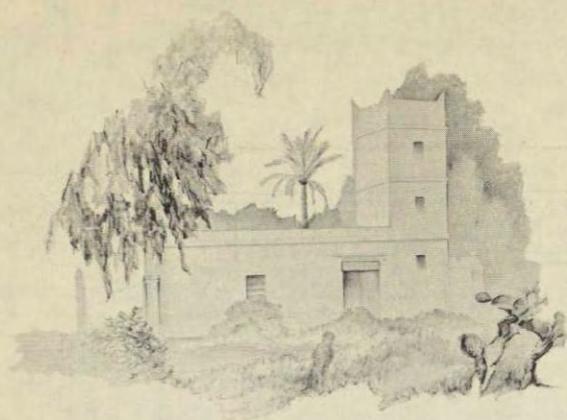


A NATION GROWS

LIBYA 1959



**Cover Photograph: The Barce Plain of Cyrenaica**



A NATION

# GROWS

LIBYA 1959

A Pictorial Report

by

Marcus J. Gordon, Director

United States Operations Mission to Libya

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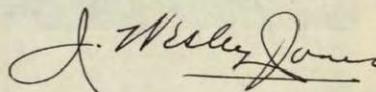
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Libya is one of many nations throughout the world to which the Government of the United States of America is providing technical and economic assistance. During my comparatively short time in Libya, it has been my privilege personally to inspect many of the projects pictured in this report. I am pleased with what has been accomplished.

Libya's needs are many. The field of economic and social development offers great challenge. The Government of Libya is making valiant efforts to improve the standard of living of the Libyan people. However, this takes time and persistent effort. The Government and the people of the United States are happy to contribute to the ultimate attainment of this goal through their direct assistance to Libya's economic development programs.

I feel that both Libya and the United States can be proud of the results of their cooperation to date. I look forward, however, to even greater benefits from this cooperation in the years ahead.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Wesley Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

J. Wesley Jones,  
American Ambassador.



Since the establishment of the United States Operations Mission (USOM) to Libya more than seven years ago, Libyans and Americans have worked together to bring about increased productivity, to raise the living standards of the Libyan people, and to help make Libya's independence strong and enduring. From a very modest beginning the program of U.S. assistance to Libya has expanded significantly during the past three years.

All of the projects being carried out in Libya have been requested and approved by Federal and Provincial authorities of the Libyan Government. In using its foreign assistance funds, the Libyan Government wisely has placed the highest priority upon those things which increase productivity, which develop the people's knowledge and skills, and which lay the foundations for future economic growth.

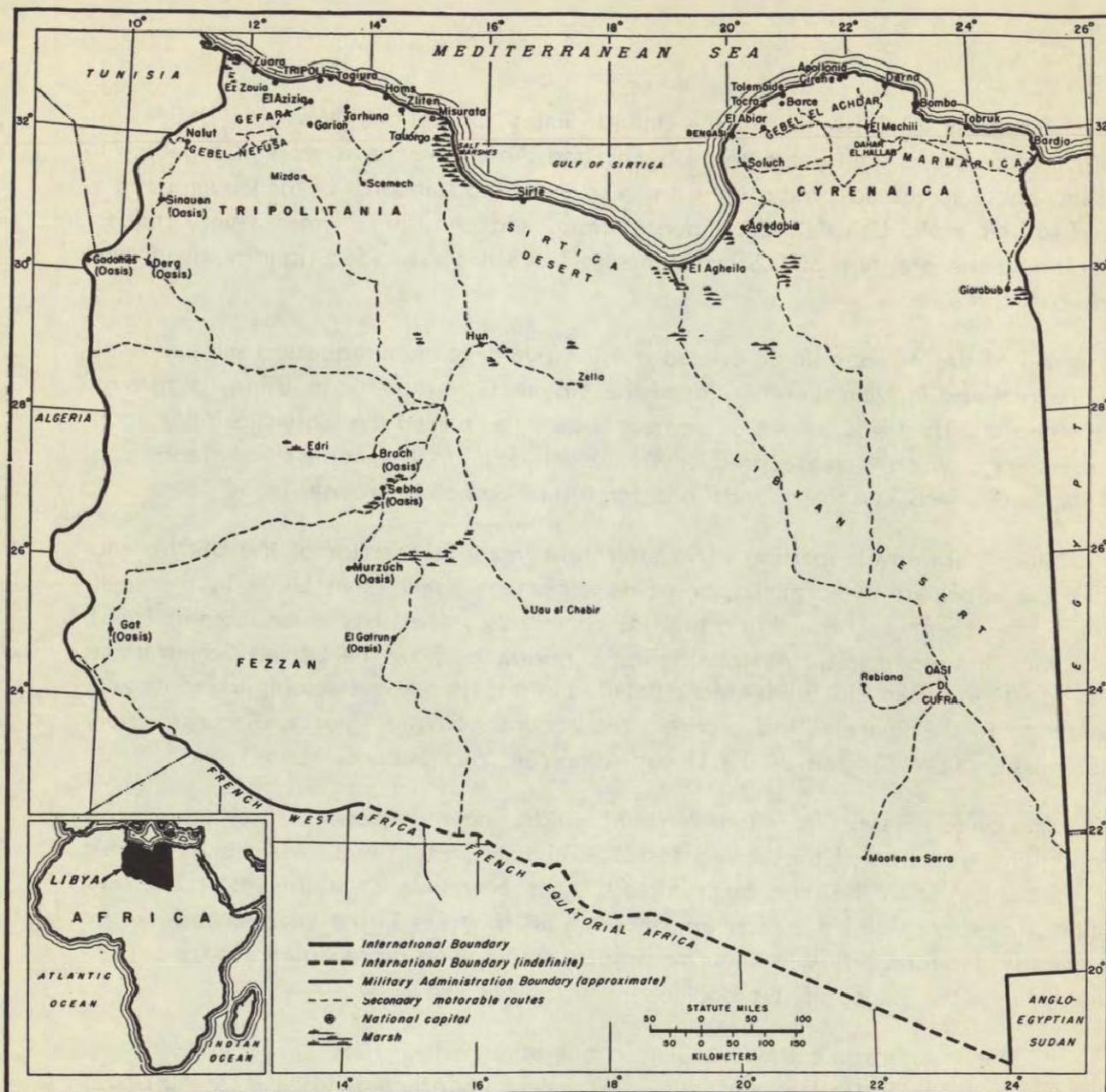
Since I am now departing Libya after four years as Director of the USOM, and since we anticipate a reorganization of development agencies in Libya in the near future, this seems to be a fitting time to summarize what has been accomplished thus far. This report is a brief photographic review of how the Libyan Government has spent American aid funds. More detailed information about accomplishments will be found in the financial and progress reports of the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission (LARC), and of the Libyan-American Joint Services (LAJS).

The United States Operations Mission, under new leadership and under the continuing direction of the United States Ambassador to Libya, will do its utmost in the future, as in the past, to promote Libya's economic development. I am confident that there will be greater and more rapid progress in the years ahead. Let us hope that later reports will show accomplishments even more significant than those reviewed in the pages of this booklet.

I deeply appreciate the excellent cooperation which USOM personnel have enjoyed with their Libyan colleagues. I consider it a privilege to have served Libya, and I shall watch her future progress with sincere interest.

*Marcus J. Gordon*

Marcus J. Gordon,  
Director, U. S. Operations Mission to Libya.



# *Background*

## *To*

### *Growth*

....independence now and independence forever.

— Daniel Webster

Libya is an ancient land. The great historian Herodotus wrote about Libya almost twenty-five hundred years ago, and even Homer mentioned it in his writings. Early navigation maps of the Mediterranean show Libya in approximately its present location, though « Libya » was sometimes used as a term for all of North Africa. The very name « Africa » has been traced to one of Libya's first tribes.

Yet Libya as an independent, sovereign state is one of the very young nations of the world, and it was born out of a history of bitter struggle. From the earliest times, outside people—Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Vandals, Spaniards, Turks, and Italians—occupied and fought over the strategic and fertile Libyan coast. It is within the memory of living men that the inherent desire for a free and unified country took the form of action among native Libyans—particularly the Sanussi Order—and made itself a force to be reckoned with. During World War Two, Libya was again a battleground, this time between German and Allied armies, and a Libyan Arab force fought for the Allied cause in Egypt.

In 1949 the United Nations resolved that Libya should become an independent country as soon as possible, and not later than January 1, 1952. On December 24, 1951, the United Kingdom of Libya came into being. The new state was organized as a constitutional monarchy with Sayyid Muhammad Idris al Sanussi, a leading figure in Libya's fight for liberty, ascending to the throne as King Idris I.

The problems which faced the young country were of awesome proportions. Roads, buildings, and harbors had been damaged by the recent war. Throughout great areas of the country the very land was a death trap with hundreds of thousands of land mines hidden just under the earth's surface. Libyans had never had a

real chance to participate in the running of the government; hence there were few trained civil servants among the Libyan population. Schools, always pitifully inadequate under occupying forces, had almost completely shut down during the war. With very little industrial development, sources of government revenue were meager; per capita income of Libyans was one of the lowest in the world.

It would have been easy to take a defeatist attitude in the face of such tremendous handicaps, but the achieving of independence brought with it a strong desire among the nation's leaders to overcome these handicaps and a determination to improve the lot of the young country's people. In its efforts to maintain its place among the free, progressive nations of the world, Libya from the beginning has had the assistance of the United States, Great Britain, and other countries. The United Nations, recognizing its special obligation to Libya, has—on a per capita basis—made Libya the largest recipient of U.N. technical assistance.

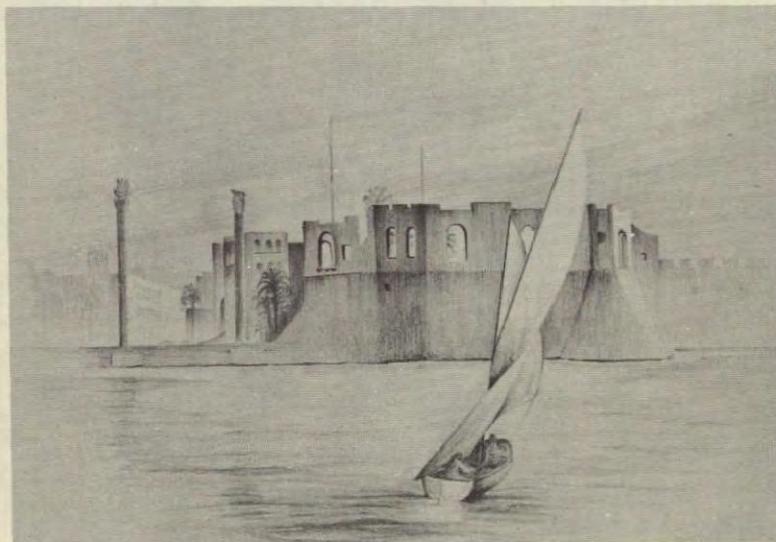
The United States consistently championed the cause of Libyan independence in the United Nations. At the same time it pledged itself to a major effort in helping the young country in its economic development. To this end the United States has cooperated with the United Nations in its work. Even before Libyan independence, on January 21, 1950, Libya and the United States entered into an agreement calling for technical assistance to be furnished through a United States Operation Mission to Libya (USOM). In September, 1954, Libya and the United States signed an economic aid agreement. Under this and later agreements, the U.S. has made available to Libya \$65,932,000 (£L 23,550,000).\* In addition, the U.S. has paid the salaries and expenses of more than five hundred American technicians who have worked in Libya on all phases of economic and educational development since 1950. At the present time, over one hundred American technicians are working in Libya.

Concurrently with the funds mentioned above, the United States Government has made available to the Libyan Government \$4,000,000 of « special funds » each year. These special funds come from U.S. Defense Department appropriations and are paid under the terms of a special economic agreement negotiated in 1954 at the time the United States Base Agreement was signed. Both the special funds, which are paid directly to Libya, and the U.S. foreign aid funds which are administered through the USOM have been channeled to the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission (LARC) since 1955. Since both funds have been used for economic development projects, and since the two funds have been co-mingled, this report includes projects financed with both categories of U.S. economic assistance.

\* One Libyan pound equals about \$2.80.

The remaining sections of this book are a pictorial review of some of the things that the Libyan people have accomplished by using United States financial and technical assistance. This book is not a complete and systematic review of the American aid program in Libya but rather an attempt to show typical scenes of progress, to point out highlights on the road to economic development, and to indicate to some degree the extent to which the Libyan people are being affected by this program.

America can make aid funds available and American technicians can assist in development work. But in the final analysis responsibility for success or failure must rest with the Libyan government officials and the Libyan people; the vital work of national development must be carried out by them. In a very real sense, then, this book is a tribute to the considerable success that Libyans have had thus far in their striving for a better, stronger Libya.





# *The People First*

The greatest resource of any nation is its people. In the long run no country can rise above the sum total of the education, health, industry, courage, and skills of all its citizens. Illiterate people cannot participate properly in their nation's affairs; sick people cannot be fully productive; untrained people seldom become more than manual laborers.

Libyan government officials realized these vital facts from the beginning and, aware of their country's shortage of natural wealth, have tried all the harder to develop Libya's human resources. They have consistently specified that a large proportion of American aid funds be spent on educational and health activities.

One of the first laws passed by the Libyan Senate and House of Representatives was the Education Law of 1952. This law called for the establishment of schools throughout the country sufficient for the compulsory elementary education of all Libyan children and for opportunities to continue their education in secondary schools.

The desire for educational development among Libyans is intense, and their progress has been little short of amazing. But the magnitude of the educational problem was, and still is, all-encompassing: shortage of schools, lack of teachers, lack of furniture and equipment, shortage of textbooks and almost total absence of libraries, need for assistance in developing a sound organization for school management, need for vocational training, need for curriculum development and for creating in-service training opportunities for teachers. At first there was everything to do—and seemingly all at once.

To assist the Ministry of Education and the provincial Nazarats in the great job of educational development for the country, the Point Four Cooperative Program in Education was inaugurated late in 1951. From a fairly small beginning, this program has grown until it is today one of the largest branches of the Libyan-American Joint Services, and its activities center upon Libya's most pressing educational problems.

The Nazarats of Education have built or are presently building a total of 102 schools, utilizing American aid funds and technical help; these schools will provide an additional 457 classrooms for Libya's expanding school population. More than £L 1,500,000 of education aid funds have been appropriated for the hiring of well-qualified foreign teachers until such time as enough Libyans are trained to meet all teacher needs. At the present time more than 150 foreign teachers are at work in Libya under this plan. Education aid funds were used to establish two agricultural training schools in Libya, an arts and crafts school in Tripoli, and a trade school in Benghazi. The sum of £L. 220,000 has been set aside for buildings, scientific and classroom equipment, and professors' salaries at the University of Libya. A program to equip all preparatory and secondary schools in Libya with small but well-balanced libraries is well underway. In addition to such financial help, American technicians are assisting the Ministry and Nazarats in in-service teacher training programs, English language training, vocational education, instructional materials development, and in other phases of the total education program.

While Libya is in the process of developing its educational system, the program has provided scholarships enabling approximately 250 Libyan students to study overseas in those technical subjects not yet available in Libya. When they complete their education, these Libyan students will be qualified to take over positions in the government presently being held by foreign advisors, and they will provide the technical and professional knowledge necessary to run a successful development program. Already Libyans trained abroad with U.S. funds have taken over important positions in the fields of public health, education, and agriculture.

In Libya, as in all newly developing nations, there is an urgent need to reach a maximum number of people as quickly as possible with information about good health practices, improved agricultural methods, and community development. The Government of Libya needs materials for acquainting the people with governmental actions and plans. Teachers and technicians need posters, filmstrips, charts, and other teaching aids to help them in their work. Audio-Visual Services in Libya was started for the purpose of supplying such information and materials and—most importantly—for training Libyans in the work of producing all types of audio-visual

materials. At present, fifty-seven Libyans are employed in Audio-Visual Services in Tripoli, Benghazi, and Sebha; and all have received instruction in such areas as photography, printing, poster making, motion picture production, and methods of utilizing audio-visual aids. Mr. Faraj Tarbah, a young Libyan who received communication media training in the United States, was recently made head of Audio-Visual Services.

Going hand in hand with educational advancement has been the Libyan government's desire to raise the health standards of its citizens. To this end a USOM Health Division has been in Libya since 1952 and has been closely integrated with the Ministry of Health and the Nazarat. From 1952 through 1954 the operational program of the Health Division was concerned with trachoma control, but with the appropriation of additional funds, the scope of the work was widened after that time.

Beginning in 1954, projects in the major fields of health were developed. Libya greatly needed assistance not only in specific disease control, such as trachoma and malaria, but in all phases of health activity, and during 1954 and 1955 USOM health activities were carried out in three major fields: (1) development of domestic water supplies, (2) community health activities, (3) rehabilitation of the medical services, including hospitals, ambulatoria, and laboratories. Certain other projects, auxiliary activities of the main fields listed above, have also been carried out. Included in these are the TB survey, assistance to health training, and the nutritional survey support.

The health program has developed long-range plans for improvement of potable water sources in Libyan communities. To date 115 wells have been rehabilitated and cleaned in Tripolitania, and limited work has been carried out in Cyrenaica. The development of municipal water supplies for several larger towns is now in progress; among these are Misurata and Kussabat in Tripolitania, Sebha in the Fezzan, and Barce in Cyrenaica.

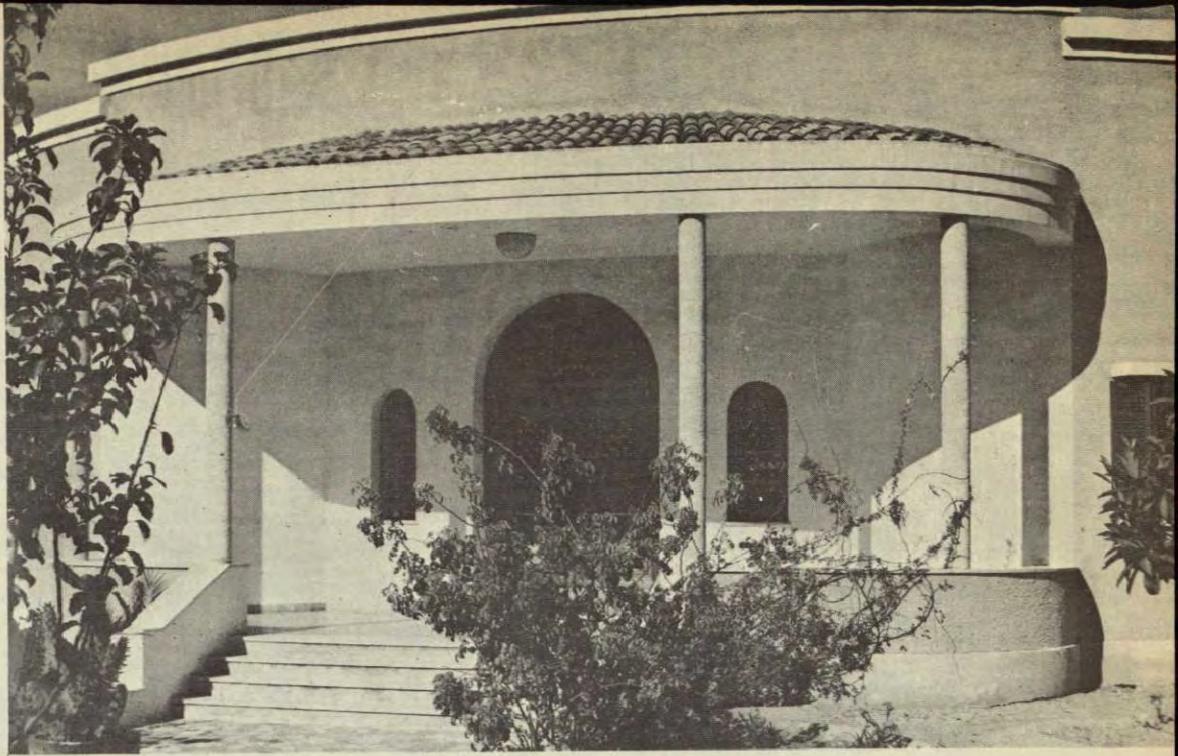
Programs in the field of sanitation have included fly control and clean-up campaigns, regular inspection of food establishments and market areas, and malaria control. In Cyrenaica, a training course in sanitation has been given to the Libyan army, and a course has been held for government sanitary inspectors. In the Fezzan, the chief efforts have been in malaria control; intensive residual spraying programs have been conducted for the past three years.

The health department program is now attempting to consolidate the 184 medical dispensaries scattered throughout Libya in order to make possible their

conversion into larger and more efficient medical units. Government laboratories in Tripoli and Benghazi have been re-equipped and modernized, and the two general hospitals at Tripoli and Benghazi have been improved. A new district hospital is under construction at Tobruk, and the renovation and enlarging of the Sebha medical infirmary has been completed.

The development of Libya's human resources, however, is not just a job for technicians and their helpers. To be successful the development program must enlist the help of every Libyan. The technician may demonstrate by a specific project what can be done, but it is up to Libyans everywhere to do the job. Work of this nature is termed self-help or community development when concentrated in one area. Development funds provide certain scarce materials but local citizens provide the impetus and the labor. In this way over a thousand cisterns have been renovated in Tripolitania, small towns all over Libya are conducting their own clean-up campaign to reduce fly-borne diseases, and many other community improvements have been made with the development program furnishing only materials and technical advice.

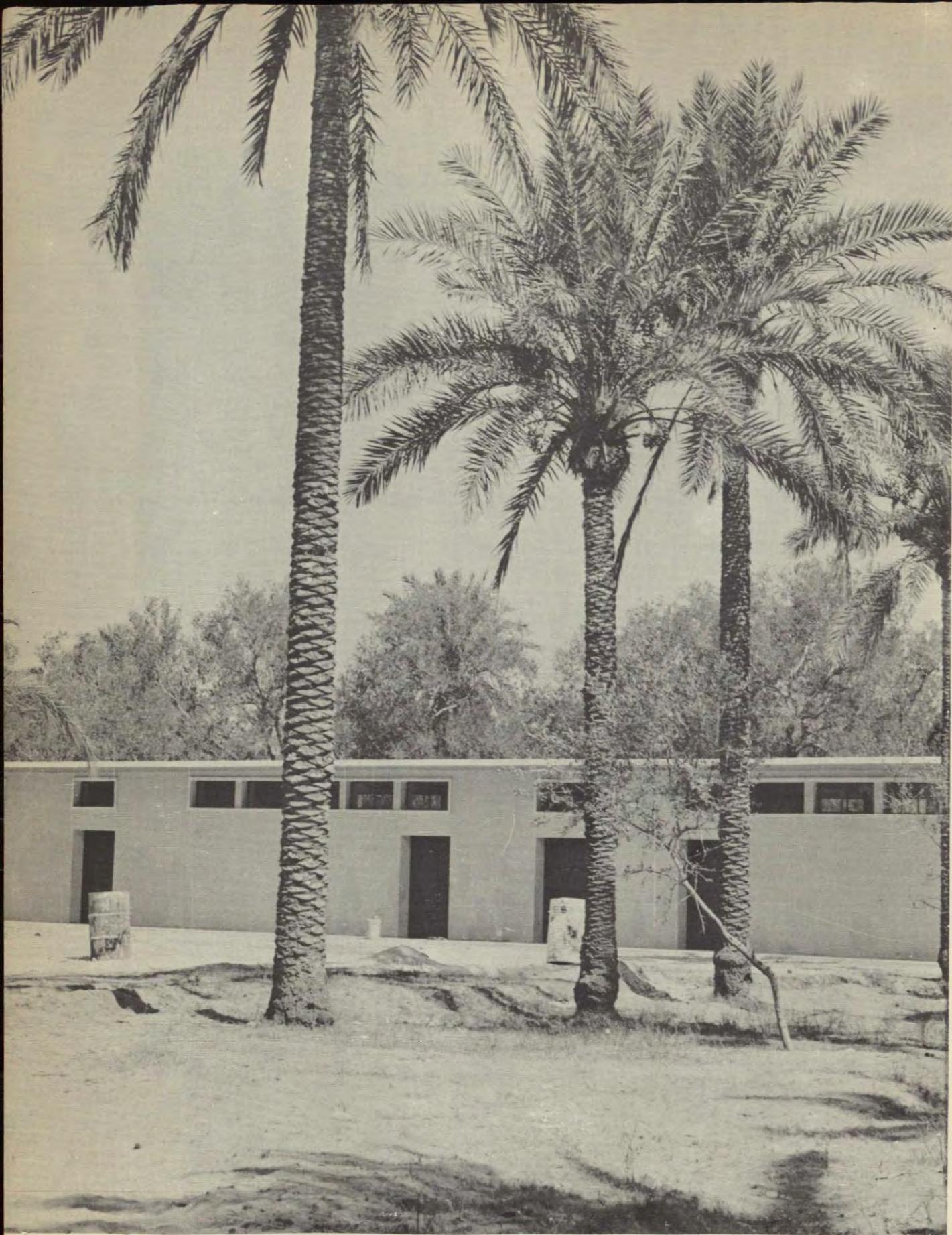
The problems connected with developing human resources in Libya are great, but they are being solved and they must be, for, as a famous British statesman once wrote, « The health of the people is really the foundation upon which all of their happiness and all of their powers as a state depend.» It is the same with education. The historian H. G. Wells has said that « more and more, human history becomes a race between education and catastrophe.» It is a race that Libyans are determined to win.



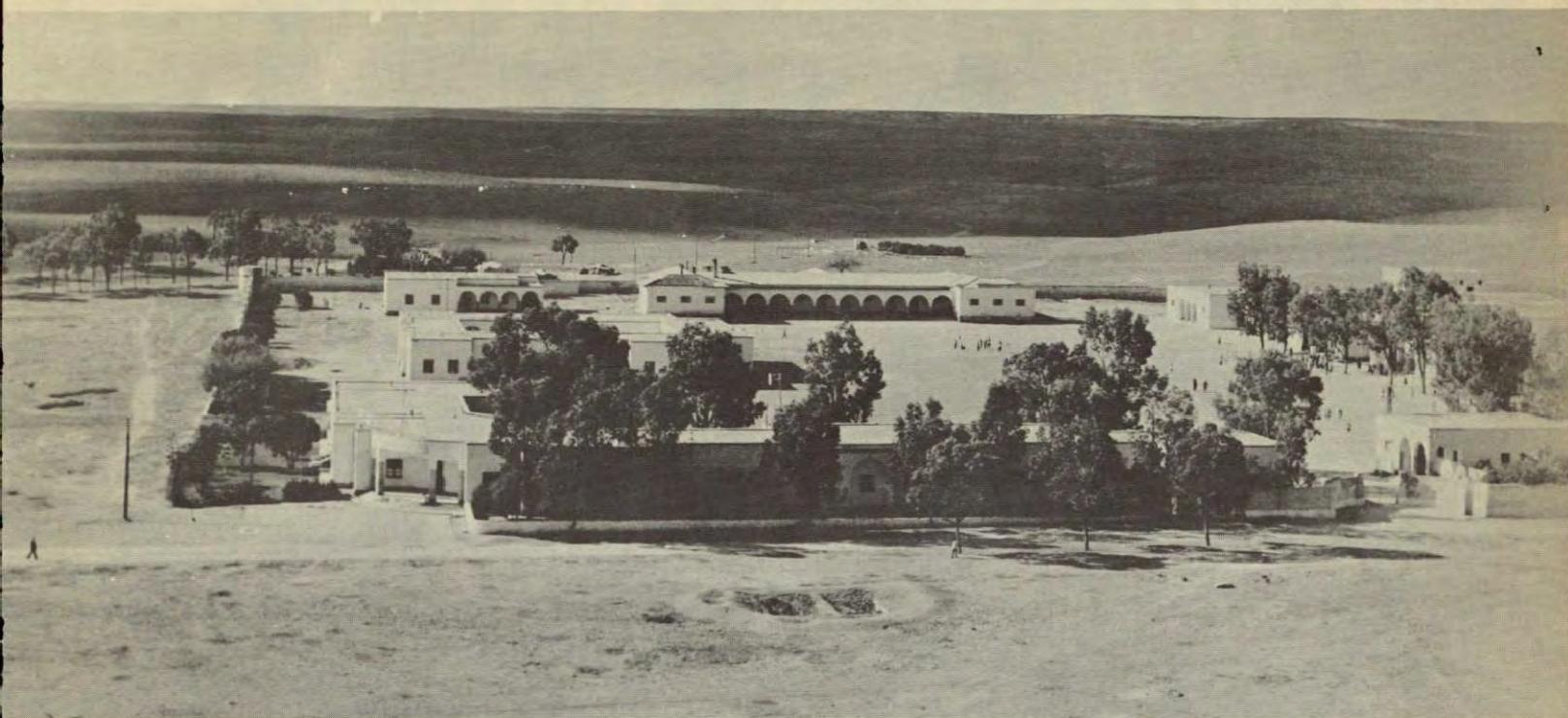
The pleasant three-room Dahra School for Girls in Tripoli. Six girls' schools of this type have been built in Libya.

This six-room school was built in the Jebel Nufusa town of Caboa in 1958. Six similar schools have been built throughout the country.



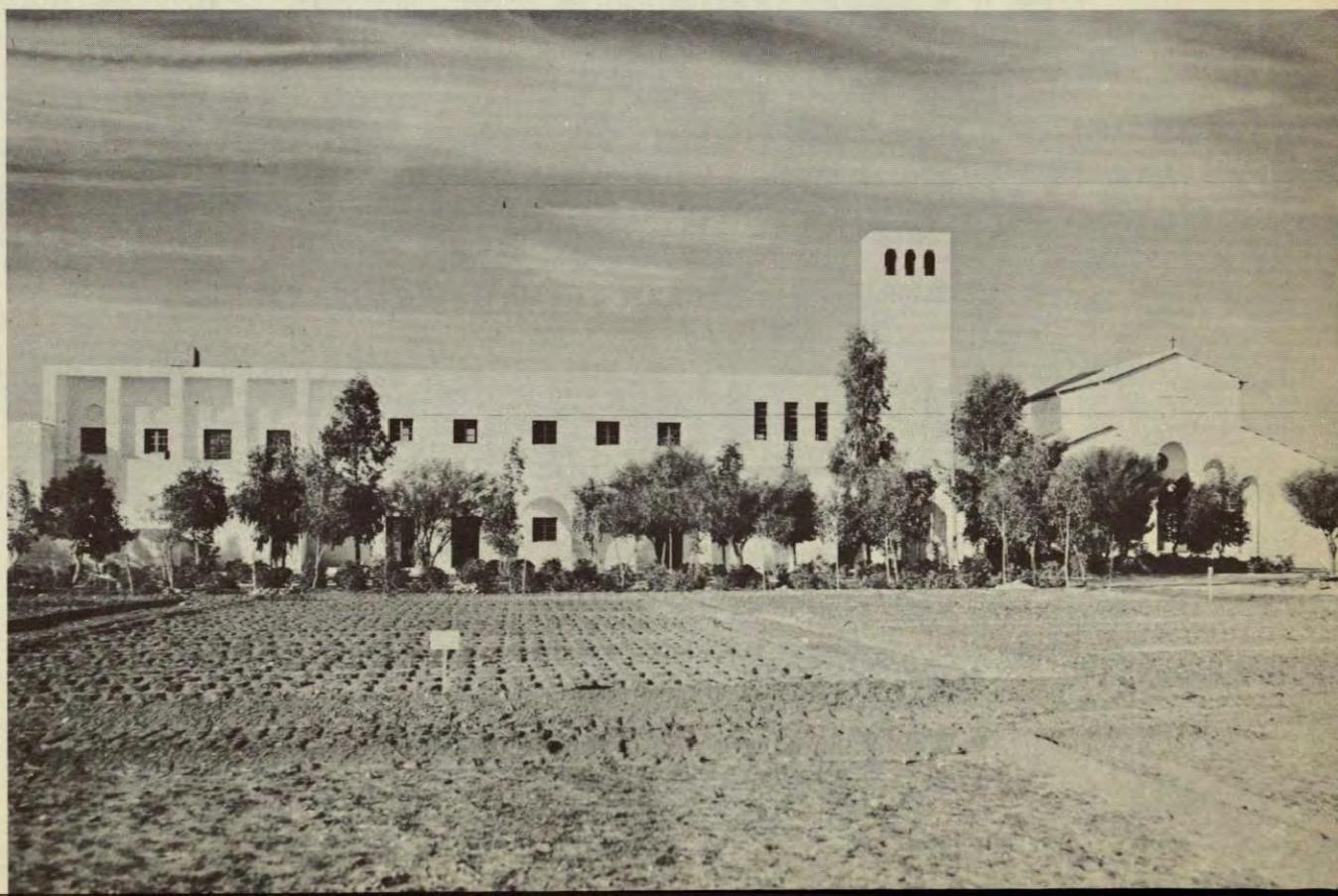


Twenty-five schools like this one at Jami El Turki have been built under the Ministry of Education's expanded construction program.



American aid funds were used to add twenty classrooms and a 400-bed dormitory to the El Abiar School in Cyrenaica.

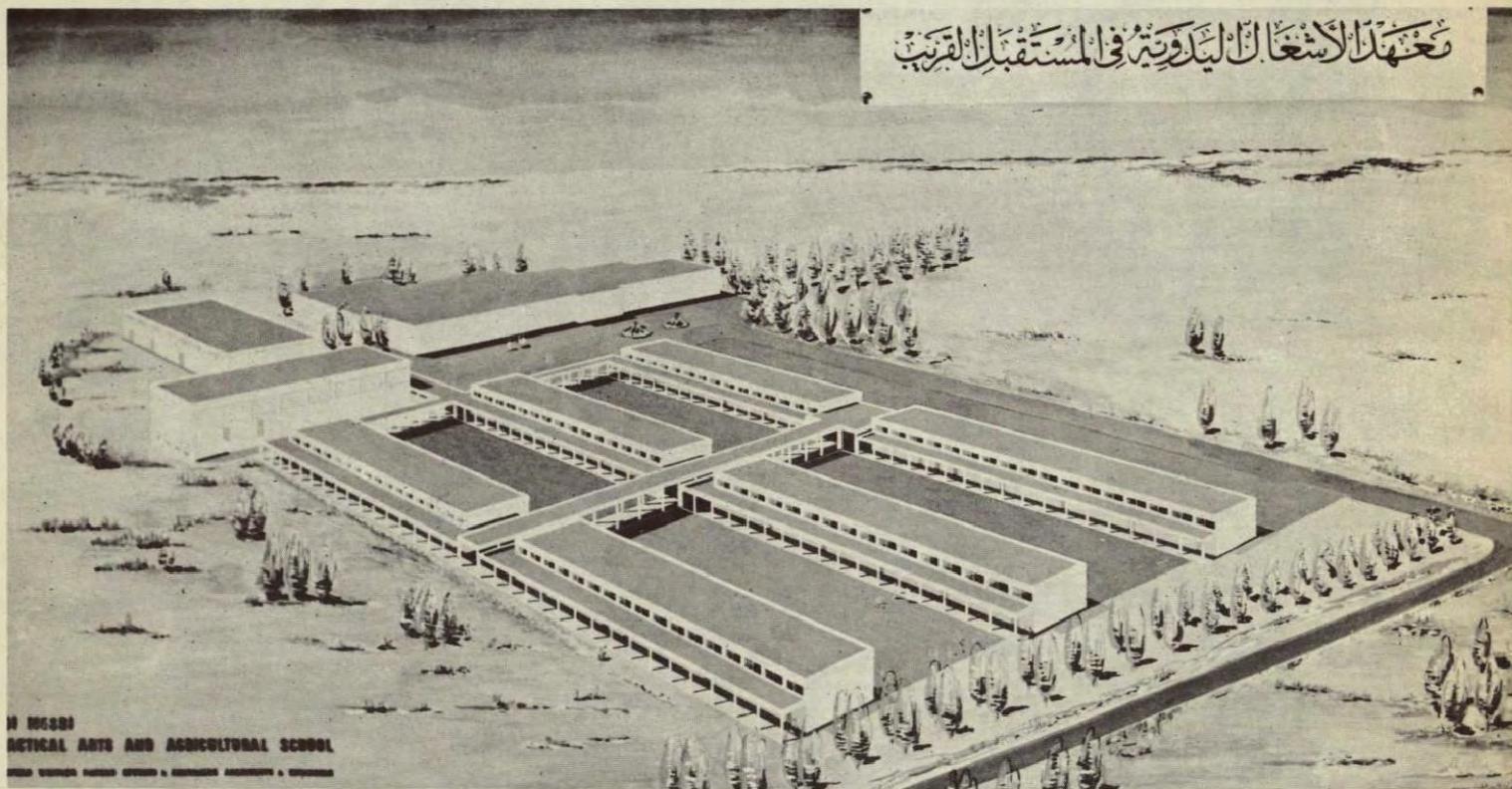
One view of the El Awelia Agricultural School in Cyrenaica with agricultural test plots in the foreground.



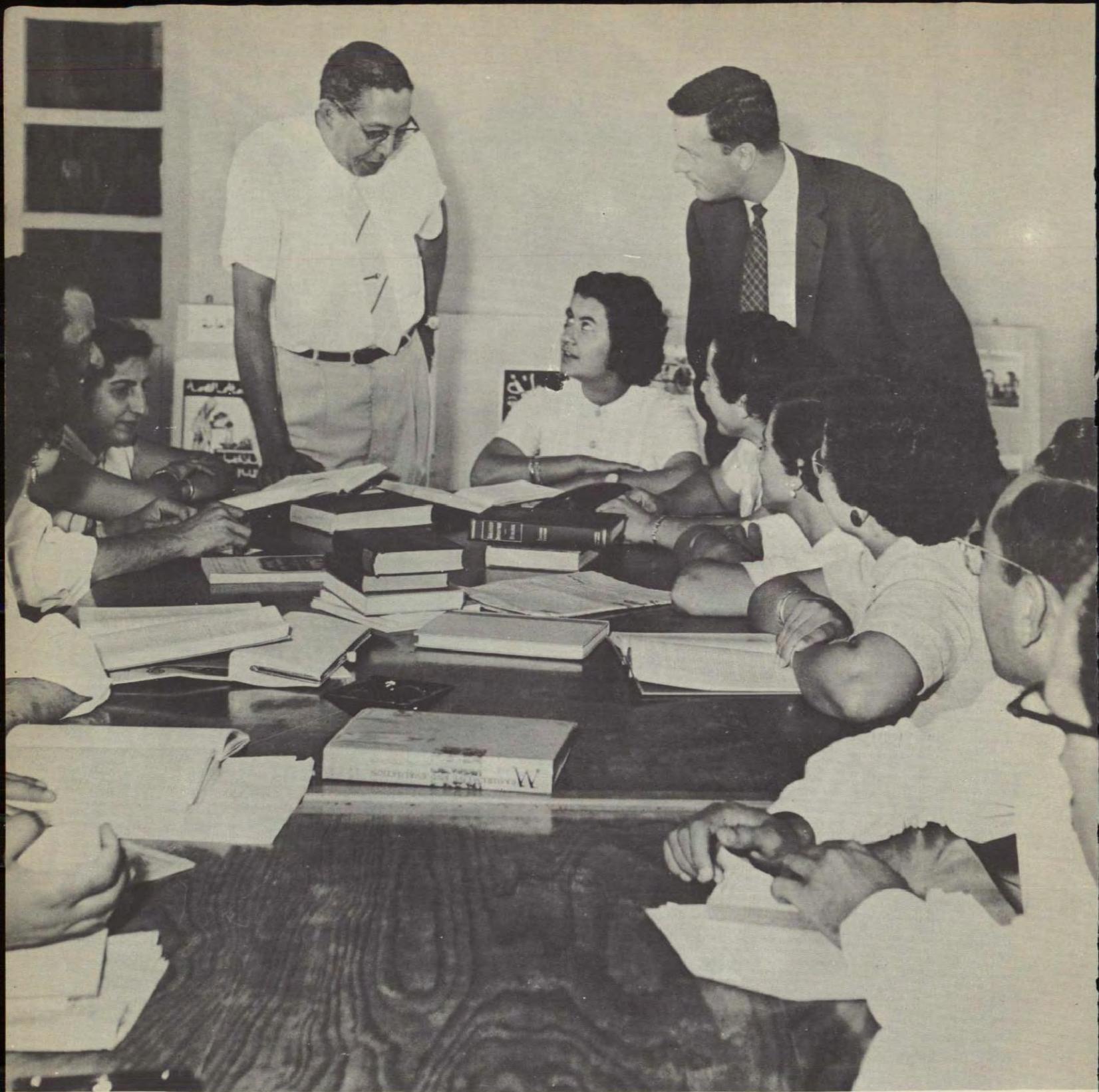


The new five-room school building at Fundak El Sharif in Tripolitania.

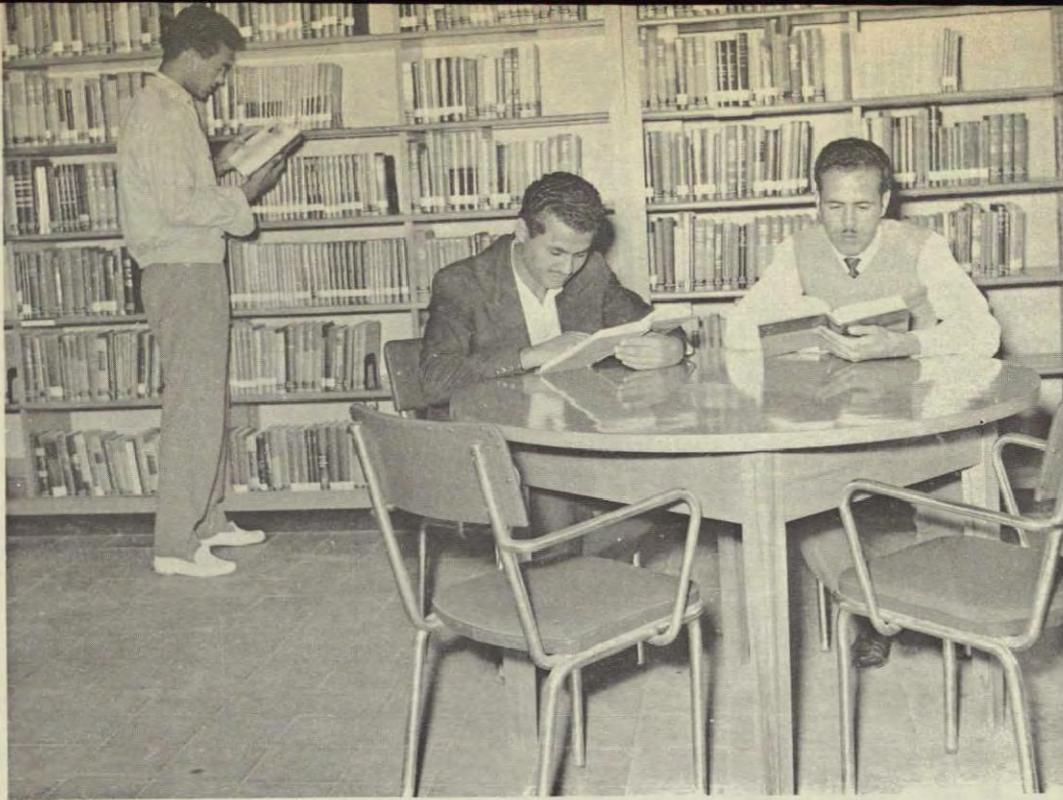
مَجْمَعَةُ الْأَسْخَاكِ لِتَلْمِذَاتِهِ فِي الْمُسْتَقْبَلِ الْقَرِيبِ



Architect's drawing of new University of Libya buildings in Tripoli. The buildings, which will house the science and agriculture branches of the university, are now almost ready for use.



A workshop for newly recruited teachers for Libyan preparatory and secondary schools.



Libyan students are avid readers, and the school library program is a very popular one. The library furnishings are being made in Libya.



Students attending Arabic language class in the girls' section of the Benghazi Secondary School of Trades.



Students at the El Awelia Vocational Agricultural School in Cyrenaica working with an improved breed of chickens for the school farm.



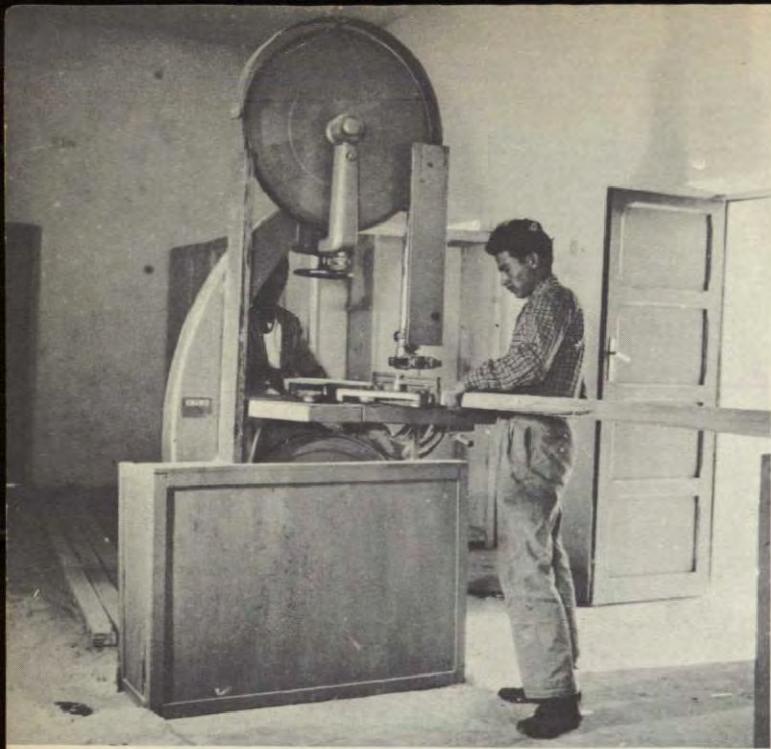
Some of the materials produced by Libyan students at the Tripoli Handicrafts School. About fifty students have completed their training and most of them are now teaching handicrafts in other Libyan schools.

Baskets made by Handicrafts School students.



Example of student leather work.



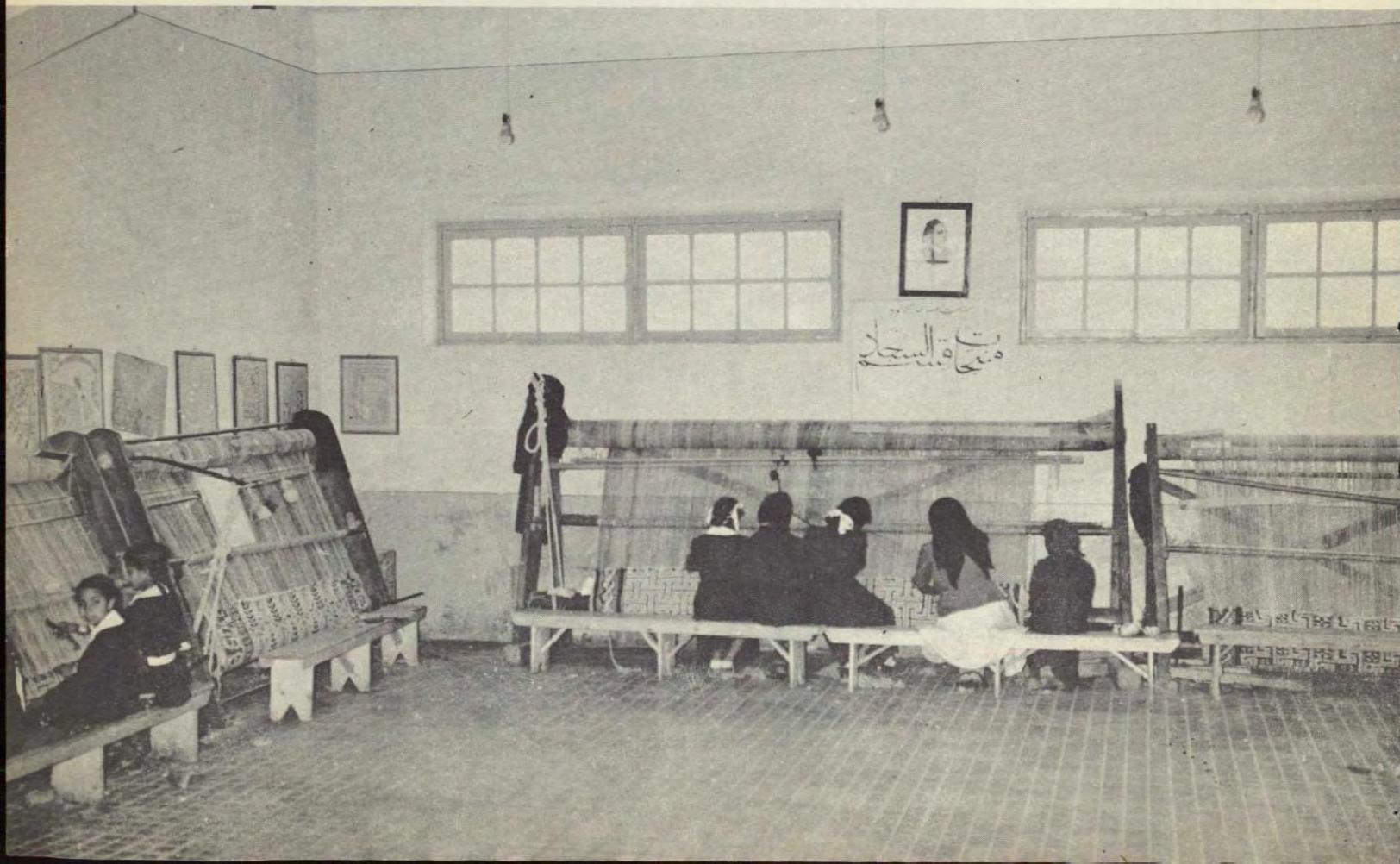


In the Fezzan modern equipment facilitates the work of the Public Works Department.



A Fezzan Public Works employee operating a new lathe.

A typical class in carpet weaving at the Benghazi Secondary School of Trades.



Carpentry instruction at the Trade School.

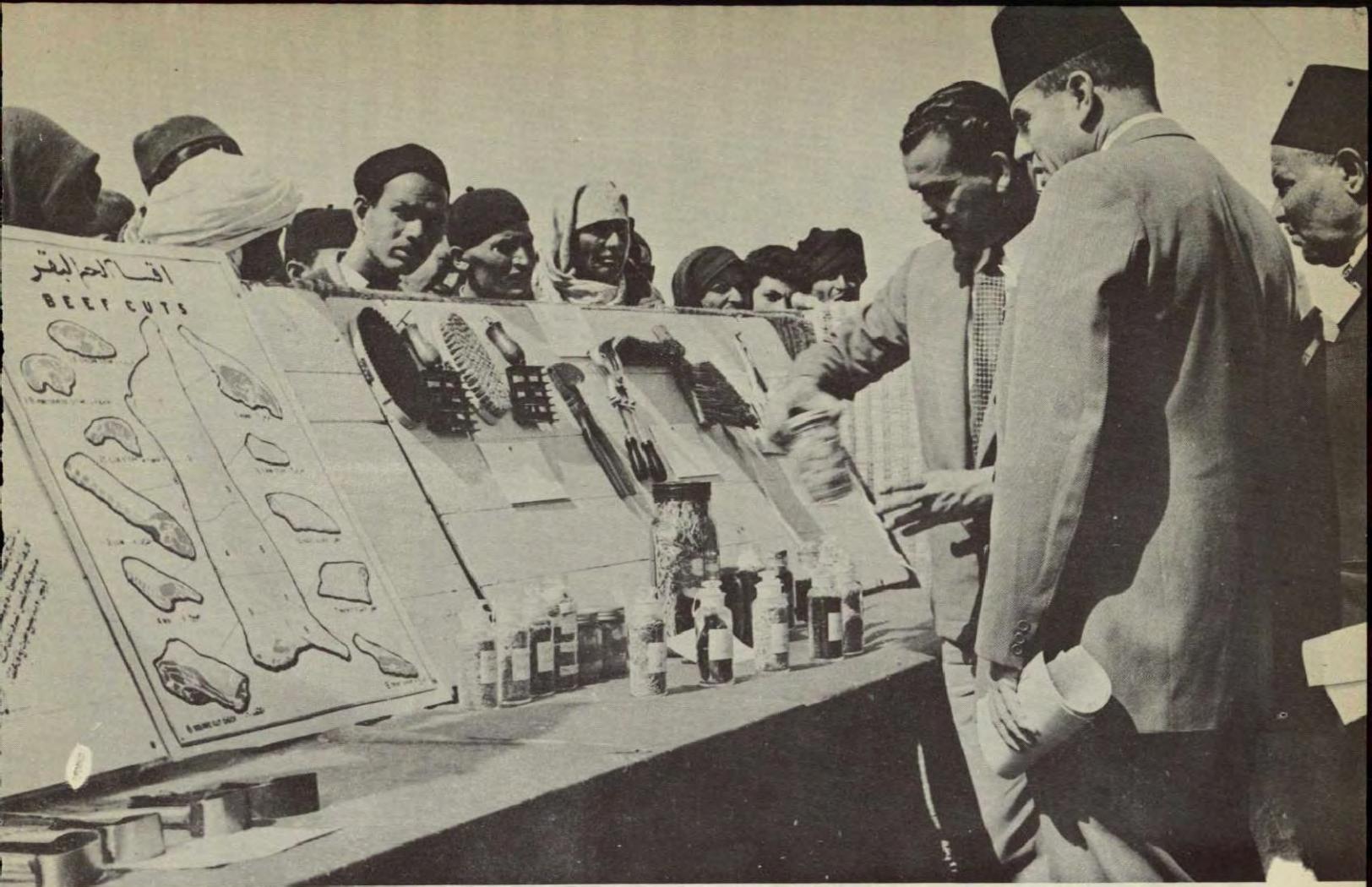


A class in food preparation in the Girls' Section of the Trade School.





Students learning to become skilled workers in the machine shop at the Trade School.

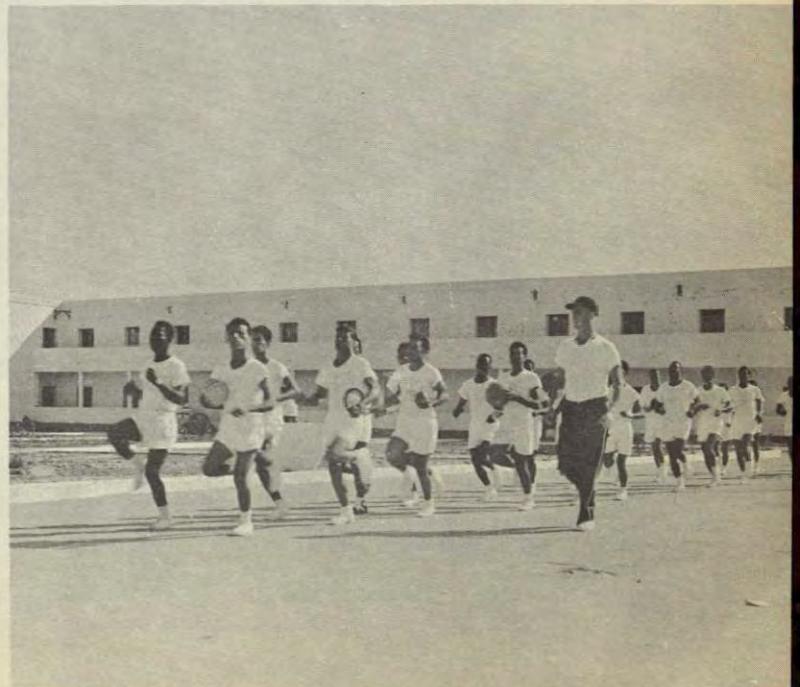


H. E. Hussain Mazeq, Governor of Cyrenaica, reviews an exhibit on livestock improvement at the Beida Agricultural Fair. The exhibit was prepared by students from the El Awelia Agricultural School.

A USOM technician in physical education conducts an in-service course for teachers.



Off to the warm-up area during a special vacation course for physical education teachers, 1958.





A science class experiment at the Tripoli Men's Teacher Training Center. Libyan preparatory and secondary schools have been provided with science laboratory equipment.



This Tripoli Vocational Agricultural Training School student is now studying agriculture at a United States college. Four other VATC students are studying in the U.S.



At Zavia a USOM technician instructs agricultural trainees in planting eucalyptus trees.



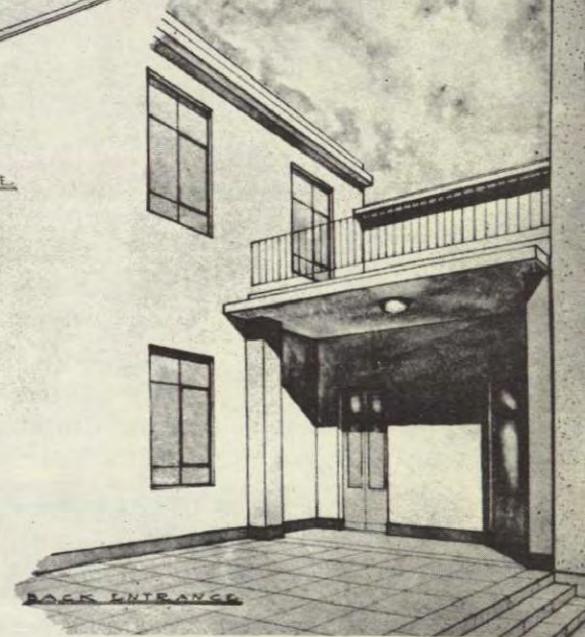
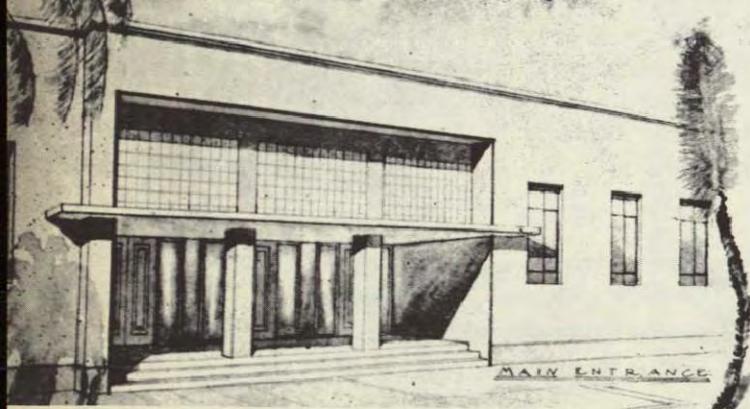
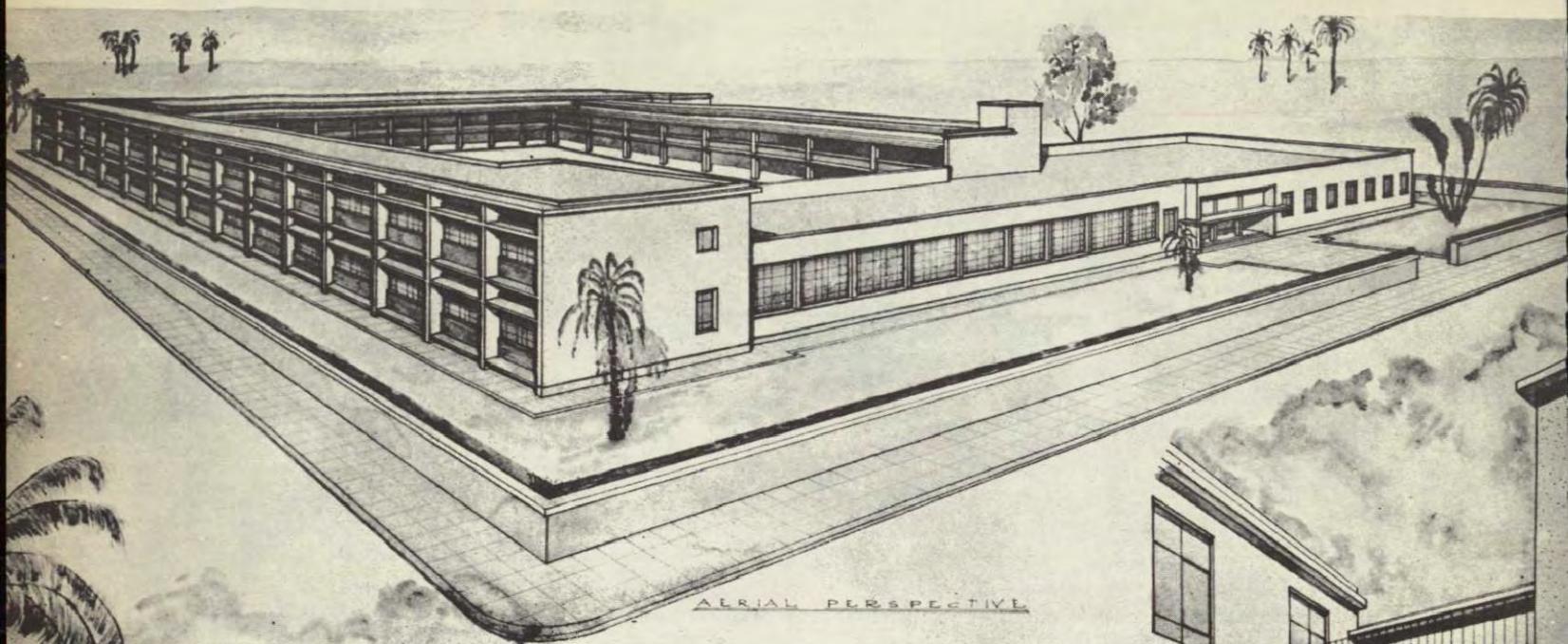
A new school and a new well for the town of El Jamil in Tripolitania.



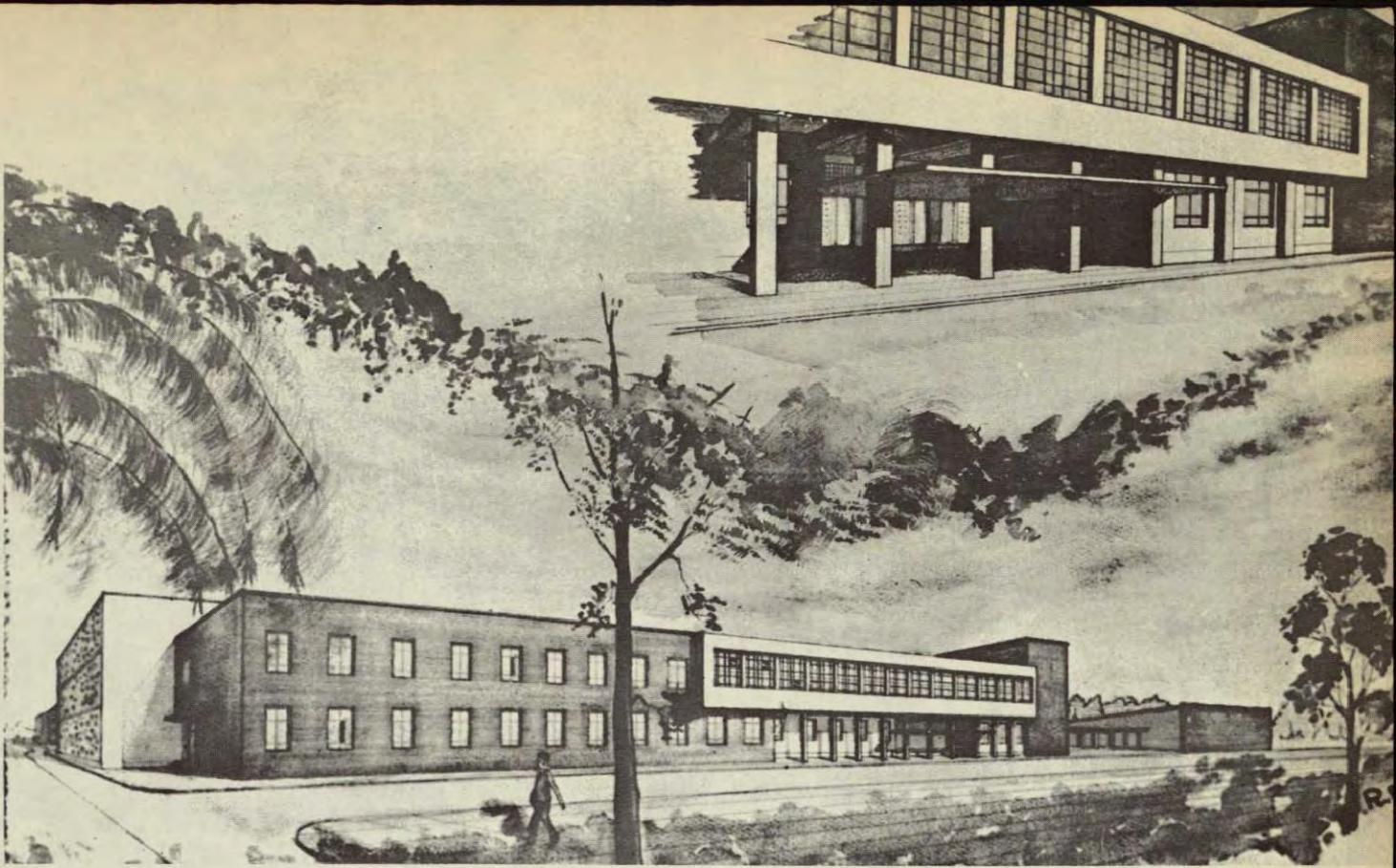
A group of El Awelia agriculture students receive instruction in baling straw.

At a Zelbo village in Cyrenaica, students borrow books from the mobile library truck, which visits Cyrenaican schools regularly. The mobile unit has a pool of over 10,000 books from which to draw.



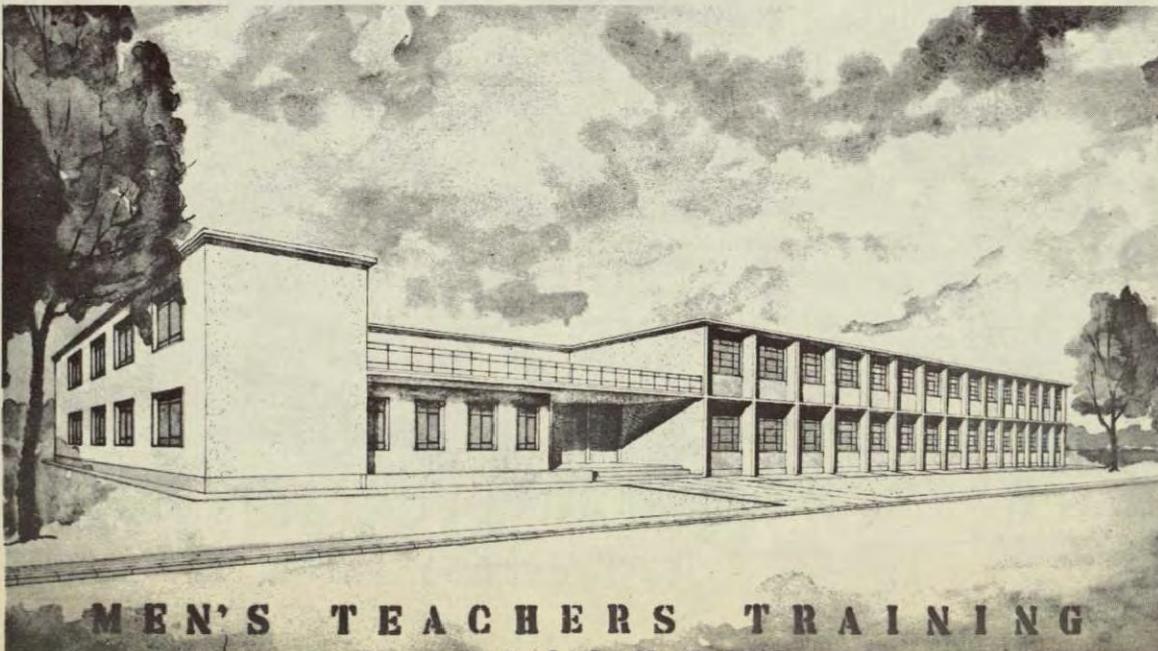


Architect's drawing of the Sidi Hussein Elementary School now being built in Benghazi. This twenty-room school will accommodate 700 students.

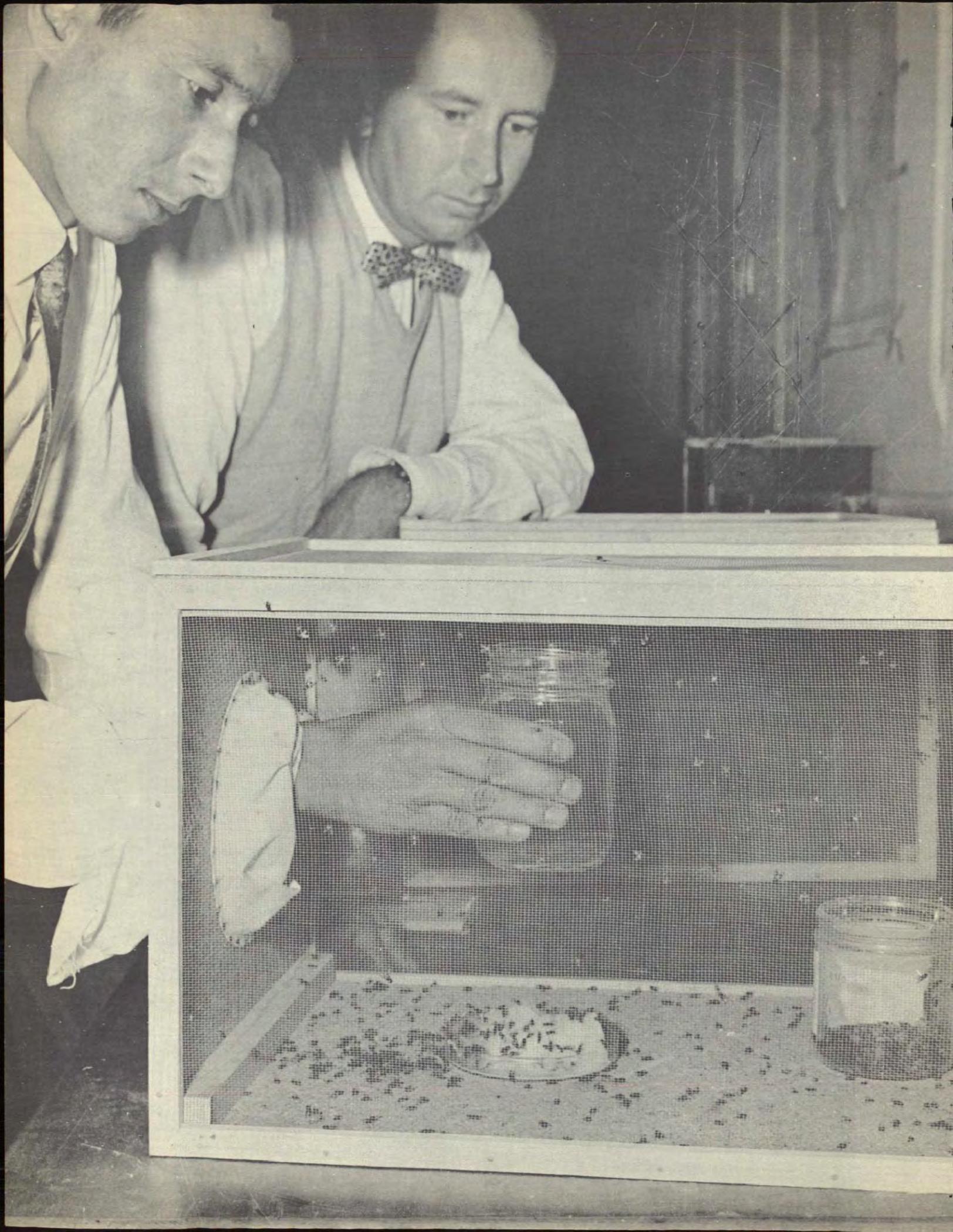


This modern building, now under construction, will become the Benghazi Secondary School. Its thirty classrooms will accommodate 900 students.

An architectural view of the classroom and laboratory facilities now being built in Benghazi as a part of the new Men's Teacher Training Center. A 400-bed dormitory for the school is nearing completion.



**MEN'S TEACHERS TRAINING**





The rehabilitated and re-equipped hospital at Misurata. This 200-bed hospital serves the entire Eastern District of Tripolitania.



A USOM health technician gives instruction in running DDT sensitivity tests for fly control program.

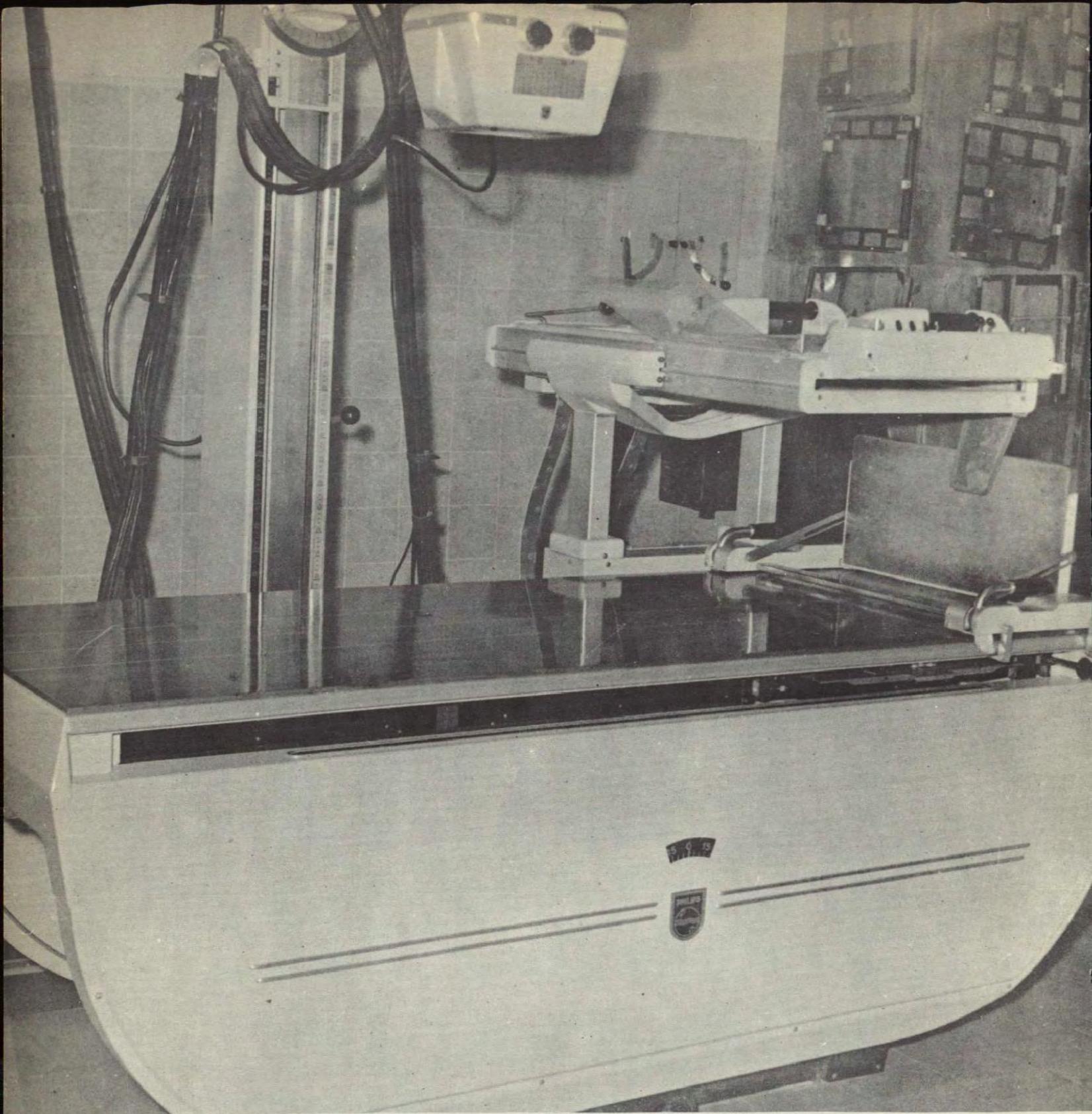
This new nursing demonstration center in Garian is one of five such centers now in operation in Libya.



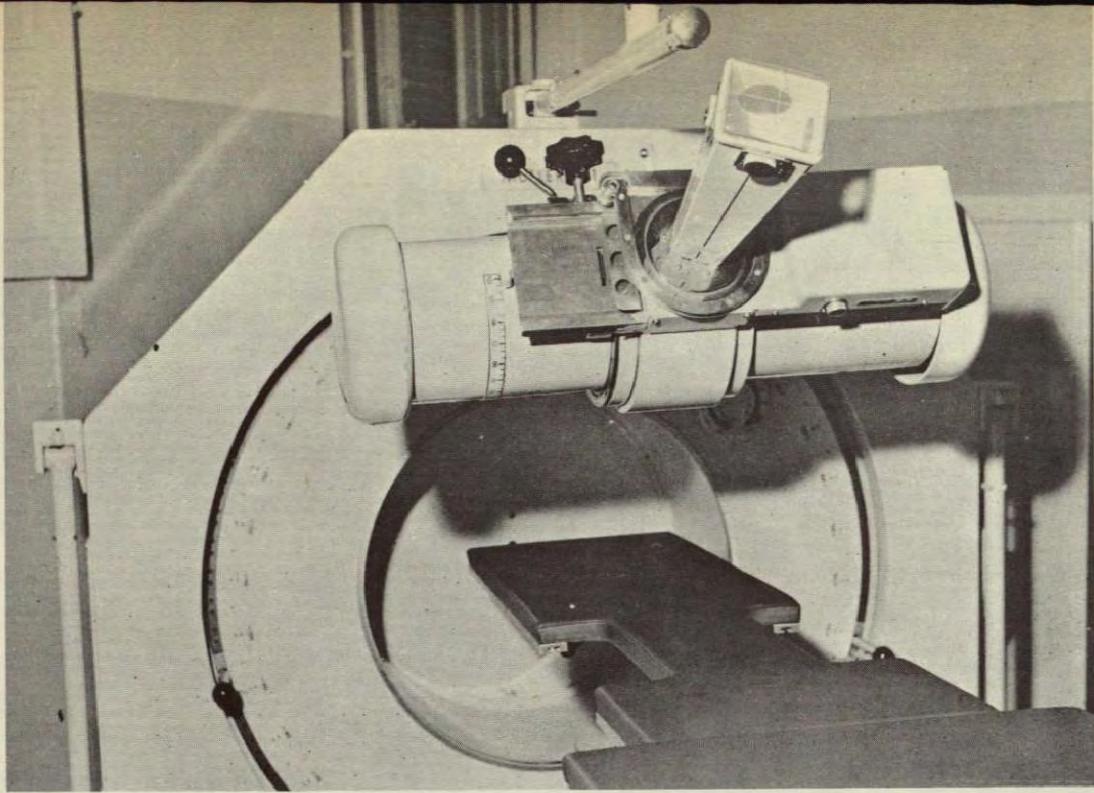
Libya now has six health centers like this new one at Barce in Cyrenaica.



A wing of the new District Hospital at Tobruk, now under construction.



New diagnostic X-ray unit at the Government Hospital, Tripoli. The X-ray facilities at the hospital have been completely modernized.



High voltage X-ray therapy unit, Tripoli Hospital.

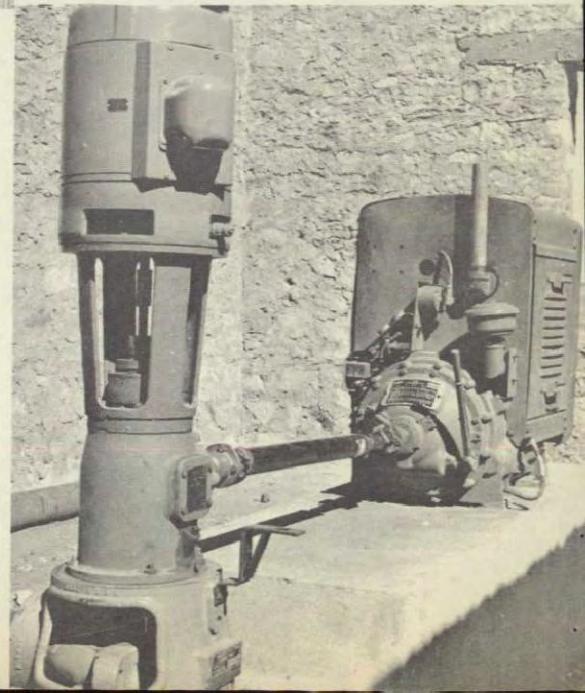


A nurse sets the timer of a new sterilizing unit in the Surgical Department, Tripoli Hospital.



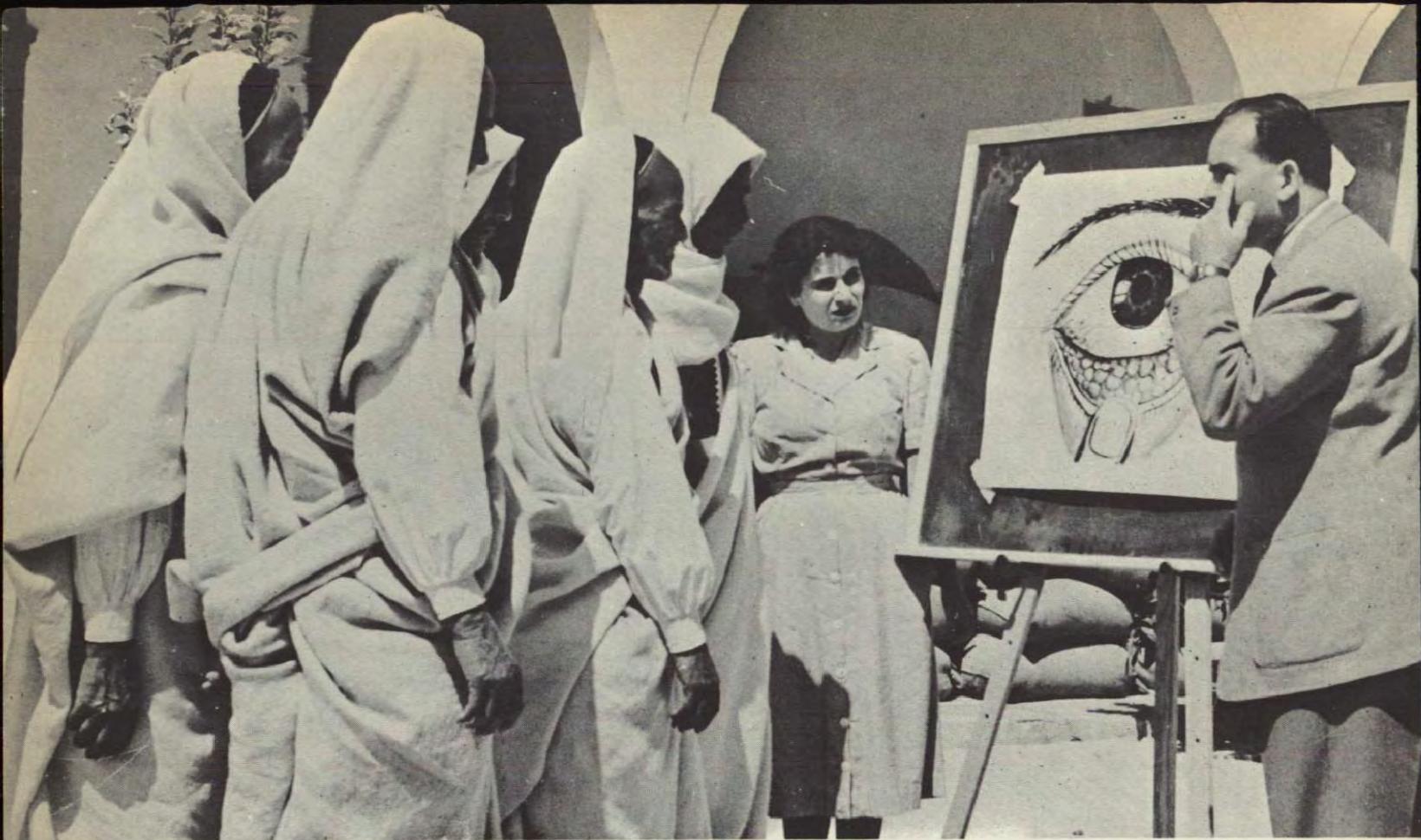
A technician demonstrates techniques in Bilharzia investigations.

Pumping installation of new municipal domestic water supply, Sebha, Fezzan.





Young teachers receiving instruction in fly control techniques.



The ravages of trachoma are explained to village elders. A fifty per cent drop in trachoma has been registered in some places in Libya.



The district sanitarian of Suk el Giuma, Tripolitania, inspects the market.

A public health nurse supervises the application of eye ointment by a young student. Approximately 50,000 school children have received treatment for eye diseases.





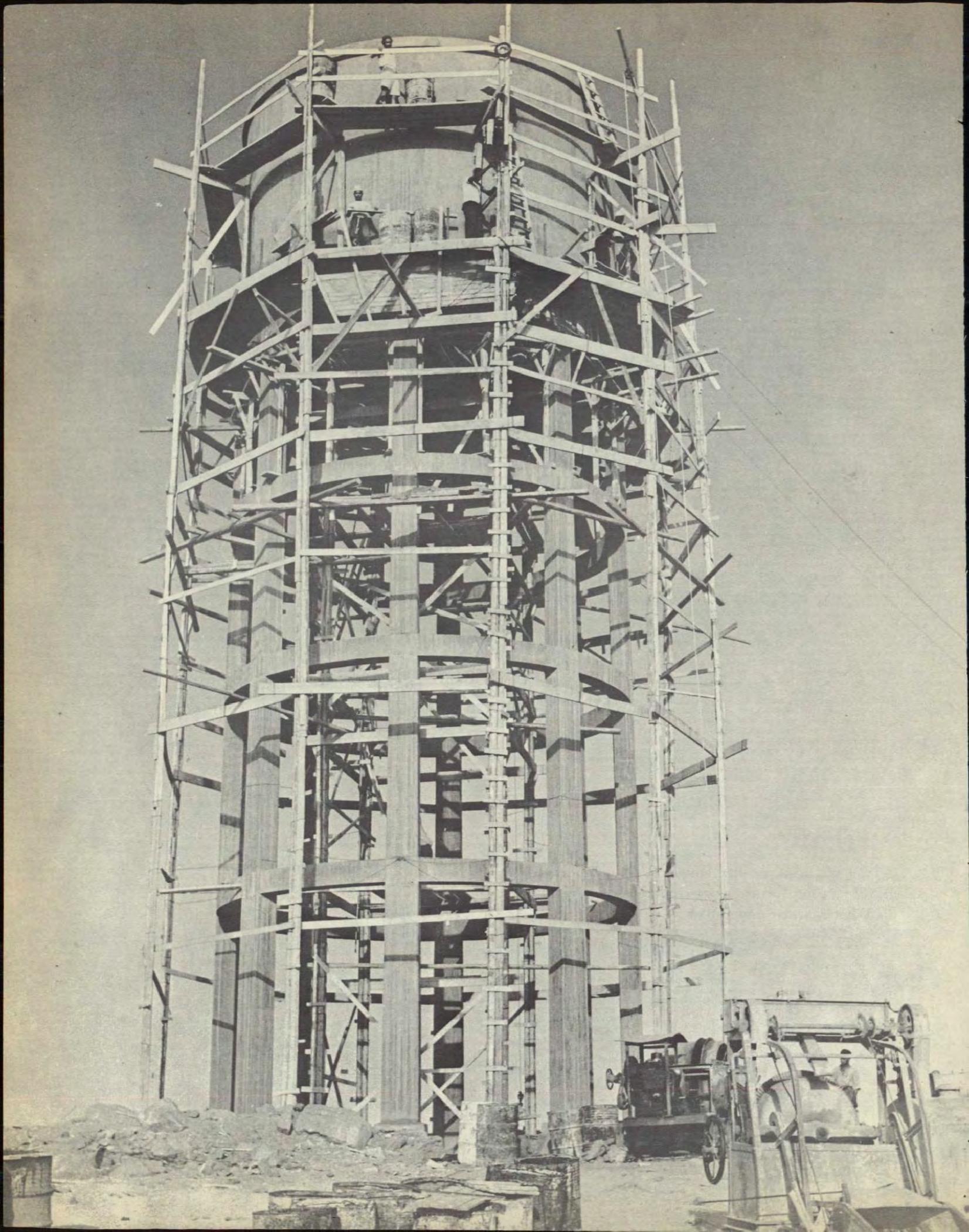
In the well baby clinic at Zavia, the nurse shows a mother the proper way to apply a diaper. There are now five such clinics in Libya.

A well-attended health movie at Tauroga. Movies showing good health practices are shown regularly in schools and communities.



A trachoma patient reports to a health clinic for regular examination and treatment.





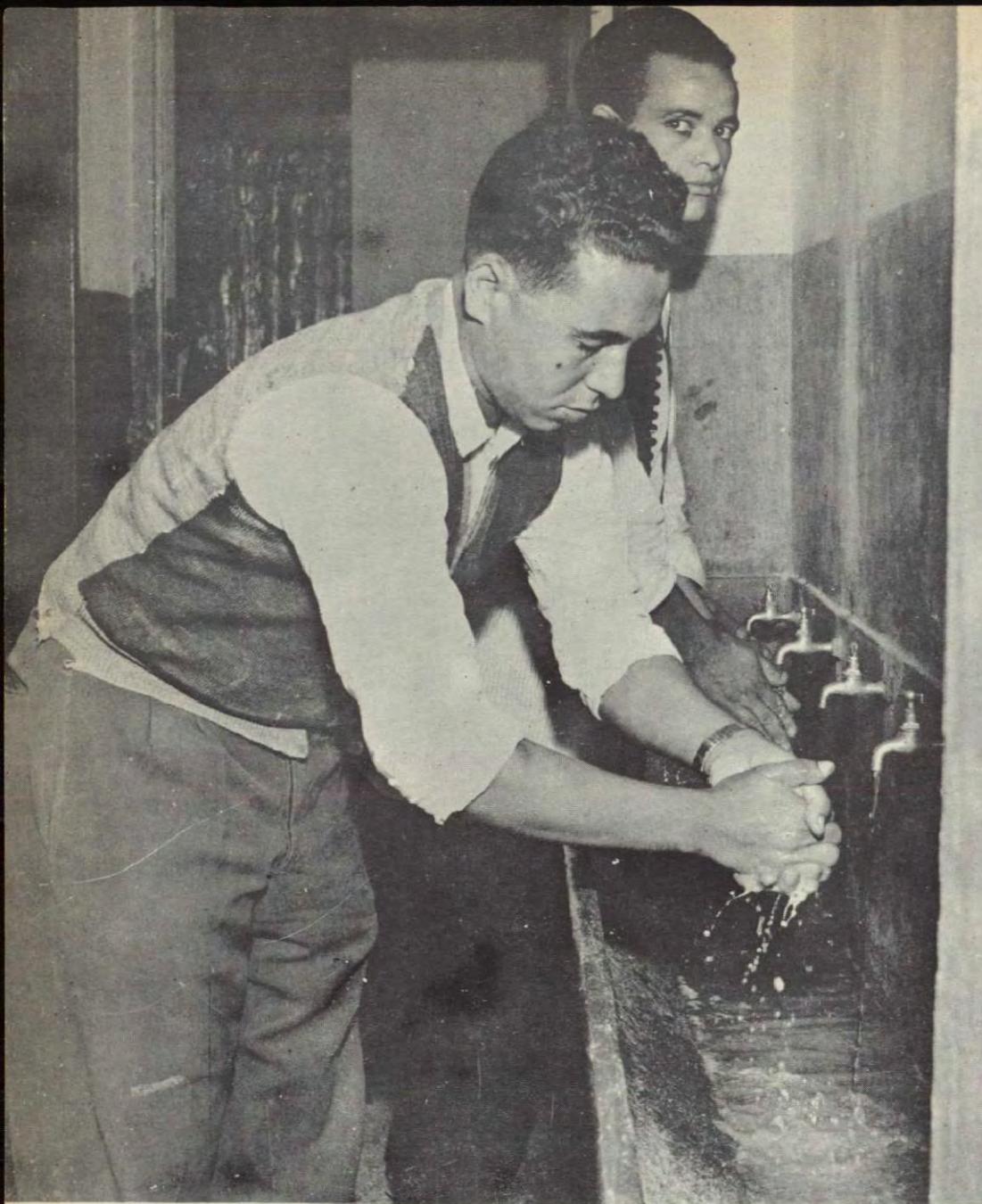


Test pumping Misurata's new sweet water source.

This new water reservoir at Sebha has a capacity of 200,000 litres.



H.E. Salem Sadek, Nazir of Health, Tripolitania, with Libyan students who have just returned from studies at the American University of Beirut.



Water for schools



Hundreds of slabs like the one shown above have been distributed to villages for installation under the supervision of the district sanitarian.



Clean-up campaigns and spraying have greatly reduced the incidence of fly-borne diseases in Libyan communities.



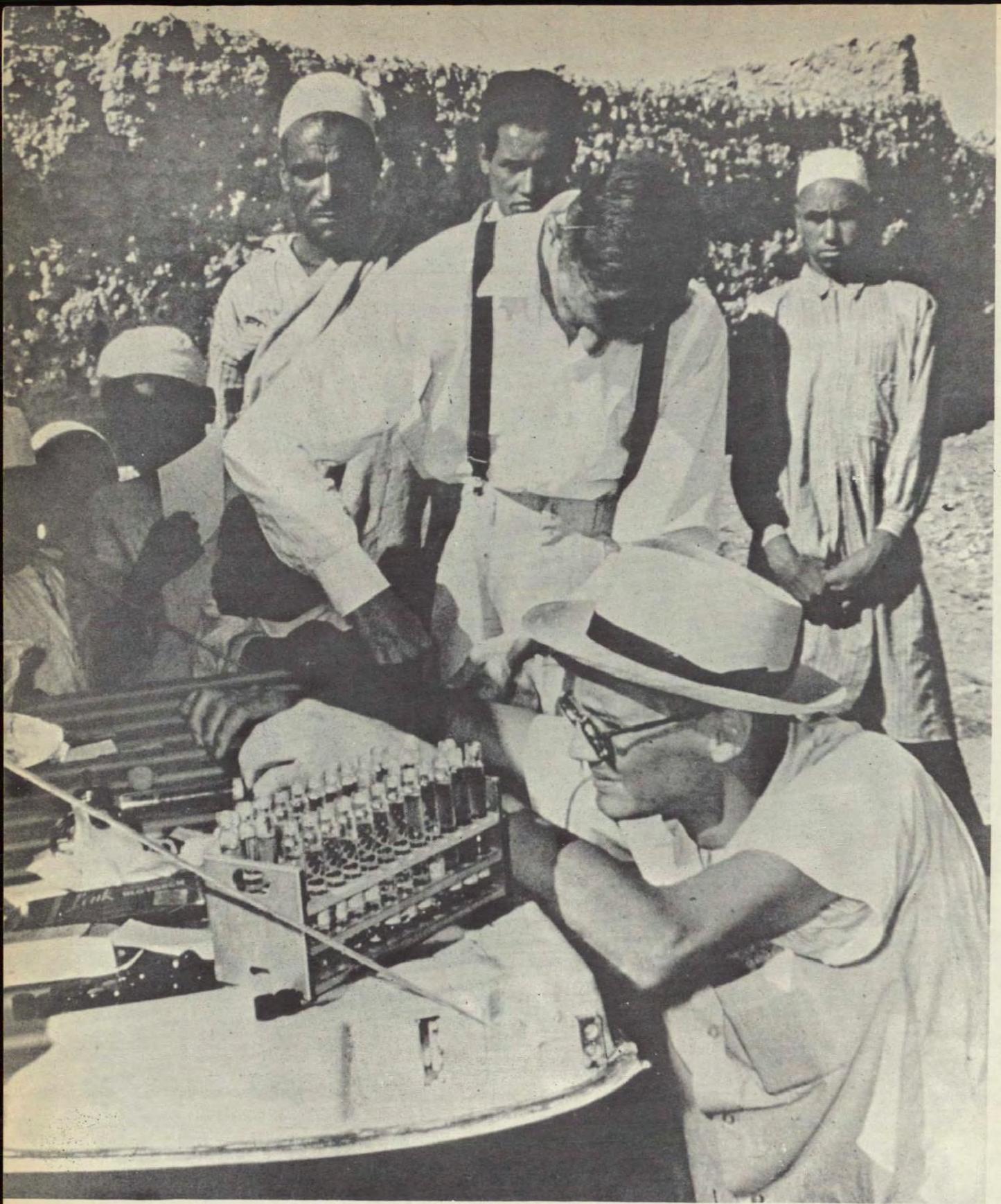
Clean, safe water has been brought to many villages by the well rehabilitation program.



Rural well rehabilitation in the Western District of Tripolitania.



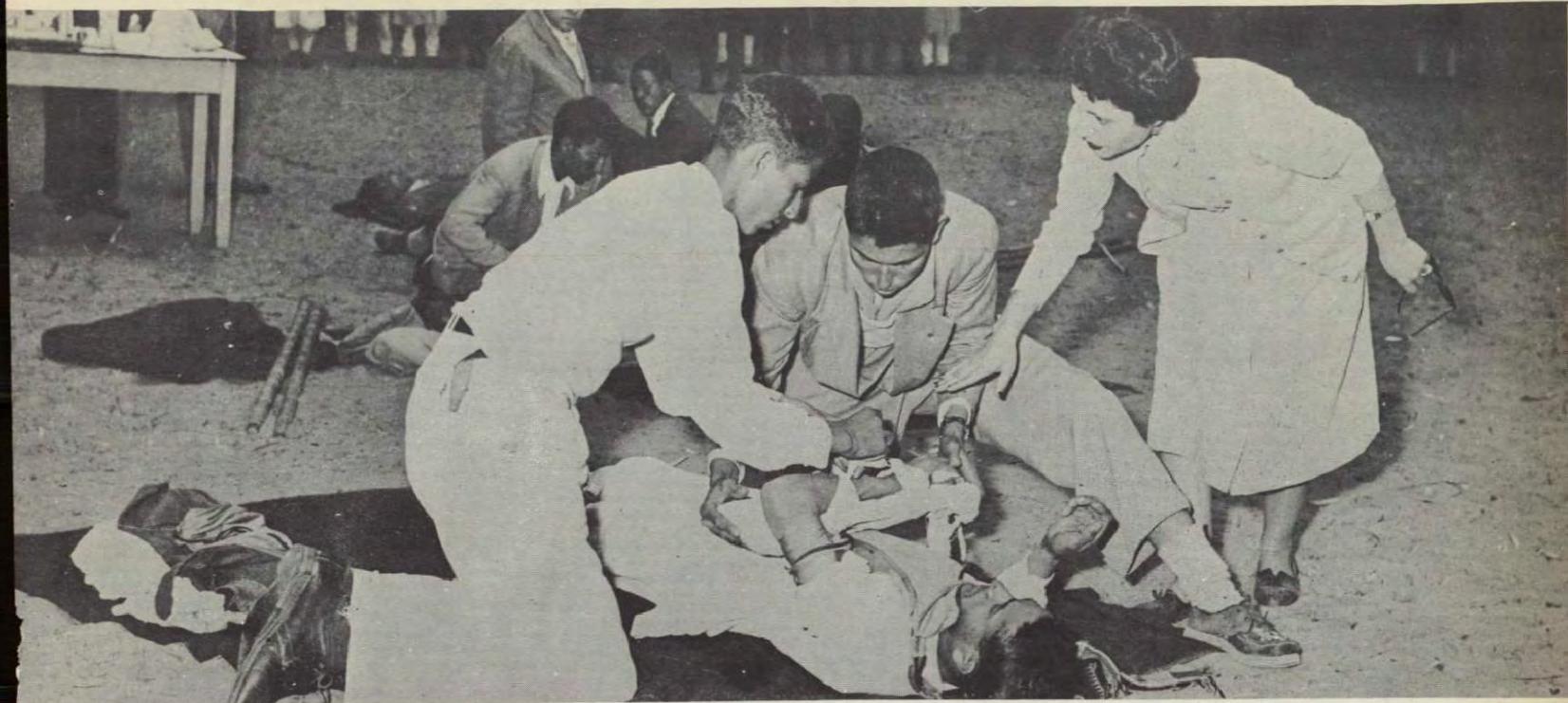
Old oil barrels make good trash cans. The LAJS Health Division has supplied these trash containers to many of the larger towns in Tripolitania.



A 1957 nutrition survey of Libya produced valuable information about the nutritional status of army, police, and community groups. Here a survey team member takes blood samples.



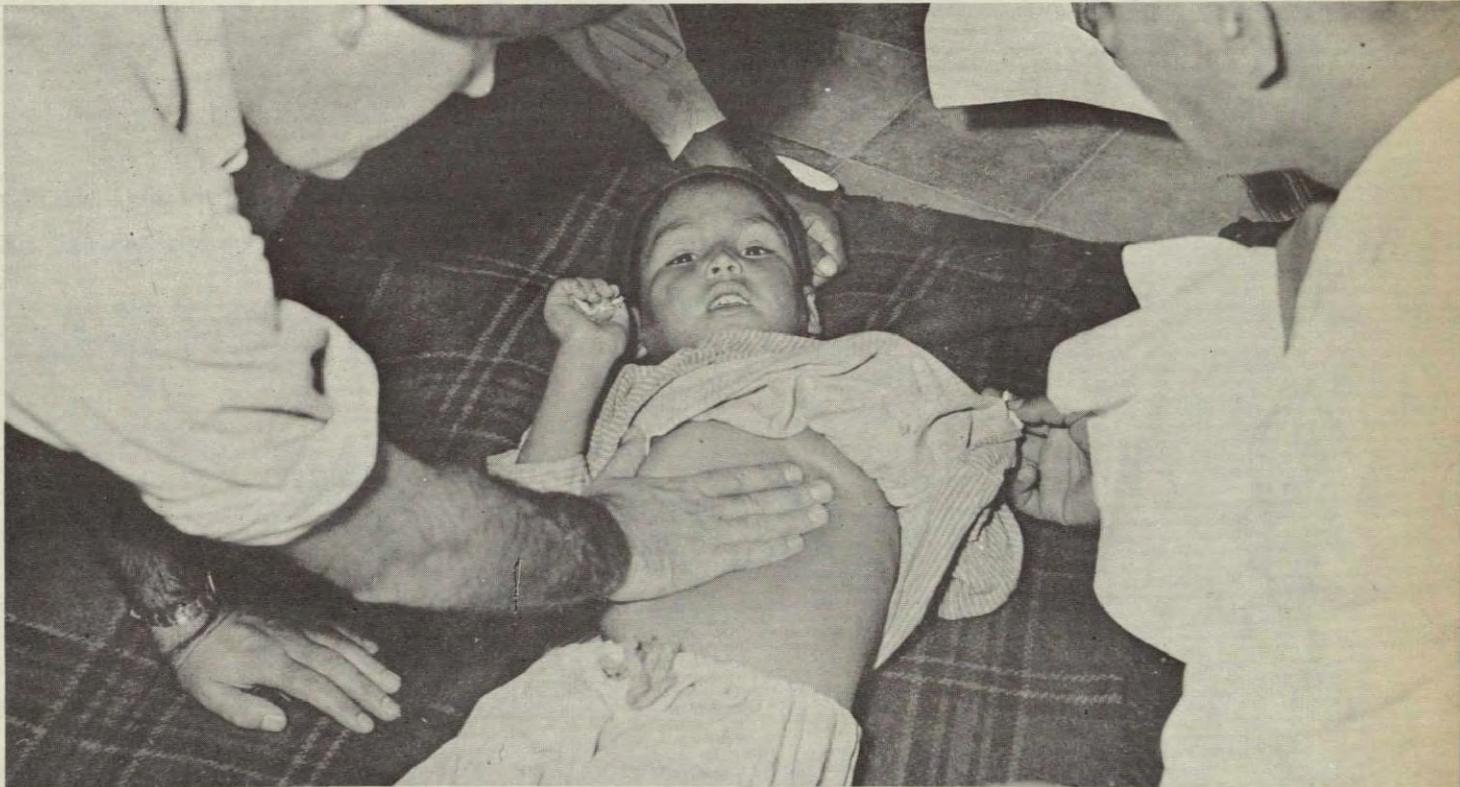
The rural malaria eradication program in Libya is going forward steadily. The breeding of Anopheles mosquitoes was easily controlled in this pool after it was drained.



Boy Scouts are instructed in first aid by a district nurse.

A bit of candy persuades this young man to part with a little of his blood for malaria parasite investigation.





Malaria survey team members making a spleen examination in the Tripolitania village of Tigi.

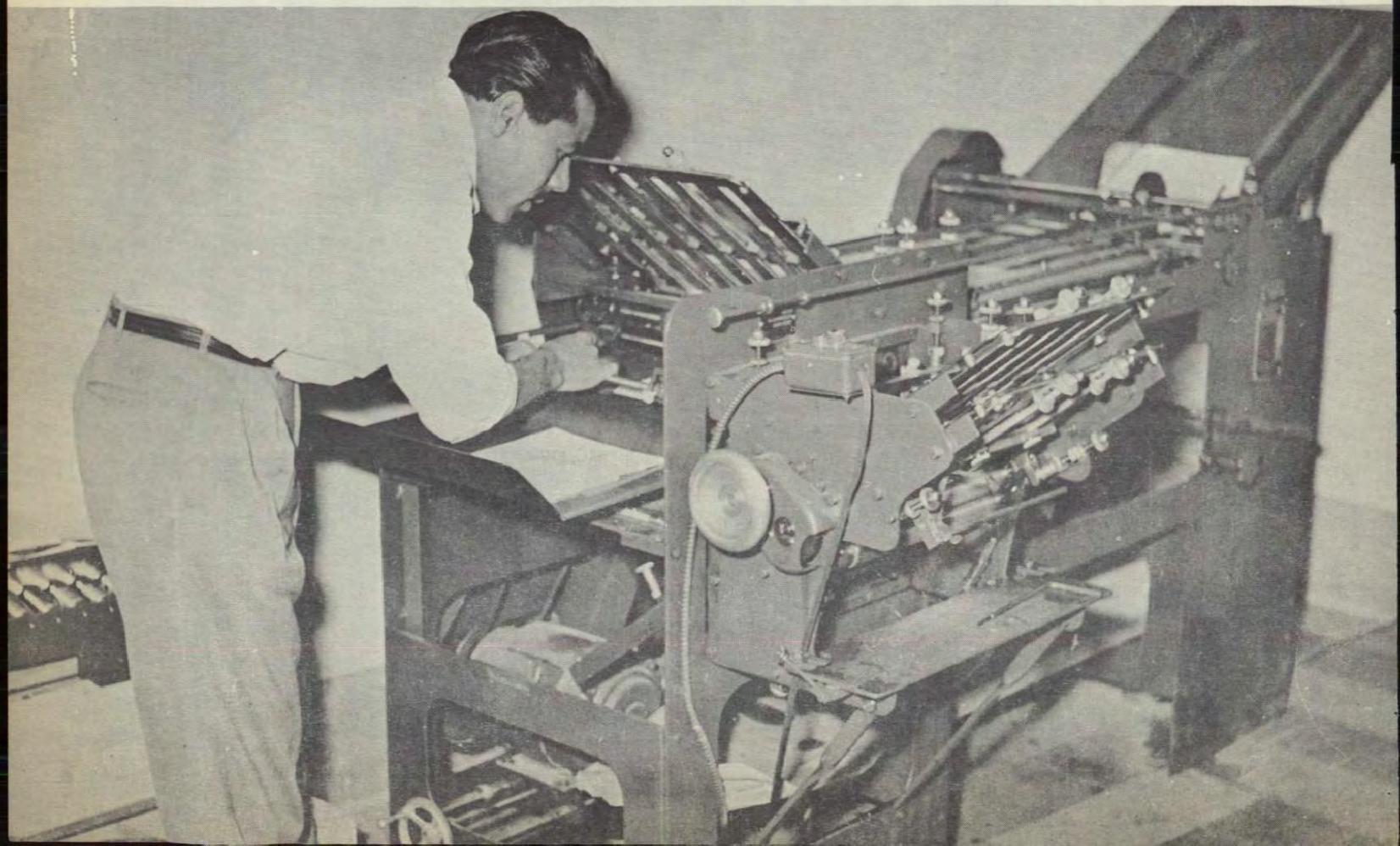


An Audio-Visual darkroom for printing photographs. Similar darkrooms have been installed in several secondary schools.



The Audio-Visual Centers, located at Benghazi and Tripoli, distribute hundreds of films and filmstrips each year.

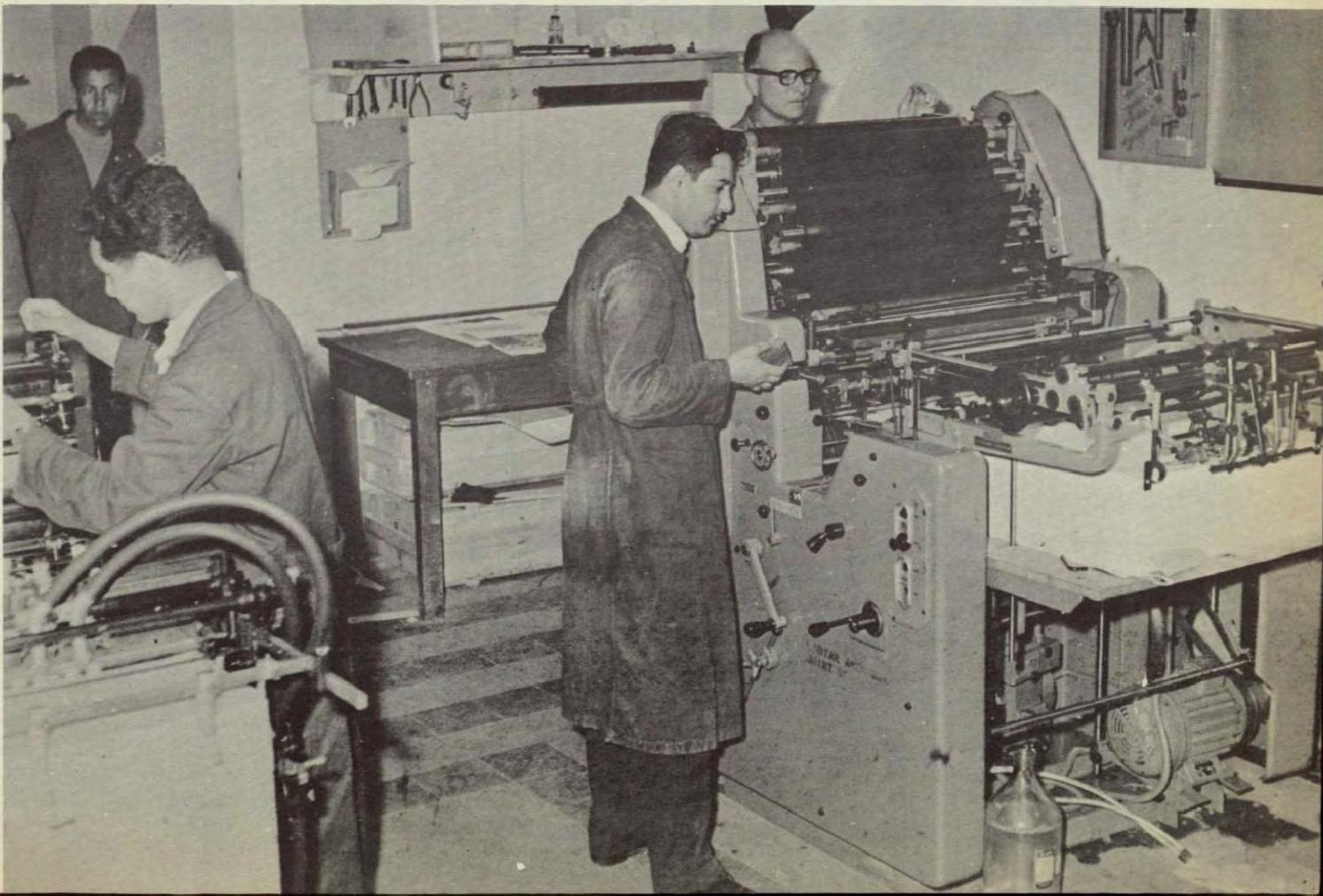
A trained operator uses this machine to fold pages for brochures, booklets, and books.



This Audio-Visual worker operates a 16mm sound recorder, used in making sound tracks for motion pictures.



Educational materials, covering all phases of USOM activities, are printed at the Tripoli Audio-Visual Center.





USOM Turns over Land-Rovers to Colonel Sadek Kashbur of the CYDEF Defence Forces. Thirty-two vehicles have been provided Libyan security forces by the USOM Public Safety project.

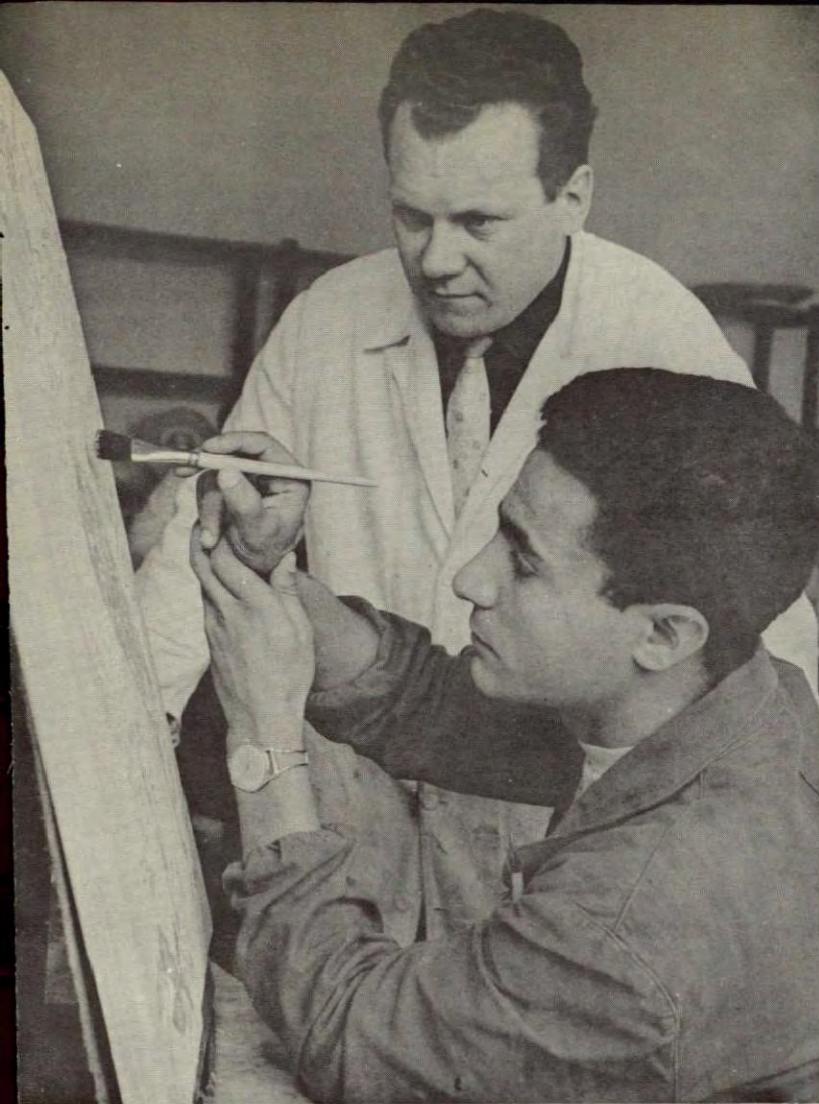


In 1958 eleven Libyan sheiks visited the United States to study range management projects. Here the sheiks are observing a pit silage project on a private ranch in Nevada.

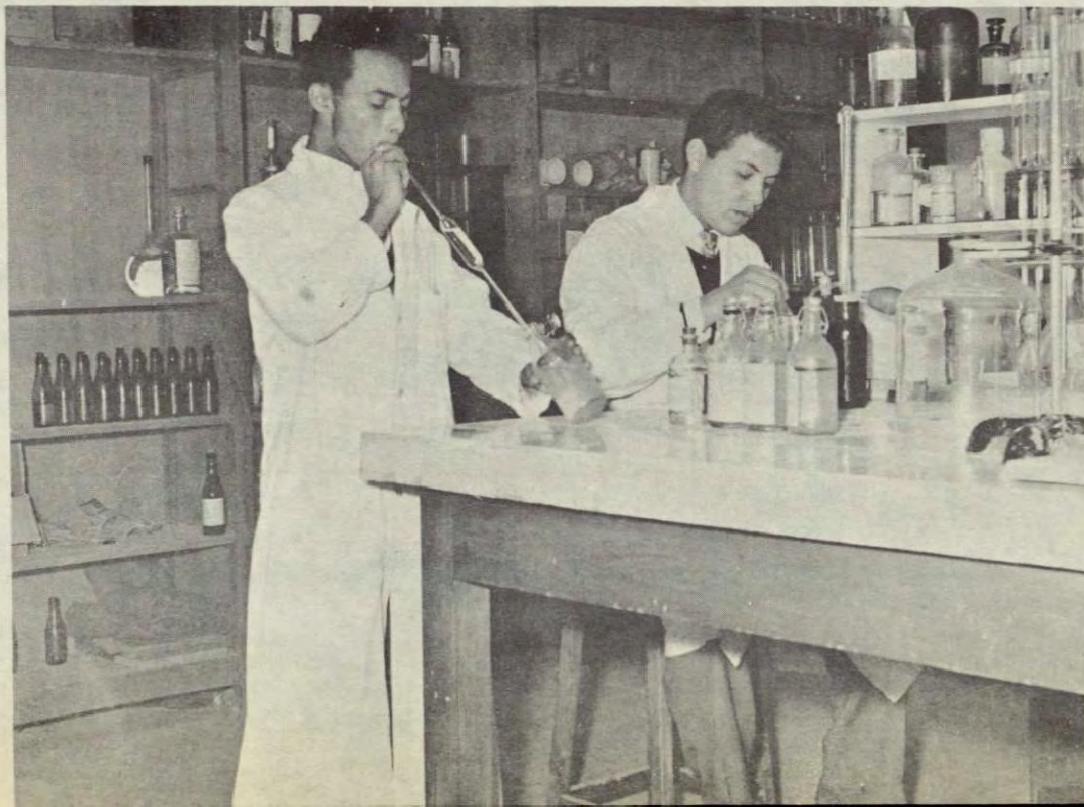


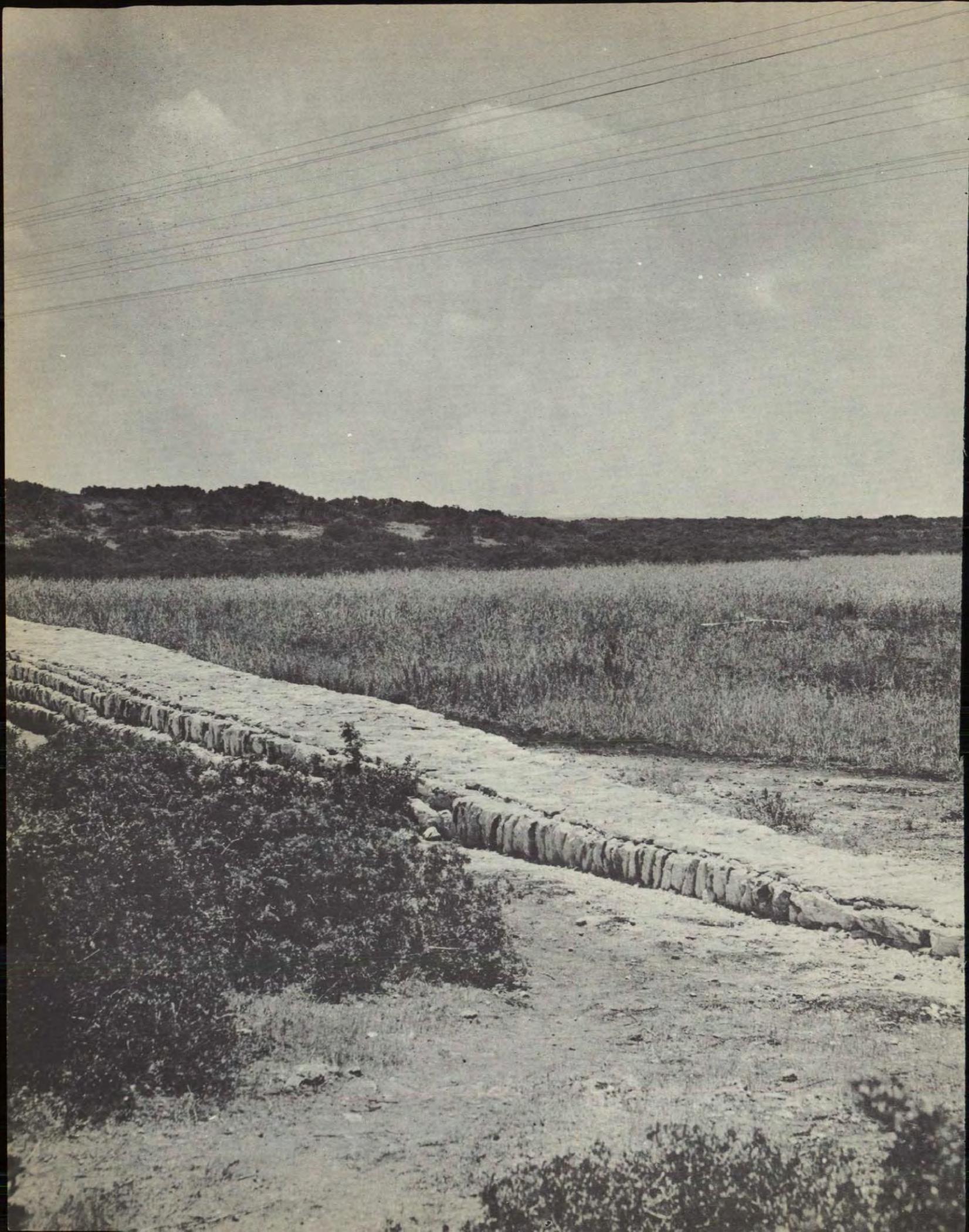
Sayyid Belaid Soleiman of the Audio-Visual Center, Benghazi, leaving for the United States to receive technical training at the University of Indiana.

Sayyid Hashmi Mustapha Dagheez, an instructor at the Tripoli Handicraft School, shown working at the Faenza Institute in Italy. Three other Libyans have recently been sent to Italy for advanced study in arts and crafts.



Young Libyans are receiving excellent training in the chemical analysis of minerals at the LAJS chemical laboratory in Tripoli.





# *Developing Libya's Agricultural Potential*

...the dead earth is a sign to them. We quicken it and bring forth from it grains, of which they eat. And we make in it gardens of palm trees and vines, and we cause springs to gush in it, that they may eat of its fruits out of the labor of their hands.

The Koran

About 80 per cent of the people of Libya derive their living from farming and raising livestock. When one realizes that Libya's settled, cultivated area is only about half of one per cent of the total area of the country and that almost all grazing land is submarginal, the proportions of the agricultural development problems begin to emerge. Precious groundwater must be conserved and new sources discovered and developed. Soil and surface water must be conserved. New crops must be introduced and old ones improved. The quality of livestock must be raised. Improved practices of irrigation and terracing must be spread and made more effective. And these are only a few of the many agricultural battles which must be won if the great agrarian population of Libya is to have a better life through the land.

The Libyan Ministry of National Economy and the Nazarats of Agriculture in the various Provinces have attacked these many problems energetically and are making maximum use of the £ 1,640,000 in American aid funds which have been made available to date for carrying out agricultural improvements. This amount includes £L 1,000,000 for the capitalization of the National Agricultural Bank of Libya. The extension of credit to farmers and farm cooperatives is already playing an important part in Libya's agricultural development, and it will become increasingly important in the future. Thousands of farmers have benefited through a bank program

which provides for the lending of money on wheat, barley, dates, olives, and other crops which are placed in storage. Over 8,000 agricultural loans of all types have been made to Libyan farmers to date. The United States has furnished six specialists in agricultural credit to help the Agricultural Bank get its various programs underway.

More than thirty-five USOM technicians are presently in Libya assisting the Ministry of National Economy and the Nazarats in all phases of their development program. As stated previously, the salaries and expenses of these technicians are paid separately by the United States Government and are not taken from Libyan aid funds.

One of the great problems of Libyan agricultural improvement is that of conserving soil and surface water. Studies have proved that the rate of soil erosion in Libya has definitely increased over the past twenty-five years. This acceleration has been due to increasing population pressure on Libya's range; for, while the desert may seem lifeless to the casual observer, it is really a crowded place in terms of its range resources. As more sheep, cattle, and camels are grazed on the meager vegetation; as the decreasing number of bushes and even roots are pulled up to be used as fuel; as the dry earth is plowed in an effort to raise grain, the land is more and more laid open to the ravages of wind and rain, which blows away the precious top soil and carries it away in rushing torrents to the sea.

American technicians, whose training and experience have been under similar climatic conditions in the western and southwestern United States, have attacked this crucial problem vigorously. The storing of rain water for the long dry season has been a prime target. In Tripolitania, for example, over one thousand farmers have been given financial help in rebuilding old cisterns on their land; the farmers themselves do the work of rehabilitation and pay part of the cost. This program of self-help has been remarkably successful and is expanding rapidly. It will do much to remedy the serious water shortages which periodically plague Libyan farmers. In Cyrenaica, where the old Roman cisterns tend to be much larger, their rehabilitation has become one of the largest projects of the Agriculture Joint Service. To date, 200 cisterns, with a storage capacity of 70,000 cubic meters, have been restored. The program calls for restoring 100 large cisterns in each of the six mutasarrifs, or districts, of Cyrenaica. The cisterns to be repaired are selected by a local committee in each mutasarrif.

Long ago the Romans proved that arid sites can be made suitable for the growing of cereal crops. The remains of their old rock-dike water-spreading systems are common sights in many a desert wadi throughout Tripolitania and Cyrenaica. Today this valuable water conservation idea is being re-introduced to Libya. In Cyrenaica

about three hundred dikes, totaling almost 40,000 metres in length, have been built. Over 2,000 new hectares of land can be cultivated as a result of this work. Also in Cyrenaica, over 550 terraces have been constructed; their total length is over 70,000 meters, and more than 4,000 hectares of land have been made productive as a result.

Much other soil and surface water conservation work is going on. Irrigation systems are being built. Tree windbreaks are being planted. Forest nurseries have been helped to increase their capacity by several million trees each year. The great battle to save Libya's land has just begun, but it is a battle being firmly waged.

Libyans and Americans working together are now engaged in ground water exploration and well drilling in Tripolitania, Cyrenaica, and the Fezzan. They are building livestock dipping vats, establishing livestock breeding centers, and giving demonstrations in better sheep shearing methods. They are successfully experimenting with new and better crops at the big Wadi Caam development and elsewhere. They are supervising the rehabilitation of grain storage buildings at key points throughout the country.

The agricultural extension (guidance) program may fairly be said to be the heart of Libya's agricultural development work, for it is through this program that assistance and knowledge of better farming methods are given to the individual farmers. Twenty agricultural guidance offices have now been established throughout Libya, and in Tripolitania alone, an average of seventy-five farmers per day visit these offices seeking help and advice. Program workers make regular visits to farms, and in almost all cases these visits are made at the requests of the farmers. This agricultural guidance program covers barley improvement, wool improvement, cistern rehabilitation, irrigation ditch lining, terrace construction, planting of windbreaks, dipping and drenching livestock, and many other aspects of farm improvement. Over fifty young Libyans, trained in modern agricultural methods, are working in this program.

The task of improving Libya's economy through the development of the land is a formidable one. But enough progress has already been made to know that with patience, sound planning, a wise use of funds available, and a great deal of hard work, ultimate success is possible.

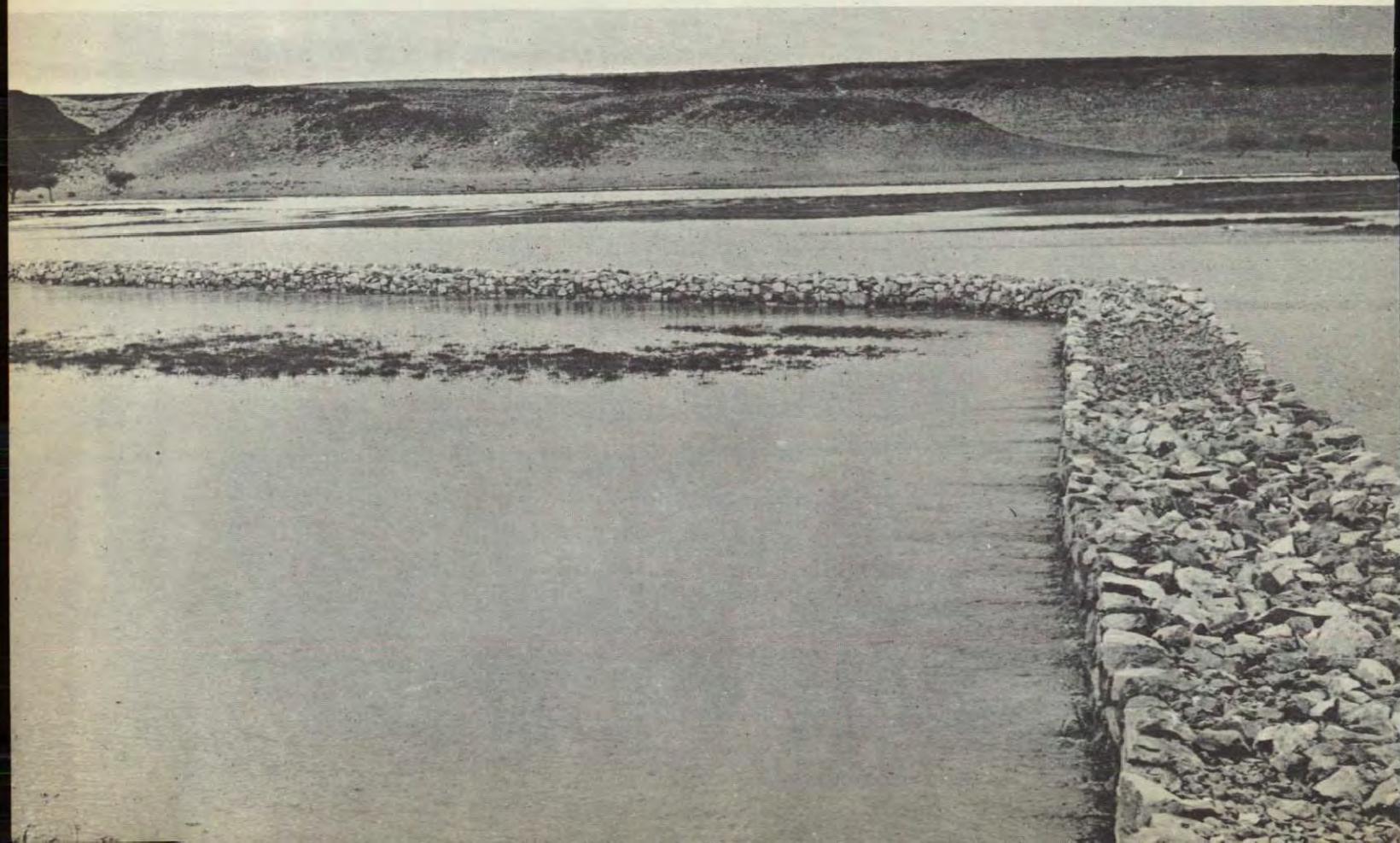


This water spreading dike at Beni Ulid, Tripolitania, curves to indicate land contours.



1300 dikes and 604 terraces have been constructed under the USOM agricultural program.

Heavy rains of the winter season are caught by water spreading dikes such as this one at Beni Ulid.



Constructed dikes of dirt catch the run-off from the hills and spread water over the plains during the rainy season.



Completion of this rock water spreading dike means a great deal to Libyan farmers who realize the advantages of water spreading.





Example of dike construction at Beni Ulid.



Hundreds of earth dikes such as this have been built by private landowners at their own expense with technical assistance supplied by USOM.



Many trees have been planted as one means of restoring the denuded watershed in the upper Wadi Megenin.



Under USOM engineering guidance, 20,280 meters of irrigation canals have been lined and 2,300 meters of canal constructed. Water is carried long distances without waste in these inexpensive cement-lined canals.



Libyans are receiving instruction on this cable tool drilling machine in Cyrenaica.

A Libyan employee at the government demonstration farm at El Guea learns an improved means of directing water from the main channel into row crops.



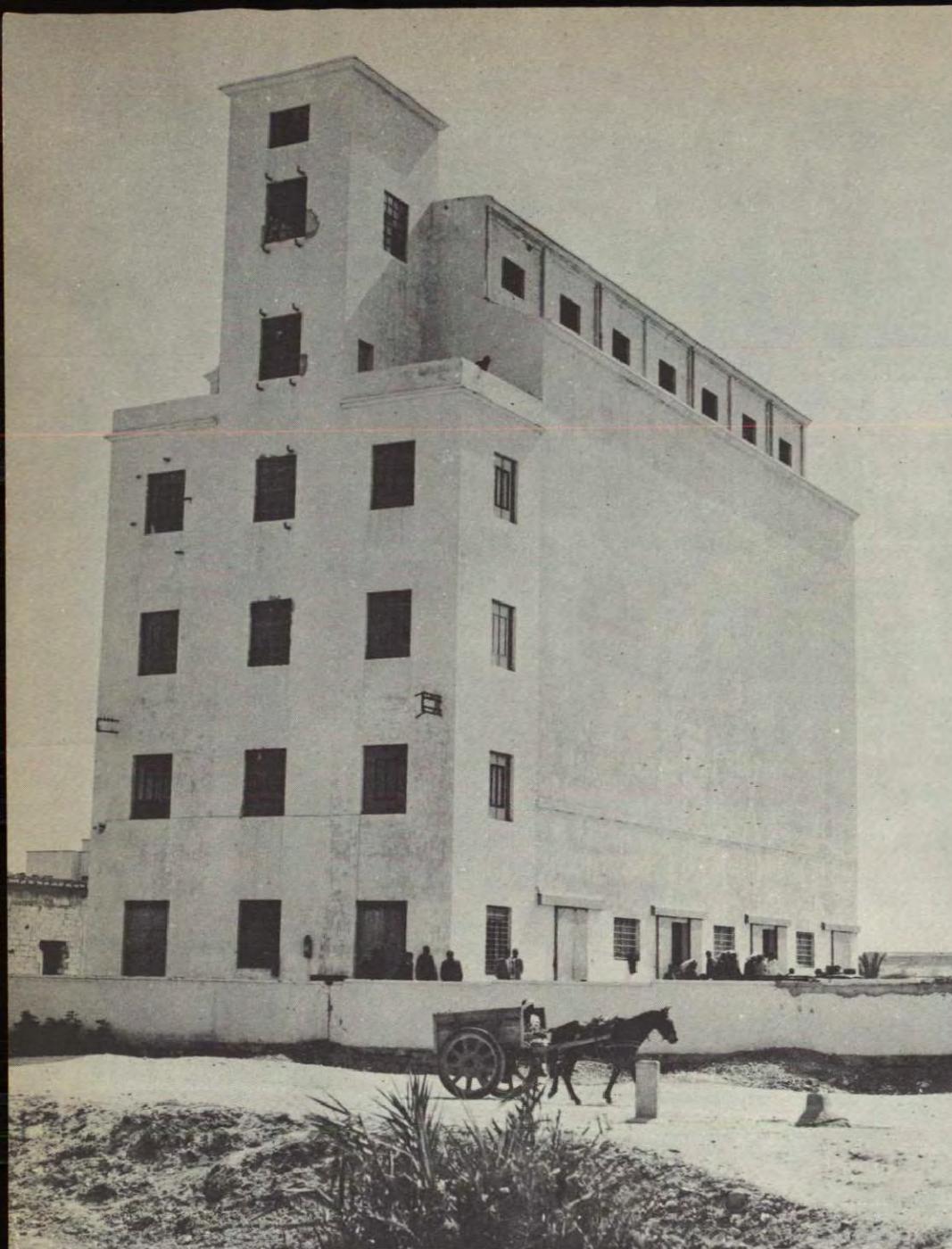


A practical demonstration of proper pruning of olive trees is held for Tripolitanian farmers.

Five hundred acres of date palms have been rehabilitated in the Fezzan. Pruning was

the first need and these photographs illustrate «before» and «after» treatment.





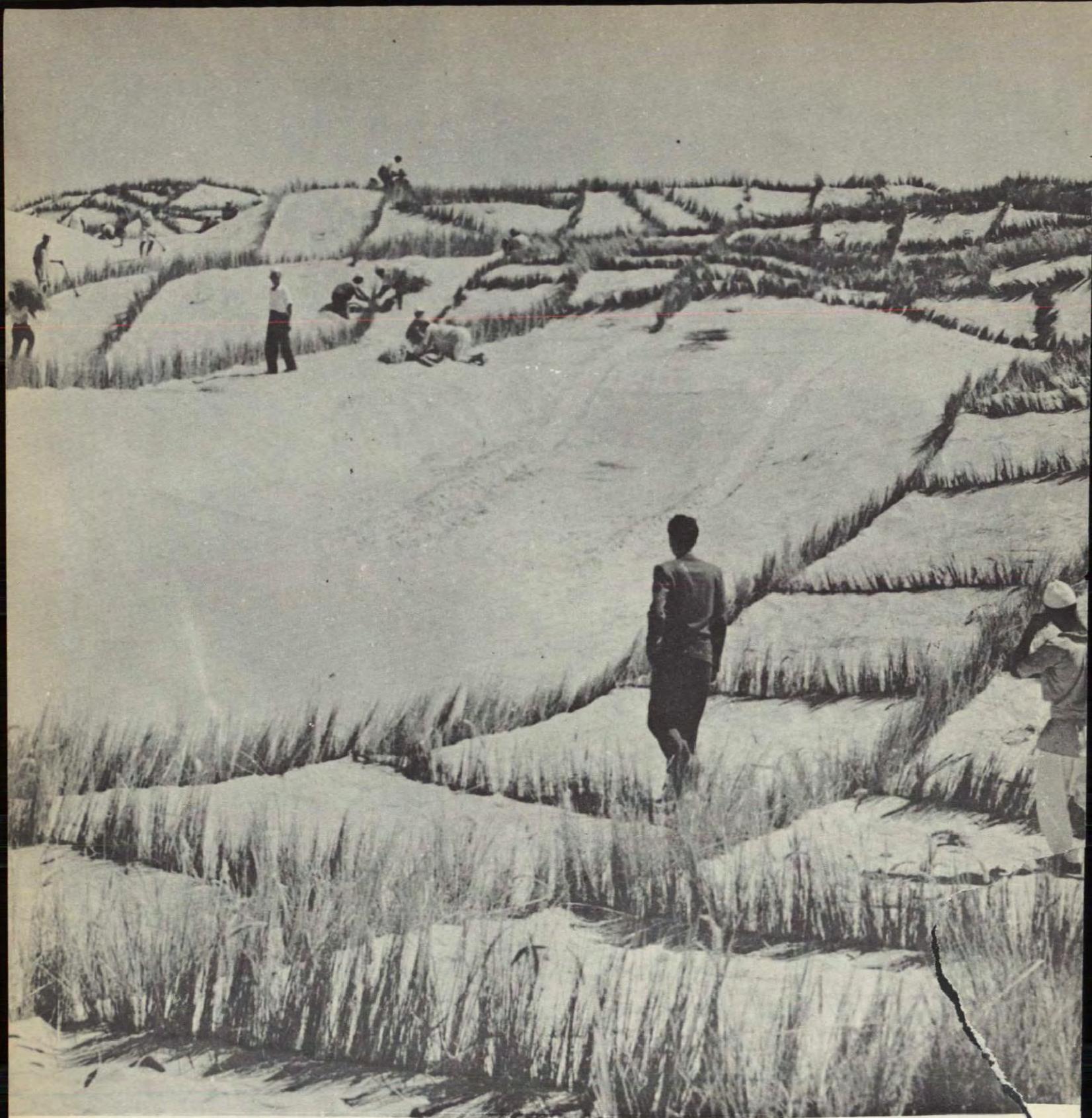
One of the renovated and newly equipped grain elevators in Benghazi. Seventeen others have been repaired and constructed doubling previous storage facilities. Now grain collected in surplus years can be stored for use in emergency years.

Numerous technical devices have been introduced for proper testing of grain.





Libyans take pride in the improved varieties of grain introduced from America.



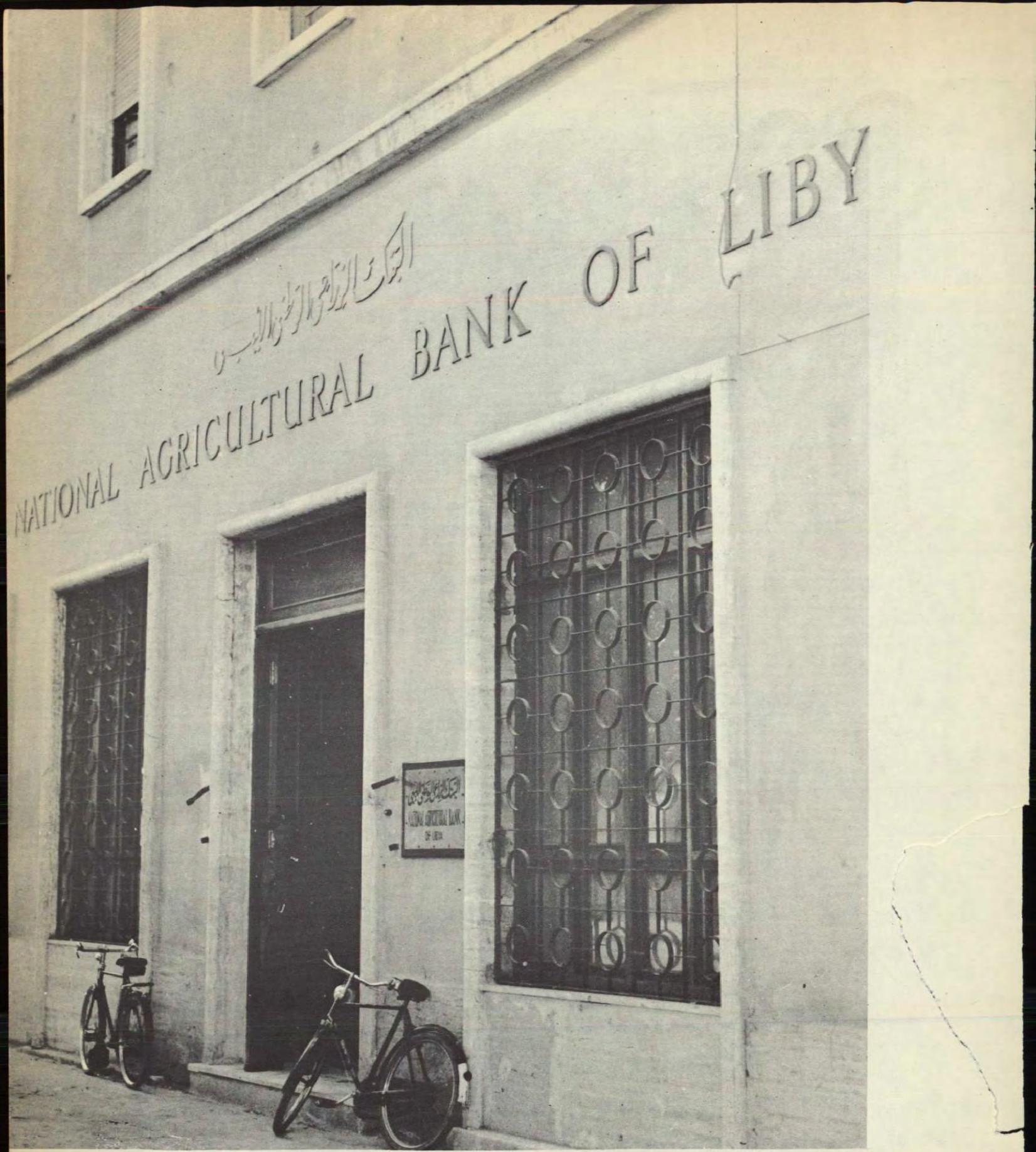
Shifting sand dunes are a hazard to agriculture and farm homes. The Nazarats of Agriculture are fighting to control these dunes by placing a vegetation called «dis» in a network of trenches. Trees are planted after an area has been «dissed.»



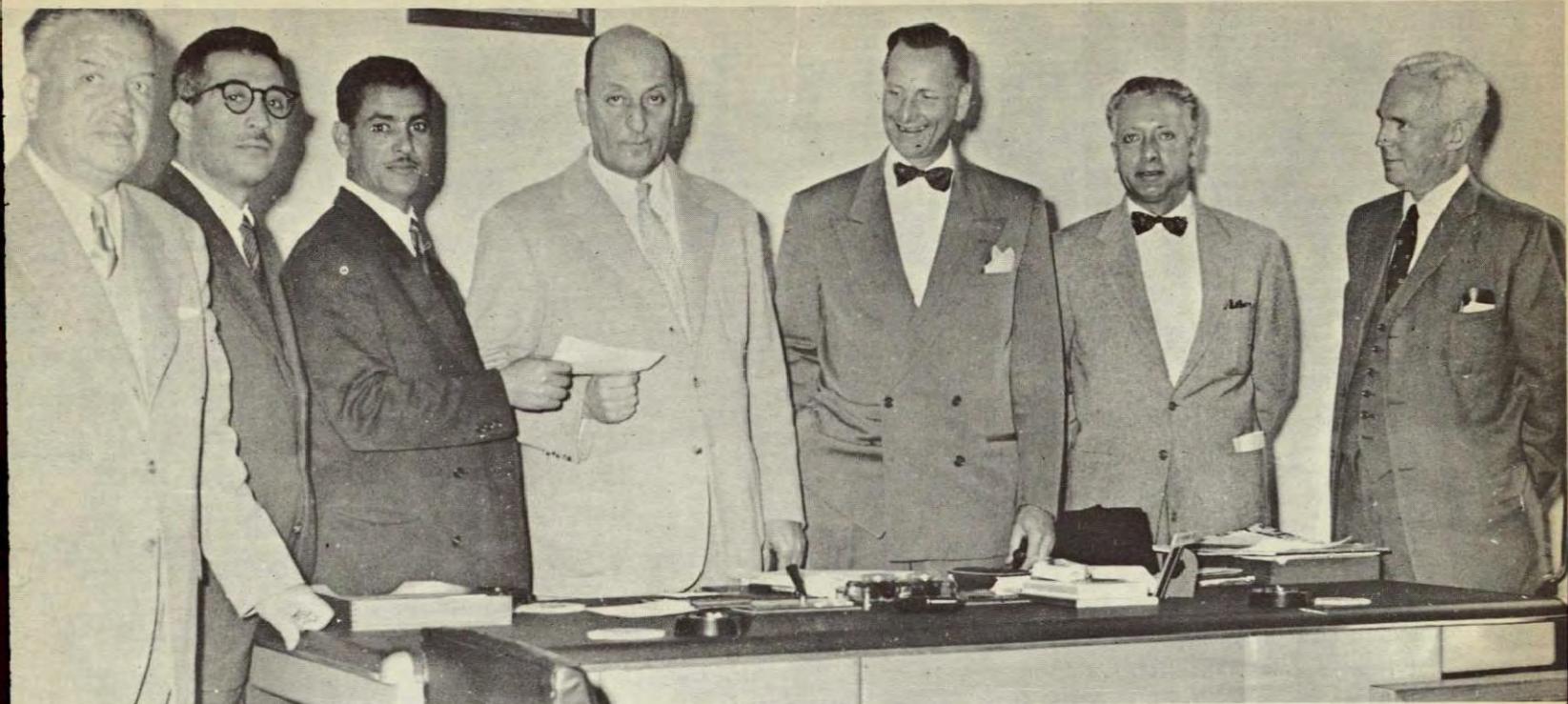
The growth of windbreaks is an important part of the soil conservation program.



Direct seeding of forest trees insures safe and easy handling at transplanting time.

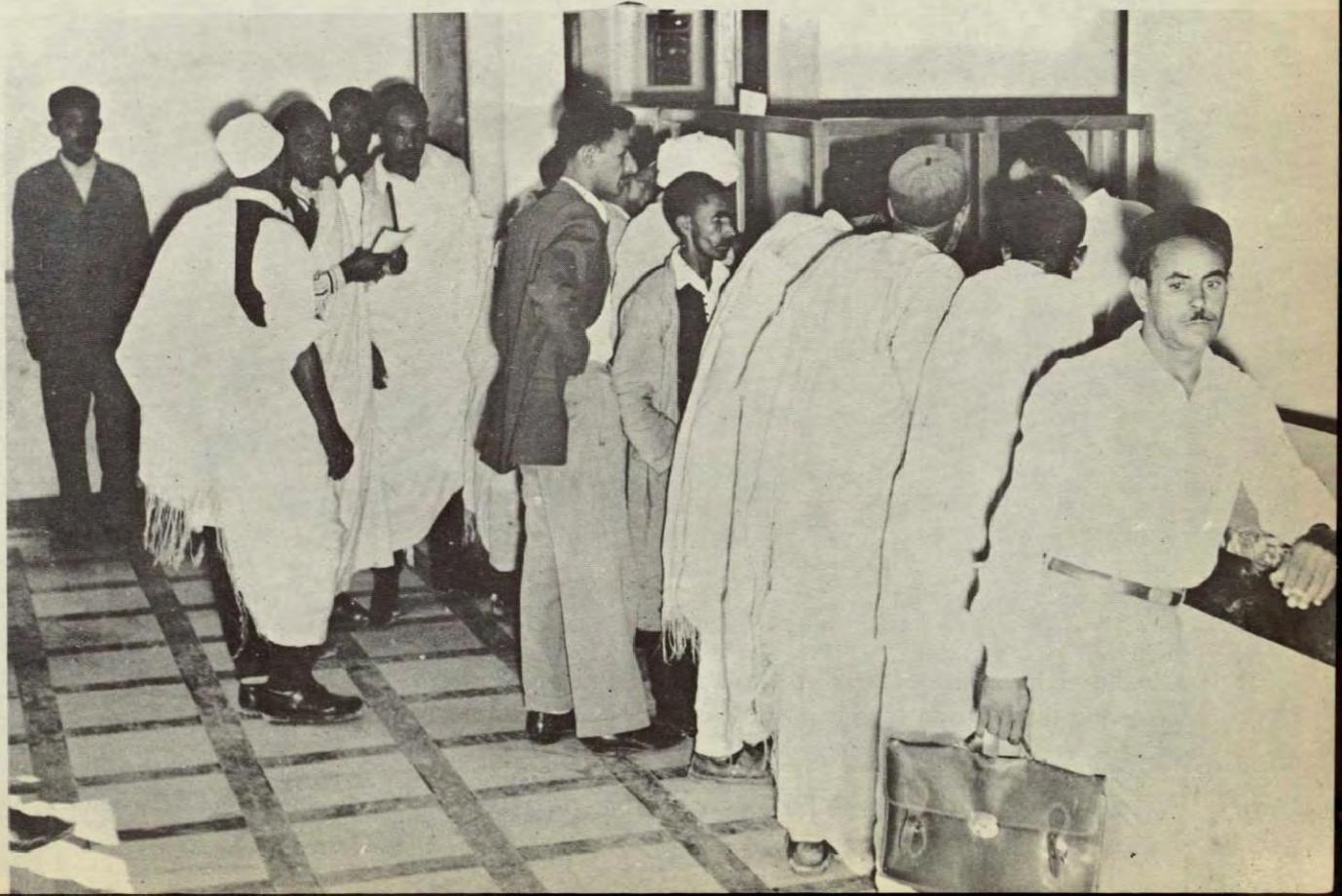


The National Agricultural Bank of Libya provides financial help, at reasonably low interest, to deserving farmers and farm cooperatives.



Libyan and American officials observe as the Executive Director of LARC, Sayyid Omar Yacoub, turns over the capital of the Agricultural Bank to Sayyid Fadel Ben Zikri, Chairman of the bank board of directors.

Farmers paying off their loans at the Agricultural Bank.





**A Vocational Agricultural Training School student dusting alfalfa during a special vacation training program.**



**Libyan agricultural students receiving training in range management.**

**This Libyan agricultural guidance agent, trained by USOM technicians, explains an improved method of irrigation.**

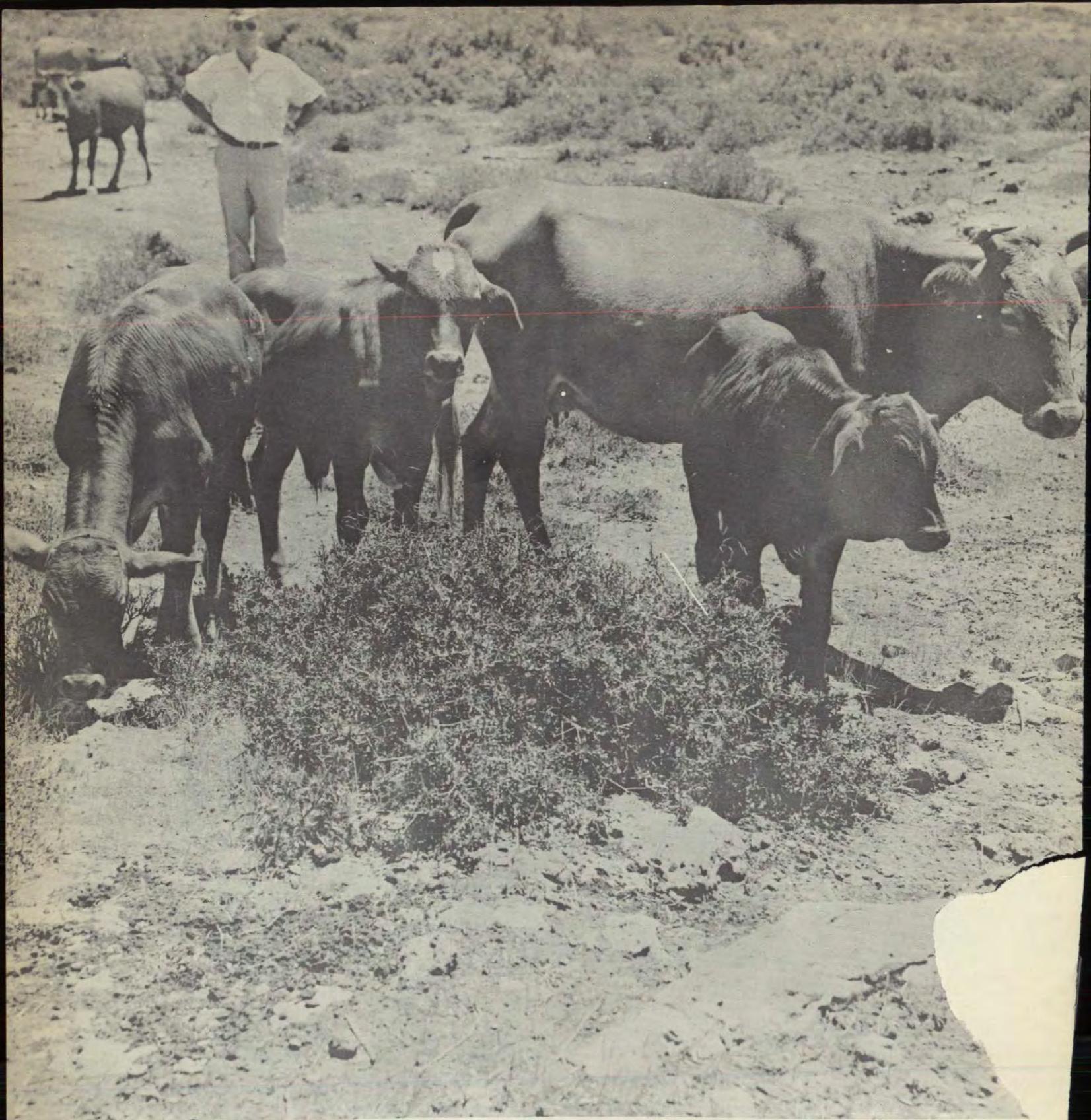


With controlled grazing and soil and water conservation, Libyan ranges are being improved to produce forage crops like this. Watching the demonstrations are Libyan officials Isa Muks, Mahmoud Bisht, and Fuad Kua-buzi.



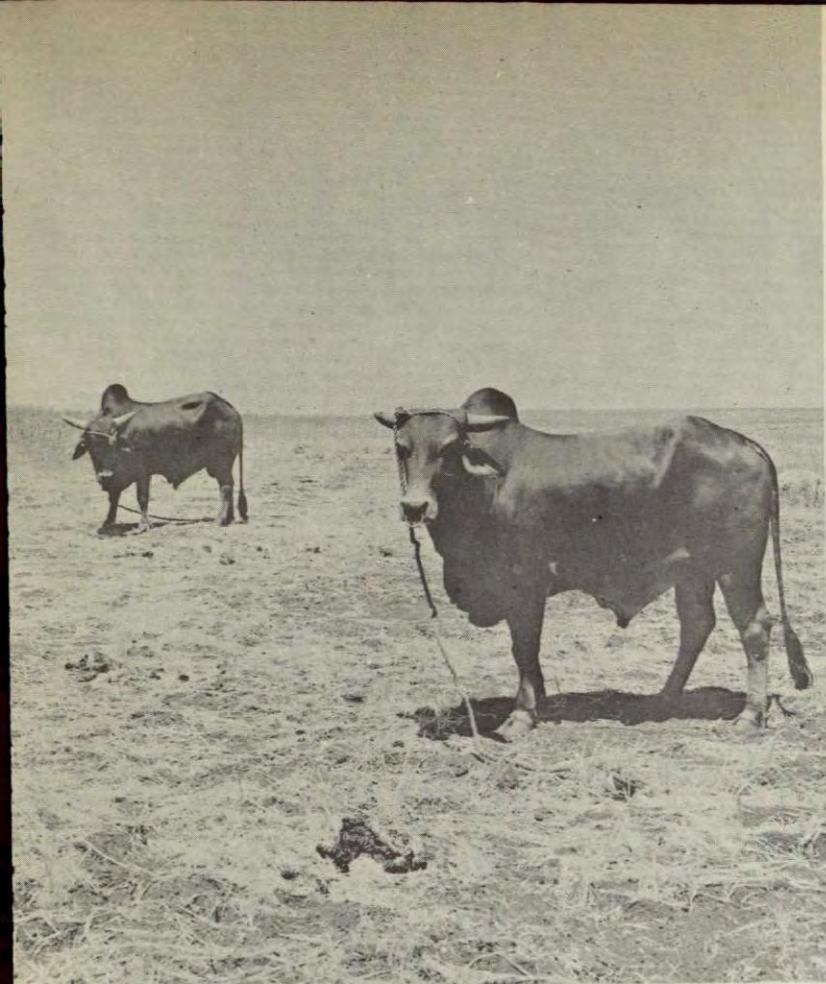
For the elimination of waste and for better preservation and storage, farmers are encouraged to bale their forage crops.





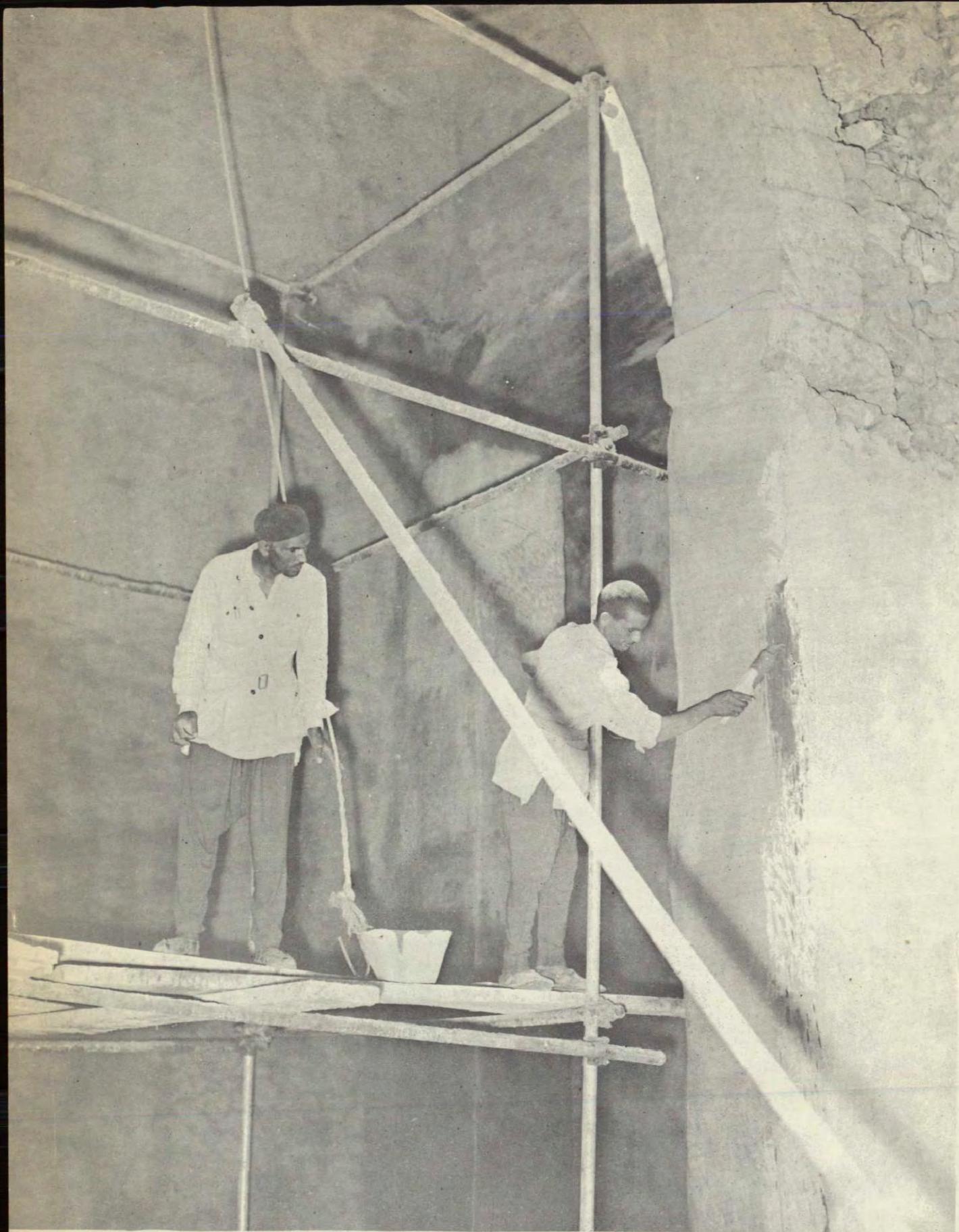
Approximately 1,000 calves such as these have been produced in Libya by crossing Sindh bulls with local cows.

Sindh bulls are imported for the up-grading of local cattle.



Veterinary service is extended to livestock areas with this well-equipped mobile unit.



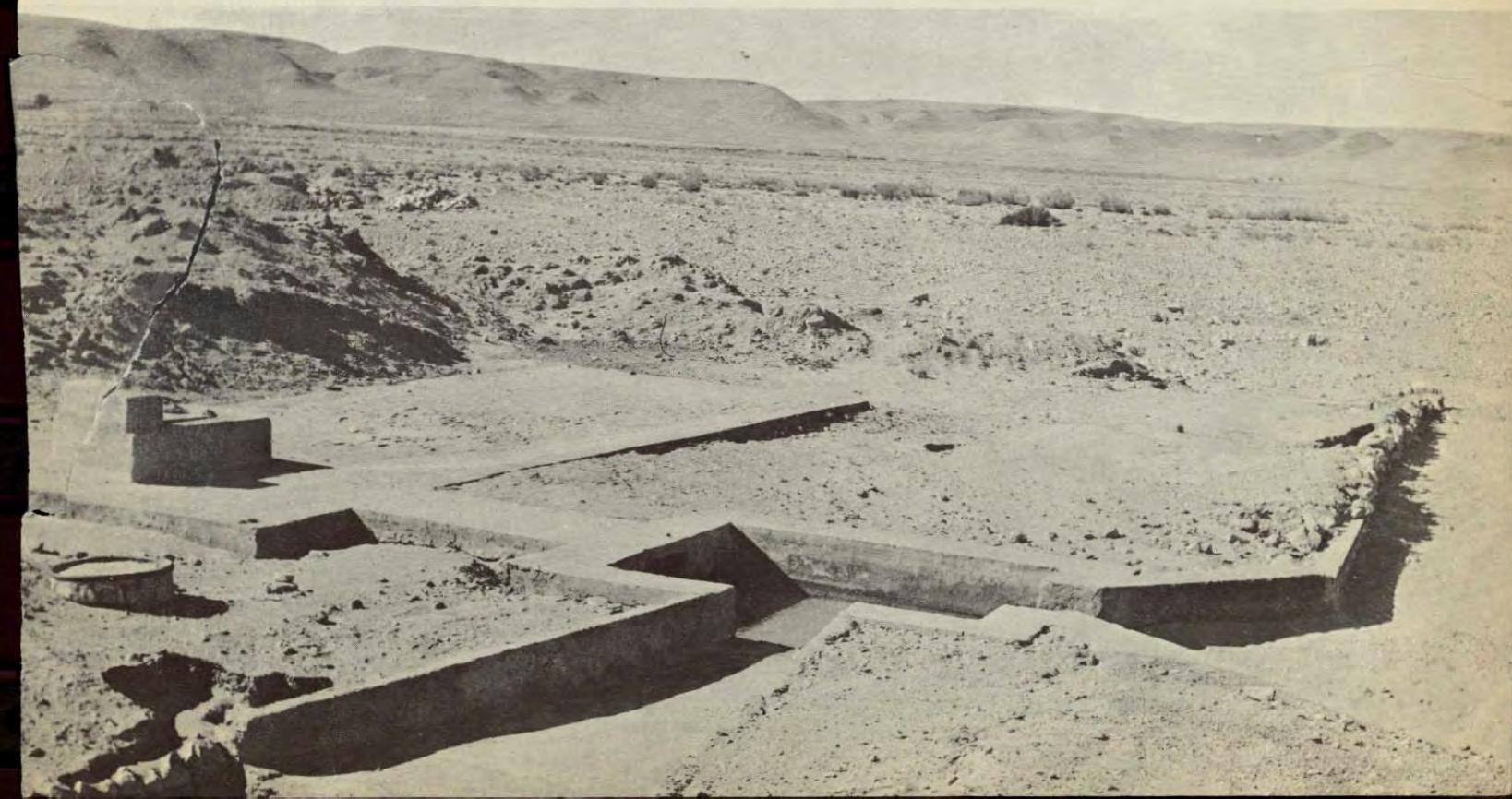


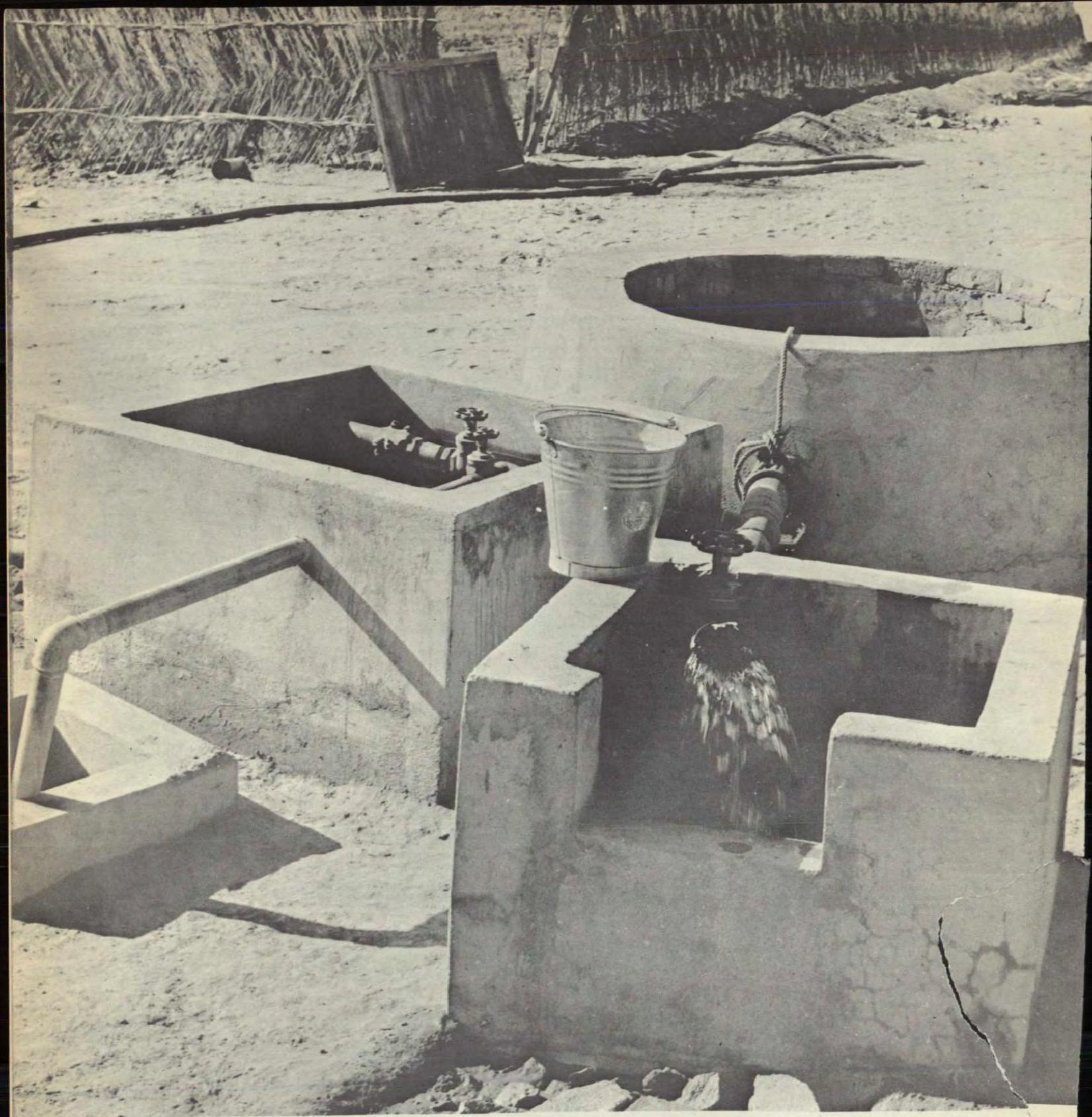
After centuries of silt accumulation has been removed from these ancient Roman cisterns they are repaired and turned once again into spacious underground water reservoirs. More than 1,000 have been reconstructed under USOM guidance.



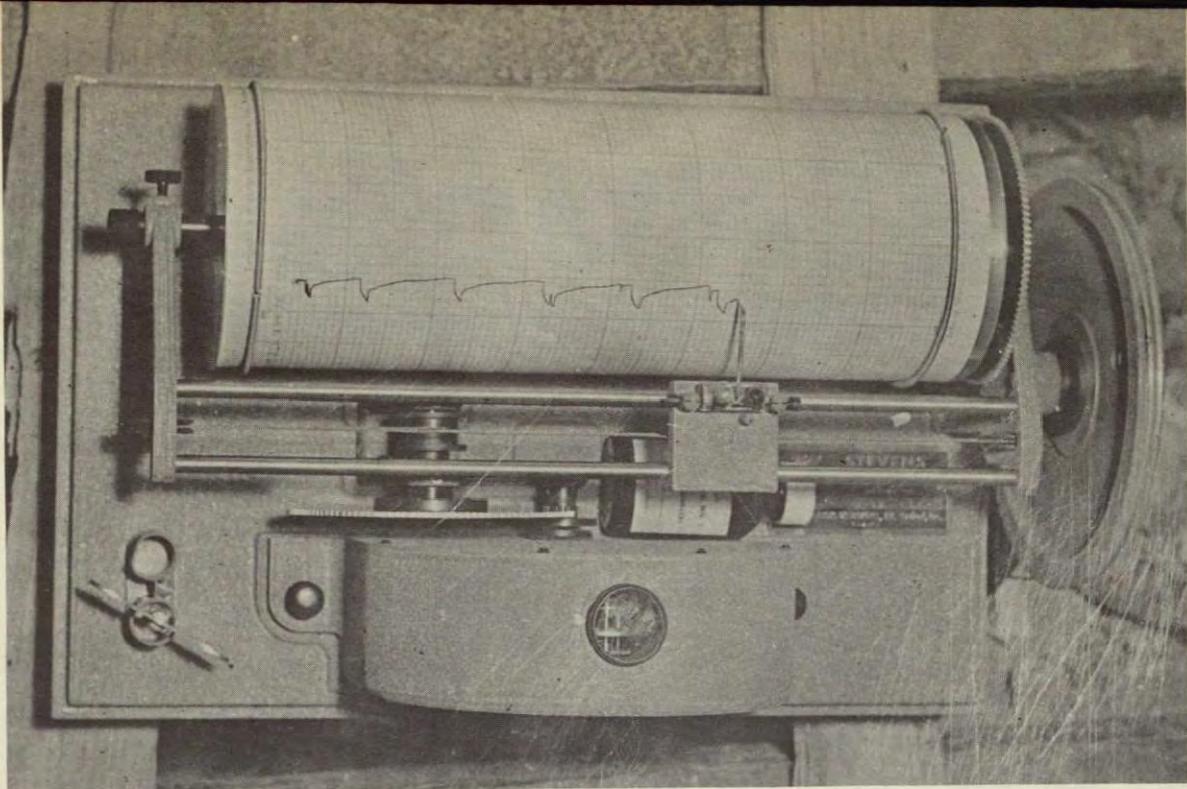
Ancient Roman cisterns are cleaned, repaired, and curbed for the preservation of water during the rainy season.

Rapidly flowing water from the wadis are captured in numerous cisterns like these and preserved for human and livestock use in the dry season.

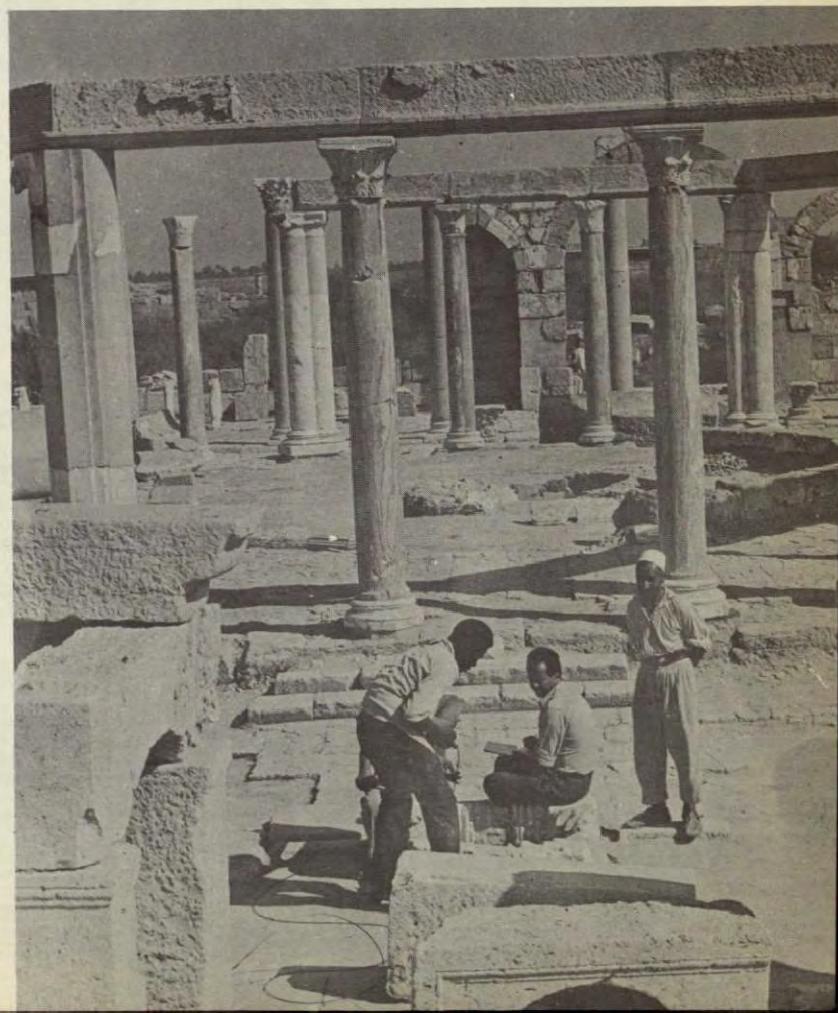




Wells, such as this one at the LAJS farm at Sebha, have been drilled and installed with pumps to supply much needed water for irrigation.



Water level measurements are made at 48 observation wells regularly. This device is very sensitive to pumping operations and keeps a constant record of water levels in irrigated sections.



Relating the ancient to the modern, ground water technician trainees measure the water level in a 2,000-year old Roman well at Leptis Magna.



As part of the extension service, farm guidance and technical information are brought to remote villages by the Audio-Visual mobile unit.



Crop fertilization experiments conducted by extension agents clearly illustrate the value of fertilizer to Libyan farmers. Fertilized millet on the right yielded far greater returns than the non-fertilized millet on the left.



Libyan farmers gather around for drawing numbers which will determine the location of their land and home in the Wadi Caam land settlement project.



Much emphasis is placed on use of «home-constructed» devices. This one is used for chemically treating seed before planting as another step forward in crop improvement.



Hundreds of thousands of forestry trees have been delivered to Libyan farmers as part of a nation-wide forestry program. Extension officers supplied technical instruction regarding proper planting.



**A tree planter helps to speed up the afforestation job in the Libyan steppe lands.**



Water from Wadi Caam is used in row crop irrigation, making a garden spot out of a once desolate area.

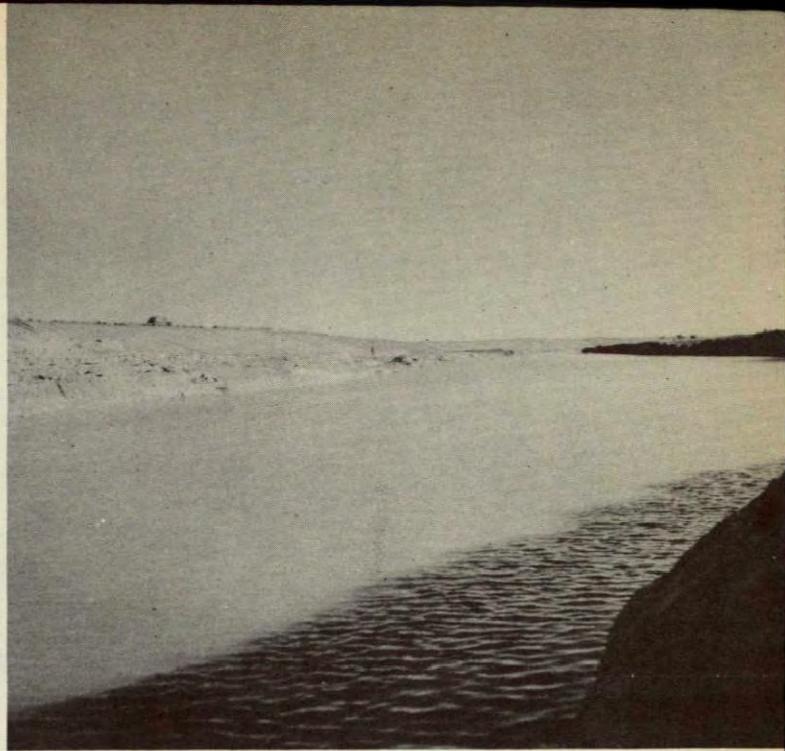


At Wadi Caam, 200 farms of five acres each are irrigated from a spring.

One of three earth dams being built to protect Tripoli from the disastrous floods which occur annually from the Wadi Megenin.

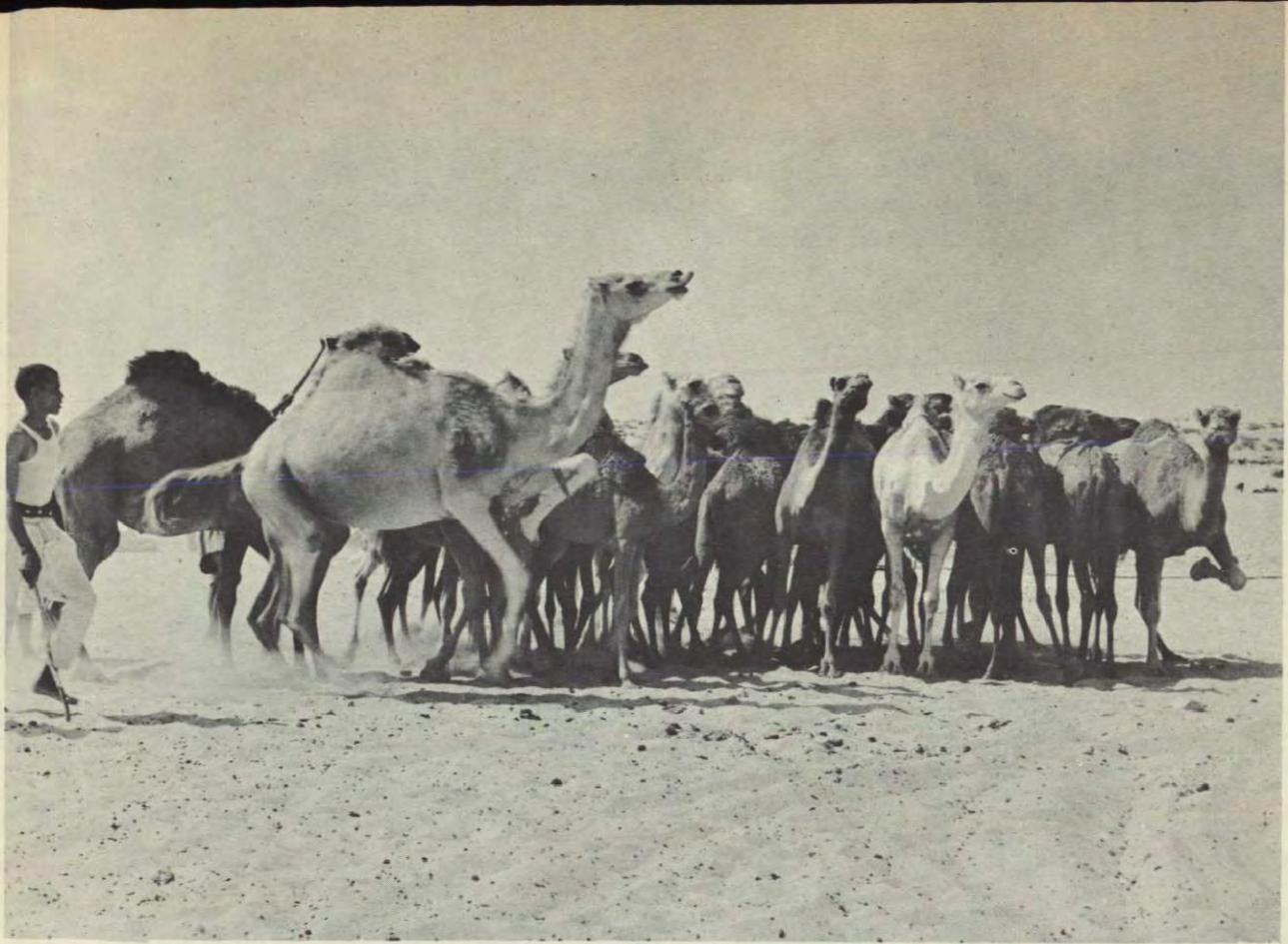


One-third of a million cubic meters is securely held behind this 2,800 meter long earth dam as part of the Wadi Megenin project.



The Tripolitanian Nazir of Interior, H.E. Sultan Hilmi Khattabi, is flown to inspect the dam sites which will be constructed for the control of flood waters in the upper Wadi Megenin.





On days especially scheduled for control of external parasites, camels are herded in from long distances to get the treatment. Under USOM and Libyan technical supervision, over 1,500 camels have been dipped.

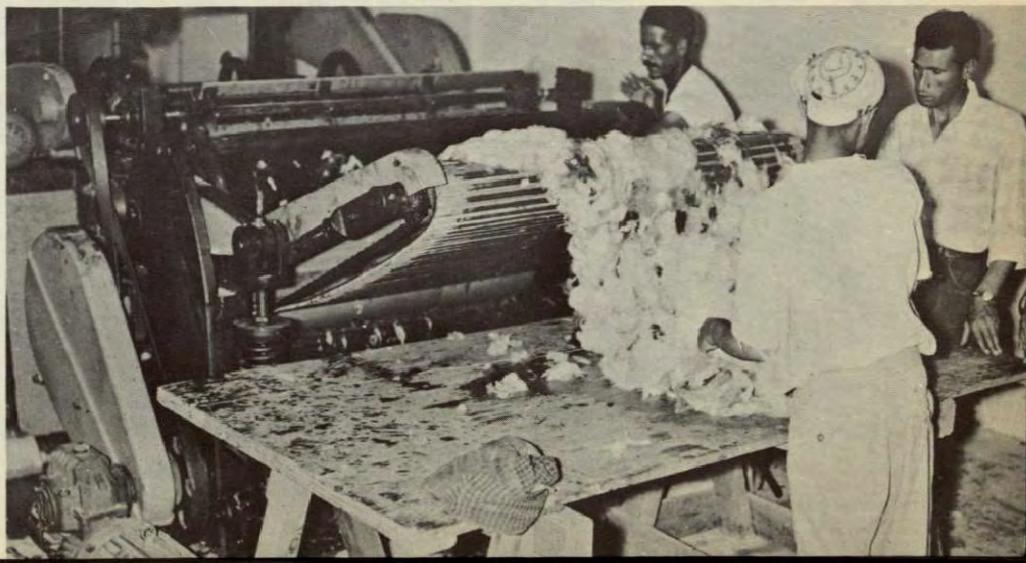
Ticks, lice and mange mites are destroyed as soon as the camel enters the dipping vat.





To ensure complete immersion, camels get a second dunking. Demonstrations such as this are carried out to instruct Libyan farmers on better methods of livestock care.

Wool passes through washing vats and emerges from this end of the wool-washing machine.



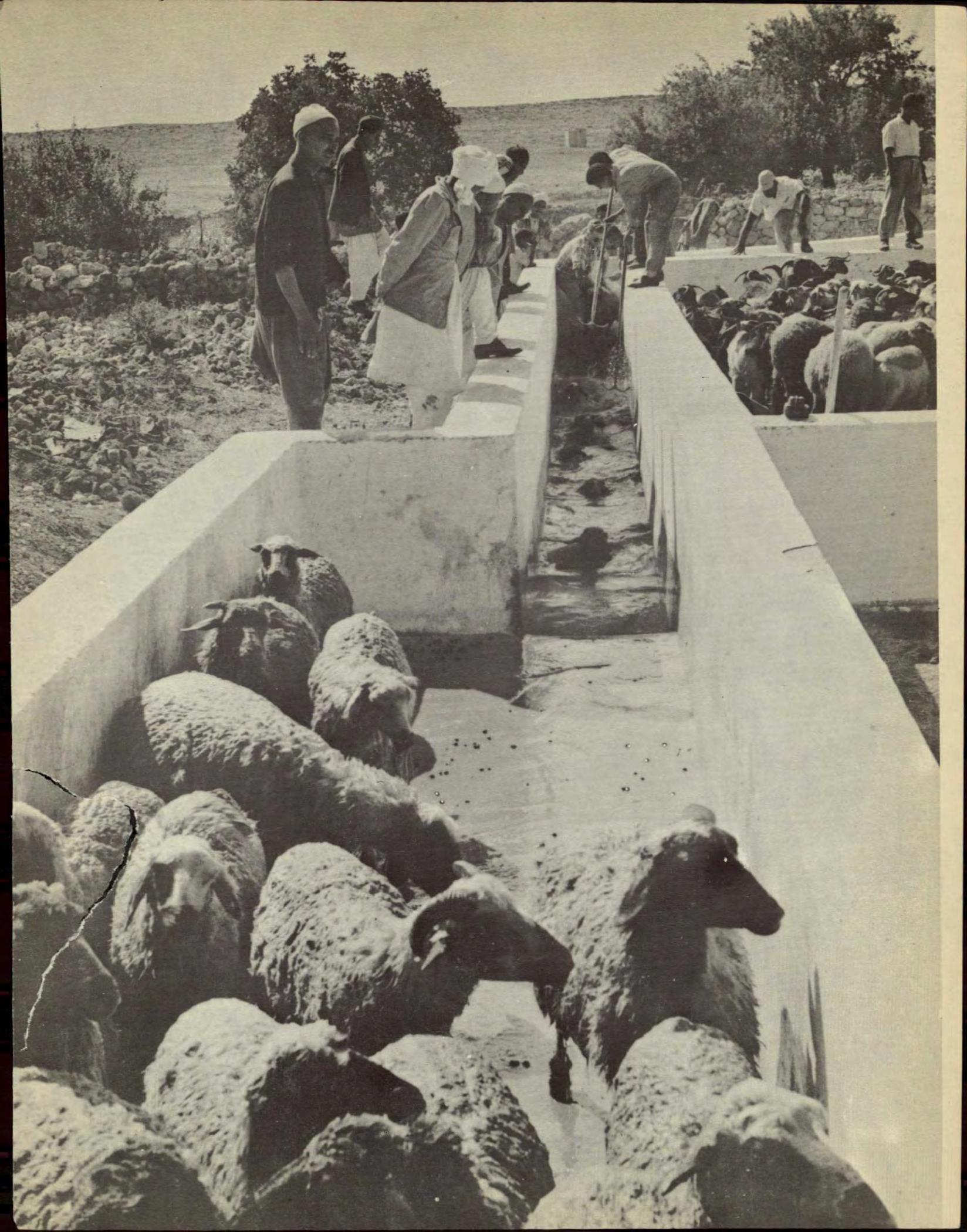


Under the supervision of USOM and Libyan technicians, approximately 300,000 sheep were drenched for internal parasites. Demonstrations of sheep drenching procedure are conducted in Libyan sheep production areas.

During demonstrations conducted by Libyan and USOM technicians for control of animal parasites, over 250,000 sheep and goats were dipped.

Portable sheep dipping vats have been used for demonstrations in many parts of Libya.







*Building  
For  
Future  
Growth*

If you do not think about the future, you cannot have one.

— John Galsworthy

The training of Libya's youth, the improvement of health conditions, the development and full exploitation of agricultural resources, and the efforts of community cooperation—all of these, which have been briefly reviewed, are of prime importance to Libya's growth. Beyond this, however, it is necessary for governments to incur expenditures for the purpose of laying foundations for further industrial and economic growth.

Governments are expected to provide not only educational and health facilities, and certain basic agricultural services, but also to finance other parts of what is often called the « infra-structure. » This includes such facilities as public roads and harbors, essential communications, public power systems, and other public utilities, physical facilities for governmental operation, basic resource data, and financial and credit facilities. The Libyan Government has devoted a considerable portion of United States aid to providing such basic facilities.

Work is well advanced on the construction of a modern telecommunications system for Libya. When completed, this system will not only connect the three Provincial capitals of Libya with rapid, clear communication, but it will provide a modern system from the Tunisian border, through Tripoli and Benghazi, to the Egyptian border. This will form an important link for international communications. The Government of Libya has placed high priority on this project. After attending the

Telecommunications Conference in Rome in 1958, Sayyid Fu'aad al-Ka'baazi, Permanent Under Secretary of the Ministry of Communications, estimated that this telecommunications system, when completed, might provide revenues for the Libyan Government from international communications traffic of as much as £ 1,000,000 per year. The telecommunications project will also include complete modernization of the city telephone systems of Tripoli and Benghazi. Thus far, more than \$5,000,000 of U.S. funds has been set aside for this project. Additional funds will be provided in 1959-60 and 1960-61 to complete the work.

Work accomplished to date includes completion of buildings, towers, power equipment and electronic equipment at Tripoli, Tarhuna, Kussabat, Homs, Zliten, Misurata, Sirte, and Benghazi. These installations provide twenty-one voice channels from Tripoli to Misurata and twelve voice channels plus one broadcast channel from Tripoli to Benghazi. Idris Airport has been linked to Tripoli by a micro-wave system having twenty-four telephone channels.

Two temporary radio stations were constructed two years ago, one in Tripoli and one in Benghazi. Permanent stations of greater strength are now nearing completion. The large 50 kilowatt transmitter station eight kilometers west of Tripoli was inaugurated on the occasion of the Libyan Independence Day, December 24, 1958. The station consists of three 500 foot towers, a 50 kilowatt transmitter, and buildings. Work on the new eight-room broadcasting studio is almost complete. The broadcasting station power in Benghazi was raised last December from 5 kilowatts to 10 kilowatts and can now be heard throughout most of Cyrenaica. The new broadcasting studio in Benghazi is almost complete.

Since 1955, the Government of Libya has used more than £5,500,000 of U. S. aid funds for maintaining and resurfacing roads and for new construction to add to Libya's road systems. This has been an important project because of road damage which occurred during the war.

Some funds have been spent on ordinary maintenance. However, about 570 kilometres of Federal roads have been reconstructed or resurfaced. A bridge was constructed across the Wadi Megenin near Tripoli to prevent floods blocking traffic. Two Federal coast road bridges which were destroyed during the war were reconstructed, one at Ben-Gawad and the other east of Misurata.

The provision of light and power is of great importance not only to home and community life, but also to commercial and industrial growth. U.S. aid funds have

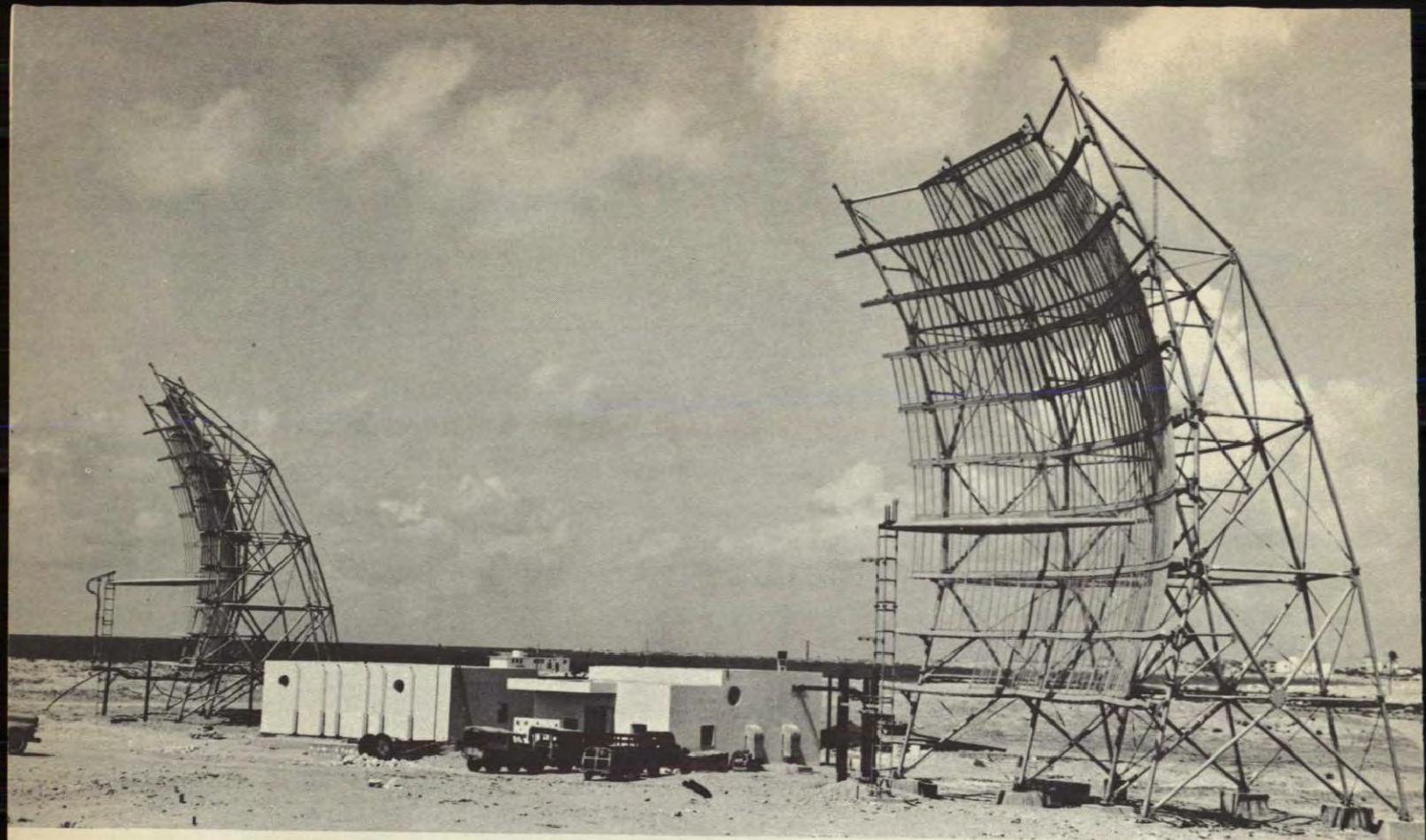
been used by the LARC to finance power plant improvements at many locations in all three Provinces of Libya.

Funds have been expended for the construction of power plant buildings, for the procurement and installation of generators and, in some instances, for the improvement of transmission and distribution facilities. Such work has been done at Sebha, Houn, Agelat, Sirte, Mussaid, Barce, Slough, Gubba, Aghedabia, Soluk and Zuara. For these purposes, LARC has allocated \$140,000 to the Nazzarat of Public Works in Cyrenaica; \$106,400 to the Nazzarat of Public Works in Tripolitania; and \$137,200 to the Nazzarat of Public Works in Fezzan.

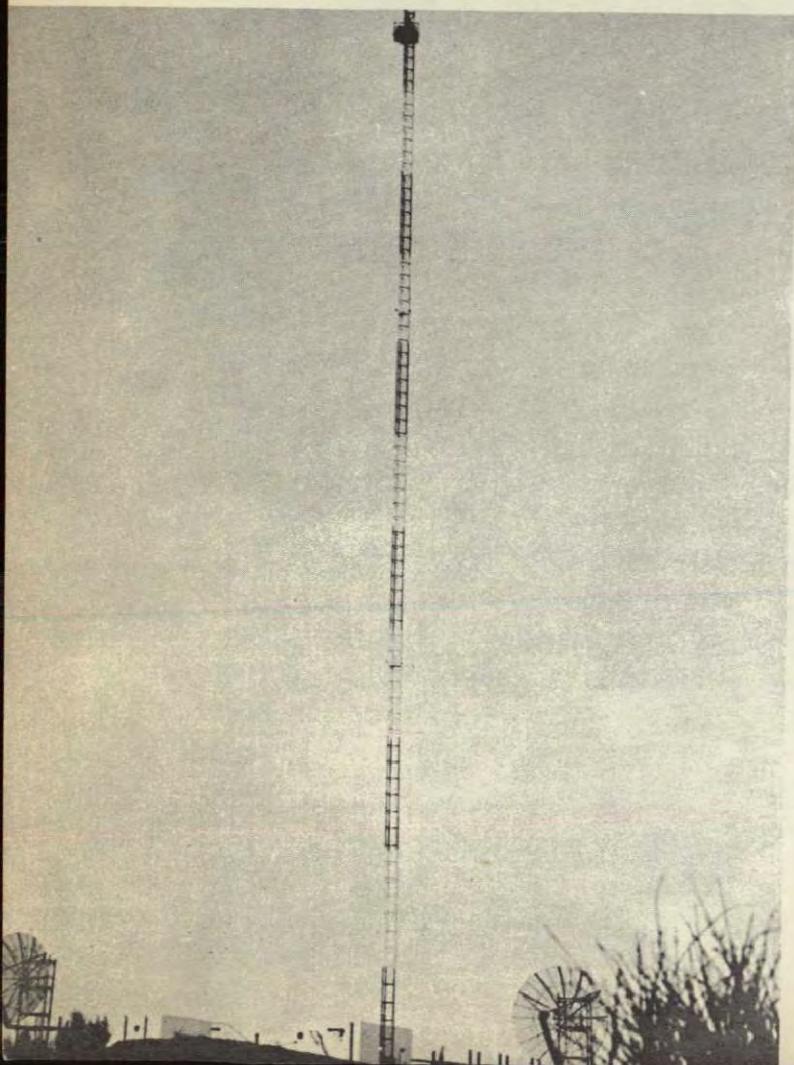
The largest power plant project, and indeed one of the largest of all development projects in Libya, is the Tripoli Power Plant. LARC provided more than \$3,000,000 of grant aid funds to enable the Libyan Government to purchase a 70 per cent interest in the power company from its previous owner. This enabled the Government to gain control over this very important public utility. The Government purchased approximately \$3,500,000 worth of new generating equipment and other equipment to modernize the power plant. This equipment is being paid for in annual installments out of the U.S. special funds made available each year to the Ministry of Finance.

Considerable additional equipment is needed for the plant, and substantial expenditures must be made for constructing new buildings and for improving the distribution system. The Government of the United States has agreed to make additional funds available to Libya through long-term, low-interest loans for these additions and improvements. The project is necessarily expensive and will not be fully completed for perhaps two more years. However, the modernized plant will be a high revenue earner and will be of vital importance to the rapidly growing city of Tripoli and to the surrounding industrial and agricultural areas.

Another important phase of Libya's look to the future is the minerals survey of the country that the Ministry of National Economy has carried out with the help of USOM geologists. The country has been covered by systematic reconnaissance, and detailed studies have been and are being made of promising mineral deposits. A chemical laboratory, one of the best now in North Africa, has been set up to analyze samples of minerals, soils, water, and all kinds of agricultural commodities. It is too early to appraise accurately the results of the survey, but plans for future minerals development are well underway.



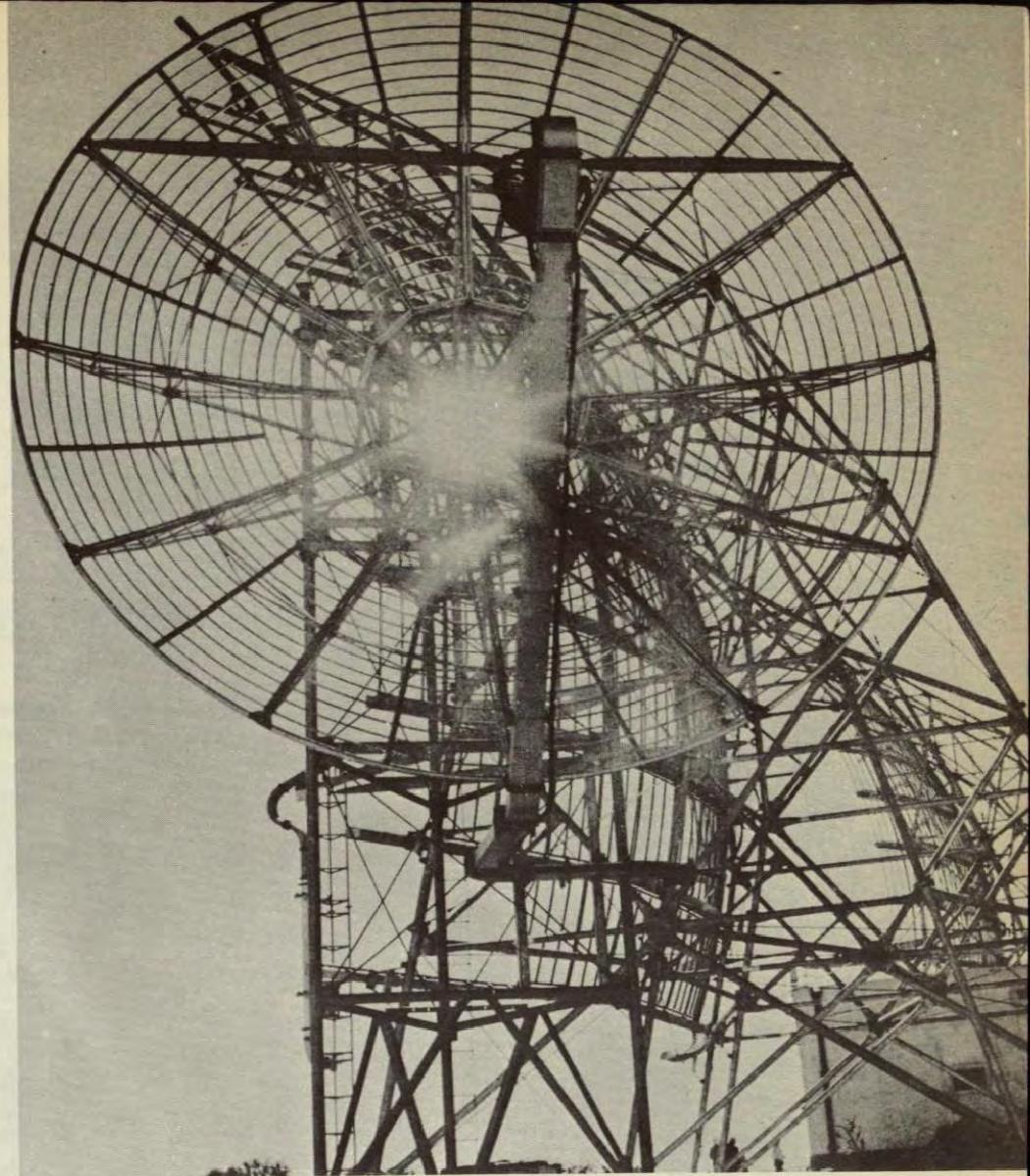
General view of the telecommunications projects at Benghazi. Shown here are two 60 foot troposcatter antennas and power buildings.



Two 28 foot troposcatter antennas and the 350 foot microwave tower at Misurata, a part of Libya's new telecommunications system.

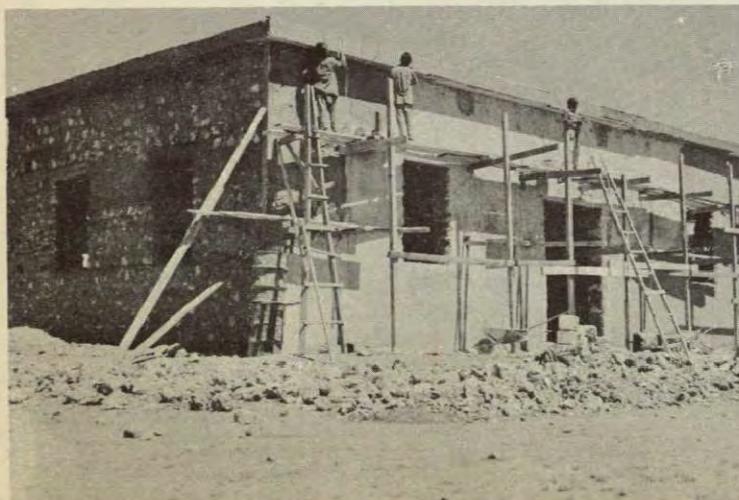
The new 50 kilowatt broadcast transmitting station at Kilometer 8, Tripoli.



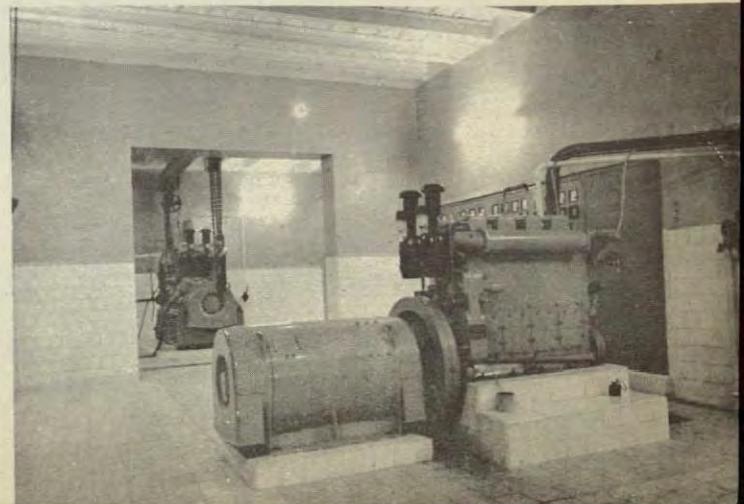


Shown here is a close view of a 228 foot antenna at Sirte, with two 60 foot antennas in the background.

Building the new power plant at El Abier in Cyrenaica.



This Sebha electric power plant has been completely renovated and re-equipped. Similar improvements to power plants have been financed for Houn, Agelat, Sirte, Mussaid, Barce, Slough, Gubba, Aghedabia, Soluk, and Zuara.





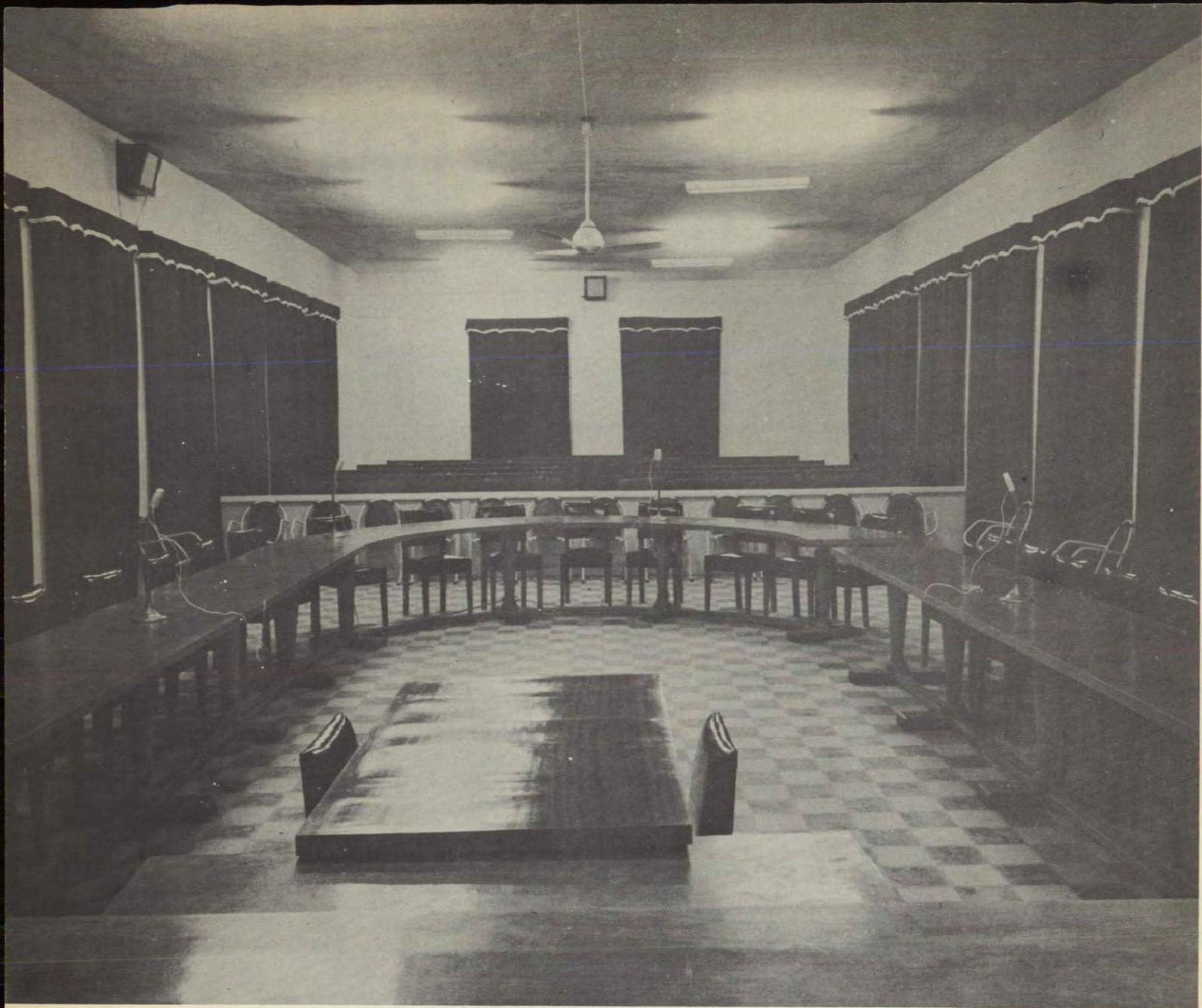
The amount of £L700,000, out of U.S. Special Funds, was used by the Libyan Government to provide the capital for its new National Bank. Housed in one of the finest buildings in Tripoli, the Bank makes an important contribution to Libyan development by ensuring a stable currency and safeguarding the nation's foreign exchange reserves.



Planning for the future in education at the ICA Africa-Middle East Educational Conference, held in Tripoli in November, 1957. Second from left at speakers' table is H. E. Abu Baker Na'ama, Minister of Education; third from left, H. E. Taher Bakir, Governor of Tripolitania; speaking is the Hon. John L. Tappin, at that time American Ambassador to Libya.

The Hon. Suleiman Jerbi, Libyan Ambassador to the United States, and Mr. Stuart Van Dyke of the International Cooperation Administration sign an agreement in Washington providing for a \$3.5 million dollar long-term loan for the Tripoli power project.





Interior of the new Legislative Assembly Building at Sebha.  
Interior Legislative Assembly Building Sebha, Fezzan.



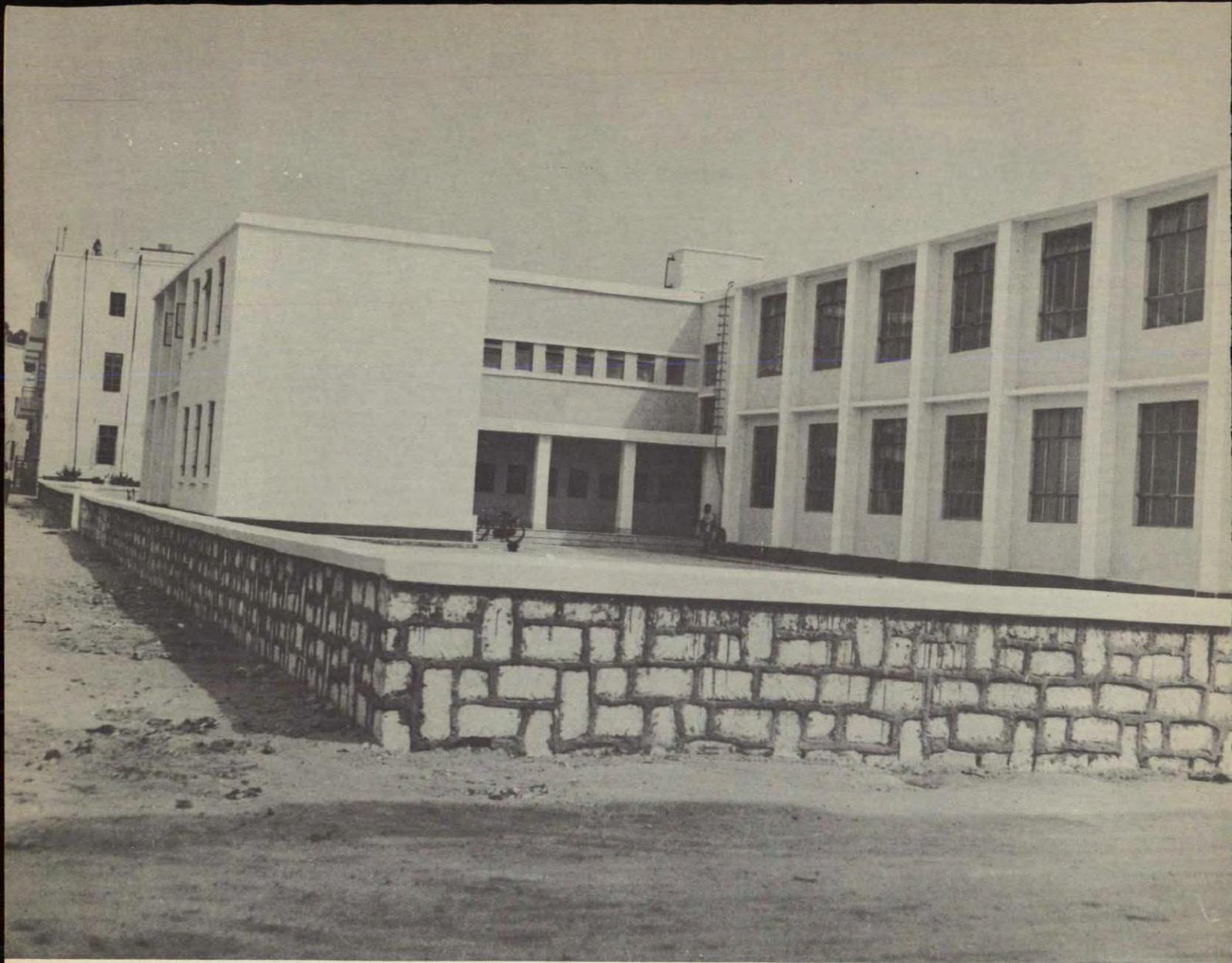
Officials of the Ministry of National Economy and representatives of USOM meet with members of the Executive Council, Fezzan, to plan the 1959 agricultural program.

Heavy equipment plays an important role in constructing large dikes and dams such as those on the Wadi Megenin in Tripolitania and those planned for the Wadi Gattara in Cyrenaica.

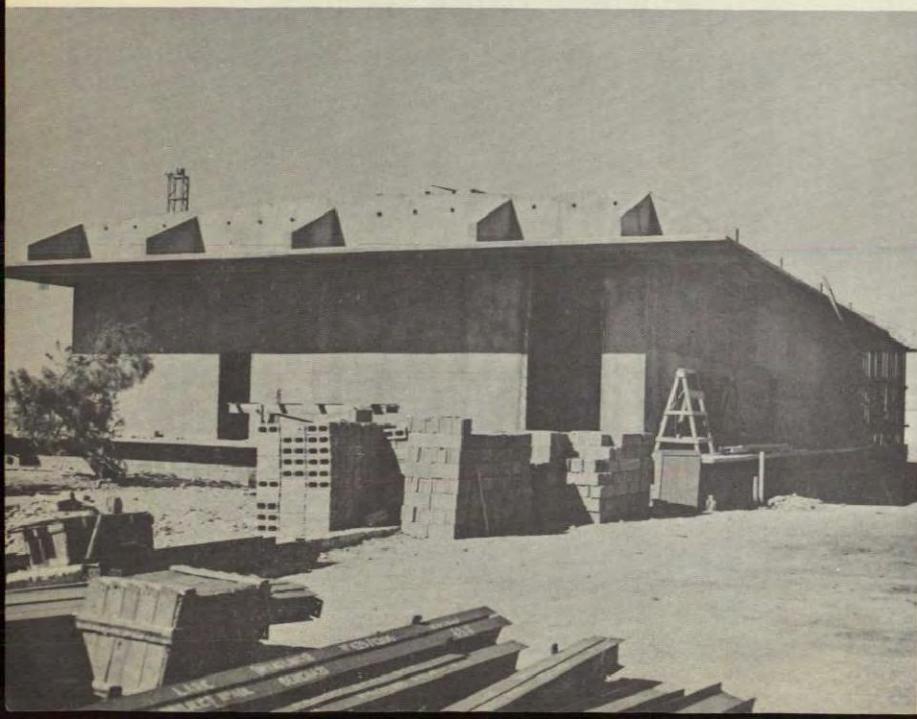


Modern fire-fighting equipment has been provided for Idris Airport near Tripoli.





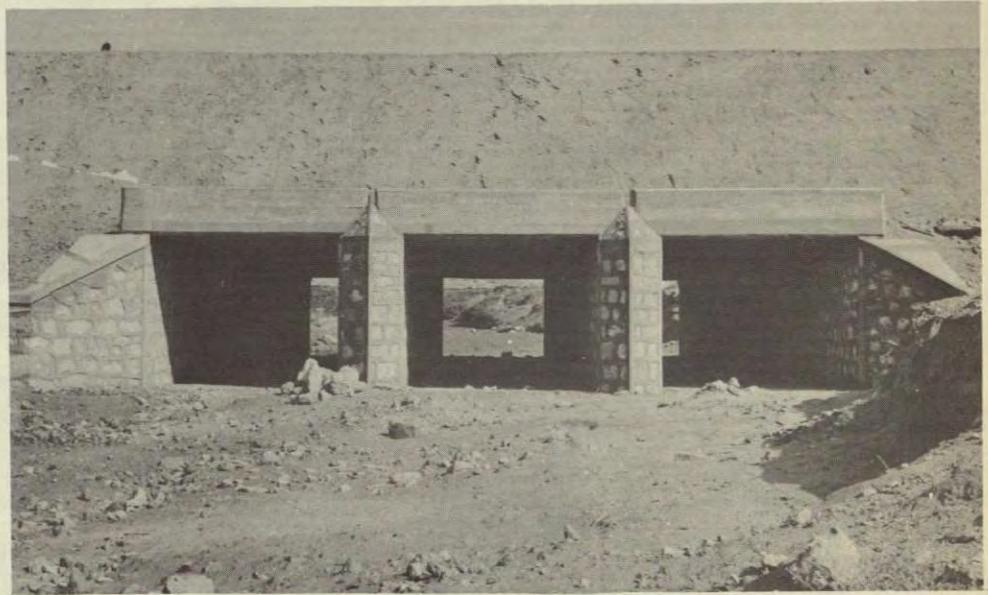
Construction of this new office building for the Cyrenaican Nazarat of Agriculture made it possible for the Nazarat to move its headquarters from Barca some 100 kilometers from the Provincial capital.



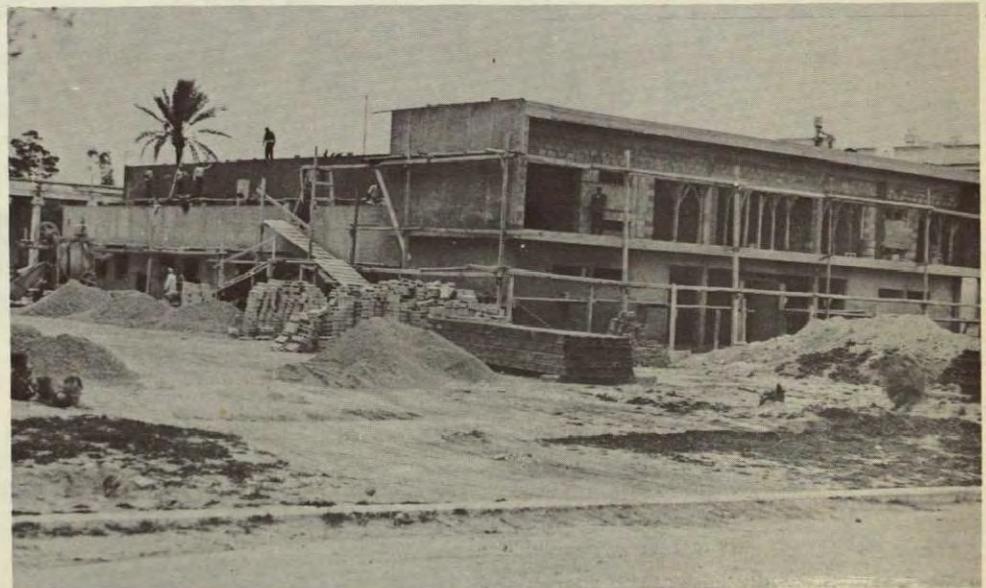
This new chilling plant in Benghazi is one of several being built in Libya.



The new Wadi Megenin bridge during flood.



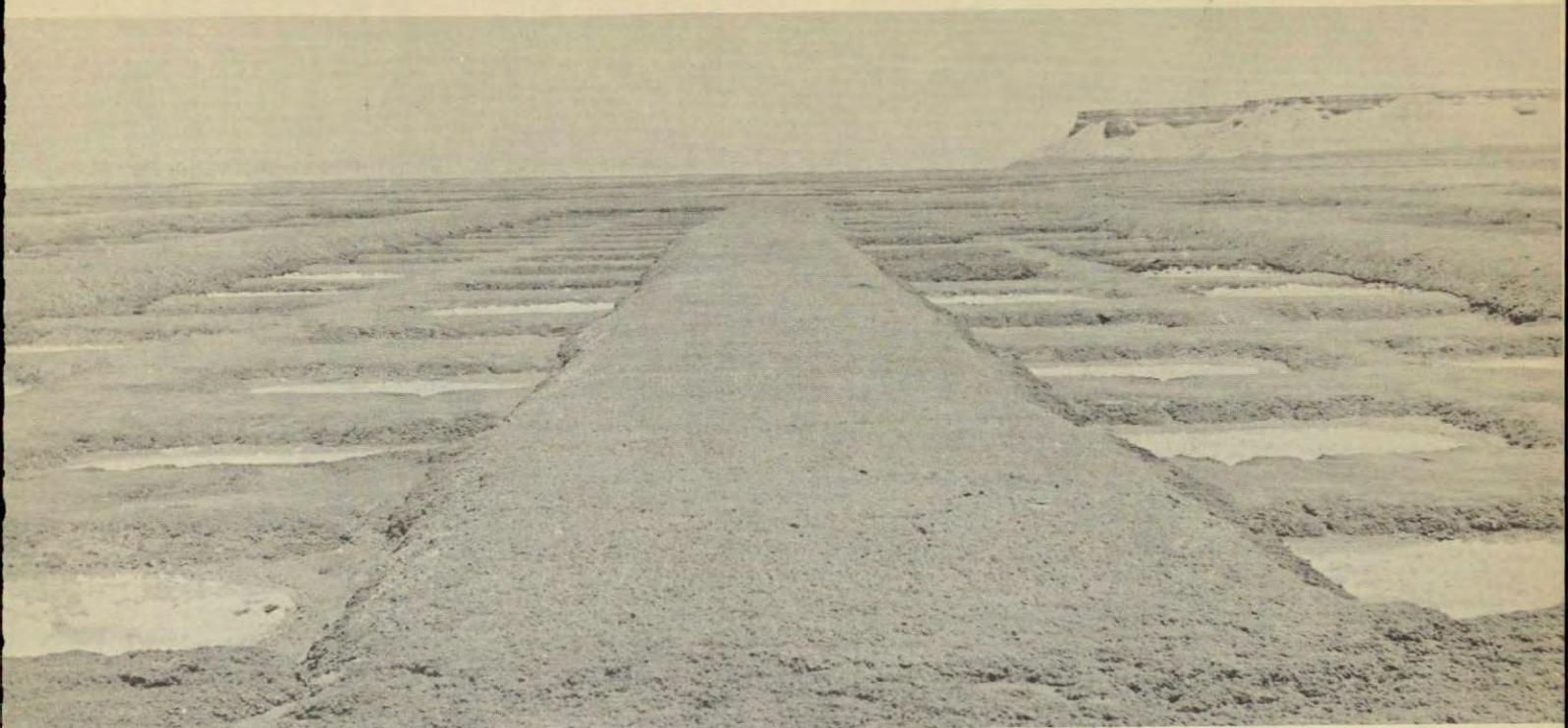
Thus far, approximately £L70,000 has been provided to reconstruct Federal coast road bridges.



The permanent broadcasting studio at Tripoli, now under construction.



Outcrops of iron deposits in the Shatti Valley area, Fezzan. These deposits may become commercially important.



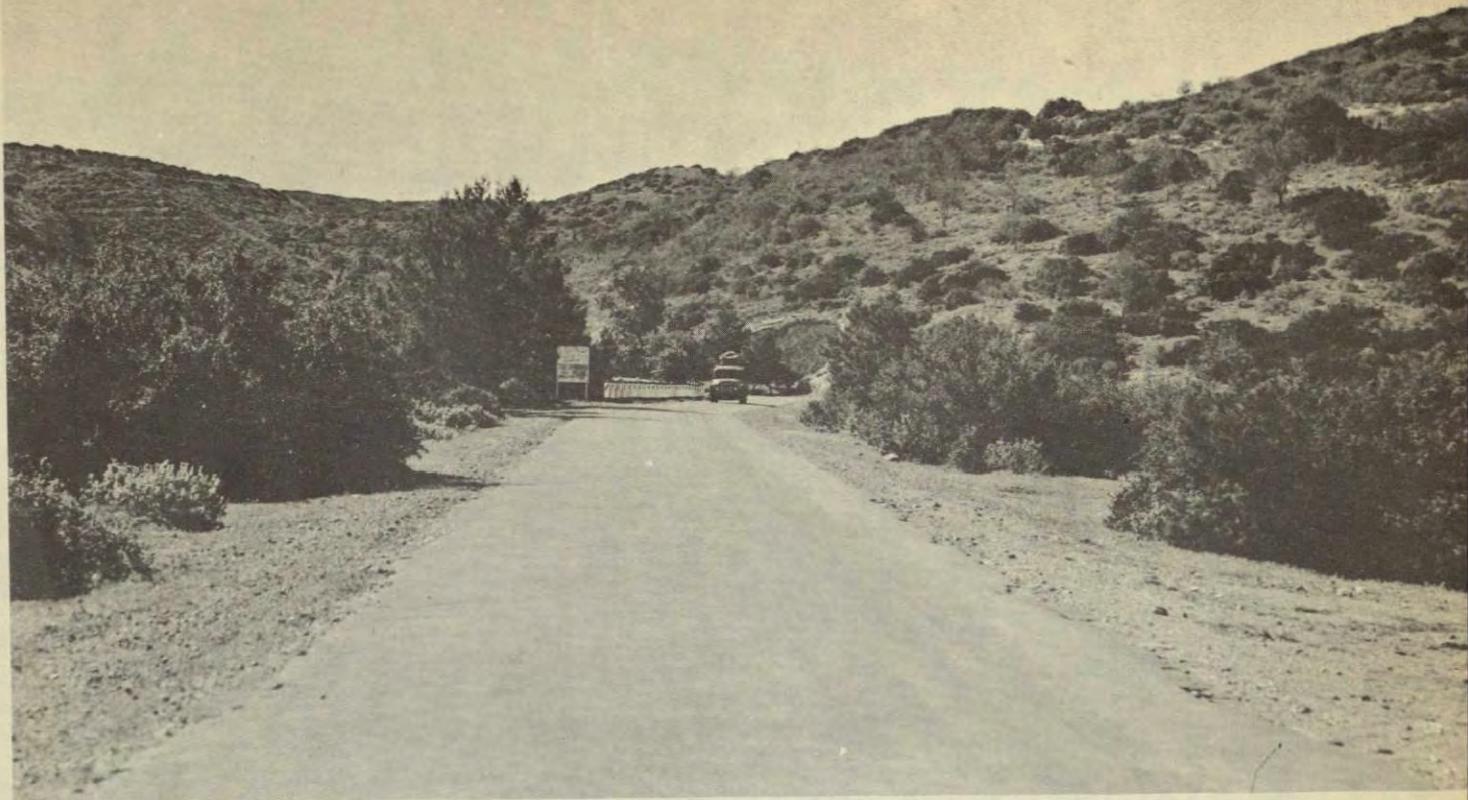
Marada potash deposits in Cyrenaica may offer commercial possibilities.

A USOM geologist camping in the Fezzan during a reconnaissance to examine natron deposits.



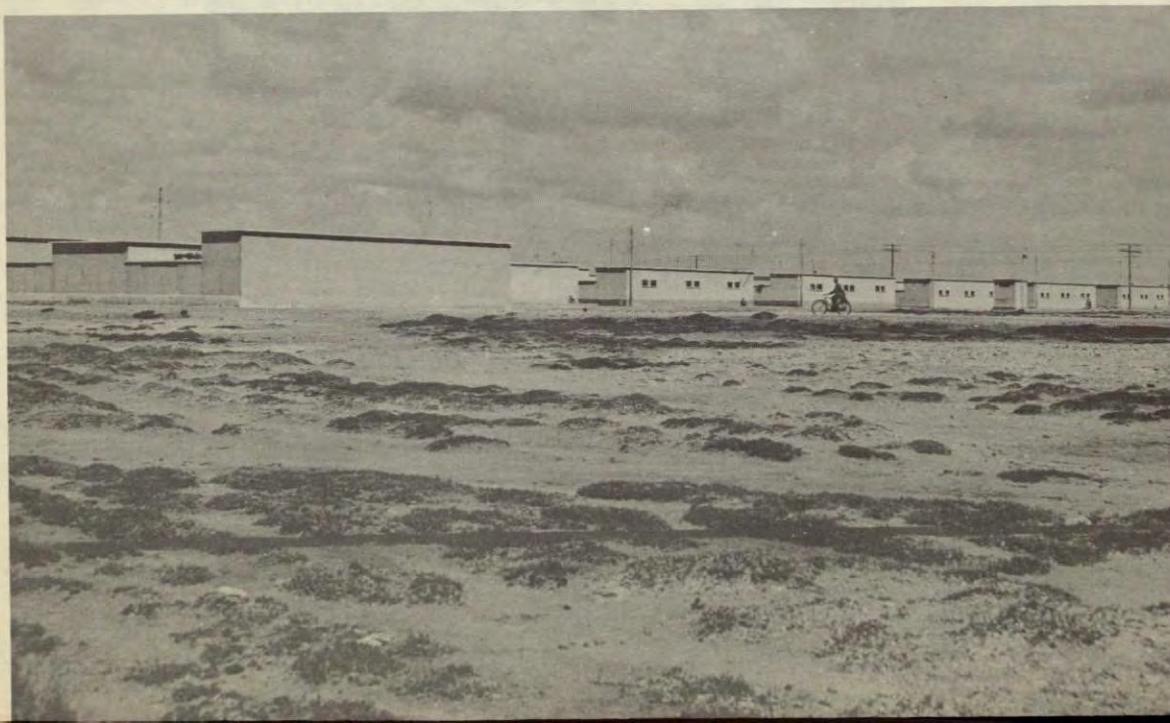


Officials of the Ministry of National Economy and the Nazarat of Agriculture, Cyrenaica, together with USOM representatives, meet with the Mudir and local notables at El Joef to discuss the economic problems facing the people of the Kuffra Oases.



Good roads, such as this new one through the Tocra Pass in Cyrenaica, will play an important part in Libya's future development.

The sum of £L60,000 was provided out of LARC Special Funds for a low-cost housing project in Benghazi. Funds also were made available for housing for police near Tripoli.



البنك الزراعي الوطني الليبي

# AGRICULTURAL BANK



The Hon. John Wesley Jones, U.S. Ambassador to Libya, and Sayyed Mehdi Derbi, Director of the Cyrenaica branch of the Agricultural Bank, visit the bank in Benghazi. A sound credit program will be important to future agricultural growth.



Individual low-cost houses were built for 120 farm families who settled on new land at the Wadi Caam irrigation project.

*Planning  
For  
Economic  
Growth*



The Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission (LARC) meets to discuss proposed development projects for Libya.

Government organizations for using American aid funds take many forms. Many nations have established special agencies rather than carry out their programs through the regular departments of government. Iraq has a «Development Board.» Ethiopia's aid money is spent through « Joint Funds.» « Cooperative Services » are used in Jordan and in sixteen Latin American countries.

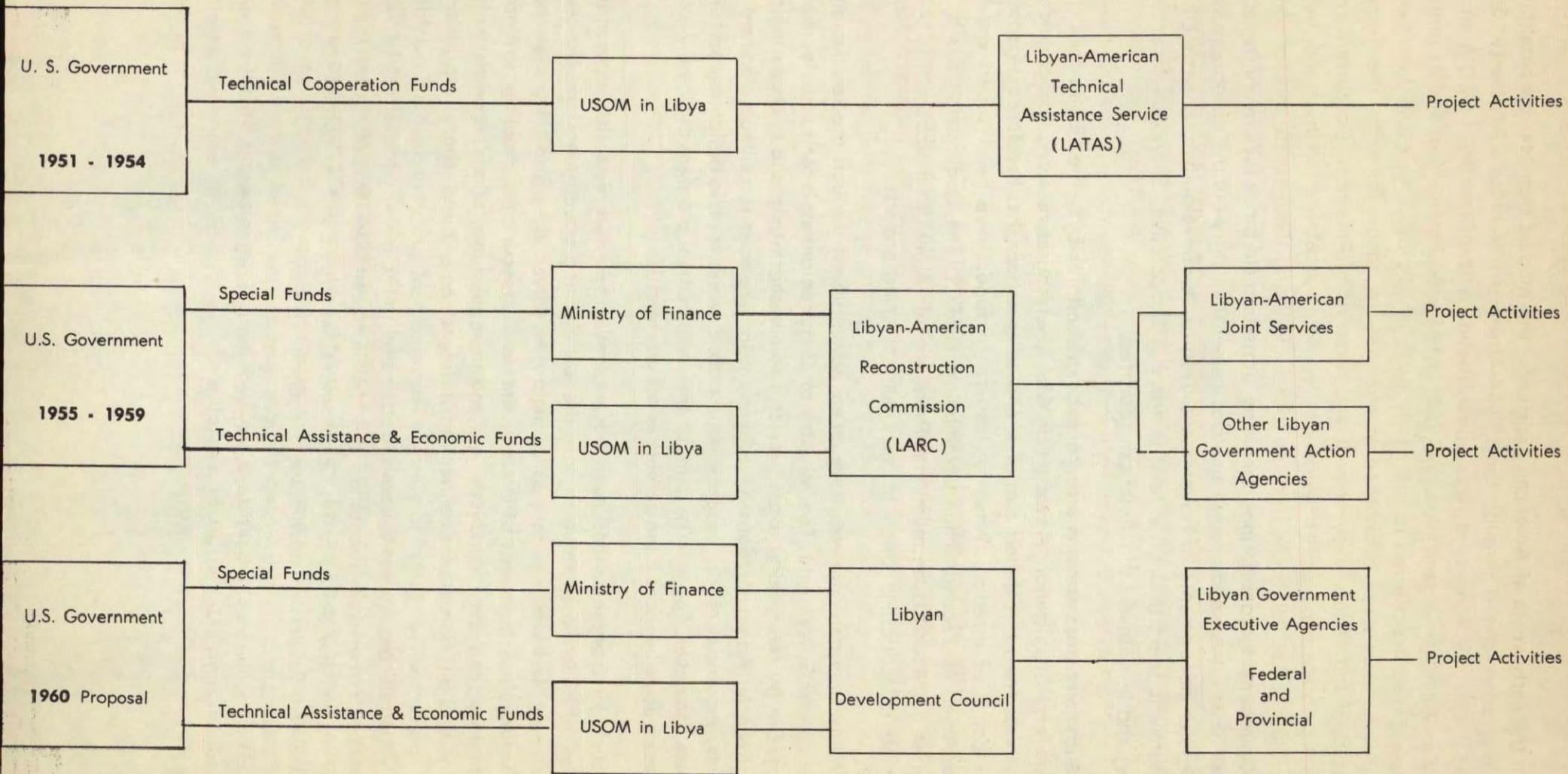
Such joint organizations also have been used in Libya. The Libyan Public Development and Stabilization Agency (LPD&SA), which has received economic development funds from the United Kingdom and other nations, has had foreign participation on its board of directors. American assistance funds have been supervised by the Libyan-American Reconstruction Commission (LARC). The Commission has a Libyan chairman and four Libyan members. There are two American members. The LARC has designated « action agencies » to carry out approved projects.

Many important projects have been administered through the regular agencies of the Libyan Government. The Ministry of Communications, for example, has been responsible for the federal roads project, radio broadcasting, and telecommunications. The Provincial Administrations have been action agencies for village electrical power projects, Provincial roads, miscellaneous public works, public buildings, and housing projects. However, for a large part of the development program in Libya, the Libyan-American Joint Services have served as action agencies.

Such joint organizations have advantages. They can establish operating procedures which are acceptable to both the contributing government and the receiving government, but which permit quick action. However, they also have disadvantages for the developing nation. Ultimately, the task of economic development must be assumed by the receiving government and its regular institutions. A primary objective of any foreign assistance program must be to help build those institutions and train personnel to carry forward a development program without outside help. Any «special» organization, operating parallel to the government structure, will tend to weaken rather than strengthen the constitutional agencies of government. For these reasons the United States Government has urged and welcomed the proposals for a reorganization of development agencies in Libya.

The following chart portrays the evolution of organizations in Libya responsible for administering United States aid funds.

ADMINISTRATION OF U.S. ASSISTANCE FUNDS



In the early years of American assistance, the modest technical cooperation program was administered through the Libyan-American Technical Assistance Service (LATAS). This, by agreement, was administered by the Director of USOM and was largely an American organization. In 1955, LATAS was discontinued and its properties and assets were transferred to the newly established Libyan-American Joint Services. The Joint Services were established as agencies to cooperate with the respective Ministries of the Federal Government and Nazarats of Provinces. Concurrently, there was a significant expansion of American economic assistance to Libya, and the LARC was established to determine basic policies for utilizing these funds and for considering and approving specific programs and projects.

From 1955 to the present time the LARC has received and programmed the special funds as a direct contribution from the U.S. Government, and the U.S. technical and economic assistance funds through USOM. The LARC has made a very substantial contribution to Libyan economic development. Through its technical committee and various sub-committees it has received and studied numerous project proposals and has given serious thought to the assignment of priorities and to the necessity of making the best use of available resources for Libya's development.

Most of the LARC-approved projects in agriculture, natural resources, education, and health have been assigned to the Joint-Services for execution. Libyan Government agencies increasingly have taken responsibility for these projects. Provincial activity is carried out under the direction of the respective Nazirs. Basic decisions as to distribution of funds between fields of activity and between Provinces are made by the responsible Ministry of the Federal Government. For example, the development program for 1959 in agricultural and water conservation was planned under the leadership of the Ministry of National Economy. Field inspections of projects were made in all three Provinces. Representatives of the Provincial Nazarats of Agriculture met with the Ministry to review all current projects and all proposals for new projects. An excellent program for the coming year was agreed upon.

Much has been accomplished through Libyan-American cooperation in the LARC and the Joint Services. However, the United States Government has indicated its desire to terminate these agencies. It feels that Libya will benefit more in the long run if the regular agencies of government will assume responsibility for economic development projects. The USOM will continue, pursuant to agreements, to provide both funds and specialists, as desired, to development activities.

Organization for economic development in Libya has been complex. The 1960 proposal shown in the foregoing chart would bring about considerable improvement. The new Development Council would provide a central point for planning and coordinating not only U.S. assistance but also the assistance being given to Libya by other nations and by the United Nations and its specialized agencies. It would also provide an agency to receive and program any future revenues, from oil or other resources, which the Libyan Government may receive for its economic development program.

## *United States*

### *Financial Aid*

#### *To Libya*

Since January 1954, the United States Government's economic assistance to Libya has totalled \$65,932,000 (£. 23,550,000), as shown by U.S. fiscal year in Chart Number One. This total can be separated into two categories: Special Development Funds and Development Assistance Funds. The first category is based upon the Economic Aid Agreement of 1954 wherein the U. S. Government agreed to provide Libya with a total of \$40,000,000 for economic development projects over an eighteen year period as follows: \$5 million in 1954, \$4 million from 1955 through 1960, \$1 million from 1961 through 1971. The second category of funds, Development Assistance, is provided on a year-to-year basis for specific development projects. Chart Number Two shows the fields in which a joint Libyan-American planning group has decided to spend the economic assistance funds.

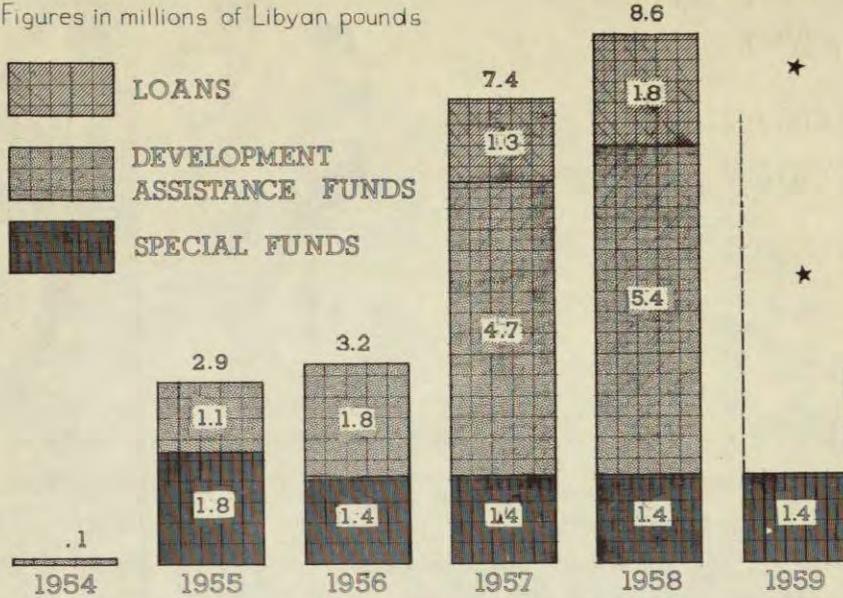
The United States Government has also entered into Technical Cooperation agreements with the Government of Libya under which specialists are provided to advise the Government on the many technical problems concerned with a development program and to assist in planning and carrying out specific projects. The Technical Cooperation budget has amounted to about \$2 million to \$2.5 million per year, and this is in addition to the economic assistance shown in Charts One and Two. The Technical Cooperation budget pays for the salaries, transportation, housing and other expenses of U.S. personnel, and has also been used to finance a number of special development projects such as the present economic survey by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. In addition, Technical Cooperation funds have financed a number of scholarships for Libyan students to study abroad.

At the same time, the United States Government has shipped wheat to Libya to provide food to specific areas which have suffered from drought conditions and poor harvests. Between 1954 and 1958 the U. S. sent 79,840 metric tons to Libya. The total value of the wheat (CIF Libya) was \$6,347,600 (£L.2,267,000).

# TOTAL U. S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO LIBYA

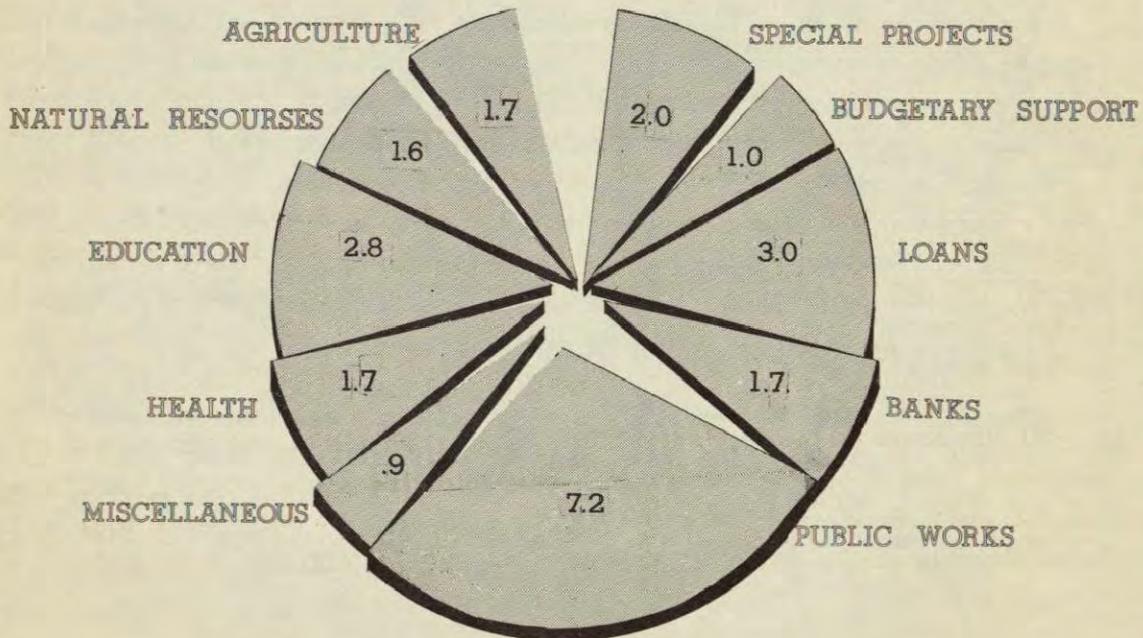
January 1954 - January 1959

Figures in millions of Libyan pounds

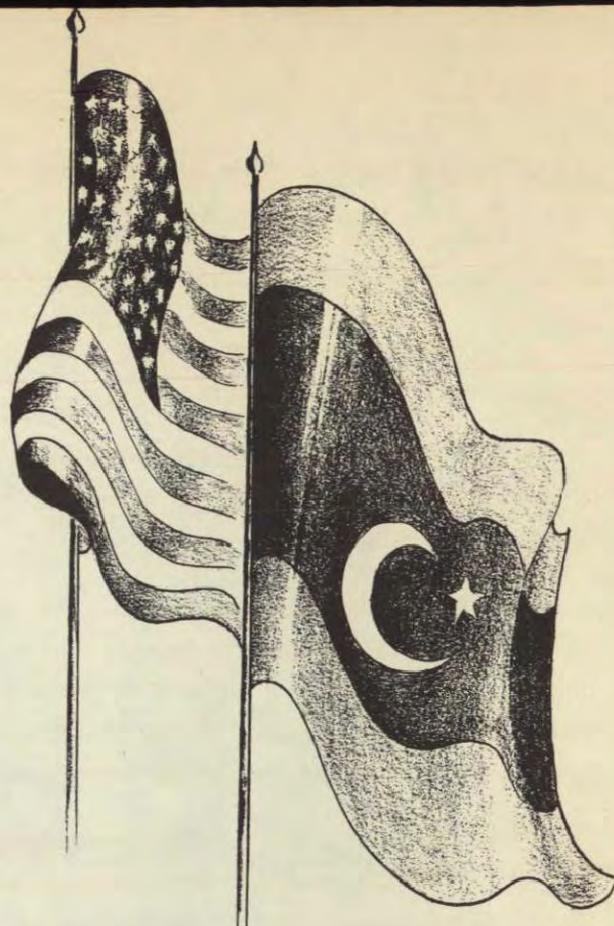


★ Negotiations for FY1959 aid not yet concluded

## U. S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE BY PROGRAMS



*America's  
Interest  
In  
Libya's  
Growth*



« Our age will be well remembered... because it is the first generation since the dawn of history in which mankind dared to believe it practical to make the benefits of civilization available to the whole human race.»

— Arnold Toynbee

America's interest in Libya's development is a part of her broader interest in assisting all developing nations of the free world which have asked for help. The pace of modern science and technology is making all nations, large and small, more and more interdependent. Throughout the less developed areas of the world there is a « revolution of rising expectations.» Peoples everywhere are insisting not only upon freedom and independence, but also upon better health, education, and economic status. The Government and people of the United States have determined that, both for humanitarian reasons and for reasons of long-term self-interest, they will assist and encourage the realization of these aspirations.

The United States is presently providing economic development assistance to fifty independent nations and to eight dependent territories. On March 16, 1959, Mr. Christian Herter, Acting U.S. Secretary of State, appeared before the United States Congress to justify funds for these programs. Mr. Herter summarized the objectives

of the United States foreign aid program in these words :

« First, we are trying to establish a stable political world order, a necessary prerequisite to which is a durable peace.

« Second, we are encouraging the economic growth of free nations, for both practical and humanitarian reasons.

« Our third objective, beyond the limits of national survival and progress, is to gain ever-widening acceptance of the idea of the freedom and dignity of the human individual.»

The resources made available by the U.S. Congress for foreign aid each year must be spread among many nations and hundreds of millions of people, all of whom have great needs. Libya's share of these funds has been substantial in the past two years, and, hopefully, the United States Government will be able to continue to contribute generously to help meet Libya's economic development needs.

Thus far, the U.S.-financed development program in Libya has grown chiefly out of the immediate needs of the country as they have been seen by responsible Libyan Government officials and individual specialists. Progress toward a coherent national development plan has been slow. Nevertheless, much important basic work has been done, and real progress has been and is being made.

In recent months the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (the IBRD or World Bank) has had a survey team in Libya to study the country's resources and development potential. This survey team, on the basis of its Libyan study and its vast experience in other countries, will set forth useful guidelines for the future. With the benefit of the survey team recommendations, the Government of Libya, fully utilizing both its internal and external resources, will have an opportunity to effectively augment and modify the development activities which have been depicted through the preceding pages of this booklet.

Libya covers a vast land area, an area equal to about half the size of Europe. Although much of this land is unproductive, Libya's population is small. Her natural resources, in relation to population, are more favorable than those of many other countries. There is much to recover, but it is clear that Libya can achieve a higher standard of living for her people than they now have. The external resources now available to Libya present an unusual opportunity for economic growth in the years immediately ahead.

If Libya will fully develop and fully employ her human resources—if she will bend every effort to conserve her soil and her surface water—if she will continue to offer inducements to private investors—and if she will effectively utilize the help being extended by her many friends—then there is without doubt great opportunity and promise for a better future.



For additional copies of this booklet, write

**Director, USOM**  
**American Embassy**  
**Benghazi, Libya**

