

Mr. Khrushchev's tour in France

35 mm. developed positive :120 meters - 400 ft

Chief of the Soviet Union, World Communism' Leader, Mr. Nikita Khrushchev represents two very different personalities in one man and each frenchman, according to his choice, was free to either hail him, or even ignore the visitors. There were acclaims of sympathisers in front of Paris Townhall and official tribune inside by the Town Council with Mr.K. rather pleasantly called : The Town Soviet...

Nikita Khrushchev was to say: I have been deeply moved seeing the love you all have for your capital town ... when seeing street vendors making good business with their periscopes.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Nina Khrushcheva, leaving the political conversations to her husband, went to visit Paris' most modern college for girls - true to say that she is, or was, a professor in a University. The college is the Lycee Claude Monet where everything is taught the girls including cooking and the art of being a good housewife. In the Laboratory a mischievous girl held a white mice and Mrs. K. and her three daughters had a good laugh... (not included in our coverage)

In the afternoon, still accompanied by her three daughters Mrs. K. visited a Big store, and this shopping hour was certainly one of the most popular of the three days in Paris. An enthusiastic crowd was added to cheer Mrs. Khrushcheva .. mostly mothers and girls, who all find her most friendly.

The evening of this second day in Paris ended by a great reception given by Mr. Nikita Khrushchev to his hosts, and a number of french personalities. Before the dinner, a truly russian manna, the food was carefully tested in case poison or radioactivity was discovered... which as everyone knows is not good for the health!

On the following morning the Russian Leader and his wife and daughters made a pilgrimage to the sources of communism, visiting at 4 Rue Marie-Rose, a two-room-kitchen apartment which housed the father of communism, Lenin from July 1909 to June 1912 when he lived in Paris. Maurice Thorez, Jacques Duclos and many other communist leaders and personalities were around the soviet leader, and obviously it was the Communist leader who was greeted by companions and sympathisers...

Paris March 28th, 1960

..//... followed a Luncheon offered to the Soviet Leader by Parliamentary reporters and journalists, and may be there was a slightly ironic intention when the invitation was made at the Pavillon Dauphine, just in front of the new Palace housing the NATO. As if turning up his sleeves for the hard work, Mr.K. good naturedly declared he was not afraid of answering any attacks.. verbal ones of course.

Madame K's private program took her in the afternoon of this third day in Paris, to the Louvre Museum where she and her daughters were attracted by the Samothrace Victory, the Venus from Milo and of course the "Jocundo"

And ending this day, it was the fastuous evening in the gold and glitter of the Paris Opera, where our guests could see a performance of the Opera "CARMEN" directed by Raymond Rouleau, and which could compete with a performance at the famous Bolshoi Theater in Moscow.

The next morning at ORLY airport, a specially equipped Caravelle for the trip of the Russian leader and his party, left for Bordeaux, capital town of the south-west of France, which is at present in full growth and transformation. At Bordeaux Townhall Mr.K. was the guest of the Mayor, who is also President of the National Assembly, Mr.Chaban Delmas, who has just returned from a trip to the USSR.

The changes undergone by the South-west of France are the results from the exploitation of the natural gas by the ultra-modern power plant of Lacq (12 kilometers long and 7 in width) which is so complicated that during his thorough visit of the installations Mr.K. said.. I am afraid I cannot return this year to Moscow!

Then from the twenty first century back to the Fifteenth! That is the Castle of PAU where Henri the Fourth was born, and where he was greeted by a gift of a lamb.. before being introduced, in the Hall for 100 meals, where the walls are entirely covered by tapestries of the XVth century, to the province notable

After the Bearn province, LANGUEDOC, where it so heavily rained that Mr.K. might have thought quite useless the pumping station of PICHEGRU which he visited and which irrigates large areas thus making it possible to extend large farming and animal growing. But he received from a young girl, a bunch of Maizecorn which everyone know always pleases him.

The rain was still heavily falling when he reached NIMES, but the chilly atmosphere was rapidly warmed up by the acclamations of a large crowd massed in front of the Prefecture on the Avenue Focheres.

Before the Luncheon given for Mr.K. and his party at the Prefecture of the Gard Department (Nimes), everyone could see that the three daughters were gay and laughing while Mr.K. still had sneezes after his recent flu attack which caused the delay in his trip to France.

Then the town was proud to show the guests their ancient arenas.

Later on it was in the Ancient Roman theater that the Soviet Leader and his party, in spite of the rains, saw a performance of folkloric dances by the Provençal group, following the rhythm and sound of the fife and tambourine.