

A. RUUSMAA

FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION OF THE OIL SHALE MUSEUM: AN EXOTIC GUEST

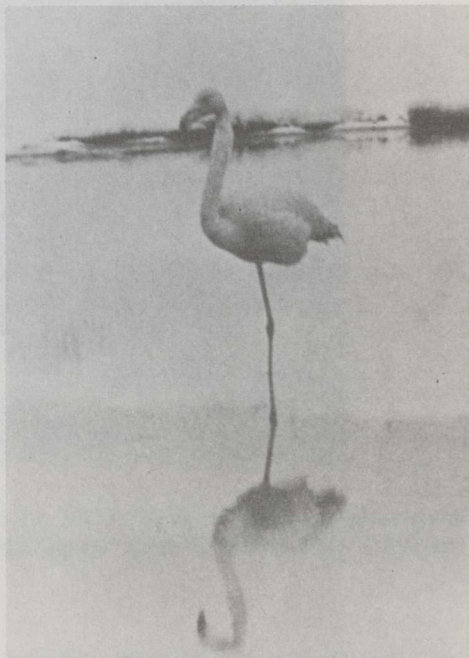
Neither influx of visitors from various countries nor overabundance of foreign goods cause much surprise in Estonia any more since both the phenomena have already unnoticeably merged in our everyday life. The situation was quite different only some decades ago.

However, the guest who visited us on the 4th of February, 1983, would surprise us even today. This guest was not recorded by frontier posts. It came to our quarters probably provoked by the interest in our ecological problems and to have a look at this cursed country.

This guest, a flamingo, was no runaway from any nearby Zoo but a real long-distance traveller. It enjoyed the warm water in the septic tank of Ahtme pit and spent a lot of time there exposing itself to wondering kids and admiring photographs, and even having a chat with a journalist who thereafter published the interview in the local newspaper.

P.S. This journalist was not me since at this time I was sweating at my graduation thesis at the Tartu University having no idea yet about Kohtla-Järve becoming my home town and place of work soon.

The photo is taken by Jüri Tasa (the former photographer of the newspaper "Leninlik Lipp" "Leninist Flag").



*Oil Shale Museum
Järveküla tee, 13, Box 19
Kohtla-Järve*