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JANUARY
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Make 1952 the Year of Peace

by JESSICA SMITH

THE TIDE is turning for peace. This is the great news that rings out for mankind as we enter on the New Year.

The signs of its turning are to be found first of all in the great and growing strength of the world peace movement, reaching into and uniting on the most basic issues the widest circles of every country in the world, and finding its most powerful expression in the demand for a Five-Power Pact of Peace voiced by hundreds of millions of people. And while the peace camp grows ever stronger, the war camp is rent by increasing disunity, dissensions, and failures.

Yet it must be emphasized again and again that this can be no cause for complacency. The dissensions and failures serve to make more desperate the groups who drive for war, make more likely some terrible act of madness which can plunge the world into measureless disaster. But at the same time, they create the opportunity for the peace forces to organize and act with such determination that the disaster can be prevented.

Defeat for the warmakers, victory for the peacemakers, that is the supreme task for 1952.

UN Disarmament Discussions

It was unquestionably the mounting worldwide pressure for peace that compelled the United States to try to "seize the initiative" in proposing an arms reduction plan at the current General Assembly session at Paris, and even to go through cer-

tain motions in the direction of modifying the plan in order to give it some semblance of realism, when the formal western resolution was presented.

The U.S.-British-French plan proposed the setting up under the Security Council of a new Commission merging the functions of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Commission on Conventional armaments, (such a merger had been long ago proposed by the Soviet Union). This Commission to be charged with the drawing up of treaties for the "balanced reduction" of all armed forces and armaments "to levels adequate for defense."

The Western plan, as Mr. Acheson had made clear, was to begin with a complex and lengthy procedure for a census of all arms and armed forces, each category to be completed and approved before the next was started, atomic weapons coming last. It included arrangements for disclosure and verification on a continuing basis by international inspection of all armed forces and armaments, including atomic. It proposed that the United Nations (Baruch) plan should continue to serve as the basis for the control of atomic energy. The plan provides no timetable for the completion of this work.

Embodied in the resolution was the idea of an international disarmament conference to consider the draft treaty which had been put forward by the Soviet Union, but no date was set for such a conference.

When the Western plan was put first on the agenda of the Assembly, and the Soviet plan given only fourth place, Mr. Andrei Vyshinsky, Soviet Foreign Minister, proposed a series of amendments embodying the main Soviet proposals.

Mr. Vyshinsky agreed to the idea of a merged commission. The main Soviet proposals (reported more fully in the last issue) are immediate agreement on unconditional prohibition of atomic weapons and instructions for the new commission to draft and submit to the Security Council not later than February 2 a draft convention to insure compliance with this decision, the halting of production of atomic weapons and the utilization of already existing stocks for civilian purposes only, and the establishment of strict international control and inspection. The USSR also proposed the straight one-third reduction of arms and armed forces by the Big Five Powers, including People's China, within one year following adoption of the decree. Mr. Vyshinsky proposed that not later than a month after the adoption of the preceding decisions all countries should present complete data on their arms and armed forces, and that an international control organ be set up under the Security Council for checking and inspection of such data. He proposed that the Disarmament Conference be held in June, 1952.

While the United States accepted the Arab-Asian proposal for secret discussions among the Big Four to see whether areas of agreement could be widened, it was on condition that a time limit of ten days be set. Mr. Vyshinsky, on the contrary, indicated that he would be prepared to negotiate for a much longer period. Mr. Jessup, U.S. delegate, announced at the outset that the parley be limited

to procedural questions only. On that basis, it is clear that not very much could be accomplished. Yet the fact that even limited areas of agreement were found marks some progress.

The full text of the report is not yet available, but according to newspaper reports, agreement was reached on setting up a new Commission under the Security Council to be called "The Atomic Energy and Conventional Armaments Commission," representing the eleven Security Council members plus Canada, to formulate disarmament proposals on all types of armaments and armed forces to be embodied in a draft treaty or treaties for submission to the nations of the world. There was agreement on the necessity for establishing means for disclosure, verification, inspection and safeguards in disarmament plans.

A main point of disagreement was on the question of the necessity of immediate steps for the prohibition of atomic warfare. The Soviet Union takes the position that there can be simultaneous conventions on prohibition of atomic weapons and methods of control, but that agreement on prohibition should not wait until the entire machinery is set up. Mr. Vyshinsky declared that a solemn declaration against the use of atomic weapons would have "great moral and political significance."

There was disagreement on methods of inspection. Mr. Vyshinsky made absolutely clear that the USSR, now as before, accepts the idea of disclosure, inspection and control for both conventional and atomic weapons and armed forces. The main difference is that the USSR proposes periodic inspection, with inspection at any time violations are suspected, while the United States continues to insist on continuous inspection. (To

Andrei Vyshinsky, Soviet Foreign Minister, meets the press during the UN disarmament conference of the Big Four.

—Unations



raise the question as to whether the United States would indeed be prepared to have a permanent inspection group including Soviet citizens visiting this country's atomic plants to indicate the spuriousness of the U.S. proposals.)

There was disagreement on the Baruch plan as the basis of atomic control. While the United States now says it is willing to consider other plans, it has so far rejected all Soviet proposals, and continues to insist on the Baruch plan, which in effect would mean U.S. control over all world atomic resources, and a yielding up of national sovereignty that no country in the world would seriously consider.

Newspaper reports have indicated growing sympathy among UN members for the direct Soviet approach on prohibition of atomic weapons and arms reduction, as against the vague Western plans which seem mainly designed to postpone action.

It is becoming increasingly difficult for the United States to hold its mechanical majority in line in the United Nations. This is a direct result of the growing struggle for peace in every Western country which is making it more and more difficult for their governments to meet the demands of the United States. The peoples are rejecting the idea that the Soviet Union is their enemy, and that there is any threat

of aggression from that source. This is reflected too in the failure of the United States to push through its plans for a Western European army.

The Rome Meeting

When the Council of Deputies of the twelve NATO powers met in Rome at the end of November, they heard an analysis by the chiefs of staff based on military intelligence reports on the comparative armed strength of the Western Allies and the Soviet Union. Benjamin Welles, in a dispatch from Rome to the *New York Times* of Nov. 24, wrote:

A significant feature of the report is said to be that there is no indication that the overall strength of the Soviet-controlled armed forces is growing. . . . It has remained roughly constant since the end of World War II although the quality of equipment is said to be constantly improving and the quality of training of the Soviet-controlled troops—ground, air and naval—is also improving. Nor is there at the moment any serious indication that the Soviet Union is preparing for hostilities—at least in the European sectors of the world.

It is no wonder that the Rome meeting was a fiasco, and that the whole plan for arming Europe and building a European army with Nazi divisions at its core is falling apart. Instead of building situations of strength, American policies have in

fact created situations of weakness throughout Western Europe. None of the Western European countries can meet the armament targets set by the United States. Great Britain and France are already on the verge of financial collapse and cannot take on the additional burdens imposed. Britain has flatly refused to participate in the European army, the French fear it will be dominated by the Germans, and the smaller countries are equally suspicious. The Schuman plan too is meeting great resistance.

U.S. Peace Movement Shows Its Strength

The victory in the case of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois and his co-workers in the Peace Information Center, has given a new impetus to all workers for peace throughout this country. The government's effort to brand work for peace as subversive, to prove that in their support of moves to outlaw atomic warfare these four people were "foreign agents," failed utterly for lack of evidence. The defendants made clear that work for peace is work for the highest interests of our country, work of the highest patriotism. A major factor in the judge's decision to dismiss the case was undoubtedly the world-wide indignation aroused by the harassment of this great American scholar and patriot, and the mass expression of protest across the country.

The new militant peace spirit spurred by this victory has immediately been felt in the work of the American Peace Crusade, which has launched a nation-wide movement for signatures to an appeal for a meeting of the five great powers—the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France and People's China, to negotiate a pact of peace,

open to all nations. In New York the new spirit was manifested in a great outpouring into Union Square on the cold night of December 11, when 16,000 people voiced the demand for peace in Korea and a Five-Power Pact of Peace.

The new spirit was manifested in the response to the events organized by the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship during the month of November marking the anniversaries of the establishment of the Soviet Union on November 7, and the establishment of American-Soviet diplomatic relations on November 16. Many hundreds of people were turned away from the New York meeting at Riverside Plaza on November 15, greeted by Alexander A. Panyushkin, Ambassador of the Soviet Union. The Council also held an important educational conference examining the causes of world tensions and ways of removing them, and a weekend of exhibits, entertainment and lectures on Soviet cultural achievements. On the West Coast, the American-Russian Institute of San Francisco made a notable contribution to better understanding between the two countries in its week of American-Soviet Friendship.

Of inestimable importance in the struggle against the domestic manifestations of the cold war as embodied in the Smith Act prosecutions, was the throwing out by Judge Mathes in Los Angeles of the indictments of the twelve California Communists, on the ground that they failed to show any intent to commit the offense of conspiring to advocate the overthrow of the government of which they are accused. In fact, the victims of the Smith Act were never accused of anything more than intent, since no overt act was charged against them. The fact that the in-

dictments, all of which are similar, fail to show even intent, is a clear indication of the utterly spurious nature of the whole proceedings whose sole aim is to suppress advocacy or teaching of ideas the government doesn't like. Now the way is open for a great national movement for the restoration of the Bill of Rights, to prevent re-indictment of the California twelve, to dismiss the indictment against the seventeen New York Communists, and to free the leaders of the Communist Party already serving jail sentences under similar faulty indictments.

On December 13, the Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) announced the launching of a campaign, together with the American Civil Liberties Union, the CIO and other non-Communist organizations for the repeal of the Smith Act and "for the reaffirmation by Congress of our basic freedoms."

The revelations of corruption in the Department of Justice, which came to a head with the resignation of Assistant Attorney General Caudle because of his role in the tax-dodgers scandal, gives impetus to this campaign. It was this same Department of Justice that initiated and carried through the prosecutions under the Smith Act. President Truman's attempted defense of Attorney General McGrath for not ferreting out graft and corruption on the grounds that he spent his time hunting down Communists will not go down with the American people.

Not only is the labor movement becoming increasingly aware that it is the war program which is their main enemy and the cause of rising living costs and lowered living standards, and that the whole threat of "Russian aggression" is a chimera, but even conservative business

circles are beginning to see cause for alarm in America's war program.

At a meeting in early December of the National Association of Manufacturers attended by 60 American and 300 West European businessmen, Philip D. Reed, chairman of the board of the General Electric Co., former President of the International Chamber of Commerce, called for a cutback in the rearmament program. He told the gathering:

I believe . . . Russia will not deliberately precipitate another war within the foreseeable future, and I am convinced that if the North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries undertake to meet the defense production schedule as recently formulated and scheduled, serious economic and political disturbances will result . . . the dangers associated with another wave of inflation may be as great or greater than the dangers of further warlike moves on the part of Russia.

Yes, the warmakers are in deep trouble, both at home and abroad. Their allies are resentful and restive, the American people are awakening. There is growing dismay at the long haggling over cease-fire terms in Korea, growing conviction that the American negotiators are trying to prevent a cease-fire agreement rather than reach one.

Now is the time to speak out with greater vigor than ever to demand an end of the killing in Korea, an end to all preparations for more killing, an end to atom bombs.

Now is the time for the American people to show their solidarity with the millions throughout the world who long for peace and join their voices to the demand for a Five-Power Pact of Peace.

Let 1952 be a great turning point in history — let it be the year the people decide there shall be no more war—and win the victory for peace,

Making Rivers Flow Backward

by

MITROFAN DAVYDOV

In five or six years five giant hydroelectric stations with an aggregate annual capacity of some 23 billion kilowatt hours will have risen on the Volga, the Dnieper, the Don and the Amu Darya. From these rivers canals will form an extensive irrigation system that will convert 69,800,000 acres of sun-scorched and arid land in the south-eastern Soviet Union into fertile lands. The area watered and irrigated will equal the area of Britain, Switzerland, Belgium and Portugal combined.

While this work is under way, Soviet scientists and engineers are considering even greater projects for the refashioning of nature. One concerns the diversion of the waters of the great Siberian rivers, the Ob and Yenissei, to the arid desert regions of Kazakhstan and Soviet Central Asia. This will literally involve reversing the course of these rivers.

Mitrofan Davydov, who gives below a brief account of this project, is the initiator of the proposal. He is fifty-five, an engineer and eminent specialist on irrigation and author of a number of works on the subject. He is the son of a smith, was brought up in the town of Kazalinsk, in the Kazakh Republic, and was graduated from a university in Central Asia. He has worked for many years in Uzbekistan, Tadzhikistan and Kazakhstan. He saw service in both the first and second World Wars.

I WAS born and brought up in Kazakhstan, a land of dry steppe and semi-desert, where rivers, lakes and ponds are few and far between, and where water is worth its weight in gold.

I have had many an occasion to explore the Kyzyl Kum desert, and have seen the ruins of ancient cities and the relics of irrigation works and canals dating back to times of old. In my wanderings I often came across shallow valleys, which, as all

the signs showed, in past days used to be dammed up and flooded for the growing of rice. Quite obviously, this desert was once a land of cultivated fields, orchards and gardens. Hence there was water. But the water disappeared, and with it life, too, departed.

The sun shone as generously as ever; the rolling sand dunes were composed of alluvial soil which had been brought down by the Amu Darya and still retained its poten-



"The more I studied the more I became convinced that the Siberian rivers could be turned southward"

tial fertility. Only water was lacking to restore life to these vast expanses of barren waste. But where was the water to come from?

In Siberia there is water aplenty. A glance at the map is sufficient to show that the main water resources of the Soviet Union are located in its northern parts. The Ob, the Yenissei and the Lena are all mighty waterways. The Ob and the Yenissei alone carry 942 cubic kilometers of water annually. (One cubic kilometer equals 220,000 million gallons.) If this were poured into tank cars, it would make a train stretching five times the distance from the Earth to the Moon.

But, unfortunately, the great Siberian rivers flow northward, through virgin forest and uninhabited tundra, and often through tracts of permafrost. Every year some 2,392 cubic kilometers of water—60 per cent of the annual flow of all the rivers of the Soviet Union—empty uselessly into the Arctic.

What if the frigid waters of the Siberian rivers were diverted from their course and directed into the sultry deserts of Central Asia? This difficult but fascinating problem has

absorbed my attention for over twenty years.

As a hydrological engineer working in Central Asia, I knew how precious every drop of moisture was in these parts. But it was also clear to me that even if the water resources of the Syr Darya and Amu Darya were utilized to the full, they would still be insufficient to irrigate the Central Asian expanses. Siberia was the only key to the problem. Its rivers could supply the water for the millions upon millions of acres of the Kara Kum and Kyzyl deserts and the Kazalinsk and Aral steppelands, all the way to the Emba and the Ural rivers.

For several years I made a close study of the literature bearing upon the problem. I conned thousands of pages of surveys of the water resources of the Soviet Union and other countries. I gathered all the material concerning the Siberian rivers, and delved into historical records, geographical handbooks, and works on irrigation, climatology, soil science and biology. And the more I studied these materials, the more practical the problem seemed, and the more I became convinced that the Siberian rivers could be turned southward. All my thoughts and energies were now devoted to what has since come to be known as the Ob-Yenissei Project.

Nazi Germany's attack on the Soviet Union interrupted my work. I joined the army as an officer of engineers. But as soon as the war ended I returned with renewed enthusiasm to my charts and diagrams. In February, 1948, the general outline of the project was complete, and I made my first public communication on the subject in a paper I read before the USSR Society of Engineers and Technologists. To some my ideas

at first seemed fantastic and impracticable, but they won the support of many eminent specialists.

The essential features of the project are as follows:

It is proposed to build a dam 78 meters high (approximately 256 feet) on the River Ob below the point where the River Irtysh falls into it. This will raise the level of the river and flood an enormous area in the higher reaches of the Ob, Irtysh and Tobol, forming a gigantic reservoir, the biggest in the world, with a surface area of 250,000 square kilometers (nearly 100,000 square miles), or seven times as large as that of the Sea of Azov. The Lower Ob Sea, thus artificially created, will reach to the Turgai plateau—a locked and barred “gate” that prevents the waters of the Ob from flowing southward. The idea is to force open the Turgai gate by cutting a canal, 900 kilometers long (about 560 miles), through the plateau.

This canal will enable the waters of the Lower Ob Sea to speed southward. Having negotiated the Turgai uplands, their further course will lie through low flat country, where practically no artificial works will be re-

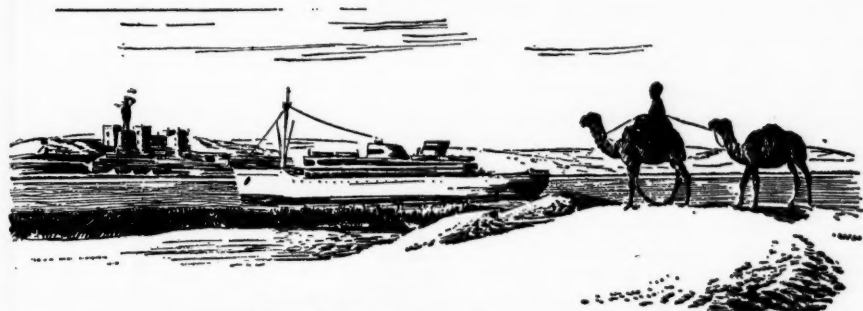
“The desert soil, once saturated, will grow cotton, sugar beet, cereal, rice, grapes and citrus plants”



quired. They will pass through the Aral Sea, eventually turning its water from salt into fresh, and will then proceed by the dried up channels of ancient rivers to Kazakhstan and Central Asia. I have already plotted the approximate course the Siberian waters will have to travel on their long journey to the southern deserts—a total distance of 4,000 kilometers (2,500 miles), 1,800 kilometers of which will lie through lakes, reservoirs and inland seas, 950 kilometers (about 590 miles), through the channels of ancient rivers, and 1,250 kilometers (about 780 miles) through artificial junction canals.

In order to increase the body of water diverted from north to south, it is planned later on to include the River Yenissei in the system by cutting a canal, 90 kilometers long (56 miles), connecting it with the Lower Ob Sea. The Ob and Yenissei will provide the water needed to revive the deserts of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, and also to drive the numerous hydropower plants that will be built on these rivers and along the whole course of the new waterway and its ramifications.

It is estimated that the 300 cubic kilometers and more of water that will thus be diverted annually to the arid regions will make it possible to irrigate some twenty-five million hectares (61,700,000 acres) of land, and, in addition, to water some thirty or thirty-five million hectares (74,000,000 to 86,000,000 acres) of meadow and pasture. This gigantic area will be larger than the total irrigated lands of the United States, Japan, Egypt, Italy, Canada and Australia taken together. It is estimated that the agricultural produce of Central Asia and Kazakhstan will be increased five- or seven-fold. The soil of



"Steamers will sail through what are now the deserts of the Kyzyl Kum and Kara Kum. The Caspian will be linked with the Kara Sea and Lake Baikal"

the deserts, once saturated with moisture, will grow cotton, sugar beet, cereals, rice, grape, rubber-bearing and citrus plants, and what are now lifeless deserts will become a region of fertility and abundance.

The project would provide the Soviet Union with a new deep and navigable waterway, connecting the Kara Sea with the Caspian and, via the Lower Ob Sea, the Yenissei and the Angara stairway, with Lake Baikal. Its total length will be 8,000 kilometers (5,000 miles). Arterial waterways will connect the Urals with the Kuznetsk Basin, Central Asia and Kazakhstan, and Siberia with the European part of the Soviet Union. It will be possible to travel by steamer from Igarka in the Far North to Moscow. Steamers will sail through what are now the deserts of Kyzyl Kum and Kara Kum.

The artificially created Lower Ob Sea and the appearance of billions of cubic meters of water in what have from time immemorial been arid and desert regions will have a beneficent influence on the climate of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, as well as of Western Siberia. The climate of Central Asia will be of a less pronounced continental character, and the sharp annual and diurnal

extremes of temperature characteristic of this region will become a thing of the past. Over a large part of Siberia the atmosphere will become more humid, and the winters milder. It will be possible to carry agriculture into latitudes where it is now precluded owing to the severe climate.

Such are the general outlines of my project. I have worked on it always with a view to the further improvement of the welfare of our people and to increasing their mastery over nature. Like the great hydro-construction works already in progress in the Soviet Union, this project derives its inspiration from the peaceful policy of my country and its government.

The project aroused keen discussion and no less interest. As a result, I now have the cooperation of a number of engineers and scientists of various specialties in elaborating its details. It has been examined by the Moscow Institute of Electrical Engineering and by the Scientific Council of the USSR Academy of Sciences' Institute for the Study of Productive Forces. It was the subject of detailed debate at a conference arranged in Moscow by the Power Research Institute of the Academy

of Sciences, where scientists and engineers from the capital and from Central Asia, Transcaucasia, the Ukrainian, Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Republics and from other parts of the country gave their opinions and critical comments.

Since my project would affect many different branches of the national economy, it has interested research institutes of diverse specialties. The All-Union Forestry Society analyzed its potentialities with respect to the floating of timber to Central Asia and the southeastern parts of the country. The Water Conservation Board of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture was interested in how far it would help to promote irrigation and agriculture in the areas to which the Siberian waters were to be directed, while the Scientific Council of the Ministry of Fisheries discussed how it would influence the country's fish resources.

The idea of diverting the rivers of Siberia to water the arid regions of Soviet Central Asia was also discussed at a conference of more than 1,000 scientists, engineers, water-power specialists, hydrologists, biochemists, soil experts, geologists, climatologists and geographers sponsored by the Moscow branch of the Geographical Society of the USSR. Two different projects were examined—my own and that of A. Shulga, the economist. His project likewise envisages the creation of a new waterway, to be known as the South Siberian River, but differs from mine in that it proposes to take the water from the upper instead of the lower reaches of the Yenissei, Ob and their tributaries. The discussion lasted three days. It aroused immense interest in the Soviet scientific world and was of great benefit to us who



"The Ob and Yenissei will provide the water needed to revive the deserts of Central Asia and Kazakhstan"

are working on this complex problem.

I have delivered a number of public lectures on the subject and am constantly receiving letters from people of all walks of life expressing their opinion of the project. Academician Vladimir Obruchev, the eminent geologist, writes, for instance:

"Yours is truly a majestic project, envisaging as it does the diversion of practically the whole of the River Ob and part of the River Yenissei from the Arctic Ocean, swinging them 180 degrees from north to south and directing them by way of the West Siberian lowland and the steppelands of Kazakhstan and Central Asia, through the Aral Sea and then along the Uzboi into the Caspian Sea. And yet it is quite a feasible project, one that can be accomplished

without excessive difficulty or prohibitive outlay. And it promises to have such a beneficent influence on a vast stretch of territory in the eastern and southern part of the Soviet Union, and is pregnant with such vast potentialities for the promotion of the productive forces and the prosperity of the population of that considerable part of our country which it will in one way or another affect, that one can only wish that it may be worked out in all its details with the utmost speed and that its full accomplishment may be a matter of the earliest future."

After having been discussed and debated by numerous research institutes and technical societies, my proposal was examined and approved by the Science and Technology Council of the USSR Ministry of Power Stations. Funds have been allocated

for the preparatory and research work needed for the elaboration of the final project. Several scores of engineers are now assisting me in selecting from the various schemes proposed for the diversion of water from Siberia to Central Asia and Kazakhstan, the one that promises to be most advantageous to the national economy.

As this work proceeds, I become more and more convinced that the appearance of Siberian water in these arid wastes is a matter of the not distant future. I am no longer young, but I am persuaded that I shall live to see this great triumph of man over nature—the conversion of the Central Asian deserts into a land of plenty.

Republished from the English-language fortnightly, News, issued in Moscow.

CULTURAL INTERCHANGE IN THE USSR

FOR TEN DAYS in November, Moscow devoted its attention to the arts and literature of Uzbekistan, one of the republics of Soviet Central Asia. Theaters and halls were crowded, the audience enthralled by dancers from Bokhara and Samarkand, concerts by full orchestras as well as by instrumentalists and singers, and tales by story-tellers from Tashkent.

And the Uzbek people brought their literature, too. For the occasion the Uzbek Republic published 120 new books with a total printing of nearly one and a half million copies. They included 37 works translated into Russian, 20 editions of Uzbek classics, and 30 of Russian and other Soviet works translated into the Uzbek.

But the Uzbeks came to Moscow not only to entertain the public but to lay their creative problems before the critics and seek advice on the many questions that arise in the building of a new cultural life, national in form, socialist in content. For this purpose discussions were held with the leading Soviet writers and critics, as well as with students of Moscow's universities and colleges.

HUNGARY BEGINS NATION-WIDE CANCER FIGHT

ALL HUNGARIAN women between 35 and 50 will be given cancer check-ups—20 per cent of this age group have already been screened last year. Regular X-ray screening of men over 50 begins this year.

An English School Teacher Looks at Bulgaria

by GLADYS DRIVER

I HAVE WORKED for one and a half years in Bulgaria and during that time I have seen great changes both in the countryside and in Sofia and in the little provincial town of Lovech, where I taught English in the School for Foreign Languages. Shops now look gay and are full of goods which attract shoppers. Old houses have been painted and new ones erected, new roads made and old roads paved, gardens and parks made on waste sites—and new construction everywhere.

These changes are indicative of the great progress that has been made in the past year, and this pro-

gress will continue at a greater rate, for this year's harvest promises to be the first bumper harvest for many years and thus food supplies, cotton, linen and fodder for the animals producing wool and leather, will mean a greater rise in the standard of living.

In my travels both by train and airplane I have been able to see that the number of cooperative farms has increased. Over large stretches of the country, especially north of the Balkan Mountains, the old, patchwork countryside has disappeared. The little strips of land with their uneconomic production, resulting in grinding toil and low standard of living for the owners, have now united into cooperative farms, and the wide fields of wheat, barley and oats now being harvested by combines or by reapers drawn by tractors show the advance that has been made, an advance absolutely impossible under the old system.

The deeper ploughing, the better seed and fertilizers are bringing wealth to the farmers, wealth undreamed of by the poor peasants of years ago when rich farmers exploited them. More than 400,000 peasants now are members of cooperative farms and the results of

Pupils in the Ustove village school
In six years Bulgaria has built 880
new schools, 140 of them last year



NEW WORLD REVIEW

New apartment house for workers in Sofia. Over 4,600 buildings have been built or restored in the past five years



their work will prove to individual peasants that cooperation pays.

In farms I have visited there is great enthusiasm for the new life. In Slatina, a little village north of the Balkan Mountains, where the whole village is now a stock-raising cooperative farm, the prosperity is obvious. Their fine droves of horses, the sleek cows with their good milk record—the champion milker has reached nine and one-half gallons a day—the great sows with their numerous litters and the excellent houses for these animals are great wealth shared by all. The new silo, the veterinary hospital, the machine sheds, the wood and metal repair shops, all point to a well organized establishment. This modern farm is the result of the pioneer work of two brothers who, eleven years ago, started a cooperative on land of fascists and wealthy exploiting farmers. Today they and their fellow co-operators look with joy on the results of their struggle and see the fruits of their labors in new houses with electricity, loudspeakers, modern furniture and a standard of living and diet undreamed of years ago.

In Peturch, a smaller farm only

GLADYS DRIVER, who taught English in Lovech, had an opportunity to travel and make a first-hand study of Bulgaria.

five years old, where mixed farming is carried on, there is the same enthusiasm and joy in their achievements. The canal which irrigates their fields of maize, tomatoes, beets, etc., the fine kitchen which sends hot meals in containers to the workers out in the fields, the creche for the children of the women workers in the cooperative with the delightfully patterned overalls worn by the children, the new well and electricity and the new houses, and in particular the house given and furnished by the cooperators to their best worker, a poor peasant who previously lived in a semi-underground mud hut with his family, all these are achievements of a simple peasant community who now plan their own lives. As a result of this their lives are becoming richer and from their farm into the shops of the towns go those products which are eagerly bought by the town dwellers.

In Sofia new constructions grow at a rapid rate. Where, a year ago, I saw waste plots of ground on the outskirts of the city I now see new settlements—blocks of apartment houses with wide spaces between, flower gardens and playgrounds for the children. In these new settlements are lovely creches, built to a model plan. When I first came to Sofia in January, 1950, I visited creches in large houses adapted for use as nurseries, and these were

quite good establishments. But the new nurseries are little palaces—light, airy, well-planned and artistically decorated with nature pictures.

The children of the workers in Sofia are now getting excellent housing conditions and good nursery life. But as well as houses other buildings rise up, offices for government administration, schools of different kinds and still more little playgrounds appear for the children and little gardens and grass lawns on the old bombed sites. In the past six years the country has built 740 school buildings and I read in *The Workers' Cause* this week an article on education in which responsible people in the different regions are urged to expedite the work on 140 schools so that they are finished by the beginning of the new school term.

The shops in Sofia and other towns reflect the great advance in production. The people in the street with their varied patterned summer frocks, their new summer shoes, the children with their toys and the mothers with new perambulators show that the goods in the shops are getting to the people. A year and a half ago there was a great shortage of all household utensils. Saucepans, pails, crockery, etc. were almost unobtainable, but now there is a good supply. Shops have piles of plates and other necessary things and people are replenishing their diminished stocks.

Last year my friends admired my English materials and designs and felt the shortage here, for clothing was rationed and the price of goods on the free market very high, in addition to there being little variety. But that situation is past. All clothing and shoes are off ration, the price of the free goods is much re-



Bulgarian women don't hesitate to do what once was only a man's job. Here Tsvetanka Iotova learns to drive a tractor

duced and the textile industry is turning out lovely wares. There is enough to satisfy the most fastidious taste.

The workers in Bulgaria are already enjoying the fruits of their labors in this rising standard of living. What a contrast to the position of workers in my native Britain! Here in Bulgaria the expenditure of the country is going into projects which benefit the poorest as well as the richest. The great dams which will allow of the bringing of water into all homes will ease the labors of many a housewife. The new electric power stations will make work lighter also. The new roads and bridges which I see everywhere, taking the place of mud tracks and tumbledown bridges, will link town and country and remove the isolation of many a village. These constructions are progressing at a rapid rate. They are not mere plans on paper. The Good Life in Bulgaria advances rapidly.

Why the BOOM in Eastern Europe?

Eminent British observer explains the reasons for the sweeping economic, cultural and political progress there

by D. N. PRITT, K. C.

ON THE thirty-fourth anniversary of the new Soviet civilization, it is interesting to look at its much younger neighbors, the popular democracies.

They combine wide variations of development with fundamental resemblances arising from the application of Socialist principles to the problems of transition from capitalism. Each in her own way is facing and mastering difficulties, rejoicing in success, and building pretty rapidly her own new Socialist civilization.

One's first general sensation is the inspiring one of sweeping progress—illustrated, for example, by Hungary, where the first year of a carefully-calculated Five-Year Plan produced results that so greatly surpassed the estimates that all the important targets had to be revised upwards for the succeeding years. The calculators had failed by far to take into account the upsurge of released human energy.

What lies at the root of such progress? What enables the peoples to work and create so well?

To my mind, it is their realization that power has passed from the old ruling groups into the hands of the working class and the progressive sections of the peasants. One feels a sense not just of working class power,

but of physical, mental and spiritual liberation, a sense that the remarkable developments one sees in town and country alike are the creation of conscious workers. The feeling is almost as clear and intense in those countries where there is still a bourgeoisie, and still plenty of trade in private hands, as it is in those where there is really no bourgeoisie left.

The bourgeoisie can still constitute a nuisance. The remnant of reaction, on which our British press, so sensitive to "freedom," lavishes its affection, and this remnant's friends in American and other Embassies and

Mutual economic aid helps East Europe.
These Minsk workers assemble machinery
for shipment to the Hungarian Republic



JANUARY, 1952

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Legations, remain active in sabotage. But the sense of popular power remains intact.

"These elements," one citizen told me, "are to be watched, not feared. They can delay us, but they cannot gain ground. We have to be vigilant, but we can even afford to be lenient with them when we catch them."

Yes, the working masses are in power, and no bankers, industrialists or warmongers, home or foreign, will dislodge them.

One feels, naturally, that much of the success is due, in each country, to the united working class party which has led and is leading the mass in making each advance and meeting each difficulty; and one sees the vast benefits arising from the unity of Communists and Social Democrats (achieved in the teeth of agitated missions from the West). It is easy, with such workers and peasants, and with such parties in the leadership, to go forward in warm faith in the mass; to make mistakes; to meet unexpected difficulties, human or material; to criticize failures, remedy mistakes, and conquer difficulties; to increase production and invest in new industries, foregoing more rapid improvements in standards for the sake of ultimate progress; to introduce the invaluable stimuli of socialist competition, of workers' inventions and initiative, and all the other encouragements that increase wealth

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and enrich the human spirit wherever society truly owns its own industries.

All these countries have large peasant populations; and the variations between them are perhaps greater in agriculture than in industry; the systems of land tenure and of cultivation, the stages already reached in collectivization, the power and attitude of kulaks or other large peasants to the new developments, differ greatly.

But there are once again fundamental similarities. Everywhere enough has already been done, by land distribution and other developments, to make even individual peasants more prosperous than they were. Everywhere the drive for collectivization takes the form not of force but of persuasion, the most cogent persuasion being of course the prosperity of the collective farm, due in the main to the fuller use of machinery and the more efficient application of scientific methods that are possible with collective cultivation.

The next point of interest lies in the relations between the popular democracies and the Soviet Union.

Western imperialists are used to the exploitation of colonial and semi-colonial territories; they have always taken care to prevent such territories developing major industries of their own, to make them buy whatever one wants to get rid of rather than what they need, and to draw as much profit from them as possible for as long as possible.

These imperialists must be puzzled when they see how the USSR and its neighbors get on together. For in this new world of non-imperialism the big state gives the small ones the help they want, help which directly benefits the latter in the widest and fullest way.

A bad harvest in Rumania? Well,



Soviet agricultural machinery helps bring in the wheat harvest on the farms of Czechoslovakia. Besides machinery, the USSR invites East European farm experts to study the large Soviet collectives, and also sends Soviet specialists to those countries to help solve their farming problems

the Soviet Union had a bad one too, that year; but still it sent Rumania hundreds of thousands of tons of wheat, not maize. "Pay for it? No, just return the same amount of wheat when you have a good harvest."

A need to increase one's independence by building up heavy industries? "Yes," says the Soviet Union, "you ought to do that. We ourselves need all the plant we can make, to equip more and more heavy industries, but we must and will spare equipment for yours; give us goods in exchange."

Farming problems? "Good, send a few hundred of your farmers—individual farmers among them—to our country and they shall see everything we have done and are doing; and we will send you big delegations of our farm people to look at your land and your stock, and see what advice they can give."

Cotton for textile mills? "Don't pay out hard currency for cotton,"

says the USSR, "draw what you need from our fields in Central Asia, and pay us with some of the cloth you weave from it."

Rumania's *Scanteia* wants printing machinery? Here it is, fresh from the Soviet Union, better than any so far installed there, since it is newer; and with it goes a big repair shop, with spares, so that the Soviet suppliers won't even make any money out of spares and repairs.

Building a canal on the Danube? Well, the Soviet Union is doing far more excavation at the moment than all the capitalist world put together, and can use all its own machinery, but it lends its neighbors a number of its best excavators. "We'll get on without them somehow; we know this canal will enrich your country."

It is scarcely surprising that the democracies speak with warmth of the benefits they get from this friendly help, and that the age-long hostility to "Russia" in some of the

countries melts into ever-growing understanding and friendship as Soviet experience and material aid help the peoples to solve their problems in their own Socialist way.

The popular democracies' exchanges of visits—cultural, educational, technical and holiday—are not confined to the Soviet Union; they extend to all the neighbors. In each country you find visitors from the others — and from farther afield too.

I counted one day, in one hotel in Bucharest, delegations from eighteen different countries, including Britain and other distant civilizations. There are Chinese students at Rumanian universities, and Rumanians at Chinese. In Budapest I asked the Institute for Relations with Abroad if it felt a gap after the departure of the 80-strong Korean youth ensemble. It replied that there would not be a gap for long, as 280 Chinese were arriving the next day!

Cultural development is remarkable in all the countries. Liberation and literacy, as in the Soviet Republics, give a great impulse. English books, old and new, are translated and widely read. The workers on the Danube canal construction, mostly peasant youths and girls, have clubs, libraries, exhibitions, dances, concerts, theaters and cinemas — and sports grounds and swimming beaches, too.

Some of them said that they wanted to write something themselves about the epic of the new construction "because the professional writers don't quite catch the spirit of the men and women on the job"! They were put in touch with the professional writers, to discuss their problems and see whether some of them ought to be given scholarships to try their hand at writing.

And culture includes a wide knowledge of what happens in foreign

countries, and a curiosity leading to embarrassing questions for Western visitors.

Their newspapers report serious facts from home and abroad. They are rather sober in appearance, and as full of statistics as some of our weekly papers are of pornography; and they are as free of pornography as some of our papers are of facts.

Books and pamphlets are printed in huge editions, on paper which is freely available; they are sold cheap, at a profit! Writers make a living, and are as honored as skilled workers.

I have left the topic of peace until a late stage of this article, because all the other topics are linked with and dependent on it.

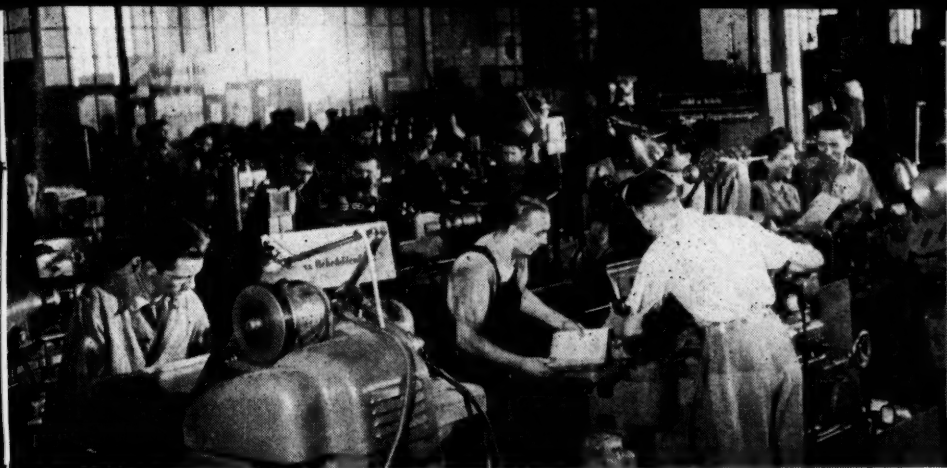
To all these democracies, whether or not they were materially shattered in the war like Poland and Hungary, the maintenance of peace is the condition of life. They understand war, and hate it.

The need of peace, to get on with their job, calls to you from every new street or factory or house, from every furrow or farm track and byre. The great peace campaigns are unremitting, thoughtful and enthusiastic. Collectors of signatures can be counted in the scores of thousands; "and we don't think it is enough just to get the signatures; we talk to the people to be sure they know why they are signing, and what it all really means."

If there ever were a "will to progress" it must be completely destroyed by now.

Thus do the popular democracies strike me in 1951, when they are about six years old.

But I would add a word about a neighbor of theirs, "Eastern Germany," that is, the German Democratic Republic and the Eastern sector of Berlin. Here, as one moves



Workers in the machine shop of the Matias Rakosi Plant in Budapest subscribing to the State loan. These loans are for development of the country's economy, which means a better, richer, more secure life for all. That's why the Hungarian people quickly oversubscribe to the loan.

about among the people, and watches in particular the youth—the youth of just that half-generation that we thought to be irrevocably Nazi-poisoned and lost to democracy—one gets much of the atmosphere of a people's democracy.

Decent, quiet, normal people, working hard to build a new country, competing to give their best production — building for example in four months a huge sport-palace for the Youth Festival which would ordinarily have taken eighteen months or two years.

Decent people, growing friendly to the Soviet Union in spite of years of concentrated poison-propaganda uninterrupted and vicious, from the Nazis, the Americans and the British. They have a long way to go, it may be; for they not only have a half-country to rebuild, but have to prepare for union with the West, a West now growing in resentment against America, against rearmament, and against the Nazi revival, and losing much of the carefully-fostered anti-Soviet feeling.

To make the longed-for union of all Germany possible, they must somehow contrive that the differences of economic structure between the two halves of Germany shall not be too great! And yet they must keep on the path to Socialism. The whole picture of Eastern Germany presents one more deeply-moving proof of the infinite resilience of mankind, the indestructibility of human decency; one rejoices once again to be alive.

One of the Ministers of the German Democratic Republic, an old Social-Democrat, said to me: "In 1945 I came back from a concentration camp to Berlin. I looked at the ruins and I thought: Well, I must join with the Communists in working and working until I drop, to make my country fit for the next generation to live in, and to make the next generation fit to live in it. I am sixty years old, and it is a very long task; I shall never see any results myself. But I must work for it just the same.

"And now, Mr. Pritt, it's only 1951, and I am seeing results, am I not?"

He is seeing them, and so can we!

Miracle in Albania

by

BEATRICE KING

A MIRACLE of transformation is taking place among the peasant women of Albania. Anyone discouraged at the unresponsiveness of women in the West to the opportunities they have, should look at Albania. Faith and confidence in humanity will be renewed by the inspiration provided by these changed women.

For centuries, denied human rights, illiterate, treated mostly as a beast of burden, the Albanian peasant woman suffered a triple yoke. She was exploited by the landowner—the bey and the aglia—by the priest and by her husband. Hers was the duty of obeisance to all above her, and everybody was above her. The veil was only one sign of her inferiority.

Today, six years after the people took power into their own hands, peasant women are writing to their

President. The wonder of this is manifold. First, the peasant woman can write! Then, she has no hesitation in writing to the foremost man in her country.

In only six years, fear of authority, fear of the man, have been shed. She writes to him as an equal and friend. And she is concerned with matters that were always beyond the peasant, the worker and, much more, beyond the woman.

Of course, not all the women have traveled so fast and so far. But there are enough to lead the more hesitant and the more timid, and they are strong enough to overcome all obstacles in the way of making their country a land fit for human beings. But let them speak for themselves.

In the village of Shkoza, in the Valona district, all the women wrote to Enver Hodja:

"The regime of the past, the enemy of the people, has been finally and permanently overthrown. With it have gone our suffering and our misery. . . . The agrarian reform has given land to fifty families previously enslaved by beys and aglias. Today they are rejoicing.

"In our village we have built homes for these families, a school for our children. Through the courses for literacy, twenty-five women among us, formerly illiterate, have learned to read and write. . . ."

The women in the village of Bodrialite, in upper Devolli in Argirocastro district, began like the other women, with a reminder of the misery and indignities they suffered in the past:

"Thanks to the agrarian reform we

BEATRICE KING, well-known British educator, has made a close study of women's affairs in Eastern Europe. This article first appeared in the "Central European Observer."

have taken the land into our hands and we are now working for ourselves.

"Forty-six peasants have received land. Specially selected were the young men who previously worked as laborers for a master. Such is, for example, Jorgo Zoto, who even received a house, and whose family is now very happy. Seven peasant families received agricultural loans. All the peasants have been supplied with new implements.

"The rest of us women gave voluntary labor to build a house for the family of the martyred Jani Papa and to rebuild the burnt-out house of the partisan Dhimitri Pando.

"We have decorated our school and we helped, with voluntary labor, in the building of a State nursery school. We worked to produce material required for rebuilding the fire-destroyed house. Wherever hands were needed we gave ours freely.

"All our children are at school, twenty-four of them at the seven-year school, and one with a scholarship is at the school in Argirocastro. Over thirty women have learned to read and write. Two of our women have been awarded the Order of Labor.

"... By law our People's Power forbids the betrothal, the selling and buying of our under-age girls. Through a variety of laws our Government has given us a vast number of rights which have opened the way for us for a good and joyful life. In our village we have farms whose members have been elected to the local People's Council and to the District Council of the Democratic Front.

"In the old days very few of us ever went to school. Today we see all our children at school. . . .

"We will stand guard over our victories as the most precious things in our



Today Albanian women meet in nationwide congresses. These are on their way to the 3rd Congress in Tirana

life. We will keep guard on our frontier, and we will work to strengthen the world peace movement. We make this pledge to Comrade Enver, to work with all our might on the farms, to get rid of our ignorance."

And to show that townswomen are not behind their village sisters, here is a letter from women in a block of flats in the town of Elbasan:

"It is six years since we women began to celebrate March 8, free and happy, enchanted with the new life in our Democratic Republic. . . .

"Never could we have imagined that living in one apartment house would be eighty women factory workers, twenty-five teachers and clerical workers, twenty scholarship students, and thirty women who have learned to read and write at the literacy courses. We never heard the whistle of a train. We never saw our children growing in happiness in the creches.

"We remember all these victories, won under our people's power. We promise you to defend these victories and to defend peace."

Is the USSR Aloof?

An authoritative answer to the question why the Soviets have refused to join certain of the UN Specialized Agencies

by N. YEVGENIEV

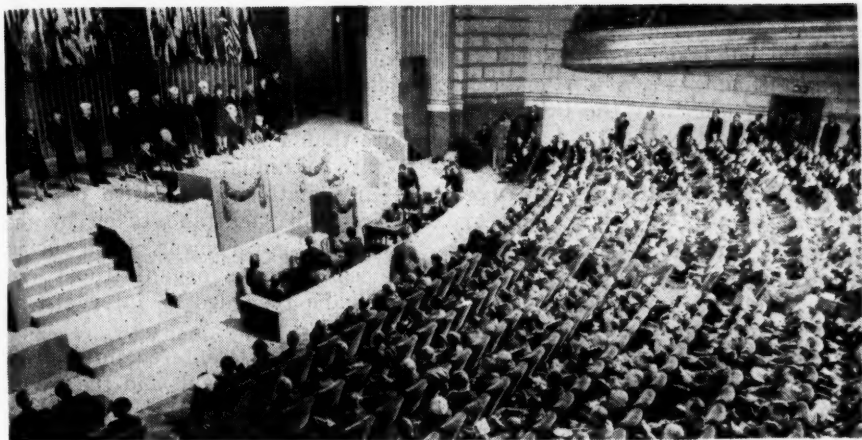
A number of NWR readers have asked why the Soviet Union is not a member of certain Specialized Agencies of the United Nations. We take this opportunity, therefore, of publishing this article by a Soviet authority on international law which appeared in the Soviet fortnightly *News*, in its November, 1951 issue, No. 10, in reply to similar questions received by that journal.

THE SOVIET UNION has always favored international cooperation, both in political relations between countries and in economic, social and cultural matters. In its earliest years the Soviet state associated itself with numerous international administrative agreements and unions; today it participates in about one hundred multilateral international agreements and organizations.

Of the eleven UN specialized agencies, i.e., international social or economic bodies which, in accordance with Article 57 of the Charter, have been brought into relationship with the United Nations Organization by special agreements and conduct their activities under the supervision of the Economic and Social Council, the Soviet Union belongs to three: the Universal Postal Union, the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization. It is not a member of the other

eight—the International Labor Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization, the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Refugee Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization. It has valid and weighty reasons for this.

The idea of establishing such specialized agencies within the United Nations framework was favorably received by the Soviet Union, particularly as their constitutions in most cases reflected the real needs of the present-day world and the principles of the UN Charter. Subsequent developments showed, however, that the activities of most of these organizations are not in keeping with their official purposes. They do not contribute to genuine inter-



—Wide World

First session of the San Francisco Conference, in 1945, which founded the United Nations. World security and mutual cooperation among sovereign nations was the aim. The UN was never intended for use by one nation to further its own interests

national cooperation and run counter to the aims and principles of the Charter and to the constitutions of these agencies themselves. The main reason is that these organizations are being used to further definite political interests. In practice many of them have become instruments of the "cold war" against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. This clearly makes Soviet membership in them difficult or altogether impossible.

Let us examine one by one the eight specialized agencies enumerated above.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Established in 1945, this organization was to uphold and propagate the ideas of peace, friendship and cultural cooperation among nations. It has failed to do so, however.

The UNESCO bodies confine themselves to passing abstract resolutions to the effect that this or that problem in education, science or culture

should be "noted," "studied," or "considered." Practical activities in this, the organization's direct field, are minimal.

As regards improving matters in public education and advancing and disseminating knowledge, UNESCO's contribution is naught. Yet there is still a crying need for this in a great many countries, where the working people and their children are denied opportunities for education and the benefits of culture.

On the other hand UNESCO engages with no little vigor in propaganda against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, though there is nothing in its constitution to warrant such activities and certainly they are not calculated to promote closer cultural relations among nations. Even many of its own members feel that it has taken the wrong turning. To quote a statement made by the *British News Chronicle* in August 1950:

"American insistence that UNESCO enter the cold war by spreading pro-Western, anti-Com-

munist propaganda is producing a crisis which may almost wreck the organization."

This explains why the USSR does not belong to UNESCO.

The International Refugee Organization (IRO) is a temporary body; its term of existence expires a few months from now, and it will then be due to terminate its activities. According to its constitution, approved by the UN General Assembly in December, 1946, its functions were to assist the repatriation of displaced persons and refugees. The IRO has failed to perform these functions. In fact, it has hindered the return of displaced persons, particularly Soviet citizens, to their native lands and has sent them to various other countries. IRO has actually become a purveyor of cheap labor power. It tries to turn displaced persons into chattels, into a rabble of men without a country, and to use them for purposes that are contrary to the principles outlined in its constitution. Moreover, the IRO camps in Italy, Greece and elsewhere were made havens of refuge for war criminals.

The International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development were established by decision of the International Monetary and Financial Conference held in Bretton Woods in July, 1944.

A country's status in the Fund and Bank, and the say it has in their affairs, is determined, as in private joint stock companies, by its share in their capital. This manner of distribution of votes insures a dominant position in these institutions to the United States, which commands over thirty-two per cent of the votes

in the Fund and over thirty-four per cent in the Bank. America has 18.5 times more votes in the Fund than, say, Czechoslovakia, and 111 times more than Panama. In the Bank the picture is similar. Thus the decision in any matter in practice depends entirely on the stand taken by the American government. That being the case, these organizations can hardly be regarded as international bodies.

In 1947, UNO entered into agreements with the Bank and the Fund, and these agreements were approved at the Second Session of the General Assembly. Under these agreements, which are contrary to the Charter, UNO is denied the opportunity to supervise Bank and Fund activities. It may not make recommendations to the Bank or the Fund on the loans and credits to be granted, nor may it send its representatives to the meetings of their governing bodies.

Officially, the purpose of the Fund is to grant credits to member states in order to help them eliminate disequilibrium in their balances of payments and stabilize currencies. Actually, the Fund engages in financial machinations and undermines the stability of its members' currencies. Its executive directors had a hand in the devaluation of 1949, which affected twenty-three countries, and also in a number of devaluations since. In the interests of U.S. financial circles, the Fund is trying to prevent certain countries from raising the price of gold and is working to have import restrictions removed, customs tariffs lowered and exchange control abolished. These proceedings have occasioned dissatisfaction in a number of countries, and particularly in British financial circles.

The official purpose of the Bank is

to give member countries financial assistance in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of their economies. The articles of agreement provide that in granting loans the Bank must be guided solely by economic considerations and must not interfere in the political affairs of member states. In practice just the reverse is the case. The Bank grants only such loans as have the approval of the U.S. State Department and practices discrimination against certain countries. In 1946, when still members of the Bank, Poland and Czechoslovakia applied for loans of 600 million and 350 million dollars respectively to repair the appalling ravages of the Nazi occupation. The Bank refused to grant these loans.

It will be well to stress that the above remarks on the activities of the Fund and the Bank are unbiased. The nature of these activities is plain to anyone who cares to see it. Commenting on the sixth annual meeting of the Bank and Fund Board of Governors, the American weekly, *New Republic*, wrote in September:

"The latest report of the International Monetary Fund, the agency which aroused so much enthusiasm when it was first conceived at Bretton Woods, shows just how futile a loftily conceived institution can become if it is not properly utilized. . . ."

All this explains why the Soviet Union has refrained from joining the Fund or the Bank.

The International Labor Organization (ILO), founded in 1919 within the League of Nations, was granted the status of a UN specialized agency at the General Assembly of 1946.

Officially, its aims are to contribute to lasting peace by promoting social justice, to improve conditions of labor and raise standards of living.

Though outwardly the scope of its activities is broad enough, ILO has shown in these thirty-two years that it is not living up to its aims. Far from combating violations of workers' rights, it impedes the adoption of constructive national and interna-

Delegates to the Bretton Woods Conference, in 1944, which founded the International Monetary Fund and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

—*Wide World*



tional measures for the defense of their interests. Many a burning social issue has been buried securely in this organization and its permanent body, the International Labor Office. Among the matters thus pigeonholed are the proposals of the World Federation of Trade Unions for guarantees of trade union rights and liberties, equal pay for equal work of men and women, and measures against race discrimination.

The very structure of ILO is faulty. How can it be expected effectively to uphold workers' interests when three-quarters of the seats on its directing bodies are filled by representatives of the employers and governments, and only one-quarter by trade union representatives?

It is because ILO is of little use or prestige, and because, moreover, its structure is not democratic, that the Soviet Union is not a member.

With a view to putting ILO on a more democratic basis, the Soviet delegation at the Seventh Session of the Economic and Social Council in August, 1948, proposed to recommend that UN member states belonging to that organization take steps to give trade union representatives half of the seats at the conference and on the governing body, the other half to be filled by representatives of the governments and employers. This proposal was, unfortunately, not adopted.

The World Health Organization (WHO) was established in 1946 and began to function in 1948. Its constitution states its objective to be "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health." This lofty aim has remained on paper, however. The organization's activities are confined to collecting and studying data on the pub-

lic health services of the various countries and their cultivation of medicinal plants and the manufacture of medical supplies.

WHO has taken no measures to date, either on an international or national scale, to raise the level of health of the masses.

Since it proved impossible to direct this organization's activities into any useful channels, the Soviet Union felt that membership in it would be inadvisable and resigned from it in February, 1949.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) was set up at an international conference in Quebec in October, 1945. Its official function, as set forth in its constitution, is to "raise levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples" . . . "secure improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products," and "better the conditions of rural populations."

The practical activities of FAO over the past six years show that it is not carrying out its functions. Food production in the poorly developed countries of Asia and in a number of other areas of the world shows no increase, and consumption is diminishing. In a number of European countries—Britain, Italy, France—food consumption is likewise declining.

The United States, which has a dominant influence in FAO, directs its activities, using the organization to keep up food prices and assure profitable sales for American foodstuffs. FAO accordingly opposes increased food production in other countries and only concerns itself with the distribution of foodstuffs, or in other words, with marketing U.S. farm produce at high prices.

Thus, instead of helping countries to increase agricultural production and improve the supply of food, FAO merely registers the hardships suffered by millions of human beings.

The International Civil Aviation Organization was established in April, 1947, after the Convention on International Civil Aviation drawn up at the Chicago Conference of December, 1944, went into effect. Soviet representatives attended the Chicago Conference only as observers, nor did the Soviet Union sign the Convention afterwards, as the organization's constitution does not insure equality to its members.

As stated in the Convention, the purpose is to arrange international air transport services "on the basis of equality of opportunity." In keeping with this principle, each member of the organization grants all the others "freedom of the air," that is to say, allows foreign planes to fly over, land and take off from its territory unhampered. The Convention contains a long list of restrictions on the sovereignty of members (reduction of customs formalities, various exemptions and privileges for the organization itself and its officials, and so on). Only countries with large air fleets can avail themselves of all this. As for the other signatories they can enjoy the benefit of these rights only

occasionally; at the same time they must observe to the letter the provisions thus imposed upon them, which are detrimental to their interests and their sovereignty.

The Soviet Union, whose international air services are run on a basis of bilateral agreements, is a signatory to the Warsaw Aviation Convention of 1929, which regulates various matters connected with the commercial operation of air lines.

Certain authorities attempt to present the UN specialized agencies as "standing above states." Theories of this kind are harmful for they seek to do away with national and state sovereignty and thus give a dominant position to the most economically developed and strongest countries.

The Soviet Union has not found it possible to join some of the UN specialized agencies because, as V. M. Molotov stated as far back as 1947, "standing, as it does, for the promotion of international cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual respect for the interests of the contracting countries, the Soviet Government cannot help anyone arrange his affairs at the expense of others, at the expense of weaker or small countries, inasmuch as this has nothing in common with normal cooperation among states."

FAO FINDS FOOD CONDITIONS GOOD IN SOCIALIST AREAS; MENACED BY ARMS PROGRAM IN WEST

IN ITS annual report, issued from Rome last October, the UN Food and Agricultural Organization recorded that it found food and crop conditions better in the USSR, People's China and the People's Democracies of Eastern Europe than in the West. The report laid difficulties in the West to the war in Korea and the rearmament program. Dr. Norris E. Dodd, FAO Director General, said in a foreword to the report: "There is real danger that in the planning of huge defense programs, agricultural requirements may be overlooked."

"In Thy Name . . ."

TWO ASPECTS OF THE CHURCH IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

by HILDA LASS

DOES religious freedom exist in Czechoslovakia? The facts show that since 1945 not a single church has been closed and not a single churchgoer has been deprived of his right to worship as he chooses. More than that, under the Church Law passed in 1949, which guarantees all faiths support on an equal basis, churches and religious institutions have every opportunity to flourish.

In 1950, the State Budget allotted 1,142 million crowns for church activities, nearly 15 times more than the government spent yearly for religious purposes during the First Republic. Of this sum, 125 million was used for religious education in schools, and for the upkeep of seminaries. In the course of the year, 945 churches, church buildings, shrines and other religious objects were restored or replaced. In 1951, the budget for church affairs is 48 million crowns higher, and includes 41 million for six new theological training colleges.

Security has been extended to all members of the clergy, the majority of whom are of course Roman Catholic, since Czechoslovakia is an overwhelmingly Catholic country. All priests are covered by national insurance, and old age pensions. The average salary for priests is 6,000 crowns a month, and increments are paid

regularly. The starving priest with his bare, neglected church is a thing of the past.

The vast majority of priests recognize that never has there been so good an opportunity for reaching the people with the message of the Church, for drawing the people into genuine religious activity. A growing number of priests are showing their support for the People's Democratic regime which has created these conditions, by coming forward to take an active part in community affairs and particularly in the peace movement. The bonds between the priest and his congregation have become closer as a result. More than 150 priests have been elected to positions on National Committees, for example.

At the same time, there still are members of the clergy who, instead of serving the real interests of the Church attempt to serve the political interests of the Vatican and the reactionary governments of the West, to undermine the democratic State

HILDA LASS and her husband have been living in Czechoslovakia for some time. Both Americans, he was a social worker and then director of CARE in Czechoslovakia but resigned that post in protest against the warlike trend of the foreign policy of the U.S.

and prevent the people's progress. They do not stop at collaboration with criminals or even at outright murder to achieve their aims.

During the hours when the Roman Catholic Bishop in Slovakia was blessing a new church building in God's name, not far away, in Moravia, final plans for a brutal murder plot were given "God's blessings" by two unscrupulous priests. The contrast between these two actions, both performed "in God's name" demonstrates very clearly what the people of Czechoslovakia mean by freedom of religion, and what they mean when they say that they will not permit religion to be used as a cloak to protect criminal activities carried on with the aim of wiping out the gains which the people have worked and fought to win.

July 1st was a festive day in the Slovak village of Lamac, a suburb of Bratislava. On that bright Sunday, the recently-completed Roman Catholic Church, dedicated to Saint Marketa, the Virgin Martyr, was consecrated. The ceremony was conducted by the Rt. Rev. Ambroz Lazik, Apostolic Administrator of the Trnava diocese, and was attended by three canons from Bratislava, a representative of the Slovak Office for Church Affairs, a representative of the Regional National Committee, as well as several local priests, members of the local people's administration, and thousands of townsfolk.

The story of Saint Marketa's Church is a typical one. The village church of Lamac was destroyed during the war, one of fifty Slovak churches which suffered war damage. Of these, some thirty have now been rebuilt or restored. The funds for Saint Marketa's were supplied by the Regional National Committee in Bratislava, which has a department

of religious affairs with its own budget for religious expenses. First a local commission confirmed Lamac's need. Then the Regional National Committee applied to the State Office of Church Affairs for Slovakia for its approval, and this was granted. The new church, which holds 2,000 people, was designed by a Slovak architect, and completed at a cost to the State of five million crowns (more than \$100,000).

The consecration ceremony began at eight o'clock in the morning. Bishop Lazik was welcomed by the people of the village and escorted to the new church where the priest, Father Julian Benedikovic, presented him with the keys. After a brief ceremony at the ruins of the old church, prayers were held outside the new church

Consecration of the new church at Lamac is evidence that religious freedom has real meaning in Czechoslovakia today



and on its steps. The congregation then followed the Bishop into the church where he consecrated the altar on which the relics of the saints were placed. Afterwards he blessed the exterior of the church. The four-hour ceremony was followed by Mass said in the church and simultaneously outside for those who could not be accommodated inside.

On July 2nd, the day following this ceremony, an event of a very different kind took place in the little village of Babice in Moravia. A group of four men armed with guns and grenades entered the schoolhouse where the Local National Committee was meeting and murdered the chairman and two leading members, working people who had been freely elected by their fellow citizens to represent them.

The aroused people of the village and the police surrounded them and their accomplices, and ten days later a group of 14 terrorists were brought before the court in Jihlava. Among them were two Roman Catholic

priests, Vaclav Drbola and Frantisek Paril.

As the trial revealed, the murders at Babice were only one in a chain of criminal activities designed to terrorize the people of the region and discourage all activity in support of the People's Government.

The ringleader of the group was Ladislav Maly, an adventurer who crossed the border into Western Germany illegally in 1949. He found employment with the U.S. Counter Intelligence Corps, and re-entered Czechoslovakia with their help. He got in touch with "reliable" people, including the priests, Father Paril and Father Drbola, with whose aid he recruited his gang. Maly received his pay in dollars and paid his accomplices 200 crowns a day when there was no "action," 300 when there was.

Fathers Drbola and Paril used the confessional to determine the political opinions of the people in the village, and thus they chose their allies and their victims. Father Drbola became intimate with the highly respected teacher who was chairman of the Local National Committee, and from him learned the place and time of committee meetings. Father Drbola's presbytery was used as a meeting place for the gang. Here arms were stored, and a radio transmitter was hidden. In Father Paril's presbytery, anti-State leaflets were written, and under the inscriptions "God's Blessing to Our Work," and "Let Christ's Will Be Done," the crimes were planned. Before the gang set out to perform their evil tasks, they were given rosaries to guard them from harm. When the State's Prosecutor asked Father Paril how he believed the sin of murder could be atoned for, he replied, "By prayer."

Arms of a captured terrorist group in Babice who killed 3, wounded 1. Two priests used their presbyteries for meetings of the gang and to hide arms



Rt. Rev. Ambroz Lazik, Apostolic Administrator of the Trnava diocese consecrates the new church in Lamac

—Czechoslovak Life



The People's Court sentenced seven of the gang, including the two priests, to death, and the remainder to sentences of 20 years or more. It was quite clear to everyone that in this case the issue of religious freedom was in no way involved.

At the luncheon which followed the consecration of Saint Marketa's Church, the chairman of the Regional National Committee pointed out that just as such a church could not be built by an individual or by a small

group but by the united strength of many, so it was necessary to unite the people for the building of material well-being and the protection of peace.

It was in this spirit that the people of Lamac took possession of their new church, recognizing that without sacrificing any principles or relinquishing any legitimate powers, Church and temporal authorities can work together for the peace and security that is necessary for all.

SUPERMAN AND STRIP TEASERS INTO THE BREACH!

LATEST complaint against the Soviet Union is that last year they sent abroad 39,000 athletes, scientists, writers, artists, musicians and ballet dancers in a "gigantic propaganda offensive" against this country. The complaint was made by Edward W. Barrett, Assistant Secretary of State for cultural affairs at a Town Hall meeting, Nov. 14, of the Institute of International Education. Mr. Barrett noted that while the USSR lately had been well represented at various international festivals and contests in such fields as the motion picture, music and the dance, the United States had been represented "only occasionally or not at all." At the Milan Fair last year, he said the Soviet exhibits were "the largest and most artistically presented." He added:

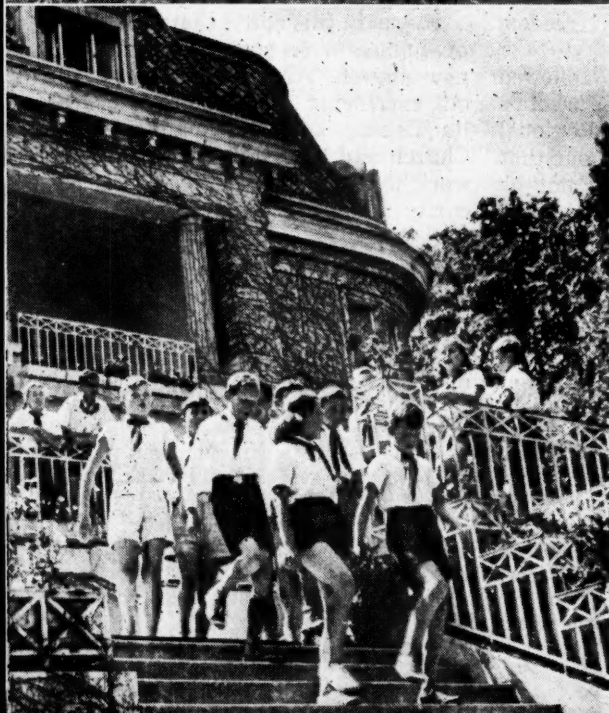
"Their presence made a favorable impression and the absence of American participation permitted the Soviets to say that Americans were too busy preparing for war and too materialistic to attend. We lost that contest without a struggle."



This new school was built during the 3-year plan. School enrollment since 1938 increased seven-fold

Nothing Too For Hungari Youngsters

A new life for the Hungarian people before them after the liberation, especially true for the children of the country. Now every opportunity is open, not as before because of wealth, but because the policy of democracy is one that seeks the well-being and happiness of all its citizens, future citizens. Since the liberation, schools have been built and reconstructed. The youngsters have their libraries, summer camps, stadium, small railway which they operate, but only after proving good students, and after taking an examination in railroading. The Hungarian children's public health facilities have grown rapidly in recent years.



Hundreds of thousands of Hungarian children spend their summers at camps and resorts. This group is summering at a villa formerly owned by a count but now turned into a children's resort

A singing class
at a new rural
school in a Hun-
garian village

Top Good Hungarian ngsters

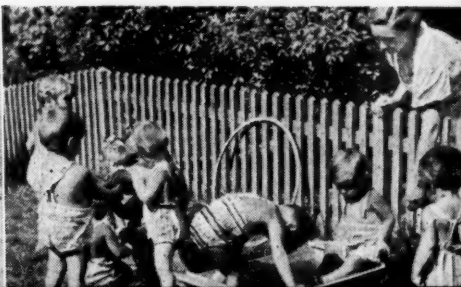
ungarian people opened
the liberation, and this is
the children of that coun-
try. Opportunity is open to them,
regardless of wealth or social posi-
tion. The policy of the people's
government leads to the welfare
of its citizens, especially its
children. In the operation, 53 new
schools built and 1,572 recon-
structed. They have their own pub-
lic baths, stadiums and even a
theater. They liberate themselves,
and good students in school
examine many phases of
the Hungarian network of chil-
dren's facilities and nurseries
in recent years.



—From "How Hungarian Children Live"

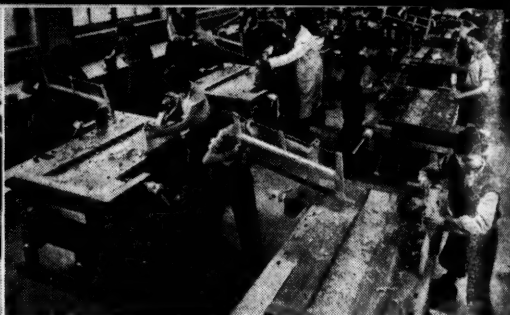
Ultra-violet lamps substitute
for sunshine in winter in this
nursery in a Budapest factory

Playtime in a nursery garden.
Factory nurseries increased
from 12 in 1938 to 308 in 1950





Volley-ball is probably the most popular sport of Hungarian school children



The general school teaches manual training. This shop is in a Budapest school

They are railroaders. They operate a narrow gauge, 8-mile line under expert guidance. Their right to the uniform and to the "job" was won by excellent study in school and by a special course and examination on railroading



THEY BUILD FOR PEACE

Some features of Moscow's newest apartment house: light, airy, sound-proof rooms, faces river, roof playgrounds, underground garage and ample gardens

by RALPH PARKER

THE LOW-LYING area where the Moscow River is joined by the modest Yauza, about half a mile downstream from the Kremlin, had long been something of a eyesore. Until about fifteen years ago it was one of those shabby parts of the city that served as a standing reproach to those who had permitted Moscow's *laissez-faire* development in the nineteenth century. When in 1935, a new plan for Moscow was adopted, particular attention was paid to the redevelopment of this area. The new Moscow was to have no slums, no run-down districts.

Much was done before the war. The Moscow River here, as elsewhere in its winding course through the city, was embanked with granite and the Yauza confined to a narrow culvert. The marshy conflux of the two rivers was drained, levelled and surfaced with asphalt. On the Kotelnicheskaya Embankment bordering the river a ten-story apartment house was built.

But during the war and for a few years afterwards the district had a somewhat bleak incomplete look. The old buildings around the new square were disproportionately low.

In 1949, plans were published for

eight new buildings of a size and height not previously erected in Moscow. They showed that the town-planners were going to do something that no architects have ever succeeded in doing before. The panorama of Moscow, one of the world's biggest cities, was going to be deliberately changed not piece-meal but according to a plan that called for the simultaneous and concerted erection of new buildings in many different points in the city. Significantly, the planners spoke of changing Moscow's profile.

Indeed, what they are doing is to restore a dimension which chaotic development had sacrificed.

Moscow could not be rebuilt in a day. Indeed, it was not until well into the second decade after the Revolution that the city-planners could fix the limits of its growth and begin to design developments which would correct its disproportions. Between 1926 and 1939, its population had doubled, and as far as housing was

RALPH PARKER, formerly represented the "New York Times" in Moscow and now covers the USSR for newspapers in England and America.

concerned, refinements had to be sacrificed for speed. But alongside the housing there went on a program of building roads, laying mains, embanking rivers, developing transport, opening new water ways that were meant to last for centuries.

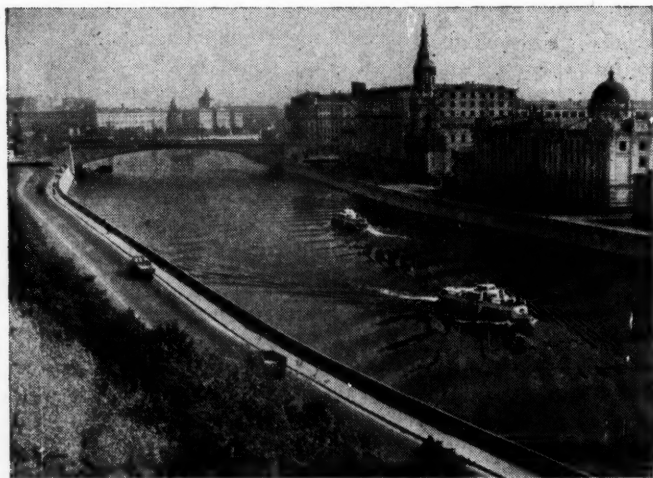
On the eve of World War II, Moscow can be said to have laid the main foundations for a vast expansion in its houses and public buildings. In the miles of granite embankment laid, the new radial highways cutting across the Inner and Outer Ring of boulevards, the imposing new ship-canal, the matchless underground railway, standards of perfection were aimed at which indicated that the architects had in their minds' eye the vision of a splendid new city.

The war delayed the fulfillment of their plans, but the vision did not fade. Indeed, the spirit of victory in which the 800th anniversary of Moscow's foundation was celebrated in 1947 may be said to have caused that vision to gleam more brightly. For what the Soviet people achieved in war gave them a sense of the surmountability of every obstacle.

Only those who have grown accustomed to the snail-like pace of building in their own lands could fail to grasp the significance of Moscow's empty sites or of the incongruously wide streets. Without recognizing the amazing dynamic of the process of growth in the Soviet Union, the observer easily deceived himself into accepting the temporary for the permanent.

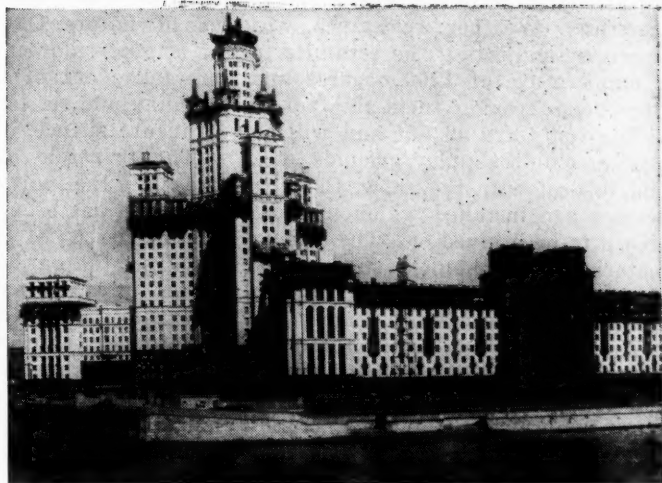
Today there is no excuse for any such misjudgment. The outlines of the new Moscow cannot be overlooked. An ensemble effect, which one had to go into the Museum of Reconstruction to find three years ago, is now to be seen by anyone who walks the streets of Moscow or climbs the Lenin Hills or traverses the city in one of those trim little motor-launches that course on the Moscow River during the summer.

In the words of an English building expert who was recently in Moscow: "The town planning of Moscow, the lay-out of the streets and location of the buildings, have been done in such a way that the whole forms a very fine panorama; the scale of the



View of the winding Moscow River, showing granite embankments which were laid before the war as a part of the plan for the reconstruction of the Soviet capital.

Moscow's newest apartment house on the bank of the Moscow River is built for duration, beauty and comfort



town area is such that the big buildings are absolutely right to scale. The ensemble type of construction is much more effective in reality than in the architect's picture, not—as might be thought—the other way round."

On the Kotelnicheskaya Embankment a building has been erected into which the first four hundred tenants expect to move before the end of December, 1951. They will be followed by another three hundred families during the winter, when the entire thirty-two story building is scheduled to be completed.

Today, with its outside work finished from the facing of the lower stories with polished marble to the bronze star enclosed by laurel leaves at the top of its tapering steeple five hundred feet above the embankment, this new building completes the reconstruction of the Moscow-Yauza conflux. It draws into its complex plan—a star-shaped design with ten-story wings forming rays springing from a towering nucleus—the existing block bordering the Moscow

River. It is linked by its proportions and its decorative details with the Kremlin and the Artillery Academy further up-stream, while the huge open space that was once a marsh provides a magnificent approach to its central court.

Two outstanding features of this building catch the attention of the visitor. The high quality of the material used and the workmanship in assembling it and, secondly, the standard of comfort attained inside the building.

In connection with the first it is interesting to note that the architects A. K. Rostkovsky and D. N. Chechulin, have stated that they have worked on the assumption that the building will stand for five hundred years. Their building is steel-framed with panels of high-fired ceramic blocks held together by a material called hydrophobic cement, which prevents weeping at the joints. These ceramics were designed at the ceramics research institute where what has been described as an interesting combination of scientific, archaeo-

logical and aesthetic research is in progress. Weather resistance was tested by subjecting the ceramics to a temperature of 1200 degrees and then deep-freezing them five times.

The roofs are all flat and will be used as children's play grounds, etc., and to deal with the snow, thawing devices are installed which will enable it to be drained off. The roofing material is a metalloid sheeting of aluminum foil coated with bitumen and finally surfaced with foam-glass.

We visit the building on a mid-November afternoon, with a clear sky and fresh snow on the trees of the Inner Boulevards. Navigation is still possible on the Moscow River but chunks of pack ice with grey Asiatic ravens perched on them are drifting down the Yauza into the main stream. The facade of the new building, a creamy white, still bears the slogans with which it was decorated during the holidays for the 34th anniversary of the Revolution.

Lights are on inside most of the windows of the wings, but they are not signs of occupation. Interior decoration is being completed. However, some of the apartments are ready and it is to these that we are taken by the lift to the twenty-fifth floor in forty seconds.

To reach it we had passed through heavy oak doors set in the front of the building, pausing to examine some fine craftsmanship in metal interspersed among the rose-colored granite blocks. The hall is equipped with the services modern living requires, such as a telegraph office, an automatic telephone exchange, various shops and inquiry offices. Provision is made for storing bicycles and baby carriages.

Below is an underground garage for private cars. At five stages on the way to the top of the building

there are large public rooms for the use of visitors. One notes the absence of long corridors; also that the lifts are taken out of the center of the building and set in projecting shafts to insure silence.

The principle on which the approach to the individual flat has been conceived has been well described by the architect.

"From the garden the flat dweller comes into a spacious light-flooded vestibule; then to the lift, from which he sees through the glazed shaft a panorama of Moscow. Finally he comes to his own flat. Thus, gradually changing the scale, I have tried to bring the occupant in the right way to his home where comfort and relaxation await him. For it seems to me that for the people who live in it, this block of flats should begin in the garden."

The apartments are of various sizes, two, three and four rooms, but similar standards are applied throughout. Electric light fittings are fashioned in burnished bronze. The windows are of double thickness, as is usual in Moscow, but the two frames are divided by a rather wider space than generally found, in order to deaden sound.

The level of convenience and comfort is high but it is a standard which the builders of Moscow consider to be attainable in the average home before long. Indeed, the way the flats awaiting new tenants are being described in the newspapers suggests that a very rapid advance in general housing standards is something that ordinary citizens can now rely on with confidence.

The new tenants will find much to surprise them, including built-in cupboards, electric refrigerators, mirror fixtures, a dark-room for amateur photographers, and even vac-

uum-cleaners that are part of the "fixtures."

Bathrooms and kitchens have that clinical look not hitherto associated with domestic interiors in this country, while the plumbing leaves nothing to be desired. There are such uncouth refinements as heated linen cupboards and bidets, curtain fixtures and waste-chutes.

Particular attention has been given to sound insulation. Muscovites, who keep late hours, do not take kindly to restrictions on the use of radios and musical instruments, and we are assured by the architects that not even the most vigorously performed *trepak* will give neighbors cause for complaint.

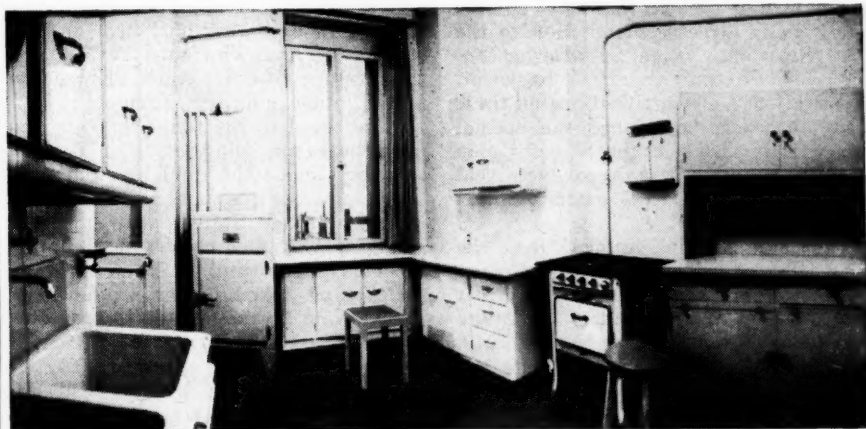
There is much food for thought in the contemplation of this new building on Kotelnicheskaya Embankment. Would the Soviet Government, one wonders, be building new, towering apartment houses—there are 1,000 new blocks of flats under construction in Moscow at present—if it thought there was a likelihood of them being blown to bits in a war?

The house on the embankment is not being built for an age of atomic warfare. Rather it belongs to the age of abundance, of Communism.

Further, one may ask oneself, is not the tremendous emphasis that is being placed on high quality and durability an indication of the supreme confidence the Soviet Government has in the progress of Soviet society? Perhaps Moscow could have had more homes sooner. If the pre-war standards had not been raised, it certainly could have. But that brings us back to the architects' claim to be building structures that would last for centuries. Moreover the taste and requirements of Russians of today are not what they were fifteen years ago.

The Soviet people have an unshakable confidence in the permanence of their state. No people in the world have such long and hopeful prospects before them. The house on the Embankment with its slender spire and its great thrusting towers is more than an embellishment to the new Moscow, it is a beacon on the way to Communism.

Typical kitchen in the new apartment house. Electric refrigerators, built in cupboards, laundry tubs and vacuum appliances are part of the fixtures



USSR PROTESTS NORWAY'S ARMS MEASURES

ON OCTOBER 15, the Soviet Government sent a note to the Government of Norway protesting its extensive military measures "directed towards the accomplishment of the aims of the Atlantic alliance hostile to the Soviet Union," and declaring these measures to be incompatible with normal relations.

The note mentioned the agreement of the Norwegian Government to the use of Norwegian territory by the armed forces of the aggressive North Atlantic Alliance and its subordination of the Norwegian armed forces to the American command of the army of NATO; the building of naval and air bases on Norwegian territory, including districts bordering on the USSR; maneuvers and training in Norway of American and British military planes; presence of American and British warships in Norwegian ports; touring of Norway and trips to the Norwegian-Soviet border by American and British military personnel; permission for the NATO armed forces to take military measures on and in the area of Spitsbergen and Medvezhi Islands.

The latter action, the note pointed out, was in direct contradiction to the 1920 Paris Treaty on Spitsbergen under which Norway undertook to permit no naval bases or fortifications on these islands. It also mentioned the special economic interests of the Soviet Union in Spitsbergen, where it conducts coal mining, and its special security interests in that area.

The note further declared that the present military measures being taken by Norway under NATO were in direct contradiction to assurances given to the Soviet Union in its notes of 1949, answering the Soviet note on the aggressive nature of the North Atlantic Alliance. In these notes the Norwegian Government declared it "would

not enter into any agreement with other states containing obligations for Norway to provide bases on Norwegian territory for the armed forces of foreign powers as long as Norway does not become the object of an attack or threat of attacks."

SOVIET NOTE TO TURKEY ON NATO

IN CONNECTION with the inclusion of Turkey in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the USSR on November 3, made an official statement to the Government of Turkey pointing out "that the invitation into the Atlantic bloc of Turkey, which moreover has no relation to the Atlantic, can mean nothing else but a striving of the imperialist States to use Turkish territory for setting up at the frontiers of the Soviet Union military bases for aggressive ends."

The note pointed out that the aggressive nature of NATO was demonstrated by the measures to set up a combined army, to remilitarize Western Germany and include in this combined army the regular army of Western Germany which is being formed with Hitlerite generals at its head, the intensifying armaments drive, establishment and expansion of American military bases on the territory of other states and a number of other military measures.

It referred to the fact that "air and naval bases are being set up on Turkish territory under the guidance and with the help of the command and specialists of the United States, with military airdromes, situated closest of all to the Soviet Union, being built on a broad scale," and asked for an explanation.

Following Turkey's rejection of this protest, the Soviet Union, on December 1, sent a new note informing Turkey that its joining the NATO "will undoubtedly cause serious harm to relations between Turkey and the USSR."

New Soviet pile driver is

A Real Shakedown

STUDYING why the foundations of some heavy machinery settle, Soviet engineers have come up with an outstanding development in civil engineering, according to the magazine *Soviet Union*.

Vibration of the moving machinery loosens the ground and causes less friction between its particles. The diminished internal friction impairs the compactness of the soil. Thus the structures settle.

The engineers then wondered whether they could make bodies vibrate vertically in such a way that they would sink into the ground of their own weight. Experiments proved they could.

For the first time in engineering history, vibrators were used in 1949 to sink sheet piles in the construction of a concatenated cofferdam. More than 3,600 sheet piles were sunk nearly 30 feet, each taking from 2 to 3 minutes.

Vibrators require no heavy rigs, steam boilers, compressors, steam or compressed air pipes. They do not deform the pile. Besides, they enable it to sink exactly vertically. It has two or three times the capacity of pile drivers, is quicker and cheaper.

In 1950, sheet piles totalling 10,000 tons were thus sunk. This method was also used in laying cast-in-place piles, withdrawing supports under pulp pipe lines constructed at hydraulic fill dams, making boreholes, and in conducting geological and soil investigation at building sites.

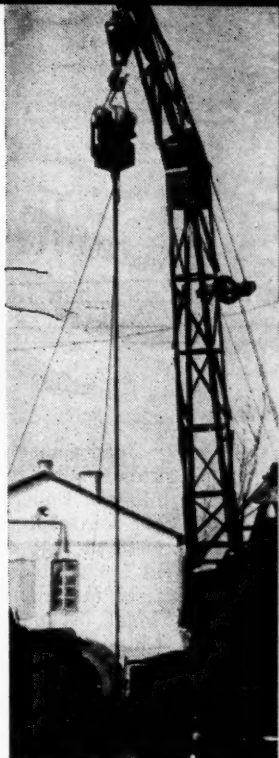
A 32-foot deep borehole by this method takes about a half hour, compared to 8 to 12 hours by former methods.

For developing and elaborating the method, a Stalin Prize was awarded to V. Tupikov, I. Gutsalenko, A. Yefimov, D. Barkan and S. Bodunov.

A vibrator sinks a bore tube for a soil study at a construction site. The tube is slotted. When removed it contains the soil formation.

This is the machine that vibrates the tube or pile making it sink into the ground of its own weight.

Sheet pile cofferdam constructed by this method.



WHY CHINA WANTS PEACE

An Open Letter to the Federation of American Scientists

by JOAN C. HINTON

Joan Chase Hinton, a young American scientist, witnessed the first atomic bomb explosion in the New Mexican desert. A graduate of Bennington College, Miss Hinton took up graduate studies in physics at the University of Wisconsin and at the University of Chicago. From 1943 to 1945 she was a research assistant at the atom bomb project at Los Alamos. An active member of the Association of Atomic Scientists, Miss Hinton was opposed to the secrecy and government control which became attached to all work on atomic research. She came to China in 1948. In 1949, she married and is now working with her American husband on an animal breeding farm in Inner Mongolia. The following letter, slightly condensed for reasons of space, was sent to the FAS in June. We believe it will interest most Americans, scientists or not. It appeared in *People's China*, published in Peking.

*Suiyuan Province,
Inner Mongolia, China*

YESTERDAY I received your application for re-membership in the Federation of American Scientists.

From as early as I can remember, I was determined to become a scientist. In high school I concentrated on chemistry, oblivious to all my other courses. Finally in college, I settled on physics, building a Wilson cloud chamber in my sophomore year.

From college I went to Wisconsin where I studied as a graduate student for two years. As people became more and more scarce, disappearing to secret places, I became restless too and finally ended up at Los Alamos.

Then came the bomb and Hiroshima and the mass migration of atomic scientists to Washington. I first joined the association of Los

Alamos scientists, and then spent some six weeks in Washington working for the FAS.

From Washington I went to Chicago as an assistant in the Institute for Nuclear Studies, and later as a Fellow. By 1948, I had about one more year to go for my degree. In physics I could not have dreamed of a better opportunity for studying—I loved it! I was just beginning to get the feel of quantum mechanics.

Yet the better things became for me in physics, the more depressed I became. Ever since that morning when we sat on a hillock south of Albuquerque and felt the heat of that bomb twenty-five miles away, something had started to stir in me.

It forced me to Washington. Then I forced it down and left for Chicago, but it refused to stay down. The Tru-



Not up-to-date? Yet the Chinese are building a new nation with their bare hands. And gradually industry is becoming more and more mechanized

man doctrine, the Marshall Plan, the stagnation of the Atomic Energy Commission in the UN—how could one just sit still in a laboratory and ponder in the depths of statistical mechanics! The memory of Hiroshima—150,000 lives. One, two, three, four, five, six . . . one hundred and fifty thousand—each a living, thinking, human being with hopes and desires, failures and successes, a life of his or her own—all gone. And I had held that bomb in my hand.

Were we to blame? We were only studying science, finding out how the world was put together. Was the government to blame—really? Do we not have any say as to what our life work is to be used for? Are we puppets or human beings? Can we not vision the world of tomorrow? Will it be a world of destruction and misery, agonizing death by radiation or will it be a world where mountains are moved by atomic bombs to change

the course of rivers and make rich green land out of deserts? Where is our imagination?

By 1948, I could not stand it any longer. My friends all seemed to be going back into secret work. Were they crazy? Were we who studied physics to spend all our lives thinking up means of mass extermination? Even my fellowship money came from the Navy. We were doing non-secret work at the time. We needed some deuterium for our accelerator. In the room where I studied there was only a little space in the corner for a desk, the rest of the room was piled with cases of heavy water right up to the ceiling—for the argon. We asked for some. Nowhere in America could we get any. Finally we sent to Norway and two little bottles were sent back to us with a picture of a Viking ship and a little note saying, "I thought you had civilian control."

In Washington, a friend of mine

had asked me to go to China. I had refused. I was determined to become a physicist. But the idea kept gnawing at me. It would not let me go, until finally I felt like I was being caught in a horrible trap. No matter where you turned, you were faced by war, secret work, the Navy, the Army and madmen locked in their laboratories thinking up new and better methods of total destruction.

Suddenly, I made up my mind and left. But it was not easy. The love of science and physics was pretty strong. Of all my notebooks and books I only had room for two in my trunk.

I broke away because I had to. I had to find out what was going on in the world outside of physics. What was happening to the peoples of the world—so I came to China, to see America from the outside and to understand the tremendous upheaval going on inside Asia.

WHAT HAVE I learned in the three years since I have been in China? Perhaps the main thing is that the people of the East do not want war, that the peoples of the East are not interested in America. They are occupied with building up their own countries, pulling them out of their centuries of feudalism, changing them as fast as possible into modern, industrialized lands with abundance for all—lands where beggars cease to exist, and slums and “Maxwell Streets” are things of the past.

Everything is for peaceful production, for building, for life, for the people—and I learned something else—that these people can get along perfectly all right without America.

I used to think that American aid would mean a lot to China. A country so backward—how could she develop without American help?

But where there is a will there is

a way and the Chinese people have a will so strong that nothing America can do will ever stop it. They will think of plenty of ways and they will develop fast. The only obstacle to their development would be a war. They are not afraid of America. If she must fight, China will show that she is made of steel—but China will never start a war, war is against her every interest.

I know that you may ask, “How do you know? They are just filling you with propaganda, you fool!” So I will not talk any more in generalities. I will only tell a few things from my experience.

The first is the conditions I found in Kuomintang China. I spent a year in Kuomintang territory, and all that time it never ceased to amaze me why we (America) should be giving millions of dollars of aid to such a stupid, corrupt, conceited, useless government as the government of the Kuomintang. Just one example will suffice (though anybody who lived in Shanghai for just a few months at that time could cite countless examples). That is, the business of the “gold yuan.”

For the fun of it, I kept a logarithmic plot of the inflation and it was a fairly straight line. I have forgotten just now what the period was, but the line was pretty steep. It was steep enough so that towards the end, prices would double or even triple in a day.

I remember especially how carefully I had to plan to buy a jack-knife. I went to a certain place (of which kind Shanghai was teeming) early in the morning with a briefcase to cash one American dollar. The briefcase having been duly loaded full of Chinese notes, I tore as fast as I could to the store and emptied them out on the counter be-

fore the price could rise. A briefcase full of notes for a jack-knife!

The poor store keepers were in a terrible fix. They had to either not count their money and get stuck short or hire several extra hands just for counting money and lose that much in wages anyway. And the banks were in an impossible state. The cost of shipping and counting money was far beyond the value of the money. In fact, it was not even worth the paper it was printed on.

And so, of course, in order to stay alive one had to put one's wealth into something besides paper money: in silver dollars, American dollars or goods, and the barter system flourished.

Then the government announced its "currency reform." Under penalty of death all gold, silver, American dollars, and hoarded goods were to be turned into the banks and exchanged for the new stable "gold yuan." Every day the paper had pictures of people being shot for disobeying this order. Houses were searched. Anybody found guilty was dragged off to prison. Thousands upon thousands of ordinary folk turned in the little bit of savings they had in return for paper "gold yuan."

For a week or two, as I remember, prices remained stable. Then whispermings began in the blackmarket—and soon they broke—the "gold yuan" fell off its pedestal. To where? Right smack on the extrapolation of the exponential inflation curve which I had been plotting all year.

What did this mean? Only that the government had previously printed this tremendous excess of notes, had held them out of circulation for a week or two until as much gold and silver, etc. as could be collected from the people was taken in, and then let

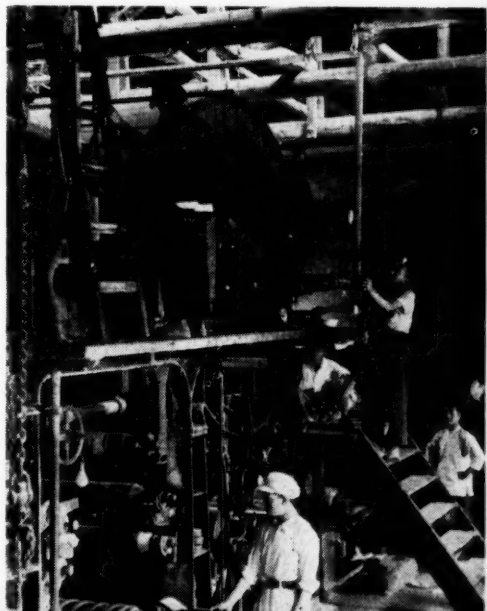
go, leaving the whole population with nothing but worthless scraps of paper.

Thousands upon thousands of people left without a cent of savings—the biggest, most cold-blooded mass robbery in history or ever dreamed of. And the gold and silver was pocketed by the "Big Four"—the ruling families of China and shipped to America and other safe places as fast as possible before liberation.

At the time I was too stupid to realize what was happening. I naively assumed that this time maybe the government was finally really planning to do something about the inflation. It was only after that point fell so perfectly on my curve that the truth began to dawn.

But even then, it took me a long time to really realize the treachery, the calculated cold-blooded intent of these criminals who called themselves a government. And it was these

Kaoling straw from army-operated farms is manufactured into paper at this mill run by the People's Liberation Army



crooks to whom America was sending millions of dollars worth of "aid"—guns, bombs, tanks, trucks and a trickle of powdered milk.

Perhaps the next thing I might mention is the liberation of Peking. American papers always implied that the Chinese Communists were supplied by Russia. So I rather expected to see Russian weapons as the People's Liberation Army marched past. But in the whole parade which I watched for three or four hours, I never saw a single Russian weapon. A few old Japanese guns, but mostly new American trucks, cannon, tanks, guns and trucks with "United States Army" written on the side in white letters as plain as day. The soldiers laughed when you asked them about it and said, "Uncle Sam sends them to Chiang and Chiang sends them to us."

Then again, people told me that foreigners would never be allowed to travel alone in the liberated areas; that the Communists would keep a pretty close eye on the travelers and be sure only to let you see what they wanted you to.

I wanted to go and visit a friend of mine who was staying at a place about 100 miles away, so I was supplied with a guide and went. But on coming back, my friend explained that I was used to traveling and could find the way back by myself and without further ado, I was left to go back alone.

So again, the American press was wrong. Nobody was watching me, they were only helping me. I was free to look at whatever I liked. That was the first time and it has been that way ever since.

My first job was working in an iron factory packed away in the mountains of Shensi. What were they making there? They were melting

up American-made hand-grenades, shells, wings from crashed planes sent from America to Chiang, steel and aluminum of weapons sent by America to kill them, and making them into cooking pots, ploughs and hoes.

Americans would probably not even realize it was a factory and they would laugh at it when told so—not even a lathe, nothing but the hands of the people.

But Americans might do a little thinking, too. The Chinese with their bare hands are building up a new nation.

But America seems bent on war. So China will continue her construction despite America. She will keep on putting all she has into the betterment of the living conditions of her people. But at the same time, she will never stop watching America. She will not tolerate any high-handed action against her sovereignty. She is not afraid and her people know how to fight and know what they are fighting for. Anyone who came to work at that factory could not help but learn this. The irresistible strength of New China seemed to permeate everything.

Since then all of China has been liberated and she now has more regular factories day by day. Skilled mechanics and engineers are being trained. Though some places still work by hand, others are forging ahead still faster with machines while others are using machines to make machines. It will not take her long.

At present I am working on an animal breeding farm in Inner Mongolia. Of what I have learned here I will only say the following: that I was amazed to hear Acheson—a responsible representative of the U.S. government—say that the Soviet Union was "annexing whole territories"

of Northeast China and Inner Mongolia to herself.

I have lived here two years. So far I have only seen one thing Russian, that is, ten Soviet stallions given to our farm for breeding purposes, along with apparatus for artificial insemination.

What are we doing with these stallions? We are breeding the farmers' horses and the Mongolian ponies, improving the horses of Mongolia. The farmers come from miles around to get their horses bred.

The stallions were given to China under the Agreement signed last year—an agreement of friendship and mutual assistance between China and the Soviet Union. The Chinese are free to use them where and as they see fit. The Soviet Union does not interfere.

To the peasants here, the Soviet Union is symbolized by these stallions, sleek-haired, refined, bigger than anything they have ever seen before and with no stud fees. The silent eyes of these ten stallions tell more to the Mongolian horsemen than any amount of insinuating speeches of Acheson ever could.

They are not afraid of words, they only believe in what they see. And what do they see as far as America is concerned? Again, it is not empty words of friendship which impress them. It is bombing planes, guns and tanks given to the Kuomintang. In our farm's cornfield are two old craters from American-made bombs. No amount of speeches from Ameri-

can diplomats can erase these holes and the people do not easily forget.

The people of China want peace. The people of the world want peace, including the people of America.

Though I suppose I have been away too long to still be considered a member of the American scientists, yet I personally still feel as though I am one of you. I have written you to let you know at least the story of one of your members.

One person refusing to work on secret projects, refusing to work on war, of course, does no good. But all of you at home united together have a very special strength in your hands.

I only want to say to you: Use your strength, use whatever you can to work actively for peace and against war. As long as there is war, science will never be free. Are we scientists going to spend our lives in slavery for madmen who want to destroy the world? At home one gets frightened. Listening to so much war talk one begins to believe that if we do not prepare for war the other side will and then we will be destroyed.

But now I have been living on the other side for some time and know for sure that this is a lot of lies, that China wants peace and is working for peace with all she has. She will never attack America, nor will any of her allies. If you people would only believe this, if you could only see for yourselves as I am seeing, then, I am sure you would not hesitate for a minute to work for peace with every ounce of strength you have.

CHINA'S AGE-OLD EPIDEMICS GONE!

NO SMALLPOX was reported from Peking, Port Arthur, Dairen, Canton and many other cities last year. In two years, 30 million were inoculated against cholera and no cases have been reported for three years. In northeast industrial centers there is one medical worker for each 115 workers. Hospital beds in cities in 1951 increased 26 per cent.

Subsidy for **TERRORISM**

THE METHOD of terrorism as an instrument in attempted overthrow of governments not to its liking is more and more openly becoming an official tenet of U.S. foreign policy. The hush-hush Congressional appropriations to be used by the Central Intelligence Agency to finance espionage and subversion in the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union under "Project X" have long been known.

Now the method of terrorism is given official recognition in the Mutual Security Act passed by Congress in September, 1951, and signed by President Truman. The act sets aside \$100,000,000, to finance:

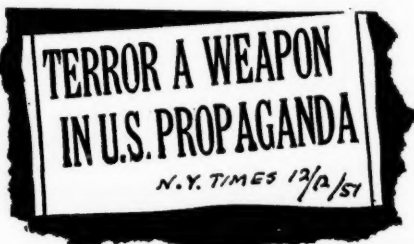
... any selected persons who are residing in or escapees from the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia or the Communist dominated or Communist occupied areas of Germany and Austria, and any other countries absorbed by the Soviet Union either to form such persons into elements of the military forces supporting the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or for other purposes. . . . (italics ours.)

Lest there be any misunderstanding of what the words for *other purposes* mean, Representative Charles J. Kersten (R., Wis.), who sponsored this clause, stated flatly in an extension of his remarks inserted in the Congressional Record that it "provides a method whereby the United

States can render aid to the underground liberation movement in the Communist countries." And in an exchange of letters with Warren R. Austin, American UN delegate, Mr. Kersten emphasized that this "method" included terrorist activities.

Mr. Kersten's letter protested that a new UN draft code of Offenses Against the Peace and Security of Mankind, sent to the UN Assembly in Paris by the International Law Commission, would nullify the whole aim of his clause, since Section 5 of the code would outlaw "the undertaking or encouragement by the authorities of a state, of terrorist activities in another state, or the tolerance by the authorities of a state of organized activities calculated to carry out terrorist acts in another state."

Mr. Austin replied blandly that the code would not interfere with such



activities because "to attempt to restore a people's freedom does not seem to merit the characterization of 'terrorist' to such activity." Even

this reassurance did not satisfy Mr. Kersten who came back with the comment:

To say that terror would play no part in a liberation movement in Eastern Europe is to be utterly unconvulsant with what constitutes a liberation movement. One of the main objectives of a real liberation movement is to strike terror into the hearts of Communist tyrants. Liberation will not be achieved merely by propaganda and parliamentary maneuvers; it will require strong action at the proper time.

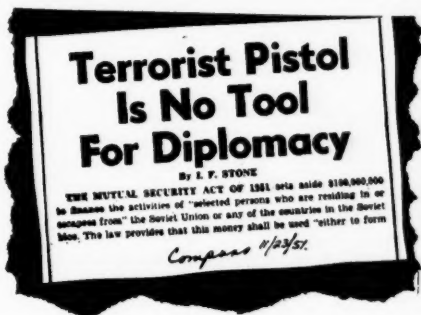
Representative Kersten's intercession in this matter was in direct response to protests of the Lithuanian-American Council in Chicago and the Polish-American Congress who in September had sent a letter to the American UN delegation objecting to Section 5 of the UN draft code. Describing their position the Jesuit weekly, *America*, wrote in its issue of October 8:

The Lithuanian-Americans and the Polish-Americans proudly admit their guilt under this section and claimed that if the code were adopted, the United States could be found guilty of tolerating their activities.

Supporting Kersten's efforts, Representative Daniel Flood (D., Pa.) launched a campaign in Congress to instruct the U.S. delegation to the General Assembly to vote to kill the embarrassing provision.

On November 4, the *New York Times* carried a report from the UN headquarters in New York to the effect that the United States would seek to sidetrack the proposal in the UN. The dispatch said that it was widely agreed that the draft code would end the activities of such agencies as the State Department's Voice of America and of Radio Free Europe.

The latter, sponsored by the National Committee for a Free Europe, with such people as James Carey, A. A. Berle, Henry R. Luce among its officers, makes its business to gather up among exiles, D.P.'s and so on, a motley crew of terrorists, espionage



agents, saboteurs, etc., sworn to the use of force and violence against the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union. (And all this because it is the Communists who are supposed to be the advocates of violent overthrow of government!) These people have close links with some eleven assorted fascist emigre groups who met recently in Western Germany to coordinate their efforts to overthrow the Soviet Government.

In an article in the *New York Times* for December 12, headlined "Terror a Weapon in U.S. Propaganda," Anthony Leviero described propaganda methods carried on by the recently organized U.S. "Psychological Strategy Board." Describing types of U.S. propaganda used outside of Voice of America broadcasts, State Department pamphlets, etc., Mr. Leviero mentioned something he called "black propaganda" which, he declared:

... conceals or falsifies its source, and may include violence, planting false rumors, the manufacture and

propagation of scandals, and other activities designed to sow confusion and distrust.

Soviet Protest Note

On November 21, the Soviet Government sent a note of protest to the United States Government. Quoting the provisions of the Mutual Security Act, the Soviet note declared:

The law envisages the financing of persons and armed groups on the territory of the Soviet Union and a number of other states for carrying out subversive activity and sabotage within the above states.

It is not difficult to understand also that the law envisages the financing of traitors to their countries and war criminals who fled from their countries and find refuge on the territory of the United States and a number of other states, and for financing armed groups for struggle against the Soviet Union.

The note charged that the adoption of this law was unprecedented in relations among states and constitutes crass intervention of the U.S. in the affairs of other countries as well as unparalleled violation of the standards of international law, and could only be regarded as an aggressive act further aggravating US-USSR relations and the international situation.

The note further called the attention of the United States Government to the fact that this law constitutes a direct violation of the Litvinov-Roosevelt agreement of November 16, 1933, during the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries and declared:

Under this agreement the Governments of the USSR and the United States mutually undertook not to set up, not to subsidize, not to support military organizations or groups which have as their aim armed struggle

against the other side and to prevent any recruiting for such organizations and groups. The agreement further points out that the sides undertake to prevent the setting up of such organizations and groups which have as their aim struggle against the political or social system of both states.

In conclusion the Soviet Government lodged a resolute protest against this violation of its commitments by the United States and stated that it expects the United States Government will take appropriate measures for repealing the law.

The United States rejected the Soviet protest as groundless, declaring that the provision of the act in question was designed to provide assistance for "victims of Soviet Communist oppression," when such action would contribute to the "defense" of the North Atlantic Area.

A Soviet protest against the appropriation is on the agenda of the current UN Assembly session in Paris.

The Case of the C-47

In the light of the acknowledged purposes of the \$100,000,000 fund, the attempts to make an international incident out of the disappearance of the C-47, U.S. military plane supposedly on a flight from Munich to Belgrade, boomeranged sharply.

After a flurry of newspaper headlines about the plane having been shot down by Hungarian and Rumanian border guards, a *Tass* statement of December 3 announced that the plane after violating the territory of Rumania, then violated the Hungarian frontier and attempted to fly over Hungarian territory. Entering the zone occupied by the Soviet airforce it was forced to land by Soviet airplanes. (Under the terms of the Allied-Hungarian Peace Treaty, the

Hooded like the KKK to "conceal their identity and protect relatives," these 2 Ukrainian priests were trotted out at a recent N.Y. convention of the Ukrainian Catholic Youth League, where they spread wild tales about an insurgent army in the Ukraine. Only an early edition of the N. Y. Herald-Tribune reported that they had "returned to that country with the invading Nazi armies."



NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.

er they fled from the Ukraine once, the
tel returned to that country with the inf
un-invading Nazi armies, then fled UK
of again after the Russians regained of
che the territory. Specific dates, places, da

Nov. 26, '51

USSR has the right to have armed forces stationed in Hungary to maintain the lines of communication with the Soviet occupation zone of Austria.)

The *Tass* statement declared that the plane's navigational instruments, communications and other equipment were in good order, permitting it to fly under difficult weather conditions and at night, in support of its charge that the violation of the Rumanian and Hungarian frontiers was deliberate and not a mere navigational error as maintained by the State Department.

On board the plane were found, according to the *Tass* statement, operational maps of the most important military areas of the USSR including the Ukraine and the Volga area, as well as maps of Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Hungary. Also found

were extra radio equipment, packs with provisions and twenty warm blankets prepared for dropping from the plane, and six parachutes other than those supplied for the crew's use. Pointing out that these military maps and other equipment were not those needed for a normal flight, the *Tass* statement declared:

The very fact of the violation of the state frontiers of Hungary and Rumania by the American military transport plane, the duration of the flight over the territories of these countries, the type of plane and its landing equipment as well as the special set of operational maps of the aforementioned countries discovered in the plane, show that the plane had been sent by the American military command for criminal purposes connected with the planting of spies and saboteurs on the territory of the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union.

Referring to statements by members of the plane's crew that the route of the plane included a visit to Yugoslavia, the *Tass* statement observed that members of the Soviet command concluded that the plane had intended "to pick up Yugoslav spies and saboteurs and drop them for subversive activity on the territories of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies."

The plane and its crew were handed over by the Soviet military command to Hungarian authorities. Both Hungary and Rumania have lodged protests with the United States over the violation of their territory. Hungary charged that the plane was intended for the dumping of spies on Hungarian territory.

The State Department has failed to deny or explain the presence of the military maps, insisting only that the objects found were merely "survivor equipment" for such planes.

Commenting on the incident in the *Compass* for December 5, I. F. Stone reported that the State Department is looking around for some way to involve the UN in the affair of the C-47, and wrote:

It is difficult to see any connection between the UN Charter and the forcing down of a military plane operating without permission, whether accidentally or otherwise, over the territory of another country. . . . Even in the UN, however, an investigation would prove embarrassing in the light of that \$100,000,000 fund and the Russian complaint that it violates international law. If the U.S. is making money available for use by dissident elements behind the Iron Curtain, it must deliver the money

and supplies bought with this money. How does it propose to do so?

Mr. Stone suggested imagining the situation in reverse. Suppose the Supreme Soviet had appropriated a comparable sum to finance terrorist activities in North America, and a Soviet military plane with military maps of our country and equipment which would be useful to terrorists operating across the border, were forced down over Mexican territory: what conclusions would be drawn?

Regarding the new U.S. terrorist fund, Mr. Stone made the point that this kind of fund could not be equated with the activities of Communist Parties, as the State Department would attempt to do in its own apologetics. Mr. Stone declared:

The difference . . . is plain. Terrorism is a movement which utilizes assassination—the pistol and the bomb—to bring about political change by killing off government officials. Communism is a political, not a terrorist movement. Otherwise Communists in Italy, France and England would long ago have been outlawed for trying to come to power not by winning major sections of the working, middle and peasant classes by agitation but by shooting leading officials. . . . The Communists did not even use terrorist methods in the struggle against Fascism.

The distinction is clear on any calm appraisal of elementary political facts and history. To finance terrorism is to finance crime, not political activity. Murder and Marxism cannot be equated. . . . The affair of the C-47 shows how necessary it is for all who want peace to fight the new Pandora's box of evils that terrorist fund opens.

J. S.

SOVIET UNION CATCHES TWO SPIES

SOVIET news agency, *Tass*, reported on Dec. 19, execution of two spies who confessed they were recruited by U.S. intelligence in a West German D.P. camp and, after training, parachuted by U.S. plane into Russia for purposes of diversion, terror and espionage.

Vile Weapon

by GORDON SCHAFFER



ON THE DAY Winston Churchill again reminded the House of Commons that Britain was committed as a front line atomic base for America's war, one of Britain's most brilliant young physicists published a book telling in plain unemotional terms what atomic energy could mean for peaceful reconstruction and the catastrophes it would bring if the people allow it to be used for war.

The scientist is Dr. Eric Burhop, who helped to make the first atom bomb but who since the war has refused in any circumstances to give his knowledge to war research and who last summer was banned by the British government from going to Moscow with a friendship delegation.

His book (*The Challenge of Atomic Energy*, by E. H. Burhop, with the collaboration of John Hasted, Lawrence and Wishart, London) leaves no doubt that if Britain and other western countries were to allow themselves to be led into atomic war by the madmen of Washington, their peoples would face a catastrophe unimaginable in its horror.

It is hardly surprising that the British press which periodically publishes nonsensical statements about the protection offered by sheets of brown paper to the effects of atomic bombs and which contains such fantasies as reports

on lectures by civil defense experts on how to make a cup of tea after an atomic raid, has virtually ignored Burhop's book. The same boycott was applied to another book published a few months ago in Britain giving eye witnesses' accounts by the survivors of the Nagasaki bomb. This book (*We of Nagasaki*, by Takashi Nagai, Gollancz, London) tells a story which would bring horror to the most hardened advocate of atomic war.

Dr. Burhop begins with an analysis of the immense possibilities for human progress which atomic energy has placed within reach of mankind. He reaches the conclusion that with the use of atomic piles to "breed" plutonium from uranium and then by the use of thorium to "breed" more uranium, the world's entire power requirements could be met in thirty years, although it would take longer to provide the technical means for making full use of these vast resources. He says that known supplies of raw material are available to keep the world going for thousands of years.

In fact, however, less than two per cent of all the efforts in the atomic energy field in the United States is devoted to peace, while the stock piling of atomic weapons is rapidly exhausting the world's supply of high grade ores. Churchill has revealed that

Britain, which at first led the world in the supply of isotopes for medicine, is now engaged in "very costly production campaign for making the atomic bomb."

Having sketched what humanity could achieve, Dr. Burhop tells how atomic destruction threatens the whole world. He quotes the view of Professor Einstein and other American scientists that if the hydrogen bomb, which President Truman has ordered to be made, is ever exploded it may set up a chain reaction capable of destroying all life on the planet.

Basing his conclusions on the known effects of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs and the experimental underwater explosion made by the Americans at Bikini, Dr. Burhop declares that while civil defense might minimize casualties it cannot possibly prevent slaughter and devastation on a scale unparalleled in history.

He puts on record the undoubted fact that the Soviet Union has never used bombing of civilian population as an instrument of war, but he takes the view that since Britain has permitted American atomic bases on her territory, immobilization of these bases would become a military necessity and atomic bombs would be dropped.

"If war should come," he says, "and as seems inevitable in that event, widespread bombardments including atomic bombardments, should follow, we have to face the possibility that our great cities will be reduced to smoking, radioactive ruins and our people—at least those of them who survive—reduced to a standard of subsistence unknown since the dawn of civilization."

Casualties in an atomic attack are caused by the heat flash which reaches the temperature of the interior of the sun and destroys life for an area of two-thirds of a mile. Gamma rays destroy within a radius of half a mile

but radioactivity may have long term effects. Dr. Burhop takes the view that if a bomb were exploded nearer the ground than at Hiroshima and Nagasaki whole areas would be uninhabitable for a long period as a result of radioactivity. If a cloud were rendered radioactive it would spread death-dealing rain over a wide area, while a bomb exploded in a river would make the docks and the surrounding area uninhabitable for months as a result of contamination by radioactive spray.

Many of the victims of radioactivity would have no chance of survival and would be doomed to a lingering death. Pregnant women would inevitably suffer abortion.

Even where there is a chance of saving the victims from radioactivity and burns the number of doctors, nurses and the quantities of bandages, drugs and other equipment would be far beyond the capacity of any community.

Dr. Burhop believes that even with civil defense in operation, casualties would not be much less than the 60,000 dead and 69,000 injured at Hiroshima, while if improved bombs were dropped there would probably be more. If more than one bomb were dropped simultaneously, effects of fire and radioactivity and consequent casualties would be multiplied many times.

Dr. Burhop declares that the only possible protection would be a vast system of interconnected shelters four or five hundred feet beneath the ground. And since it will be necessary for the population to spend the greater part of its time in the shelters, industry and transport would cease to function and life in the great cities would come to a standstill. For a country like Britain or France evacuation of industries from the great cities is absolutely impossible and the cost of underground shelters is prohibitive. So the only protection against the atom bomb is to insure that it is never used.

From this point Dr. Burhop analyzes the possibility of lifting from humanity the menace of atomic war. He does not disguise the difficulties and his book sets out plainly for all to see, the ex-

GORDON SCHAFFER is Assistant Editor of the London "Reynolds News" and Vice-President of the British-Soviet Society.

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HOMES FOR LIVING OR BOMBS FOR DYING?

THE U.S. war program, now running at *fifty billion dollars a year*, will reach 65 billion dollars in 1951. Yet people are learning that the only threat of war comes from the war program itself.

One air wing to carry atom bombs costs 1½ billion dollars.

The U.S. is now building 95 air wings. It will cost \$43 billions a year just to maintain such an airforce—almost enough to bring the two-third of American families with incomes below \$4,526 up to the levels required for health and decency.

For the cost of just three of those airwings (4½ billion dollars) enough new schools could be built to eliminate overcrowding, teachers could get needed pay increases, the level of education raised.

Seventeen aircraft carriers (one costs \$218 millions) would provide the 900,000 hospital beds now lacking to meet America's health needs.

One billion dollars for the hydrogen bomb project in South Carolina. Scientists say such a bomb might destroy all life on earth!

One billion dollars could build 2 million homes.

Shall billions be spent for death or for a better life for the people?

tent to which the great American trusts have taken over virtual control of all atomic projects in the United States. Among these firms are General Electric, DuPont, and Dow Chemical, the very concerns which were exposed and indicted during the war by the American Anti-Trust Department because of their secret agreement with I. G. Farben, Krupp's and other German firms whose activities made possible the creation of the Nazi war machine.

Finally, Dr. Burhop lists the various proposals put forward at the United Nations for the international control of atomic energy. This section is of immense value to the peoples in the western countries, for their press has systematically concealed the real issues involved in the clash between the American Baruch plan and the Soviet proposals first put forward by Mr. Gromyko in 1946.

The objective facts show that the Soviet Union has never refused inspection of atomic plants and has never suggested that the Security Council veto should apply to any machinery for enforcing the abolition of atomic weapons. What she has done is to say that until the Powers agree to the abolition of the vile weapon of atomic bombs, meas-

ures of inspection suggested by the Baruch plan are at best a farce and at worst a method of securing information about atomic plants while retaining the use of the bomb. Moreover she has said that no country which looks to the illimitable possibilities of peaceful employment of atomic energy can be expected to surrender it to an international commission dominated by the American cartels.

Dr. Burhop voices the opinion that the Stockholm appeal for the abolition of the bomb was a powerful factor in mobilizing the demand for peace of the people in both east and west, and he asserts that the world peace movement can still be powerful enough to save the world from disaster.

In *We of Nagasaki*, Dr. Takashi Nagai, who since writing his book has died from the effects of radiation, paints the most terrifying picture yet of the agony inflicted on the Japanese people by the first atom bombs.

Anyone reading this book who does not make a personal resolve to struggle to the limit of power to save the other cities of the world from a similar agony, must be immune from all human feelings.

There is the story of Dr. Nagai's daughter, who was four when the bomb fell. She remembers how there was a service for the dead people. "The relatives stood in rows holding white crosses, 8,000 crosses. I held a cross with my mother's name on it. There were more crosses than people at the service." (All those writing this report were Catholics.)

Dr. Nagai's son, who was ten at the time of the bomb, tells how he saw the explosion from outside the city where he was swimming in a river. He saw coming down the road towards the river people "looking like a parade of roast chickens. Some of them kept asking for 'Water, water.' I would rather blind myself than ever have to see such a sight again." The boy tells how he went back to school in October. "There were three teachers and 30 pupils in the yard. Twenty-five teachers and about 1,200 pupils had died. There had been about 60 of us in my class, but only four turned up."

Horror piles on horror as these simple stories are unfolded. There are accounts of the agonizing nights in the shelters when victim after victim dies from the effects of atomic radiation—"people were dropping dead of it, one after another, even people who had suffered no wound at the time of the explosion," Madam Urata comments. There is the story of Tatsui Urata, a sister of Madam Urata, who left her mother preparing the meal while she went out to the hills for a morning in the sunshine. She, too, came back to find everything destroyed by the heat flash. This is what she says:

"I found where my house had been from the position of the well where we got our water. And my mother? In the white ashes, there was one black spot, a heap of charred bones. That was mother. . . .

". . . In the place where was once Mrs. Tsuchio's house on the other side of the well, I found some small bones. These must have been her little girls."

Miss Matsu Moriuci, survived the explosion because she reached the

shelter at the Yamazato Elementary School. She tells how when the bomb came the teachers were digging a new shelter in the school playground.

"In the dim light coming through the mouth of the shelter I saw a huddle of half-naked people strewn about the entranceway. Their bodies were puffed up like balloons, their skin was peeling off in strips—hanging down like the shreds of a rag. They were so still I thought they were dead, but they weren't; they kept moaning. 'Water—give me water!' These bodies were the teachers who just a little while ago had been having such a good time digging the new shelter."

Then there was the agony of the pregnant women and the midwife who came to tend a woman taken with labor pains in the shelter. As she saw the woman writhing in pain the midwife said, "Oh, my! What a fix to be in! I've just come from helping a woman. Goodness, how many miscarriages and premature births!

"It happened to practically all the women around there. I guess the atom bomb even killed the babies inside them! What an awful thing! War is war, but after all . . ."

So this story of horror piled up. As one reads to the end of this book one feels that human agony has reached its limit. The story ought to be read and pondered over by every human being on this planet, threatened by the nightmare of atomic war.

Every man and woman who fails to join in the struggle to save the world from this agony must share the responsibility of those who are ready today, to inflict the agony of Nagasaki on other towns and cities all over the world. I am sure that if the message of these two books can be brought to the knowledge and understanding of the peoples of all countries they will struggle even harder to insure that this vile weapon is forever banned and that those who still seek to use it are driven by the anger of the peoples from all opportunities to inflict these horrors on the world.

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NEW YOKE FOR MIDDLE EAST?

THE United States Government, along with Britain, France and Turkey, presented proposals during October and November to the Governments of Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Israel and Transjordan for the setting up of an "Allied Command in the Middle East." This command, to be connected with NATO, envisages the stationing of foreign armed forces on the territory of Egypt and other countries of the Near and Middle East, the accommodation of its headquarters in Egypt and the placing of armed forces, military bases, communications, ports and other installations at its disposal by Egypt and the other countries indicated.

On November 21, the Soviet Government handed a note on these proposals to the Egyptian Government, and analogous notes to Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

The notes recalled that the Soviet Government had repeatedly pointed out that the North Atlantic bloc had nothing to do with the defense of its participants, as claimed, but pursues aggressive aims and is directed against the USSR and the People's Democracies, and is contrary to the basic principles of the United Nations. Likewise the plan for setting up the Middle Eastern Command can have nothing to do with the interests of maintaining peace and security in the Near and Middle East, nor with the genuine national interests of the states of this area, providing as it does not only for prolonging the stay of foreign armed forces in these areas, but bringing in new ones and setting up new military bases. The realization of the plan, continued the note:

... Would lead to an actual military occupation of the countries of the Near and Middle East by the troops of these countries, organizers of the Atlantic bloc, first and foremost by

the troops of the United States and Great Britain, as well as of other states including Australia and New Zealand, located at a distance of 12,000 to 15,000 kilometers from this area. What such a situation would mean for the countries of the Near and Middle East is not difficult to see from the example of certain of these countries which were subjected to occupation by foreign troops decades ago and which are still occupied by these troops, notwithstanding the lawful demands of the peoples of these countries for the withdrawal of foreign troops from their territories. The occupation of the countries of the Near and Middle East by foreign troops and the establishment of foreign military bases on their territories . . . must inevitably lead to the loss of the independence and sovereignty of these countries and their subjugation to certain large powers which are trying to use their territories and their material resources, such as oil, cotton, etc., for aggressive ends of their own.

The Soviet Union recalled its consistent regard for the national aspirations of the peoples of the Near and Middle East, and its repeated proposals for strengthening international peace and security as indicating the absurdity of the allegations of a Soviet threat to these countries as the pretext for setting up the Command.

On November 24, the Soviet Government presented notes to the United States, Great Britain, France and Turkey declaring it could not ignore "these new aggressive designs which are embodied in the establishment of a Middle East Command in regions close to the boundaries of the USSR."

Egypt, in the throes of freeing itself from British control, has sharply rebuffed the invitation to place itself under a new yoke, and only the reactionary government of Turkey would ally itself with initiating the plans for what is obviously designed to be not a command of the Middle East but a command over the Middle East. With the tide of liberation running strong in all these countries it will be no easy matter to accomplish this design.

Machines and the Soviet Man

A film review by
AMY SCHECHTER

MINERS OF THE DON, scenario by Boris Gorbatoev and V. Alekseyev; directed and produced by L. Lukov; camera by M. Krillov; music by Tikhon Khrennikov. Released by Artkino Pictures.

THE DONBAS combine, developed since the war, brought the mechanization of the Soviet coal industry to a new high. Before that coal was already machine-hewn and transported through the mine by conveyors, mine shafts had become brilliantly lighted and well ventilated factories instead of dark caves, and the latest in safety devices guarded the lives of the men working there. Now the new combine does away with hand-loading as well as most of the other hand labor.

The film *Miners of the Don* tells

what happened to the people of one Donbas coal town when this combine was tested and then installed in their mine. And it also tells about the pre-Soviet days that old-timers there still remember, in flashbacks that might have been made in one of the coal camps up around Pittsburgh or in West Virginia during the last mine strike.

Out of the life of this Donbas town and the effect of the new method of work brought in with the combine on the miners and their families, L. Lukov, director and producer, has made a dynamic, colorful film with much shrewd characterization and humor. A top-flight cast has been used to depict these important Soviet citizens: Stepan Nedolya, head of the clan, is played by Boris Chirkov, of the great *Youth of Maxim* series; his daughter Lidia is the very beautiful Katia Luchko, who created such a memorable and poetic figure of Soviet youth in *Cossacks of the Kuban*, and there are several other outstanding actors from the Moscow Art Theater.

Lukov has evidently studied his miners with great care and affection. He has caught those qualities that seem to be universal among miners, their special sort of independence, daring and conviction, their large and robust gaiety. Being Soviet people of today with their unhampered perspectives and feeling of social responsibility, Lukov's characters are also as specifically and richly coal miners—Ukrainian coal miners—as the people in *Cossacks of the Kuban* are Cossacks.

Cameraman Kirillov does remarkable things with people and machines and coal. He makes a dynamic pattern of men down the mine together with sleek massive machines in action and streams of glistening chunks of coal borne by the conveyor belt. The men are dominant despite the powerful machines and looming coalface. With equal understanding he shows the vigorous rejoicing of a miner's wedding feast, an old man's sorrow, a girl and boy in love, a conference of mine executives and engineers.



Katia Luchko in "Miners of the Don"

Moscow Art Theater actor I. Peltser, makes a jewel of perfection out of a bit part. He is the old retired miner, Petrovich. For the first time in fifteen years he goes down the mine again to see the marvels the whole town is talking about. And seeing them he weeps—for his life that is past, for the suffering of the years, and because he will never work in the fine, airy, machine-run place that used to be his mine.

Boris Gorbатов, author of the novel on which the film is based, wrote the scenario with V. Alekseyev, and this seems the weakest part of the film, for the development of character, ideas and conflict, in cinematic terms, seems too limited. With a better script *Miners of the Don*, exciting and challenging, would have ranged among the top post-war Soviet pictures.

The problems the film dramatizes, created by "the underground revolu-

tion," are very real, but on a completely different and much higher level than those created by mechanization in capitalist lands. What mechanization means for American miners was spelled out during the bitter coal strike winter two years ago. The men fought to save their health and pension plan because machines were forcing tens of thousands out of mines, especially the older ones with no chance of other jobs. And they fought for safety measures because lack of adequate safety devices and ventilation were bringing tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases and wholesale maiming and slaughter in the mines to appalling levels.

Expanding Soviet economy guarantees that the miner displaced will have a dozen jobs waiting for him; job security and care for health and safety remain. The problems are those of adjustment and of growth. To an increasing degree the miner becomes a skilled technician or engineer.

In the picture, young Stakhanovite shovel brigade leader Vassily has to swallow his pride and go back to school again so he can push on to new heights. His girl, Lidia Nedolya, finds her dispatcher's job at the mine has turned into a job that needs technical skills, and decides to quit and study mining engineering.

Adjustments are difficult at the time, but the door to higher achievement is wide open. Old-timer Gorovoi, able mine superintendent, feels he can no longer handle his job, not being an engineer. After some heart-searching, he takes a new job training the newcomers to the industry—and himself plans to study the new machine and methods as well, passing up retirement.

SUN'S RAYS CAN NOW BOIL OR FREEZE

SUN-POWERED water boilers, dryers, salt water distillers, medical apparatus, cold storage units, steam boilers and other inventions have been developed by the heliotechnical laboratories of the Power Institute at the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. Some of this equipment will be used in the big hydroelectric projects at the Main Turkmen Canal where conditions are very favorable.

Svanetia Signs for Peace

by RALPH PARKER

THE BRIEF message in a Moscow newspaper that the people of Svanetia have given their unanimous support to the appeal for a Five-Power Pact of Peace conjured up a sudden breath-taking view of the snow-capped Caucasian mountains that must have photographed itself on the memory of everyone who has been fortunate enough to travel to Soviet Georgia by train.

The lithe young engineer who, even when he strode down the corridor created an impression of stepping from boulder to boulder, pointed up a valley lined with cypresses and said:

"That is the way to Svanetia.

"If you travelled up that valley you would soon find yourself bewitched by the beauty of the Caucasus. Sometimes the ice-cold peaks of Elbruz would beckon you on. You would see the serrated walls of the Shkara and the bold pyramids of the Gestola, the huge and towering mass of the Dongus-Orun.

"You would pass under the shadow of the old castle of Orbeli. You would travel far, always climbing, but still you would not have reached Svanetia, my country.

"When I was a small boy it took five days riding by brid'e path from where we are now to the lowest vil-

lage of Svanetia, and from Lotal to my native village the path rose by another 4,500 feet.

"Life is different there now but there are still fifty old watch towers in the village, tall windowless tapering buildings capped with battlements. Look at the face of one of our old villages and you would see that it is eyeless. We did not look on to the world and the world did not notice us.

"I was born in such a village, in a fortified cottage with two watch towers, a rampart, and a single living room. In this small squat cottage thatched with bracken, its ceiling black with soot, its walls damp and crumbling, I spent my early years.

"My father was a shepherd like his father before him. It was my grandfather who conquered the West summit of Elbruz with the Englishman in 1874.

"I was just eight years old when the first school was opened in our village. I remember walking back after the first lessons and meeting my father coming down the hill from our cottage.

"Where are you going?" I asked him.

"To school," he replied.

"We learned to read together.

"Then came the doctors and the en-

gineers and, of course, the ethnologists whom we used to show how we still fought in armor.

"I got a job at a small power station that was being built. That was in 1940. Then I took a correspondence course at the Institute. When I passed the entrance examination my dad was so pleased he borrowed a horn from the museum and blew it from the top of the watch tower like my grandfather used to do to summon the community to resist the invaders.

"Now I am a qualified engineer, second in charge at a new power station, and I have just been to Lenin-grad to inspect a new turbine. I wish you could see the new house I am building. We've used the stones from the rampart and one of the watch towers. We need the other tower for grain storage.

"In a few hours I shall be home. By plane."

He left us at the next stop. We saw him bound into a car as if he were mounting a pony, and away he sped to the airfield.

Great things are happening in Svanetia today. Back from the universities the sons of shepherds are coming armed with plans to harness the snow waters, to tap the glaciers, to create underground rivers that will water the dry valleys of the Caucasian foothills.

The clans of Svanetia have abandoned costly feuds, have put their war banners and armor, some of it dating from Crusader days, into their local museums and have entered the Georgian family of nations, which is itself a part of the Soviet family of free nations.

Only thirty years have passed since the people of Tekali, Buleshi Mami and other Svanetian villages warily emerged from behind their stone walls to compound their dif-



The village of Mestia in Svanetia. Some of the old stone walls and quite a number of the watch towers are still standing. Svanetia today remains a picturesque spot in Soviet Georgia, but its people have won a new life of culture, progress and security

ferences in agreements signed with their thumb-marks.

Today, in the school halls or in the administrative offices of their collective farms or in their social clubs, they are firmly writing their names to an appeal to the great powers to follow their example and sign for peace, putting aside their cruel and costly weapons as things that man has outgrown.

WANTED

We would be extremely grateful to anyone who can send us copies of the September, 1951 issue of **New World Review**. If you do not need yours, please send it to New World Review, 114 E. 32nd St., N. Y. 16.

NO LIGHT ON AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN, by Sir Kedd Fraser-Tyler, Oxford University Press, 1950. 330 pp. \$5.00.

THERE are few books in English on Afghanistan; and that is a pity, because the little-known Moslem nation occupies a pivotal position in the Middle East, wedged in as it is between Iran, the Soviet Union, and the subcontinent of India.

Unfortunately, the present volume by a retired British Army officer does not fill the gap. Written in a Kipling-esque spirit of nineteenth century imperialism and "the white man's burden," it views Afghanistan as a strategic pawn in the game of checking Soviet "expansionism." It sheds no light on the aspirations of the Afghan people for social progress, economic development, and genuine national independence and well-being.

The author's mentality may be gauged by the following characteristic comment: "We are inevitably brought to the conclusion that there must be something inherent in India itself which produces a disintegrating effect on people or races who dwell for generations on the great plain of the subcontinent. . . . There is something lacking, some mental or spiritual attribute which has in the past weakened in the races of India the powers of cohesion, of citizenship, of corporate resistance to outside influences."

One wonders how much longer we are to have such absurd generalizations inflicted upon us, especially in view of the rising tide of social and national liberation throughout Asia. It is therefore not accidental that the author proposes a fusion of the two nations of Afghanistan and Pakistan into one state, backed of course by the power of Anglo-American imperialism, as a deterrent against the "danger of Communist infiltration." But the peoples of Asia are daily giving their answer to this gospel of Western imperialism.

W. M.

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