A. Yas'kov

The movement for a communist attitude toward labor is the highest form of socialist competition, encompassing the key principles of publicity, comparability of work results, and the repetition of leading working methods and examples. It finds its highest expression in the awarding of the title "collective of communist labor." Our own Novolipetsk Metallurgical Plant can serve as an example.

... One of the workers, coming over to the Red Corner in the shop, joked "What, no orchestra?" The joke was appropriate, for it was indeed a festive occasion. The plant trade union committee was about to convene a meeting there to award the collective with the honored title of collective of communist labor.

Workers, foremen, and trade-union activists were there. They talked about both the successes and disappointments in the shop, and ways to eliminate remaining problems. There was still hard work ahead, but all expressed the opinion that sheet rolling shop No. 1 would come out on top. And the resolution to name the shop a collective of communist labor was passed unanimously.

So it is with every shop that is acclaimed with this honor. But such recognition must be preceded by a great deal of organizational, political, and educational work. The shop, department, and laboratory collectives are interested first in earning — then in receiving — the honorific designation. The department of technical control was recently bestowed the title. Each year the workers in the department introduced organizational-technical measures to improve product quality and reduce rejects. Almost all of them participated in competitions, and most of them are shock communist laborers.

We can cite other examples. The collective of the coke shop was the first at the plant to win the appellation of collective of communist labor. But recently work in the shop has become irregular, and productivity and discipline have suffered. A just solution to this problem was decided upon — take the title away from the shop until its performance improves. Now the workers in the shop have time to think about how to regain their former honored status. They are being helped in this effort by the entire plant collective, the plant administration, and public organizations at Novolipetsk.

More than 8400 workers are receiving instruction in schools of communist labor at the plant. The trade union organization at Novolipetsk knowledgeably supervises these schools, directing the attention of the students toward the solution of problems that will help raise production indices and improve professional skills.

The number of shock communist laborers and efficiency experts at the plant is increasing. An example of this is the school of communist labor in the electrical repair section attached to the 2000 mill in sheet rolling shop No. 3, taught by senior foreman A. F. Lavrent'ev. Most of its students are shock communist laborers and efficiency experts, all are highly qualified, and all 22 men are successfully completing individual practical assignments.

Administrator of the school in the continuous-casting section of oxygen converter shop No. 1 A. V. Rybin says that most of his students work in the communist manner, as is shown by the following facts: 11 men have been awarded the anniversary Leninist medal "For Valiant Labor"; operators N. T. Surikov, A. V. Lukin and M. I. Chemodanov were awarded the titles "Shock Workers in the Ninth Five-Year Plan"; all students met plant-wide norms last year; passes were authorized three times for vacations at "Sukhobore"; the class was a frequent visitor to the Sports Palace, and not only as fans — several of the students were on the soccer and hockey teams of the plant; the class often went to the cinema, and held active
discussions of films shown there; they cleaned up and arranged their work areas after quitting time, and they served as sponsors for youth home No. 3 and kindergarten No. 76.

Workers at the plant know and well remember the first shock laborers, blast-furnace operators N. P. Tyrtyshnii and V. S. Maistrenko, steelmakers G. P. Milovanov and V. I. Golovanov, and rollers A. D. Shalunov, V. A. Ratman, and M. A. Kurabin. Many of these men now in well-earned retirement. These veterans have been replaced by new, highly qualified workers, and the number of such workers at the plant increases year after year. The Novolipetsk plant is now the home of 20,000 shock communist laborers, and 273 crews and 242 shops, sections, divisions, and departments carry this honored title. The numbers are impressive. But those who are fortunate enough to win this recognition should be guided by the Leninist instruction that "such an honor must be gained by long and persistent effort and documented by practical successes in the construction of communism."

The crews, sections, and shops of communist labor, along with shock communist laborers are the vanguard of socialist competition, presenting many valuable initiatives and achieving high marks in the campaign to meet Plan goals and socialist obligations. The collectives of communist labor were the first collectives at the plant to enter the competition held under the motto "High-Quality Products - the Pride of the Plant." The crew of senior roller in sheet rolling shop No. 1 V. V. Pustovalov was among them. This crew is constantly striving to find and efficiently use new production reserves. Rolling metal to minus tolerances, reducing roll-changing time, and cutting the time spent on routine maintenance have helped it to increase its efficiency and score victories on the job. The same may be said of the crew of A. M. Tat'yanin in sheet rolling shop No. 2. This crew can roll any type of section at a high level of productivity, thanks to its discipline and high degree of qualification.

A broad competition was organized at the plant in 1977 under the motto "All Forward Together." The competition was initiated by a shop of communist labor - the collective of sheet rolling shop No. 2. The results exceeded expectations. While production goals had not been met by 22 crews in the shop in May, only 10 had failed to do so by June, and by July all crews were up to standards. Meetings were held in the sections, divisions, and services