

During the three summer months, the height of the tourist season, tours are arranged from Helsingfors to Lapland and the frozen Arctic, from the waterfalls of Imatra to the rivers in the northwest with their many rapids, from the inland lakes to the Koli Hills in the East. In the principal places touched, as in Sweden, university men or college students act as guides and interpreters.

In order to collect material in as great variety as possible to be used later in pamphlets or as posters, a competition was organised for the best photographs from all parts of Finland. It was split up into five sections, as follows: 1. Landscapes, 2. Buildings, 3. National types, 4. Interiors, 5. Scenes of daily life. All prize-winning pictures are published in the book "Suomi" (Finland), issued by Otava, Helsinki.

Taken as a whole, these illustrations give an excellent comprehensive impression of the country and the people. There is a happy avoidance of the banal, and that which is really characteristic has been chosen. The value of small, significant details in delineating the individual qualities of a people still closely allied to the soil, has been fully recognized.

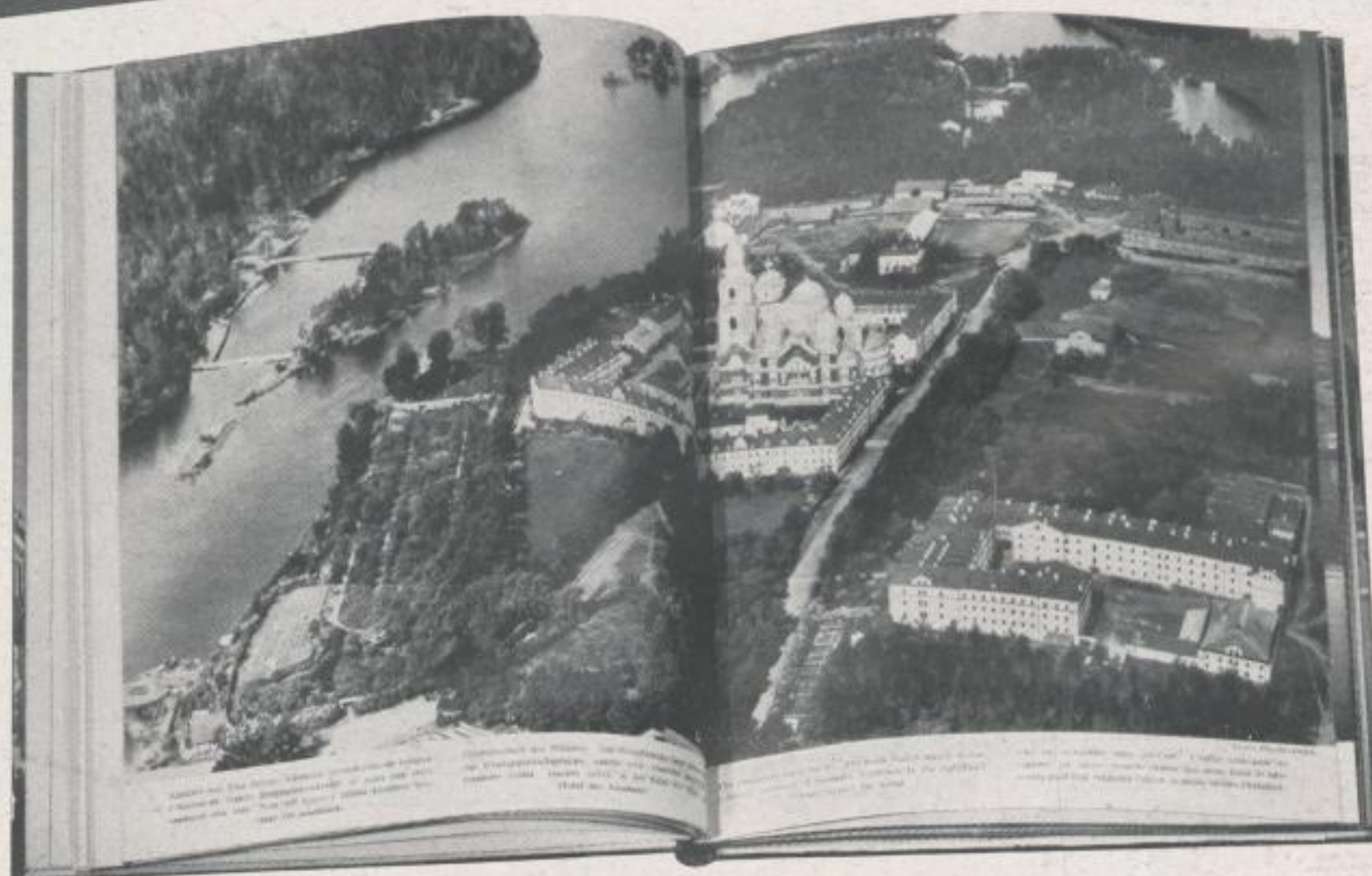
It thus comes about that we find ourselves fully inclined to endorse the poet's words: "The man of Finland is like the juniper tree". This bush, a characteristic feature of the Finnish landscape, makes few demands on life and is hardy, tough and enduring. The peculiar charm of this landscape never fails of its appeal to all who can still appreciate spaciousness and simplicity.

Trans. by E. T. Scheffauer.

Aus dem Buch
„Valamo“

From the book
"Valamo"

Otava-Verlag,
Helsingfors



Photos: H. Iffland

