

ALBANIA REPORT

EDITED BY ALBANIAN AFFAIRS STUDY GROUP

BIG LEAP FORWARD IN AGRICULTURE (III)

(The first two parts of this article appeared in our issues no. 7 and 8. This is the concluding part of this series.)

SOCIALIST AID TO MOUNTAIN AREAS

A significant factor in the over-all development of agriculture has been the generous aid given by the more advanced coops in the plains to the less advanced coops in the mountain areas. An example of this was reported on April 20th, when a group of farm workers from the 8 Nendori State Farm in Sukthi went voluntarily to live and work for periods of 3 to 6 months in the newly organized state farm of Kruma in the Kukes mountain district. This group was made up of some of their best farmers, milk-maids, midwives, kindergarten nurses, mechanics, etc. The workers of the Sukthi farm, besides bringing their skills and experience, also donated to the Kruma farm 200 head of pedigree cows, some fine selected seed, excavators and other machinery, fruit tree saplings, etc.

Other enterprises from the city of Durres have helped the state and coop farms of the Kukes area. The workers of that district have given extensive technical and material aid to the mountain area during the last two years, in setting up and putting into operation machine shops, completing the electrification of all the villages, training farm workers in industrial

skills, etc. This process has been going on all over the country, with various districts in the lowlands "adopting" assigned sections of the mountain areas. Thus the backward areas will be able to catch up with the advanced areas in a short time.

As an example of the big spurts being accomplished in the mountainous areas, we have a report of the Pulah-Protopape farm coop in the mountain area of the Korca district. This coop fulfilled its Five-Year Plan goal in *food grains* by 112%, and last year as a result of improvements in its agricultural and live-stock work and other auxiliary activity, it realized an income that was 8 times more than in 1966.

GROWTH OF CITRUS FRUITS

Citrus fruits are playing a big role in the surge of agricultural production. In 1970 Albania had 9 times as many citrus fruit trees as in 1947. From 1960 to 1970 the number of these trees doubled. During this spring, over 85,000 new citrus fruit trees were planted. This is more than all the citrus trees which Albania had before Liberation.

The citrus trees are being planted in big groves, especially along the coastal areas of Vlora and Saranda, where some groves have tens of thousands of trees. New varieties are also being planted in oranges, tangerines, and lemons, to give higher productivity and better quality. In the cultivation of new saplings, greater

stress is being put this year on lemons. RAISING PRODUCTIVITY AND MASS SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTATION

The farm coops are paying attention to raising productivity of their land as an important factor in increasing production. From Berat it was reported that the farmers of the Shegjeza coop which is in a hilly area gathered twice as much corn and three times as much wheat out of their land last year than in 1965. This was accomplished mainly on the basis of increased productivity, which doubled during those five years. Good results were achieved in cotton and tobacco.

Scientific experimentation in agriculture is taking on a mass character. Thus in every farm coop and state farm, a scientific council is being set up including outstanding workers, specialists, and some of the managers. Each larger district will also have a higher level scientific council, charged with spreading the most advanced experiences to all the farms in their area. Each district will have its own experimental station, diagnostic laboratory, veterinary clinic, etc.

The farmers of the Gjirokastra district are carrying on their ancient tradition of bee-keeping. Since 1958, the number of bees has been doubled. Some of the farm coops have as many as 500 to 700 beehives. Also in the Gjirokastra area, the farmers are preparing to do battle with the traditional summer drought. This year, however, they will put into operation a big new reservoir - the Dofti Reservoir - which has a capacity of 12.6 million cubic meters of water, as well as a whole new network of irrigation canals. This will irrigate another 1,000 hectares of land, bringing the total area under irrigation up to 70% of the arable land of the district.

MACHINE BUILDING INDUSTRY AIDS AGRICULTURE

The machine building industry is paying special attention to providing more machines for agriculture. For instance, the Agricultural Machinery Plant in Durres will provide 24% more farm machinery this year than last year. Relying on their own resources, the workers have undertaken to produce some new machines for sowing certain crops.

Other machinery plants are turning out more equipment and appliances for the farms, such as motor pumps, ploughs for tractors, sprayers, grinders, etc.; corn planting machines and other new sowing machines for cereal crops; bakery machin-

(cont. on pg. 2)

EDITORIAL

Scores of thousands of American youth, having finished their school year, are wandering around Europe in traditional summer fashion. The *New York Times* in an article June 25, reports that many of them are roaming about because they can't find jobs. "College graduates... even a few Ph.D.'s... 90% of the guys in my fraternity just can't find a job..."

Dispirited, aimless, living in cheap barracks or in public squares, sponging free beer and cheese where they can get it, hunting for some work, drifting about hopelessly looking for "pleasure", they are like a new "lost generation", a new generation of Oakies, who during the depression of the 1930's wandered about the country on the freight trains looking for a non-existent place in society.

An article elsewhere in this issue of *Albania Report* tells about the recent graduates of Albania's schools. All of

them are immediately assigned to jobs in their fields. There is no unemployment in the country, and every youth leaving school is guaranteed an immediate job. And those who still have more schooling to do, have plenty of work to keep them occupied during the summer, such as the volunteer youth brigade work in building the Elbasan-Prenjas R.R.

There is no need for any Albanian youth to go wandering around Europe looking for handouts and a job. This is quite a contrast between the richest, most affluent country in the world, and one of the smallest countries which just recently emerged from feudalism. In Socialist Albania there is a real government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" - a real people's power in the form of a dictatorship of the proletariat, based on Marxism-Leninism and led by the Albanian Party of Labor. The Albanian government does not represent any landlords, monopolies, imperialists, or other parasites. They don't have any.

HISTORICAL NOTES: THE PERMETI CONGRESS

May 24th was celebrated throughout Albania as the 27th anniversary of the Permeti Congress. On that day in 1944, a congress was held in the town of Permeti, which was in the area liberated from the Nazi occupationists by the partizan fighters of the National Liberation Army under the leadership of the Albanian Communist Party and Enver Hoxha.

At that time, half the country had already been liberated by the people's forces, and the complete defeat of the fascist armies was clearly in sight. On the initiative of the Party of Labor (Communist Party) the Congress was called to decide the future form and content of the government of the liberated Albania.

The congress was made up of democratically elected representatives of the people. It was the first democratic election in Albania's entire history. For the first time women took part in an election, and were elected to office. It was during the National Liberation War that women in Albania won the right to vote and be elected to public office.

The Congress settled the question of setting up a permanent, regular democratic government of the people, to rule over the liberated areas while the fighting continued, and to govern the whole country when the fascists had been driven out. It settled the question of never allowing the old power structure of the feudalists and reactionary bourgeoisie to come back to power behind the guns of the imperialists.

Thus for the first time, People's Power was set up in Albania, in the form of a People's Democracy. The Congress decided that the people's armed forces would not be disbanded, that the people would not be disarmed, but would set up a regular army to defend the new democratic state and the people's power.

The Congress elected the Anti-fascist National Liberation Council as the highest legislative and executive body of the new Albanian state, and in turn the Council elected the Anti-fascist National Liberation Committee, with Enver Hoxha as the Chairman, to act as the provisional people's democratic government.

This action ran into the stubborn and vicious opposition of the American and British imperialists, who wanted to take over control of the country after the war by bringing back the old King Zog regime or some other group of discredited reactionaries. The British imperialists even tried to manoeuvre their armed forces to take military control of the country under the guise of "aiding the partizans", but they were driven back by force of arms and were not allowed to land on Albanian soil. Faced with the iron will of the Albanian people who were armed, they were forced to retreat.

Of course, the Congress and the new government pointed out that at that time the principal contradiction was that between the whole people and the fascist occupationists, and the nature of the struggle was a National Liberation War and would remain so until all the invaders were driven out and complete victory was achieved.

The new state power was fundamentally different in form and content from the old state power in any bourgeois parliamentary state. It represented the power of the people who were armed and fighting a National Liberation War. In form it resembled somewhat the Paris Commune and the Soviets, but it was distinctly original and unique. It represented a democratic dictatorship of the revolutionary forces under the direct and sole leadership of the Communist Party. This was

the first stage in the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

The Albanian newspaper *Puna* writes on the occasion that the form of state power adopted at that time -- people's democracy -- guaranteed the complete defeat of the plans of the landlords, reactionary bourgeoisie, and U.S.-British imperialists to regain power. This was achieved because the Albanian Communist Party did not compromise with Marxist-Leninist principles, but stuck unswervingly to a correct revolutionary line. It did not harbor any opportunist illusions about political power. It adhered to the Leninist line on class struggle and revolution, and it never shared political power with other parties and classes.

Puna concludes by pointing out that the Albanian Party of Labor today adheres to the line that the question of state power -- the dictatorship of the proletariat -- remains a key question -- not only for the stage of the revolutionary uprising, and not only for the period of transition from capitalism to socialism, but also for the entire period of socialist construction up to the final achievement of full communist society.

The newspaper *Bashkimi* carries an article by Bilbil Klosi, Secretary of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, who points out how the internal enemies and external enemies tried to smash the power of the National Liberation Councils, by fire and sword, by murders, imprisonment, exiling, and by wild demagoguery. But the wisdom, maturity and determination of the Communist Party and Enver Hoxha foiled their schemes.

The article points out how the Party has struggled to preserve the purity of the people's state power, to keep it revolu-

(cont. on pg. 3)

...AGRICULTURE...(cont.)

cry for the farm coops, power saws for the woodworking shops, laundry machinery, electric incubators, flat-irons, electric ovens, etc.

During the last (the fourth) Five Year Plan (1966-1970) the machine building industry turned out 153% more equipment than during the third Five Year Plan (1961-1965). This year the industry will turn out 20% more machinery and 13% more spare parts than last year.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Late reports around the middle of April indicate that the 1971 plan for reclamation of new lands over the whole country has already reached 90% of completion, with one half of all the districts in the country reporting 100% fulfillment of the plan. Probably, by the time this re-

port reaches you, the plan will be completely fulfilled for the whole country.

Spring sowing was completed on schedule in almost all districts of the country, despite some spells of unusually heavy rainfalls in some areas that created serious difficulties for the farmers.

Wheat harvesting began in the lowlands at the end of May. This year mechanical harvesting will cover an area 42% greater than last year. There will be 14% more harvester combines in use than last year. Many small new-type threshing machines suitable to the mountainous areas have been put into production. Three quarters of all the harvesting in cereal crops will be done mechanically this year.

* * * * *

This sketchy review of the developments of Albania's agriculture suggest that great efforts are being made by the Party of Labor to push agriculture forward so that it will not lag behind industry, and will begin to catch up. It appears that a higher proportion of investment

and effort will go into agriculture than ever before, as compared to industry. There is also evident a bold drive to help the backward areas in the mountains to catch up with the advanced areas in the plains.

To accomplish this great task, the Party of Labor has raised this slogan: *Agriculture is the concern of everyone.* Likewise, a recent issue of *Rruga e Partise*, theoretical magazine of the Party of Labor, emphasized the watchword that "the political work of the Party must guarantee the solution of the tasks of agriculture."

Over all, we can conclude that this concentrated drive will accomplish successfully the goal of increasing agricultural production by 25.8% this year. Without a doubt this campaign, and its continuation, will begin to reduce the difference between the city and the countryside, and narrow the gap between farm work and industrial work, as well as between mental and manual labor.

MORE PRESS COMMENT ON PAKISTAN SITUATION

The Albanian newspaper *Bashkimi* comments further on the Pakistan situation in an article on May 24th, summarized below:

Some weeks ago, when the troubles hatched up by the reactionary elements in E. Pakistan broke out, the Indian reactionaries were the first to stoke the fires of civil war, with the instigation and support of their friends the U.S. imperialists and the Soviet social-imperialists.

The Indian reactionaries did everything possible to extend the fratricidal war, to weaken the authority of the government, to promote the separation of E. Pakistan, to encourage the formation of a "new independent government" of E. Pakistan, screaming alarms about alleged "massacres" by the government forces, etc. and openly interfering in the internal affairs of Pakistan.

Now that these clamours have been exposed as crude inventions, new threatening shouts are heard from Delhi, where the reactionary press and government are speaking clearly about an armed attack by India against Pakistan, ostensibly to "aid the refugees." These threats confirm what everyone knows, that the recent troubles in E. Pakistan were both incited and supported by them, in order to weaken the Pakistan Government. One motive is to be able to annex Kashmir once and for all; but another motive is to carry out the wishes of their friends and bosses, the U.S. imperialists and the Soviet social-imperialists, to create a new hotbed of war in Asia and especially near the border of China.

Such a military adventure would take the heat off the U.S. imperialists who are carrying out a war of aggression in S.E. Asia, and by getting Asian people to fighting with each other, would distract their attention from their liberation struggles.

Now that the situation in E. Pakistan has quieted down, the Indian reactionaries will not be able to deceive anyone, let alone intimidate the Pakistani people. They are themselves more and more bogged down in their own troubles, the object of the anger and hatred of the In-

dian people.

While the Indian reactionaries shed crocodile tears over the fate of the Pakistani people, they are mercilessly oppressing and massacring their own people, who are suffering from hunger and disease which is rampant throughout India.

125th ANNIVERSARY OF NAIM FRASHERI

For almost the whole month of May, a series of events took place to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the birth (May 26th) of Naim Frasheri, great poet, writer, educator, and patriot of the Albanian National Renaissance.

One of the giants of the National Renaissance, Naim Frasheri (and his brother Sami) worked during the period when Albania was cruelly oppressed by the Ottoman empire, its national culture, language and schools suppressed. Naim Frasheri made a tremendous contribution to the development of the Albanian language and contemporary literature, and strove to set up schools in the Albanian language, which did not exist before.

The work of these *Revivalists* of that period stirred and reawakened the national consciousness of the Albanian people, and stimulated the struggle for freedom and independence.

All over the country meetings were held, symposiums, scientific sessions, lectures, exhibits, concerts, etc. in which many leading Party and Government figures participated, as well as leaders in the cultural and educational field, and a delegation of Kossova writers.

One of Naim Frasheri's outstanding works was the "History of Scanderbeg" which greatly stimulated the struggle for national independence.

Often quoted in the celebrations were some lines written by Enver Hoxha: "The great Naim Frasheri/Like a candle burning/Radiating light over Albania/To see the fatherland flourishing."

SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST

** During May and June, trade agreements for 1971-1975 were signed with Yugoslavia, Rumania, and Hungary.

** Kruja District reports that thousands of workers and farmers recently carried out a *Shock Brigade Action* to dig a new irrigation canal which will bring water to hundreds of hectares of land.

** The Central Council of the Albanian Women's Union held its Fifth Plenum around May 20th. District women leaders, women activists, women physicians, and other women took part. Also participating were Party and Government leaders, including the Minister of Health. The theme of the meeting was protection of the health of mothers and children, and raising hygienic standards to a higher level. Vito Kapo is President of the Women's Union.

UNIVERSITY INAUGURATES NEW HYDRAULIC LAB

A new hydraulic research laboratory has been put into operation by the Tirana state University recently. It is large and modern, and equipped with the type of instruments which put it into a class with those of the advanced countries.

At a time when the country is tackling the construction of large hydro-electric power stations, such as the Vau-i-Dejes and the Fierza Projects, this lab has its work cut out for it for a long period, at least 10 to 15 years. The lab has already done some important work in solving problems of the Vau-i-Dejes Project, which is nearing completion. And its work for the next five-year period will be concentrated on the Fierza Project.

As a matter of fact, during May, the model of the Fierza Power Station was completed, and water began to flow through the model, inaugurating the important research work for this job. The lab also has modern measuring instruments (coming from China) such as oscillographs, meters for pulsation, pressure, speed, ventilation, wave measurement, and other electronic apparatus. It also has equipment for measuring physical models as well as working with mathematical models, such as modelling of fluid and dry hydro-electro-dynamic analysis, etc.

The lab is an original work of Albanian designers and specialists. In its functional layout, its architecture, and its construction it differs from similar laboratories of other countries and has many unique features.

Besides studying the problems of the diversion of the river at the Fierza Project, the lab will also continue with studies of the "Mao Tse-tung" station at Vau-i-Dejes to improve the efficiency of this plant by perfecting the discharge sluices, etc.

Another important assignment of the lab is a study of purifying industrial waste waters of plants to prevent pollution. Two important projects are scheduled to be finished this year in the field of ecology, one at the paper mill in Shkodra, and another at the ammonium-nitrate plant in Fieri.

This Hydraulic Research Lab is another proud addition to Albania's State University, which has recently added a modern nuclear research lab, a seismic lab, and will soon put into operation a modern computer center.

** A 10 day Song and Dance Festival opened in Tirana on May 19th in which 15 amateur and professional groups took part with a total of 3,000 participants.

** At the same time a zonal Festival of Amateur Theatre Groups made up of factory workers took place in Elbasan.

** A three month course for directors of amateur theatre groups in the countryside was recently completed in Shkodra.

...PERMETI...(cont.)

tionary, to prevent the disease of bureaucracy, and to fulfill its responsibility of building socialism and defending the fatherland. The strength of the people's power is based on the unity of the people with the state, led by the Party. This unity is expressed in the close ties of the government with the broad masses of working people, in listening to their opinions.

"The Party, the state power, and the people are one and indivisible," declared Bilbil Klosi in conclusion. "This is the source of our strength, and together with the power of Marxism-Leninism, the foundation of all our victories."

(Ref: See *History of the Albanian Party of Labor*, Vol. 1, Ch. 2, pp. 264-278.)

Jonathan Swift

SHORT ITEMS OF INTEREST

** The workers of the Saranda Reclamation Project have completed the first stage of the Ksamil Irrigation System, designed to water an additional 20,000 citrus fruit trees, which are transforming the barren hills along the shores of the Ionian Sea into beautiful orchards.

** A grand celebration meeting was held on May 11 in Tirana in honor of the Chinese Workers Delegation which took part in the May Day events.

** A delegation of the Albanian Trade Unions left in May for a visit to the People's Republic of the Congo.

** At the same time a delegation of trade unionists arrived in Tirana from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

** The Albanian Football Team played Poland on May 12th in Tirana as part of the European Championship Series. Game ended in a 1:1 tie.

** Earlier this year another new machine building plant was opened in Peshkopia, which is in the mountainous mining area.

** May 15th was observed in Albania as a Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people. Many meetings were held, including a special one organized by the Albanian Women's Union to express their solidarity with the fighting Palestinian women.

** A group of teachers and students of the secondary school in Dibra (Yugoslavia) visited Albania in the middle of May.

** The Albanian Marathon Team went to Turkey in mid-May to compete in the International Marathon in Ankara. The

Albanian team finished in fifth place, coming out ahead of Belgium, Hungary, Rumania, and the G.D.R.

** The food industry announces new products like wild fig jam, cherry jam, and rose jam. They expect to increase production this year by 30% on some items. Another new canning factory will be commissioned in Pogradec.

** On May 16th the newspaper *Bashkimi* noted the 30th anniversary of the attempt to assassinate Victor Emmanuel III, the King of fascist Italy, in Tirana. This heroic act was carried out by the Albanian Patriot Vasil Laci.

** A Rumanian wrestling team toured Albania in mid-May, competing with Albanian teams in Tirana, Shkodra and Durres.

** An exhibition of Albanian Postage Stamps was set up in mid-May in the Palfy Palace in Vienna by the Austria-Albania Friendship Association.

** A new plant for enriching coal was opened in Memaliaj, with the aid of China. The coal miners of this area have been sinking many new deep shafts and extracting coal from great depths using modern methods.

** During May and June the new ambassadors from Belgium, Finland and the Netherlands arrived in Tirana.

** On May 24th Albania agreed to establish diplomatic relations and exchange ambassadors with Iran; and on May 29th also with Norway. Albania now has diplomatic relations with all the Scandanavian

countries.

** To illustrate the "creative initiative of the masses", during the first four months of this year, 15,000 proposals by workers were put into effect, 1000 new articles were produced above the plan, 120 new departments and production lines were set up. The Trade Unions awarded *Certificates of Honor* to 27 shops.

** African Freedom Day was celebrated throughout Albania on May 25th with meetings, editorials, exhibits, concerts, etc. Taking part in the events were a delegation of the All-African Trades Union, a delegation of the All-African Congress of Azania (South Africa), and a delegation of the Nigerian Workers Union. The delegations toured the country, and expressed their appreciation for the whole-hearted support of the Albanian Government and people to the National Liberation struggles of the African people.

** A plan for cultural exchange between Albania and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam for 1971-1975 was signed in Hanoi on May 15th.

** A delegation representing Vietnamese artists came to Tirana on May 27th to take part in the opening of an exhibition of Vietnamese art.

** On the same day, a Puppet Theatre Group from Rumania arrived for a tour of the country.

** At the invitation of the Tirana State University, the Rectors of the Universities of Belgrade, Prishtina, and Shkup came to Albania for a visit.

** A delegation of the Shkup Albanian-Turkish Theatre arrived in early June to visit educational and cultural institutions, museums and production centers in Tirana, Durres, Berat and Shkodra.

** An exhibition of photos and handicraft products was opened in a department store in Shiyuku, the commercial center of Tokyo. It was sponsored by the *Japan-Albania Friendship Association* and the *Japanese Association for the Development of International Trade*.

** The Albanian Ambassador to China and members of the Embassy staff recently went to the *China-Albania Friendship People's Commune* to take part in agricultural work in the cotton fields.

** In the past period many meetings have taken place throughout Albania in the cities and work centers expressing solidarity with the just struggles of the Vietnamese people, and of the Arab and Palestinian people.

5000 NEW SPECIALISTS GRADUATED

Over 5000 new higher and middle specialists have been added to the ranks of the professionals in Albania as the various schools turned out their graduating classes.

The breakdown shows 1400 engineers and technicians, about 500 in health service work, 1500 in teaching and education, and 1500 for agriculture.

In addition several hundred thousand other specialists were graduated from the part time schools for work in the various branches of the economy and culture.

At a time when Albania is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Party of Labor, the figures for the total number of professional personnel is impressive: 16,500 high level professionals, and 40,000 middle level professionals, as compared with 1938 when the whole country only had 380 higher and 2000 middle professionals.

Comparing the figures with those of the former regime of King Zog, the Tirana State University alone graduates twice as many higher professionals yearly as the King Zog regime did in its whole period in power. During King Zog's time the country turned out only 25 high level and 130 middle level professionals, while now

the full time day schools alone turn out more than 1500 higher and 3500 middle level professionals annually.

Besides the Tirana State University, there is the Higher State Agricultural Institute and other high level institutes. The professional middle schools are flourishing in every district, as well as in some areas and villages. In all parts of the country, both in the cities and in the countryside, extension departments of the university and institutes have been set up. And about 200,000 students attend the many middle and elementary part time technical schools throughout the country.

What is the most remarkable is that all the graduates are immediately assigned to appropriate jobs in their field. There is no such thing as any unemployment, or school graduates not finding work. Jobs for all are guaranteed by the Party of Labor and the Government. Furthermore, since they have been educated not only technically, but also in Marxist-Leninist ideology, all the graduates have expressed their readiness to go to any part of the country to work, wherever they may be needed by the fatherland, even to the most remote parts of the country.

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ALBANIA REPORT

Vol. 1, No. 9

June-July 1971

Conclusion of article on Big Leap in Agriculture. Historical Note on the Permeti Congress. Celebration of 125th anniversary of Naim Frasherri. More press comment on Pakistan situation. 5000 professionals graduated from Albania's schools this year. New hydraulic lab at Tirana State University. And popular Short Items of Interest.

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