies.

The Soviet steamship *Vostok* is approaching the eastern entrance of the bay; it is returning from Italy with a cargo of lemons. On the dock everything is ready to receive her. The portal cranes have moved up, the power trucks are ready. Soon, loaded by cranes, these trucks will be racing one after another to the

warehouse where the boxes will be mechanically stacked. The work is performed with rhythmic precision and does not require great physical effort. Exactly twenty-nine hours later, the time specified in the schedule, the ship is unloaded. The captain thanks the dockers and mentions in passing that in the Italian

port it took four days and nights to load the ship.

In Soviet ports the trade of stevedore, that is, of the man who lugs cargoes on his back—has been abolished. Soviet dockers are skilled machine operators trained at the expense of the state.

Sports of every kind are popular among the dock workers. Dockers V. Gumenko (left) and M. Bychkov, both ex-servicemen, prefer boxing and heavy athletics—it is the only kind of "heavy work" they do

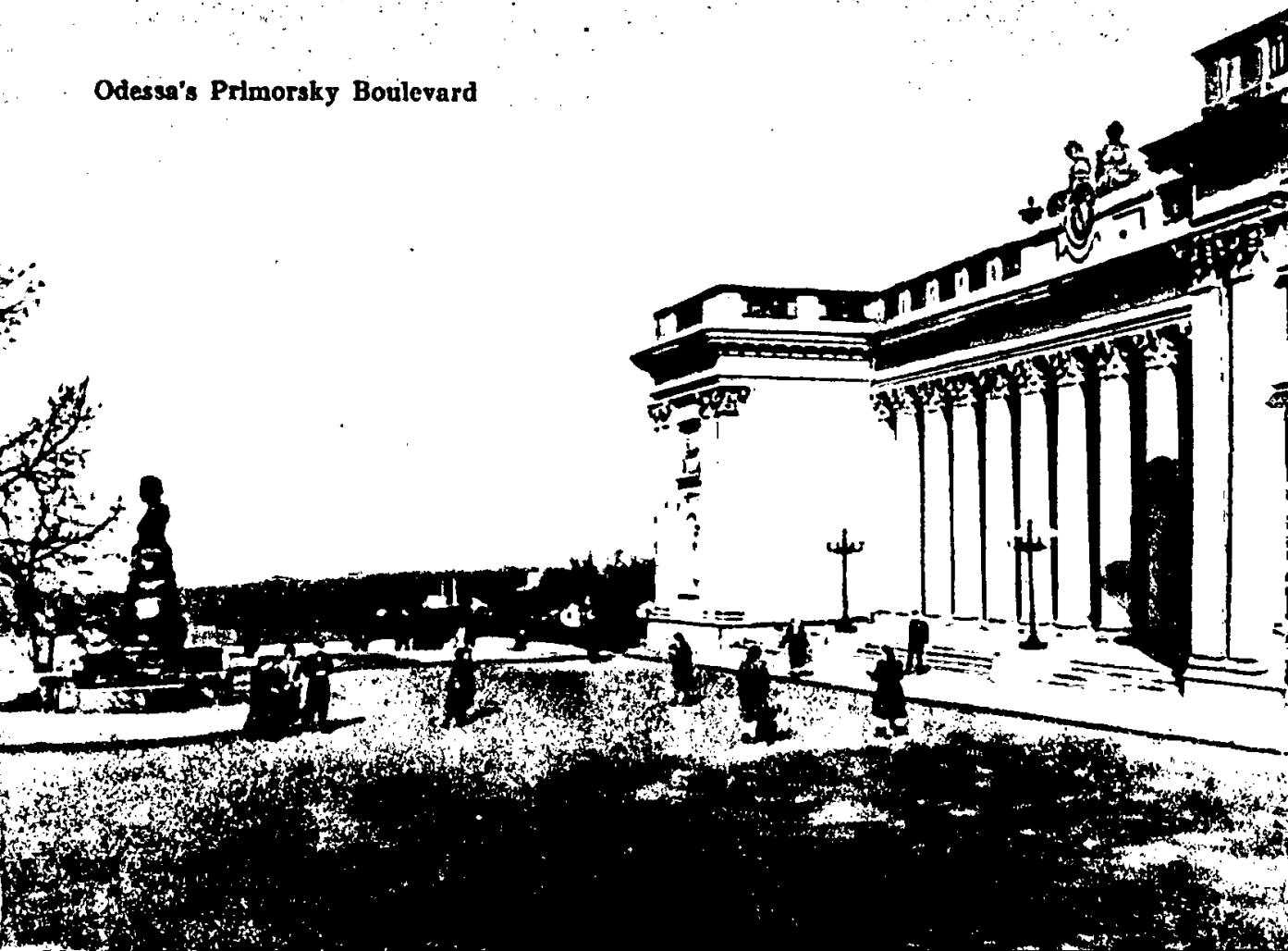


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Young dock workers stroll after
their shift down a boulevard
overlooking the sea



Odessa's Primorsky Boulevard



PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This publication is a reprint of an
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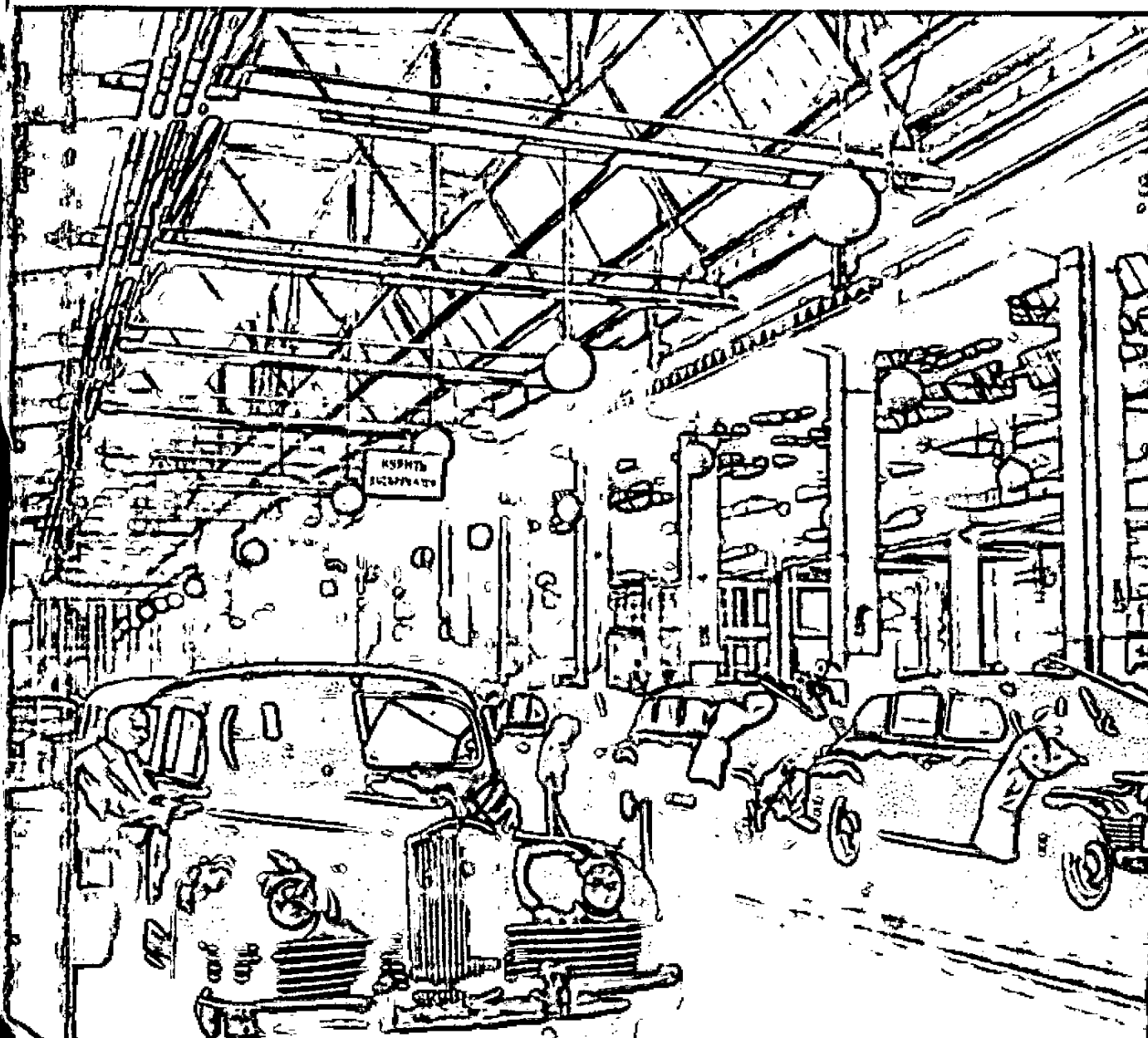
SOVIET UNION

Cover: Pyotr Bobrinsky, former dock labourer and now
a crane operator in the Port of Odessa. 96.5 per cent of
the loading and unloading in the port is mechanized

Labour Protection

AT SOVIET

INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES



LABOUR PROTECTION AT SOVIET INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE

Moscow 1953

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INTRODUCTION

Soviet labour legislation is based on the principles contained in the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, popularly called the Stalin Constitution.

The guiding principle of Soviet labour legislation is solicitude for human beings. And it could not be otherwise in Soviet society where, as J. V. Stalin has said: "the most valuable and decisive capital is people, cadres."

Labour legislation in the U.S.S.R. is a system of rules and standards aimed at protecting the health of workers by hand and brain, and creating the most favourable working conditions.

Soviet law makes the executives of industrial plants, offices and state farms strictly responsible for any violations of the existing labour legislation and regulations.

The effective implementation of labour legislation in all industrial plants and offices is under the control of the trade unions.

Soviet labour legislation strictly enforces the implementation of the right to work as established by the Soviet Constitution—a right which implies that all Soviet citizens are really enabled to secure work according to their abilities, knowledge, experience, and qualifications.

Article 118 of the Constitution states:

"Citizens of the U.S.S.R. have the right to work, that is, the right to guaranteed employment and pay-

ment for their work in accordance with its quantity and quality.

“The right to work is ensured by the socialist organization of the national economy, the steady growth of the productive forces of Soviet society, the elimination of the possibility of economic crises, and the abolition of unemployment.”

Soviet people have long forgotten what it is to be unemployed. Unemployment was done away with for all time over twenty years ago.

Every Soviet citizen is entitled to secure employment, and to receive payment in accordance with the principle of equal pay for equal work.

The right to work is an essential condition of genuine democracy. In this regard, Comrade Stalin, in the interview he gave to Roy Howard, said the following: “It is difficult for me to imagine what ‘personal liberty’ is enjoyed by an unemployed person, who goes about hungry, and cannot find employment. Real liberty can exist only where exploitation has been abolished, where there is no oppression of some by others, where there is no unemployment and poverty, where a man is not haunted by the fear of being tomorrow deprived of work, of home and of bread. Only in such a society is real, and not paper, personal and every other liberty possible.”

Young people, on graduating universities, technical colleges and specialized secondary schools, and young workers who have completed a course of instruction at a factory training school or trade school, are guaranteed work in their respective professions and trades.

Soviet legislation not only protects the right of workers by hand and brain to secure work, but also safeguards them against unjustified dismissal or transfer.

Where a Soviet employee has been wrongly dismissed, he is reinstated, and is compensated for his period of enforced idleness in the manner established by law.

Legislation also exists in the U.S.S.R. safeguarding the rights of workers who, while continuing to work at their jobs, perform their duties as members of factory, mill, mine, building-site, and office trade union committees. Managements are not allowed to dismiss such officials except with the sanction of the corresponding superior trade union bodies.

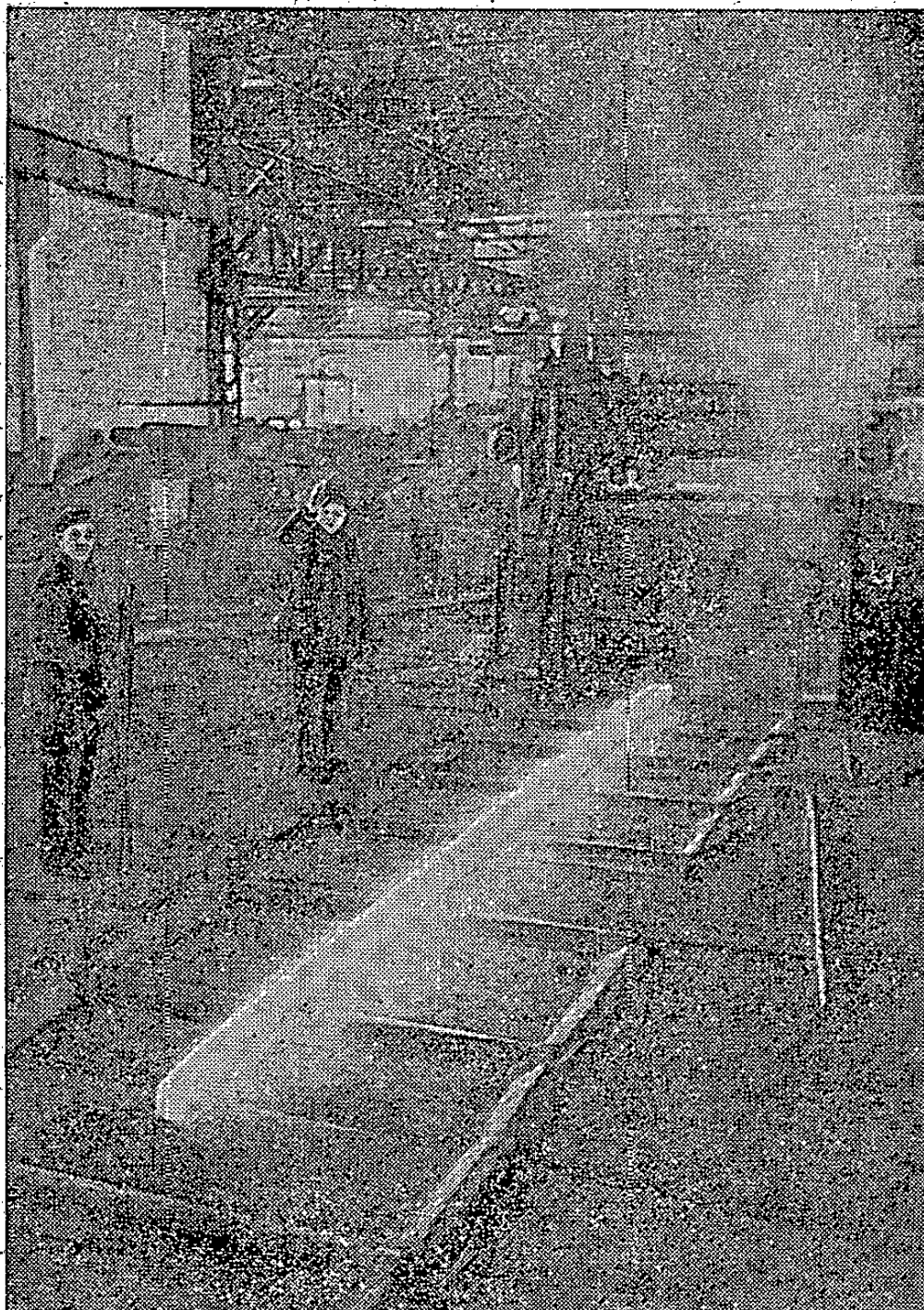
WORKING HOURS AND LEISURE

The U.S.S.R. Constitution guarantees all Soviet citizens the right to rest and leisure. Article 119 of the Soviet Constitution contains the following paragraph: "The right to rest and leisure is ensured by the establishment of an eight-hour day for factory and office workers, the reduction of the working day to seven or six hours for arduous trades and to four hours in shops where conditions of work are particularly arduous, by the institution of annual vacations with full pay for factory and office workers, and by the provision of a wide network of sanatoria, rest homes and clubs for the accommodation of the working people."

Where a reduced working day is in operation, this does not involve a reduction in wages.

Overtime is banned in the Soviet Union, except in those few cases where, for example, it is necessary in order to avert natural calamities, to eliminate unforeseen obstacles to the normal functioning of the electricity, water and other supply services, and also where stoppage of work may result in damage to machinery and materials. But even in such cases the managements are not allowed to introduce overtime without securing permission from the appropriate trade union bodies. Overtime is paid at the rate of time and a half for the first two hours and double time for subsequent hours.

All employees receive annual vacations with full pay, for periods ranging from two weeks to two months according to nature of occupation.



*A view of the blooming mill department at the Krasny Oktyabr
Works in Stalingrad*

Those employed underground in the mines, or in the ferrous and nonferrous metals industries, in the various transport services, and in the oil, chemical, printing, and other industries are entitled to vacations for periods ranging from 18 to 48 working days.

Members of staffs of scientific research institutes are entitled to vacations of 24, 36 or 48 working days. The professorial and tutorial staffs of all educational institutions are entitled to vacations of 48 working days.

Those employed in the lumber industry and the forest service are entitled to an annual vacation of one month; once every three years the vacation is of two months' duration.

Young workers attending school after working hours are entitled, during the examination periods, to leave lasting from 15 to 20 days, with full pay.

All workers employed directly on the job in the basic industries (metallurgical, coal and ore mining, oil, textiles, the transport services, big building jobs, etc.) are entitled, after two years' service, to an additional three days' vacation annually.

Where employees are in need of treatment at sanatoria or health resorts, they are given leave of absence sufficient to cover the full period of treatment and the journey there and back. The period in excess of the vacation to which they are entitled is paid for out of social insurance funds.

The Soviet Government does not stop at providing vacations. To ensure that the working people make effective use of them, a large network of sanatoria and health resorts has been established throughout the Soviet Union.

In addition, employees and the members of their families can spend their vacations enjoying the facilities provided for touring, mountain climbing, hunting, or fishing.

TRADE UNION CONTROL OF LABOUR PROTECTION

The Soviet Government, concerned as it is for the health of those who labour, entrusted the trade unions with the task of seeing to the implementation of all legislation pertaining to the protection of labour.

The fact that it is the trade unions, the organizations embracing the widest masses of workers, that have been entrusted by the state with this task, is one of numerous proofs of the genuine democracy of the Soviet system.

At the present time the state supervision over the observance of the labour protection laws by the managements and directors of plants, institutions and other enterprises is carried out by the trade union technical inspectorates, organized according to branches of industry, and attached to all Central Committees of trade unions.

The inspectors possess considerable powers. They may visit the factories and institutions under their supervision at any time of the day or night, without let or hindrance, and register their conclusions as to the fitness of new plants or shops to be opened.

Recommendations made by technical inspectors calling for the elimination of violations of labour protection regulations must be carried out without fail by the factory directors.

The technical inspectors may cause any factory, departmental or shop manager to be prosecuted or to be penalized

by his superiors for failing to observe the laws aimed at protecting the health of the workers.

The technical inspectors carry out their work with the active assistance of the leading trade union workers in the plants, and in their turn assist the trade union committees in the factories in exercising control over the fulfilment of labour protection measures.

This public control exercised by the trade unions over the observance of the labour protection is effected through the medium of what are known as public inspectors and commissions. There are nearly 1,300,000 such trade union public inspectors and members of labour protection commissions.

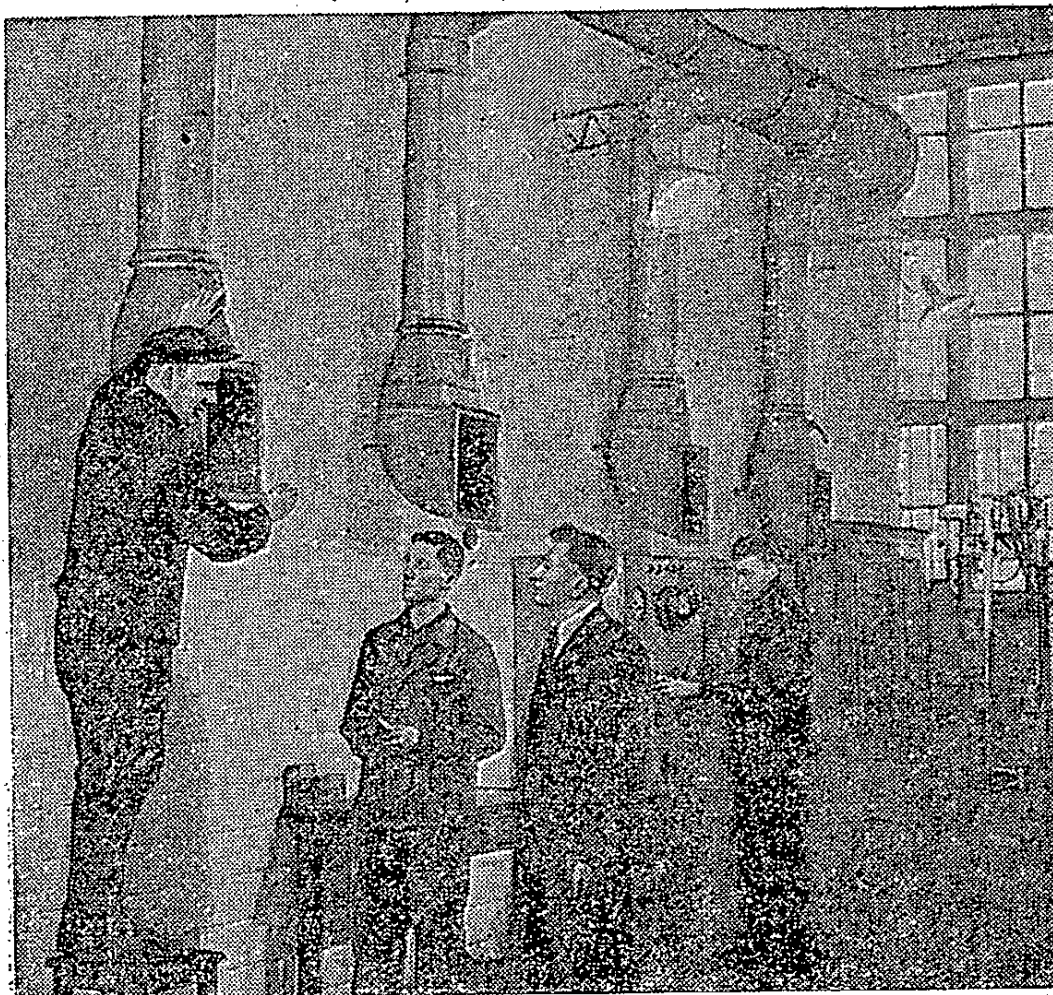
These voluntary labour protection inspectors are elected at meetings of the trade union members in the various departments, and directly supervise the operation of the labour legislation in their particular spheres.

The public labour protection inspector examines the work places to see how far safety precautions are observed, and takes steps to secure the elimination of any defects discovered.

To ensure the provision of the best working conditions and to see to the observation of the labour protection, safety-first and industrial hygiene regulations and standards in the factories and plants, the various trade union committees set up labour protection commissions. A member of the plant trade union committee is appointed chairman of such a commission, and at the same time occupies the post of senior labour-protection inspector in the plant concerned.

Such a commission has from three to 21 members selected from among the workers and those engineers and technicians who do not enjoy administrative powers. They function after endorsement by the plant trade union committee, which also endorses the commission's plan of work.

The commission discusses reports made by departmental and shop chiefs, or the chief engineer or plant manager, on both particular labour protection items (ventilation, illumi-



Repairs to ventilation equipment being inspected at a department of the Voroshilovgrad Locomotive Works by A. Zhukov, chairman of the works labour protection commission, and by mechanic A. Gaidukov, labour protection inspector.

nation, machinery guards, etc.) or on the situation as regards safety precautions and industrial hygiene in the plant as a whole.

Decisions taken by the commission must be fulfilled without fail by the plant management.

The commission chairman who, as we have said, is the senior labour protection inspector, has the right to visit all departments and shops, to acquaint himself with



Assembling ZIM passenger cars at the Molotov Auto Plant in Gorky

documents and materials relating to labour protection matters, and to enforce the elimination by the management of defects disclosed.

The senior public inspector assists the public inspectors functioning among the trade union members in the departments to solve any labour protection problems that may confront them.

Here is how Fagan, secretary of the British workers' delegation that visited the Soviet Union in May 1951, describes the work of these labour protection commissions and public inspectors in the plants:

"The labour protection commission of the trade union factory committee is one of the most powerful subcommittees functioning in a factory. . . . Each voluntary inspector not only checks that the administration is adhering to the protection regulations for the industry, but also on overtime. The labour laws include a strong check on overtime, the maximum amount of which is limited by law to 120 hours per worker per year. Permission to work overtime can only be granted in an emergency, and then only by the central committee of the trade union involved. . . . The inspector has wide powers, and the administration must grant him every facility to carry out his inspection. If he is not satisfied with the conditions in his section he can call in the chairman of the factory (or shop, where there is a shop committee) labour protection commission, who is the senior inspector for the factory, and the T.U.-employed technical inspector. The latter has the right to enter any factory or works in his industry, at any time of the day or night, and has the power to get fines imposed on members of the administration responsible for any violations of the labour laws that he may find."

THE ORGANIZATION OF SAFETY-FIRST MEASURES IN THE FACTORIES

The responsibility for seeing to the application of safety measures in the plants and miscellaneous institutions lies with the managing directors, chief engineers, heads of departments, shops, laboratories, etc. They see to it that the rules and instructions relating to safety measures and industrial hygiene are put into practice; they do all in their power to ensure that the most favourable conditions are created on the job for the elimination of danger and for highly-productive labour. Particular attention is paid to ensuring that the work places are properly organized.

At big and medium-sized factories and industrial plants, special ventilation engineers are assigned, or ventilation bureaus (or departments) set up, to see to the effective and uninterrupted functioning of the ventilation systems and appliances. Such ventilation bureaus (departments) have their laboratories, where tests are regularly made of the air in the various working premises.

It should be added that no ventilation unit is allowed to be used except after being subjected to a thorough test by a special commission including representatives of the trade union organization. Every ventilation appliance has its "passport" containing the details of its construction, etc., and instructions for its operation are ready at hand.

The establishment of ventilation departments renders possible the most efficient use of the ventilation machinery,

and so the creation of the most favourable working conditions from the point of view of hygiene and sanitation.

Daily inspection takes place to ensure that safety and industrial hygiene standards and regulations are observed. To achieve this, and also to assist the heads of works departments, shops and sections in solving the various problems arising in this connection, safety-first departments—under the direct charge of the corresponding plant chief engineer—are set up, in which qualified engineers and technicians are engaged.

The safety-first engineers are empowered to demand of heads of departments the immediate elimination of any defects in safety equipment.

Particular attention is paid to ensuring that employees are made acquainted with, and make a study of, the appropriate safety measures. This is obligatory.

When accepted on the staff, the employee is given a preliminary talk, usually by the safety-first engineer, who makes extensive use of diagrams, placards, and illustrative materials on the importance of discipline at work, on the nature of the work being done at the plant, and on safety-first precautions in the department, at the lathe or machine, and so forth.

At the majority of big plants, special rooms are equipped for the purpose of acquainting the workers with safety-first and industrial hygiene regulations. Here are also to be found models of the lathes and appliances most typical of the plant concerned, and of safety-first instruments and appliances, as well as placards and instructions on labour protection.

Following these introductory talks, the workers must undergo a course of instruction in safety precautions, right where they work. Explanations are given by the appropriate department chief or foreman. The reason why they are given this instruction right where they work is to thoroughly acquaint them with the equipment they are to handle and

the specific safety regulations that apply to themselves, and to enable them to learn the safest ways and methods of carrying on their work.

The engineers, technicians and foremen do not limit themselves to these initial safety-first talks, but are constantly on the alert to see that the regulations are adhered to during the course of the work.

Particular attention is paid by departmental chiefs and foremen to ensuring that workers doing particularly responsible and dangerous jobs (such as crane operators, drivers, electricians, furnacemen, welders, train couplers, workers operating mechanisms underground or engaged on other mining operations, etc.) are made aware of the safety precautions to be taken. Only persons who have passed the appropriate knowledge tests are allowed on such jobs.

Members of engineering and technical staffs have to be especially well acquainted with safety-first and industrial-hygiene regulations, as they are responsible by law for the conditions in the departments and shops in this regard. They possess this knowledge due to the fact that all students attending university-level and secondary technical colleges, apart from becoming acquainted with safety-first methods as they study specifically technical subjects, have to take a special course of safety-first methods. They must pass an examination in this subject, and in addition submit a treatise concerned with some aspect of it.

Special chairs and laboratories dealing with safety methods have been set up in the technical colleges.

Special refresher courses and classes dealing with safety methods are arranged by various ministries and government departments to keep engineers and technicians in touch with the latest developments in this sphere.

When drawing up safety-first instructions for the different categories of workers with whom they are concerned, heads of factory departments, shops and laboratories are guided by the regulations and standards operating in the

industry as a whole, but take account of the specific conditions existing in their respective plants.

These instructions are prominently displayed in the departments and shops, and in the vicinity of such particularly dangerous and vital equipment and machines as boilers, cranes, electrical installations, etc. In many plants the safety regulations concerning the main types of jobs are printed in booklet form and distributed among the workers.

A variety of means, including film displays, radio lectures, is employed to popularize safety methods and problems of industrial hygiene among the workers and engineering and technical personnel.

An important part in eliminating accidents in the factories is played by placards. These are artistically-composed pictures of equipment, lathes, parts, installations and so forth, in which attention is drawn to the danger spots, and brief instructions given as to what should be done to avoid accidents.

The great amount of work done at Soviet plants in the field of labour protection and safety-first methods, has led to a considerable decline in industrial accidents and disease.

LABOUR PROTECTION ITEMS IN COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS

The Soviet Government annually assigns special funds for the improvement of working conditions. These funds are used for the extensive introduction into industry of the latest achievements in industrial ventilation and illumination, and also other labour protection measures.

At the beginning of each new economic year the management of every plant, working in cooperation with the appropriate trade union committee, draws up a list of labour protection measures to be implemented during the current year, which is embodied in the collective agreement.

All engagements undertaken by factory managements concerning the further mechanization of laborious working processes, the effective maintenance of ventilation installations, shower baths, cloakrooms and other such amenities, the training of the workers in proper working methods, and the popularization of safety-first measures and industrial hygiene, are also embodied in the collective agreements.

At Soviet industrial plants all workers occupied on harmful, dangerous or dirty jobs, and also on jobs done under high or low temperatures, are entitled to working clothes and boots free of charge. The management is also responsible for storing, washing, drying, cleaning and repairing working clothes without charge.

Workers employed on unhealthy jobs receive a daily allowance of milk at the expense of the management. Work-

ers and office employees in the zinc and lead industries are entitled to free breakfasts and dinners of high calorie content, the menus being drawn up in accordance with suggestions from the Food Research Institute.

Factory trade union committees check up once every three months—in the departments and workshops—on how the measures provided for in the collective agreements have been carried into effect. In the respective plants, sittings of labour protection commissions and factory trade union committees are convened to hear reports from the managements as to measures taken to further improve working conditions.

With the fulfilment of the plans for improving safety-first measures and sanitary arrangements, working conditions are being steadily ameliorated.

As an illustration of what is being done in this sphere, we quote from the collective agreement for 1952 of the Krasny Proletary Plant which, in the section headed "Labour Protection," contains the following engagements undertaken by the management and the plant trade union committee:

Section V.

LABOUR PROTECTION

§ 37. The management undertakes to carry out in full the measures for improving working conditions provided for in the agreement with the plant trade union committee.

§ 38. The management undertakes furthermore:

a) to complete, by October 1, all the work involved in preparing the departments for the winter of 1952/53, to repair the heating and ventilation equipment, to felt-line doors, and repair and seal windows;

b) to ensure normal temperature in the workshops, in accordance with the standards adopted by the chief Sanitary Inspector of the U.S.S.R.;

- c) to improve the natural and artificial light in the shops;
- d) to provide the workers with an adequate supply of boiled and of aerated water;
- e) to ensure that the shower baths and other hygienic and welfare facilities function properly, and to provide soap and hot water;
- f) to ensure that the personal hygiene chamber for women functions regularly.

§ 39. The management undertakes to supply the workers in good time with working clothes and boots, and with protective appliances of the proper quality, in the established quantities. It also undertakes to see to the regular washing and mending of working clothes and boot repairs.

§ 40. The management undertakes not to permit any worker, whether newly engaged, or transferred from another job, to begin work without giving him or her preliminary instruction in safety-first measures directly in the shop, and also to see that the instructions are repeated to all the workers every six months;

§ 41. The management undertakes:

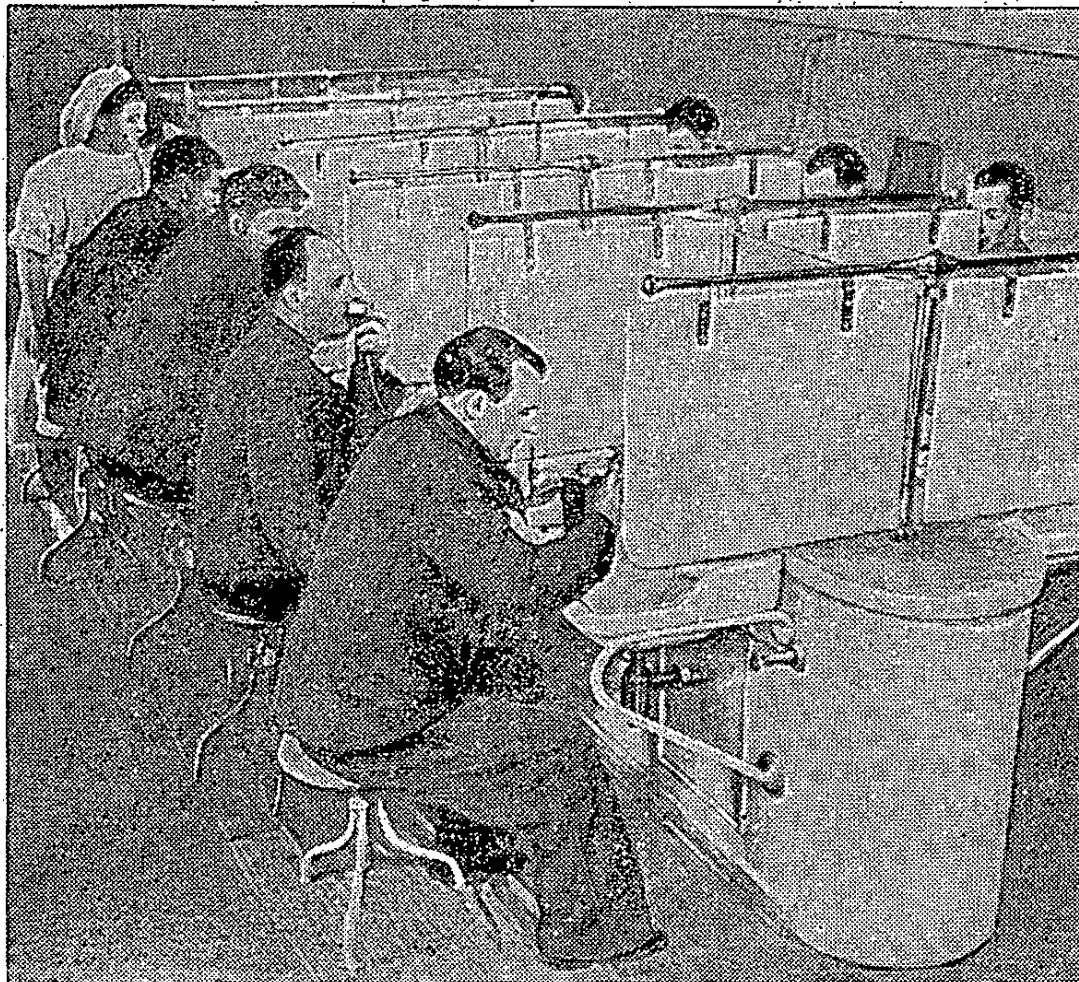
to ensure that a sufficient number of safety-first placards are posted in all the departments, and to arrange for members of the engineering and technical staff to conduct talks among, and advise, the workers on problems of labour protection, safety measures, and industrial hygiene;

to organize safety-first and industrial hygiene classes to be attended by 50 members of the engineering and technical staff and 120 workers.

§ 42. The management undertakes to provide all the plant and office workers and members of the engineering and technical staff with their current, and where so entitled with extra, vacations in accordance with a timetable to be drawn up in conjunction with the plant trade union committee.

The management further undertakes to inform each employee of the date of his forthcoming vacation not less than 15 days, and to complete all the appropriate formalities and furnish the holiday pay not later than three days before the leave begins.

Employees attending young workers' schools or the plant's tech-



Miners of the Chistyakov Coal Trust, the Donbas, take inhalation treatment

anical school are to be given their vacations during the summer months without fail.

§ 43. The management undertakes:

a) to arrange the periodic medical examination of all juveniles employed at the plant, and of employees doing heavy work or work liable adversely to affect their health;

b) to effect the repairs, planned for 1952, to the plant's premises assigned for medicinal and prophylactic purposes;

c) to keep the first-aid stations in all the shops and departments regularly supplied with medicaments;

d) to plant still more verdure in the factory grounds.

§ 44. With a view to ensuring improved working conditions and rest facilities for the workers, engineering and technical staff and office personnel, the plant trade union committee undertakes:

a) to effect systematic control over the operation of the labour legislation relating to working hours and rest periods, the provision of current and extra vacations for all the employees, according to the timetable adopted, and with the provision of the rebates and privileges established for juveniles, pregnant women and nursing mothers;

b) to keep a systematic check on the working conditions in the shops and departments, and on the fulfilment of the agreement for ameliorating working conditions and of the factory regulations;

c) to keep a systematic check to ensure that the workers are supplied in good time with good-quality working clothes, boots and soap, and also milk and butter in the standard quantities;

d) to engage in systematic explanatory work among the employees aimed at averting accidents and sickness, periodically to discuss problems concerning the protection of labour, safety-first measures and industrial hygiene at meetings of shop committees, and of labour protection commissions, and at meetings of the plant trade union committee;

e) to send 460 employees to holiday homes or sanatoria during 1952;

f) to arrange for not less than 600 employees to attend the night sanatorium during the year; the management undertakes to ensure the timely repair of the sanatorium premises, the provision of equipment, of lighting, heating, and transport facilities, and also to see to the cleanliness and security of the buildings;

g) to allocate the sum of 60,000 rubles to enable workers and members of the engineering and technical staff to secure special diets at reduced rates;

h) to arrange systematic assistance for employees lying ill at home.

SETTLEMENT OF LABOUR ISSUES

Capitalist society is torn by irreconcilable class contradictions, so that there labour conflicts assume the form of strikes. In Soviet plants, on the contrary, the possibility of labour disputes assuming this form is ruled out, because of the absence of the exploitation of man by man, the steady improvement in the living standards of the working people, and the knowledge they have that they are working not for capitalists, but for themselves, for the people.

This does not mean that no disputes on labour issues can arise between individual employees and managements.

They can, but their cause will be the violation of the labour laws by individual executives or by workers themselves.

The figures of such labour disputes in the U.S.S.R. show a steady decline from year to year.

A great part in regulating and settling them is played by the Soviet trade unions.

The main bodies for examining labour disputes between workers and managements are the Wages and Disputes Commissions which are set up in plants and institutions.

Representatives of the management and of the trade union body of the plant or institution concerned sit on such a commission on a parity basis.

The commission settles disputed issues on the basis of full agreement between the parties concerned. Where agreement cannot be reached, the issue is handed over

to the local people's court for settlement, the worker incurring no expense.

The people's courts must examine claims within five or seven days following the date of receipt.

The Wages and Disputes Commission functions in the plant or institution concerned. This makes it possible for disputed points to be rapidly examined and settled.

No formalities whatsoever are involved where approach is made to the commission, and no rules of procedure exist to complicate the process of reviewing the claim.

The Wages and Disputes Commission settles such issues as, for example, those concerned with dismissal, job transfer, wages, payment for spoilage and idle time, compensation of all kinds, overtime, and so forth.

When a disputed issue is under review, the employee who has lodged a claim appears before the commission in order to state his case and answer any questions that may arise. Witnesses and experts are called, where necessary.

Decisions taken by the commission, with the agreement of the parties, are obligatory. Where the management declines of its own accord to carry out the decision, the Central Committee of the trade union concerned intervenes to see that it is put into effect.

HEALTHIER AND EASIER WORKING CONDITIONS

Labour protection is an inviolable principle of the organization of labour and production in the Soviet Union.

The prime purpose of the new equipment being introduced into Soviet plants is to lighten the labour of the worker, to make it safe and more productive.

This is achieved by the mechanization and the automation of heavy and labour-absorbing jobs being extensively introduced in all branches of the Soviet national economy.

Nowhere are machines used so willingly as in the U.S.S.R., because they economize the labour of society and lighten the labour of the workers, and, as there is no unemployment in the U.S.S.R., the workers use machines in the national economy with the greatest eagerness.

In the U.S.S.R. the working class is vitally interested in technical progress. Not only scientists and engineers but also millions of Stakhanovites are actively participating in the development of techniques in industry and transport.

The hard and exhausting labour that was once the lot of the miner has become a thing of the past, due to the steady perfection of the technique of coal cutting and the introduction into the coal mines of considerable numbers of machines and mechanisms.

The technical re-equipment of the mining industry effected during recent years has made it possible completely



Stalin Prize winner S. Makarov watches the work of the coal combine he designed

to mechanize such laborious and labour-absorbing jobs as coal cutting and stripping and also the underground haulage and the loading of the coal into railway wagons.

During the first postwar five-year plan over a hundred new types of Soviet-made mining machines and mechanisms have been built.

Of tremendous importance are the loading machines and coal combines, for they free the miner from his hardest job, that of loading. Thanks to the introduction of the coal combine, in 1952 nearly 25 per cent of all loading had been mechanized, whereas only four years earlier it had been done exclusively by hand. In the Kuznetsk and Karaganda coal basins, 50 per cent of the loading has now been

mechanized. Whereas before the war there were no loading machines, today several thousand of them are in operation. They have already made for 40 per cent mechanization of the loading of coal and rock. Considerable lightening of the miner's labour is also effected by the mechanized proping methods that have been devised. Wide-scale introduction of these methods will complete the work of mechanizing all the processes of coal mining.

The employment of powerful coal-cutting machines and coal combines has brought about the steady perfection of loading mechanisms and conveyers, and also of the underground haulage system.



V. Molchanov and his assistant, A. Karaman, operate a coal-cutting and loading machine in the Zapadnaya Kapitalnaya Mine, the Donbas

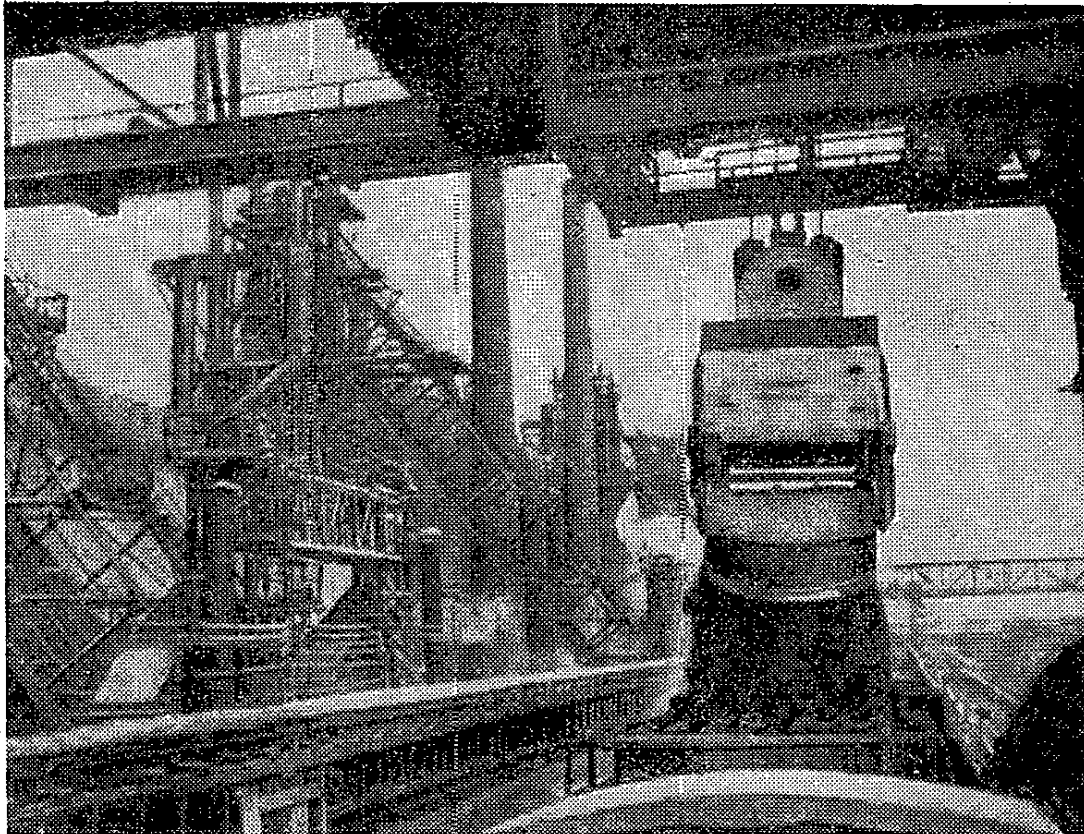
The mines are now being equipped with powerful electric locomotives, coal- and earth-loading machines, scraper transporters and other machines and mechanisms of Soviet design and manufacture.

A further considerable achievement is the automatization and distance control of mining mechanisms. About 1,500 combines and coal-cutting machines, 1,350 conveyer lines, 1,150 winches and pushing machines, and a large number of electrical drilling machines are now distance controlled. Over 1,000 pumps now work automatically, while workings covering a total of nearly 1,300 kilometres are now electrically lit. In sloping and horizontal workings totalling nearly 450 kilometres special trains are provided for the miners.

Here is an impression of conditions in the Soviet mines by a delegation of Scottish miners following a visit to the Donbas coal field. In their report entitled "Scottish Miners' Delegation in the Soviet Union," and signed by Hugh Geddes, John McLean, Thomas Fowler, Alexander Moffat, William Pearson and Robert McCutcheon, we read:

"On the basis of our examinations of the pits, we declare that they are the most highly mechanized collieries we have ever seen and that the type of mechanization in use has taken the hard work out of mining. Even in the steep workings, the drawing of trucks by young miners and the use of the hand pick at the face have been eliminated. All face-men work with pneumatic picks, and the coal is filled direct into two-ton trucks which are pulled away with electric motors."

While new, powerful machines and mechanisms are being introduced into the mines, steps are being taken to still further improve working conditions. To lessen the dust in the atmosphere, the sections broken by cutting machines and coal combines, and also coal and earth loading points, are regularly sprinkled.



Coke being unloaded into a furnace bunker at the Kuznetsk Iron and Steel Plant. Mechanization of heavy and labour-consuming jobs has effected a thorough change in the working conditions of Soviet steelmen

The conditions under which the miners once used to work have long been forgotten. The younger generation of miners listen with amazement to the stories told them by the veterans who worked in the mines in the days of the tsar, when coal was hewed with the most primitive of instruments, and was removed in man-hauled sledges or horse-driven tubs.

Much work has also been done to mechanize heavy and labour-absorbing jobs formerly done by hand in the metallurgical and engineering industries.

Such dangerous and heavy jobs as the delivery and loading of materials into blast and open-hearth furnaces, the

pouring of molten iron, the delivery of red-hot metal to the rolling mills, and so forth, formerly constant sources of accidents and sickness, have now been completely mechanized.

The opening and sealing of furnace tapholes has been completely mechanized, thus effecting a radical change in the working conditions of furnacemen.

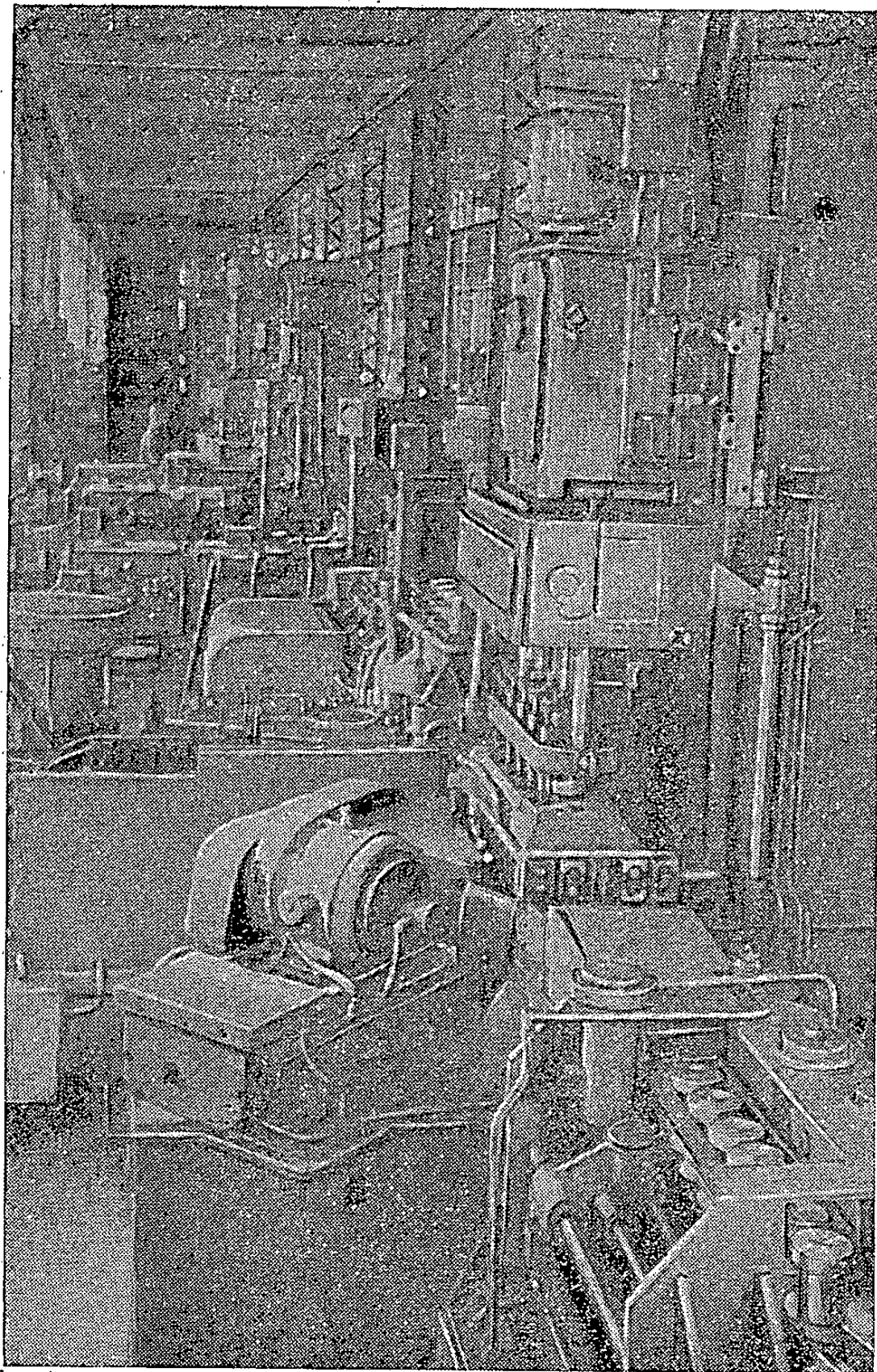
Formerly these were hard and difficult operations, but now the furnaceman performs them without any physical effort, making use of electric borers and electric notch guns—designed and produced at Soviet plants—manipulated from a specially equipped chamber.

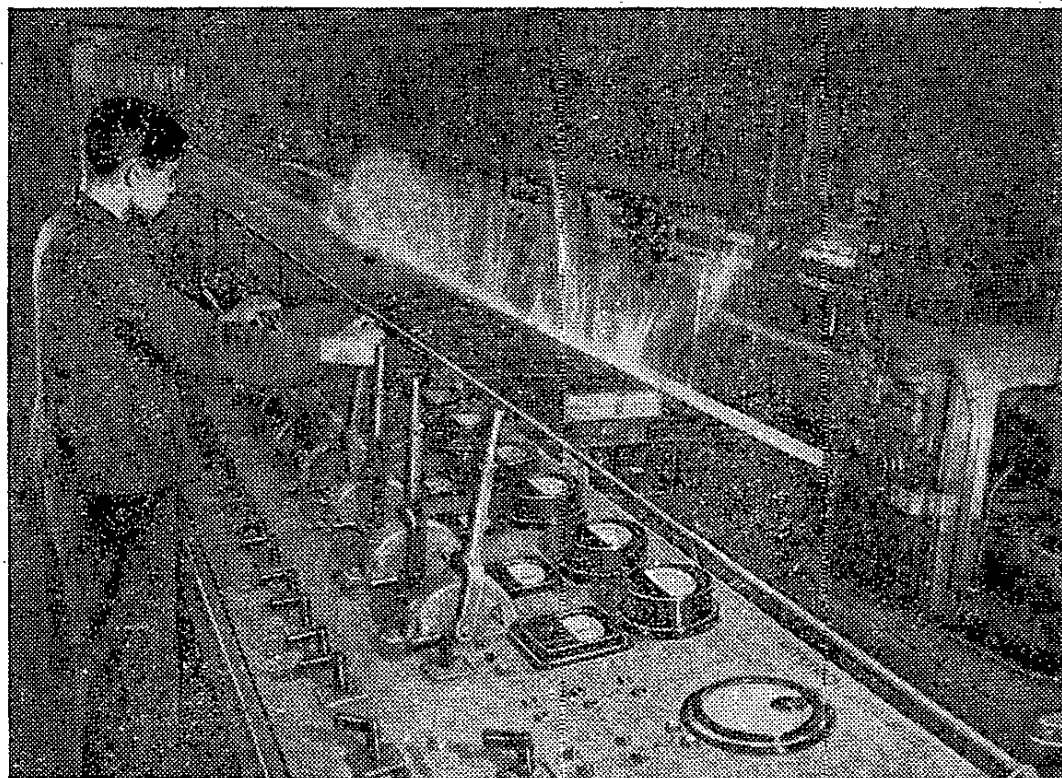
In the foundry departments of agricultural machinery works, hand labour, involving the carrying of from six to seven tons of earth per shift, used to be employed in the casting of big parts. Now roller beds, transporters and earth-preparing machines are used, while the delivery of earth to the moulding and casting boxes has been mechanized.

In the electrical industry—at the Electrosila Plant, for example—special winding machines have been installed which completely mechanize the once hard and dangerous hand-performed jobs.

In the engineering industry the majority of load-raising and transfer operations have been mechanized. Automatic machine lines with automatic transport appliances have been installed in the departments and shops. All the work on the lines, including the clamping and loosening of parts, fixing and transfer from point to point, is done automatically. The automatic machine lines have lightened the worker's job and are eliminating the sources of industrial accidents and disease.

A view of the department at the automatic automobile piston plant, where all processes are mechanized, from the loading of the foundries to the packing of the finished parts.



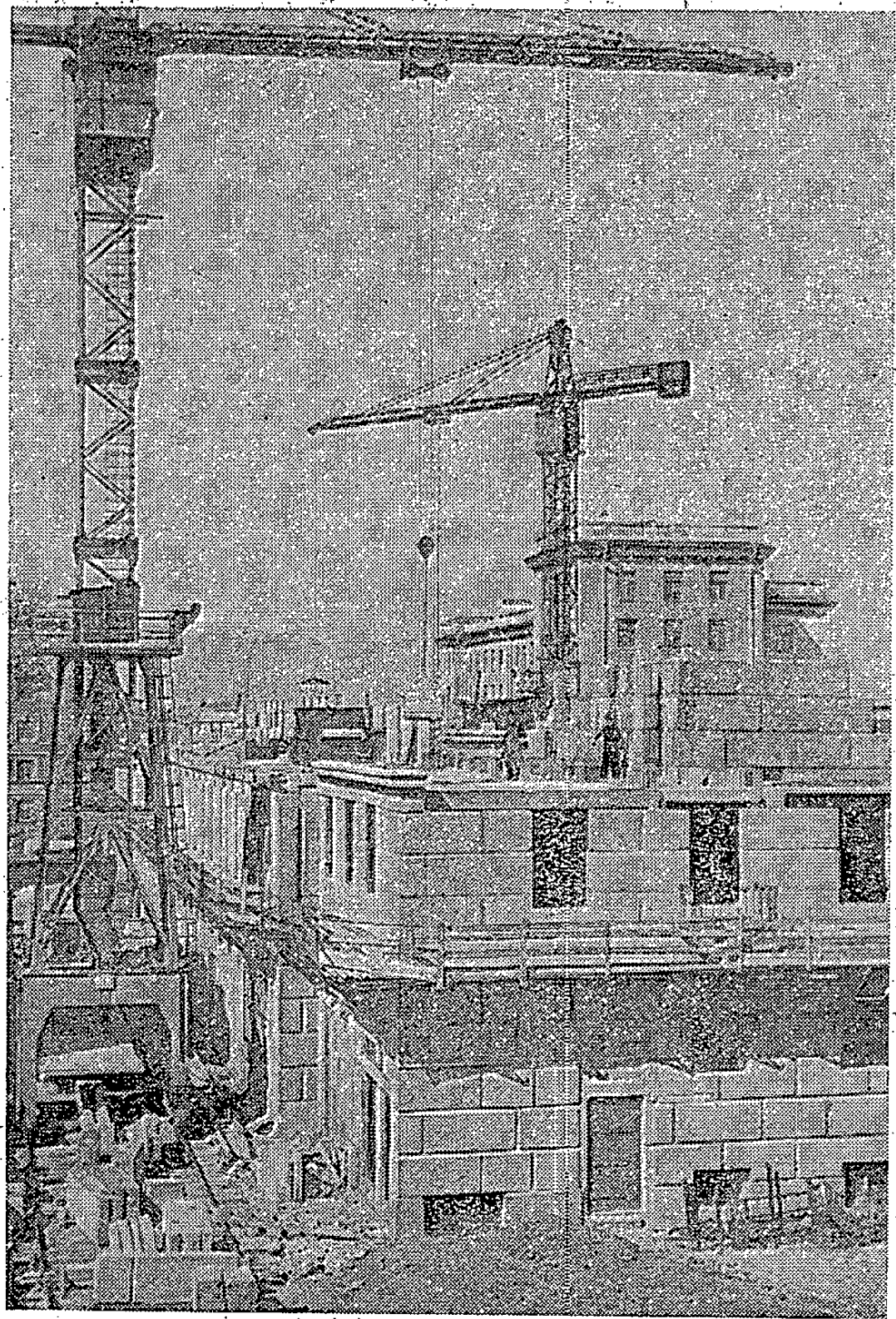


*Producing thin steel plate at the Zaporozhie Iron and Steel Works.
P. Gritsai operates the levers*

Automatic plants have been built in the Soviet Union. There is, for example, an automobile piston plant where all processes, from the loading of the foundries to the packing of the finished parts, have been automatized.

In the abrasion industry, there has been a wide introduction of the new system employed at the Chelyabinsk Abrasion Plant, where for the first time in history, damp treatment has been substituted for the former dry methods which used to spread quartz dust in the workshops.

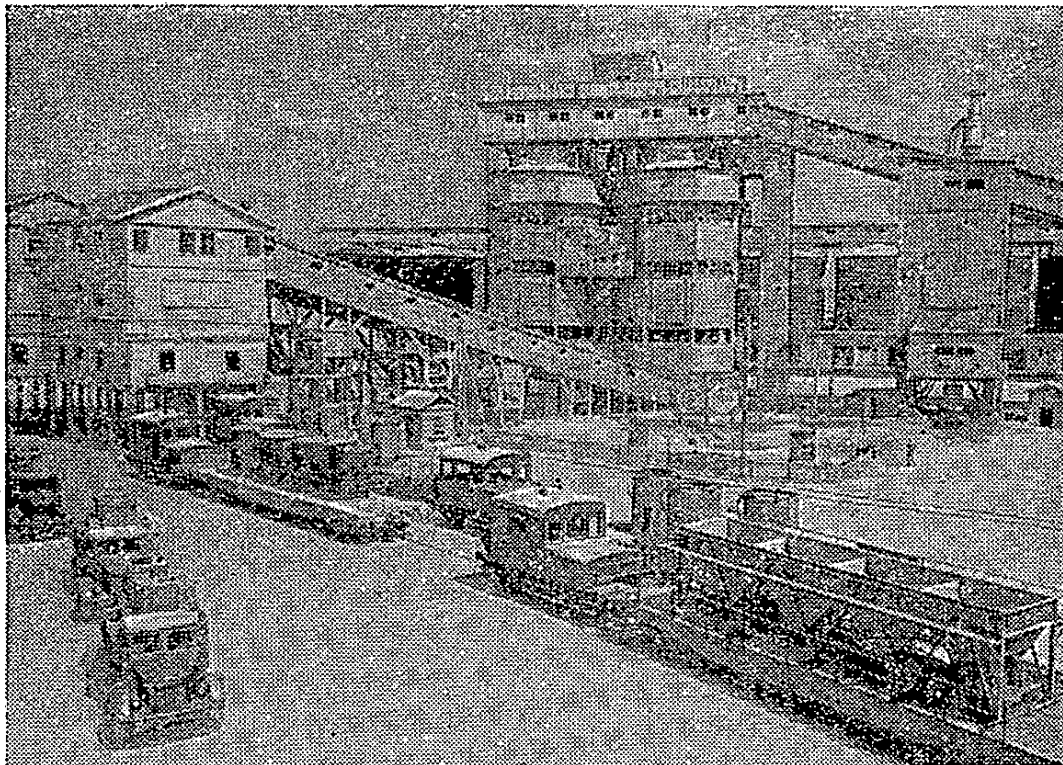
A building site, where huge cranes effect horizontal and vertical delivery of materials—a typical picture in the Soviet Union. The heavy backbreaking work of the operative is a thing of the past, most of the building processes now being done by machinery



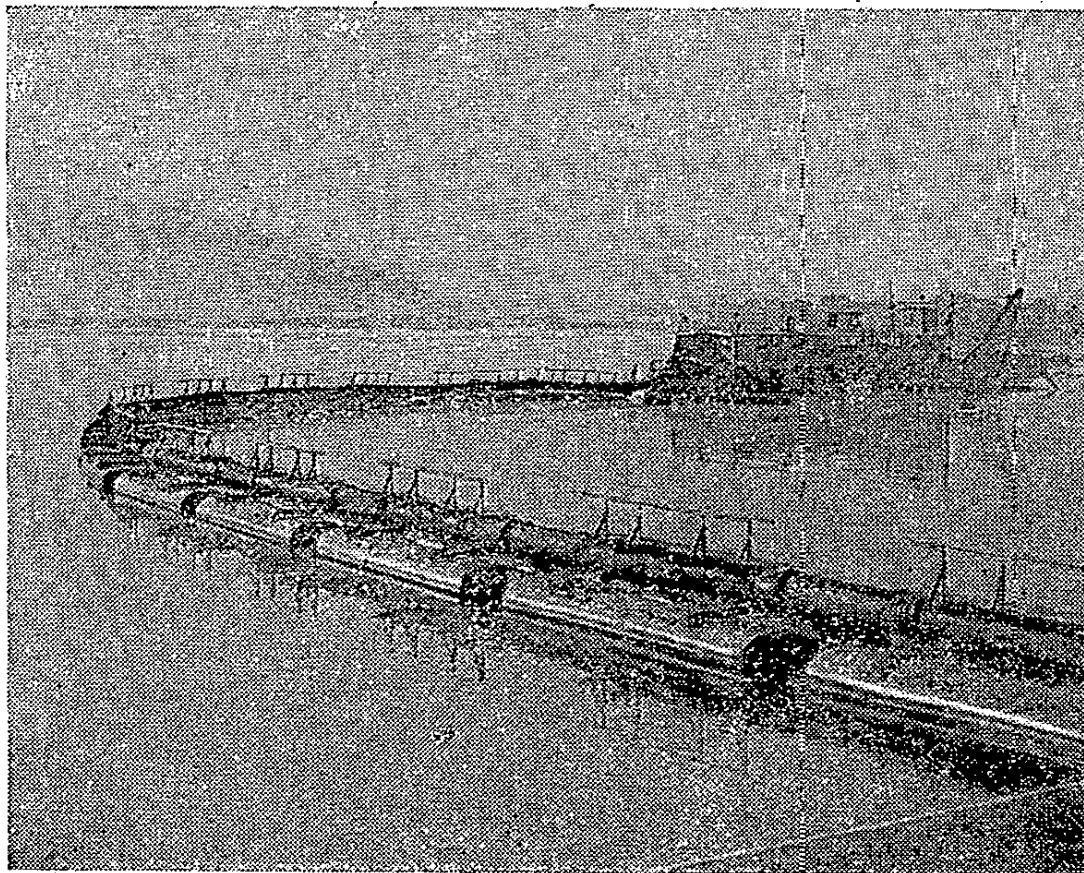
In building, operations have been industrialized and mechanized to a very high degree. This has completely changed the appearance of building sites, where the main and laborious jobs have been completely mechanized.

In house building, for example, bulldozers and excavators (multishovel and single-shovel) are used. So also are turret cranes which render possible the vertical and horizontal transfer of materials, so that, for example, loads can be raised directly from waiting motor trucks to the operatives on the job.

During the recent construction of multistory buildings in Moscow, use was made, for the first time in building history, of the so-called creeping or self-raising crane. The



Automatic concrete plant with an output of thousands of cubic metres of concrete per day



A suction dredge that does the work of thousands of labourers. Such dredges, wholly eliminating hand labour, remove enormous quantities of earth. They are being widely employed in the construction of the new canals and power stations

crane can swing round the full circle and move loads vertically, lengthwise, and circularly.

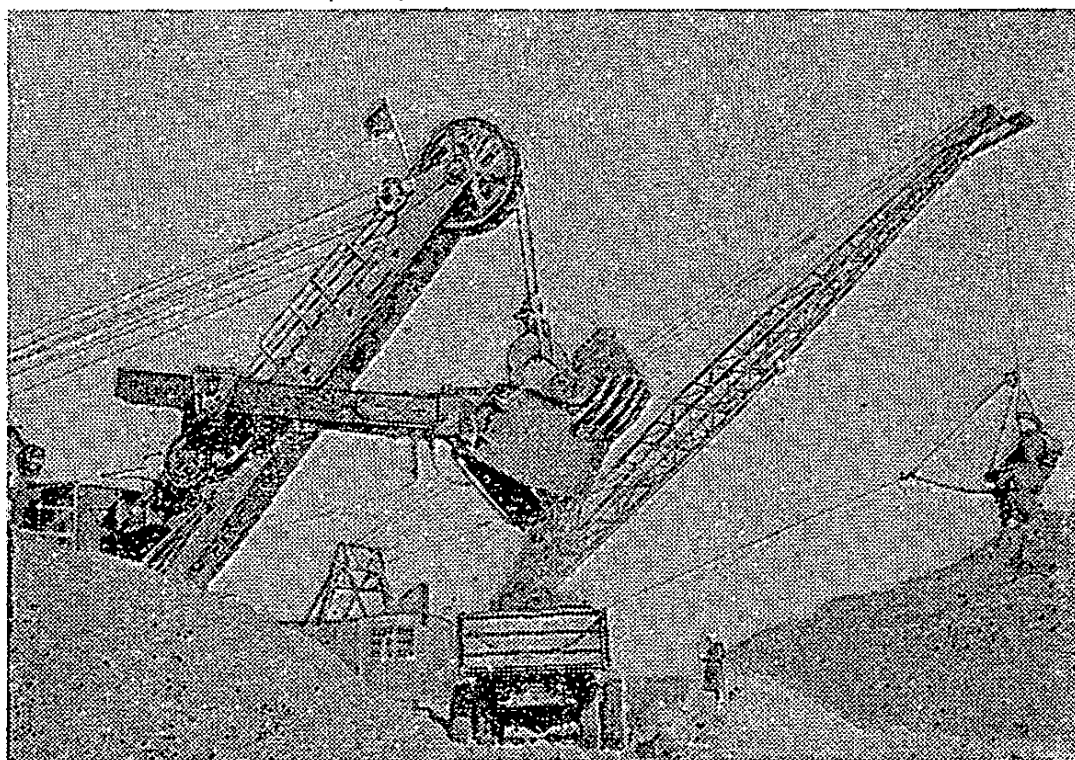
New mechanisms and the most up-to-date equipment are also used in preparing and transporting the solutions needed for concrete and plastering work.

The huge canals and hydroelectric power stations now under construction on the Volga, Dnieper, and Don rivers, and in the Ukraine, the Crimea, and Turkmenia involve the employment of millions of cubic metres of concrete. To cope with this demand, automatic, high-capacity concrete plants

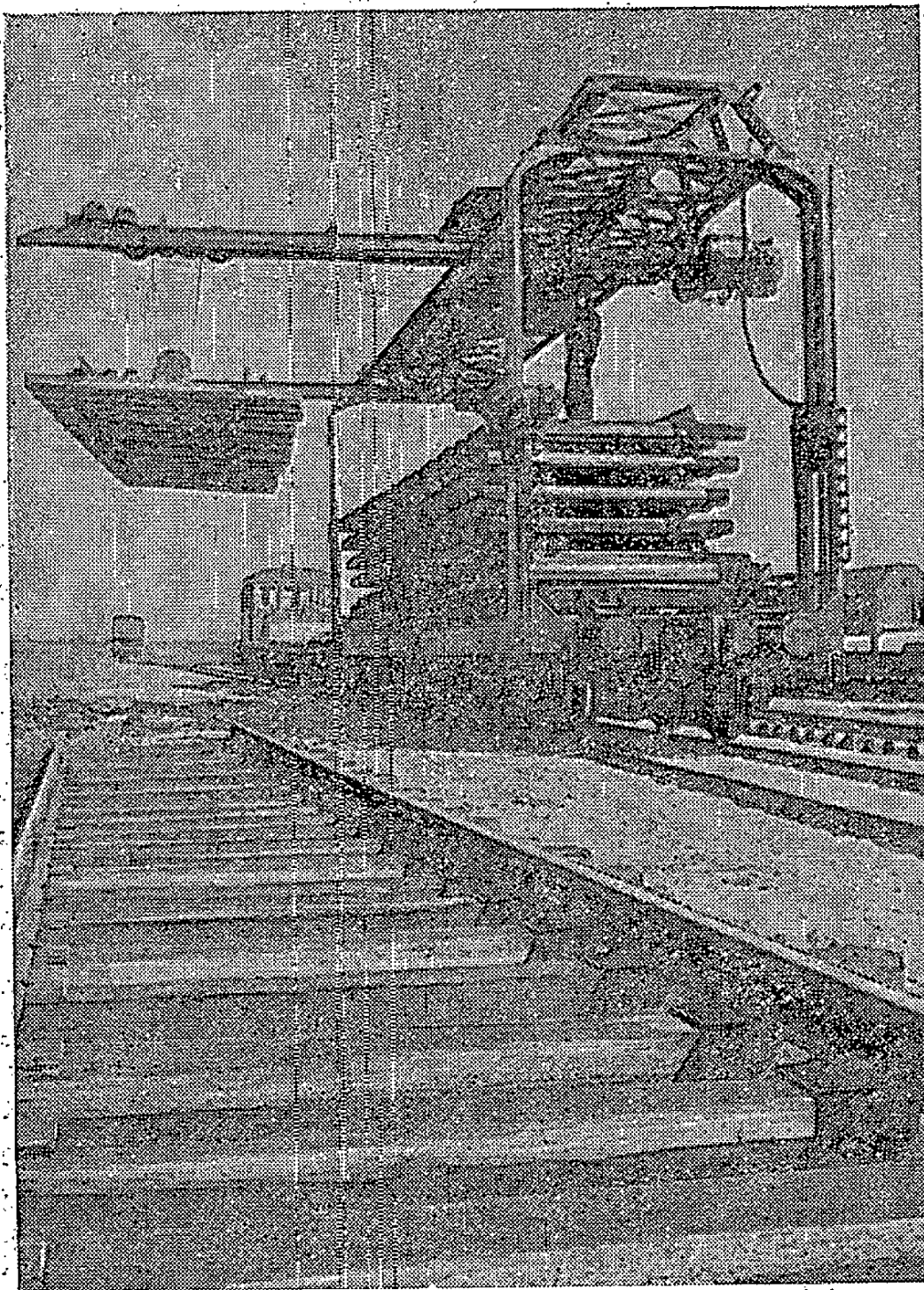
have been built with an output of as much as 4,000 cu.m. each per day.

The staff of such a plant consists of only eight persons. No labourers are employed, all operations being mechanized, from the unloading of trainloads of crushed stone, gravel and cement, to the placing of the finished concrete in the body of the dam.

Particular attention has been devoted in the Soviet Union during the postwar years to the mechanization of earth work. Powerful digging machines were employed on the construction site of the V. I. Lenin Volga-Don Canal now in operation. The most up-to-date machines are now widely used in constructing the Main Turkmen, South-Ukrainian and North Crimea canals and also the Kuibyshev, Stalingrad,



An excavator produced by the Urals Heavy-Machinery Works in action at the Kuibyshev Power Development. In the background, left, can be seen the walking excavator E-SH 1



The Platon tracklayer at work. Highly efficient Soviet machines are now widely employed in railway construction and repairs in the U.S.S.R.

Kakhovka and other electric power stations. We shall cite as an example huge walking excavators, each capable of digging out more than 10,000 cu.m. of earth per day, and replacing thousands of labourers. The size of these machines may be gathered from the fact that 48 electric motors with a total capacity of 7,000 kwts. are used to operate one such excavator, the shovel of which scoops up 14 cu.m. of earth, while the boom is 65 m. long. What would have meant backbreaking work for tens of thousands of workers is now being done by the walking excavators, which cut the canals to their full width and depth, incidentally removing one of the main causes of the accidents among labourers due to earthfalls.

The heavy and little-productive work involved in the removal by hand of millions of cubic metres of earth over considerable distances—one of the problems connected with the building of the canals and power stations—has also been almost completely eliminated by the employment of super-powerful suction dredges. So also has the heavy work involved in breaking up the ground at these construction sites been completely done away with by the use of huge tractor-driven scrapers.

The extent to which digging operations have been mechanized may be judged from the fact that at the Tsimlyanskaya Power Development, which has been recently commissioned, 98 per cent of all the earth work was done by machines.

On the railways, too, great attention is paid to the problem of easing working conditions. In recent years more than 20 new types of machines and mechanisms, including ballasting machines, tracklaying machines, track graders, automatic dumping wagons, ballast cleaners, etc., have begun to be employed in the building and repair of railroads.

The laborious job of unloading ballast is now all done by automatic dumping wagons of the latest home-produced type. The job of removing old tracks and putting down new

ones has been mechanized by the employment of the Platov tracklayer. Extensive use is also made of electric sleeper fixers, rail-cutting and rail-welding machines, electric wrenches and so forth.

Railway traffic is being made safer by equipping locomotives with the automatic stopping gear invented by Stalin Prize winner Tantsiur. Where the engine driver fails to bring the train to a halt in time, this appliance automatically brings an airbrake into action and the train stops.

The working conditions of leather, shoe and fur operatives have changed considerably. In days gone by, their work involved exceptionally hard physical labour; there was neither ventilation nor the most elementary sanitary facilities where they worked. Now, however, all the main jobs connected with the loading and unloading of leather from vats and drums have been mechanized, while highly effective ventilation appliances, which prevent dust and vapour clouds forming, have been installed in the majority of leather, footwear, and fur factories.

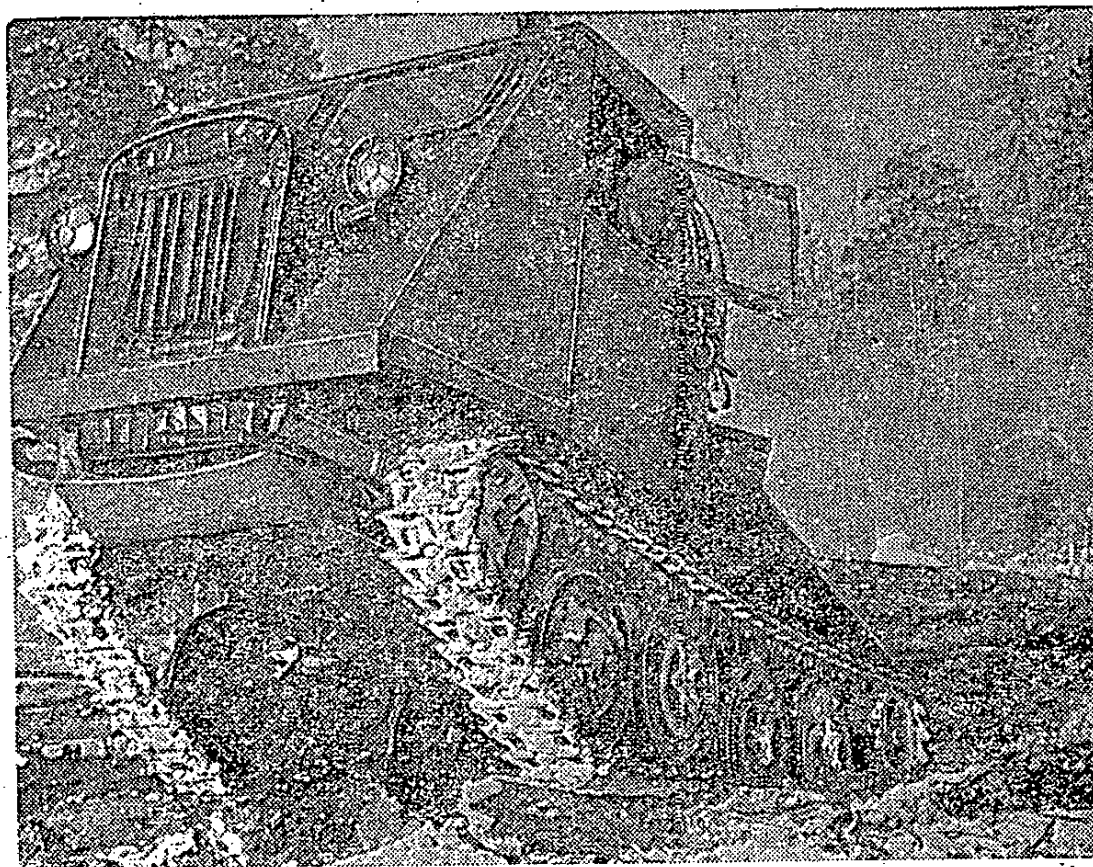
The lumber industry in the Soviet Union is also well developed and highly mechanized, extensive use being made of electric saws, electric branch-cutting machines, cranes, powerful skidding tractors, and also special winches for removing pendant trees.

As a result of the wide employment of the direct-flow method of timber felling and production, accidents have disappeared among the workers.

To lessen the weight of electric saws and to make the job absolutely safe, high-frequency electric motors are now used.

In designing and constructing new machines and mechanisms, Soviet technicians take account of all safety-first requirements, so as to safeguard the future operators against the possibility of accidents.

Soviet law makes it obligatory for plants production machines, lathes and other implements to supply them



A skidding tractor at work

with all the appliances provided for by the safety regulations.

The trade union bodies functioning in such plants see to it that the requirements of the law are fulfilled. The trade union organizations direct and coordinate the work of tens of thousands of worker inventors and innovators, and do all in their power to help them produce more up-to-date machines, mechanisms and appliances that lighten the workers' labour.

The position as regards labour protection and mechanization in Soviet plants was touched on in a radio talk by Enrico Sturloni, of the Italian General Confederation of Labour delegation that visited the Soviet Union in May 1951. Among other things, he said:



Felling trees by electric saw

"Factory managements and trade union committees pay considerable attention to protecting labour against accidents. Placards are to be seen on the walls in the shops, showing the best ways of handling the machines and so eliminating the danger of accidents. All safety measures are carefully scrutinized by both the management and the trade union committee. Hundreds of thousands of rubles are spent on safety arrangements. Thanks to these measures and the great and constant attention paid to safety problems, accidents, even insignificant ones, are a very rare occurrence. At the iron and steel mill in Zaporozhie we saw a unit of rolling machines that stretched over a length of 1,200 metres. Due to the fact that the entire working process is mechanized, the workers there do their jobs without fear of accidents. What is more, all the transport facilities, down to the tiniest details, are mechanized. I saw this punctiliousness, which even seemed superfluous to me, in all plants. This is only one of the elements of the harmonious and smooth organization of labour at Soviet plants."

The new machinery and the rational use to which it is put, open up wide possibilities in the Soviet Union for making work healthier and easier, and for doing away with the causes of industrial accidents and disease.

PROTECTION OF FEMALE LABOUR

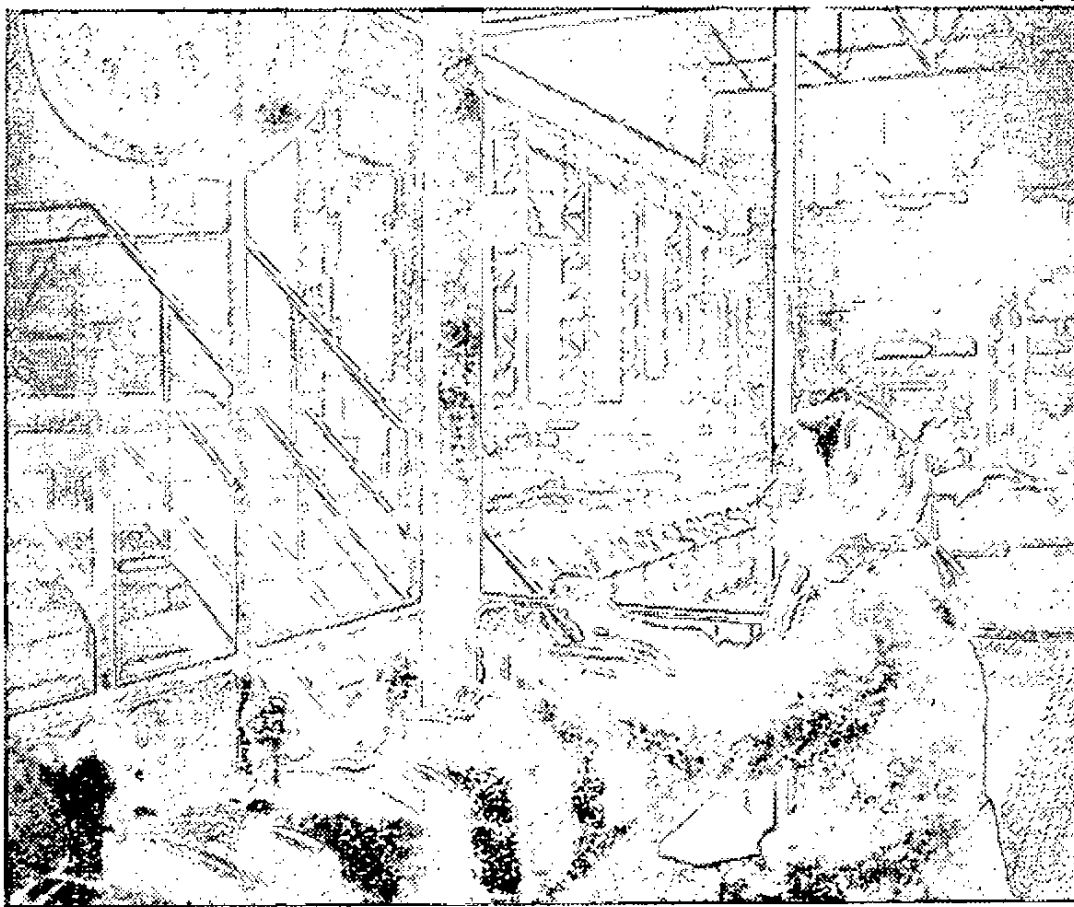
The Great October Socialist Revolution, which abolished the system of capitalist exploitation in Russia, emancipated women from social, economic and spiritual enslavement. The very first decrees issued by the Soviet Government put an end, once and for all, to all the bourgeois laws and restrictions that had turned women into slaves, and had kept them in bondage, deprived of rights, in a state of ignorance and backwardness.

The Stalin Constitution—the Fundamental Law of the Soviet State—gave women equal rights with men, as we see from Article 122, which reads:

“Women in the U.S.S.R. are accorded equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, government, cultural, political and other public activity.

“The possibility of exercising these rights is ensured by women being accorded an equal right with men to work, payment for work, rest and leisure, social insurance and education, and by state protection of the interests of mother and child, state aid to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers, maternity leave with full pay, and the provision of a wide network of maternity homes, nurseries and kindergartens.”

The creative initiative of Soviet women, their heroism and their talents are displayed in all branches and in all spheres of the economic life of the Land of Socialism.



Yeugenia Zaichenko operates the levers of a rolling mill at the Azovstal Plant. Formerly, to work in a rolling department meant to be on a hard job. Now, thanks to mechanization, two or three operatives can run a huge unit like this one

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The technical reconstruction of all branches of the national economy, and the extensive mechanization and automatization of production processes have made work far less laborious, while the system of free occupational training—including study courses and factory training schools—has rendered it possible to eliminate the bounds between “male” and “female” trades.

The conditions prevailing in the socialist factories and industrial plants have enabled women rapidly to master the skilled trades and to manage the most complicated ma-

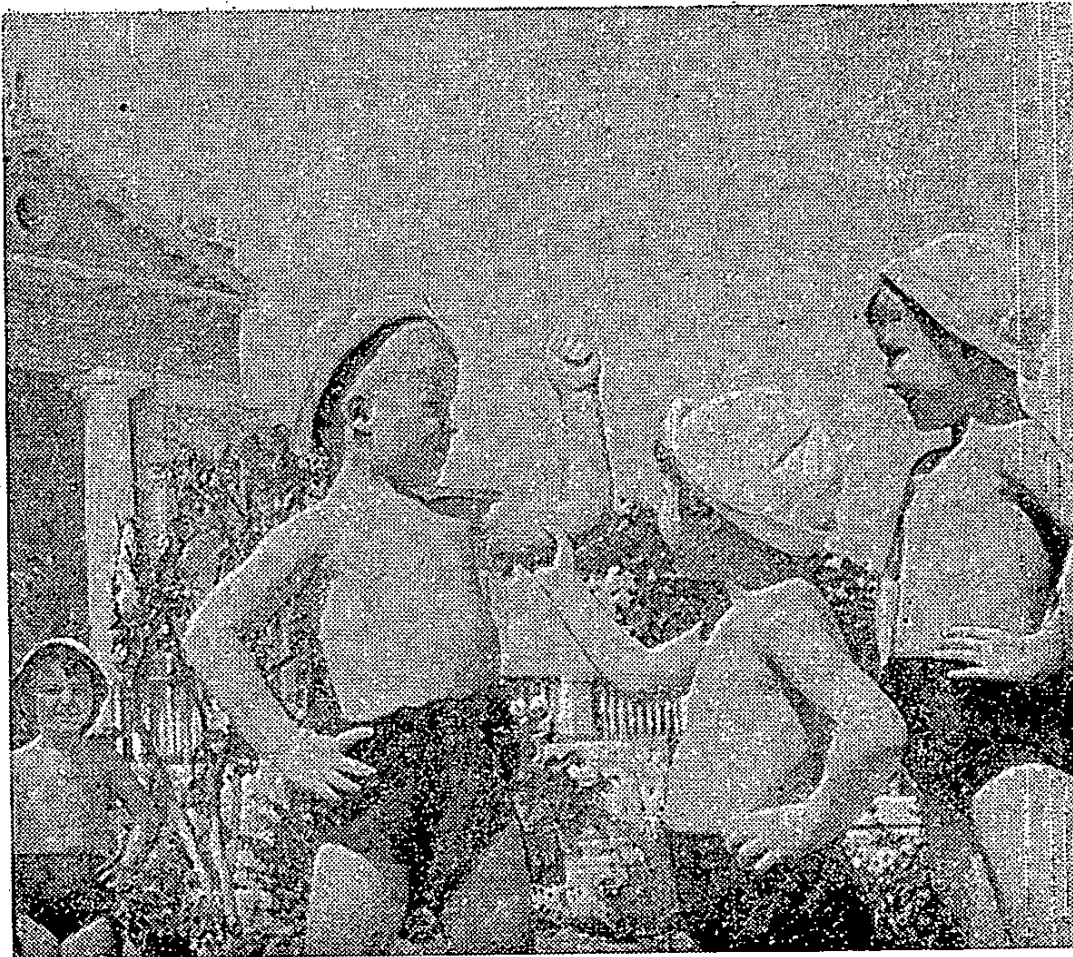
chinery. Millions of Soviet women are employed in industry, the transport services, and on the new construction jobs; they are becoming increasingly skilled, learning to handle the most complex machinery, and mastering the most advanced working methods.

Over 380,000 women are to be found among the engineering and technical personnel of Soviet plants, whereas tsarist Russia could boast of no more than 600 women engineers and technicians.

Women are employed as managing directors of industrial



Nursing mothers during an interval at the Kharkov Tractor Plant

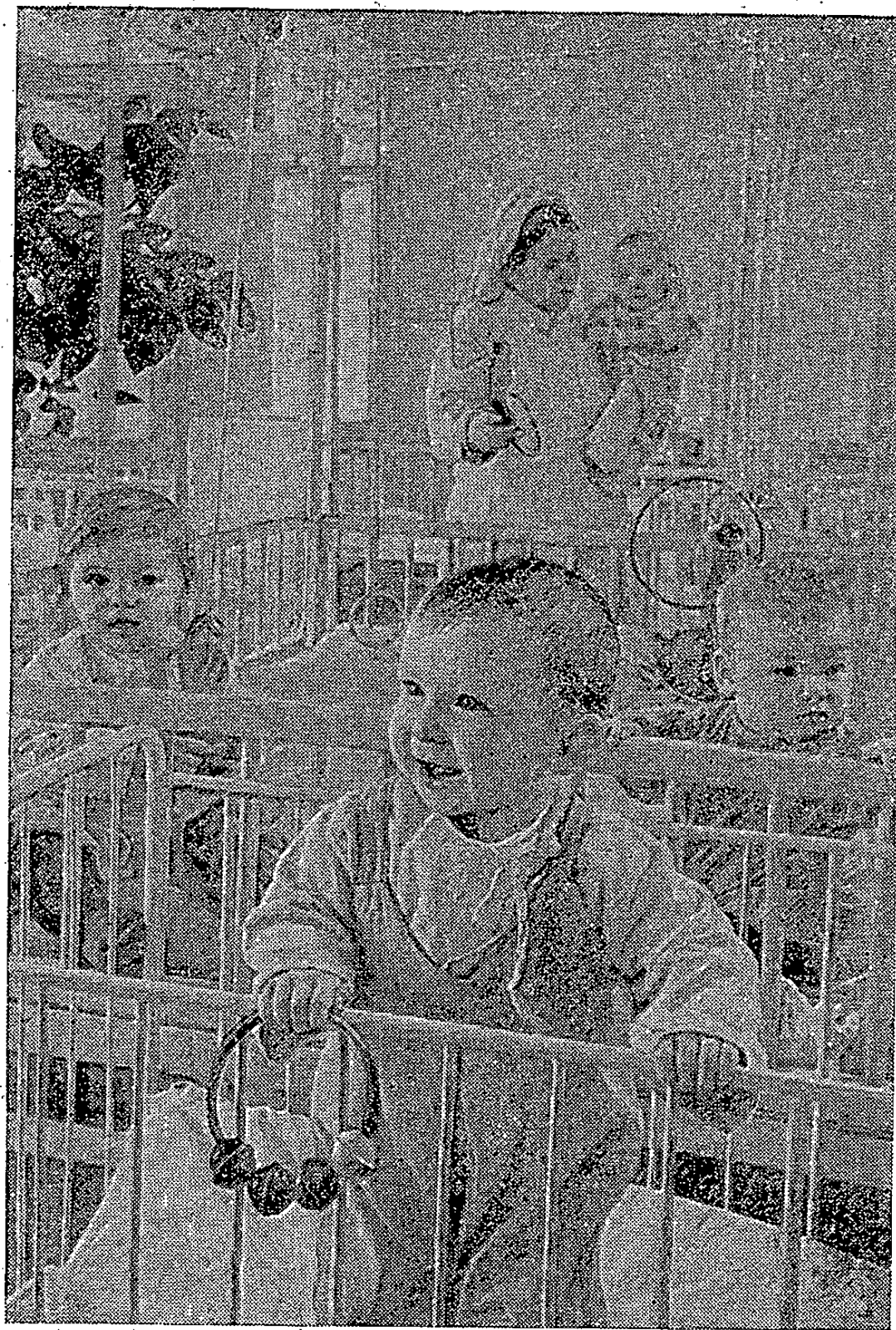


*A moment at the kindergarten for oil workers' children
at Mardakyani on the Apsheron Peninsula*

plants, as departmental chiefs, or in other responsible posts. In the textile industry alone, in the year 1951, over 2,000 Soviet women held the posts of managing directors, chief engineers, departmental chiefs or forewomen.

Nearly 40,000 college-trained women hold posts in the railway and subsidiary services. These include 9,000 technical engineers, 12,000 doctors, 11,000 teachers, and so on.

Women are in the forefront among the innovators in socialist industry, among the initiators of the movement for high labour productivity.



A scene at the Kharkov Tractor Plant nursery

To mark the services rendered by women in the field of peaceful creative labour, the Soviet Government has to date conferred the title of Hero of Socialist Labour on 2,170 women, and awarded various Orders and Medals to more than 730,000 women.

In its concern for the health of women, the Soviet state has placed a legal ban on the employment of women on jobs that place an excessive strain on them or that are otherwise dangerous for the female organism.

Female labour is prohibited on jobs involving the lifting of heavy weights.

Particular solicitude is displayed in the Soviet Union towards mothers.

Pregnant women are transferred to lighter jobs and are paid the average of their previous earnings.

Expectant mothers, in addition to enjoying their annual vacation, are given extra leave—at the expense of social insurance funds—covering a period of 35 days before, and 42 to 56 days after, confinement.

Nursing mothers are entitled during the working day to rest intervals over and above the dinner interval. These rest intervals for infant feeding—each of not less than a half-hour's duration—take place every three and a half hours at least, and are paid for by the factory management.

According to Soviet labour legislation, officials refusing to employ women, or reducing women's wages on account of pregnancy, are prosecuted.

Nurseries, kindergartens, special rooms for infant feeding, and for hygienic service, are organized without fail at all factories, offices or other working establishments. A mother may leave her child in the care of a nursery or kindergarten, depending on the child's age. There it will be properly looked after, fed, and under medical observation.

Soviet law requires that when plans are being drawn up for the construction of new industrial plants, definite provi-

sion be made for the building of sufficient child institutions—nurseries, kindergartens, and mother-and-child rest rooms—to cover all the employees' children requiring such amenities.

In addition to the child institutions that exist under the auspices of industrial plants and other working establishments, there is an extensive network of nurseries, kindergartens and mother-and-child consultation centres organized by the local Soviets for such other children as may require these services.

This system of child institutions helps Soviet women to rear healthy children and enables them to participate in industry and in the public and political life of the country.

The Soviet-organized network alone of nurseries, kindergartens and children's homes caters for nearly 2,000,000 children. In 1951 millions of children and juveniles enjoyed summer holidays at country villas, children's sanatoria, or tourist hostels, while the inmates of children's homes, and those attending kindergartens and nurseries, were transferred for the entire summer to the countryside. In all a total of over five million children and juveniles were accommodated.

The enormous aid rendered by the state to Soviet women may be judged from the following:

By the end of 1951 there were in the U.S.S.R. 8,500 mother-and-child consultation centres directed by the public health authorities. The corresponding figure in tsarist Russia was no more than nine.

Before the Revolution, 98 per cent of the women in Russia gave birth without any medical assistance whatsoever. Today the services of doctors and midwives are employed at childbirth by nearly 90 per cent of Soviet women.

Here in the Soviet Union motherhood is held in universal honour, as may be gathered from the following facts:

Over 35,000 Soviet women wear the gold star awarded to those who hold the title of "Mother Heroine," conferred

on mothers who have brought up ten children. More than 3,500,000 women have been awarded the Order of Maternal Glory or the Maternity Medal.

The great concern displayed for mother and child welfare in the socialist state is also reflected in the material aid rendered to mothers of large families and to unmarried mothers, allowances totalling 6,000 million rubles having been paid out to them and to newly-confined mothers during the year 1951 alone.

Soviet socialist democracy enables women to play a great part in the administration of the state. More than 517,000 women were elected to the local Soviets of Working People's Deputies in December 1950, constituting almost 35 per cent of the total elected. Among the Deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., 280 are women.

The part being played by Soviet women in all branches of culture, science and technique is increasing with every passing day. The majority of the university, or university-level, trained personnel in the Soviet Union are women.

Women play an active part in developing science and culture in the Soviet Union. Over two and a half million women are employed in scientific, educational and cultural institutions. Tens of thousands are on the staff of scientific-research institutes and universities, and other higher educational institutions, and are enriching Soviet science with new researches and discoveries.

More than a million women teachers are engaged in bringing up the younger generation. Over a million women are occupied in hospitals, polyclinics, sanatoria and other public health institutions.

The part played by women in the Land of Socialism, where they enjoy the solicitude and attention of society and the state, is a great and honoured one.

PROTECTION OF JUVENILE LABOUR

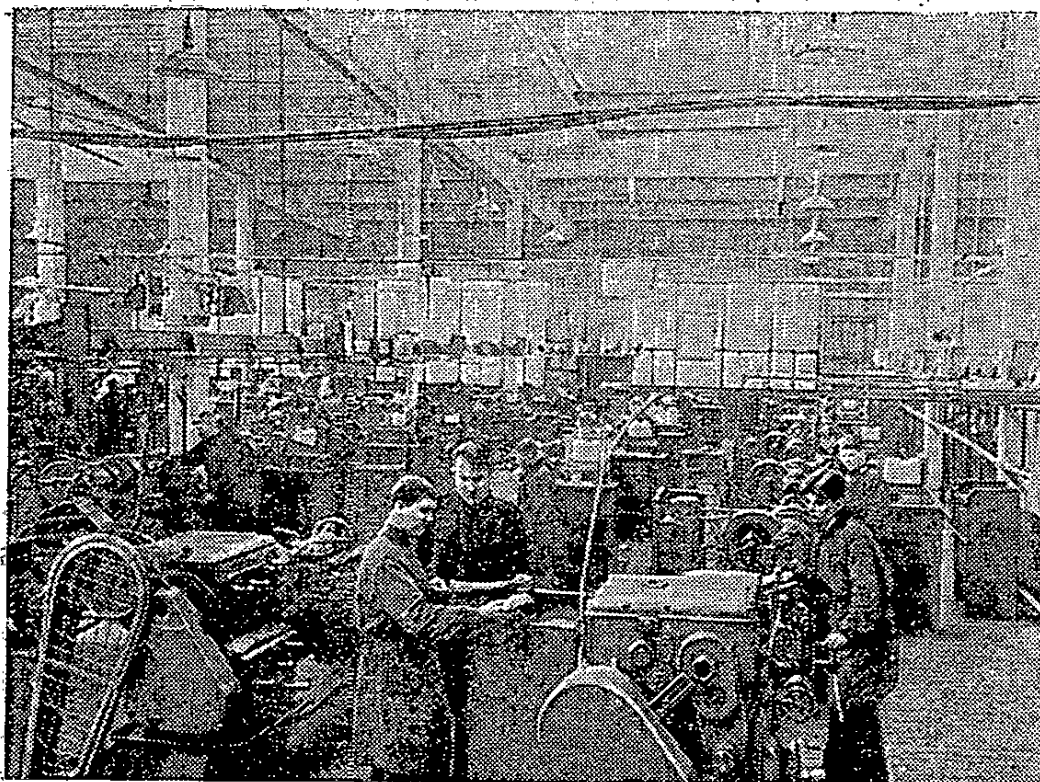
Juveniles under 18 years of age are only given employment after medical examination. Thereafter young workers undergo regular medical examination.

Soviet law forbids the employment of juveniles under 18 years of age on jobs which entail too great a physical strain, or are otherwise injurious to their health, and also on night work.

Juveniles are entitled to vacations lasting one calendar month, usually taken in the summer. Those who spend their vacations at rest homes or sanatoria do so at reduced rates, and enjoy other advantages.

Factories and industrial plants run general educational classes and technical schools for young employees of both sexes after working hours. All in all this constitutes an extensive educational network which enables young workers to get a complete general or specialized education.

Vocational schools with a two-year course of instruction were established to train skilled workers for the iron and steel, mining, oil, and chemical industries, to train electricians, telephone mechanics, etc., and personnel for river and sea craft. Special schools were opened to train skilled personnel for the railways. In addition, industrial training schools with a six-month course of instruction were established to train personnel for the lesser skilled trades, par-



*The workshop of Industrial School No. 1 of the Stalin
Auto Plant, Moscow*

7A

ticularly those connected with the coal and ore mining, metallurgical, building, and transport industries.

A number of special trade schools have also been organized, for the new building now being undertaken in the Soviet Union, and the rehabilitation of the towns and works of architecture wrecked by the fascist barbarians, involve a considerable amount of ornamental and decorative work. To cope with this, special artistic-trades schools with a three-year course of instruction have been established.

The program of instruction is so arranged as to give the young worker not only a specifically industrial and technical training, but also the groundwork of a general education, and thus to make it possible for him to continue his education.

The expenses involved in training all these young people are covered in their entirety by the Soviet Government. The boys and girls who are admitted to the vocational and industrial schools receive instruction free of charge and are supplied with food, uniform, dormitory accommodation and textbooks gratis. Work performed by apprentices during the course of their studies is paid for according to the principle of the rate for the job.

**LABOUR PROTECTION
STANDARDS OBLIGATORY
IN NEW BUILDING**

When the plans are being drawn up for the building of factories, mills, mines, etc., the bodies concerned must see to it that they are based on the hygienic standards which are required by the Soviet Government, and in the drawing up of which the trade unions play a direct part. No departures whatsoever are allowed in this regard.

In choosing the site for the new factory or plant, and in arranging the distribution of the different departments, account is taken not only of the needs of production, but also of the requirements of hygiene and sanitation, the necessity for good natural illumination and fresh air.

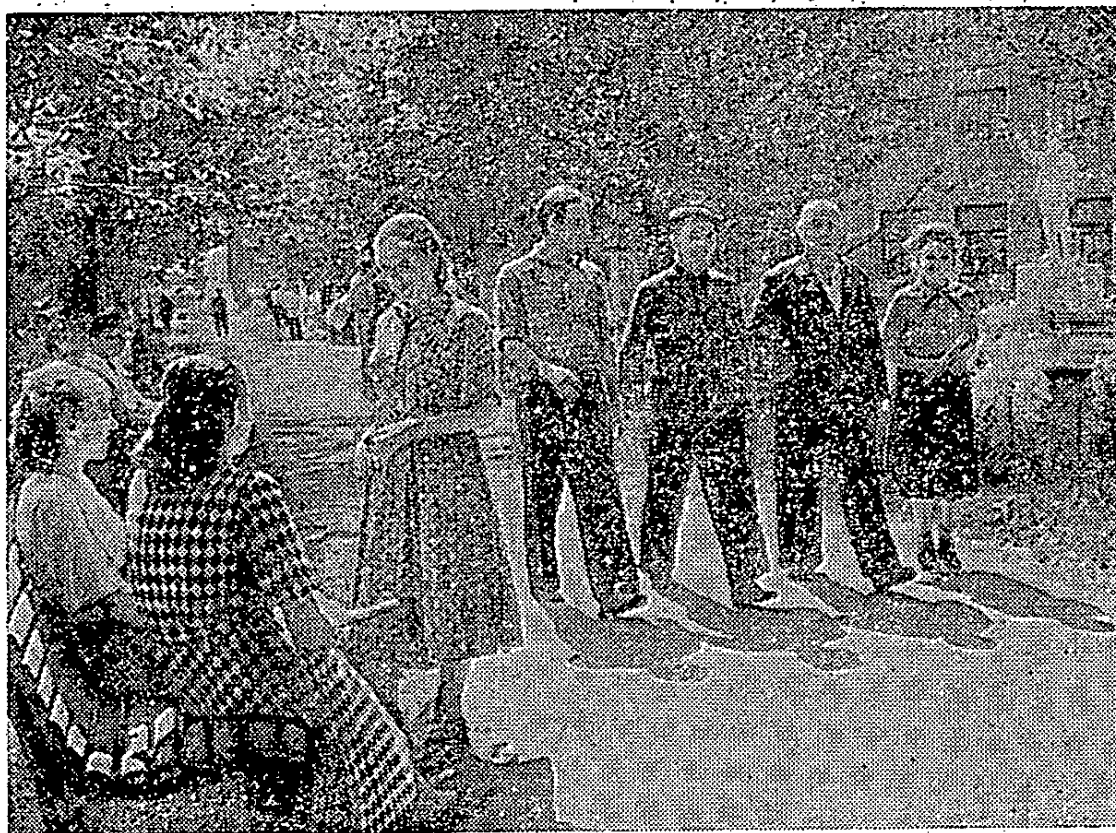
To eliminate the injurious influence on the nearby population of such concomitants of industrial activity as gas and dust, measures are taken to ensure that gases are intercepted, dust does not spread and that pipings and other equipment are hermetically sealed.

In addition, when new undertakings are planned, provision is made for the establishment of special zones—varying from 100 m. to 1 km. in width, depending on how injurious the given branch of industry is—between them and inhabited areas. No dwelling houses or industrial premises may be built within these zones. They must be planted with trees and other verdure, and so also must the factory grounds.

This beautifying of factory grounds, by planting trees, flowers, grass plots and so forth, enables the worker to get a proper rest during the dinner hour. There are quite a number of industrial plants, in the grounds of which tennis, basketball and volleyball courts and other sports facilities are to be found.

Much of the credit for bringing this about goes to the trade unions.

Every Soviet industrial establishment provides the workers with such amenities as wash and shower baths, cloak-rooms—in which each worker has his locker where he can leave his everyday apparel of working clothes, as required—and installations for drying, cleaning and disinfecting working clothes.



In the factory grounds. Employees of the Losinoostrovskaya Electro-technical Works, Moscow Region, take it easy during the dinner interval

The space assigned for such amenities is regulated by law.

There are mines whose welfare facilities include special premises where the miner, after emerging from the pit and taking a shower bath, is given quartz-light treatment.

All industrial, office, canteen and other premises are ventilated by natural, mechanical or combined means. In departments injurious to the health, not only are special ventilation arrangements made, but the working processes are mechanized and automatized and the equipment isolated to a maximum degree.

In injurious departments and shops, the ventilation arrangements are so planned as to ensure that the percentage of injurious gases, steam or dust is not in excess of the standards allowed by the sanitary authorities.

New ventilation equipment may be used only after being tested and accepted by a special commission which includes a representative of the trade union.

To give the reader an idea of the scale on which ventilation equipment is being installed, and the capacity achieved, in Soviet plants, we cite the following examples: at the Stalin Auto Plant in Moscow, the electricity consumed by the ventilation system alone is generated by motors with a total capacity of 9,600 kwts., equivalent to that of a small power station; at the Urals Heavy-Machinery Works the number of new ventilation devices installed during the course of one year was 176, with a total capacity of 2,800,000 cu. m. of air per hour.

On the occasion of the visit to the Soviet Union of French metal workers in September-October 1951, Louis Picaud, one of the delegates, said that he was amazed to find how excellent are the working conditions in the forge shop of the Moscow Low-Power Automobile Plant. Here, he said, all the furnaces are electrically operated, and the ventilation



Ventilation equipment in a department of the Moscow Lamp Factory 7A

arrangements are splendid. After visiting Soviet plants, the members of the delegation were unanimous in their opinion that in the Soviet Union, unlike France, speed-up methods are not employed in the factories and plants, that working conditions are normal, and that safety arrangements are on a high level throughout the country.

Particular attention is paid at Soviet plants to safeguarding workers employed in hot departments. All sources of high temperatures are isolated, and special appliances and arrangements, such as protective shields, damp screens and curtains of water, are installed to prevent the heat rays penetrating to the work places. The worker observing the production process through a damp screen can do so without fear of burns or other mishaps.

To eliminate the harmful effect of heat rays in the vicinity of open-hearth furnaces and rolling mills, forge hammers and glass furnaces, air currents of the proper velocity are arranged which result in the temperature being normal at the place of work. All these different methods are the fruits of the work done by Soviet labour protection research institutes; they lighten the labour of those engaged in the hot trades and at the same time result in increased labour productivity.

On representations from the trade unions, it has been made obligatory by law for air currents to be installed in all cases where the intensity of heat rays at the place of work exceeds one calorie per square centimetre per minute.

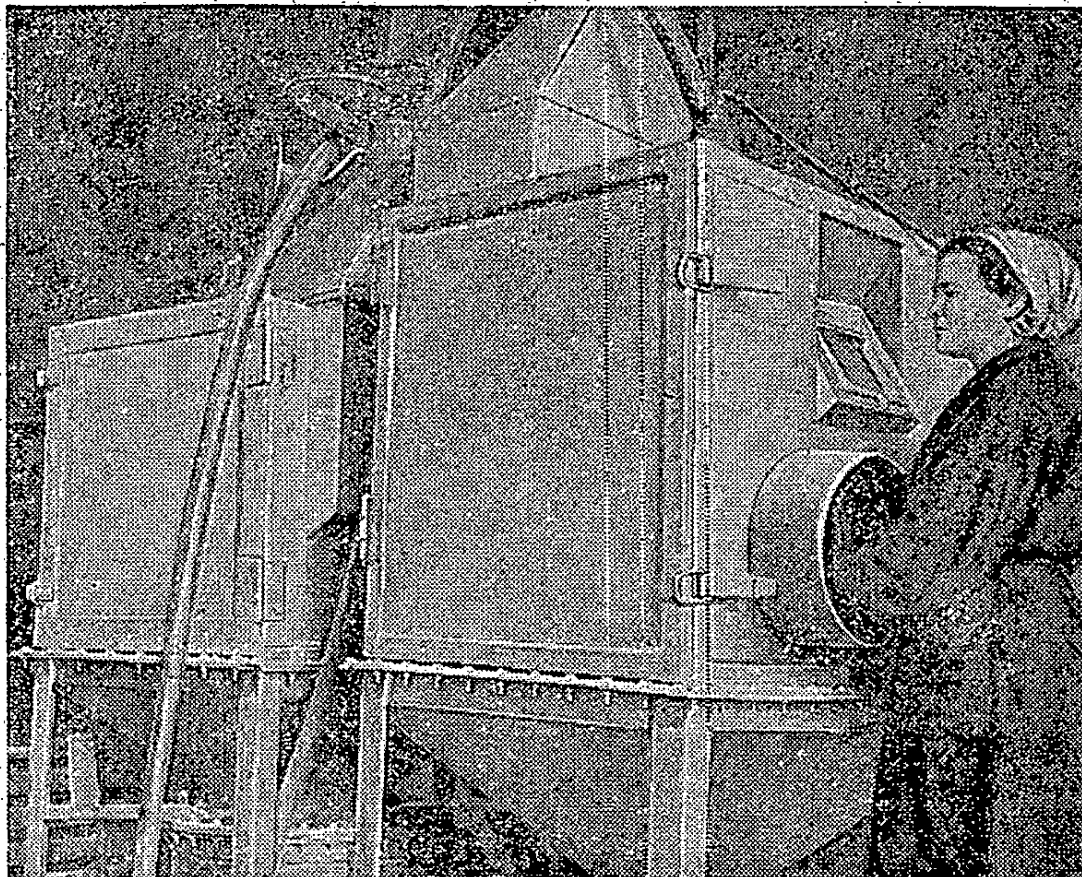
Great attention is paid at Soviet factories to ensuring that there is a good supply of drinking water. Those employed in the hot departments are supplied with aerated water free of charge. A certain amount of special table salt is added to the aerated water to make up for the salts lost by the worker during the course of his job.

Considerable measures are taken in the Soviet Union to safeguard the workers against electric shock.

Regulations are in force which require the effective arrangement of protective grounding. All metal objects which may be touched by the worker while doing his job, and which, due to some chance defect in the generator or other electrical appliance, may become charged with electricity, are reliably grounded.

To avert accidents due to electric shock, illumination is provided by bulbs of low voltage (12 to 36 volts), which are brought right close to the work place.

The introduction of proper ventilation equipment, the steps taken to eliminate danger from the employment of electricity (grounding, blocking protective installations, and the rational arrangement of lighting) and the many other measures adopted for protecting the labour and health of the workers entail considerable expenditure, but the Soviet



At the Moscow Lamp Factory. A closed sandblast chamber, equipped with ventilation appliances and a special dust-proof aperture

Government willingly assigns all the necessary funds for this purpose.

Here is the view of Hillard Ellis, member of the American trade union delegation that visited the Soviet Union in June-July 1951:

“The working conditions of the Soviet workers are ideal compared to conditions of workers in plants that I am personally familiar with. The factories that I visited in the principal cities of the Soviet Union were clean, with good ventilation, with every type of safety and health precaution imaginable.

“I have seen with my own eyes, witnessed and talked with hundreds of workers, in Leningrad, Stalingrad, Moscow,

Zaporozhie, and nowhere have I found this 'slave labour.' In fact, the workers work with a devotion which shows they are the real owners of the plants. I have not once seen the 'speed-up' as we know it in America."

A strict check is kept to ensure the fulfilment of all the industrial hygiene and safety measures called for in the appropriate regulations and standards.

All plans for the construction of new plants must be approved by the State Sanitary Inspectorate.

New plants begin operations only after the industrial-hygiene inspection authorities and the technical inspector of the appropriate trade union have given their consent.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN LABOUR PROTECTION METHODS

Thousands of highly-qualified scientific workers, employed in research institutions throughout the country, are engaged in solving labour protection problems arising in the plants.

The trade unions themselves which, as representing the state and the public, keep a check on the fulfilment of the labour laws, control research institutes situated in the biggest industrial centres. These institutes of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions possess the most up-to-date laboratory equipment, and are staffed by highly-qualified experts in various aspects of labour protection.

They are of considerable assistance in helping to establish new and more up-to-date industrial ventilation methods.

For example, these institutes, for the first time in engineering history, in dealing with the problem of ventilating the so-called "damp shops," abandoned the system of air tunnels and suggested an absolutely new and simple method of ventilation by concentrating the air supply.

A new method of ventilation, surprisingly simple and exceedingly effective, is the one devised by them for the textile industry. It consists of arranging an active air supply which permeates the shop by way of influent ventilation through special nozzles placed between the machines along the length of the gangways.

The institutes have also provided effective solutions of problems of natural ventilation (aeration) in the big hot departments (foundry, forge, open-hearth, rolling) of the iron-and-steel and engineering industries. Extensive use is now made in various branches of industry of new ventilation installations they have invented for eliminating steam, gases and dust, and also various types of dust eliminators (chambers, filters, cyclones, etc.).

The problems connected with the further betterment of working conditions can only be solved by improving technological processes, and so the institutes carry on their work in close collaboration with the technological institutes of the various directing bodies of industry.

The labour protection institutes have also solved quite a number of safety problems in collaboration with Stakhanovites. These include special guards for vertical milling machines, which make possible the now widely employed high-speed processing of metal in perfect safety.

By utilizing the wealth of experience accumulated in the factories, the institutes have produced all sorts of protective and safety installations and devices, and have also established the main safety requirements to be observed in designing new equipment.

The great importance of high-quality working clothes as a means of protecting the worker against the possibility of burns from flying drops of molten metal, acids and alkalis, and against the injurious effects of damp, radiant heat, dust, steam and gases, is well appreciated by the institutes; they are doing much to create such types of special-quality cloth for working clothes as meet the requirements of hygiene, and protect the workers against accidents and industrial disease.

There are also specialized institutes of the Ministry of Public Health and other government departments which carry on a considerable amount of research in safety methods and industrial hygiene.



Safety appliances are compulsory at Soviet plants. They make high-speed metal-processing a safe job

One such research body is the Makeyevka Institute of Research in Safety Technique in the Mining Industry.

Operating in the Donbas, it is a big research centre specializing, as its name implies, in labour protection problems in the mines. Its staff is made up of highly-qualified experts, who have considerable facilities for experiment. The latest equipment, instruments, and apparatus are at their disposal, including a 50-metre stand for testing safety catches, a huge ballistic pendulum for testing explosives, experimental drifts and adits and chambers for testing the resistance of coal-cutting machines.

The grounds of the Makeyevka Institute contain an experimental pit possessing all the equipment necessary for large-scale experiments under regular working conditions.

* * *

Great achievements can be recorded in the Soviet Union as a result of the socialist reconstruction of the national economy, the large expenditures on labour protection measures, the increased skill of the workers, the highly efficient methods employed in industry, and the systematic work done by executives and trade union bodies to improve working conditions. All this has led to a sharp decline in industrial accidents, and to the disappearance of numerous types of industrial diseases.

At the present time, executives and trade union organizations are making great strides towards the total elimination of the causes of industrial accidents and diseases.

The five-year plan for the development of the U.S.S.R. in 1951-55 provides for a further improvement in labour protection system. The work of mechanizing laborious and labour-absorbing processes in industry and building will be in the main completed during this period. This will ensure higher productivity of labour and still better working conditions.

Work in the Soviet Union has become a truly creative matter, a source of joy, a thing of honour and glory, of valour and heroism.

On one occasion, when speaking of the technical progress that would take place under socialism, V. I. Lenin, the great founder of the Soviet state, said that this progress "will make the conditions of labour more hygienic, will relieve millions of workers of smoke, dust and dirt, and accelerate the transformation of dirty, repulsive workshops into clean and well-lit laboratories worthy of human beings."

These words are coming to pass.



Printed in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Union *Health Resorts*

IN THE U.S.S.R.



**TRADE UNION
HEALTH RESORTS
IN THE U.S.S.R.**



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INTRODUCTION

The Soviet Union is immense. Stretching from the Baltic Sea to the Pacific and from the Arctic Ocean to the lofty Pamirs, it covers one-sixth of the land surface of the globe.

No other country in the world has such a variety of physical and climatic features as the U.S.S.R.: plains and mountains, forests and rivers, the warm South and the icebound North. There is a multitude of beautiful spots with an excellent climate and mineral springs, where hundreds of health and holiday resorts are located. These resorts are very popular among the people of our country.

Article 119 of the Constitution of the U.S.S.R., the Stalin Constitution, guarantees all citizens the right to rest and leisure. This right has been secured by the institution of annual vacations with full pay for workers and office employees, and by the provision of a wide network of sanatoriums and rest homes.

Millions of Soviet citizens have the opportunity of spending their annual holiday under excellent conditions for rest and treatment.

In the U.S.S.R. there is a large network of sanatoriums, maintained by the trade unions or by the Ministry of Public Health and other state organizations.

The Soviet state spends thousands of millions of rubles on the upkeep, construction and improvement of the health and holiday resorts.

These appropriations increase from year to year. For example, from 975 million rubles in 1949 to 1,112 million rubles in 1950, 1,270 million rubles in 1951 and 1,310 million rubles in 1952. In the fifth five-year plan period more than 2 billion rubles are to be spent on the construction,



Sanatorium No. 3 of the Central Council of Trade Unions in Kislovodsk. The sanatorium is situated at a height of 900 metres above sea level and has up-to-date equipment for all types of treatment. More than 3,000 persons took cures here in 1951.

extension and equipment of the trade union health and holiday resorts.

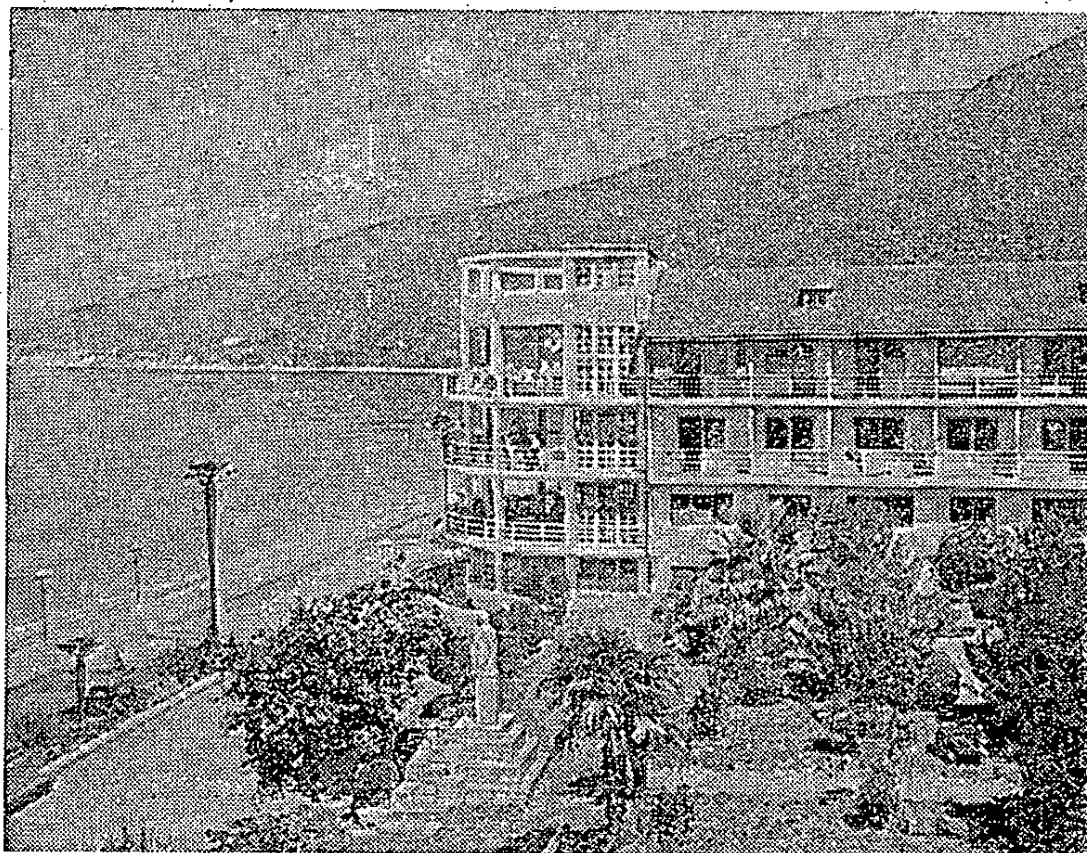
Trade union sanatoriums and rest homes are managed by the Central Health and Holiday Resort Administration of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions and by branch administrations in the various regions and republics. The central committees of the different trade unions also have health and holiday resort administrations.

The overwhelming majority of the health and holiday resorts in the Soviet Union function the year round.

The Soviet Union is exceptionally rich in natural facilities for the creation of sanatoriums and holiday homes. Be-

tween the Arctic and the subtropical districts of the U.S.S.R. approximately 4,000 places having medical springs, curative muds or a particularly salubrious climate have been surveyed and studied.

Scientific study of natural health resources and methods of applying them is conducted on a wide scale in the U.S.S.R. The main research body in this field is the Central Health Resort Institute of the Ministry of Public Health of the U.S.S.R. This institute, which has its headquarters in Moscow, studies the country's health resort possibilities, plans the further development of resorts, evolves new methods of treatment, and establishes the indications for treatment at the various resorts. It has worked out a method of synthesizing



The main building of the Chelyuskinets Sanatorium at Gagra, a picturesque spot on the Black Sea. This sanatorium, built in 1935 by the Central Council of Trade Unions, annually accommodates thousands of workers.



Taking the Narzan drinking cure at Kislovodsk, the biggest of the Caucasian spas. Every year more than 200,000 persons are accommodated at the Caucasian spas

mineral waters analogous to natural waters, as well as methods of mineral water and mud bath therapy for sanatoriums in localities which do not have medicinal springs or deposits of curative muds.

There are also 14 local health resort institutes. Situated in the Crimea, at Sochi, the Caucasian spas, Odessa, Georgia, Azerbaijan, the Ukraine and elsewhere, they carry out a large program of research.

Research is likewise conducted by the medical staffs of many sanatoriums. All this work is aimed at providing the working people with the best possible conditions for rest and cures.

SOVIET HEALTH AND HOLIDAY RESORTS BELONG TO WORKING PEOPLE

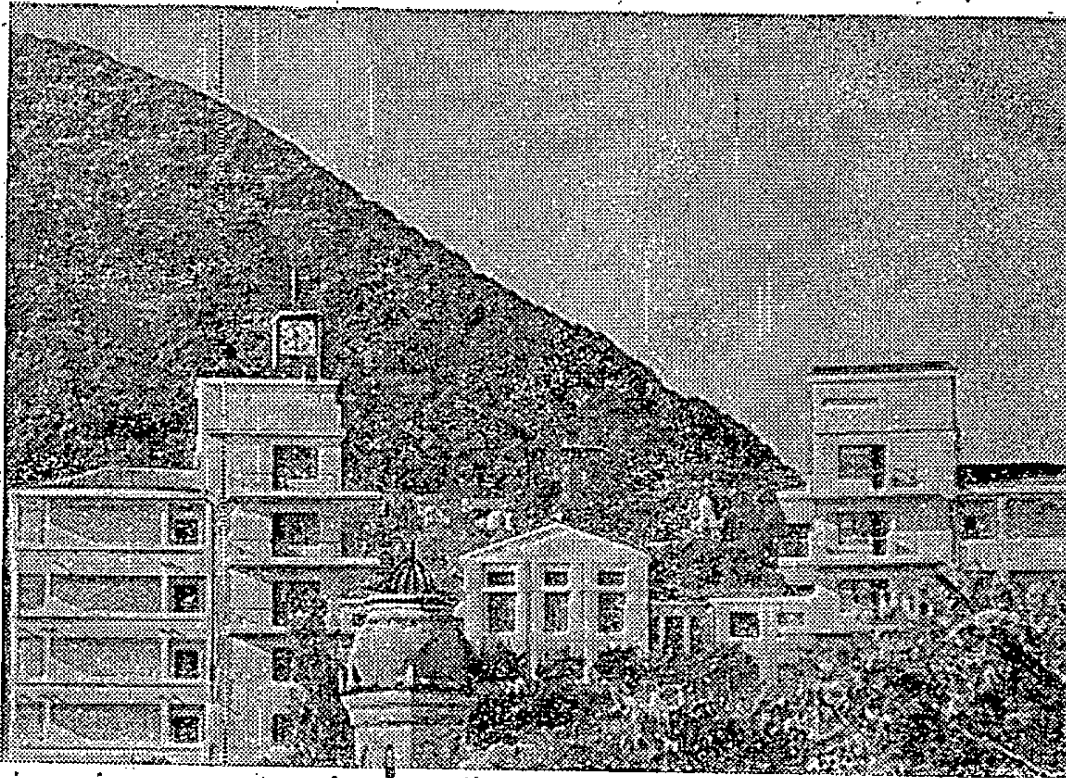
In prerevolutionary Russia the health resorts were privately owned and were totally beyond the reach of the working people. They catered exclusively to the privileged classes: members of the nobility, landlords, merchants, bankers, high-ranking officials, and the higher clergy.

The finest resorts in the Crimea—Livadia, Alupka, Miskhor, Massandra, Gurzuf and others—were owned by the tsar, grand princes, members of the court aristocracy, or big financiers and businessmen.

The same was true of the resorts along the Caucasian coast of the Black Sea. Gagra, for example, was owned by Prince Oldenburg. At Sochi, which has splendid sulphur springs, there were only two establishments of the sanatorium type: a privately-owned hotel and a home belonging to a school for daughters of the nobility. All the other mansions and villas were owned by the aristocracy. For wealthy visitors a group of financiers built the fashionable Caucasian Riviera Hotel. Sochi itself was a squalid town surrounded by marshland; it had no water main or sewer system and no asphalted streets. In a word, it was not a health resort but an out-of-the-way seaboard town.

The health resorts of prerevolutionary Russia developed slowly. The only thing their owners were interested in was making money.

Workers, peasants and the rank-and-file intelligentsia could not afford to visit health resorts. For them a stay at a Caucasian or Crimean seaside resort was a fantastic dream.



*The Udarnik Sanatorium of the Central Council of Trade Unions
at Zheleznovodsk, a well-known Soviet spa*

The Great October Socialist Revolution made the health and holiday resorts the property of the people and accessible to the people.

In 1919, the most difficult period for the young Soviet Republic, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin signed a decree "On Health Resorts of Country-Wide Importance." This decree stated: "Health resorts, no matter in what part of the R.S.F.S.R. they are situated, or to whom they belong . . . are declared the property of the Republic, together with all their structures and equipment, and are to be utilized for medical treatment."

The following year, 1920, after the Whiteguards were expelled from the Crimea, the Council of People's Commissars published a decree which said: "Thanks to the liberation of the Crimea from the rule of Wrangel and the Whiteguards by the Red Army, it has become possible to employ the curative facilities of the Crimean coast for treatment



*The dining hall of a sanatorium maintained in the Crimea by
the trade union of workers of the ore-mining industry*

and restoration of the work capacity of workers, peasants and all the working people of all the Soviet Republics."

After the establishment of Soviet power, the palaces, villas, mansions and hotels at the Crimean and Caucasian resorts and elsewhere were turned over to the trade unions, the Ministry of Public Health and other organizations as sanatoriums.

Besides, the trade unions have built and are continuing to build a large number of health resorts.

What is the Soviet sanatorium? It is an establishment which gives rest, cures and medical treatment, using natural curative agents such as mineral waters, muds and climate, in combination with medical preparations and physiotherapeutic appliances; it provides special diets, physical culture treatment and a proper regimen.

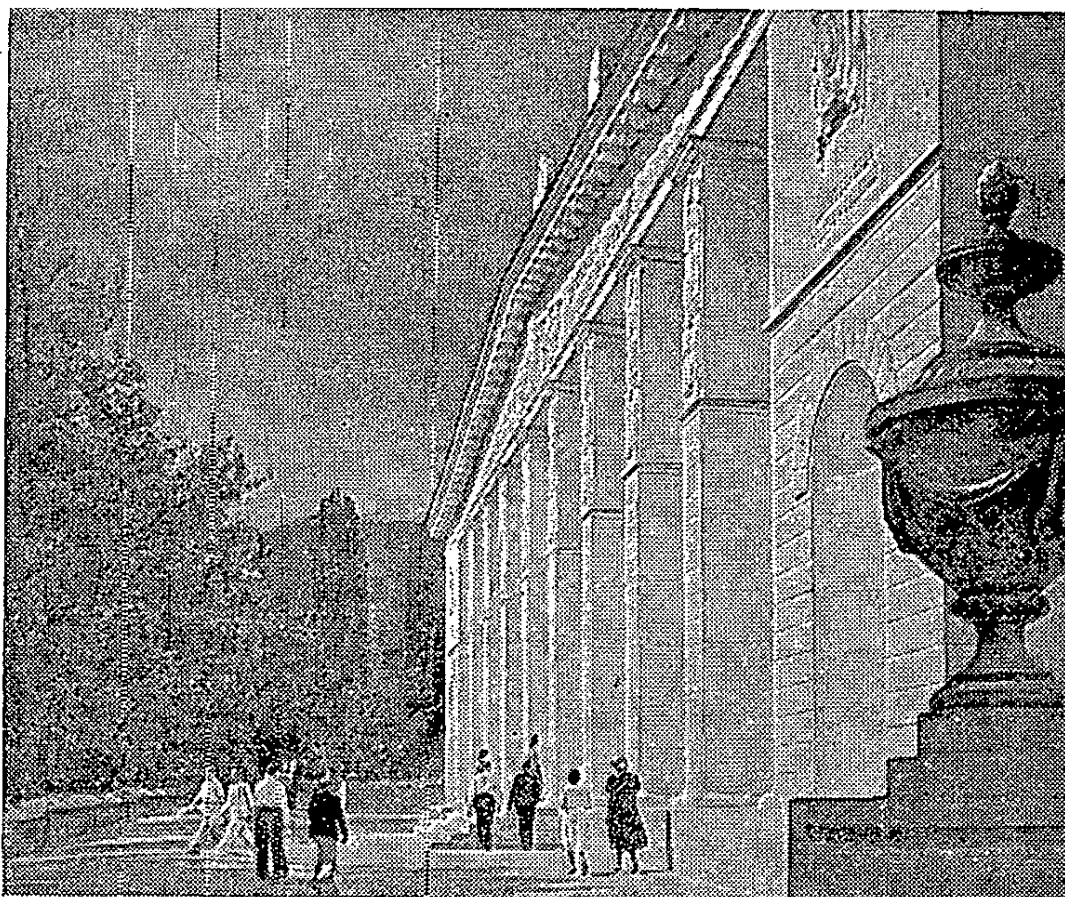
Persons whose health has to be built up are sent to sanatoriums. As a rule sanatorium periods range from 24 to 90 days, depending upon the type of ailment.

The Soviet sanatoriums are housed in splendid buildings with an abundance of light and air. The sleeping rooms are well furnished. There are comfortable recreation rooms, dining rooms and clubrooms. The sanatoriums have all the necessary facilities for diagnosis and treatment. Concerts and recitals, as well as cinema shows, are often arranged for the guests. All sanatoriums are provided with libraries.

The medical and auxiliary personnel give the guests the best of service. Scientists and doctors have worked out the principles of diet, rest and exercise which, taken together, ensure effective individual treatment.

In the Soviet Union there was a big expansion of health resort facilities. As the national economy made rapid strides forward, more sanatoriums and rest homes were built; special health and holiday resorts for children as well as resorts of local importance underwent intensive development; medical service was improved; the resorts were modernized and made more beautiful.

During the Second World War part of the health resorts, sanatoriums and rest homes (in the Crimea, the North Cauca-



The façade of a sanatorium built in 1951 in Yalta, the Crimea, for workers, engineers and other employees of electric power stations

sus, Odessa and elsewhere) were destroyed by the Hitlerite invaders. They plundered and wrecked 313 trade union sanatoriums and rest homes, causing damage that ran into more than 800 million rubles.

The state has spent large sums on rebuilding the health resorts. Restoration of the Caucasian spas and the Crimean resorts was begun while the Soviet Army was still waging its heroic battles. During the postwar five-year plan period this work was carried to completion, side by side with the unprecedentedly rapid rehabilitation of the national economy as a whole.

The fundamental principle of Lenin's decree—the placing of the health resorts at the service of the people—has thus been put into practice. In the Soviet Union millions

of ordinary men and women rest or take cures at first-class resorts.

All the prerequisites have been created in the U.S.S.R. for further development of the health and holiday resorts, which are fully at the service of the Soviet man.

Among the many places built by the Central Council is the Dolossy Sanatorium, near Yalta. One of the finest on the Crimean coast, it has two large buildings accommodating 300 persons. Here patients sleep on the verandas in all seasons of the year, breathing the wonderful sea air.

Many trade unions have sanatoriums in the Crimea, among them the coal miners, railwaymen, chemical workers, ore miners, medical workers, communications workers, etc.

New sanatoriums have been built there by the timber and engineering unions.

More than 100,000 people rest or take cures at the Crimean resorts every year.

At the Caucasian spas (Pyatigorsk, Essentuki, Kislovodsk and Zheleznovodsk) the trade unions have 30 sanatoriums. In Kislovodsk, for example, the Central Council of Trade Unions has built the Kirov Sanatorium with a four-story building and its own Narzan baths, a clinical sanatorium with hydropathic and mud therapy departments, and also, at the end of 1950, a sanatorium of Mount Piket. Construction of a sanatorium for members of the auto and tractor union was completed in 1952.

Approximately 200,000 rest or take cures at the Caucasian spas every year.

The largest sanatoriums at the health resorts in the Georgian Republic have all been built in the Soviet years and are owned by the trade unions. Among these health resorts are the famous watering places of Borzhomi (for gastrointestinal ailments) and Tskhaltubo (with radioactive springs effective in the treatment of rheumatism, gout, neuralgia and cardiovascular ailments).

The trade unions have built sanatoriums at Gagra, near Batumi, in Sochi and at other lovely spots along the Caucasian coast of the Black Sea.

How the health resorts have been changed beyond recognition since prerevolutionary times can be seen from the example of the Sochi-Matsesta spa. The town of Sochi has been turned into a first-class resort with 67 sanatoriums and rest homes functioning the year round. A fine motor road has been built along the shore of the Black Sea. Splendid bath buildings have been erected at Staraya Matsesta. The town has a handsome theatre where performances are given regularly by companies from Moscow and Leningrad and other big cities.

There are many trade union sanatoriums in Sochi, a spa that makes an unforgettable impression. Those who have rested or taken cures there give a glowing opinion of it.

In 1951 the health and holiday resorts of the U.S.S.R. accommodated over 4,400,000 persons. More than 2,700,000 of these were guests at trade union sanatoriums or rest homes.

The Fifth Five-Year Plan of the development of the U.S.S.R. in 1951-1955 provides for a further growth of capital investments in the construction, improvement and equipment of sanatoriums and rest homes. By the end of 1955 accommodation in sanatoriums must increase approximately by 15 per cent, as compared with 1950, in rest homes—by 30 per cent.

LOCAL RESORTS

Now that health and holiday resorts have been developed in all parts of the country, the inhabitants of the Far East, Siberia, the Urals, Kazakhstan and other outlying areas can obtain just as effective sanatorium treatment locally as in the Crimea or the Caucasus.

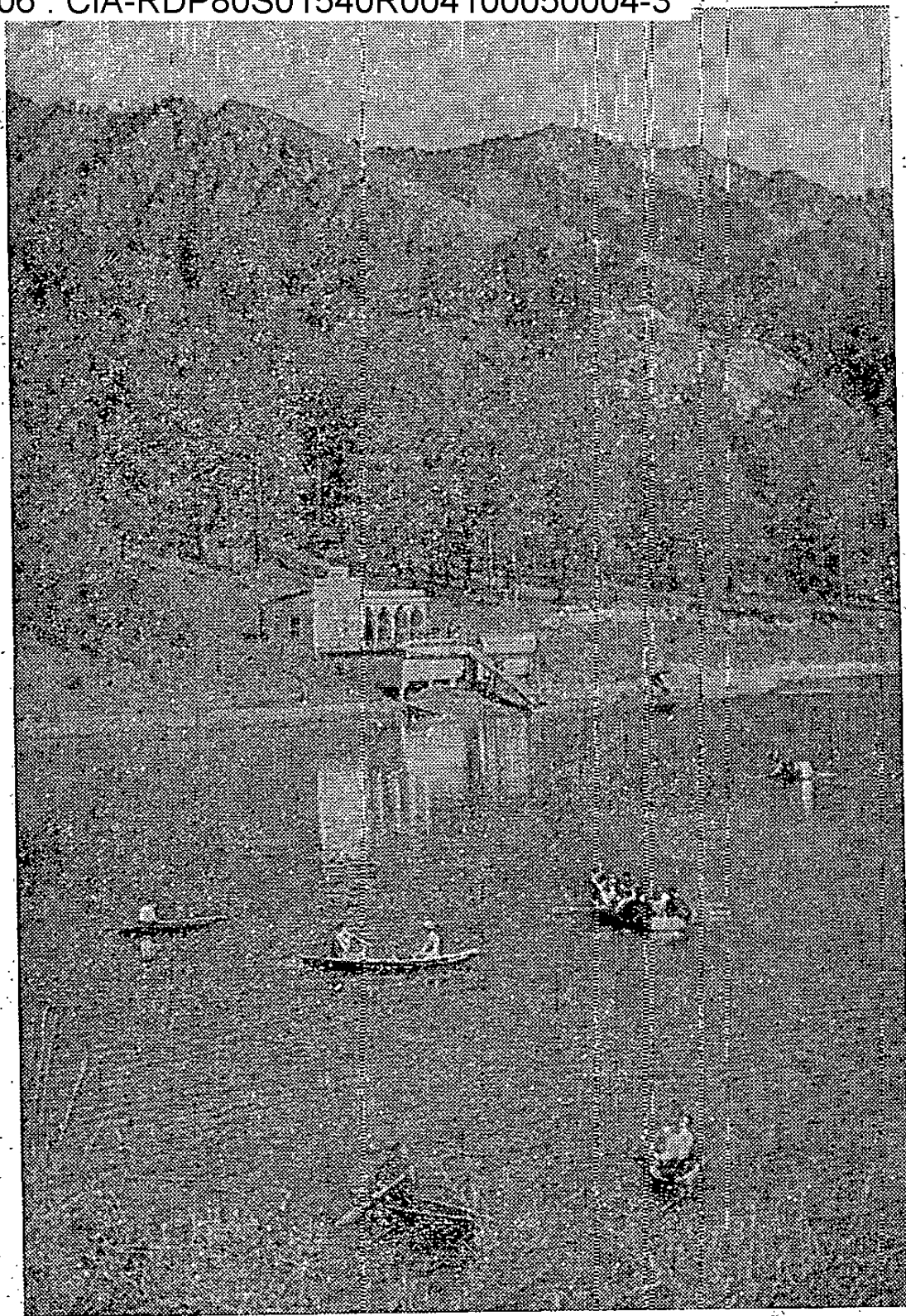
All sanatoriums have balneotherapy departments, X-ray facilities and laboratories; they are equipped with the latest medical apparatus. Those that are situated near cities call in prominent medical specialists for consultation.

An example of a local sanatorium is the one for gastrointestinal ailments which is situated on the outskirts of Leningrad. Founded a little over a quarter of a century ago, it has built up an excellent reputation among the people of Leningrad. Treatment is conducted in collaboration with professors from Leningrad clinics and medical institutes.

A considerable number of the local resorts are under the jurisdiction of the trade unions.

A case in point is the Sadgorod (Garden City) trade union health resort situated on the shore of Amur Bay not far from Vladivostok. Among the curative agents here are baths of sea silt and sea water. The resort is surrounded by parkland and has a fine beach. It functions the year round and is visited by workers from all parts of the Soviet Far East, including Kamchatka and Sakhalin.

Another trade union resort in the Far East is Kuldur Springs spa. Situated in a picturesque wooded mountain valley in Khabarovsk Territory, it is noted for its medicinal



The boathouse at the Chermal Sanatorium in the Altai Mountains. Now that health and holiday resorts have been developed in all parts of the country, the inhabitants of the Far East, Siberia, the Urals, Central Asia and other outlying areas can obtain effective sanatorium treatment locally

hot springs. The Kuldur water emerges to the surface having a temperature of $+70.7^{\circ}\text{C}$. and requires cooling before it is piped to the baths. It has a variety of chemical components very active in their effect on the organism. Also to be found at this spa is a mineral water used for drinking cures in gastrointestinal ailments. Ailments of the motor and digestive organs, as well as vascular, nervous and skin ailments are treated effectively at Kuldur Springs.

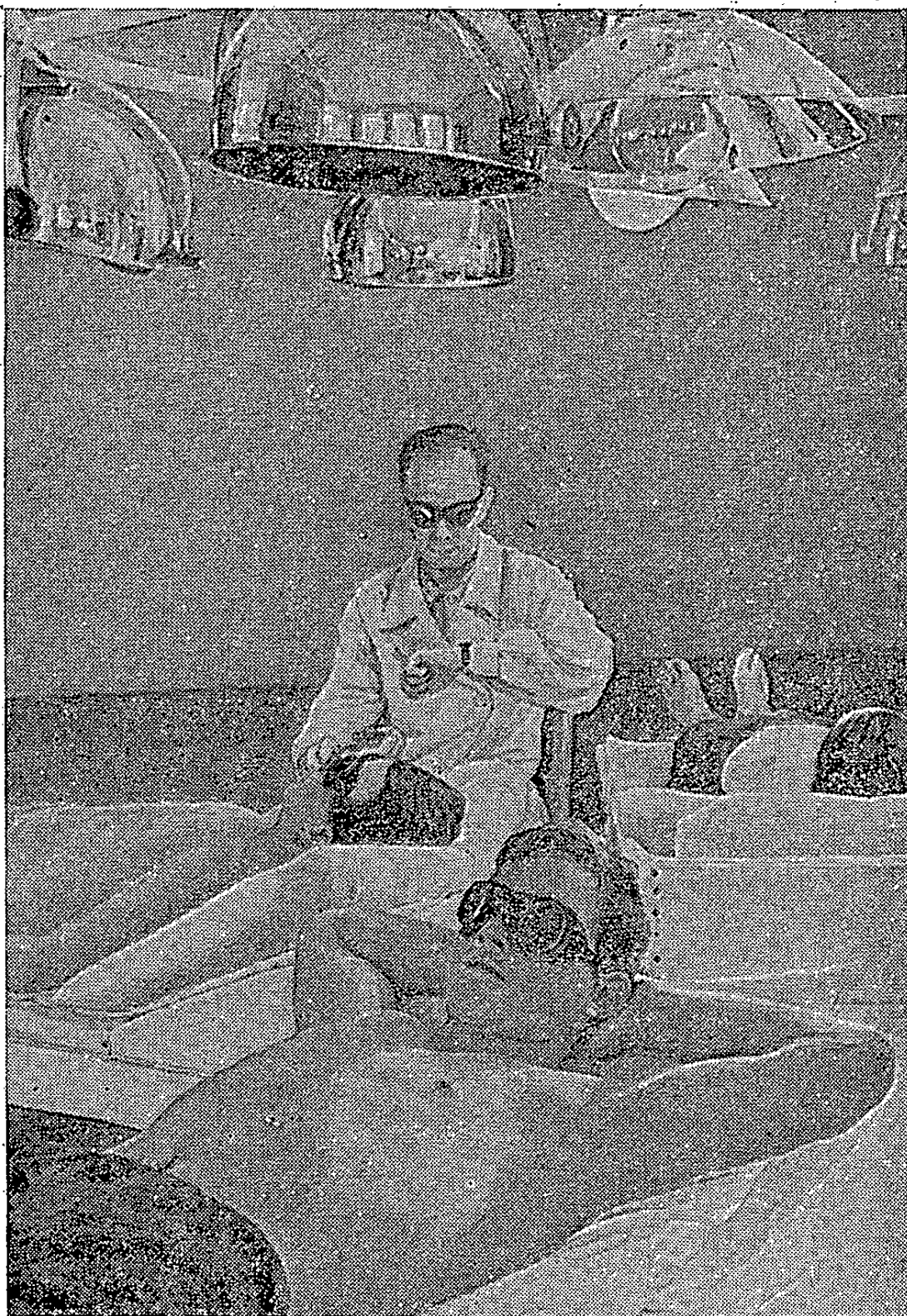
In Chita Region, Eastern Siberia, the trade unions have a health resort called the "Siberian Kislovodsk" because of its carbonaceous mineral springs similar to the Narzan waters in the Caucasus. This is the Darasun spa, located in a thickly-wooded mountain district with as many sunny days in the year as the Crimea. Its sanatoriums accommodate 600 persons.

Mud baths and salt-water baths are the medicinal features at Karachi, a trade union health resort in Novosibirsk Region, Western Siberia. Karachi is situated near a salt lake and has accommodation for 600. Karachi is visited by inhabitants of Western Siberia, chiefly miners, iron and steel workers, railwaymen and engineering workers.

There are similar resorts in Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk, Molotov, Tula and Novgorod regions, and in the Kazakh, Azerbaijan, Estonian, Lithuanian and other republics.

The Central Committee of the River Transport Trade Union has set up a floating sanatorium on a riverboat, the *Gorkovskaya Kommuna*. The boat has comfortably furnished cabins, a cinema hall, and a broad range of medical facilities. It cruises from Moscow down the Oka and Volga rivers to Astrakhan and back, with stops for sightseeing at all the big Volga towns—Gorky, Kazan, Ulyanovsk, Kuibyshev, Saratov, Stalingrad and Astrakhan. Thus, recreation is here combined with interesting excursions and cinema shows.

Similar floating sanatoriums are cruising along other rivers. When the V. I. Lenin Volga-Don Shipping Canal was put into operation and Moscow became a port of five seas, the number of routes, along which the floating sanatoriums cruise, considerably increased.



Quartz lamp treatment in the night sanatorium at the Calibre Plant

A popular institution in the Soviet Union are the night sanatoriums. Maintained on social insurance funds, they function the year round at numerous large factories, mills and mines. Their purpose is to build up the health of workers. Coming to the night sanatorium at the end of his shift, the worker takes a bath or shower, has dinner and then follows the treatment prescribed by his doctor.

The night sanatoriums are equipped with all the necessary physiotherapeutic and other medical apparatus. Before going to bed he can visit the night sanatorium's library, reading room, or chess and checkers room. In the morning he has a good breakfast and then he goes to work.

At the night sanatorium the worker is provided with every facility for rest and medical treatment. He spends the time in quiet, restful surroundings, and, what is important, strictly follows the doctor's orders.

REST HOMES

In 1921 the Council of People's Commissars passed a decree on rest homes which stated: "Rest homes shall be established by the Regional Trade Union Councils to enable workers and office employees to build up their strength and energies under the most favourable and healthful conditions during their annual holidays. Rest homes are to be established first and foremost in country villas and the mansions of former landlords. . . ."

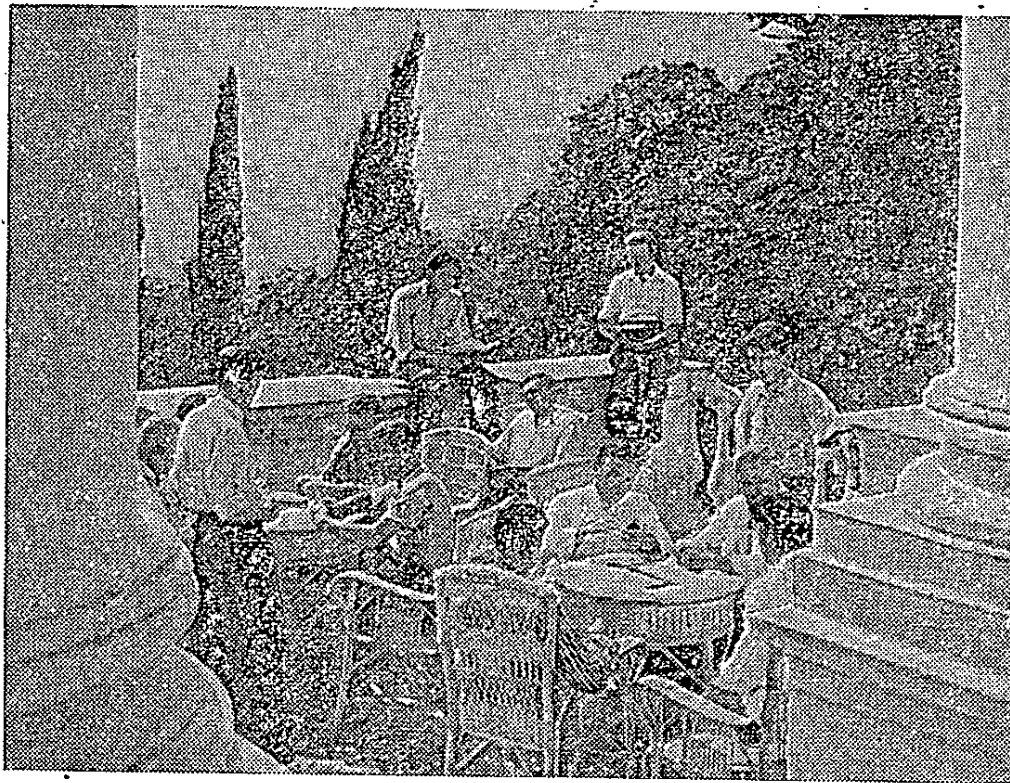
In the early Soviet years villas and mansions were adapted as rest homes. Then large-scale construction of new buildings was launched in picturesque localities having a good climate. Today, too, many new rest homes are being built. There is not a single district in the Soviet Union without its rest homes. They are to be found in the environs of the Siberian cities of Vladivostok, Chita, Irkutsk, Krasnoyarsk and Novosibirsk; near the Ural cities of Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk and Molotov; in the Central Asian Republics, throughout Central Russia, in the Transcaucasus, the Ukraine, Moldavia, Byelorussia and the Baltic Republics. Every year hundreds of thousands of workers and office employees spend their holidays at these homes in the most favourable and healthy conditions.

The trade unions have special rest homes which accommodate expectant mothers during their prematernity leave (under the Soviet labour laws all working women are given a fully-paid leave of 35 days before childbirth and 42 days after). Here the women enjoy the benefits of a correct regimen, proper diet and medical observation and instructions.

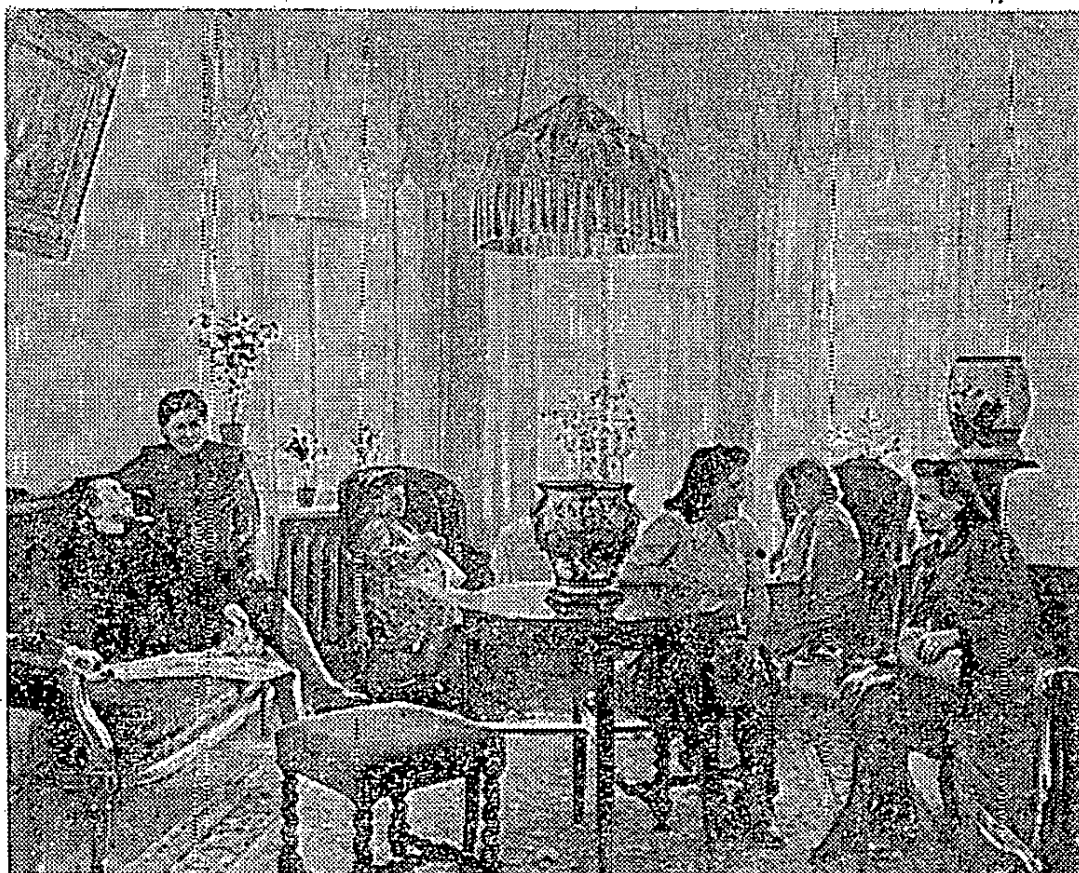
There are also trade union convalescent homes for mothers and their newborn infants after they leave the maternity hospital. These homes have a specially-trained staff of doctors, nurses and attendants.

Another special type of rest home is that for mothers accompanied by older children, from six to eight years of age. As a rule such rest homes are established in the vicinity of light-industry centres where the majority of the workers are women (textile mills, shoe and clothing factories, etc.). There is a staff of attendants for the children and separate children's bedrooms, where nurses are on duty all night. Good conditions for rest are provided both mother and child.

Extremely popular are the Young Pioneer summer camps, for school children between the ages of seven and sixteen. The camps are situated in forests, at the shores of lakes and rivers, or at the seaside, and are excellent health-builders. Usually more than half of the cost of the child's



A veranda at the 10th Anniversary of October Sanatorium, Sochi



At a Leningrad sanatorium for expectant mothers. The trade unions maintain special sanatoriums and rest homes which accommodate working women during their prematernity leave

stay in a summer camp is borne by the trade union, factory or institution which runs the camp.

The trade unions also operate one-day rest homes in country spots or in big parks on the outskirts of cities. Workers and office employees and members of their families come to these homes early Sunday morning and stay there the whole day. They are provided with a wide choice of facilities for recreation and sport.

Tourism has become extremely widespread in the Soviet Union. Soviet trade unions run tourist centres in many parts of the country. In 1951 alone, about 2 million trade union members and their dependents took part in tourist excursions.

ON THE BLACK SEASHORE

Here is an example of how Soviet working men spend their holidays. Here is what Daniil Sergeyev, a smelter, had to tell us about the way he spent his vacation.

"I decided to spend my annual leave on the shore of the Black Sea. My trade union organization gave me a pass to the A.U.C.C.T.U. sanatorium in Zeleny Mys, near Batumi. I had to cover quite a distance to get there, living, as I do, in the Extreme North. I flew by plane to Moscow where I boarded the Moscow-Batumi Express. In that sunny Ajarian sanatorium they gave me a warm welcome. I was put up in a cosy bright room with a view that took your breath away. Out of the window I could see the mountain peaks in a bluish haze, the vine-smothered terraces, orchards and tea and citrus fruit plantations rolling down to the sea.

"There's nothing like a Black Sea spring, with the roses and magnolias blooming, and the sun shining for all it's worth, so that sun-tanned people have to sit under those big umbrellas. I kept marvelling at the swift change from the snowdrifts and Northern lights of my home in the Extreme North to the blue, blue sky, the sun-flooded beach and the flowering gardens. It gave me an idea of how truly vast our Soviet country is!

"Early in the morning I would wake to the strains of radio music. We would all jump out of our beds, wash and turn out for our morning exercises in the sports grounds. Then we would have a hearty breakfast, followed by a walk on the premises. After that each of us would take the prescribed treatment.



At the Artek children's camp on the Crimean coast of the Black Sea. Millions of Soviet boys and girls spend their school holidays at Young Pioneer summer camps or health resorts or go on organized tours and walking trips. In the summer of 1951 more than 5,000,000 youngsters were accommodated at Young Pioneer camps, children's sanatoriums, tourist camps, etc.

"The sanatorium personnel, from chief physician Pyotr Ioseliani to the nurses, did everything to make our stay pleasant.

"I chummed up with some people who were spending their leave there. There was Lepeshkina, an old textile worker from Moscow Region, Semislova, a working woman from Kramatorsk, turner Martirosov, a Tbilisi resident, Vartanyan—a researcher from Erevan, and Maisuradze, school-teacher from South Ossetia. They were fine people and splendid companions.

"In the evenings we used to gather in a recreation room they've named after Shot'ha Rust'hveli. Everything in that room speaks of that great Georgian poet: wall paintings from his *Knight in a Tiger's Skin* by two Georgian artists, Kapitashvili and Tsurumishvili, pretty little lanterns, the work of skilled Georgian handicraftsmen. Soft divans stand around a beautifully carved table. One evening we devoted to the poet's memory. Shalva Kartsevadze, an actor from the Kutaisi State Theatre, recited a passage from the immortal *Knight*. He was a great success.

"There was always something to do in the evenings. There were daily showings of entertainment films as well as popular science reels, and we ourselves staged amateur performances. The evening in honour of friendship between the peoples was quite an affair. I liked the Georgian and Ukrainian dances and the national songs of many of our peoples.



At the Young Tourist camp in Repino (Karelian Isthmus)

"We never tired of sightseeing down South. We visited the Batumi Botanical Gardens, the country's largest, the tea and citrus plantations and the picturesque environs of Zeleny Mys.

"The month I spent there was soon over. I had a very nice rest and had put on weight and stored up strength. On the day I said good-bye to the sanatorium I joined a group of workers, who were also leaving, in making this entry in the Visitors' Book:

"Thank you, our Country, for all you have given us: joyful work, wonderful rest and a happy life. We return to our machines, shops, plants and factories full of the desire to work for the glory of our Country in the name of Peace."

REST AND LEISURE OF WORKING PEOPLE

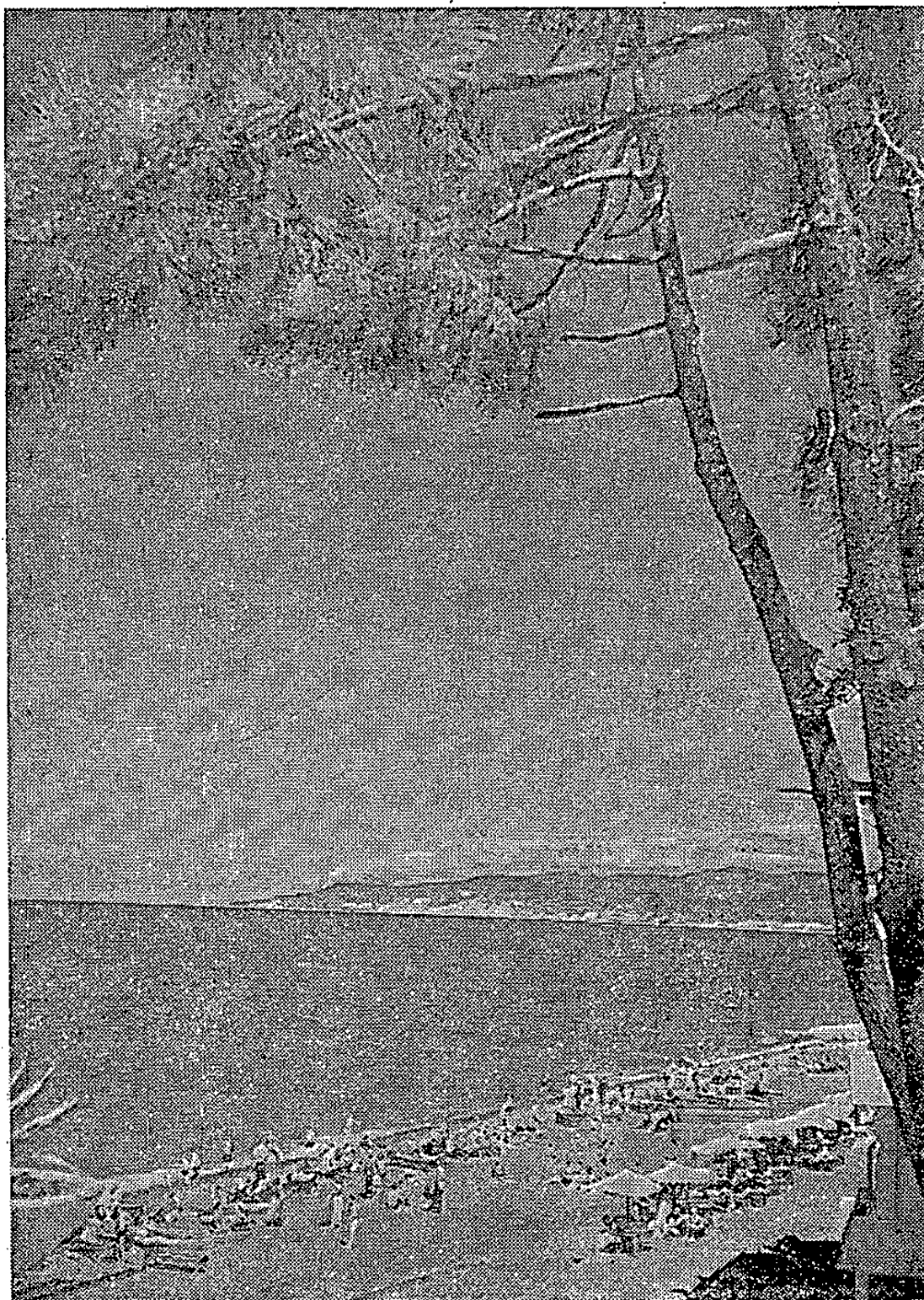
Leafing through the Visitors' Books at the health resorts we find entry after entry expressing heartfelt appreciation and gratitude. A group of guests at the Gorky Rest Home in Voronezh Region wrote:

"We cannot thank you enough. During our holiday at the Gorky Rest Home we—a group of collective farmers, workers at machine and tractor stations and state farms, factory workers and office employees—were daily aware of the warm solicitude shown the common man by our Government and our great leader Comrade Stalin, the Soviet people's father and friend. Only in the Socialist State, where work has become a matter of honour, valour, glory and heroism, are wholesome and rational rest and recreation available to all the people. We have had a splendid rest and feel strong and healthy. We shall express our thanks to our beloved Government by working better than ever before.

"Vereshchagin, mechanic at a factory in Kantemirovka; Radevich, truck driver; Ponomaryov, carpenter; Kalmykova, worker at a state farm; Zhuravlyova, worker at a sugar refinery, and others."

Here is an entry from the Visitors' Book of the sanatorium for expectant mothers at Sokolniki, in the outskirts of Moscow:

"From our very first day at the sanatorium we were shown every mark of attention by the staff. The work of the entire staff is characterized by constant and attentive care of the guests, varied medical treatment, and readiness to meet every request of the expectant mothers.



A view of the beach at Sochi.

"We received tasty and varied meals; the cooking was excellent. Our rooms were comfortably and cosily furnished. At a sewing circle led by an instructor we made clothes for our future babies.

"We are deeply grateful to the Government and to Comrade Stalin for the concern and attention shown us here.

"Bykova, worker at the Mikoyan plant; Karpova, operator at the Sverdlov factory; Melyukina, bookkeeper at the Krasny Oktyabr Confectionery Factory, and others."

A group of miners who spent their holiday at a sanatorium owned by the Central Committee of the Coal Mining Trade Union write:

"We, Donbas mine workers, would like to share some impressions of our rest and cure at the sanatorium of the Central Committee of our trade union.

"During our 28 days at the sanatorium we had a real rest and built up our health. This is how the Soviet miners exercise their right to rest, guaranteed to the working people by the Stalin Constitution.

"This well-equipped sanatorium is a perfect health-builder. The meals are excellent. Every member of the staff, from the doctors to the charwomen, is attentive to the guests and puts his whole heart into his work, doing everything he can to make them feel well."

**COMMENTS OF FOREIGN GUESTS
ON THE TRADE UNION HEALTH AND HOLIDAY
RESORTS**

As a rule the dozens of workers' and trade union delegations from abroad that visit the Soviet Union every year acquaint themselves with the sanatoriums and rest homes maintained by the trade unions. Their comments on the concern shown for the health of the people in the Land of Socialism speak for themselves.

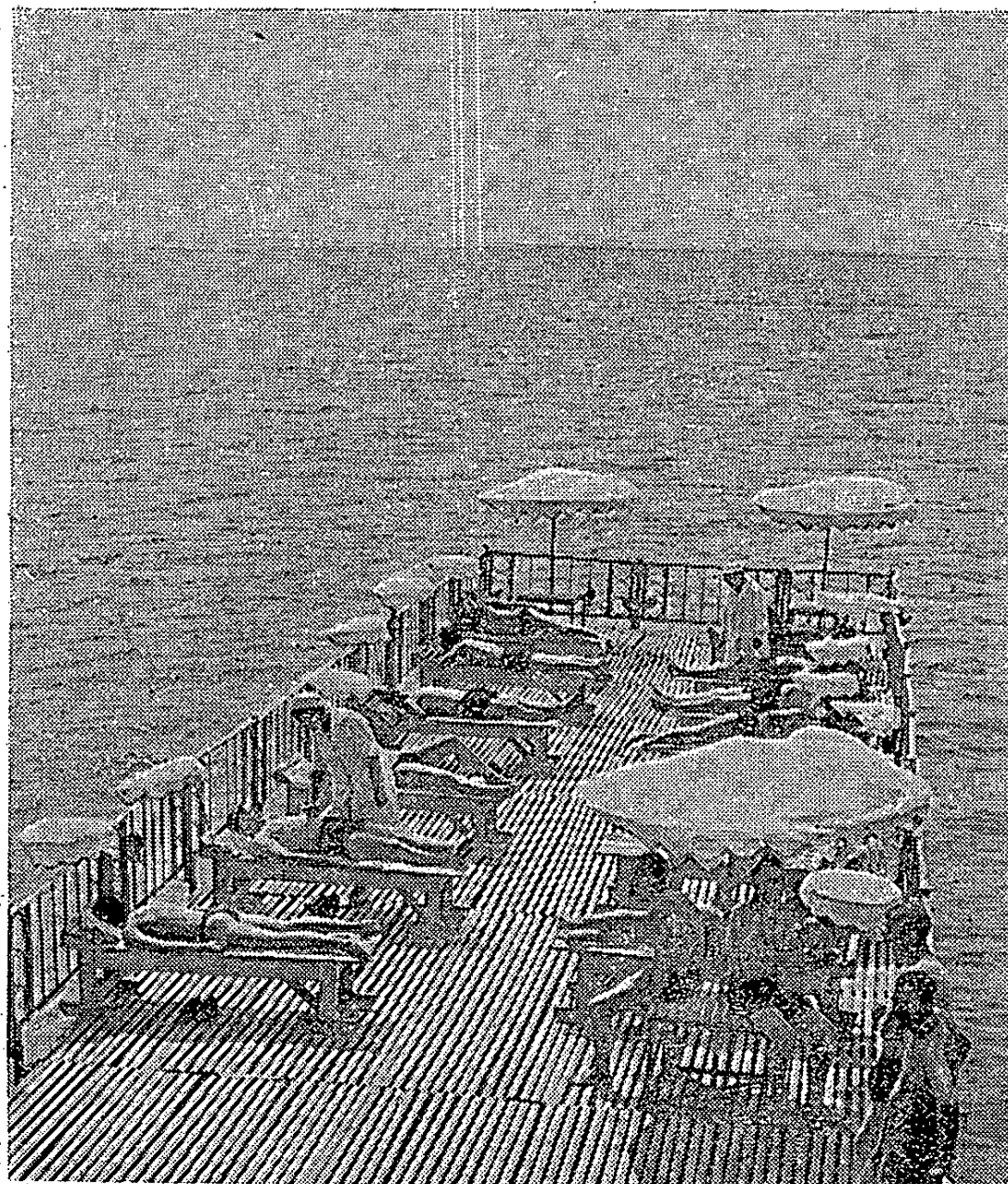
Scottish miners who visited the U.S.S.R. in August 1949 write the following about the trade union rest homes:

"We lived in two of these rest homes, and can honestly say they are ideal places to spend a holiday. They are built in beautiful surroundings, the living quarters are in lovely buildings, people there are well fed, and they have concerts and dancing every night. Various games are organized during the day, or you could spend the day roaming through the picturesque woods and grounds. A very happy atmosphere exists in the rest homes. . . .

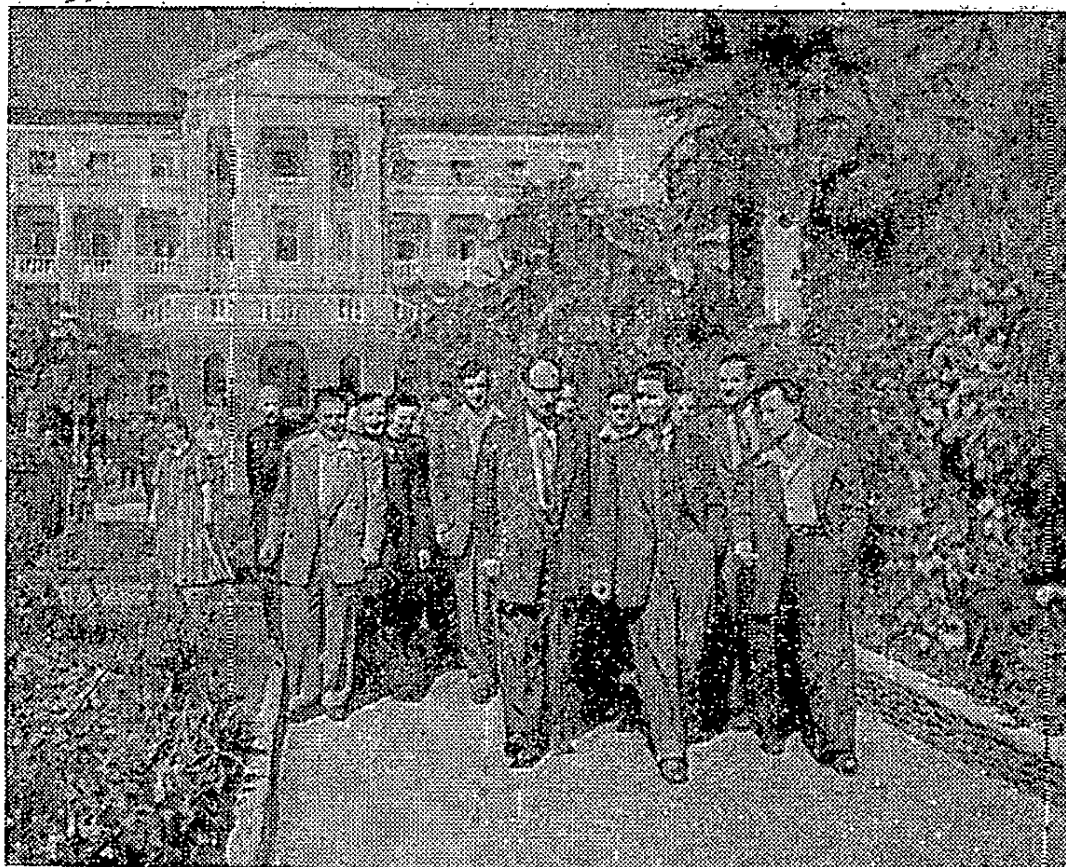
"While the father and mother are at the rest home, their kiddies can go to the Pioneer Camp if they care."

After a visit to health resorts in the Georgian Republic in September and October 1950 a group of Swedish railwaymen noted:

"At the sanatoriums in Sukhumi and Gagra we saw the tremendous opportunities for rest and health-building which are enjoyed by the workers. The sanatoriums we visited were luxurious."



Vacationers at the Black Sea health and holiday resort of Sochi



A Canadian workers' delegation visits a sanatorium maintained at the Black Sea health resort of Sochi by the central committee of the railwaymen's union. Every year 3,500 railwaymen spend their holiday at this sanatorium. Sochi is often visited by foreign guests

A Canadian trade union delegation which visited the Soviet Union in September and October 1951 stated the following in a report issued upon its return:

"They are building and are largely concerned with providing a better life for themselves. In case anyone is sceptical, we just wish we could take them for a trip along the shores of the Black Sea to see for themselves the number and beauty of the new sanatoria and rest homes that are being constructed for the workers. Or let them sit among the miners, textile and garment workers or the railwaymen at their luxurious sanatoria on the Black Sea as we did. Let them tell you of the plans for the extension of their buildings and

grounds. Even the most sceptical cannot but be impressed. Incidentally, these sanatoria are the most elaborate places we have ever seen."

Similar comments are to be found in the reports made by any of the delegations that have visited the Soviet Union.

The trade unions do their utmost to provide the men and women of the U.S.S.R., who are engaged in peaceful constructive labour, with the best possible conditions for rest and cure. In this work they are guided by the wise words of Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin, the great leader of the Soviet people, who said that "of all the valuable capital the world possesses, the most valuable and the most decisive is people."

Printed in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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CONSTITUTION OF THE TRADE UNIONS OF THE U.S.S.R.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE
M O S C O W
1949**

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CONSTITUTION OF THE TRADE UNIONS OF THE U.S.S.R.

*Adopted
by the Tenth Congress
of the Trade Unions
of the U.S.S.R.
(April 19-27, 1949)*

————— 1 9 4 9 —————
FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE
M O S C O W

The Soviet people, led by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), have built a socialist society and are successfully fulfilling the historic task of gradual transition from Socialism to Communism. In the Soviet Union, exploiting classes have been completely eliminated, the exploitation of man by man has been ended for all time, unemployment has been done away with in the towns and destitution in the rural areas, and the material and cultural standards of the working people have risen substantially. From the painful burden that it is under capitalism, labour has in our land become a matter of honour, of glory, of valour and heroism. "People in our country do not work for exploiters, for the enrichment of parasites, but for themselves, for their own class, for

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Release 2012/06/06 : Soviet society where power is
CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 of the working
class." (Stalin.)

The world historic gains of the working people of the Soviet Union have been given legislative enactment in the Constitution of the U.S.S.R.

The Constitution guarantees all citizens of the Soviet Union the right to work, the right to rest and leisure, the right to education, the right to maintenance in old age and in case of sickness or disability. Women in the U.S.S.R. are accorded equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, government, cultural, political and other public activity.

In conformity with the interests of the working people and in order to strengthen the socialist system, citizens of the U.S.S.R. are guaranteed by law freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly and also the right to unite in public organizations.

In the Soviet trade unions, which are a mass non-party public organization, workers and other employees of all occupations are united on a voluntary basis without distinction of race, nationality, sex or religious beliefs.

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CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 all their activities under the guidance of the Communist Party, the organizing and directing force of Soviet society. The trade unions of the U.S.S.R. rally the masses of workers around the Party of Lenin and Stalin.

The trade unions wage a struggle to strengthen to the utmost the socialist social and state system, the moral and political unity of the Soviet people, and fraternal cooperation and friendship among the peoples of the Soviet Union; they participate actively in the elections to the organs of state power; they organize the workers and other employees to strive for constant advancement of the national economy; they work for further improvement of the material well-being of the working people and for all-round satisfaction of their cultural wants.

The trade unions instil in their membership the spirit of Soviet patriotism and a Communist attitude to work and to public, socialist property; they engage in the Communist training of the working people and in advancing the cultural and professional standards of the workers to those of engineering personnel; they imbue their members with

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CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 ionalism and
fight for the unity of the international work-
ing-class movement and for lasting peace
and democracy throughout the world. The
trade unions "are an educational organiza-
tion, an organization for enlisting and train-
ing forces, they are a school, a school of ad-
ministration, a school of management, a
school of Communism." (Lenin.)

Under the Soviet, socialist system, the
state stands guard over the rights of the work-
ing people and in its laws gives expression
to the people's interests. The trade unions
share actively in the drafting of legislation
concerned with production, labour, condi-
tions of life, and cultural development and
fight for undeviating observance of these
laws.

The trade unions:

organize the socialist emulation movement
of workers and other employees for fulfilling
and exceeding state plans, raising labour
productivity, improving quality and reduc-
ing production costs;

take part in planning and regulating wages
and in framing systems of pay in accordance
with the socialist principle of payment by

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performed;
promote the introduction of new progressive
output standards and see that correct records
are made of work done and that the piece-
rate and progressive bonus system of payment
is correctly operated;

help workers and other employees to improve
their proficiency, publicize the methods of
the foremost, the innovators in production
and science, and assist in introducing ad-
vanced technology in industry;

conclude collective agreements with plant
managements;

supervise the labour-protection arrangements
and safety precautions at places of work;
participate in the settlement of labour dis-
putes; conclude agreements with the manage-
ments on the use to be made of the funds
allocated for safety precautions and labour
protection;

operate the system of state social insurance,
assign and issue benefits to workers and other
employees in cases of temporary disability;
strive for improved medical service for the
working people and protection of the health
of women and children, establish sanatoria
and rest homes, form mutual aid societies;

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CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 f living quarters in houses belonging to places of work; organize supervision by the masses over fulfillment of the plans for housing construction and development of amenities and cultural facilities and over the functioning of canteens, shops, public services and city transport;

help union members to raise their level of ideological and political understanding and general education; disseminate political and scientific knowledge and extensively popularize improved production methods; establish clubs, Houses and Palaces of Culture, recreation rooms (Red Corners) and libraries, and arrange mass amateur art, physical culture, sport and tourist activities among the workers and other employees;

promote the widespread participation of women in the work of government, in production and in public affairs and help workers and other employees in the communist training of the growing generation;

make representations to government and public bodies on behalf of the workers and other employees in matters concerned with labour, welfare and culture.

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THEIR RIGHTS AND DUTIES

1. Membership in the trade unions is open to all citizens of the U.S.S.R. employed in industrial establishments or offices, or studying at institutions of higher learning or technical or occupational schools.

2. The trade union member *has the right:*
a) to attend general meetings of members of the union;

b) to elect and be elected to all union bodies and to trade union conferences and congresses;

c) to bring before trade union bodies issues and suggestions relating to the improvement of union activities;

d) to criticize at trade union meetings, conferences, congresses and in the press the activities of the local or higher union bodies and their officials and to file enquiries, statements or complaints with all leading trade union bodies;

e) to appeal to the trade union to protect and uphold his rights where the management is guilty of infringing the collective agree-

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Release 2012/06/06 : existing labour laws or the legis-
CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 ce and provi-
sion of cultural and welfare services;

f) to demand his presence in person in all cases when trade union bodies pass opinion on his activities or conduct.

3. The trade union member *is in duty bound*:

a) scrupulously to observe civic and labour discipline;

b) to safeguard and fortify public, socialist property as the sacred and inviolable foundation of the Soviet system, the source of the wealth and might of the country, the source of a life of prosperity and culture for all the working people;

c) to improve his proficiency, to master his calling thoroughly;

d) to observe the constitution of his trade union and pay membership dues punctually.

4. The trade union member *enjoys the following privileges*:

a) he receives benefits out of the state social insurance funds in a larger amount than non-trade-unionists, in conformity with the legislation on the subject;

b) he receives priority in the distribution of passes to rest homes, sanatoria and health

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resorts, and also in placing his children in crèches, kindergartens and Young Pioneer camps;

c) he receives, when necessary, grants out of trade union funds;

d) he receives legal assistance from trade union bodies free of charge;

e) he and his family have the use of the trade union's cultural and sports facilities on terms specified by the trade union bodies;

f) he is entitled to membership in the mutual aid society of his trade union organization.

5. Admission to trade union membership is by personal application from the prospective member. The application for membership is considered by a meeting of the trade union group, and admission endorsed by the shop committee of the union, and where there are no shop committees, by the factory or establishment committee. In trade union organizations not subdivided into groups, members are admitted by a general meeting of the union members.

6. The record of union membership dates from the time when the application for membership is granted by the meeting of the trade union group or the union organization of

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Release 2012/06/06 : artment, plant or office concerned.
CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 newly-admit-
ted union members by the factory or establish-
ment committee of the union.

7. If a union member goes to work in a factory or establishment whose trade union branch is part of another trade union, he is transferred to that union without payment of the entrance fee and his record of trade union membership is maintained.

8. The time spent by union members in the armed forces of the U.S.S.R. is included in their trade union record.

9. Trade union members who discontinue work and receive pensions on grounds of health or old age retain the right of union membership.

10. Seasonal employees retain their record of trade union membership if they resume work the following season. Members of producers' cooperatives are not eligible for trade union membership. If they were union members prior to joining the producers' cooperative, their old record of trade union membership is credited to them when they leave the cooperative to take up employment.

11. For infringing the constitution of his

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trade union, for failing to pay membership dues for more than three months, or for lack of discipline, a union member may, by decision of the trade union bodies, be cautioned, publicly reprimanded, censured, and as the extreme measure, expelled from the union.

The decision of the shop meeting or trade union group to expel a member comes into effect after being endorsed by the factory or establishment committee of the union. The decision of the primary trade union organization to penalize a member must be passed in the presence of the member concerned.

II

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE TRADE UNIONS

12. The trade unions are built up on the principles of democratic centralism, which means that:

- a) all trade union bodies from the bottom up are elected by the membership and accountable to them;
- b) trade union organizations decide all issues of union activity in conformity with

the constitution of the trade union and the decisions of higher union bodies;

c) trade union organizations pass their decisions by a majority vote of the membership;

d) lower trade union bodies are subordinate to higher ones.

13. The trade unions are organized on the industrial principle: all persons employed in the same factory or establishment belong to the same union; each trade union covers the employees of one branch of the national economy.

14. To coordinate the activities of trade union organizations, regional, territorial and republican trade union councils are formed in the regions, territories and republics.

15. The highest directing body of a trade union organization is the general meeting (for primary organizations), the conference (for district, city, regional, territorial and republican organizations), the congress (for the trade union as a whole).

The general meeting, conference or congress elects an appropriate committee—the shop, factory, local, district, city, regional, territorial, republican or Central Committee—which

is its executive body and directs all the current activities of the organization.

16. All trade union directing bodies, and also delegates to trade union conferences and congresses, are elected by secret ballot.

When trade union bodies are being elected, the union membership have the right to nominate candidates and to challenge or criticize any of them.

The elected trade union bodies choose from their midst, by open vote, a chairman, secretary and members of the presidium.

17. New elections to any trade union body may be held before the expiration of the appointed term at the demand of at least one-third of the union members represented by that body, and also by decision of a higher trade union body.

18. General meetings of trade union members, union conferences and congresses, and also meetings of trade union committees and councils of trade unions shall be considered competent if attended by not less than two-thirds of the union members, delegates, or committee members.

19. Trade union bodies must scrupulously observe trade union democracy: call general

meetings and conferences of union members, report on their work and arrange elections, provide the conditions for the development of criticism and self-criticism in the trade union organizations, enlist the membership extensively in trade union activities, and arrange meetings of active trade union workers.

20. Shop, factory, establishment, district, city, regional and territorial trade union committees and councils of trade unions form commissions to deal with particular aspects of trade union activity. In the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions (A.U.C.C.T.U.) and in the Central Committees of trade unions, and also in large republican, territorial and regional trade union councils and committees, departments and sectors are formed for this purpose.

III

HIGHEST TRADE UNION BODIES

21. The supreme trade union body of the U.S.S.R. is the U.S.S.R. Congress of Trade Unions.

The U.S.S.R. Congress of Trade Unions:

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 by the
A.U.C.C.T.U. and the Auditing Commis-
sion;

b) adopts the constitution of the trade
unions of the U.S.S.R.;

c) specifies the current tasks of the trade
unions, hears reports by the central economic
authorities and maps out measures for trade
union participation in the struggle to fulfil
and exceed the national economic plans and
to raise the material and cultural-political
standards of the workers and other employees;

d) specifies the tasks of the trade unions
of the U.S.S.R. in the international trade
union movement;

e) elects the All-Union Central Council
of Trade Unions and the Auditing Com-
mission.

22. The U.S.S.R. Congress of Trade Unions
is convened not less than once in four years.
Notice of it is given at least two months
before the date of the congress.

23. In the interim between U.S.S.R. con-
gresses, all trade union activities are direct-
ed by the A.U.C.C.T.U.

24. The All-Union Central Council of Trade
Unions:

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 of the trade unions generally, and also in particular fields of trade union activity;

b) participates in the drafting of the national-economic plans;

c) directs the socialist emulation movement;

d) hears reports by committees of the trade unions, and communications by Ministries and government departments, on matters relating to production and to cultural and welfare facilities for the workers and other employees;

e) prepares and submits to the Government draft legislation on wages, labour protection, social insurance, welfare and cultural services for the working people; issues instructions, regulations and elucidations as to the operation of the existing labour laws;

f) directs the operation of the state social insurance system;

g) arranges nation-wide cultural, sports and other mass undertakings;

h) establishes trade union schools and study courses;

i) approves the budget of the trade unions;

j) represents the Soviet trade unions in the international trade union movement and

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 International
trade union associations;

k) has its press organ—the newspaper
Trud—and the Profizdat publishing house;
issues trade union magazines, bulletins, etc.

25. The A.U.C.C.T.U. elects a presidi-
um and a secretariat. Plenary sessions of
the A.U.C.C.T.U. are held at regular inter-
vals.

26. The highest directing body of each
trade union is the congress of the union. The
congress of the trade union is held once in
two years. Congress delegates are elected
by the union membership at meetings and
conferences according to a representation
rate fixed by the Central Committee of the
union. Notice of the congress is given by the
Central Committee of the union at least
one month before its date.

Members and alternate members of the
union's Central Committee and Auditing
Commission who are not elected delegates
to the congress attend it in an advisory ca-
pacity.

The congress of the trade union hears re-
ports on the activities of the union's Central
Committee and Auditing Commission, spec-

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CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 union; adopts
the constitution of the union, hears reports
by economic bodies on the progress of the
fulfilment of state plans, discusses matters
pertaining to the provision of cultural and
welfare facilities for the working people and
problems of the international trade union
movement, and elects the Central Committee
of the union, the Auditing Commission and
the delegates to the U.S.S.R. Congress of
Trade Unions.

A special congress may be convened by
decision of the A.U.C.C.T.U. or of the Central
Committee of the trade union.

27. In the interim between congresses, all
the activities of a trade union are directed
by its Central Committee.

The Central Committee and the Auditing
Commission of a trade union are elected for
a term of two years; the number of their mem-
bers is fixed by the congress.

28. The Central Committee of a trade union:
organizes socialist emulation, together with
the appropriate economic authorities reviews
the results of the nation-wide socialist emula-
tion contest, hears reports by these author-
ities on the position of affairs in production

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he conclu-
sion of collective agreements and labour
protection agreements, takes action to im-
prove the work of factories and other
establishments and of trade union organ-
izations in the organization of labour and
system of payment, in the promotion of so-
cialist emulation, in the field of social insur-
ance and in providing material amenities
and cultural facilities for the workers and
other employees;

approves the budget of the trade union and
the state social insurance budget, and endorses
the reports on their fulfilment;

registers the collective agreements conclud-
ed by local trade union organizations with
managements;

establishes safety standards and regulations
compulsory for the industry in question;

organizes the ideological and political edu-
cation and training of trade union forces;

publishes the trade union's printed matter
(newspapers, magazines, reports, etc.);

nominates active trade unionists to posi-
tions in the State administration, in the So-
viets, and in economic and public bodies;

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for
Release 2012/06/06 : s the structure of the Central Com-
CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 es the appoint-
ment of its departmental heads;

maintains and develops contact, through
the A.U.C.C.T.U., with trade unions of for-
eign countries.

Plenary sessions of the Central Committee
of a trade union are held at regular intervals.

To direct the day-to-day activities of the
union, the Central Committee elects a Presid-
ium consisting of a chairman, secretary and
members.

The Central Committee of a trade union is
responsible for its activities to the congress
of the union and to the A.U.C.C.T.U.

IV

REPUBLICAN, TERRITORIAL, REGIONAL, CITY AND DISTRICT TRADE UNION BODIES

29. Regional, territorial and republican trade
union councils and auditing commissions are
elected at the appropriate inter-union confer-
ences for a term of two years.

Delegates to inter-union conferences are
elected by meetings of the union members

tion of the Central Committees of their unions and by the city, district, regional, territorial or republican conferences of the individual unions.

30. Regional, territorial and republican trade union councils:

- carry out inter-union undertakings;
- coordinate joint actions by the trade union organizations of the region, territory or republic aimed at promoting the socialist emulation movement for fulfilment and over-fulfilment of state plans by industrial plants and at further improving the material conditions and cultural facilities of workers and other employees;

- summarize and popularize the most effective examples of trade union activity;

- direct inter-union cultural and sports establishments.

Plenary sessions of the trade union councils are held at regular intervals.

31. Republican, territorial, regional, railway line, water transport basin, city and district committees and auditing commissions of trade unions are elected at conferences of

The conference hears reports by the committee and the auditing commission, discusses problems of trade union activities, of production, of the organization of labour, and of cultural and welfare services for the workers and other employees, and elects the trade union directing bodies and the delegates to the congress of the trade union and to the inter-union conference.

32. The committees direct the organizations of their trade unions in the republic, territory, region, city, district, railway line or basin, organize fulfilment by the trade union organizations of the decisions taken by the A.U.C.C.T.U. and the Central Committee of the union; approve the financial estimates of the primary trade union organizations and arrange meetings of active trade union workers. Plenary sessions of the committees are held at regular intervals. In all their activities the committees are accountable to the appropriate republican, territorial, regional, city or district conferences of union members and to the Central Committees of their trade unions; and as regards inter-union under-

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 ies or re-
gions, they are also accountable to the trade
union councils.

33. The trade union councils and committees
elect from their midst a chairman, secretary
and members of the presidium.

V

PRIMARY TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS

34. The basic unit of the trade union is the
primary trade union organization. The pri-
mary trade union organization is made up
of the trade union members employed at the
same place of work. The highest body in the
primary trade union organization is the gen-
eral meeting of union members.

In factories or other establishments where
general meetings cannot be called because
people work different shifts or because the
shops or departments are territorially dis-
persed, shift meetings or conferences of trade
union members are held instead.

35. The duties of the primary trade union
organization are:

a) to rouse the entire personnel of the estab-

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CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 the production
plan; to reinforce labour discipline and pro-
mote socialist emulation;

b) to draw all employees into the trade
union and conduct political educational activ-
ities among them;

c) to discharge the obligations assumed under
the collective agreement;

d) to devise practical measures for raising
labour productivity, improving quality, put-
ting every shop and work-team on a cost-
accounting basis, reducing production costs
and increasing returns; to hold production
conferences and supervise the fulfilment of
their decisions; to assist in securing the adop-
tion of rationalization suggestions;

e) to establish Stakhanovite schools and
arrange for assistance to novices by experi-
enced workers, engineers, and technicians; to
arrange talks and lectures on efficient methods
of work, and help the personnel in other ways
to fulfil and exceed their output quotas and
improve their skill;

f) to work day by day to improve working
conditions and welfare facilities for the per-
sonnel;

g) to satisfy the cultural wants of the work-

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CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 te exten-
sive mass cultural and sports activities in
the factory or establishment;

h) to put into effect the decisions of higher
trade union bodies and the resolutions adopted
at general meetings.

36. To conduct current activities, primary
trade union organizations numbering 25 or
more members elect a factory or establishment
committee and an auditing commission, and
organizations numbering less than 25 members
elect a trade union organizer, for a term of
one year.

The number of members on the factory or
establishment committee and the auditing
commission is fixed by the general meeting
or conference of union members.

The factory or establishment committee
concludes a collective agreement with the
management and organizes supervision by the
masses as to its fulfilment; it directs the work
of the production conferences; fosters a wide-
spread inventions and rationalization move-
ment; works to provide cultural and welfare
services for the employees; approves the com-
position of its commissions and of the
social insurance council; calls general meetings

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 lfilment of the
decisions of higher trade union bodies;
enlists trade union members in active social
work.

37. Shop committees are set up in factory
shops by decision of the factory committee,
and trade union bureaus in the departments
and divisions of offices by decision of the
establishment committee; they are elected for
a term of one year.

The shop committees and trade union
bureaus organize all trade union activities
in their shops or departments, ensure fulfil-
ment of the decisions of the factory or es-
tablishment committee and of higher trade
union bodies, arrange meetings of the work-
ers and other employees, form trade union
groups and direct the work of the group trade
union organizers.

38. With a view to meeting more fully the
wants of trade union members working in the
same team, section, unit, assembly, etc., trade
union groups are formed.

A group trade union organizer is elected by
open vote for a term of one year at a general
meeting of the group. To assist the group
organizer, the trade union group elects from

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The group trade union organizer draws all employees into the trade union, collects membership dues from union members, organizes socialist emulation and helps the factory, establishment or shop committee in providing cultural and welfare services for employees.

VI

TRADE UNION FUNDS

39. Trade union funds are made up of entrance fees, monthly membership dues, proceeds from cultural, educational and sports institutions, auxiliary establishments, buildings and structures, and other incoming sums.

40. The monthly membership dues are fixed at one per cent of the actual monthly earnings, and for students, at one per cent of their monthly student stipends. For non-working pensioners and students receiving no stipends, the membership dues shall be one ruble a month.

41. The entrance fee charged at the time of joining the trade union is fixed at one per

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 or student sti-
pends, for students not in receipt of a stipend,
it is one ruble.

42. The funds of the A.U.C.C.T.U. are made up of contributions from the Central Committees of the various trade unions out of the dues collected from their membership, the amount of the contribution being fixed by the A.U.C.C.T.U., and of other incoming sums.

43. The republican, territorial and regional trade union councils are maintained out of A.U.C.C.T.U. funds in accordance with duly approved estimates.

44. Trade union funds are used for cultural services to union members, for material assistance to them, and for the organizational and administrative expenses of trade union bodies. The allocation of funds is determined annually by the Central Committees when approving the budgets, and by the A.U.C.C.T.U. when approving the joint budget of the trade unions.

Trade union bodies expend their funds in accordance with estimates approved by higher trade union bodies.

The A.U.C.C.T.U. and the central, repub-

CIA-RDP80S01540R004100050004-3 also factory

and establishment trade union committees
publish their financial accounts for the infor-
mation of union members.

45. The right of disposal over trade union funds and property is vested in the elected trade union bodies, which are responsible for timely collection of the funds and security of the property and for their proper utilization.

Redistribution of property within a trade union is made by decision of the central committee of the union, and between different trade unions, by decision of the A.U.C.C.T.U.

46. The auditing commissions of trade union bodies elect a chairman and secretary from their midst. The auditing commissions check on the fulfilment of the trade union budget and the state social insurance budget, on whether funds are expended and trade union property utilized in a proper and expedient manner and on the system of registration and accounting.

The auditing commissions report on their activities to congresses, conferences and general meetings simultaneously with the trade union bodies.

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AS JURIDICAL PERSONS

47. Factory, establishment, city, district, railway, basin, regional, territorial, republican and Central Committees of trade unions, and also the A.U.C.C.T.U. and republican, territorial and regional trade union councils constitute juridical persons. They have a stamp and seal of a pattern approved by the Central Committee of the trade union in question and by the A.U.C.C.T.U.

48. Each trade union has its constitution, which takes into account the distinctive features of that union and conforms to the constitution of the trade unions of the U.S.S.R.

The constitution of each trade union shall be registered with the A.U.C.C.T.U.

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SOCIAL
INSURANCE
IN THE U.S.S.R.

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INTRODUCTION

The system of social insurance in the U.S.S.R. is one of the most important achievements of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Not only does it ensure the right of citizens to material security in case of disability, but it is a powerful factor in raising the material and cultural standard of the people.

In the U.S.S.R. the system of social insurance is based on the principles of socialist democracy. The management of the entire system of social insurance, as well as the administration of social insurance funds, is in the hands of the trade unions.

Social insurance benefits are paid to all wage and salaried workers irrespective of occupation. The workers have to make no contribution whatever to the social insurance fund; the contributions are paid entirely by the factory or office managements. Soviet workers are entitled to social insurance benefit from the first day of employment; there is no waiting period.

Social insurance benefits are paid in case of temporary disablement due to sickness or accident; working women are entitled to maternity benefit for a definite period before and after childbirth and also to a nursing allowance. The social insurance fund pays permanent disablement pensions, old-age pensions, long-service pensions, and pensions to families which have lost their breadwinner. Benefit on a par with sick benefit is paid in cases where circumstances

require that a worker should stay away from work to look after a sick member of the family.

The social insurance fund also pays for places for workers at sanatoriums and rest homes, for the organization of summer camps and sanatoriums for workers' children, and for special food in those cases when such is prescribed for medical purposes.

The population receive, at the expense of the state, allowances and grants from the social insurance fund to wage and salaried workers; pensions from the social maintenance fund; accommodation in sanatoriums, rest homes and child institutions free of charge or at reduced rates; allowances to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers; free medical aid; free education and professional and trade instruction; students' stipends, and a number of other payments and privileges. These payments and privileges received by the population at the expense of the state amounted to 125,000,000,000 rubles in 1951.

Thus, in the U.S.S.R., the social insurance fund is, together with other grants and privileges, a substantial addition to the wages of the workers and other employees.

In 1927, in the interview he gave to the first American workers' delegation to the U.S.S.R., J. V. Stalin pointed out: "It will not be superfluous to add also that our workers in all branches of industry, in addition to their ordinary money wages, receive benefits equal to about one-third of their earnings in the form of social insurance, improvement of living conditions, cultural services, and so on."

Along with the successful development of the Soviet Union's national economy, the steady increase in the number of wage and salaried workers and the increase in their earnings, there is a corresponding annual increase in the social insurance fund.

During the first five-year plan period, social insurance expenditures amounted to 10,400,000,000 rubles. In the second five-year plan period they increased to 32,500,000,000 rubles. In the first postwar five-year plan period (1946-50),

the social insurance fund exceeded 80,000,000,000 rubles, not counting expenditure on medical service for wage and salaried workers and their families.

In 1952, the social insurance fund amounted to 21,400,000,000 rubles.

The five-year plan of the development of the U.S.S.R. in 1951-55 provides for a further increase in state expenditure on the social insurance of workers and other employees, which will grow by 30 per cent as against 1950.

Social insurance outlays are to increase in the field of sanatorium and health-resort services for the working people; a much greater number of children will be sent to Young Pioneer summer camps.

The five-year plan also provides for the extension of the network of hospitals, dispensaries, maternity homes, sanatoriums, holiday homes, children's nurseries and kindergartens. Accommodation capacity in hospitals will increase by not less than 20 per cent, in sanatoriums by 15 per cent, in holiday homes by 30 per cent, in nurseries by 20 per cent, in kindergartens by 40 per cent. The number of doctors in the country will grow by not less than 25 per cent under the five-year plan. Supply of medical equipment to medical establishments will be improved. Production of medicines, medical instruments and equipment will increase by not less than 150 per cent as compared with the year 1950.

PENSIONS AND BENEFITS

Soviet social insurance covers all cases of disablement, temporary and permanent. Every wage and salaried worker knows that if he or she falls sick, they will receive a money allowance from the social insurance fund for the whole period of sickness.

For example: in February 1951, M. Serov, a miner at the Kadala Pit, controlled by the Trans-Baikal State Coal Trust, fell sick and was absent from work for fourteen days. For this period he received from the social insurance fund the sum of 1,162 rubles 84 kopeks, which was equal to 100% of his average fortnightly earnings. Sick benefit to the amount of 100% of average earnings is paid to miners and to workers in the metallurgical, chemical and certain other important industries, if they have worked continuously at the given enterprise for not less than one year. To those working less than one year, 60% of average earnings is paid.

Wage and salaried workers in other branches of the national economy are entitled to sick benefit ranging from 50 to 100% of earnings according to length of employment at the given plant or office. If the period of employment is less than three years they are entitled to 50% of earnings. If the period is three to five years, the rate of sick benefit rises to 60%; from five to eight years the rate is 80%; if the period of continuous employment is over eight years, the rate of sick benefit is 100% of average earnings.



Ex-steel man Alexander Chastov and his old friend and colleague Dmitri Zhukov are now on pension

If a working woman's child up to two years of age falls sick, the mother is released from work irrespective of whether or not some other member of the family could look after the sick child. Workers may also be released from work to look after a sick member of the family if circumstances require it. In all such cases the worker receives sick benefit from the social insurance fund.

Sick benefit is paid as from the first day of disablement until complete recovery. If sickness is prolonged (4 to 6 months), full benefit is paid until a medical commission certifies the patient as incurable. From that moment he receives a permanent disablement pension.

The wide scale on which pensions are paid in the U.S.S.R. is striking evidence of the care the Soviet state

displays for the welfare of the people. Every year larger and larger sums are paid out in pensions.

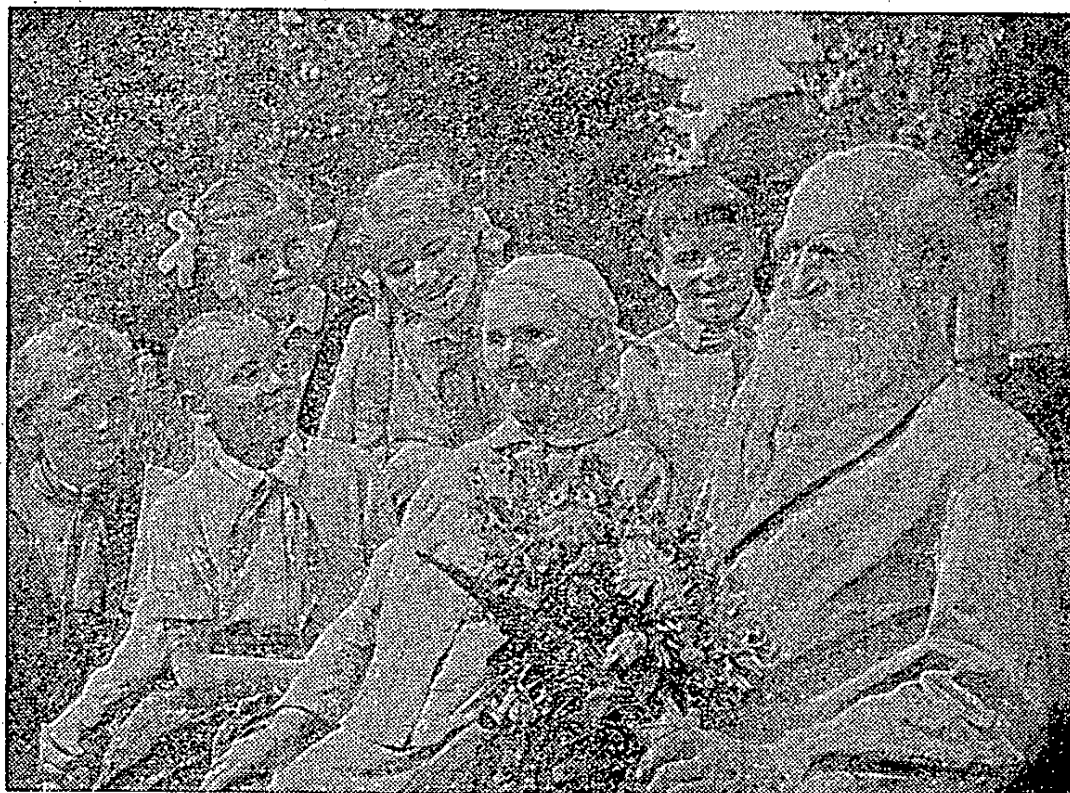
The Soviet citizen has no fear of being left unprovided for in old age, permanent disablement, or loss of breadwinner.

Soviet social insurance provides the workers with pensions in case of permanent disablement, old age, long service, and loss of breadwinner.

Let us examine these pensions in greater detail and see how they are paid out.

All wage and salaried workers without exception are entitled to pensions in case of permanent disablement due to accident at work, occupational disease, or to any ordinary disease.

Wage and salaried workers permanently disabled as a result of accident at work or occupational disease are en-



Pensioner Vasili Tishkin and his wife Pelageya, on a holiday at Trade Union Sanatorium No. 22 in Essentuki, have a chat with school children

titled to pension irrespective of length of employment, and this pension is higher than that paid in case of permanent disablement due to ordinary disease. The amount of the pension depends upon the cause of disablement, degree of disablement (group), branch of the national economy in which the pensioner was employed, and average earnings before disablement.

Cause and group of disablement are determined by a commission consisting of medical experts and representatives of the trade union.

The rules at present in operation divide disabled persons into the following groups:

Group I—those who are completely disabled and need care.

Group II—those unable to follow their former occupation or engage in a different occupation.

Group III—those unable to follow their former occupation regularly, but able to engage in a different occupation.

Those disabled as a result of accident at work or of occupational disease receive pensions at the following rates irrespective of branch of national economy in which they were employed:

Group I—100% of earnings.
Group II— 75% „ „
Group III— 50% „ „

Those disabled as a result of ordinary disease receive pensions at the following rates according to branch of national economy (per cent of earnings):

Group	1st Category	2nd Category	3rd Category
Group I	69	68	67
Group II	49	48	47
Group III	35	34	33

The 1st category includes wage and salaried workers engaged in underground work and in other harmful occupations. The 2nd category includes wage and salaried workers in the metallurgical, machine-building, electrical engineering, coal, ore and oil, chemical and rubber industries, railway and water transport, and industrial enterprises that produce telegraph, telephone and radio apparatus. The 3rd category includes all other wage and salaried workers.

The rate of pensions for permanent disablement due to ordinary disease for wage and salaried workers over twenty years of age is determined by the number of years the pensioner had been at work. The rate for those under twenty is fixed irrespective of the number of years the pensioner had been at work.

All wage and salaried workers are entitled to old-age pensions on reaching a certain age and after having worked a certain number of years, irrespective of their fitness for work or state of health. Men are entitled to old-age pensions on reaching the age of 60 and after having worked twenty-five years. Women are entitled to such pensions on reaching the age of 55 and after having worked twenty years.

Workers, engineers and technicians in the coal, metallurgical and chemical industries, and in a number of other branches of the national economy, are entitled to old-age pension on reaching the age of fifty, and having worked for twenty years.

Wage and salaried workers in the coal, metallurgical and oil industries, the transport and communications services and other major industries are granted old-age pensions at the rate of 50 to 60% of their pay.

Old-age pensioners who continue to work receive their pensions irrespective of their earnings.

When a wage or salaried worker dies, his dependents are entitled to a pension. The amount of the pension is based on the number of members of the family who are



*In a home for aged persons at the Orekhovo Textile Mill.
Here are old textile workers, pensioners, Anna Azhkova (left)
and Anastasiya Rezhchikova*

eligible for such pension, and varies from 50 to 125% of the pension which the breadwinner would have received had he been a Group II invalid.

Continuous employment pensions are paid to persons employed in the educational system, doctors, pharmacists, zootechnicians and veterinary surgeons, and several other categories of persons, upon completion of 25 to 30 years of work in their particular field. For instance, teachers are paid continuous employment pensions amounting to 40% of their salary; zootechnicians and veterinary surgeons receive continuous employment pensions amounting to 50% of their salary. As in the case of old-age pensions, continuous employment pensions are paid out irrespective of the earnings of those who go on working.

When a person belonging to these categories dies, part of the pension is paid to the not able-bodied or aged members of the family. The widow or widower receives one half of the full amount of the pension, while each of the other members of the family receives one quarter of the full amount of the pension.

In addition to paying pensions, the state takes measures to provide pensioners with employment commensurate with their state of health and also with cultural and other services. Pensioners also enjoy other privileges. There are homes, maintained entirely by the state, for disabled and aged persons who have nobody to care for them.

The following, for example, is related by F. Kalugina, an old-age pensioner, 78 years old, formerly employed at the Pyotr Alexeyev Textile Mill in Moscow, and now living in the home of aged working women organized at that enterprise:

"I am an old textile worker. Under the tsar I lived in dire poverty and degradation. Since the millowners and landlords were overthrown my life has been a happy one, and in my old age I am free from care and worry.

"We old folks here are quite a happy family, living in cleanliness and comfort. We cannot be grateful enough to our Soviet Government and to Comrade Stalin for all this

—the good food and clothing, the bright, clean, warm rooms, with comfortable furniture—couches, wardrobes, sideboards, carpets, flowers—everything one could wish for.”

In former Russia things were entirely different.

Anna Maximovna Pavelyeva, a veteran worker at the Krasny Bogatyr Plant, relates the following:

“Happily, our children and grandchildren are not experiencing the burdens and privation that we old workers had to put up with in the old days before the Revolution. If any of us fell sick we dragged ourselves to work just the same. What else could we do? We got no assistance when we were sick, and if we stayed away from work for more than a couple of days we lost our jobs. The old people had a particularly hard time. If a worker became too old to work there was nothing left for him to do but go begging. Nobody helped him, neither the state nor the factory owner for whom he had sacrificed his strength.”

These words, spoken from the heart, vividly reflect the inhuman and unbearable conditions of the working people of tsarist Russia.

This life of torment and suffering was swept away forever in October 1917. The Great October Socialist Revolution, which established the Soviet regime in Russia, gave the working people not only freedom, but also material benefits, the possibility of leading a prosperous and cultured life.

HOW THE WORKERS REST

The Constitution of the U.S.S.R. guarantees the working people not only the right to work, but also the right to rest and leisure.

The right to rest and leisure is ensured by the establishment of an eight-hour working day, and for certain occupations a seven-, six- and four-hour day, by annual vacations with full pay for factory and office workers, and by the provision for the working people of a wide network of sanatoriums, rest homes, palaces of culture, recreation clubs and parks, stadiums, etc.

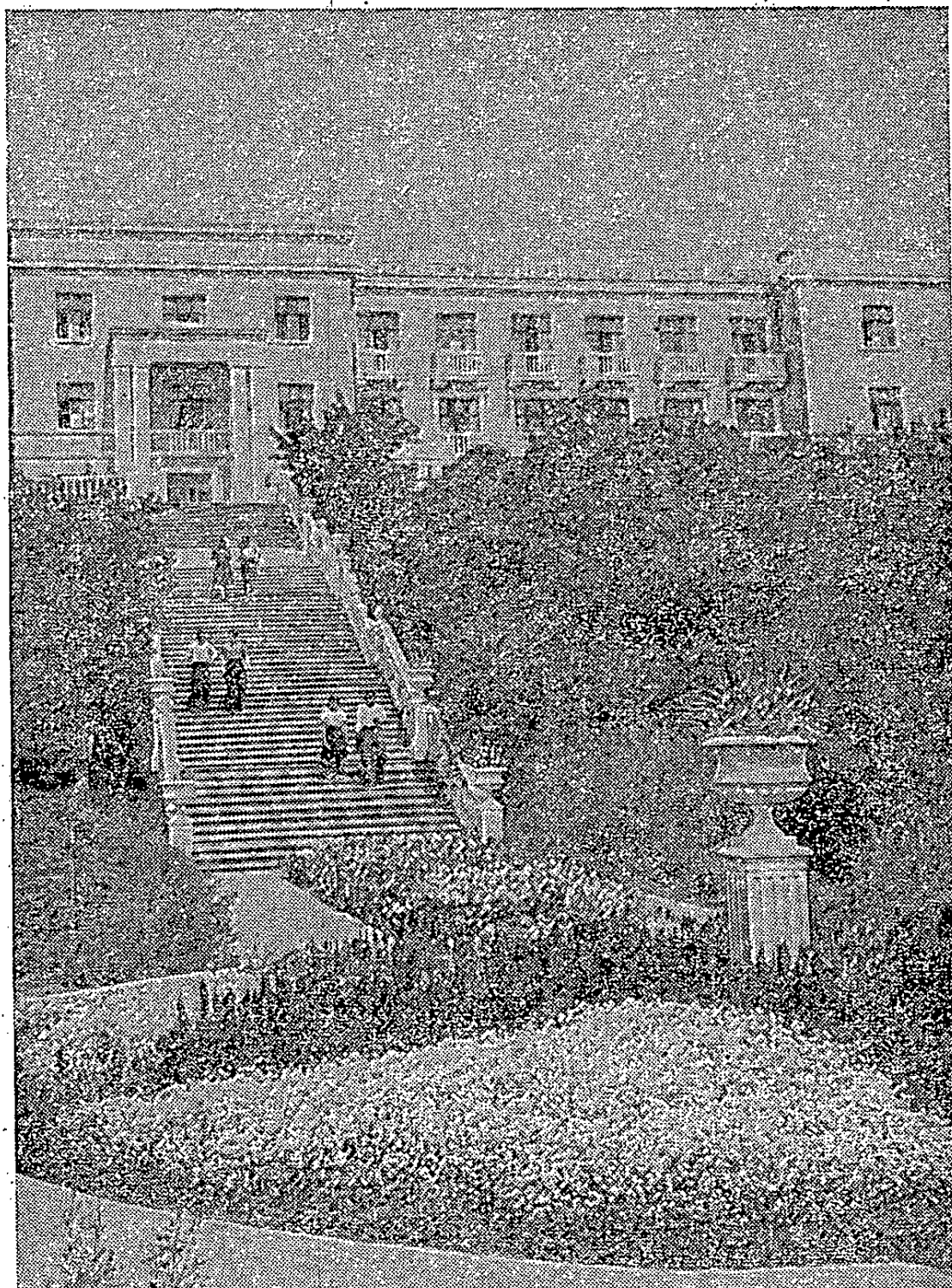
Annual vacations last from 12 to 48 working days, according to nature of occupation.

Certain categories of workers engaged in underground jobs in the mining industry, as well as persons employed in the iron and steel and nonferrous metals industries, the transport services, and the oil, chemical, printing and certain other industries, are granted vacations lasting from 18 to 48 working days.

Scientific workers at research institutes receive an annual vacation of 24, 36 or 48 working days.

Members of the teaching staff at elementary, secondary and higher schools receive an annual vacation of 48 working days.

All workers directly engaged in production in the basic industries (metallurgical, coal and ore mining, oil, textile, the transport services, large construction jobs, etc.) are



A holiday home for iron and steel workers in the city of Zhdanov

entitled to an additional three days' annual vacation after two years of work at one enterprise.

Persons in need of sanatorium treatment receive an additional vacation for the period necessary for their stay at the sanatorium and the trip there and back. This vacation is paid out of the social insurance fund.

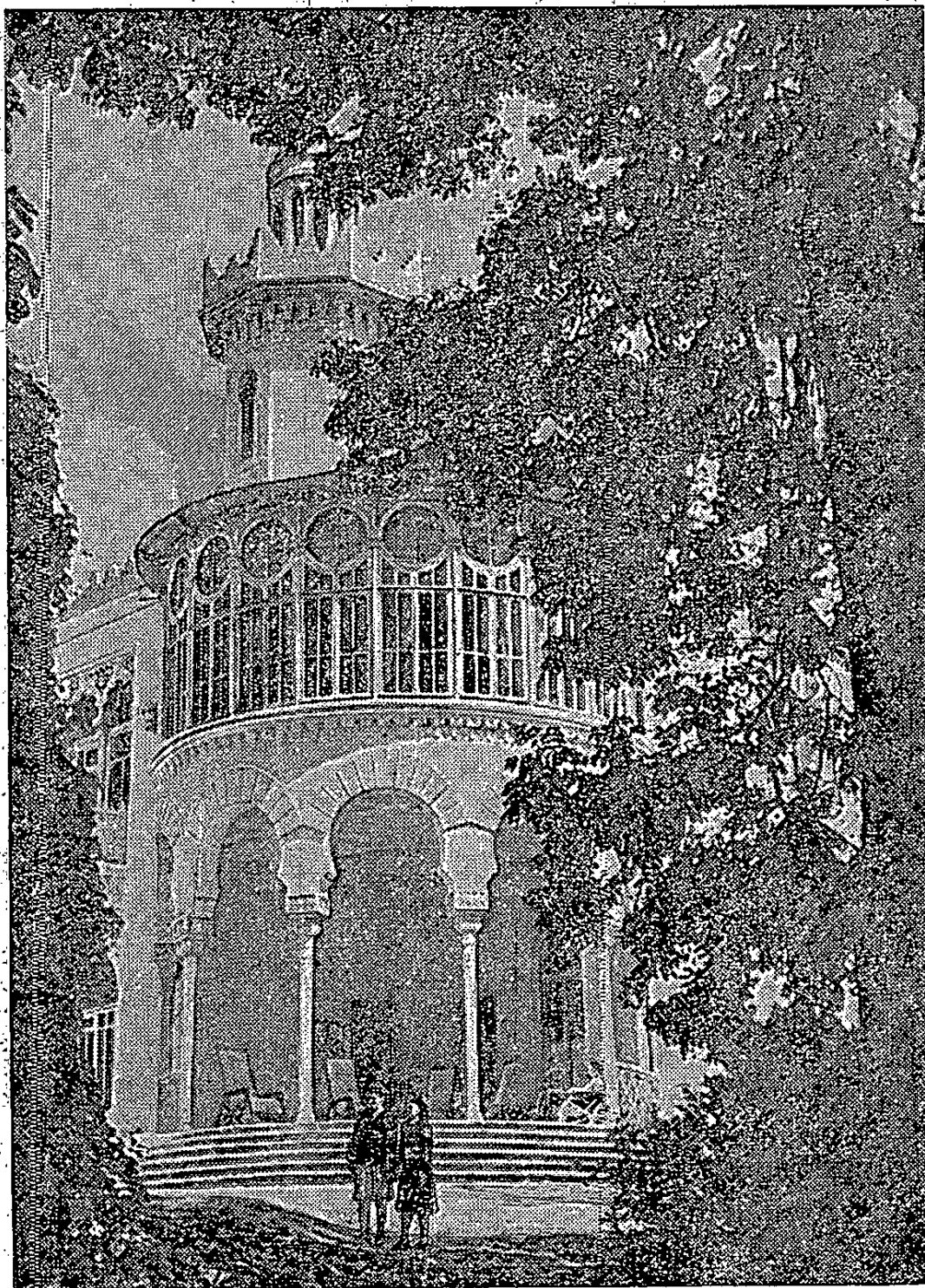
Out of the social insurance fund the Soviet trade unions provide working people with places at sanatoriums or rest homes either free of charge or at a reduced fee not exceeding 30% of the normal price of places at such resorts. For example, if a fortnight's stay at a rest home costs 240 rubles, the workers and office employees pay only 72 rubles; the rest is paid by the trade union committee at the given enterprise or office.

In the Soviet Union sanatoriums and rest homes are within the reach of every wage or salaried worker. A visit to a health resort is a common event in the life of every Soviet family. Four-fifths of all sanatorium accommodation which are acquired by the trade unions with money from the social insurance fund are provided to wage and salaried workers at 30% of the cost, and one-fifth is provided free of charge. Of the places at rest homes, 90% are provided at 30% of cost and 10% free of charge.

Every year, millions of Soviet people rest and recuperate at numerous sanatoriums and rest homes and return to their creative, constructive work with fresh vigour.

The Soviet Union is exceptionally rich in natural facilities for the creation of mountain, seaside and other health and holiday resorts. Numerous sanatoriums and rest homes are situated in the most picturesque parts of the country—on the Black Sea and Baltic coasts, on the plains of the Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, in the Caucasian mineral water region, in the Urals, and on the banks and shores of rivers and lakes in the Moscow Region.

A big health resort centre is *Sochi*, with its sanatoriums and rest homes stretching along the Black Sea coast for a distance of more than 25 kilometres. Annually they



Trade Union Sanatorium No. 41 in Zheleznovodsk

accommodate some 100,000 working people. Hydrogen sulphide springs and a number of balneological establishments are situated in the valley of the Matsesta River, eleven kilometres from the town of Sochi. These springs are effective in the treatment of chronic ailments of the locomotive organs, cardiovascular diseases, diseases of the peripheral nervous system, gynecological, skin and metabolism ailments, and other diseases. The mild sea climate, heliotherapy, sea-water baths and sea bathing are also valuable curative agents at this resort.

Kislovodsk is one of the major watering places in the Caucasian spa group. Its chief curative agent is the Narzan carbon-dioxide waters, which are employed both for balneotherapeutics and for drinking cures. Cardiovascular and nervous ailments are effectively treated at this resort.

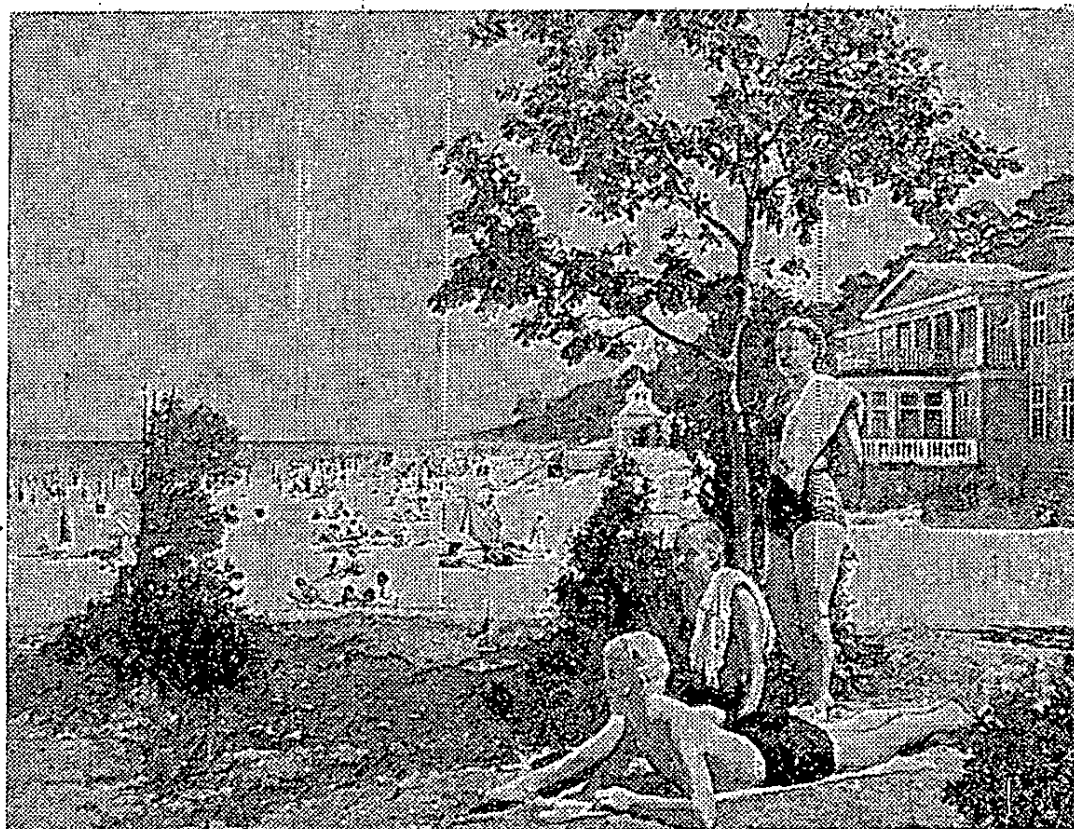
Another Caucasian resort is *Zheleznovodsk*, with 20 mineral springs effective in the treatment of diseases of the digestive organs. Medicinal muds are also employed for treatment here.

In addition to the numerous health resorts of national importance in the Caucasus and on the Black Sea and Baltic coasts, there is in the Soviet Union a wide network of local health and holiday resorts, and their number is steadily growing.

For example, there is *Tskhaltubo*, the Georgian resort famous for its radioactive springs which are employed in the treatment of ailments of the locomotive organs, the peripheral nervous system, cardiovascular diseases, and gynecological and skin diseases. New sanatoriums were built here in 1951—for the miners, railwaymen and oil men.

Darasun, away in the east, is rich in carbon-dioxide springs, and is a second *Kislovodsk*. In the Kazakh S.S.R., 26 kilometres from Alma Ata, the capital of the republic, there is a mountain health resort, Alma Arosan, where there are numerous hot springs.

The health resort *Ust-Kachka*, near the city of Molotov in the Urals, is justly called the "Urals Matsesta." The



At a seaside rest home near Riga

Siberian and Far-Eastern health resorts have also become famous.

There are health resorts run by the trade unions around Moscow and in a number of central districts. Besides those belonging to the trade unions there is a wide network of sanatoriums and holiday homes run by the Union and republican health protection ministries of the U.S.S.R. Other ministries and institutions have their own health resorts. Many sanatoriums and holiday homes belong to the larger enterprises.

Last year new health resorts were opened in the Kazakh, Uzbek and Latvian Soviet Socialist Republics, and in the Krasnoyarsk Territory. The beautiful Bilgva Rest Home has been erected on the shore of the Caspian Sea.

The trade unions are making considerable extensions to

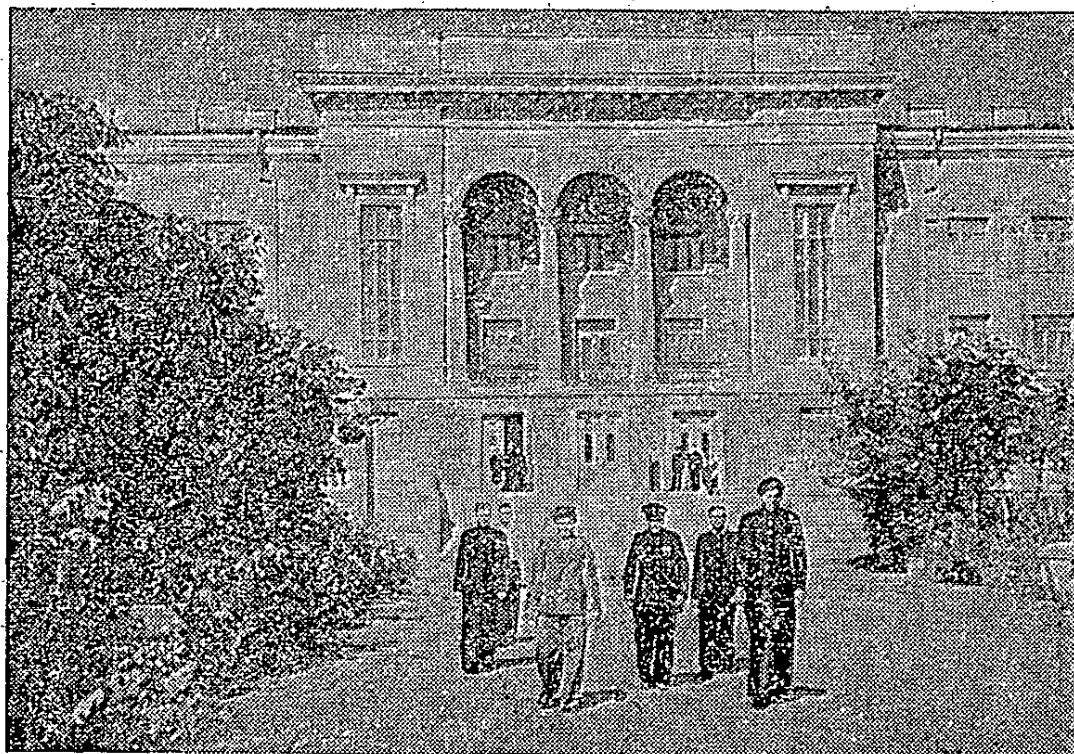
their existing network of health and holiday resorts for the working people.

A striking example of health resort development is provided by the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Georgia has long been famous for her health resorts, but planned health resort development was started only after the Soviet regime was established. In 1913 there were only 5 sanatoriums in Georgia; in 1952 there were 102.

In Tbilisi, the capital of the republic, a public-bath has been built in the sulphur hot springs district. Extensive work has been carried out to develop the rich hydroresources of the health resorts at Ukhneti, Kojori, Manglisi, Kiketi, Borzhomi, Abastumani, Gagra and Kobuleti.

The Soviet sanatoriums are equipped with the latest medical apparatus, X-ray, physiotherapeutic and medical physical culture departments and diagnosis laboratories.



*Coal miners' House of Culture in Krasny Luch
(Voroshilovgrad-Region)*



In the night sanatorium of the Calibre Works, Moscow

Diverse bath and mud treatments, medicinal dieting and vitamin therapeutics are extensively employed.

As part of its constant concern for the people's health and rest, the Soviet Government devotes much attention to building specialized sanatoriums not only in the Caucasus and the Crimea, but also in many industrial sections of the country. These sanatoriums are built to provide the workers and other employees with various treatment facilities. For example, it has established the Barnaul general therapy sanatorium, which conducts mud treatment; a sanatorium in Voronezh Region for patients suffering from digestive ailments; in Gorky Region, a sanatorium providing bath and mud cures for diseases of the peripheral and central nervous systems; a general therapy sanatorium in Ivanovo Region, and so on and so forth. The curative methods and equipment of these specialized sanatoriums, which are to

be found in almost every region are on a par with those at the Caucasian resorts.

Take, for example, the sanatorium at Monino, near Moscow, one of the numerous sanatoriums situated in the central region of our country. This sanatorium provides treatment for heart and nerve complaints.

It is equipped with all the necessary apparatus for making quick and exact diagnosis. It has a staff of physicians and visiting consultants who have at their disposal an excellently equipped clinical and biochemical laboratory, an X-ray department with the most up-to-date apparatus, and a functional diagnostics department. Improved methods of X-ray examination—kymography and orthodiography—are employed, making possible a more exact diagnosis of heart complaints, so that a thorough examination of the patient can be completed within two days after his arrival. If the doctor prescribes it, the patient can take a course of radioactive, hydrosulphide or carbon-dioxide baths, or of medical shower baths. Peat, paraffin and ozocerite treatment is widely used. There is a special veranda for aërotherapy. The medical staff conducts extensive research work.

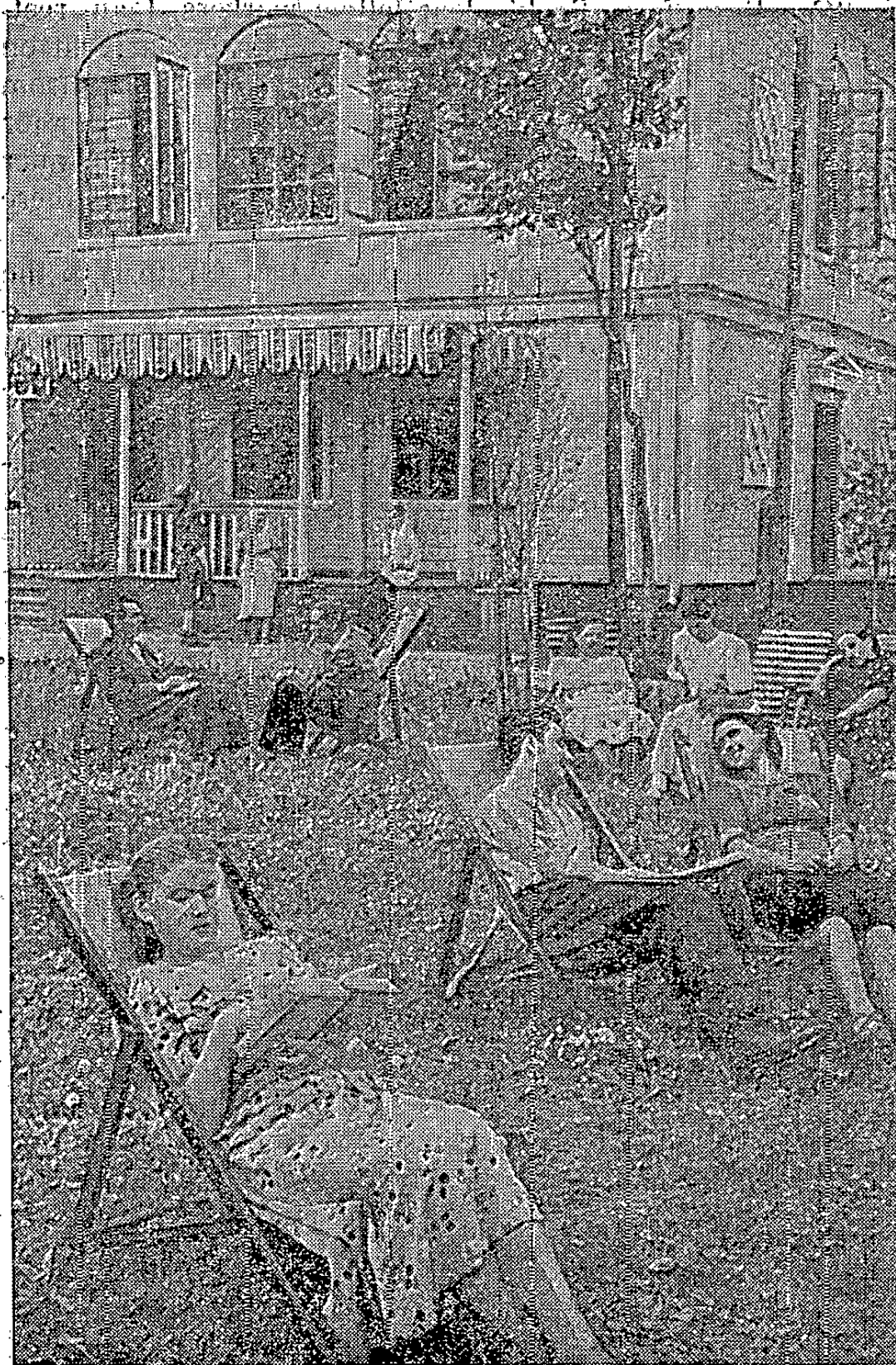
Every year 2,775 patients visit the Monino sanatorium.

We shall mention another of the numerous trade union sanatoriums, the Zeleny Mys (Green Cape), situated on the Caucasian coast of the Black sea, near Batumi.

This sanatorium, which is open all the year round, is a regular "health factory," equipped with all the resources of modern medical science. The dormitories are roomy and comfortable, sunny and abound with fresh sea air.

The working people who visit these rest homes and sanatoriums are loud in their appreciation of the benefit and pleasure they derive from them.

For example, in the summer of 1951, Maria Zhuravlyova, a weaver at the Tryokhgornaya Textile Mill, stayed at a sanatorium in Sochi. In a letter from there to her friends she wrote:



On the grounds of a Moscow one-day rest home

“Greetings from Sochi, dear fellow workers. I am resting at a sanatorium in Sochi. The sanatorium is right on the seashore. All of us here receive the best of care from the medical staff. The food is excellent and all the better for its variety. The place is surrounded with palm, oleander and cypress trees, there are flowers everywhere. And there is the wonderful blue sea!

“I have put on plenty of weight. When I return to the factory, I’m sure you won’t recognize me.”

Thousands of other letters of a similar kind are received from workers and office employees who have stayed at sanatoriums and rest homes.

No less appreciative are the opinions about Sochi expressed by foreign delegations that have visited the Soviet Union.

For example, the Marseilles docker Andreani, a member of the delegation of the French General Confederation of Labour, said over the radio in November 1951:

“We visited the Sochi health resort in the Caucasus. If only you could see this place with your own eyes, comrades! There are magnificent palaces, in which Soviet working people rest. We visited the sanatorium for our Soviet friends, the miners. They have everything that is needed for rest and recreation—sports grounds, a library, a cinema, and so forth.”

A British delegation that visited the Soviet Union in May 1951 said in a statement issued for the press:

“Whilst in Sochi, we stayed at the Red Moscow Sanatorium which belongs to the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions who were our hosts in the Soviet Union. We inspected the sanatorium for textile workers as well as the mine workers’ sanatorium and we were very impressed with all three. The food was superb and the people looked happy, well-fed and rested. Sochi is a workers’ paradise.”

Four hundred of the largest mills and factories in the country have what we call night sanatoriums. These are provided for workers, men and women, who show symp-

toms of incipient disease which can be prevented by timely treatment, or who suffer from a chronic ailment. Patients stay at these sanatoriums for a month, after working hours. Here they receive all the medical treatment they need, as well as excellent meals. Board, lodging and medical treatment are provided either free of charge or for a nominal sum.

In all the Union Republics, regions and territories, there is, in addition to sanatoriums, a wide network of rest homes run by the trade unions.

Rest homes are provided for healthy people who are not in need of the special treatments given at health resorts and sanatoriums. The purpose of these homes is implied in their name—they are holiday resorts, which provide workers in factory or office with healthy and cultured rest and recreation.

The rest homes are furnished with recreation rooms, libraries, boating stations, sports grounds, grounds for mass games and dancing and cinemas. Excursions and lectures are arranged, and concerts in which the visitors themselves also take part.

A typical rest home is the one near the ancient city of Kashira, in the Moscow Region. It is a beautiful two-story house situated on the picturesque bank of the Oka. The rest home has been functioning for thirty years, and during this period over 115,000 working people from Moscow have spent their vacations here.

An excellent means of spending a vacation is provided by the "floating" sanatoriums and rest homes arranged on riverboats that run on the Volga, Oka, and other rivers.

There is, for example, the *Gorkovskaya Kommuna*, a boat that runs from Moscow to Astrakhan, on the Volga. The journey there and back takes twenty-four days. The boat is furnished with apparatus for physiotherapeutic and hydro-treatments, a library, recreation rooms, cinema and so forth. The boat stops at Gorky, Ulyanovsk, Saratov,

Kuibyshev and Stalingrad, where the passengers can get off and see the sights of these cities.

In the suburbs of many of the big industrial centres there are week-end rest homes, where workers can stay from Saturday afternoon until Monday morning.

In addition to the ordinary rest homes, there are in the Soviet Union special rest homes for expectant and nursing mothers. There are also family rest homes, where a worker can spend his vacation together with his wife and children.

The extent to which working people avail themselves of the facilities provided by the trade union sanatoriums and rest homes may be seen from the following figures.

In 1946, the number of people visiting sanatoriums and rest homes at the expense of the social insurance fund was 1,360,000.

In 1950, the number was 2,500,000.

In 1951, the number was 2,700,000.

Hundreds of thousands of workers and students spend their annual vacations in hiking tours through various parts of the country. Many thousands of them go mountain climbing. In districts like the Crimea, the Caucasus, the Black Sea coast and the Volga, the trade unions organize hiking and mountaineering camps for the service of those who spend their vacations in this way. These camps are also maintained out of the social insurance fund.

The working people of the Soviet Union are justly proud of their sanatoriums and rest homes, which are available for the broad masses.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE SOVIET UNION

Illustrative of the Soviet Government's constant concern for the health of the population is the broad and steadily increasing network of medical establishments—hospitals, clinics, polyclinics and first-aid stations—as well as medical research institutes, laboratories, and medical colleges.

In 1951 the U.S.S.R. had more than twice as many doctors as before the war.

The entire population of the Soviet Union enjoys free medical aid. Various medical aid at the patient's home and at clinics and polyclinics, hospital treatment, medical aid during childbirth, all types of examinations and tests, as well as every other form of medical assistance, are accorded all citizens free of charge, at state expense.

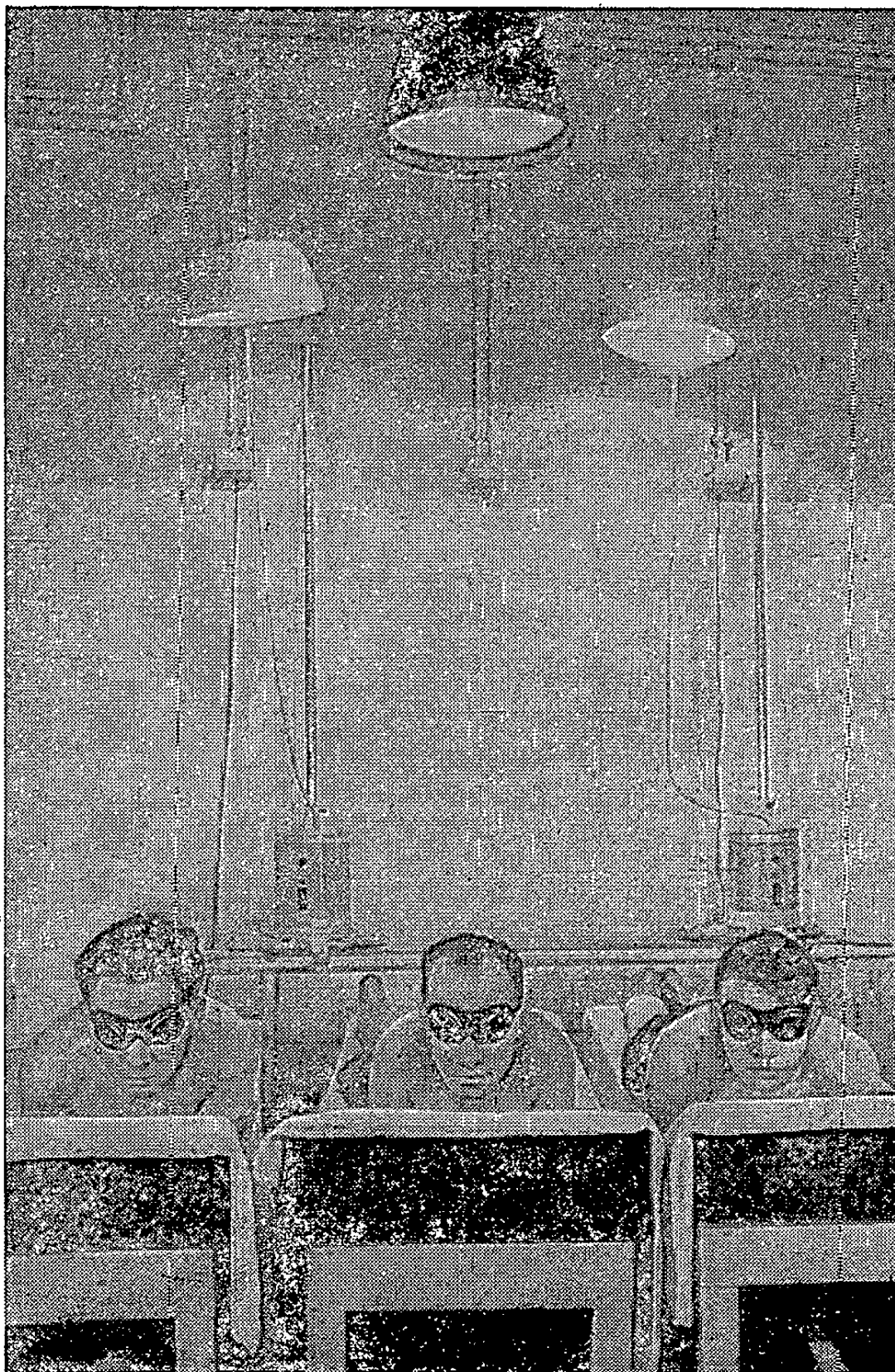
Take the case of N. A. Tyaplina, a woman worker at the Moscow Tool Plant. Feeling unwell, she telephoned the district polyclinic. Shortly afterwards a car drove up to the house where Tyaplina lives bringing the ward doctor. The doctor examined the patient, prescribed treatment and medicine and made out a "certificate of temporary disablement," or "bulletin" as it is called. The bulletin entitles the patient to be released from work until the doctor certifies that she is fit for work again. It also entitles her to sick benefit from the social insurance fund during the period of her illness.



At the first-aid station of the Ilyich Colliery in the Donbas

The ward doctor can be called home for any member of the worker's family. The doctor's visits are free of charge. Each doctor is attached to a particular ward in the district so that he becomes familiar with its inhabitants, can watch their health, and often give timely advice which helps to avert or check incipient ailments.

In addition to the district polyclinics, the health of the workers is cared for by the medical staffs that are



Quartz-lamp treatment at the Orekhovo Textile Mill

employed in all large Soviet enterprises. These doctors study the conditions of life and work of the workers and also the technological processes of the work carried on at the given plant; they also see to it that the sanitary and hygienic conditions in the shops are kept up to the proper standard.

In large plants there are medical-sanitary departments which coordinate the activities of the factory hospital, the factory polyclinic, the shop medical centres, the night sanatorium and the special diet dining room.

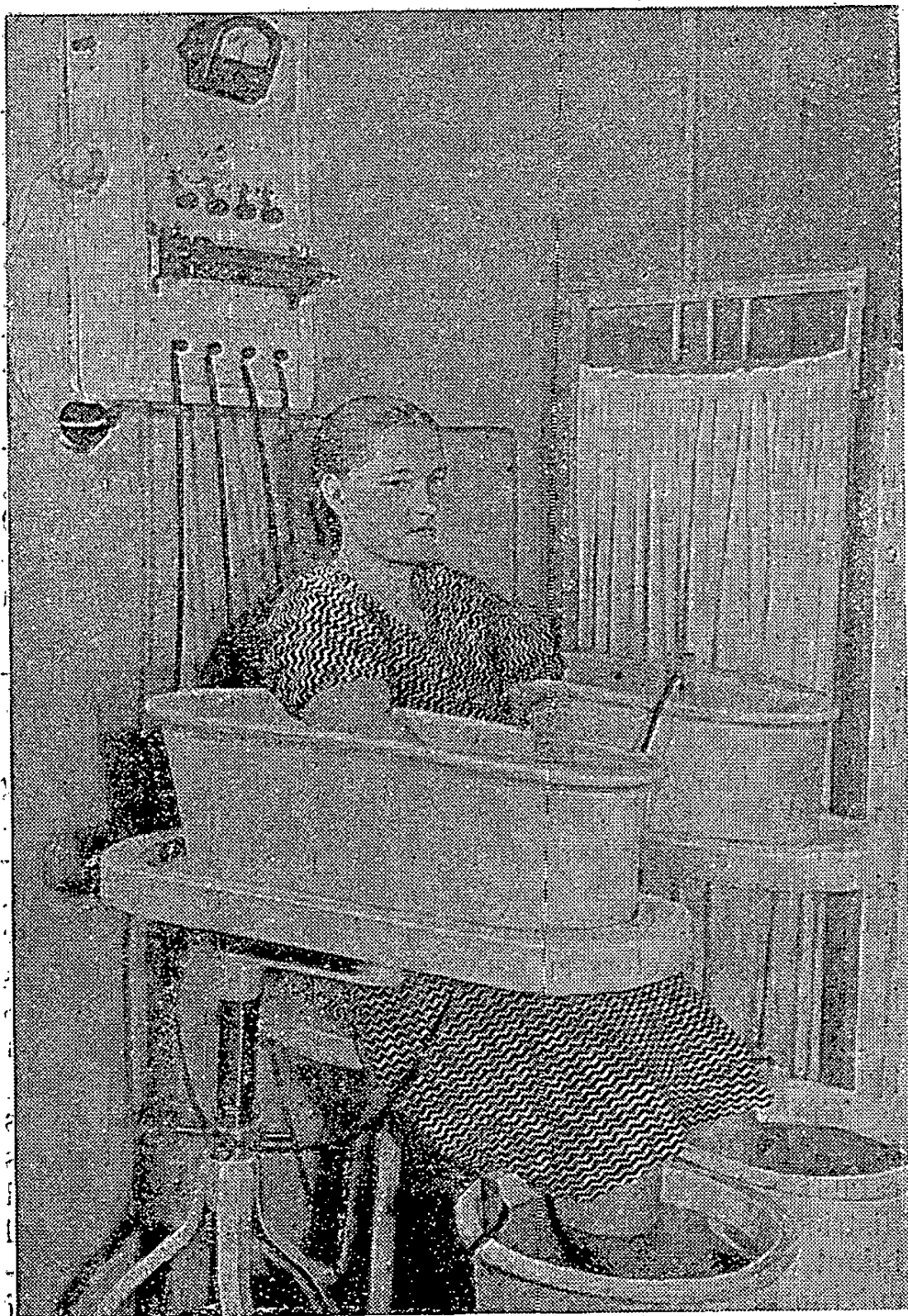
As a rule, the factory polyclinics are divided into a therapeutical and surgical department and provide medical advice and treatment for all complaints; they are furnished with X-ray apparatus, clinical-diagnostical laboratories, physio-therapeutic apparatus and a dental department. The medical staffs of these polyclinics also serve the inhabitants of the adjacent workers' settlements.

The staff of the shop medical centre serves the workers in the given shop. All workers in harmful occupations, young persons, men who were wounded in the war, expectant mothers, and certain other categories of workers undergo compulsory periodical medical examination.

The aim of the public health service in the Soviet Union is not only to heal sickness, but also to prevent it, to create conditions that will preclude the possibility of sickness. As a result of the improvement in the standard of living of the people and of the exemplary organization of the public health service there is a steady decline of sickness in the U.S.S.R.

State assignments for the protection of public health increase year after year. In 1946, the sum of 14,800,000,000 rubles was assigned in the State Budget for this purpose; the sum assigned in 1952 for health protection and physical culture is 22,800,000,000 rubles.

The Great October Socialist Revolution brought about a radical improvement of the health services in all the non-Russian republics of the U.S.S.R.



Elena Dronova, crane operator at the Kharkov Tractor Plant, is taking a course of treatment in the water and mud bath clinic built recently at the plant

In the region that is now the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic, for example, there was no skilled medical service at all in the rural districts before 1917. At the present time there are over 6,000 village doctors and numerous country hospitals.

In 1917, in Turkmenistan there was hospital accommodation for only 66 persons, 7 dispensaries and 16 doctors to serve a population of 415,000. In the capital, Ashkhabad, at that time, there was hospital accommodation for 26 persons and only one bed was set aside for inhabitants of the Ashkhabad rural district.

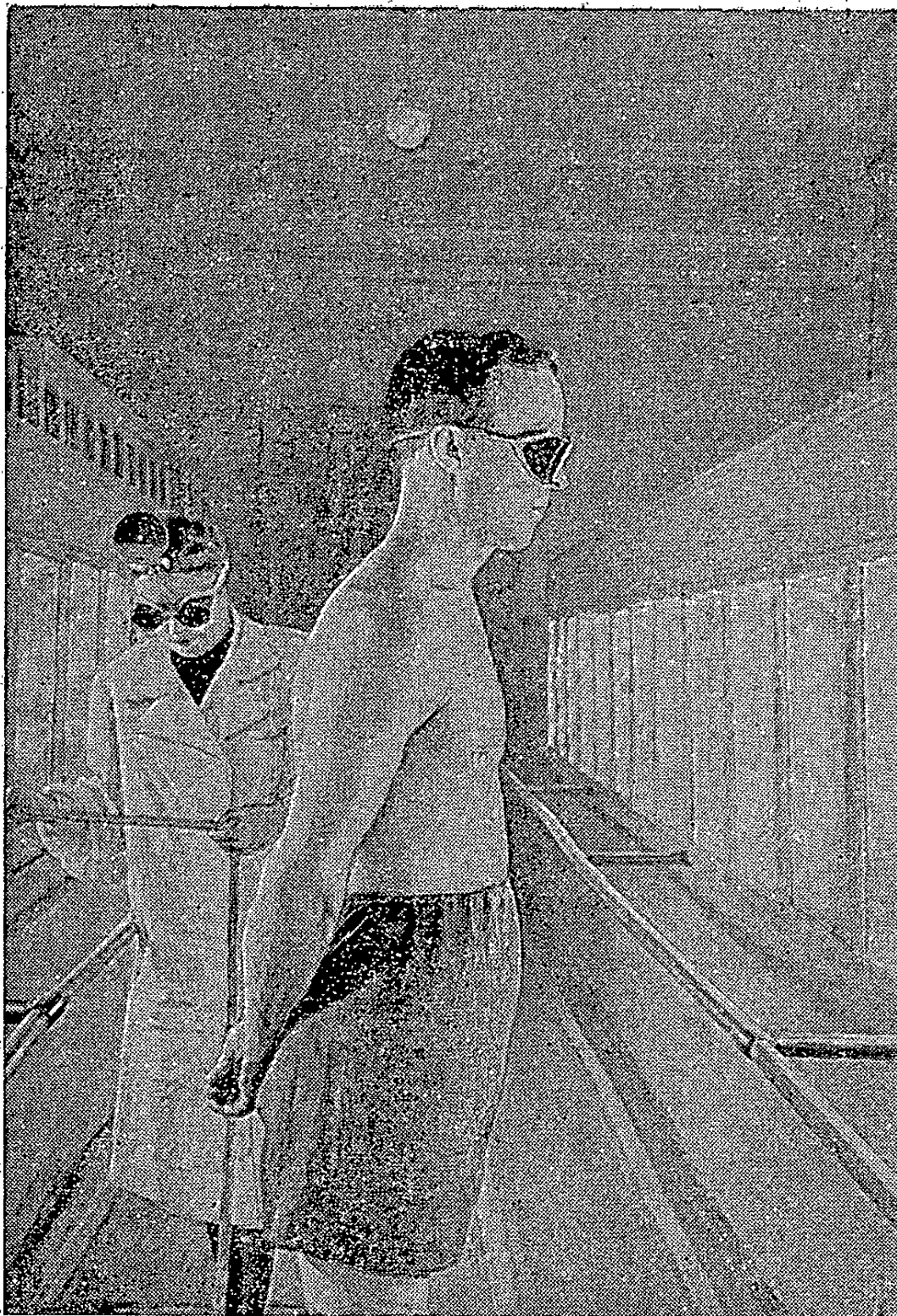
Since the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic was established a large number of medical centres have been set up, both urban and rural. At the present time there are 1,500 certified doctors in the republic, over 6,000 doctors' assistants and nurses, 95 professors and 100 medical research workers.

Medical aid of every kind, including the most highly specialized, is provided. Since 1940, hospital accommodation has increased nearly 50%.

There is a Medical Institute in the republic for training medical personnel, chiefly from among the Turkmen people.

In the vast territory that is now the Kirghiz Soviet Socialist Republic there was, before the October Revolution, hospital accommodation for only 100 persons, and there were only 16 doctors and several assistants. The sum spent by the tsarist government on the medical service in this region amounted to 30 kopeks per head of the population per annum.

The work of organizing a real public health service was started in the very first days after the Soviet regime was established in Kirghizia. Hospitals were built in the rural districts as well as in the towns, and the first mother and infant welfare centres were set up in the towns. At the present time there are hundreds of hospitals and thousands of doctors and trained nurses in the republic. The Medical Institute founded in the city of Frunze not so long ago already



*The polyclinic at the Hammer and Sickle Mill in Kharkov has
outfitted a sun-lamp department*

has 1,700 graduates. In every region there are now skilled specialists in the various branches of medicine.

The inhabitant of any remote mountain district of the republic, wherever he may be, in his village or in the pastures, can receive skilled medical assistance whenever he requires it. Doctors as well as medical consultants, professors and docents, from the capital often make flights to remote districts in planes of the aviation medical service.

Of immense assistance in the solution of the problems that face the Soviet public health authorities are the scientific research institutes that have been set up everywhere. In the Georgian S.S.R., for example, there are fourteen institutes of this kind, in which members and corresponding members of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the U.S.S.R., 83 professors and over 600 docents, assistants and Candidates of Medical Science are engaged.

An active part in the development of the Soviet public health service is played by the trade unions. They promote the extension of factory polyclinics, dispensaries, hospitals and medical centres and systematically supervise the work of these institutions in order to keep the medical service for the workers at a constantly high level. This supervision is exercised through active members of the trade unions, social insurance councils, and insurance delegates.

We quote below the opinion about the medical service provided for Soviet workers expressed by a Canadian trade union delegation that visited the Soviet Union in September-October 1951. In the report on its visit to the Soviet Union the delegation stated:

"The most striking thing in the factories, however, is the degree of service and attention given workers, and their families in the way of medical attention. This attention covers all industrial accidents and sickness. It is entirely free for every worker. Every factory, mine, or mill has a clinic that is equipped for any emergency. These clinics are staffed with doctors, nurses and all the equipment that

you would find in a fair-sized hospital in Canada. Not only has the worker free access to this, but also anyone of his family. Of course, the members of the worker's family can receive free medical service at their district polyclinic and hospital.... If a Soviet worker is run down and needs a rest, he can receive a place at a sanatorium or rest home. These sanatoriums are in no way inferior, and most of them, as regards equipment and in other respects, are superior to the majority of our health resorts. This great attention to the health of the worker is not confined to a few plants. You even find such facilities in the outlying lumber camps and on the collective farms."

MOTHER AND CHILD CARE

In the Soviet Union, women, for the first time in the history of human society, enjoy equal rights with men.

The Constitution of the U.S.S.R. not only accords women equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, government, cultural and political life, but ensures them real possibilities of exercising these rights.

The Soviet Constitution says:

"Women in the U.S.S.R. are accorded equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, government, cultural, political and other public activity.

"The possibility of exercising these rights is ensured by women being accorded an equal right with men to work, payment for work, rest and leisure, social insurance and education, and by state protection of the interests of mother and child, state aid to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers, maternity leave with full pay, and the provision of a wide network of maternity homes, nurseries and kindergartens."

Women in the U.S.S.R. play an extremely important role in the national economy. Millions of women are working devotedly in field, factory and office, improving their skill in handling up-to-date machines and appliances and mastering advanced methods of production. Soviet women have every opportunity to learn any trade or profession they please. Over a million women are studying in higher educational establishments and technical schools.



*Elena Batayeva, head physician of Maternity Hospital, No. 7,
Moscow, at the bedside of a young mother*

Women in the U.S.S.R. take an active part in promoting the development of Soviet science and culture; over two and a half million women are working in the various scientific, educational, and cultural institutions in the Soviet Union. Tens of thousands are working in universities, and scientific research institutes, enriching Soviet science with new researches and discoveries.

There are over a million women schoolteachers in the Soviet Union, and an equal number of women are engaged in the public health service. Since 1940, the number of women doctors more than doubled.

Soviet women are able to take such an active part in the national economy and in promoting the development of science and culture because conditions have been created in the Soviet Union which ease women's task in caring for their families and in bringing up their children.

Working and professional women are able to put their children in day nurseries or kindergartens which, as a rule, are situated near their place of work. They have to pay only a small part of the cost of the maintenance of their children at these institutions, the bulk of the cost being borne by the state. In the nurseries and kindergartens the children are well looked after and receive nourishing food and medical attention.

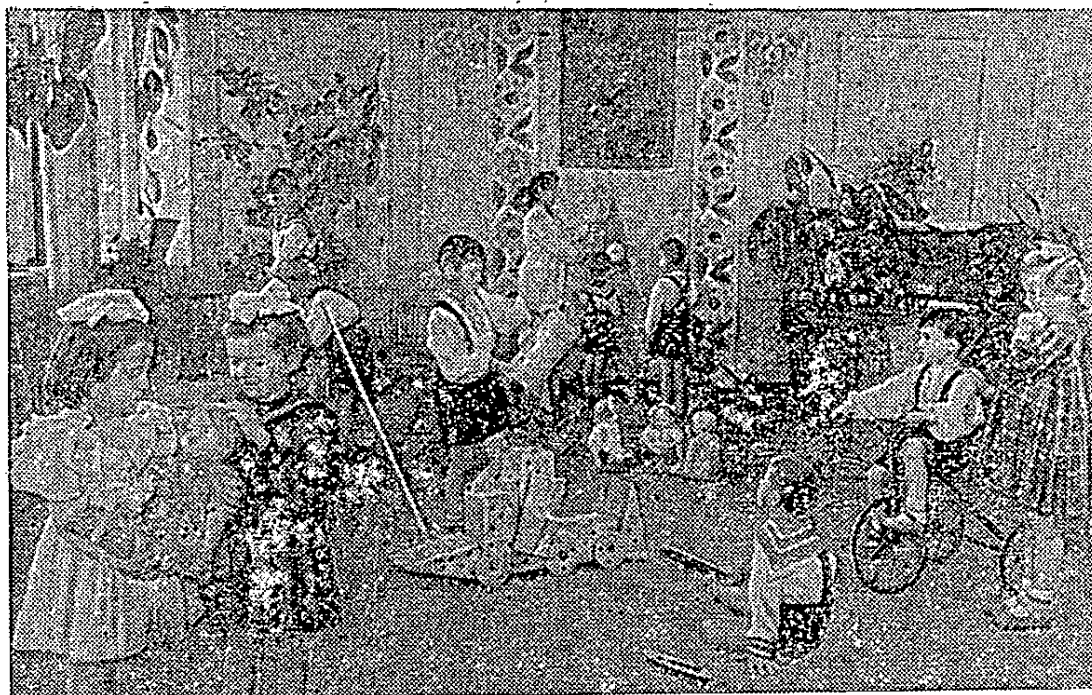
The network of children's institutions, such as nurseries, kindergartens and pioneer camps in the Soviet Union is expanding year after year. The nurseries, kindergartens and children's homes wholly maintained by the state cater for about two million children. The law lays it down that factory managements must provide day nurseries with accommodation for twelve infants and kindergartens with accommodation for fifteen children for every hundred women employed in the given factory. When dwelling houses are erected, no less than 5% of the total floor space is set aside for day nurseries and kindergartens.

In the summer children's homes, kindergartens and nurseries move out into the country, and children's sanatoriums, pioneer camps and tourist camps are organized for school children during the summer vacation. In 1951, over 5,000,000 children spent the summer in the country.

Expectant mothers receive special service during pregnancy and childbirth in addition to all other forms of medical service. In the U.S.S.R. there is a wide network of maternity homes and medical consulting rooms for mothers and children.

The Soviet state glorifies motherhood and bestows on mothers public honour.

Three and a half million women have been awarded the Motherhood Glory Order and the Motherhood Medal. Over 35,000 women proudly wear the Gold Star of the Mother Heroine that is awarded to mothers who have reared ten and more children.



*In the kindergarten at the Kochegarka Colliery in Gorlovka,
Stalino Region*

The care the Soviet state devotes to mothers and children is also demonstrated by the special grants and allowances that are paid to mothers of large families and to unmarried mothers.

The payment of grants to mothers of large families was first introduced in the U.S.S.R. in 1936. On July 8, 1944, the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. passed an act providing for "an increase in state assistance to expectant mothers, mothers of large families and unmarried mothers, for increasing mother and child care services, for the institution of the honourable title of Mother Heroine, and for awarding the Motherhood Glory Order and the Motherhood Medal." The grants and allowances paid to mothers of large families and to unmarried mothers run into large sums every year. Since the time the above-mentioned act was passed the total sum paid for this purpose has amounted

to over 20,000,000,000 rubles; in 1951 alone it amounted to 6,000,000,000 rubles.

Until 1944, mothers of large families received grants, which were paid only on the birth of the seventh, eighth, ninth, etc., child. Now the grants are paid on the birth of the third and every additional child, which, of course, greatly increases the number of mothers entitled to these grants. Besides, by its Act of July 8, 1944, the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. provided for the payment of monthly allowances to mothers of large families in addition to the maternity grant which had been paid hitherto.

These monthly allowances are paid until the child reaches the age of five. On the birth of the next child the mother receives a grant and a monthly allowance for it, while continuing to receive the monthly allowance for the previous child until it reaches the age of five.

Take Mother Heroine Ludmila Timonkina of Moscow: in the course of five years she received a total sum of 63,000 rubles. Mother Heroine Anna Krupnik, a worker at a machine-building plant in Moscow, received over 42,000 rubles. Elizaveta Ivanovskaya, a schoolteacher in Zamostoch, Minsk Region, has eleven children; since 1945 she has received a total of 40,000 rubles from the state and continues to receive an allowance of 400 rubles per month. Matrena Loshchinova, of the city of Frunze, a mother of ten children, has during the past three years received a total of 40,000 rubles. Mother Heroine Maria Mikhailikova, a worker at the Charvodar State Farm in the Tajik S.S.R., who has reared twelve children, has received grants and allowances amounting to 80,000 rubles.

If the mother of a large family who gives birth to another child is a factory or office worker, or the wife of a factory or office worker, she receives in addition to the state maternity grant, an extra grant from the social insurance fund of 120 rubles for purchasing the nursery requirements for her newborn child and also a nursing grant of 180 rubles.



*A nursery for children of employees of the Moscow
underground railway*

The Soviet laws ensure the protection of female labour, of the rights of the working mother, and of motherhood and infancy.

The law makes it obligatory for factory or office managements to put women employees expecting to become mothers on lighter and more convenient work if necessary, and their pay must remain the same as they received before.

In general, the Soviet labour laws prohibit the employment of women on heavy work or work dangerous to health. There is a special list of occupations in which the employment of female labour is prohibited, and the weights women are allowed to lift and carry in the course of their work are strictly limited.

In the gravest period in the history of the Soviet Union the Soviet Government found it possible to improve the conditions of working mothers. The above-mentioned act passed on July 8, 1944, in the most intense period of the war, provided for an increase in the maternity leave for factory and office women workers from 63 to 77 calendar days, namely, 35 days before and 42 days after childbirth, with full pay for the whole period to be paid out of the social insurance fund. In cases of abnormal childbirth, or of the birth of twins, postnatal leave is extended to 56 calendar days.

Where a nursing mother, on returning to work after her maternity leave is unable to perform her former duties in factory or office, she must be put on other work in the same factory or office, and irrespective of the grade of the new work she is put on, she receives her former pay during the whole period she nurses her child (approximately for one year).

HAPPY CHILDHOOD

Children in the Soviet Union are the objects of universal care and affection. The road of life, the road to a bright and joyous future lies open before them. Before them lies the prospect of free creative labour for the benefit of their country and of the whole of mankind.

The Soviet state stints no resources for the upbringing of the younger generation. In 1951 alone, the state spent 59,000,000,000 rubles on education.

Universal seven-year education is now the rule all over the country. During the first postwar five-year plan period a large number of new elementary, seven-year, and middle schools as well as technical schools of all kinds have been built. The number of children attending school increased by 8,000,000 during this period, and in 1950 reached 37,000,000. The fifth five-year plan for the development of the U.S.S.R. in 1951-55 provides for an increase in the building of schools of 70 per cent over the preceding five years. By the end of the period covered by the plan universal seven-year education will be supplanted by universal secondary (ten-year) education in the large cities and the conditions will be prepared for its country-wide implementation in the following five-year plan period. Besides, in order further to enhance the socialist educational merits of the general school and to provide secondary school graduates with the opportunity of freely choosing among the professions, polytechnical schooling will be introduced in the ten-year

schools and the ground will be laid for the transition to universal polytechnical education.

There has been an extensive development in the Soviet Union of preschool education. As we have already stated, about 2,000,000 children attend day nurseries and kindergartens during the time their mothers are at work.

The Soviet state takes paternal care of orphans. Orphan children are maintained in children's homes. When they are old enough they attend school and later apprenticeship or technical schools. They are kept on full maintenance by the state until they can independently earn their livelihood.

Every year the Soviet state spends several billions of rubles on the maintenance of children's institutions.

What are the kindergartens like?

They are organized in clean, bright, well-furnished premises, supplied with all that is needed for the children's entertainment and instruction. The children are under the constant care of trained teachers and nurses and receive medical attention. They receive nourishing food. They play games, go for walks in neighbouring parks, learn to sing, to draw and to dance. In the summer they move out into the country.

We have also mentioned the sanatoriums and pioneer camps organized for school children during the summer vacation. In these camps the pleasures of country life are combined with useful instruction.

Take, for example, the pioneer camp organized near Moscow by the Krasnoye Znamya Textile Mill for the children of their workers. It is situated in the grounds of an ancient mansion. Large, bright dormitories, the dining room and recreation rooms for rainy days are provided in a two-story building. All the time the children are at the camp they are under the supervision of experienced teachers and doctors, and their activities are arranged to suit their age groups. They spend most of their time in the grounds or in the surrounding countryside. They go bathing in the nearby river, take sun and air baths, roam in the woods,



*District children's doctor L. Smirnova visits one of her
young patients*

play football, volleyball, and other games; they organize chess tournaments, dramatic, choir and art circles, naturalists' and anglers' circles, photography and radio circles; they make mineral collections and herbariums, which they bring to school when they return home. The children get four nourishing meals a day. There are concert performances, amateur talent evenings, film shows, sports contests and hikes and excursions. Altogether, they have a merry and instructive time.

The parents pay less than a third of the cost of maintenance per child. The rest is paid by the trade union out of the social insurance fund. One-tenth of the places in the camp are provided free of charge for children whose fathers were killed in the Patriotic War and also for children of disabled war veterans and for children of large families.

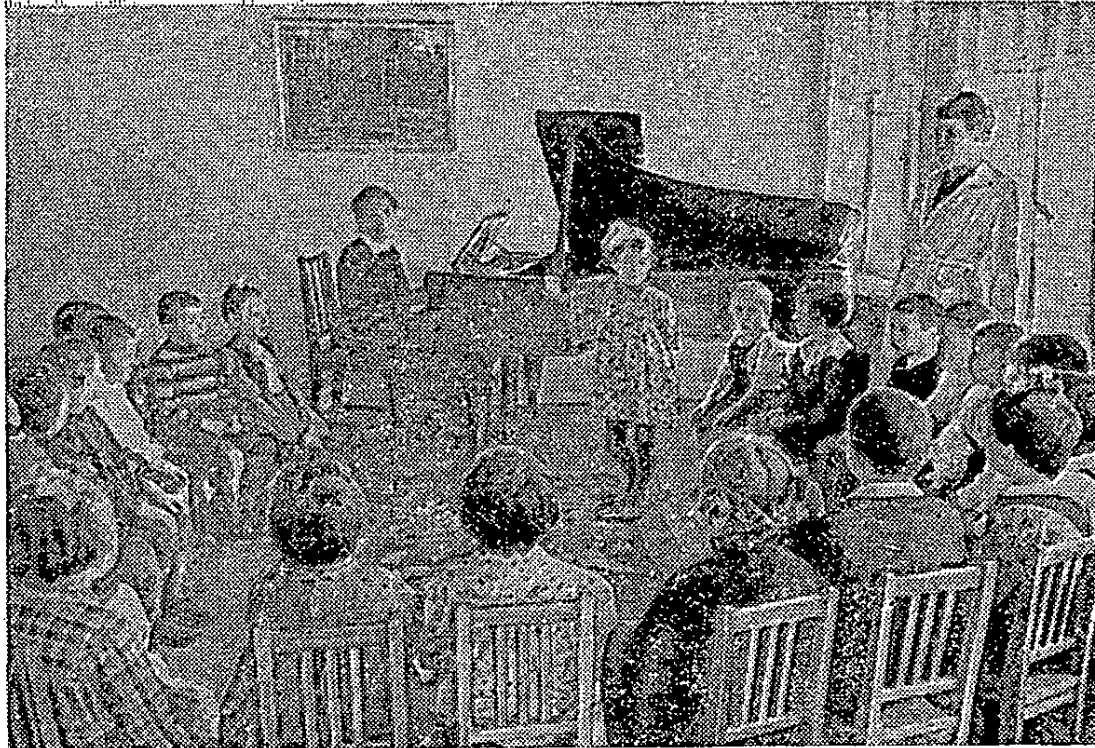
The camp opens at the beginning of June and closes at the end of August. The children come in two batches, each staying 40 days. In 1951, eight hundred children spent a holiday at the camp.

In 1925, the Artek Pioneer Camp was founded, a splendid children's health resort at the foot of Mount Ayu-Dag, on the Crimean coast. Every year 12,000 boys and girls from all parts of the Soviet Union spend a holiday at this summer camp.

Pioneer country homes have achieved well-deserved popularity in the Soviet Union as a splendid means of educating children and strengthening their health during the summer vacation.

These country homes are organized by the trade union committees in conjunction with the management of the given factory or office. Since the war the trade unions throughout the country have sent over 13,500,000 children to such camps, meeting the cost out of the social insurance fund.

In 1951 the trade unions spent 700,000,000 rubles out of the social insurance fund for the maintenance, improvement and equipment of pioneer camps. Besides, large sums



In the kindergarten at an iron and steel mill in Krivoi Rog

are spent from the social insurance fund for the organization of extra-school activities for children.

In the Soviet Union wide opportunities exist for the development of children's talent and for the satisfaction of their diverse requirements and interests.

Extra-school activities are conducted by more than 1,000 Pioneer Palaces and Pioneer Halls, 400 young technicians' centres, 230 young naturalists' centres, and 140 children's and puppet theatres. There is also a ramified network of children's music, art and sports schools.

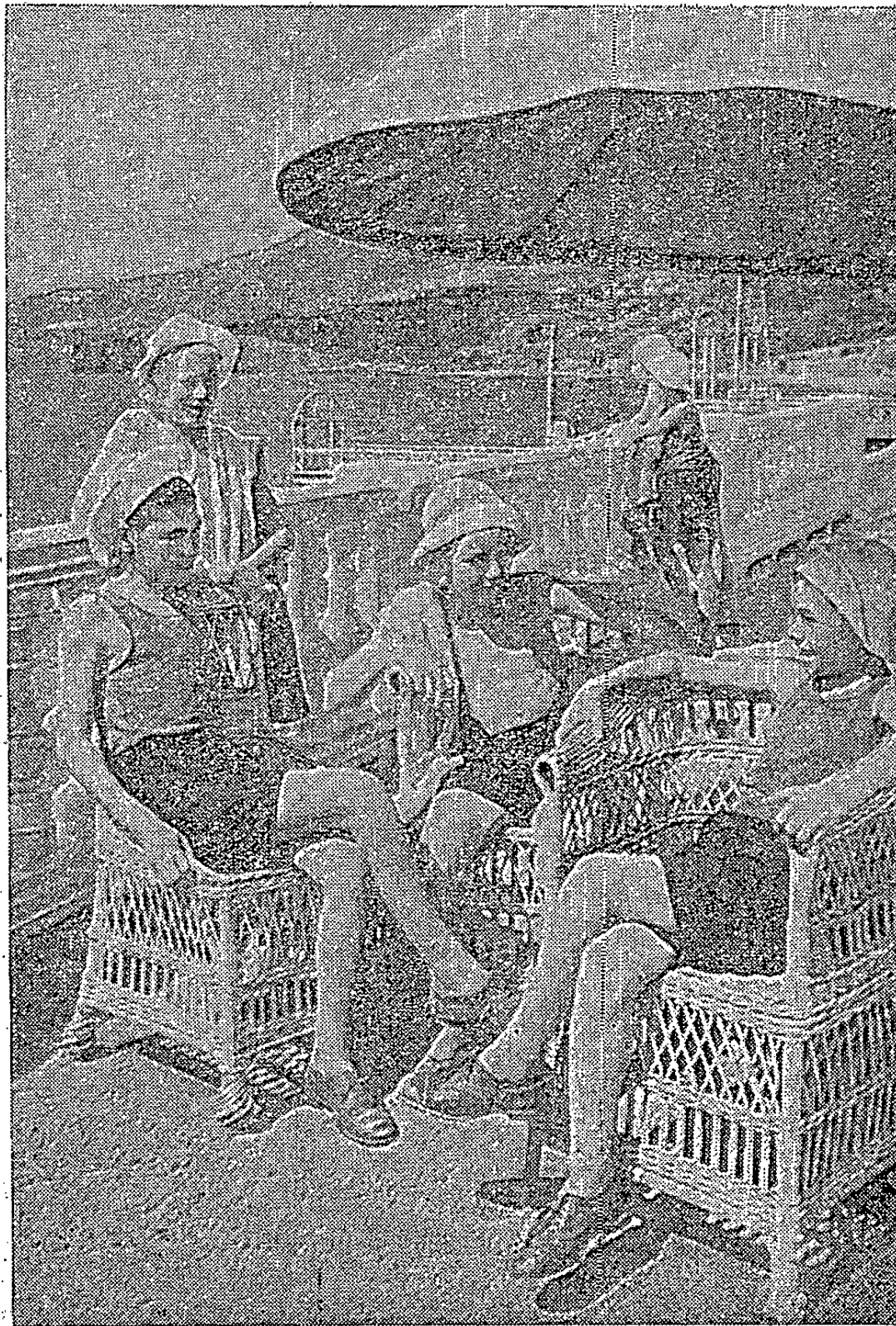
These institutions give Soviet children the opportunity to supplement the knowledge they obtain at school and to develop their capabilities and talent to the utmost.

The trade unions show deep concern for children, placing at their disposal, for extra-school activities, the network of cultural establishments, stadiums and athletic fields which they maintain.

In recent years the trade union cultural clubs and Houses and Palaces of Culture have set up some 1,500 children's departments and juvenile science and mechanics centres. Four hundred thousand boys and girls attend various art, technical and other circles at trade union clubs. More than 1,000 children's libraries and children's departments at libraries for adults have been opened. The trade union libraries number among their steady readers more than 1,200,000 children.

Many clubs have established close contacts with schools and parents and teachers. On Sundays and holidays they arrange concerts, plays and film shows, literary evenings, discussions of books, and meetings with prominent men and women of the land. During the winter school vacations clubs hold New Year parties for children, as well as excursions, ski outings and sports competitions. The spring school vacations are marked by a Juvenile Literature Week, with literary get-togethers with writers and artists. In 1951 more than 81,000,000 children took part in these various activities.

Here, for example, is a brief account of the extra-school activities arranged by the Metallurgical Workers' Palace of Culture in the city of Magnitogorsk, in the Urals. This palace is highly popular among both adults and children. There is a children's library, Sunday lectures are arranged for children, there is a Young Historians' Club, there are 16 art-training circles and 35 technical, sports and other circles attended by 1,500 children. These circles are conducted by the best instructors in Magnitogorsk. About 700 children attend the 33 young technicians' circles. There are radio-technicians' circles, shipbuilding, electrical engineering, photography, thermal engineering, bookbinding, physics, chemistry, naturalists' and carpenters' circles. There are an electrical engineering laboratory, photographer's dark room, and aircraft-model, mechanic's and carpenter's workshops.



Thousands of boys and girls spend their summer vacation in the Crimea, on the Black Sea. Photo shows a group of children in a Crimean sanatorium.

The workshops are furnished with wood-turning and metal-turning lathes, drills, electric saws (strip and circular), electric grinding and polishing lathes, carpenters' benches, a mechanic's vice and all kinds of tools. There is a permanent exhibition of models made by the children.

The trade unions show constant concern for the upbringing of a healthy, strong and happy young generation. Such a happy childhood can be obtained only in a country where the people rule.

* * *

In the U.S.S.R., social insurance is built on a genuinely democratic basis. The entire social insurance scheme is managed by the trade unions, by the working people themselves.

The social insurance fund is, as we have said, made up of contributions paid by factory and office managements.

The contributions paid by the factory and office managements are passed on to the central committees of the respective trade unions, and the latter endorse the social insurance expenditure estimates of the factory or office trade union committees.

The expenditure of social insurance funds in the Soviet Union is under the constant public supervision of the working people. Over 1,500,000 active trade unionists, 50% of whom are women, conduct social insurance activities at their place of work. They are not paid for this work, done in off hours. Their active participation ensures the proper expenditure of social insurance funds for the greatest benefit of the working people.

At all factories and offices the workers elect by open vote social insurance councils, which determine the extent of sick and other benefits, see that workers receive proper medical attention, issue certificates for medical dieting, and distribute places in rest homes and sanatoriums among the workers and in pioneer camps for their children.

The social insurance councils work under the direction

of the factory or office trade union committees and they give account of their activities to general meetings of the workers.

Reports on expenditure of social insurance funds are periodically published in the factory or office newspapers and posted up in the various shops for the information of all the workers.

To illustrate how the social insurance councils operate we shall quote the example of the Ordjonikidze Machine-Building Plant in the Urals. An important place in its activities is occupied by the question of preventing disease. This is natural, for the prevention of sickness is one of the principal functions of the social insurance council at every factory and office.

At the Urals Machine-Building Plant, for example, the doctors not only receive patients at the polyclinic, but watch the health of every worker in the shop. The workers undergo periodical medical examination, and if necessary a course of treatment is prescribed or accommodation at a sanatorium is provided.

The conditions of labour of the Soviet workers are under constant medical supervision. The doctor reports his findings to the social insurance council which sees to it that the necessary measures are taken to prevent sickness or accidents.

In the autumn of 1951, the social insurance council at the Urals Machine-Building Plant heard the report of the manager of the steel-rolling shop on the measures he had taken to reduce sickness in his shop. Reports had shown that there had lately been a slight increase in colds in section four of this shop. The social insurance council had appointed a subcommittee to investigate the causes of this and now had its report before it. Basing itself on the findings of the subcommittee, the social insurance council instructed the shop manager and the plant manager to take immediate measures to remove the causes indicated in the report.

It is easier to prevent illness than to cure it. Working to this principle, the social insurance council at the Urals Machine-Building Plant draws up a yearly plan of health-promoting and sanitary measures and sees to it that this plan is carried out.

The social insurance council arranges regular lectures and talks in the shops on the prevention of sickness and accidents. Every shop doctor delivers at least three or four lectures or talks per month, explaining in popular language the measures to be taken to prevent this or that illness.

An important part in the work of the social insurance council is played by the insurance delegates who are elected by open vote at a general trade union meeting in each shop. The insurance delegates visit sick workers and see to it that they get whatever assistance they need.

In all the shops and departments of enterprises and institutions having their trade union committees, social insurance commissions are set up, which number from 3 to 9 persons from among the members of the committee and insurance delegates. In accordance with existing legislation these commissions grant and determine the extent of allowances to the temporarily disabled workers and employees of their shop, work to reduce sickness and accidents, and supervise the activities of the insurance delegates. The shop commissions send the workers and employees to sanatoriums and holiday homes and their children to children's institutions and Young Pioneer summer camps, and help applicants for pensions to receive what is due to them.

There are many insurance delegates who perform their duties so well that they are re-elected year after year. Such a one is Praskovya Ikonnikova, a worker at the Teykov Cotton Mill in the Ivanovo Region, who about twenty years ago was elected as an insurance delegate. From the very outset she was conscious of the importance of her duty to care for the health of her fellow workers and to help them to recover as quickly as possible when they fell sick. Love and care for the working people and the urge to help them

when in need fills a great part of her life. Every woman in her shop knows that if she falls sick, Ikonnikova will be sure to visit her and have a chat about the doings at the mill and about things generally, and bring her every assistance she requires.

* * *

It is a great happiness to live and work in the Soviet Union where the state is concerned for the welfare of every citizen, and where everything is done to promote the growth of the prosperity of the people and the development of their culture.

The working people who create all wealth are the actual masters in the Land of Socialism. All things are accessible to them: work in freedom, science and art. The road to any occupation they choose is open to them. Every Soviet citizen feels that he is master of his own destiny, a creator of the future, a participant in great works that are enhancing the might and glory of the socialist state. Day after day the Soviet people are becoming more prosperous. Every worker in the Soviet Union is paid according to the quantity and quality of his work. Wages and real wages of workers and other employees are steadily increasing. Improvement in the material conditions and social services of the workers by hand and brain is the law in socialist society.

The Soviet social insurance system strikingly illustrates the concern of the state for raising the living and cultural standard of the people.

The workers and office employees in the U.S.S.R. are confident of tomorrow, for the Soviet system has liberated them forever from the curse of unemployment and poverty, and assures them security in case of illness or disablement and on reaching old age.

Printed in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

24

AMERICAN WORKERS LOOK AT *the Soviet Union*



AMERICAN
WORKERS
LOOK AT
the Soviet Union

IMPRESSIONS OF THE AMERICAN
TRADE UNION DELEGATION
THAT VISITED THE SOVIET UNION
IN JUNE AND JULY 1951



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE

Moscow 1952

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

This booklet contains speeches made by members of the American labour delegation at meetings with trade unionists, texts of their radio addresses, articles written by them for the Soviet press, and impressions of visits to factories and institutions, as well as the report which the delegation made in New York.

This edition follows the pamphlet published in Russian by Profizdat, Moscow 1951.

Printed in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

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An American labour delegation visited the Soviet Union in the summer of 1951 at the invitation of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R.

The group consisted of eleven members: Leon Straus (Chairman of the delegation), Vice-President of the International Fur and Leather Workers' Union of the U.S. and Canada; Hilliard Ellis (Co-Chairman of the delegation), General Organizer, Local 453, United Automobile Workers of America, C.I.O., Chicago, Ill.; Fred Saniat, member of the executive board of a Chicago local of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers; Stanley Beczkiewicz, President of Lake States Council No. 4, United Shoe Workers of America, C.I.O.; Lee Candea, representing rank and filers of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Union, A.F. of L.; Warren Hoover, President of Local 751, United Electrical and Radio Workers of America, Niles, Ohio; Hector Jacques, representing a New York division of the Distributive, Processing and Office Workers of America; Marie Bowden, representing members of the Sheet Metal Workers' International Assoc. (A.F. of L.), Los Angeles, California; Vincent Moscato, member of the executive board of United Retail and Wholesale Workers (C.I.O.), New York; John Blackwell, Secretary, Local 14 of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union in Wallace, Idaho; Henry R. Batke, Jr., Chairman, Radio Committee, Local 931, United Electrical Workers of America, St. Joseph, Michigan.

The delegates, men and women of different political and religious convictions, represented different unions, including auto workers, miners, machine workers, sheet metal workers, shoe workers, fur workers, leather workers, united electrical workers, hotel and restaurant employees, and retail and wholesale workers—some A.F. of L., some C.I.O. and some independent unions.

In Moscow, the delegation expressed the desire to become acquainted in detail with the Soviet people's living and working conditions. It planned its own tour of the Soviet Union, visiting Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad, Zaporozhie and the Crimea. The delegates inspected factories, cultural institutions, hospitals, sanatoriums, children's summer camps and a collective farm, and attended theatre, movie and concert performances.

When the delegation members said they would like to share their impressions of their stay in the Soviet Union, meetings with trade unionists were arranged in Moscow and Leningrad. The delegates spoke on the Moscow radio to tell their impressions to American workers.

The aim of this booklet is to acquaint readers with these impressions.



Leon Straus



Hilliard Ellis



Fred Saniat



Stanley Beczkiewicz



Lee Candea



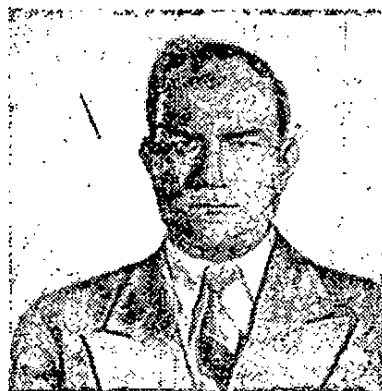
Warren Hoover



Hector Jacques



Marie Bowden



Vincent Moscato



John Blackwell



Henry R. Batke, Jr.



Arrival at the Moscow airport

**WE COME TO YOU ON BEHALF
OF AMERICAN WORKERS**

LEON STRAUS

Speech at Moscow Airport

Fellow trade unionists and people of Moscow and of the Soviet Union. On behalf of the delegates who are here with me, and on my own behalf, as well as that of the workers we represent, I want to extend our greetings and our thanks for the reception as well as for the invitation to visit your country.

In America we have been told many things about your country. Some of the things are believed by the majority of the American people, some are not understood by the American people, and some of us do not believe all the things we

are told. We are happy to accept this invitation of the Soviet trade unions to see with our own eyes and hear with our own ears and learn the truth for ourselves.

We have been told that the Soviet Union is responsible for all the war-like preparations that are taking place in the world today. Those of our soldiers who fought in the last war against fascism, uniting with the Russian soldiers in the war against fascism, find that very hard to believe.

Therefore, in conclusion, we come to you on behalf of the American workers and American people that we represent with the desire to continue the full friendship that exists between the Russian and American people for many years, and with the hope that our visit may help in your country, as it may in our country, to develop that friendship to new and greater heights. And we come to you with a message on behalf of the American people who we know want peace, with the hope that our two peoples will overcome any and all obstacles and see to it that we do have peace.

THE SOVIET PEOPLE DESIRE PEACE

LEE CANDEA

Radio Speech

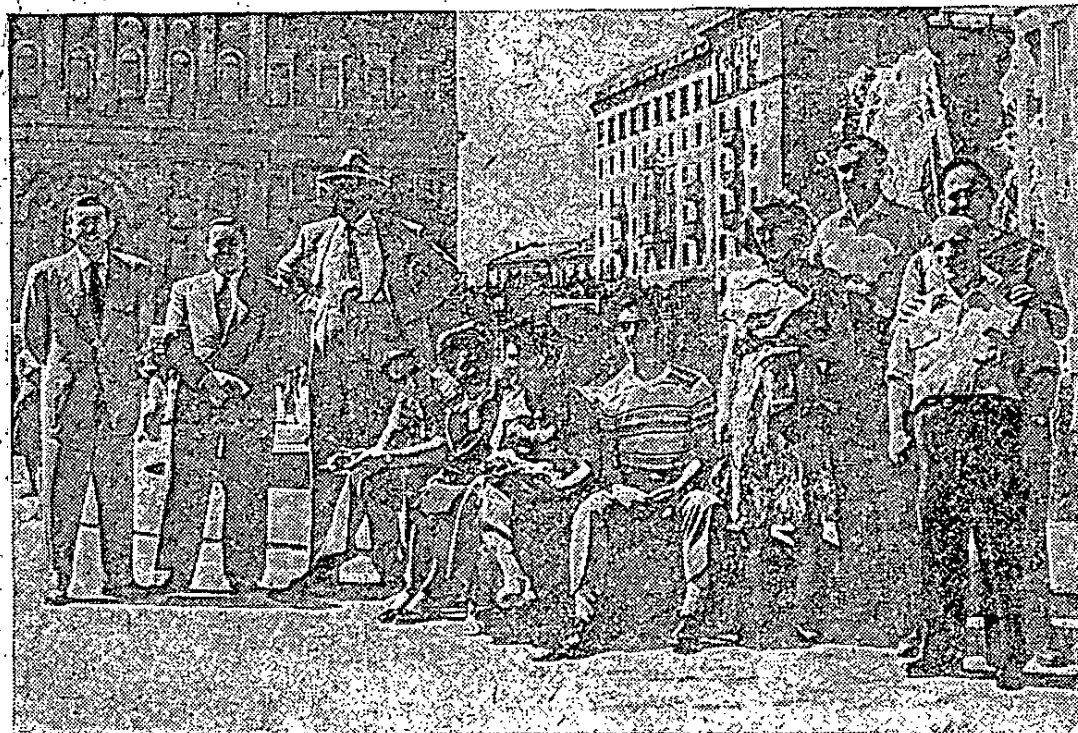
This is Lee Candea speaking. While I have been in the Soviet Union just about a week some impressions have already been made that are so strong I will never forget them. For one thing, Moscow itself is a beautiful and wonderful city. Its combination of new and old architectural and historical landmarks and buildings is indeed inspiring. Your Metro—or subway—is an amazing, enduring achievement and again combines architectural, historical and decorative beauty with its spaciousness, cleanliness, correct lighting and ventilation. Your museums and libraries should indeed

be a pride of the Soviet people, and your parks enhance greatly the charm of Moscow.

Your widely developed housing construction and construction plans are something to be marveled at and are truly an indication of the desire for peace in this world, for you couldn't build so much if there were thoughts of destruction.

It was a thrilling experience for me to go to the concert, the operetta and the ballet. It is understandable why the theatres were so packed with music-loving people, for rarely have I seen such a high degree of artistry. The music, dancing and singing will be an unforgettable memory.

It is a pleasure to walk down the street and see the stores bulging with food, and flowers on every corner. I see the trees and the growing greens as a sign of the Soviet people's love for those things that live. Everywhere I've gone, down the streets, in the suburbs, in the Metro, in the hotel



On Soviet Square, Moscow

where I am staying, I seem to be surrounded by happy people, smiling, warm, friendly faces.

I am deeply impressed by the large number of women who seem to be involved in every phase of your life here. I've seen women as train engineers, subway station agents, conductors, technical experts in museums, department heads in the hotel, and yesterday when we visited the hospital for the railroad workers I saw a high degree of doctors and specialists, and I'm told that when I visit the different industries I'll have the opportunity to see and speak to a large proportion of women in jobs on every level.

In our country there are, according to some A.F. of L. figures, approximately 19 million women in industry. However, the major occupations in which they work are clerical work or white collar work, while one fourth of the 19 million are employed in semiskilled factory work, domestic work, the clothing industry and in service industries. In other industries or phases of life women are a great minority. But while women are a minority in most fields in one question we are a tremendous majority. We want peace, not war. Only peace.

Here in Moscow I've seen and felt that peace is synonymous with eating, sleeping and drinking, the necessities of life. I not only see it in the faces of the women but in their achievements and their participation in all the problems facing the people. I perhaps did not have the same level of understanding till I saw all of the reconstruction going on here and saw what the last war did to the people here. Not to forget the millions of Russian heroes who lost their lives fighting against fascism.

We in America too have suffered in the last war. Many of our husbands and brothers were taken away from us never to come back. And even though our land did not receive the destruction your land has, the overwhelming majority of the American women, I'm sure, feel as I do that I don't want war, for we want peace. We want to have our homes. We

don't want to hate, we want to love. We want our families with us. I don't want my son to grow up to be a soldier, and all American wives and mothers feel the way I do. And if you hear there is confusion in America on this question, let me tell you the confusion is not on war or peace, the confusion may be on how to fight for peace. The women's peace movement in America is growing. Mothers have banded together to cry out for peace and many of us are showing the way to organize and fight for peace, for we are sure that the American women, yes, the American people, when the truth is known, will join me in calling for peace as proud Americans and as a people proud of our old tradition of freedom, for truly we want peace too.

I WAS ASTONISHED AT THE CARE GIVEN TO THE WORKERS

FRED SANIAT

Radio Speech

The Central Council of Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R. has made it possible for us to visit the Crimea and made it possible for us to visit some of the sanatoriums and rest homes for the workers of the Soviet Union. I was astonished and amazed at the care given to the workers and their rest and at the small amount of money they must pay for their vacation. Not only do they have the Black Sea for enjoyment while swimming, but clean homes and wonderful food plus all medical care that is necessary for them to enjoy their vacation period.

My own local union of the United Electrical Workers of America of the city of Chicago had just purchased a sanatorium for our people as I left there for my visit to the European countries. I know it will be many years before we

reach the peak of efficiency that you have in your sanatoriums down in the Crimea. With these medical sanatoriums you have it proves that the Soviet trade unions not only have the welfare of their workers at heart while working in factories but also when they are vacationing for rest and peace from everyday life.

In conclusion I wish to quote our Lord Jesus Christ and just add a little phrase to his quotation:

"Let there be peace and good will toward all men of the world that they may live happily in peace regardless of their political views, regardless of what flag their country may be flying. Let there be peace."

CHILDREN: THE COUNTRY'S FUTURE

WARREN HOOVER

Radio Speech

Dear friends, I would like to express my appreciation for the splendid reception given to me on behalf of the people of the Soviet Union both in Moscow and Leningrad. I will confine my remarks to Leningrad. We were given the same warm and friendly reception on our arrival in Leningrad. We visited many places of interest. We visited several shops and were deeply impressed with the modern equipment and the lack of speed-up prevailing in these shops. The facilities for protection of the health of the workers, their comfort, education and recreation were of much interest to us also.

We attended a ballet of amateurs, the cast of which was made up of workers and the children of workers.

There we were given an ovation of welcome and love I think was second to none, proving to us that the Soviet children have only a feeling of love and friendship towards the American people, for everyone knows that the affection of



At a sanatorium for agricultural workers in Yalta

little children is sincere. We witnessed a performance of ability quite beyond my ability to describe, a performance long to be remembered.

The people are to be encouraged to continue to raise their children in such pleasant and commendable activities, for the future of your country rests with the children of today, and given such training you will not have to worry about their destiny in the tomorrows to come.

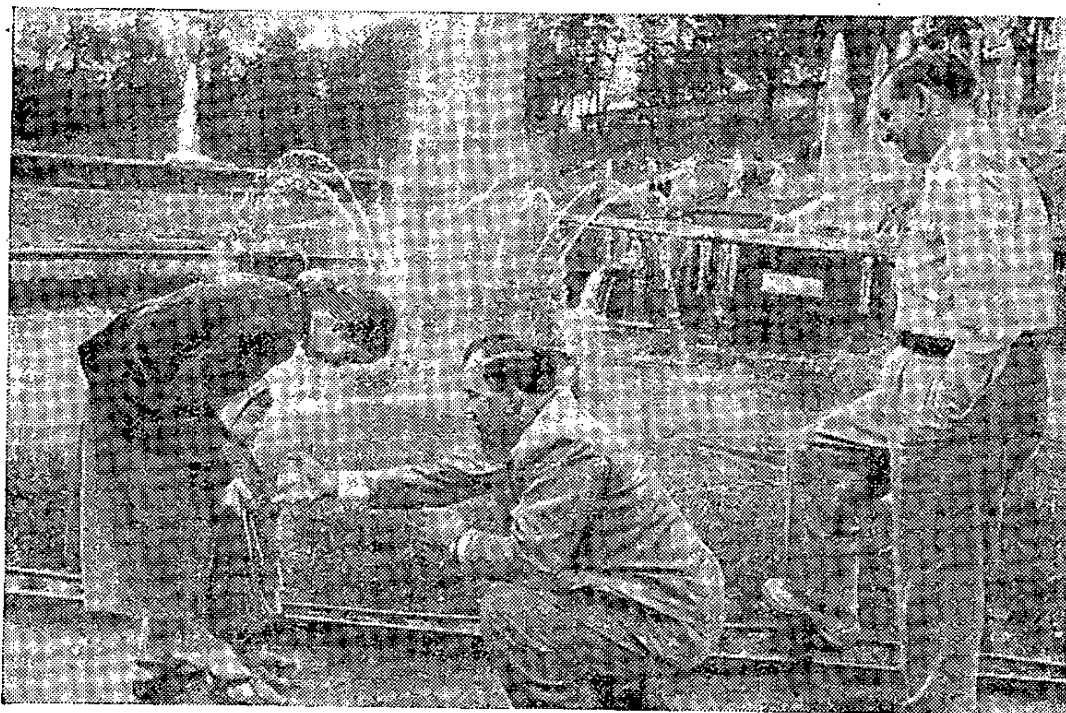
I know that the great majority of the workers of the United States desire only friendship with the people of the Soviet Union, and on my return I will give the message of friendship from the Soviet people to those whom I represent so as to establish unity between our peoples.

EMERGENCY BRINGS SPIRALLING PRICES IN U.S.A.

HENRY R. BATKE, Jr.

Radio Speech

We all know that war means hardships, including death for many of the fighting men, the soldiers. Here is an example of what is the value of the talk about the so-called "equality" of sacrifices. The rich are able to attend college. Thereby they are immune from the draft law. The poor, however, have no escape and must therefore yield to many of the hardships. Because of the so-called emergency with its continually spiralling prices, the working people have to wage a continuous struggle trying to keep up with the prices and maintain normal and decent living conditions.



In Petrodvorets, near Leningrad

Now I don't know of any average American who has profited by war. Pure unadulterated murder, caused by the lust and greed of a few for power and riches! Millions of dollars are being spent for implements of war which do not add to the happiness of the people I have met and spoken to. Nor do they help clothe the children or adults in the slum areas of our country.

The coloured people, because they are asking for the rights which they are guaranteed in the constitution of the United States, are being daily discriminated against. The rich, however, seem to be doing well. Their profits in the past two or three years have doubled and in some cases tripled.

In the process of returning for war in the different industries, the working man has been caught in a vise throughout the country and left with not enough money. The food, clothing and rent bills, however, have to be paid. Even now a new tax law is ready to dig even deeper into the income of the worker, to the extent of about 800 dollars per year in the near future.

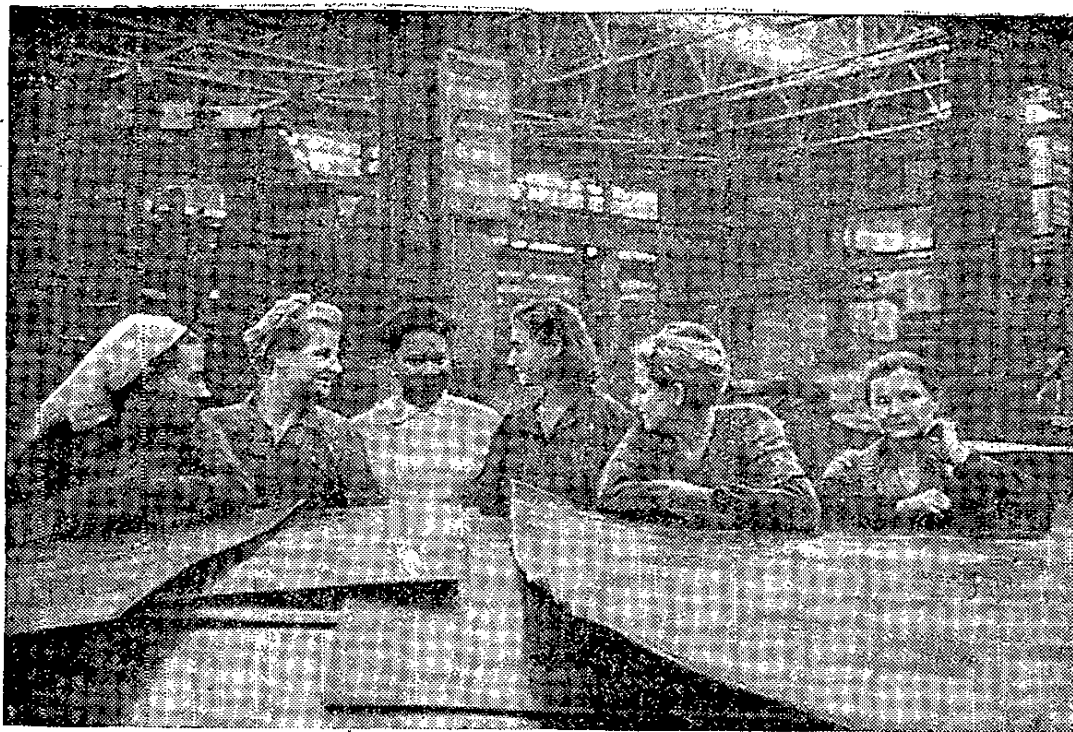
LIBERTY CAME TO ME FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY

MARIE BOWDEN

Statement to the Press

I have come to the Soviet Union to investigate the conditions of labour and to a great extent I must rely upon an interpreter. The reactionary observer may be able to say that these interpretations are dishonest, but he will be incapable of denying what I see with my own eyes.

I am incapable of isolating the labour question from the life of the Soviets as a whole. I feel that the economic status



Marie Bowden with workers of the steel mill in Zaporozhie.

of a Soviet citizen must of necessity reflect the political and social status. I would like to therefore deal with and compare the qualitative status of the Negro woman in America and in the Soviet Union.

So very much I have walked since I have been in Europe that I have worn out the shoes that in my home I would have worn another year, not because transportation was not furnished, but because even a bus or automobile does not enter the building of a factory or an opera for an evening's entertainment.

I have met a hundred or more groups of people, and the slightest smile from me brought smiling responses, and more handshakes and doves of friendship and peace and kisses. Can a reactionary deny this to me? I say no. I have talked to Soviet citizens by the dozens, who answered me in their own language, and there was no interpreter and we kept talking, and never in my life have I felt so loved.

In America there is a saying, "Say it with flowers." This is an actuality in the Soviet Union. They met me with flowers, and clasped my hands tight, and more than that, they put theory into life.

I never hesitated to believe Paul Robeson, when he said that for the first time he had walked with dignity in the Soviet Union. But Paul is nevertheless a man—a man whom many men would do themselves proud to walk in the image of, whom Negro people can be proud of, progressive people can take the leadership of, and whom reactionary people fear. Embodied in Paul are the pride, hope, aspirations of the Negro people. Embodied in my Paul is the symbol of freedom, equality and peace with all working people, from all the world. Very truly I love him.



At a sanatorium for electrical workers in Yalta

I am a Negro woman, I come from the most oppressed section of the United States of America. As such I had to know what the position of a rank-and-file worker, a woman and a Negro woman would be in the Soviet Union. And I say truthfully that some of the progressive theoreticians on the Negro question in the United States would be put to shame when it comes to putting into practice the actuality of their theorizing as compared to the Soviet people.

Without taking any undue glory from the Soviet performers in the opera *The Tsar's Bride*, I might say unqualifiedly that I was truly the star of the theatre. After each act of the performance, while I was in the vestibule of the theatre, hundreds of people crowded around me to greet me, to kiss me, to wish world peace, and especially peace with the Americans and Negro people in particular. A group of girls told me that they were daughters of workers and were studying at a higher technical school for the work that they had chosen. They followed me outside when I prepared to leave, to give me a dove of peace for my coat lapel.

Some looked at me amazed that I had gotten from behind our iron curtain at home. I recalled the Statue of Liberty in the harbour as I had left New York, with its inscription saying, "Give me your poor and your humble." I had been both, but her eyes were closed, yes, closed for all these hundred years. And the liberty for which she stood came to me from another country, from another people who knew how to give love, freedom and equality to all.

1228 W. 37th Drive,
Los Angeles, 4, California

**I UNDERSTAND WHY
YOUR WORKERS ARE HAPPY**

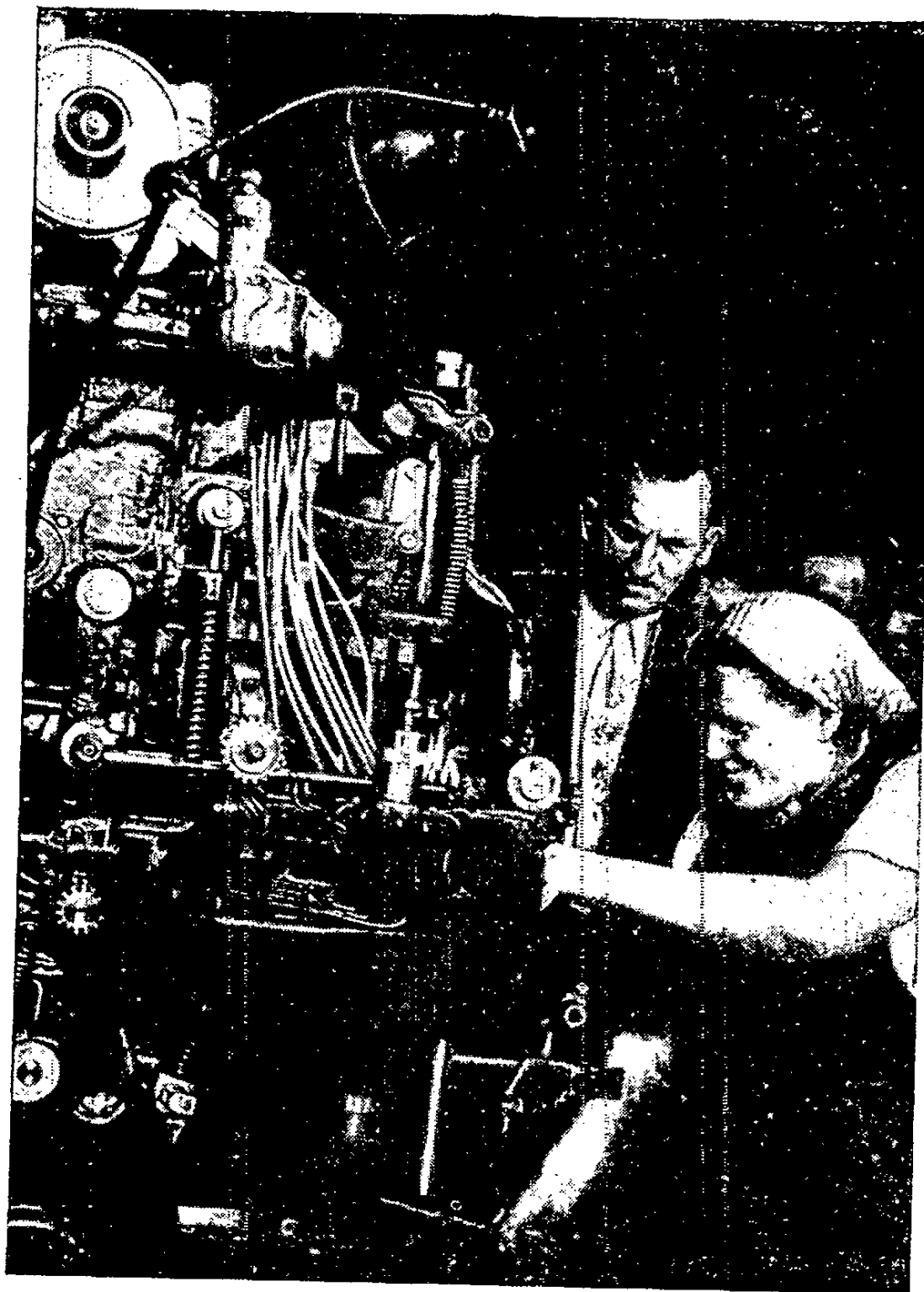
STANLEY BECZKIEWICZ

Statement to the Press

As a member of the American labour delegation I was accorded the privilege of inspecting the Skorokhod Shoe Factory. Upon arrival we were greeted by those in charge of the plant, and ushered into the plant. We were introduced to the chief engineer, who described in detail the operation of the factory and its background. After he finished, questions were asked by the delegation and he answered them. Being a shoe worker myself, I can fully appreciate what was said, and it gave me information for which my people have to some extent sent me.

What I saw amazed me, for the simple reason that I've never seen a plant so perfectly set up for the production of shoes, the conveyer system being something new. This way of production does not exist in my part of the country, and for the whole of America you may have about 10 per cent using this method of production, most factories using the truck or rack to move the shoes from one worker to another. I consider this method far more efficient and less tiring on the worker, because it is a known fact that about 20 per cent of time is used in pushing and pulling under crowded conditions. This of course does not help to produce pairs of shoes, and the worker gets tired much faster.

Another thing I noticed is the large number of women doing what in America are considered highly-skilled jobs. In most of these operations men are used and they consider it hard work, yet here women do it with such ease that I was amazed. The percentage in our shoe factories is about 65 per cent men and 35 per cent women, and women doing mostly stitching or packing; here it seemed like 85 per cent



At the Skorokhod Shoe Factory in Leningrad

women and 15 per cent men, and women doing all types of work.

Another good impression was the fact that your factory was very well ventilated and very clean. The same cannot be said for most factories in America. This of course adds to the comfort of the worker and makes for more production.

There are no lay-offs for workers and they have social benefits. In America lay-offs are a plague to workers of the shoe industry, and social benefits are not common. Each group of workers must fight their employer for whatever they can get from him, very often going on long strikes and often gaining a minimum of social benefits for their efforts. Your health and first-aid program for the protection of the workers' health is something unheard-of in America.

We cannot forget that your school for workers is one of the newest developments ever heard of in the shoe industry. By contrast, the American shoe industry says you can take a worker off the street and make a shoe worker of him, but that is a costly and inefficient way and increases the cost of the shoe, for which the consumer must pay.

I would like to express a personal message of thanks to all those who accorded me the privilege of seeing the shoe factory. I can understand now why your production is high and your workers are happy and willing to cooperate to help their own cause, which of course means security on the job, no lay-offs and increased pay as a result of their productivity.

In other words, I was very, very much impressed.

3720 E. Birchwood Ave.,
Cudahy, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

**FOR THE FIRST TIME I, A NEGRO,
WAS SHOWERED WITH LOVE**

HILLIARD ELLIS

Statement to the Press

I can now understand fully the reason the U.S. State Department does not want Americans to visit behind the "iron curtain," and especially Negro Americans. It is a known fact that the U.S. Government practises and encourages discrimination against its largest minority, the Negro people. This is amplified by the Jim Crow set-up in Washington D.C., the nation's capital. Therefore all measures are taken to discourage Negro people from seeking the truth about such countries as the Soviet Union.

The Wall Street crowd fear the possible repercussion that might come with the opening of the eyes of this most militant section of the working class that could destroy the very foundation on which this Jim Crow system is built. It is now a matter of fact that Negro people are relegated to the menial jobs, poor housing, least amount of schooling, and special brutal treatment.

I consider myself fortunate and privileged to have seen life in a new way in the Soviet Union that not only made me feel proud as a worker but also as a Negro. I had been taught that capitalism afforded the best opportunities for the working people, that I, a Negro, should be proud to fight for the maintenance of our so-called "American way of life."

I must admit that to be kept in semislavery is hardly anything to be proud of or to be defended. In reality it shows the hypocrisy of those that yell the loudest about democracy, and tell blatant lies about "slave labour" in the Soviet Union.

I have seen with my own eyes, have witnessed and talked with hundreds of workers, in Leningrad, Stalingrad, Mos-

cow, Zaporozhie, and nowhere have I found this "slave labour." In fact, the workers work with a devotion which shows they are the real owners of the plants. I have not once seen the "speed-up" as we know it in America.

In the Soviet Union I found that people are given the opportunity to advance because of ability, rather than what stock you were born from. I also found that the workers' health came first, not machinery or production.

I also found that there are no gouging landlords that squeeze every penny the traffic will bear out of innocent victims who must have shelter. In the Soviet Union the workers pay between three to six per cent of their earnings for rent.

The working conditions of the Soviet workers are ideal compared to conditions of workers in plants that I am per-



At a Leningrad machine factory.

sonally familiar with. The factories that I visited in the principal cities of the Soviet Union were clean, with good ventilation, with every type of safety and health precaution imaginable.

I also found that the workers have the necessary machinery to have their grievances processed, even to the extent that it could mean the removal of the plant manager. (Just imagine this happening at General Motors, U.S.A.)

The vacations are from 14 to 30 days for the workers. If workers are absent from work due to illness, they suffer no loss in pay.

This explains why the workers look upon their jobs as working for themselves. This explains why there are no strikes. Can you imagine a carpenter building his own home striking against building a dwelling for himself and his family? The Soviet workers are carpenters, building their future homes.

Being in the Soviet Union these few weeks, I have witnessed the pride with which the people are steadily improving the beauty of their country, the cleanliness of the streets; I have seen no staggering drunks, no dope addicts, and no prostitution.

The Soviet Union allows those who believe religion to practise religion. Those who are not religious are not molested. It is true that the church is forbidden to enter into politics or engage in bingo rackets. And to my way of thinking that is the way it should be.

To appreciate the high cultural standard of the Soviet people, you must first look at the educational and cultural structure that is given to all citizens of this country. Instead of "pig alley trash," there are culture centres, operas, concerts, and healthy, decent films. And seemingly everyone is trying to improve his knowledge and develop the mind. This is true of the old as well as the young.

After living with these friendly people for these few weeks, I must say I have never seen a more devoted people



Delegates Hilliard Ellis and Vincent Moscato
in a Yalta barber shop

to the causes which its leaders are fighting for, such as peace, building for Communism, and improving the health and wealth of the nation.

The late Franklin D. Roosevelt was loved by the common people throughout America. I say from my observation that Joseph Stalin is loved much more by the people of the 16 republics that compose the Union of Soviet Republics. Practically everywhere that you may go in this Land of Socialism, the following three names ring out, Lenin, Stalin, and our great Negro leader, Paul Robeson. Robeson, an American and Negro, is loved by the Soviet people.

The rest homes for the workers in the Crimea, the summer camps for the children, the joy and singing that ring out from everywhere, point up to me the freedom and appre-

ciation workers have for their country. I have seen many human beings in my lifetime, but nowhere have I seen a happier people. On every lip there is an expression of peace, peace, peace. That is the word that is heard most in this country.

The children, adults, porters, doctors, intellectuals, all have something in common, and that is the desire for peace. And to speak of peace in this country shows a genuine understanding of war. Most of us in America really cannot appreciate what war really is. I thought I had a good concept of war, but must admit that even my imagination could not stretch to the real devastation and destruction that the peoples of the Soviet Union that I saw lived through. These people lost over seven million of their loved ones in World War II, saw their homes blown to bits, their places of work destroyed, towns demolished, food and stock destroyed, and if Americans had a similar experience, there would be more people in America speaking up for peace.

The Soviet people and especially the youth gave me the greatest pleasure that I have ever enjoyed, a new pride in being a human being, in being a Negro. Nothing can take this new insight on freedom from me. Here I went about as any other individual, not as a freak of nature or an oddity. I wonder what would happen to me if I walked into a barber shop in Stevens Hotel in Chicago, to be shaved, as I have done so often here in the National Hotel in Moscow? I can imagine my landing in an insane asylum because the ruling class would say that I would have to be insane to expect such accommodations from a shop other than a Jim-Crowed shop.

For the first time I, a Negro, was showered with love and affection. Not any "phoney or patronizing show," but real genuine love, with such deep moral and human decency that is part of the Soviet people.

I look forward to the day that they will achieve their goal where the slogan, "To each according to his needs," will be a reality.

And finally, the weeks I have spent learning a new way of life in the Soviet Union will help me in America to fight for freedom, peace, prosperity and good-fellowship of all mankind.

4810 West Cermack,
Cicero, Illinois

THE SOVIET UNION HAS A PEACEFUL ECONOMY

LEON STRAUS

Radio Speech

The delegation of American trade unionists has come to the Soviet Union without any prejudiced notions. We represent different sections of the country. We represent different unions, including automobile workers, miners, fur workers, leather workers, shoe workers, united electrical workers—some A.F. of L., some C.I.O. and some independent unions.

We came with many questions on our minds and we found some of the answers to these questions in our visits to Leningrad and to Moscow. Here we have seen already many plants. We have talked to the workers in these plants. We have not gone on any guided tour. When we arrived here, we asked to see the industries that we worked in ourselves. And so we were taken to these plants. In the automobile plant that we visited, for instance, in Moscow, where they produce the Moskvich, a car that we see so often in the city of Moscow, we stopped and talked to the workers at random. We picked out the workers—no guides, no interpreters se-



At the Linotype Plant in Leningrad.

lected special categories of workers for us. We must have spoken to hundreds of workers. We asked them about their pay, about the rent they pay, about the money they pay for food, for clothing, we asked about their conditions, about their safety devices, about their insurance plants, their sick insurance, their old-age pensions, their vacation funds and so on.

And we learned a great deal. We learned essentially that their working conditions are good, that they have insurance benefits for which they do not pay, that their children are well protected, that they go to rest camps paid for not out of their pay. We learned that there is no speed-up. We learned that there is adequate protection against accidents and illness. We saw hospitals in each of the plants we visited.

And we learned that this kind of production is not one that can take place in a country preparing for war, is not one that can take place in a country that wants war. This is production for peace.

Every single worker we spoke to, every single citizen of the Soviet Union, has repeated that same wholehearted desire to us. I can speak out of personal knowledge of myself and that of the other delegates, having already spoken to hundreds and perhaps thousands of Soviet workers in the factories we visited. Their most earnest desire is for a free and for a peaceful world.

We have seen children who have no hatred for Americans. We have seen these children express their love for us. Now anybody who is an adult, it can be said, can be indoctrinated in a hatred toward Americans here in the Soviet Union, if that were the policy of the government. But certainly no one can say that children we meet in the street or a concert hall or a ballet theatre where they are performing—no one can say that these children can be taught to lie and be deceitful. Their love and their friendship for us was sincere and honest and decent, and something all



Inspecting a new workers' settlement in Zaporozhie

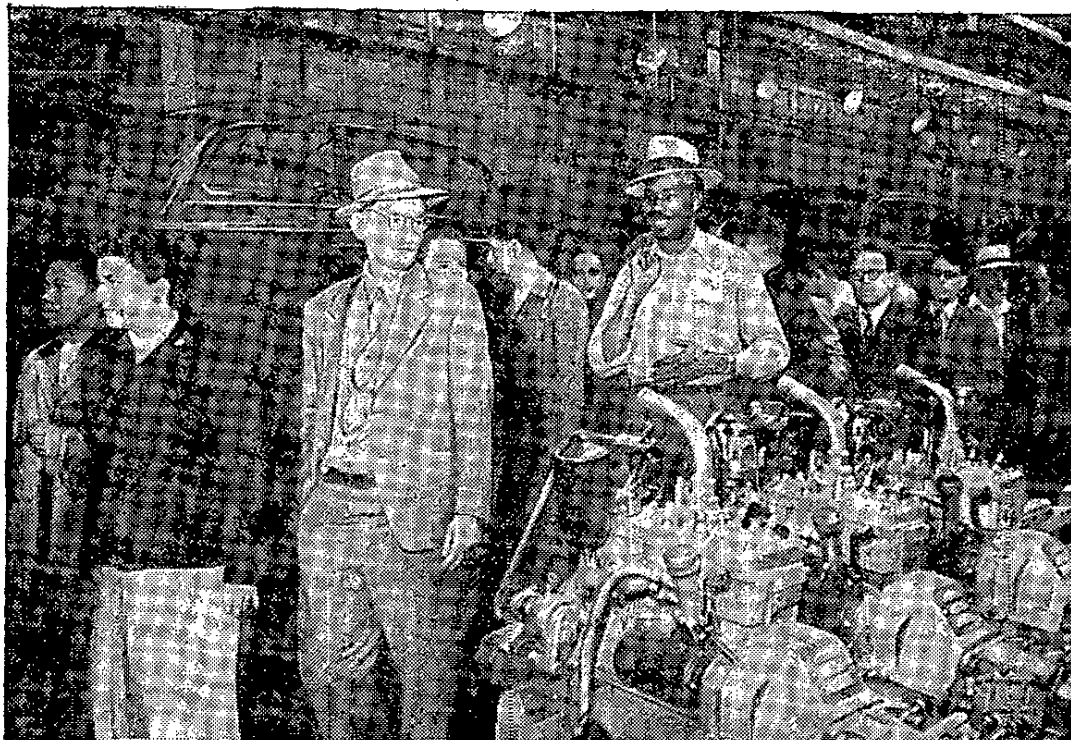
Americans must respect and, through that, learn that the Soviet people want peace, just as the American people want peace.

I want to call to your attention further that the utmost respect for our people and our nation exists here in the Soviet Union. Trade union leaders called to the attention of the American delegation on July 4th that it was the American national holiday, our day of independence, and they gave us toasts honouring our July 4th and in celebration of the freedom and independence of our land, with the wish that our land and their land shall continue to be free and at peace with one another.

I can only say that what we have seen has indicated to us that this country has a peaceful economy. The automobile plant we visited was built in 1947. That plant produces not tanks, not airplane engines, but small passenger cars for use by the people of the Soviet Union.

I am informed that at this time unfortunately in our country there has been a cut of 40 per cent in automobile production in order for the reconversion to arms production to be able to take place. Here there is no cut-back in civilian production, as far as we have been able to see. We have only seen a greater desire to improve the peaceful activities of this country, to get better and more food in the bakery we were in, and to get better and more shoes in the shoe factory we were in, and the same with automobiles and every other plant that we have visited.

I must conclude that in our country someone must be kidding us. These people don't hate us. They don't want war with us. They are building for peace.



In the Moscow plant where the Moskvich cars
are made

**IN THE GUEST BOOK
OF THE LOW-POWERED AUTO PLANT,
MOSCOW**

The American trade union delegation expresses its appreciation and gratitude for the exceptionally friendly reception given us by the workers of this plant. We have found it to be clean and well-lighted, and the working conditions good. We did not see any speed-up. We talked to the workers and learned that they get good pay, and receive sick pay, vacation pay, pensions and other social insurance benefits without deductions from their wages. The equipment we saw at the

plant was efficient and up-to-date, and we saw finished cars coming off the assembly line.

Congratulations. We stand for friendship between the Soviet and American people. We want firm friendship.

Hilliard Ellis

Leon Straus

Warren Hoover

Fred Saniat

Vincent Moscato

Lee Candea

Marie Bowden

Hector Jacques

John Blackwell

Henry R. Batke, Jr.

Stanley Beczkiewicz

**IN THE GUEST BOOK
OF THE RAILWAYMEN'S HOSPITAL,
MOSCOW**

The American trade union delegation to this hospital has found it to be clean, beautiful and scientific.

We were impressed greatly by the democratic and decent treatment of the workers who were patients. Their health seems to be exceptionally well taken care of. It is tremendously educational and exciting to us that all workers in your country are entitled to and get this kind of exceptional care and treatment. Please accept our thanks for the opportunity to see the hospital and our congratulations, our heartiest, warmest fraternal congratulations.

Leon Straus

Hilliard Ellis

Fred Saniat

Stanley Beczkiewicz

Lee Candea

Warren Hoover

Hector Jacques

Marie Bowden

Vincent Moscato

John Blackwell

Henry R. Batke, Jr.

A FREE AND HAPPY PEOPLE

A Statement After Visiting Yalta

The American trade union delegation with workers from New York to California and representing many of the major industries in the U.S., after visiting Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad and Zaporozhie, have come here to Yalta.

In the atmosphere of the historical significance of this city we are reminded of the time when a greater understanding existed between the American people and the Soviet people. For it was here that our great President Roosevelt and the leader of the Soviet people, Premier Stalin, met and made agreements that solidified our peoples in our joint struggle against those who wanted to enslave us, German fascism.

However, the friendship and unity that existed then between our peoples has been partially destroyed. This has been done by those reactionary influences in the U.S. who try to besmirch Roosevelt's reputation and work, by those who cry out against the agreement reached in Yalta, by those who hate the social progress of the American people. Those same interests, not representing the majority of our people, have misrepresented the truth to us. And they have great power over means of communication, press and radio.

We have been told that the Soviet people are hungry, have bad working conditions, that slave labour exists, and that the Soviet Union wants war. We did not satisfy ourselves with the word of those who invited us here, the representatives of the Soviet trade unions, about these things. Instead we talked to hundreds and hundreds of workers in many, many plants and cities. We spontaneously picked them out in a plant at their bench and listened to them. The workers make a good living here in spite of economic problems caused



At the Moscow hospital for railwaymen

by the destruction during the war by the German fascists, and they are well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed. They pay only five to six per cent of their pay for rent, for example. They have from 14 to 30 days a year vacation, they are paid when sick and have unions and collective agreements to protect them. We have not been able to discover any slave labour. The people leave work spontaneously—surround us—answer our questions—ask of our conditions in the U.S. These are a free and happy people.

As to wanting or preparing for war—we have only seen production for peace: autos, tractors, housing construction for workers—an economy of peace. And everyone we spoke to expressed their great friendship for the American people and their greatest desire for peace.

Every city, factory, meeting, or person—bar none—sent a message to the American people through us calling for peace.

We are convinced that it was impossible to prearrange all this—that thousands of workers would show such a wholesome outpouring of affection, warmth and love as we have experienced. The sentiments were real.

This is only a preliminary report. When we complete our tour it will be finalized. At this point we can only conclude that we have been misinformed by those with selfish special interests in the U.S.A. The entire people here believe in friendship with the American people and want to preserve peace.

We who are Americans, who love our country and who have only the best interests of the American people at heart, who believe in President Roosevelt's prime plea of unity and friendship and peace—here at Yalta—call for the redevelopment of that solidarity and friendship between the American and Soviet people without which peace in this world is impossible.

We ask that any differences that may exist between our different social systems be settled by peaceful negotiations,

to the end that the most heartfelt desire of the American people—as we know it—and the same desire of the Soviet people—as we observed it—peace between our two peoples and the peoples of the world, can be attained regardless of any obstacles.

Leon Straus

Stanley Beczkiewicz

Hector Jacques

John Blackwell

Hilliard Ellis

Lee Candea

Marie Bowden

Henry R. Batke, Jr.

Fred Saniat

Warren Hoover

Vincent Moscato

Yalta

MEETING WITH TRADE UNIONISTS IN LENINGRAD

On July 4 the delegation attended a meeting of more than 100 active trade unionists of Leningrad at the Gorky Palace of Culture. N. N. Pshenitsyn, Chairman of the Regional Trade Union Council, presided.

Below are the speeches made at this meeting by Leon Straus, Hilliard Ellis, Marie Bowden and Warren Hoover.*

THE SOVIET PEOPLE WANT PEACE

LEON STRAUS

On behalf of my union—the International Fur and Leather Workers—and on behalf of the American workers I want to convey our deep friendship and hearty greetings to the Soviet people.

This is an especially important day for us. Today is July 4th, our day of independence, and we Americans, now far from our country which we deeply love and to which we wish the very best, take special pleasure in marking this day here at a time when we are working for firm friendship between our peoples, for international solidarity of the workers.

International working-class solidarity is something our peoples greatly need in this tense international situation.

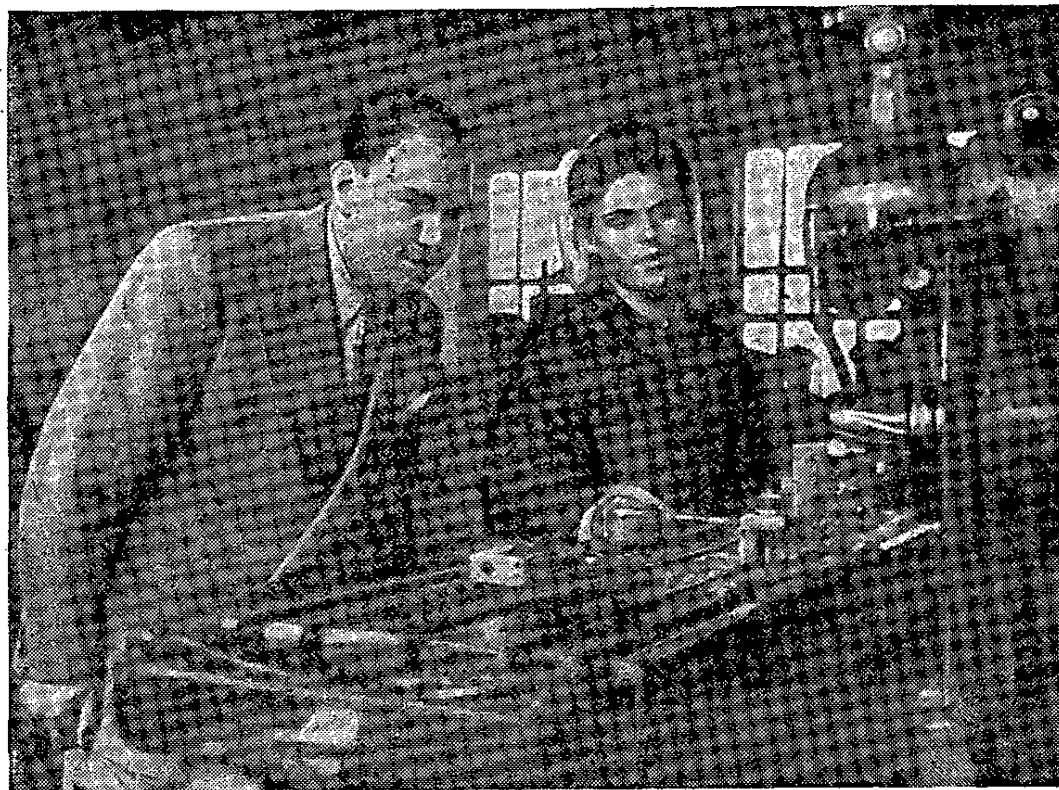
The last time I celebrated July 4th, American Independence Day, in Europe was at the end of the second.

* Retranslated from the minutes recorded in Russian.—Ed.

world war. We of the American army joyously marked that day together with your soldiers, who had won victory over fascism, who had won independence from fascist bondage.

Our American labour déléation has come here to acquaint itself with the living and working conditions of the Soviet people and with the hope that our visit may help to develop the friendship between our peoples to new and greater heights.

Much is said and written about the Soviet Union, and in the main these reports are distorted and coloured by the capitalist press and radio. These reports say that the conditions of the workers in the Soviet Union are frightful. We have been told, also, that the Soviet people do not have any civil



At a machine factory in Leningrad

liberties, that there is forced labour in the Soviet Union, and that the Soviet people want war.

During our short stay in your country we have seen many things and we are convinced (at any rate, I am) that in the Soviet Union there are all the civil rights and that Soviet workers have fine living and working conditions. From my meetings with people here I have arrived at the firm conviction that the sole desire of the Soviet people is peace.

Other questions which interest us and to which I hope we will receive a full answer are these: Is there enough food in your country? Are prices rising? What are the conditions of your national minorities?

We would like to see the labour conditions in various industries, and we would like to know whether free choice of jobs exists in the Soviet Union. The bourgeois press says that there is no free choice of jobs in the Soviet Union and hence no freedom.

It should be noted that today, when reaction stands at the head of our country, the wheel of history has been turned back, back from the days when Franklin Delano Roosevelt headed our government. Unfortunately the progressive labour laws adopted during Roosevelt's presidency have now been changed fundamentally and are operating in the opposite direction. At the present time such slave laws as the Taft-Hartley Act and Smith Act are being applied in our country. And instead of continuing the efforts which were begun by Roosevelt, our great president, the efforts for unity of the three Great Powers—the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States of America—the policy of our rulers has split the world into two camps.

As a result a colossal arms drive has begun in our country. Huge sums are going for war preparations. This naturally affects the living standard of the workers, which is constantly dropping, while the profits of the big corporations are steadily growing.

I want to cite some figures on this growth of corporation profits. During the past year they equalled 40 billion dollars, while the cost of living has increased by 190 per cent in the past four years; the food you could buy for ten dollars before the war now costs 24 dollars. Besides, the average working-class family, which makes about 3,000 dollars a year, pays out 800 dollars in taxes to the government. Not so long ago the administration instituted a wage-freeze, under which workers' wages can be raised by no more than 10 per cent, while prices have risen and can increase two, three and four times over.

It should also be pointed out that many trade union leaders have now betrayed the working class and are acting hand in glove with the big corporations. The only aim of such trade union leaders is self-aggrandizement.

But there is also a progressive trade union movement in our country, and it is growing daily. Some of the progressive unions are represented on our delegation.

In our country there are 11 independent unions which have been expelled from the C.I.O. for refusing to follow the policy of its leaders. Besides, there are progressive locals in the reactionary unions.

The progressive unions have a total membership of about 1,000,000. There are, for example, the electrical workers' union, with 300,000 members, and our fur and leather workers' union, with 100,000 members who, irrespective of their political convictions, support a progressive program. A large number of workers in the mine, mill and smelter workers' union, among the West Coast longshoremen and among the workers of the fish industry support a progressive program.

I could list many other progressive unions, but I think it is more important to point out that in a number of the unions headed by reactionary leaders many of the workers do not submit to the leadership. Among such unions, for example, are the united steel workers, the united auto workers and the united shoe workers, which are fighting for

progressive demands and which do not submit to the policy of their leadership.

However, I do not want you to get the false impression that progressive elements are the majority in the American unions. No, today this is not yet the case, but I want to point out that the progressive locals are coordinating their actions more and more. I also want to note that local coordination committees have been set up in ten cities in the United States.

Still, it should be emphasized that the situation in our country is very difficult and we are up against a very strong opponent.

At the present time the employers are resorting to various methods to split the trade union movement. Humiliation of the national minorities and persecution and lynching of Negroes are continuing in our country.

In this situation of soaring war taxes, increasing persecution of progressive leaders and abolition of civil rights we consider unity and the fight for peace most essential. That is why our American delegation which is here today fully supported the proposal made by U.S. Senator Johnson, the American delegate to the United Nations, and by Soviet delegate Malik for putting an end to the war in Korea. We fully support the proposal for a cease-fire and conclusion of peace in Korea.

In conclusion I want to tell about the great joy we experienced when we saw that the Soviet people sincerely desire peace. The Soviet people want peace, just as the American people want peace.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to visit the Soviet Union so that I can see everything with my own eyes, and I want to assure you that when we return our delegation will work to promote friendly relations between our peoples and world peace.

WE ARE WINNING VICTORIES IN OUR FIGHT

HILLIARD ELLIS

Friends, I am honoured by this opportunity of speaking to you. I know your country and have followed its progress for the past fifteen years, but I never thought I would have a chance to come here and see it all for myself and rejoice in your achievements.

I've been here about two weeks, and so I can't picture it yet very fully myself, but everything I have been able to see has surpassed my expectations. This refers especially to the Soviet people's attitude towards me as a Negro. Paul Robeson, whom you all here probably know, spoke to me about this for many, many hours. I think you would be interested in my telling you how the Negro people are treated in our country today.

As you know (and I have no doubt you do) we, the Negro people in the United States, are fighting for equal rights. There can be no doubt that you also know that under the existing forms of administration in the United States we Negroes are in the position of second-rate citizens, and very often, when we raise the question of equal rights, we are told: "Go to Russia." I have had the good luck to come here, to the Soviet Union, and to see with my own eyes what the attitude to the Negro people is here. When I return I will fight all-out for Negro rights.

If we take into account the nonsense spread by the Voice of America, many listeners will find it a bit hard to understand what I am going to say.

The Constitution has a series of amendments, like the 13th, 14th, and 15th, giving the Negro people of the United States equal rights, but though they are native Americans they do not enjoy these rights.

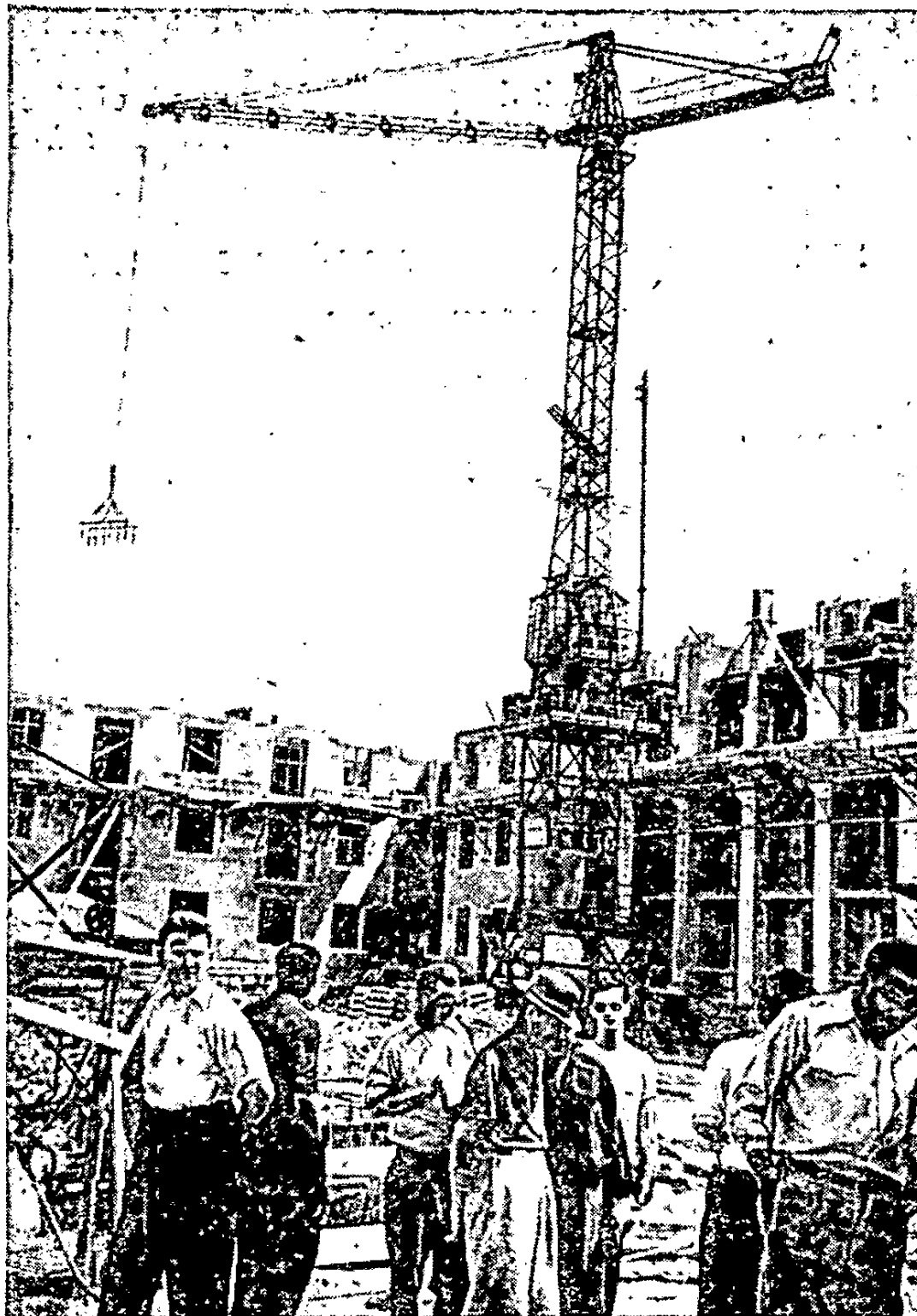
In many parts of the United States you can come across such things, for example, as separate schools for Ne-

groes, separate hospitals, separate places of entertainment. For the Negroes everything is separate. And only because they are Negroes.

I should like to note that aside from all the suffering caused the Negro people, Negroes are further deprived of equal rights because there is not a single Negro in the government. The United States Congress has about five hundred members and it may be of interest to you to point out that there is not a single representative of the workers among these five hundred. They are either representatives of the bourgeoisie or lawyers. The 15,000,000 Negroes have only two representatives. But unfortunately even these two don't express the real interests of the Negro working people. They support the policy of the big corporations and the big capitalists.

I am sure that the majority of these injustices will be abolished and remedied when we have greater working-class unity and when the Negro people will be the masters of their own destiny. Today, when a new war hysteria is so widespread in our country, this is impossible. With the war hysteria which we observe in our country, especially during the past year, many progressive leaders are afraid to come out in defence of Negro rights. They are also afraid to come out in defence of peace, because those who come out in defence of peace, and in defence of Negro rights, are immediately called Communists and are hounded. But I must tell you that the Negro people are very well aware of the Soviet people's attitude toward Negroes.

I want to point out that today the Negro people no longer rely upon the leaders of the organization known as the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People. Under our leaders Paul Robeson and Ferdinand Smith we have set up the National Council of Negro Workers and, together with the progressive organizations which we here represent, and side by side with other progressive



Visiting a Zaporozhie housing development

organizations in the United States, we are winning victories in our fight.

I want again to thank the people of Leningrad, of Moscow and of the Soviet Union for making me feel like a free and equal person for the first time in my life.

**I HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOUR COUNTRY
AND YOUR PEOPLE**

MARIE BOWDEN

I am very glad to have this opportunity to thank the leaders of the Soviet trade unions for their invitation to visit their country and for the amazing kindness shown me during my stay in the U.S.S.R. I have come to you as a rank-and-file worker in a machine factory and a rank-and-file union member, as a representative of the most oppressed section of the American people. As an ordinary Negro woman, I have formed a definite opinion of your country. I have compared the situation in your country with the situation in the U.S. and I will tell you briefly the results of this comparison.

Although Negroes, as slaves, fought for their country's independence, although Negroes fought against slavery, and although they fought—in special army units—to free the world from Hitler fascism, the Negro people are still treated in the United States as a second-rate section of the population. To this day Negroes are being lynched. In just the state of Tennessee 400 Negroes have been lynched since the second world war. In California, from where I come, the police beat up Negroes practically every day. Just last year four were killed.

During the last war a Negro woman was tied to a tree and pulled to pieces. A Negro woman, Rosa Lee Ingram, and two of her sons have been in jail for three years now, although they committed no crime.

The wife of one of the Negroes executed in Martinsville has received an eviction order.

In the field of labour the Negroes are also severely discriminated against. Only a few of them can find work, and for the Negro women jobs are almost impossible to get—for them it's either the menial work of a domestic servant or else unemployment. Negroes are hired last and fired first.

In the Soviet Union I have seen the tremendous difference between the living conditions of the Soviet people and the life of the American people.

I have seen buildings which were destroyed during the war against fascism. I know very well that war brings death and destruction. I know the tremendous sacrifices made by the Soviet people. I know their strength—a strength whose equal it is difficult to find and impossible to overcome. I have seen how life is being born out of the ruins, how big construction jobs are being carried out, how new houses are going up—houses for the workers, houses of culture, rest homes, museums, fine hospitals. I have seen cleanliness everywhere, exceptional cleanliness both in the streets and in factories, and this has made a great impression on me. I have seen what the Soviet Government is doing for the workers: rest homes, hospitals, children's camps, nursery schools.

If I did not have to go back to fight for better living conditions in the U.S., for freedom, democracy and peace, I would like to stay and live in the Soviet Union, because here I am treated with the same respect as all women are in your country, women who enjoy equal rights and opportunities and whose labour is so appreciated.

Nothing in the attitude toward me ever reminded me of the country of the lynch law. Everywhere we went I saw happy faces. I have fallen in love with your country and your people.

I greet the Soviet people and on behalf on my trade union I express the desire for peace with your country.

I WILL TELL ABOUT EVERYTHING I SAW IN THE U.S.S.R.

WARREN HOOVER

Friends, I want to thank the Soviet people for the invitation to come to the Soviet Union and to convey friendly greetings from the workers of our country.

I have come here as a representative of Local 751 and the Ohio district council of the United Electrical and Radio Workers of America to investigate labour conditions all over Europe, and when I return home I will tell about everything I saw in the Soviet Union to the 30,000 workers I represent.

I work in a shop manufacturing electrical equipment and am president of our local, and I know that throughout the



In Leningrad

twelve years our union has been in existence all our locals have been progressive. We have always fought for the vital interests of the workers, and we are continuing to do so.

Our progressive United Electrical and Radio Workers has done everything possible to improve labour conditions, wages and services for the workers. We have won a pay increase, higher pensions, longer vacations, and so on. But because there were many people in our progressive unions who tried to split our ranks, and also because war hysteria is so widespread in our country, the employers were able to put pressure on our workers. All this brought about a split in our union. As a result our union now has slightly more than 300,000 members left, out of more than 400,000. But we hope in the next few years to reunite and increase the number of our members.

This split dealt heavy damage not only to the workers of our union, but to the entire progressive movement in the United States. Because of the lack of trade union unity the workers now find it difficult to fight for their economic demands, for wage increases. But thanks to the efforts of our progressive unions we are doing everything we can to raise the workers' living standards.

Everything I have seen and learned in the U.S.S.R. encourages one to fight for friendly relations between the workers of the U.S.S.R. and the workers of the United States. On the basis of all that I have seen here with my own eyes I feel that we have every opportunity of creating a basis for developing friendship and mutual understanding so that the workers of all the countries of the world might raise their living standards and ensure peace.

MEETING WITH TRADE UNIONISTS IN MOSCOW

On July 17 the delegation met more than 350 representatives of Moscow trade unions in the Grand Hall of the Palace of Labour. K.S. Kuznetsova, Secretary of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R., presided.

*Fred Saniat, Lee Candea, Stanley Beczkiewicz, Marie Bowden, John Blackwell and Leon Straus told the meeting their impressions of the Soviet Union and spoke about the conditions of American workers.**

I HAVE SEEN THAT THE AMERICAN PRESS PRINTS LIES ABOUT THE SOVIET UNION

FRED SANIAT

I address you today on behalf of three delegates from three different states. We have all come to a unanimous opinion on the question I am now going to speak about.

I must say I am very sorry our tour is coming to an end. During this short stay in the Soviet Union I have seen many things of historic importance and significance. I have seen your fine work in reconstruction to make the life of the Soviet people even better than it is now.

I have visited many factories and many shops in the Soviet Union and have come to the conclusion that they are all modern, well-equipped, clean and orderly, that they have all the conditions for good work. I have spoken to a large

* The speeches have been retranslated from the minutes recorded in Russian.—Ed.



In Zaporozhie

number of people and they have always willingly answered our questions. This goes for every city we visited.

I have seen that the American press prints lies about the Soviet Union, and if this doesn't stop I think it will spread only hate, mistrust and misfortune in our country.

But I am sure that the truth will win out, and so are all the workers who are fighting for peace on this earth.

During my stay in the Soviet Union I have seen that the Soviet people are building their future, giving the children a fine upbringing in the spirit of friendship and on a high standard of culture. I am sure that in the near future the people of your country will enjoy the peace and happiness you fully deserve.

In conclusion I want to thank our hosts—the Soviet trade unions and the workers of the Soviet Union—for their kindness and the wonderful reception they have given us during our stay in the Soviet Union. It is a reception I will never forget. In return I can offer only my friendship and express my gratitude.

I pledge that when I return I will tell only the truth, only what I have seen, so that on this basis we will be able to establish closer contact and unity between our countries.

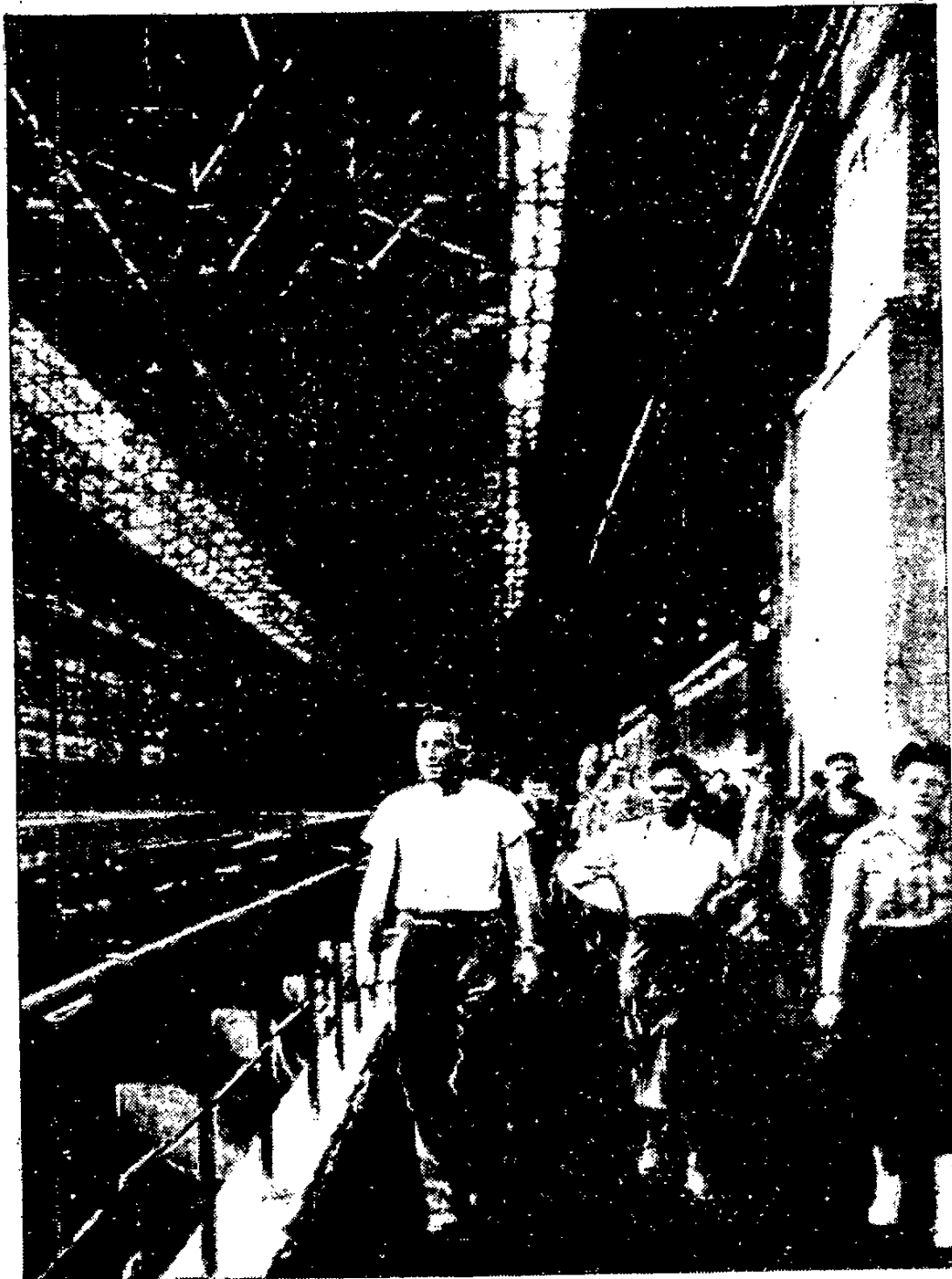
Peace and happiness for the nations of the world!

HAPPY PEOPLE

LEE CANDEA

I am very happy to have this opportunity to say a few words here.

In a few hours we shall be leaving the Soviet Union. Although I feel a little sad at leaving many new friends and acquaintances here, I am also anxious to return to my own land to tell the American workers my observations and conclusions as the result of my experiences here.



In the rolling mill department of the Zaporozhie steel plant

3



During the lunch hour at a Leningrad machine factory

I will touch upon one aspect of my experiences which has deeply impressed me—the Soviet people as I have seen them and gotten to know them.

We were greeted at every airport, in every city, with strong handclasps of friendship. We were brought flowers, a wonderful expression of warmth, love and friendship. In every city we visited, you opened your hearts to us and gave us the key to your cities. Wherever we wished to go we had only to mention it and it was arranged that we go—more often—you offered us more than we could see. You took us to concerts, theatres, operas and operettas. No effort was spared that our delegation obtain the maximum amount of knowledge about life in the Soviet Union.

We visited plants, factories, rest homes, a bakery, a winery, children's camps, a collective farm and many, many other places. Wherever we went, we stopped the people at work, on the street, at random to ask questions and they always responded with pride in their work, their country, their aims and their achievements.

We were all moved by the fast disappearing signs of the horrible destruction caused by the war unleashed by Hitlerite fascism.

The Soviet people's desire for peace is reflected in the tremendous large-scale building, reconstruction and restoration program. We found it incredible that in just a few short years, such outstanding progress has been made, and with it, the rich development of culture in every form. The Soviet people have been truly building for peace.

Much of the American press has resorted to outright slanderous lies, distortions and misquotations about the Soviet Union.



At the Linotype Plant in Leningrad

Our country is being mobilized for war. There are powerful forces in our country who call for war. These are the same people who would gear business in our country to provide war contracts with tremendous war profits for a few people. These are the selfish interests who have refused to hear the voices of the American people calling for an end to the fighting in Korea and for peace with China and the whole world. Despite this, instead of treating us as enemies, in your welcome to us you extended your hand of friendship to the American people.

You told us you see the distinction between the American people as a whole and those individuals who are enemies of all the working people of the world, of which we have our share in America.

We will never forget the reception we received in the children's camp, the spontaneous warmth, affection and love expressed when they surrounded us and sang to us. It seemed to me that this could only be the reflection of their teaching and training. This is quite a contrast to the atmosphere surrounding our children. Through the radio, movies, television and our school system they are being taught what to do in case of an atom bomb attack. When the Soviet children greeted us they weren't thinking of war, but of singing and body building. They sent their love to our children in America. They know of our country. They asked for our Paul Robeson. Their teachings of no discrimination against any minority groups and their sympathy for any oppressed people became sharply clear from their especially warm reception of our Negro delegates. It therefore became very apparent that contrary to our American press the Soviet children have been indoctrinated only with pride for their country, respect for other fellow human beings and the rights of all people to live as equals, to live as they please, however they please and wherever they please. Such training helps to build for peace.



Lee Candea chats with members of the Ilyich Collective Farm,
Zaporozhie Region

All around we have received every conceivable sign of friendship. We have seen a happy people engaged in peaceful and creative labour. The standard of living is good. Wages are high. Rents are amazingly low. Food is reasonably priced.

Trade unions here are free and strong ones, and they ensure Soviet workers many advantages which American workers do not have.

In return for your friendship the only request you have made of us is that we tell the truth of what we have seen and heard in the Soviet Union.

I pledge to you that when I return home I will tell the truth about the U.S.S.R. not only to the 30,000 workers who are members of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, but to many other thousands whom I will meet. I pledge to let the American workers know of your wonderful country, the wonderful people and of your sincere desire for peace.

**WE HAVE LEARNED A GREAT DEAL
IN THE SOVIET UNION**

STANLEY BECKIEWICZ

First of all I should like to point out that I am very glad of this opportunity to spend my last day in the Soviet Union with trade unionists and with Soviet trade union leaders.

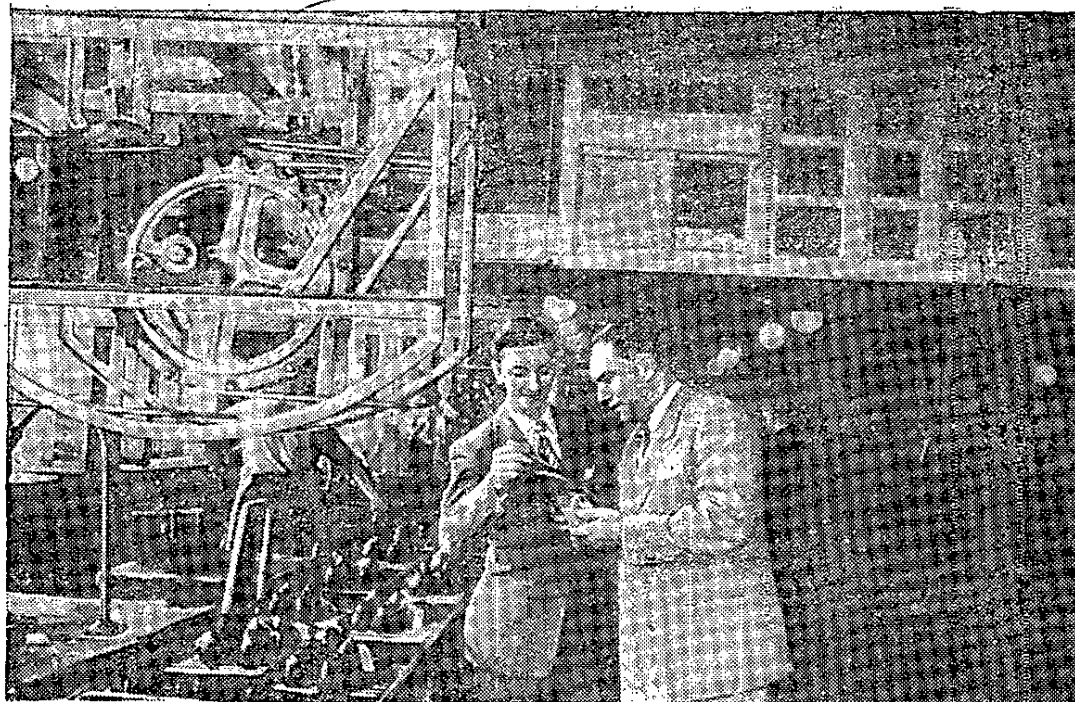
We representatives of the American working class have visited Europe and Soviet Russia. We have come with the object of promoting mutual understanding and solving problems that confront our two peoples.

I personally think that during our stay in your country we have learned a great deal by our exchange of opinions on many questions. We have also become acquainted with living conditions and wages. Moreover, we have seen that the workers everywhere want peace. We know that you had many difficulties resulting from the last war and we also understand that the country's prosperity and development cannot be achieved immediately after such destruction as was caused by the war. We have come here to establish closer friendship and collaboration, so as to work in peace.

I thank you for the opportunity to visit your factories. To me the shoe factory was of special interest because, having worked a large number of years in this industry, I wanted to know what difference there was between production methods in your country and ours.

After a warm reception given us by the workers, the chief engineer of the shoe factory told us about the damage caused by the war and about the reconstruction work done since the war.

When we entered the shoe shop I was immediately impressed by the cleanliness, the order, and the abundance of light and air. The next thing that made a strong impression on me was the high degree of mechanization in all the processes and the conveyer system.



At the conveyer in the Skorokhod Shoe Factory, Leningrad

But though there was a conveyer system we did not notice any speed-up. Another thing that struck me was that women were easily doing jobs which in America are done only by high-skilled men workers. When we asked workers whether the work was hard they always smiled and answered, "No."

As for the medical service and the first-aid facilities at the factory—this was a complete revelation to me. I was especially impressed by the clinic which this shoe factory had. In our country it is considered a big achievement if a factory has a first-aid station.

We trade union members and delegates feel that in the near future representatives of the Soviet people may perhaps have the opportunity to visit our country, and we hope that if such a delegation does come we will try to return the warmth, the attention and the friendship shown our delegation.

An especially strong impression was made on me by the warm reception given us by the children of Leningrad and I extend my heartfelt thanks to them.

On behalf of the American workers I want to convey to you our wishes for friendship and peace.

**IN THE SOVIET UNION PEOPLE ARE VALUED
ABOVE ALL ELSE**

MARIE BOWDEN

I am very happy to have received such a warm reception from the Soviet trade union leaders. On behalf of the people I represent I want to assure the Soviet trade unions that invited us here, as well as the chairman of the present meeting, that the whole truth about what we saw will be conveyed to the American people.

My position here today is somewhat unusual, yet I am proud that I speak both on my own behalf and on behalf of one of the members of our delegation, Hilliard Ellis, who is ill and asked me to speak for him.

I think that only Comrade Hilliard Ellis and I can fully appreciate, more than the other members of the delegation, the conditions of the Soviet workers as compared with the conditions our workers have in the United States.

I should like to point out that Comrade Hilliard Ellis has a passport limiting his stay abroad and must return home earlier. He asked me to tell you that the "iron curtain" we hear so much about does not exist in the Soviet Union, but we did discover that there is a curtain of flowers here, and that in the Soviet Union, for the first time in his life, he felt he was a full-fledged human being with all the rights enjoyed by the entire people.

Comrade Hilliard Ellis represents workers in the auto industry, and as a foundry man he was especially interested

in foundry work. We visited an auto plant, inspected the foundry shop and saw that the working conditions in the Soviet Union are very good, and that the mechanization is equal to the mechanization in the United States. The safety devices we saw at the auto plant made a very big impression on Hilliard Ellis. He said that when he returned home he would fight with all his energy for similar conditions for the American auto workers.

During our stay here we really came to understand that in the Soviet Union people are valued above all else. We discovered, also, that everything done in the Soviet Union is done for the workers. Splendid working conditions have been created for them. The Soviet workers have rest homes and sanatoriums, they have libraries, they go to the theatre. The workers have opportunities for study and advancement, for which there are special schools, courses and colleges. The American workers, especially Negro workers, do not have such conditions.

It should be noted that the conditions of the Negroes have been growing steadily worse and worse since the end of the second world war. Proof of this is the persecution and the malice toward Negroes, especially in the South. For instance, Negro children can't study in the same school with white children, they can't use the same textbooks.

We have a saying in the United States: the Negro is last to be hired and first to be fired. I would like to tell you about the following case. A week before we left, a whole block of houses in which Negro workers lived in a Negro district was burned down because a progressive leader lived in that district. The well-known progressive leader Dubois, the historian, who has written a history of the Negro people, has been hounded for many years because he is one of the leaders in the American peace movement. Paul Robeson's passport was taken away from him because when he returned home from abroad he told only the truth, and not lies. There are many cases of lynching in our country. As you know, the

seven Martinsville boys were executed. Today only four of the Trenton Six are at liberty.

I mention this here because it is impossible not to speak of this when you come to the Soviet Union, when you see the living conditions of the Soviet workers. We know that there is no forced labour in the Soviet Union, and we also know very well that in the southern parts of the United States the status of the Negroes is that of semislaves. At one of the factories we visited a worker came up to us, greeted us warmly, shook our hands and invited us to remain here and work. That was the invitation of a man who is satisfied with his job. I am sure that a man working under slave labour conditions would never make such a proposal.

When we return, Hilliard Ellis and I will tell only the truth about what we have seen and learned in the Soviet Union, and no representatives of the administration will be able to make us shut up because the workers know that if the speaker is a Negro worker—a representative of the most militant section of the Negro population of America—then he is fighting to throw off the same chains they themselves are wearing.

Hilliard Ellis asked me to tell you that he has faith in the American working class, and that he has faith in the working class of the Soviet Union. If we work in close collaboration and friendship we will guarantee peace.

In conclusion I want to convey wishes of friendship and happiness from the workers we represent and wishes for every success in building the society in which people will be guided by the principle: from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs.

I SAW FREEDOM AND HAPPINESS IN YOUR COUNTRY

JOHN BLACKWELL

I was elected by railroad workers of the city of Spokane and also by woodworkers and mine, mill and smelter workers of Idaho. I have come with a message of friendship and peace from the workers whom I here represent. But I had difficulties in conveying this message of good will, peace and friendship owing to the stream of propaganda lies in the U.S. press and radio. I had difficulties in arranging my trip. When I applied to the State Department for a passport and declared the purpose of my trip, I was refused. I protested against this violation of my rights. The workers who elected me also protested. They appealed to a number of persons, who helped me to get permission for the trip. And so, thanks to the pressure exerted by the workers we succeeded in having the original decision of the State Department revised. The workers who sent me want to know the truth. I have seen this truth with my own eyes.

I represent hard rock miners, and I live in the state of Idaho, where the Western federation of miners was founded by one of our leaders, who drafted the charter of the federation while in jail. You workers know the name of this man who headed our fight. He was William Haywood, whose ashes are buried in the Kremlin wall. It was then that we began our campaign for better working conditions and higher pay. But our first efforts to improve labour conditions produced no results because the employers did not listen to our demands. There was nothing left for us to do but strike for our demands. That was our first strike. The workers played a militant part in that strike, proudly wearing striker's armbands. The government took a number of repressive measures, going so far as to set fire to the settlement where the miners and their families lived. Police squads were sent out against the workers.

Our trade union was born in those historic days. We fought for our demands for many years, but up until 1941 we did not have any definite successes. In 1941 our union won recognition on a national scale. I was one of the first members of the committee which negotiated on wage questions, and I have been on this committee ever since.

My colleagues and I returned from the army to find that a lull had set in in the working-class movement, but since 1946 we have taken every measure to steer our work in the proper direction. We have scored a number of successes in social insurance and technological improvements. Now we are negotiating for a new system of social insurance and higher pay.

After visiting the coal mines in the Tula district I must say that the Soviet Government pays much attention to the conditions of the miners. In conclusion I want to say that when I return I will tell the workers who sent me that I saw freedom and happiness in your country. I will convey a message of peace and friendship to them.

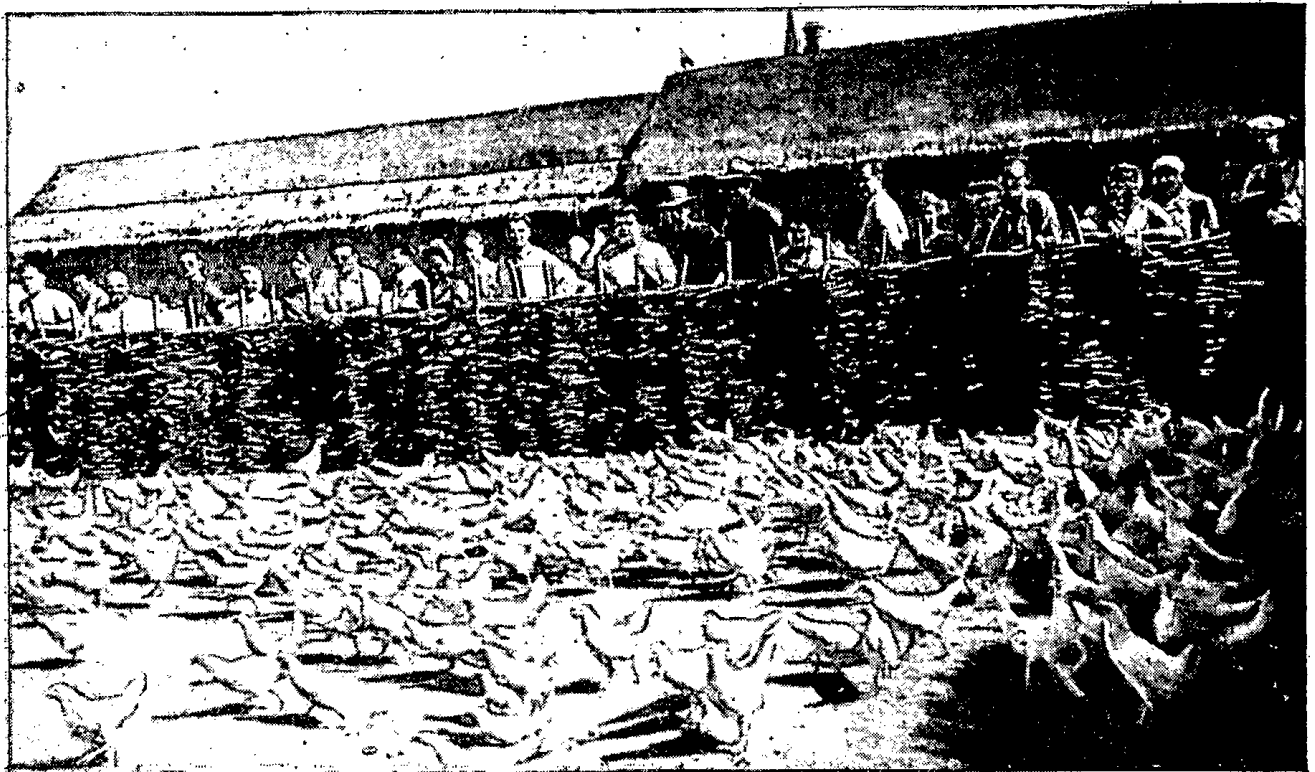
**THE SOVIET PEOPLE
MAKE A GOOD LIVING**

LEON STRAUS

I greet you on behalf of the president of our Fur and Leather Workers' Union, Ben Gold, and on behalf of the 100,000 members of our union in the United States. We have already spoken much about what we have seen in the U.S.S.R., and we have made several press statements. A full report has been made at a press conference.

During our stay in the Soviet Union we have received answers to our questions and the questions which American workers asked us to get cleared up. We did not see any hungry or starving people in the Soviet Union as we were

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The delegates visit the poultry section of the Ilyich Collective Farm, Zaporozhie Region

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told in the United States we would. On the contrary, we saw that the Soviet people make a good living. They are well-fed, well-clothed and well-housed.

I see that you are smiling. That was also the case in the several cities we visited in your country, but nevertheless stories about "starvation" in the U.S.S.R. are printed in the American press.

In studying your living conditions we saw that you have a system of social insurance which gives the workers splendid benefits as regards vacations, pensions, sick pay, and so on. Although some of the members of our delegation do not agree with the political system in your country, they declare that the American working class needs such benefits.

We saw that civil rights exist in the Soviet Union; all the rights of man are granted the Soviet people. As a contrast I want to say a few words about labour conditions in our country. Here is an example. Since the beginning of the war in Korea about which our press has shouted so much, huge sums have been invested in American industry, but it is not the workers who have gained from this. It should be noted that there are several million unemployed and several million part-time workers, and that the number of unemployed is growing larger and larger in the industries manufacturing consumer goods.

It is becoming more and more obvious to our workers that a war economy brings no benefits to the American working class, despite the fact that 60 billion dollars have been invested in industry. On the contrary, prices have soared. There is no price control in our country. On the other hand the government has instituted a wage-freeze. This economic policy is leading us to a grave economic crisis.

A little while ago we had a talk with Chairman Kuznetsov of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R., and we told him about price statistics. In particular, I want to say that our Bureau of Labour Statistics, which publishes the official figures, has had to note that

food prices have increased by 132 per cent since 1939. As a rule, the Bureau of Labour Statistics "slightly" minimizes, it gives incorrect figures. A number of trade unions that are conducting research in this field testify that prices have increased by 190 per cent. For example, food prices this year are 24 per cent higher than last year. Moreover taxes on the population have trebled. A family earning 3,200 dollars a year, which according to official statistics is the subsistence minimum, pays about 800 dollars a year in taxes.

While the living standard of the people is steadily dropping, the profits of the employers have increased sharply. Let me cite an example. In the four years from 1935 to 1939 these profits comprised 5.5 billion dollars a year. During the war, between 1942 and 1945, the yearly profits rose to 22.5 billion dollars. Between 1947 and 1949 they rose to 30 billion a year, and in 1950 to 40 billion.

Here is another example. In a single year General Motors makes a profit of 4,000 dollars per worker, or more than the average worker earns in a year in this company.

Under the wage-freeze the worker's pay can be increased only 10 per cent, while food prices can increase two, three and four times. And though we are fighting against this, the wage-freeze bars increases of more than 10 per cent.

Although the working class has fought throughout its history for better economic conditions, this situation exists in our country today because the top trade union leaders have betrayed the working class and serve the interests of big business. Nevertheless our workers are continuing their fight for better economic conditions. The majority of the progressive unions which were expelled from the C.I.O. last year now embrace about 1,000,000 workers, headed by progressive leaders.

Some of these progressive unions are represented on our delegation: the electrical workers, the fur and leather workers, the mine, mill and smelter workers and other unions. The progressive unions include the West Coast longshore-

men headed by Harry Bridges, the fishermen's union, and so on. The workers of these progressive unions are combining their fight for better economic conditions with a fight against the C.I.O. leadership which is betraying the interests of the working class.

When the C.I.O. leaders joined up with the big corporations and supported their policy, it became clear to the American workers, especially to the workers in these unions, that the C.I.O. leaders are not defending the interests of the working people.

As for the leaders of the A.F. of L., they do not have to be taught how to betray the working class. They have learned this well in the course of many years, and such "friends" of the workers, say, as Matthew Woll and William Green are teaching their assistants to hate the Soviet Union and to betray the working class.

The worsening of the economic situation has spurred the progressive unions to organize coordination committees in major cities in a number of states. Coordination committees have been set up in 15 cities, consisting of representatives of the progressive unions, C.I.O. unions and, to a lesser degree, representatives of A.F. of L. unions.

Besides close contact and coordination among locals, our unions also have contact on a national scale. However, we have not yet succeeded in fully solidifying our ranks. This is one of the pressing problems facing our progressive labour movement in the United States.

The betrayers of the working class who now head a number of unions are showing their true colours more and more clearly. James Carey has gone so far as to propose an alliance with fascism to fight the Soviet Union. And though they are now in power, these leaders, like James Carey, who are calling for a struggle against you, won't hold their posts long.

Trade union members look upon the Russian people, who fought German fascism, who were our allies in the war

against Hitlerism, as our friends, and we look upon the German fascists as our enemies.

Our union has 15,000 war veterans, who know what it means to have the Soviet people as an ally, because the Soviet people's struggle helped save our lives. I have had the experience of personal acquaintance with Russian soldiers. I will tell you that when, during the war, one of our big units was surrounded by the Germans in the Ardennes, we followed the radio reports of the Soviet advance with great attention because we knew that the advance of the Soviet Army was saving our lives. I feel that I owe my life to the Soviet Army.

Despite the arrests and all the persecution in our country at the present time, I want to assure you that we are true and sincere friends of your country and will always remain friends of your people.

We will constantly call for peace and general disarmament because that is the way we can ensure peace.

Long live friendship between the American and Soviet people and among the people of the whole world!

Long live peace!

THE REPORT OF THE DELEGATION IN NEW YORK

Upon its return the delegation held a press conference in New York on August 9, which was attended by reporters from trade union and bourgeois newspapers.

Leon Straus, Chairman of the delegation, read the following general report, signed by all the members of the delegation.

The American trade union delegation that visited Europe in July 1951 was composed of representatives of workers in A.F. of L., C.I.O. and independent unions from coast to coast. They came from the following industries: automobile, mines, shoe, sheet metal, fur and leather, electrical and machine workers, distributive trades, department stores and hotel and restaurant workers. The delegates also represented a wide variety of political opinions.

The delegation spent five weeks in Europe and visited the following countries: France, Italy, Poland and the Soviet Union. In addition the delegates were able to spend a limited time in Berlin, Vienna and Prague.

The delegation went to Europe at the invitation of European trade unions. In each country we were invited by leading trade union federations and met with both trade unionists and their leaders.

One thing that we found in every country we visited was a deep desire on the part of the people for friendship with the American people. Wherever we went, workers expressed this sentiment. In some countries the degree of unity of workers, in their own interest, was greater than in others but in all countries we were made aware of this desire on

the part of all workers for friendship, and the most important message we were asked to bring back was that of peace.

Similarly, even though conditions of labour varied in the countries we visited, we found that everywhere working people have much to gain from the friendship of the American people, just as we have much to gain from the things our delegation was able to see in the course of our visit.

Here are some of the observations we made of labour conditions in the countries we visited:

France.—In France we met many trade union leaders, representatives of various kinds of trade unions, in addition to visiting workers right in factories. We met with leaders of the electrical workers' union, metal workers' union, miners, paper-box workers, fur and leather, and shoe workers, as well as with the General Secretary of the General Confederation of Labour Brother Frachon. From all of them we heard this message of friendship, international solidarity of labour and peace.

The delegation visited an airplane engine plant outside Paris called the Hispano-Suiza Plant. We met workers and leaders of all the three major unions in France—the General Confederation of Labour, the CGT (which has an overwhelming majority of workers unified in its ranks), the Force Ouvrière and the Christian Democratic Union. For example, in this plant out of 3,400 workers, 1,860 were members of the CGT, 269 were members of the Force Ouvrière, 299 were members of the Christian Democratic Union, and 380 were members of the Independent Union of Engineers.

We soon learned that the division of workers into many federations within the same factory inevitably weakens the workers' strength and therefore their conditions. For one thing, a very large percentage of workers were not members of any union. Their pay and working conditions reflected this. They earn an average of 37.5 cents hourly. Without exception all workers told us that they were unable to meet the tremendously high cost of living on their salary. Prices

have skyrocketed in France just as they have in our own country. Workers informed us that the employers were making exorbitant profits, while they, the workers, are unable to make ends meet. The delegation had an opportunity to observe housing conditions of workers and saw the most miserable hovels and shacks that it is possible to imagine with horrible plumbing and toilet facilities.

However, this report would be incomplete if it did not make clear that the workers of France are uniting more and more and are fighting for better wages and working conditions. The majority of workers have a strong labour organization in the CGT. In the Renault automobile plant, which has about 35,000 workers, the CGT has 28,000 members, the Force Ouvrière—1,700, and the Christian Democratic Union—2,800. The CGT functions very effectively as a powerful organization of labour, with regular meetings, conferences and many struggles conducted for better working conditions. Its concern for workers goes beyond the actual factory. We were fortunate enough to be able to visit a camp owned and operated by the metal workers' union, where we saw how the union makes efforts to improve the life of its members.

French workers asked for support of the American trade unions in their struggles against their employers for a decent living wage. They pointed out that the employers of America are giving every kind of assistance to French employers with grants of money and machinery through the Marshall plan enabling them to make outrageous profits.

The French workers, on the other hand, are suffering more and more each year. It is no wonder that they call for international solidarity between French and American workers to mutually improve our conditions.

Italy.—In Italy we met with active workers and trade unionists in the city of Rome as well as with leaders of the General Confederation of Italian Labour and its General Secretary Di Vittorio.

We discussed problems of American labour and answered their questions. Similarly we heard from Italian workers about their problems. There too workers pointed out the need for greater labour solidarity, as aid to the increasing strength of Italian labour in its struggle for better conditions. We learned that the CGIL, like the CGT in France, has a great majority of workers in its ranks. It has a membership of five million while the Christian Democratic Union has 500,000 members and the Social Democratic Union—150,000 members.

The leaders of the CGIL including many who are themselves Catholics and Socialists pointed out to us that when labour struggles take place, all workers, regardless of their affiliation, participate in them, but that the only guarantee of greater progress of labour is consistent unity within one federation.

One of the most serious problems faced by Italian workers is unemployment, which has increased greatly. Unfortunately the Marshall plan has stimulated rather than reduced this unemployment. This example was given to us: previously Italy produced a great deal of machinery which she had then exchanged for wheat from the United States, thus providing employment to many workers in the machine industry. However, under the Marshall plan the United States gave a great deal of grain to Italy. Since there is no longer an exchange of machinery for this grain, many machine factories have had to close down and workers have been thrown out of work. To make matters worse, Italian industrialists were loaned 200 million dollars under the Marshall plan to buy machinery from the United States. Thus while they made a tremendous profit out of this transaction, it hurts Italian workers by causing greater unemployment. Not only that, but workers, through their taxes, are forced to pay interest on this gift, thereby taking an additional cut in their standard of living. We were told that there are two million unemployed workers and another two mil-

lion workers working part time. This was confirmed by United Nations figures which indicate four million unemployed in Italy. When one considers that the total labour force in Italy is only nine million workers we can get an idea of the terrific rate of unemployment.

As an example of how difficult it is for workers to live in Italy we were informed that a worker needs about 60,000 lire monthly in order to make ends meet. The average pay is 30,000 lire monthly or about 50 dollars. This is 50 dollars monthly, not weekly. How can these workers be expected to make a living?

But in Italy, like in France, the story is incomplete without indicating the tremendous struggle that the CGIL is conducting and the many gains this is winning for workers. Last September, the workers through their unions won a wage increase. They have had to conduct many strikes; they have had a great deal of interference from employers, the government and from those who are trying to disunite their organizations. But despite these obstacles they were able to win an additional eight per cent wage increase this last April.

As far as conditions are concerned we found that many Italian workers work 48 hours a week—eight hours daily six days a week; others work longer hours. The union has been able to win a 20 per cent bonus for overtime work in some industries and a 50 per cent bonus in other industries. Most holidays are paid as holidays and workers receive double time for holiday work. Only a small percentage of workers have paid vacations. The union has succeeded in eliminating discrimination of any kind in industry.

In going to and coming from East Europe we were able to halt in the United States zones of Berlin and Vienna. Unfortunately, we did not have opportunities to visit factories and discuss problems with workers. However, we did notice one thing of great importance which we feel should be reported. Here was the dividing line of Europe. Here we saw

American soldiers serving as occupation troops in Germany and Austria. Here we began to see that the world is divided into two parts and that if there is to be peace, these two parts must learn to live together. It is our conviction that this process is not being helped by the presence of occupation armies anywhere—whether they are American or Russian or any other.

We visited Prague while in transit to Poland and the Soviet Union. The day we spent in Prague waiting for an airplane interested the delegation very much. Throughout the city we saw many signs of American traditions, and influences and backgrounds in housing, architecture and many other aspects of life. We saw clean streets, well-organized social order, prosperous people and stores jammed with products. If one were to take his eyes off signs in the Czechoslovak language he would think he was in a particularly clean, prosperous American city.

These people too continually proclaim their friendship for the American people and ask only to live in peace with the rest of the world.

Poland.—In Warsaw we met with both trade union leaders and workers. The thing that impressed us most in Warsaw was the terrible destruction caused by the war. We still saw whole areas levelled to the ground. Even though the majority of the devastation has been repaired there is still a tremendous amount of construction going on in the city. On every street, as far as the eye could see, in every direction scaffoldings are still up in the front of every house.

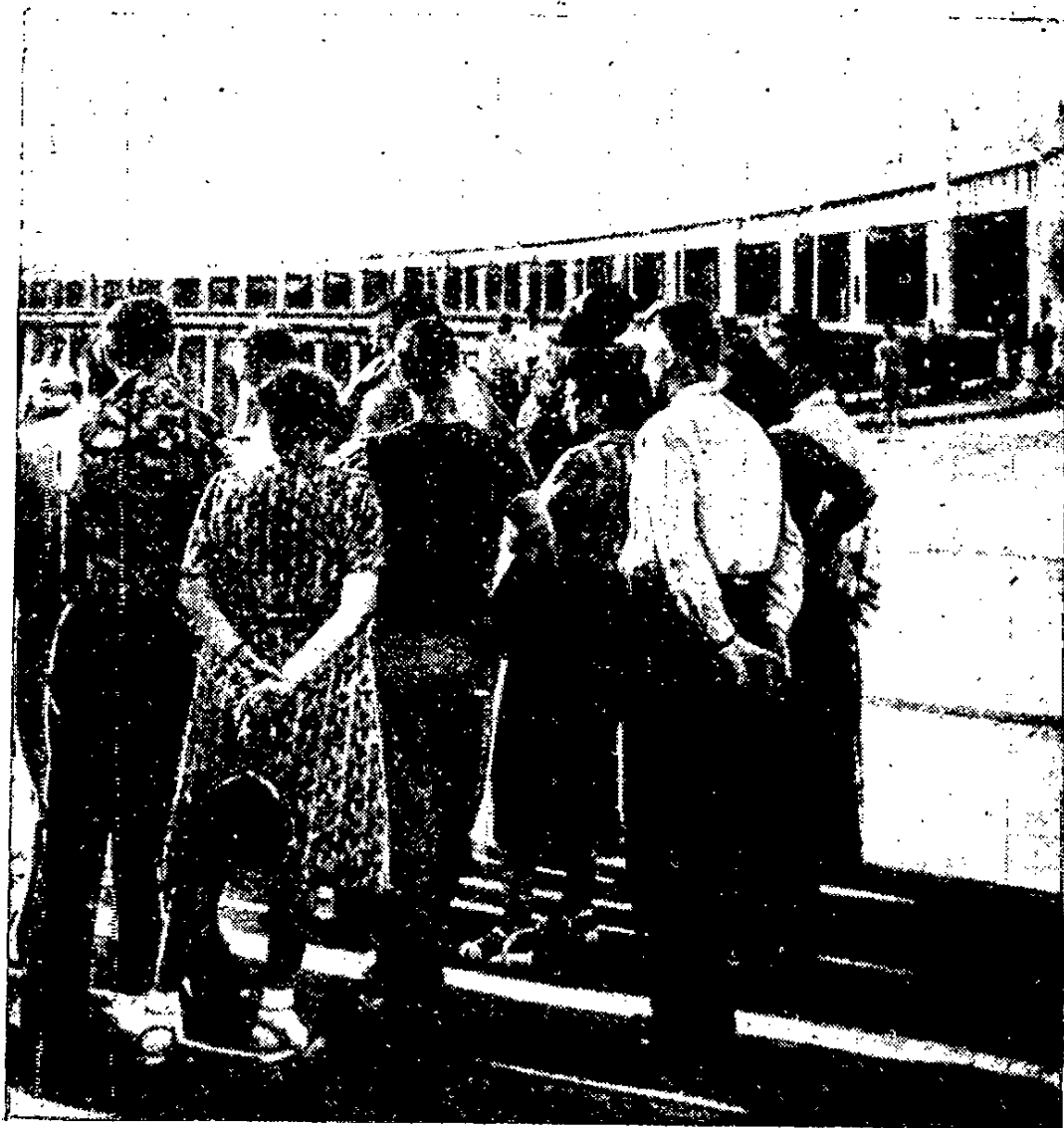
We learned that one out of every 25 workers in Poland is a building worker engaged in constructing new homes; that the most important task of the country is the rebuilding of Poland; that there is no unemployment; that the standard of living is constantly improving; that workers pay only up to five per cent of their wages for rent; that workers do not pay for social insurance or for many social services including nurseries for their children.

As far as conditions of work are concerned there is generally a 46-hour week consisting of five days at eight hours per day and six hours on Saturday. Workers are paid time and a half or double time for overtime work. In some industries like the metal, chemical, mining industries, workers work 34 hours a week. All the workers receive 70 per cent of their wages when they are sick, besides free medical treatment. Workers who are employed for one year receive two weeks' vacation with pay; after three years they receive three weeks and after ten years—a one-month vacation.

We were able to quickly see why these people constantly told us of their hatred for nazi fascists who caused this terrible destruction by systematically mining every house, street and blowing them up with dynamite.

We could see why these people hate war with all their heart and appeal to us so earnestly for peace between our two countries. We saw that this reconstruction of their country was the most important thing to them—that all their energy is devoted to rebuilding their homes and factories and the winning of a better life. We were able to understand their desire that nothing should stand in the way of this tremendous task.

Russia.—Fortunately we were able to spend a good deal more time in the Soviet Union. During our three weeks there we travelled by bus, auto, railroad, plane, motorboat and motor launch. We covered over five thousand miles. We saw the cities of Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad, Zaporozhie, Simferopol and Yalta. In these cities and their suburbs we saw steel, auto and tractor plants, a shoe factory, a printing plant, a machine plant, a bakery, an electrical power station, a collective farm, subways, department and food stores, a winery, apartment houses, churches, theatres, movies, museums, parks, rest homes, sanatoria, hotels, children's camps, a hospital and botanical gardens. We were in barber shops, beauty parlours and libraries. We saw and spoke to thousands of workers.



At the Lenin Dnieper Hydroelectric Station

When we came to the Soviet Union and were received by trade union leaders in Moscow as we arrived at the airport, the chairman of our delegation, in response to greetings extended to us by the trade unions and people of the city, enumerated several questions that influence the thinking of American people and expressed our determination to find answers to these questions.

Among these questions were the following: is the standard of living as low as pictured in the United States; are starvation wages in existence; do workers have enough food; are there inflation and price rises; is there slave labour; why are there no strikes; do people have civil rights; is there a secret police dogging everyone's steps so that fear exists in the country; is there speed-up on the job; is there freedom of religion; is there free speech, press and radio; and most important of all—does the Soviet Union want war?

We spent most of our time in the Soviet Union because it has become abundantly clear that the greatest differences that exist in the world today are those between the United States and the Soviet Union, and that unless greater understanding develops between our two peoples these differences can only widen through the efforts of those who exploit these differences for their own selfish gain, until they would finally explode into a world war—a terrible holocaust that would destroy both our peoples and the world. Therefore we had to find out what this country and its people are like.

We truly saw what they are like. They are ordinary people like people all over the world—like the American people. They too want friendship and peace.

Here are the answers to the questions we asked:

The workers in the Soviet Union make a good living. They are well-fed, well-clothed and well-housed. We did not see any hungry or starving people. The rents they pay average from three to six per cent of their total wages. This may sound amazingly incredible to Americans but we personally checked in every factory we visited, spoke to thousands of workers and found this to be the absolute truth. Workers receive from 14 to 30 days' vacation every year depending upon their skill, length of service and productive ability. Their vacations are paid for by government funds administered by trade unions. Workers are paid when sick. Women have two and a half months' paid leave for maternity care.

Nowhere did we see any speed-up as we know it on the assembly lines of the factories in America. We did see good equipment, modern machinery and safe healthful working conditions. The factories had plenty of air and ample windows and light. There is comfortable working space between machines and, generally speaking, factories and streets are kept even cleaner than homes.

Despite the desire of the whole country and people for increased productivity, which is reflected in the payment of special bonuses for improved technique and extra effort, real safeguards are taken against accidents. We found the workers' health, age, and physical condition to be of prime consideration regardless and above all else.



Vincent Moscato talks with a dairymaid at the Ilyich Collective Farm, Zaporozhie Region



In the orchard of the Ilyich Collective Farm, Zaporozhie Region

During our tour we did not see a single worker who could be characterized as "slave labourer." Workers spontaneously stopped their machines when they heard that our delegation was visiting their plant and freely answered our questions. They likewise asked us questions about our life in the United States. Without any doubt, not a single worker by word, manner or glance indicated any fear to us for his safety, family or his life.

This question of "slave labour" became as much of a joke to the American delegates as it is to the Soviet people. So much so that on several occasions when we saw workers relaxing or sleeping in the sun we shouted: "Wake up, slave labourer, you're not allowed to do that!" Or we kiddingly remarked: "That poor fellow must have been worked to death."

In this connection our delegation agrees with the report of the C.I.O. delegation to the Soviet Union in 1945 which included James Carey, Allen Haywood, Joseph Curren

and Emil Rieve, and which said: "We were impressed with the character of the Soviet trade unions and with their many excellent activities in promoting the interests of workers in economic and social welfare and cultural fields, as well as with the most far-reaching character of the social insurance system they operate which is designed to protect the working people and their families against all contingencies from the cradle to the grave."

What these trade union leaders saw in 1945, our delegation saw on a much expanded scale in 1951. We are therefore unable to understand how it is possible for these same trade unionists today, without having revisited the Soviet Union, to repudiate everything they said before and suddenly unveil Hearst-like stories of "slave labour" in the Soviet Union—stories which are nothing more than figments of their imaginations.

It is interesting to observe that contrary to the horror stories of the so-called "iron curtain" as depicted in many parts of our press, this delegation had complete freedom of movement in the Soviet Union. There were no secret police following us around. Instead, in every city, we left our hotels when we pleased and we walked through the streets without guides or interpreters day or night whenever we chose to do so. We walked through and around the Red Square in Moscow on many occasions. The delegation feels compelled to contrast this freedom of movement with conditions in our own country. There were several other elected representatives of workers who were scheduled to come on this delegation. Some were not given passports, others had their passports revoked and still others were given restricted time-limited passports. One of the delegates was refused his passport and only after considerable protests were exerted did he receive permission from our government to travel abroad.

We call the attention of the American people to the need for a changed attitude on the part of our government on this vital question of freedom of movement.

We saw complete freedom of religion in the Soviet Union. In every city we visited we saw both churches and people attending them. In Moscow several of our delegates who are Roman Catholics went to the Roman Catholic Church of Saint Louis on two separate Sundays. As is usual they found the same people there on the second time that they had seen previously. These people explained that they have been going to church in Moscow all their lives, that they attend church regularly and that nobody interfered with their right to attend. They said that while their children did not receive any religious training in school, they likewise did not receive any antireligious training. They pointed out that after the war, since their church had been destroyed, the parishioners had petitioned the government for a church and were given one free. The entire amount of the taxes paid by their church to the government amounts to two hundred dollars a year. The priest is paid by the congregation and does no other work outside his religious functions.

With regard to Jewish people we learned that under the Soviet constitution anti-Semitism is a crime against the state with heavy penalties assessed for it. We found out that most Jews in the areas of western Russia occupied a prominent part in every aspect of the political, economic and cultural life of the country and many of them have received the Stalin Prize for their contributions in these fields. Jewish synagogues function freely all over the country in addition to Greek Orthodox, Roman Catholic and other churches. We learned that the place where Jewish culture and religion is most extensively developed is the Jewish national state of Birobidjan where the Jewish people have their own newspapers and schools and where the Jewish language is taught to children.

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While touring plants and factories we learned that workers who are sick are sent home or taken care of by the hospital attached to the factory or plant, without any loss of pay. Absenteeism is very low. Where it exists it is taken care of



The delegation on Red Square, Moscow.

by the workers and trade union organization through many discussions. Where it becomes incurable, chronic, workers are discharged and find jobs in other plants. There is no unemployment. Everywhere we went we saw "help wanted" signs. Due to the tremendous amount of reconstruction and peaceful expansion of industry, more labour is needed. We saw great numbers of women working in all jobs, categories and skills, including drivers of railroad trains.

The workers explained that they have no strikes in the Soviet Union because their country belongs to them. They explained that they are working for themselves and not for profits to be realized by any employers. Their production is turned back to them in the form of better and more abundant goods, making for a higher standard of living.

They also pointed out that they have an effective trade union organization and strong collective bargaining agreements through which their complaints, grievances and problems are quickly and satisfactorily adjusted with the management. The unions are in a position to deal effectively with the management up to and including the removal of directors who violate the rights of workers.

We do not want to give the impression in this report, despite the many wonderful and advanced things we saw during our visit there, that everything is wonderful in the Soviet Union. There are some respects in which the Soviet Union would do well to emulate what exists in the United States. Perhaps most important of all we found plumbing facilities inadequate. In the United States such facilities are also inadequate in certain sections of the country, particularly in communities where working people, Negroes, Puerto Ricans and Mexican-Americans live. Yet the facilities there are not quite up to our standards.

Generally speaking this is also true of the railroads. We realize that because of the devastating destruction of the war, the immediate needs of the Russian people were to rebuild both industry and homes. Nevertheless, we wish to

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The members of the delegation are here photographed with students of Dniepropetrovsk University who were on student practice at the Nikitsky Botanical Gardens in the Crimea

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point out that our railroad facilities are more advanced and much better than those in the Soviet Union.

This was no guided tour. We were not given any prearranged program by our hosts. We were not carefully protected and prevented from speaking to the people of the country. We informed the trade union leadership what cities and what factories we wanted to see. They took us to those places. When we visited factories, we selected the workers we talked to at random. In addition we spoke freely to many people in the streets, subways, churches, parks and museums.

By speaking to hundreds of workers in the factories, we checked the stories of one another and against our notes, so that translators could not misinterpret what we were being told. In every factory we visited, we found one or two workers who could speak English and who conversed at length with the delegation. In the parks and theatres many students who are learning English came up to talk to us. So we had many ways of getting the exact and correct information that we wanted and not that which might have been prepared for us.

Everywhere we went we found a tremendous desire for friendship with the American people. Any idea spread by the press that the Soviet people hate us is simply ridiculous. Any idea spread in certain quarters of our country that the Soviet Government hates us is equally ridiculous. There is such love and support by the people for their leaders that if this were the case, then there would be no question but that any hatred of America by the government would influence the people to likewise hate America. This is true in our country where large numbers of people are influenced by the policies of our government. In all truthfulness there is burning hatred there for those in America who call for war with the Soviet Union, for those who advocate dropping atom bombs and for those who are in favour of continuing and spreading the Korean war. But for the American people there is only the greatest respect and friendship. As a matter of fact, Rus-



At a children's summer camp in the Ukraine

sian trade unionists in Leningrad celebrated our Independence Day, July Fourth, with the American delegation with the wish that America be free, independent and at peace with the world.

Perhaps the greatest proof of the truth of all this is the overwhelming reception accorded to the delegation by children. In every instance in children's camps, in theatres where they were performing, in parks, streets and in all cities we were in, the children rushed over to send their love to the children of America. There are those in America who say that Russian children are indoctrinated by the Socialist society they live in. But if it were true that the government of the Soviet Union feels that the Americans are their enemies, surely then it would be reflected in the children of this country.

On the other hand while it may be said that the people we saw in factories we visited were all prepared to falsely represent their opinions and conditions to us, still no one can say that children can conceal their real feelings. Children cannot be taught to falsely represent love for hatred. And these many experiences convinced us on this point.

So we have come to the conclusion that someone has been trying to pull the wool over the eyes of the American people. As to preparations for war, stories in our country have been completely misleading. We have seen only peaceful economy with no reconversion for war production. Auto plants we saw continued to produce passenger cars. There was no reconversion in order to produce tanks, airplane engines. Tractor plants continued to produce tractors. One of the biggest steel plants in the country in Zaporozhie is not producing cannon, armour plate or ammunition but is turning out rolled steel for peacetime machinery and equipment, including automobile. The biggest industry in the Soviet Union is still production of building materials and actual construction of housing for workers. We have not seen the construction of one air-raid shelter and in Moscow we lived in a hotel across the street from the Kremlin.



At the steel mill in Zaporozhie

One question was sharply pointed up for this delegation and that is the absolute equality of all peoples, nationalities, races, regardless of sex, in the country that has very many nationalities. This was shown in the special attention paid by the people wherever we went to the Negro members of our delegation. There is no Jim Crow discrimination against the coloured peoples in their housing, work, pay or culture or in any respect. There are no jailings of minorities or lynchings of people because of their colour. The coloured people and minorities eat in the same restaurants, sleep in the same hotels, go to the same beauty parlours and barber shops. This occurs not on the basis of their passing for white but because of the conscious policy that there is no discrimination against any human being.

Even though some members of our delegation served their nation in the armed forces of the United States in the last war at the battlefronts and saw what damage war can do, this delegation was shocked by the extent of destruction caused by the last war in the Soviet Union. In Stalingrad, for example, not one single building has been left standing. We learned therefore why these people hate war. Ten million people were killed. In almost every family bitter memories have remained. We began to appreciate why the most burning desire of everyone in the Soviet Union is for peace. Every greeting, every farewell, every Soviet worker we talked to cried out for peace. In Leningrad an old woman textile worker told us what misery war had caused in her personal family and begged us to convey her feelings, the feelings of the workers in her plant and the feelings of the people in her city for a peaceful world.

At the bread-making factory in Moscow the workers told us that they wanted to continue to make more and better bread for their people in a world of peace. The workers in the tractor plant in Stalingrad told us that to them war meant the death of one-third of their city's population and the destruction of their entire city. How could they possibly want war?

In Zaporozhie the children in the camp, some of whose parents were killed in the last war, movingly expressed their earnest wish for a peaceful world in which their future would be secured.

In Yalta, where workers were resting in sanatoria getting well or vacationing, they flocked around the American delegates asking why any disagreements arising out of the differences in our social systems could not be negotiated through peaceful means.

We were asked why our government was ringing the world with military and aviation bases. We were asked why the military alliance aimed at the Soviet Union—the North-Atlantic pact—was concluded. We were asked why milliards of dollars in our economy are being spent for war preparations. We were asked why in the very halls of our Congress government officials called for war against the Soviet Union. We were asked why hoodlums were permitted to attack United Nations' Soviet representative Malik and his associates in their car, as an overt gesture of enmity. We were asked why peaceful trade between the Soviet Union and the United States was stopped by the American government.

Conclusion.

In every country all the workers of all political beliefs and convictions, of all religious faiths—young and old, men and women, have told us of their earnest desire for peace. They cannot understand and neither can the members of this delegation understand those few madmen who keep on calling for war. How can anyone understand the man who stands up in the halls of Congress and shrieks that we should drop the atom bomb on Moscow? No one can understand how in this day and age a civilized country can increase armaments, make military alliances and instruct its generals to chart out new wars.

We told the Russian people—as we tell the American people—that we want universal disarmament. We want the

Russian army to be disarmed and demobilized just as we want the American army disarmed and demobilized. We exchanged greetings with the Russians on the occasion of America's national holiday of July 4th, honouring American people, at which time we called for independence for all the nations and freedom for all the people. In Yalta, where the historic conference of wartime allies fighting against fascism took place—where our late President Roosevelt enunciated his principles for world peace and freedom—we called upon the Russian people as we now call upon the American people for universal, everlasting friendship. The only pacts we ask for are peace pacts, not military ones. The only bonds we ask for are those of friendship and not those created by money or by selfish alliances.

We hope that this message will be distributed as widely through America as the message we delivered to the Russian workers and the Russian people was distributed through the Soviet Union. We spoke on the radio there and said these same things. Not once were we told what to say, even by suggestion. Not once were we asked what we were going to say. Never did we have to submit a prepared text in advance nor was anything we said censured. Our articles and interviews were printed in the Russian papers. This freedom of press and radio is such that while a tremendous number of newspapers and magazines are printed and read by practically everyone and while almost all the people have and listen to radios there is still a demand for more.

We bring this report to you as a public service in the best interests for the American nation, with our most fervent hopes for a greater America in a world of peace.

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