

Albania Birth Rate High, Food Supply Low, Churches Ignored

EDITOR'S NOTE — Albania is a tiny, backward, impoverished and strongly Stalinist maverick among East European Communist countries. In the great ideological debate shaking the Communist world, Albania follows the Chinese rather than Russian lead. Its borders are rarely

crossed by Westerners. UPI correspondent Rolf Breitenstein was one of the few Western newsmen to visit Albania in recent months. His report follows.

By ROLF BREITENSTEIN
United Press International
Albania is the poor backyard



THIS IS ALBANIA—Communist Chinese tractors till the stony soil of this country in the poor backyard of Europe. Towering Stalin monuments still cast their shadows across the land. The Albanian Communists refused to dismantle them when Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev launched his anti-Stalin drive. (UPI)

Gardner Appointed To Vice President Of World Congress

International honors have come again to Wilbur L. Gardner, Medford shoe repairman, recognized as "father of shoe labeling in the United States."

The fourth world honor to come to him is appointment as an honorary vice president of the Third World Congress to be held at Blackpool, England, in October, 1963.

Gardner, who operates Gardner Shoe Service on East Main st., was informed of the appointment by L. W. Impey, chairman of the Third International Shoe Repairers' Congress.

The letter from England also reported Gardner's nomination as delegate and representative of United Shoe Servicemen of America, Inc., to the congress. To Consider Committee

Honorary vice presidents will be invited to consider forming an International Standing Committee which could meet at Blackpool during the congress. The object of the committee would be to insure the continuity of the congresses.

Gardner's first world honor came in the form of the Golden Heel award, which was presented in 1961 at the first international congress of shoe repairers held in Hanover, Germany.

The second was his appointment as one of four speakers to appear at the International Congress in Paris in 1962.

He was named Shoe Repair-

man of the year and received a plaque from the United Shoe Servicemen of America for his distinguished service to the industry.

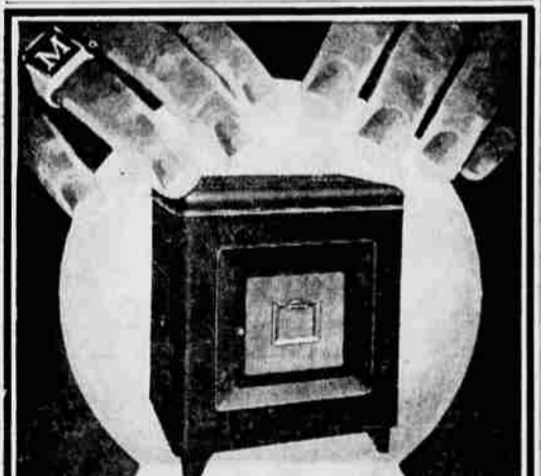
Gardner was successful in establishing the Fourth International Congress to be held in New York City in 1964 by making contacts with England and countries on the European continent. It was by working through the Shoe Service Institute in Chicago, Gardner said, that he was able to make the necessary contacts.

Rites Arranged for Oregon FHA Director

PORTLAND (UPI) — Funeral was to be held today for Howard C. Heydlauff, 50, deputy director for Oregon of the Federal Housing Administration who died Sunday at his home here.

Heydlauff had been with the FHA since 1962 in Oregon. He was a member of the Oregon State Bar and Multnomah Bar association.

DEFENSE BILL APPROVED
WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Appropriations Committee approved Tuesday a \$47.4-billion defense spending bill. It represented nearly half of the entire federal budget for the current fiscal year which ends next June 30.

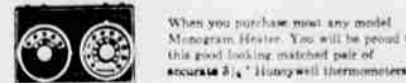


There's a MONOGRAM OIL HEATER in your Future!

and it can save you up to 40% on fuel bills

- Magic Mixer Burner gives more clean heat from every drop of oil... no soot or smoke, ever.
- Powerful Furnace-Type Blower (optional extra) spreads a blanket of warm air over the floors... it's amazingly quiet, too.
- 3-Way Heat Circulation gives "Living Level Comfort."
- Twin-Tube Heat Exchanger squeezes the maximum warmth from every drop of oil burned — cuts fuel costs.

FREE! Indoor-Outdoor Thermometer Set



When you purchase most any model Monogram Heater. You will be proud to own this good looking matched pair of accurate 2 1/4" history well thermometers.

25 models... priced as low as \$93.75

BURNER SERVICE • BUDGET PAYMENTS
WESTERN OIL & BURNER CO.

5 South Stage Rd. Phone 772-5266

Sixth Potato Festival

At Redmond Saturday
REDMOND (UPI) — The sixth annual Potato Festival will be held here Saturday.

Lloyd Wanswer of Caldwell, Idaho, national old-time fiddling champion, is scheduled to appear during the event.

of Europe. Communist Chinese tractors till its stony soil in the shadow of towering Stalin monuments which the Albanian Communists stubbornly refuse to dismantle after Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev launched his anti-Stalin campaign.

Albania hit the headlines when its strongman Enver Hoxha refused to fall in line with Khrushchev and made the tiny southeast European country Peking's only ally outside Asia in its ideological warfare with Khrushchev.

Otherwise outsiders see and hear little about the mountainous, highly underdeveloped country of 10,629 square miles, about the size of the state of Maryland.

Few Visitors
Only about two dozen foreigners from Western countries crossed Albanian borders in recent months, this correspondent among them.

The 1,625,000 shqipetars, "sons of the eagle," as they proudly call themselves, live surrounded by the Adriatic Sea and high mountains.

Albania shares a long border with Yugoslavia, ruled by President Hoxha's arch-enemy, Marshal Broz Tito.

Albania lost 28,000 guerrilla fighters in World War II, and the population in 1945 stood below one million. About 16,000 more sons of the eagle died before firing squads and in prison cells, according to Western statistics, when Hoxha brought the Communist cadres under his thumb.

Birth Rate High
Albanians, however, quickly made up for it. The birth rate is 31 per 1,000 a year, one of the highest in the world.

In the United States the birth rate is about 23 per 1,000.

The 55-year-old Albanian dictator Hoxha contributed two sons to the baby boom and encouraged it by a monthly allowance of 400 leke for the first and 200 leke for any further baby.

Four hundred leke is a lot of money in Albania. It is just over \$3 according to the latest, but highly misleading, tourist exchange rate.

An unskilled Albanian worker earns up to 5,000 leke a month, working seven-hour shifts six days a week.

Five thousand leke will buy two pairs of high-priced poor-quality shoes.

Eggs sell for 7 to 9 leke during the season. A pack of 20 cigarettes costs 20 leke.

Shortages Exist
Manufactured goods and even foodstuffs are short in supply. Albania's exports of chrome, nickel, asphalt, copper, tobacco and olives are not buying much in return, and the country's mineral resources in the north are not yet fully exploited.

State-distributed apartments are inexpensive, as in most Communist countries. A young man playing the hautboy in the Tirana theater orchestra said he is paying 100 leke per month for a one-bedroom apartment for his family of three in Albania's capital.

The hautboy player makes 8,000 leke a month, which puts him in the top income bracket. An elementary school teacher earns about 6,000 leke per month and scholarships for students at the Tirana University amount to 3,000 leke per month.

Lack Religions
Youngsters spend much time with the Communist youth organization "Young Pioneers." Hardly any ever go to church.

Every second Albanian citizen is Moslem, the rest are Roman Catholics or members of the unique Albanian Orthodox church.

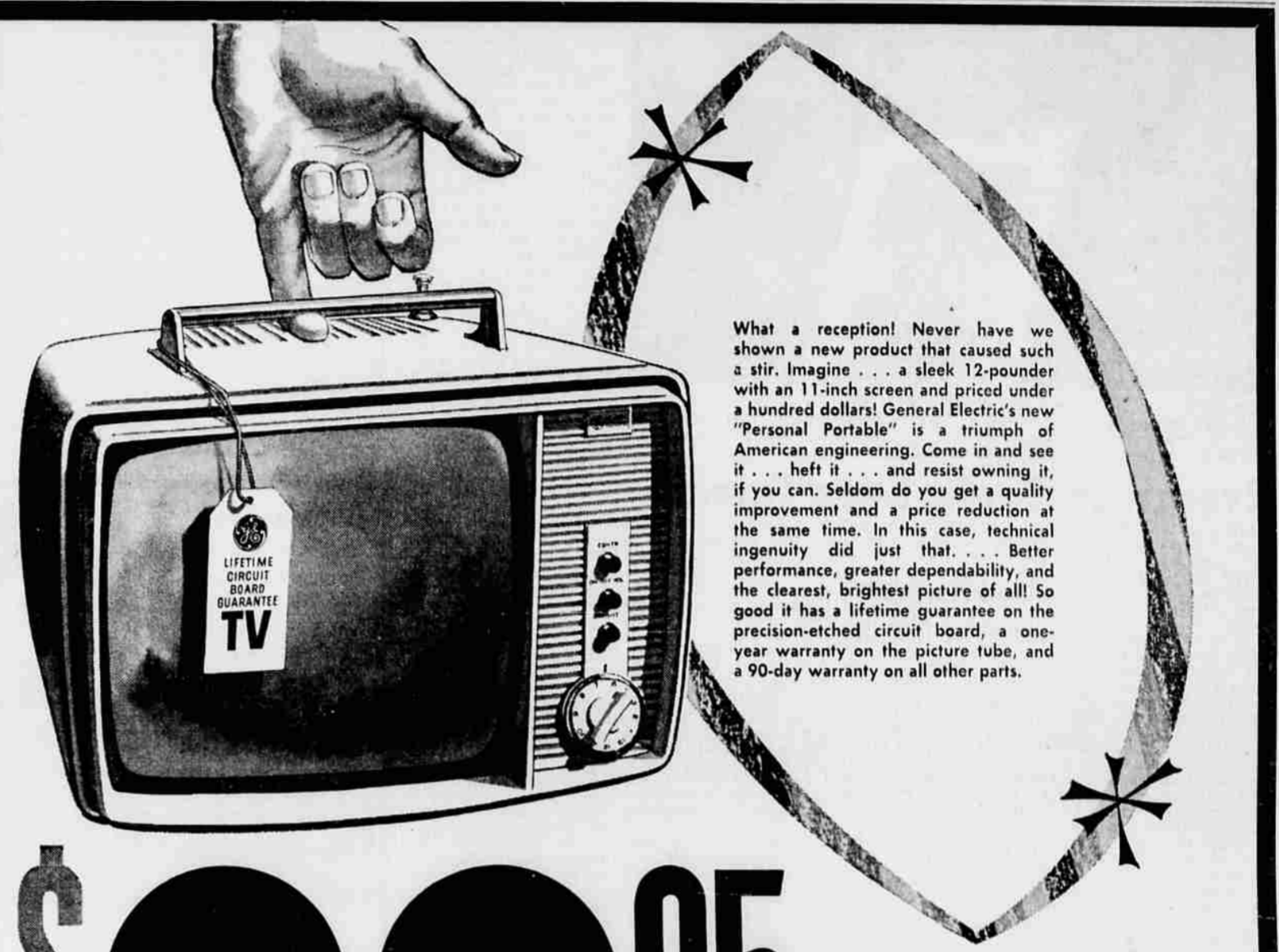
The official party line is a complete separation between state and churches with no interference from either side. But state workers took away the lead from the previously lead-roofed Dschamija Plumit Mosque near Shkodra in southern Albania, the most beautiful mosque in the country, and converted it into a cow shed.

Chapel Is Pub
An Albanian-Orthodox chapel, sharing a hillside near Tirana with old King Zog's castle and a cemetery for guerrilla fighters, serves as a pub. The bar counter replaced the altar and bottles of raki and sweet Albanian cognac took the place of the icons behind it.

About two dozen faithful attend Mass in Tirana's only Roman Catholic church on a Sunday morning.

"My children and I do not believe in God any longer," a party official said very firmly. "Were his children christened?" After some hesitation he answered affirmatively.

When night falls, the sons of the eagle—and the girls, too—seem to forget about the daily toil and hardships and try their wings when the bands play it up in the "people's parks."



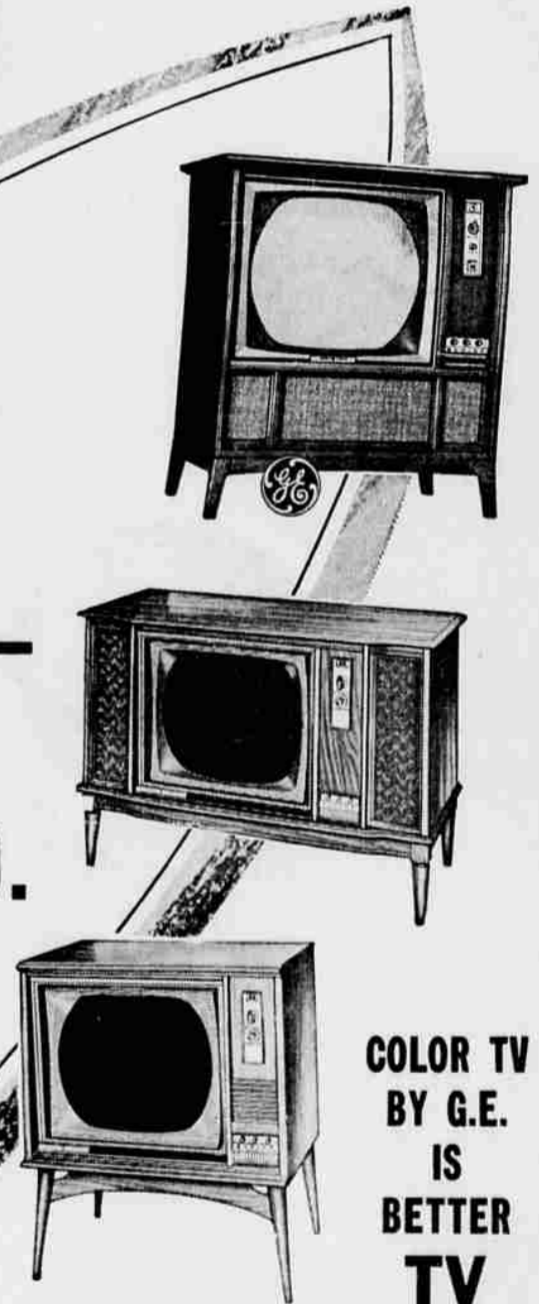
What a reception! Never have we shown a new product that caused such a stir. Imagine... a sleek 12-pounder with an 11-inch screen and priced under a hundred dollars! General Electric's new "Personal Portable" is a triumph of American engineering. Come in and see it... heft it... and resist owning it, if you can. Seldom do you get a quality improvement and a price reduction at the same time. In this case, technical ingenuity did just that... Better performance, greater dependability, and the clearest, brightest picture of all! So good it has a lifetime guarantee on the precision-etched circuit board, a one-year warranty on the picture tube, and a 90-day warranty on all other parts.

\$99.95

GE TV

SEE COLOR TV OPEN MON. & WED. NITES TILL 9 p.m.

Drop in Monday or Wednesday night and watch color TV in the comfort of our TV viewing room. On Mondays watch "Monday Night at the Movies"; Wednesdays watch "The Virginian". We'll stay open these nights so you can watch TV as it should be—in brilliant G.E. COLOR. Join the fun... at HAPCO Tonight!



COLOR TV BY G.E. IS BETTER TV

HAPCO
HOME APPLIANCE COMPANY
115 EAST MAIN-MEDFORD