

NEW WORLD

SEPTEMBER

1952

Review

20¢



FIRST-HAND REPORTS ON CHINA TODAY!
Soviet Scientists Show Path to Plenty



One-Sided?

Seattle—I should like to avail myself of your offer of Kanco razor blades. I would like the thin-type double-edged so as to fit the Gillette. Your magazine is interesting, but too one-sided.—I. R.

For Objectivity

Baton Rouge, La.—I wish to compliment your organization on its magnificent accomplishment—endeavoring to publish an objective magazine in times when objectivity has little weight. Congratulations.—Mrs. Carmelia Brow.

Wants More People

Los Angeles—You have frequently asked readers for their criticism and comment, so here's mine: The articles are often too much alike. There should be more variety, such as individual stories—conversations of people—actual case histories taken from real life. The stories about the three Chinese "wives" in an earlier issue, and the "free enterprise" hoarder who was finally caught up with, are examples all too rare.—Ernestine Adams.

Seeks Open Outlook

Oak Park, Ill.—I merely had a glimpse of NEW WORLD REVIEW, which a friend of mine is enjoying immensely. There were articles in it about Russia and other countries about which we are kept in tremendous ignorance. I, for one, desire a little more of an open outlook on these points. One at times wonders if there is not to a great extent an iron curtain around the USA.—Stanley P. Kerr.

P.S.—I am enclosing \$1, which I understand pays for a six-months trial offer.

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Vol. 20, No. 9, September, 1952. Entered as second class matter June 27, 1951, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription \$2.00 per year, \$1.00 for 6 months (Canadian and foreign \$3.00 a year. Draw money orders or checks payable in New York). Published monthly by the S.R.T. Publications, Inc., 114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, N. Y. Indexed in Bulletin of the Public Affairs Information Service. Phone: Murray Hill 3-3855.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

NEW WORLD REVIEW

The First Time **I SAW CHINA**

*Just back from Far East, Dr. Kingsbury
outlines the "Big Story" of a New World*

by

DR. JOHN ADAMS KINGSBURY

IT IS BETTER to see once than to hear a thousand times," is a Chinese proverb pronounced by Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the China Peace Committee, speaking to the 40 delegates from 20 countries attending the Preparatory Peace Conference in Peking in June. The delegation was departing for a three weeks trip by plane, ship and train through Central and Eastern China. Many of them had heard a thousand times and read much about the New China. Now they were going to see once and, as a less ancient proverb puts it, "Seeing is believing." Proverbs, however, are but part truths. What the delegates saw in New China during those eventful weeks seemed almost unbelievable.

On the flight into Peking we saw one of the "Seven Wonders of the World"—the Great Wall of China built in the third century B.C. From an altitude of 2,000 feet, etched upon the horizon by the rays of a brilliant and colorful sunrise, we saw the Great Wall meandering along the mountain ridges, lifting its parapets and watchtowers against the sky, wandering as lonely as a cloud over the mountain tops, stretching on, and on,

and on. As far as the eye could penetrate from our vantage point we saw the Great Wall approach and disappear, linking East to West, symbolic of what man can do to protect himself against his enemies who are always "the barbarians."

Seeing the Great Wall we were bound to believe it exists, but it was difficult to believe that the hands of man in ancient times could accomplish such an impressive undertaking. Yet we were soon to witness a gigantic demonstration showing how the hands of man can erect a barrier against a devastating natural enemy; how a Great Wall of earth, reinforced by metal and concrete, can transform nature by controlling the periodic

DR. JOHN A. KINGSBURY, recently returned from a year abroad, including a month's travel in People's China, is a specialist on public health. He was the organizer of the Milbank Memorial Fund and its Secretary and Managing Director for 15 years. He is a former member of the New York State Health Commission and the author of several books. He is Chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

floods of three mighty rivers of Eastern Asia.

On our 1,200 kilometer flight from Peking to Hankow in Central China we saw something quite as remarkable as the Great Wall—the thousands upon thousands of villages, interspersed by cities, where millions of Chinese people dwell, till their fertile fields, make the tools and machinery they use, and manufacture the goods they consume.

Again, as far as the eye could see the vast plain intersected by meandering streams spread in every direction to the distant horizon dotted with these little village compounds surrounded by tiny allotments of land laid out in perfect geometric patterns. From the sky they looked like ant hills, often so closely crowded as almost to form barriers.

Seeing this panorama of thousands of villages one begins to have some conception of a nation with a population of 450 millions of human beings, and of how the people work and live and have their being; that is, if one has enjoyed the privilege of visiting some of these villages, and of spending a day in one or more of them, mingling with the peasants, visiting the schools, and the homes where the children live, watching the people shop at the cooperative store, or observing the "Mutual Aid Groups" tilling the soil or harvesting their crops. If one has enjoyed such a privilege and has met and talked with the citizens and the village council, one begins to have some conception of the New China, of the people and of their greatest achievement since liberation: Land Reform.

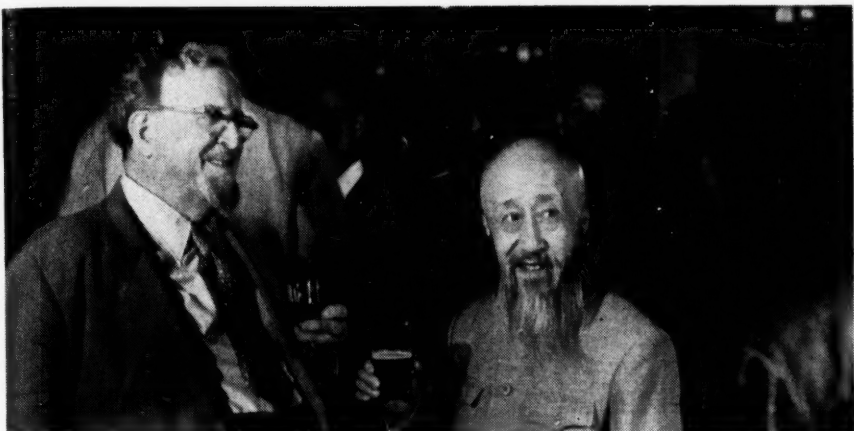
Yes, I am convinced of the truth of that proverb spoken by the great poet, scholar and public servant, Kuo Mo-jo. It is, indeed, better to see the New China once than to hear about

it a thousand times. This is true especially as to most of what one hears or reads in the USA based as it usually is on false reports and distorted stories circulated by former foreign exploiters who have fled China to escape their obligations; reports so often twisted by a prejudiced press.

Shortly before her death a great woman, Beatrice Webb, wrote me: "I am glad you are working for American-Soviet friendship, for without understanding between the USA and the USSR I see no future." I would add, "Without friendship and understanding between the United States of America and the Chinese Peoples' Republic I see no future."

These statements are eminently true because of the understanding that has been established between Peoples' China and the Soviet Union. No one with an open mind visiting those two great Republics can doubt the firmness of their friendship. An attack upon either would bring us to Armageddon; but I am convinced that neither of them will ever attack the western nations. As a Russian citizen said: "We need peace, as we need fresh air," and the Chinese reiterate this sentiment.

Indeed, we have had ample evidence of their restraint, the capacity of both these peoples for suffering, even the pangs of disprized love, the proud man's contumely. I venture to offer the opinion that one could spit upon their gabardine, call them dog and yet not provoke them to fight short of an overt attack. Witness such statements as that made by the President of the United States in his Library of Congress speech last September: "Their society [Soviet] is a jungle through which the naked power of government stalks like a beast of prey, making all men afraid." This statement I read in the *New York*



—Photo courtesy Dr. Kingsbury

Dr. Kingsbury (left) drinks a toast with Shen Chin-ju, President of the People's Court of China, at a reception in the Peace House, in Peking

Times of Sept. 18, 1951, shortly after my wife and I had completed a 7,000 mile tour of the Soviet Union where we had mingled with tens of thousands of Soviet people, in parks and sports stadiums, in factories and on farms, without ever detecting the slightest sign of fear. Reading that speech, I recalled these lines of Walt Whitman:

*The song is to the singer,
and it comes back most to him.*

*Murder is to the murderer,
and it comes back most to him.*

I'm sure Whitman would add today:

*Fear is to the fearful,
and it comes back most to him.*

In the words of another illustrious American:

*We have nothing to fear but fear
itself.*

It is because we devoutly believe

that without friendship and understanding between the two great Republics of the East and the great Republic of the West—without peaceful co-existence—there will be no future; because of this belief I went to the Soviet Union and to People's China in the hope that I could convey to the peoples of those countries and their governments a clearer conception of American tradition and of what the American people think—the people who returned Roosevelt to the White House four times in spite of opposition of the press. And in turn, we hope to convey to the people of the USA and our government a clearer conception of what these new Republics stand for, of what the people think and how they feel; and we hope to tell something of their extraordinary achievements in the relatively short period since their establishment.

In a future article I shall describe in detail some of the material achievements I observed. These material achievements furnish only the framework for the great spiritual renaissance.

sance which is taking place in China today. A spiritual renaissance, however, which probably could not be taking place were it not for the wisdom of the leaders in first preparing the way for it by laying the foundation in land distribution and flood control.

Again and again, when I asked for explanation of the remarkable achievements I saw, I was referred to the regeneration of the peasants resulting from land reform and their confidence in the future given them by the assurance that at long last they were to be free from the haunting fear of inundation by flood, of starvation from drought and suffering from pestilence and disease.

The Chinese people and particularly the Chinese peasants have suddenly shaken themselves free from centuries of persecution and exploitation under feudalism. One wonders how it could have happened even with land reform which guarantees to every adult person above 17 years of age, men and women alike, his allotment of land in perpetuity. Even the former landlords are given their allotment and allowed to work it the same as the peasants as long as they are loyal to the government and to the peasant organization.

No one visiting China today, as I did, can doubt that the new regime is fundamentally democratic. The local governments of hundreds of thousands of villages are self-sustaining and thoroughly democratic. And similarly the Hsien (County), the provincial and the central government, are democratically controlled. The "Common Program of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference" was adopted by the first plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on September 29, 1949 in Peking.

From the status of the oppressed

the Chinese people have attained the mastery of a new society and a new state which has replaced the Kuomintang's reactionary rule of feudalism. A fascist dictatorship has been superseded by the people's democratic united front composed of the Chinese working class, peasantry, petty bourgeoisie, national bourgeoisie and other democratic elements based on the alliance of workers and peasants and led by the working class. "The People's Political Consultative Conference" represents the will of the people of the whole country which proclaimed the establishment of the People's Republic of China and is organizing the people's own central government.

One of the most interesting features of the Chinese government is its flexibility. It is in a sense a temporary organization although it has a strong central core of authority based on the people's will. The leaders are feeling their way to their final political formation. They are frankly endeavoring to establish a socialist regime and they look forward ultimately to establishing a Communist regime.

At present, however, the people's front consists of ten political parties or groups of which the Communist Party is one whose leadership is frankly acknowledged. As the Chinese put it, the Chinese Communist Party is the leading force in the People's Republic of China. At present the government is striving closely to unite all democratic classes and all nationalities in the country. It aims at thoroughly eliminating the remnants of counter-revolutionary forces and in building up a New China to safeguard peace in the Far East and in the whole world. Not only are political parties represented in the united front, but clubs, sports' or-



—Photo courtesy Dr. Kingsbury

Visiting a clinic that serves a village and a mining town. Dr. Kingsbury (left) is talking about health matters with the doctor in charge (center)

ganizations, cultural groups of which there are at least ten. These, together with the political parties control the government at present, and all recognize the leadership of Mao Tse-tung.

There is, indeed, a great spiritual awakening in China today. There are two dominant movements, the object of which seems to be to change human nature itself! These movements are known as San Fan, which literally means "against three"; and Wu Fan, meaning "against five."

The three things that the San Fan

movement is against are: 1) corruption; 2) waste, and; 3) bureaucracy. The five things against which the Wu Fan movement is directed are: 1) bribery; 2) tax evasion; 3) stealing or sequestering public property; 4) violating contract specifications, and; 5) stealing government information for purposes of speculation.

But these subjects each require special treatment and can merely be mentioned here. They must be seen. It is better to see them once than to hear about them a thousand times.

KOREAN ORPHANS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

MORE THAN 200 Korean orphans are living and studying in Czechoslovakia as the guests of the Government of Czechoslovakia. Accompanying these children are five Korean teachers. They live in an old fifteenth-century castle situated in Lisno, forty kilometers southeast of Prague in Central Bohemia, on a hilltop surrounded by pine woods. Nearby is a beautiful lake.

A Red Cross ambulance with complete first aid equipment is on permanent duty. When the children first arrived they could not sleep well, but care has been given to each child and now they all sleep and eat normally and have all gained weight.

No Need To Go Hungry

Scientists of the USSR prove falsity of theories that population growth dooms world's millions to starvation

by LEMENT U. HARRIS

TODAY there is increasing interest in the problem of the world's food supply. Can the food and fibre production from the world's arable lands keep up with the world's growing population? Has the age-old mining of the soil so damaged its fertility that production must tend to fall and food shortages inevitably develop?

Paradoxically, the prophets of doom are mostly to be found amongst the American agricultural spokesmen, even though our country is favored with one of the world's most extensive well-watered, arable areas. These prophets of a Malthusian doom maintain that the world's food supply cannot be greatly increased. They point to chronic undernourishment that has been the lot of the population of much of Asia and predict that as our population rises, the same fate awaits us. They have thus far ignored the steps being taken by Asia's most populous country, China, to solve its own food supply.

As recently as May, 1952, William I. Meyers, Dean of the New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell

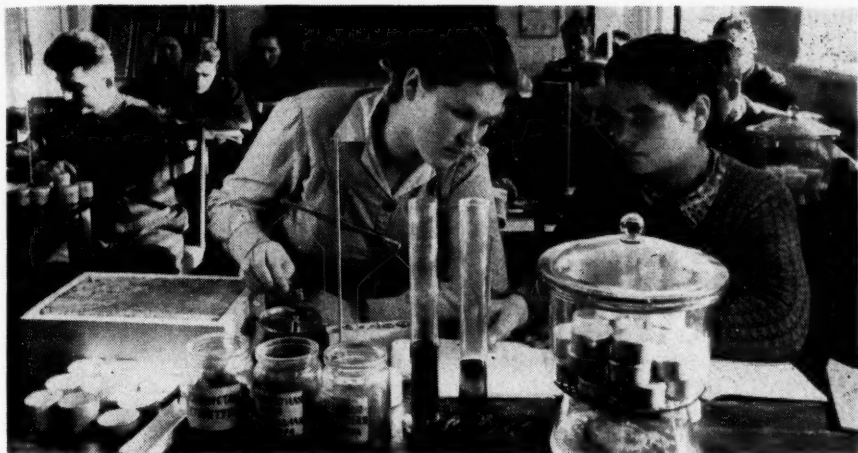
University, expressed such fears in the Federal Reserve Bank Bulletin of Atlanta.

After pointing out that total food production in the USA rose from 24 to 40 per cent during the war years, he states:

For seven years, there has been no appreciable increase in food production, beyond the 1944 peak; yet during this same period, more than seventeen million people have been added to our food consuming population, and the number is still increasing at the rate of about two and a half million a year. The growth of population has caught up with the high rate of food output achieved during the war, but food still stands at about that level. Furthermore, the prospects for an immediate sharp increase in food output are not bright, and a severe drought like 1934 or 1936 would bring a sharp decline.

In contrast to this gloomy outlook, the scientists of the Soviet Union are unanimous in their opinion that vastly improved methods of soil management are possible, permitting extraordinary increases in productivity per acre, abundantly able to meet all the requirements of the Soviet Union's rapidly growing population, now well over 200 millions. In somewhat the same spirit, the spokesmen of the Chinese People's Repub-

LEMENT U. HARRIS has worked for years on farm problems in the United States and has written extensively on agriculture here and abroad.



Laboratory in a school for collective farm management personnel in Moldavia.
Jars in foreground contain specimens showing various soil structures

lic report how the Chinese people have confidently set to work to restore their eroded and overworked soils with the aim of fully meeting the needs of their population of 450 million.

All nations stand to gain as the Soviet people introduce new and improved scientific practices. There are no secret formulae, no hidden methods, nor patented equipment. Their agricultural journals describe every detail of their production methods. Some of the more important of the reports are translated into English and distributed in the English speaking parts of the world.*

Among the more spectacular steps the Soviet Government has taken for the development of agriculture are the protective forest belts, running continuously for thousands of miles

across the path of the scorching winds that blow in from the deserts beyond the Caspian. These belts are further supplemented by tree plantings around the edges of the large collective farm fields, thereby lessening wind-born evaporation on each field.

Then, too, there are the vast river projects which involve the construction of many huge dams and hydroelectric power stations, and the diverting of waters into canals for transport and irrigation purposes. Eventually, the direction of flow of several of the largest Siberian rivers will be reversed, forcing them to flow south into the rich but dry lands of central Asia instead of flowing unproductively through the northern tundra into the Arctic.

But in addition to these dramatic measures, which involve the planned resources of the state and the productive labor of millions of industrial workers, collective farmers and scientists, there are other developments in the field of Soviet agriculture

* Some of the more recent of such publications are: *Land in Bloom*, V. Safonov, Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow, 1951; *A People's Academy*, Gennadi Fish, Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow, 1949; *Fundamentals of Agriculture*, V. R. Williams, Chemical Publishing Co., New York, 1952.

which appear to be less spectacular, but which promise even greater results in raising productivity and cutting down man hours per pound of food or fibre harvested.

While Dean Meyers is estimating that "prospects of an immediate sharp increase in production are not bright," Soviet agronomists and political leaders are estimating that the general productivity of Soviet agriculture will rise in the next few years as much as two to three times.

The new Soviet methods represent the fruition of the work of many great scientists including work done in tsarist days. These scientists are of the stature of Luther Burbank and George Washington Carver. They include Timiriazev, the friend of Charles Darwin; Dokuchaev, who demonstrated the effectiveness of shelter belts as a drought-resisting measure; Williams, who made basic discoveries on the relation between soil structure and fertility; Michurin, the plant genius who after a lifetime of penury was given by the Soviet government the full resources needed to develop his creative work; and Lysenko, President of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences, who led the struggle which has made

Michurinism the guiding theory for Soviet agriculture.

The findings of these great scientists, and of thousands of lesser scientific workers, plus the practical experiences of millions of collective farmers, have tested and rejected outworn biological practices and false genetic theories, and have stimulated a real flowering of creative work. It has been found possible to create new plant varieties with desired qualities by grafting, hybridization, and environmental controls. It has even been possible to develop what amount to new and more productive strains of cattle and other livestock, primarily through environmental controls at certain sensitive points in the development of the animals.

But the basic factor in this many-sided approach to a rationalized, highly productive agriculture is the Soviet method of handling the soil itself.

For many years the Soviet scientists have been concerning themselves with methods of soil management that would increase fertility as the land is cropped, as opposed to old wasteful methods of mining the soil. The leading figure in this work until his death was V. R. Williams,

Air view of rural area of Voronezh Region showing forest shelter belt that protects the agricultural areas from the dry, hot, drought-causing winds





Scientist in Murmansk Region checks up on crossing of winter wheat in an experimental field in the Arctic

whose discoveries supplied the basis for Soviet cropping methods now applied on millions of acres, the "travopolye" system.

This term, "travopolye," a composition of two Russian words, meaning grass and field, refers to a cropping system which includes several years of a clover or other grasses in the rotation system. The system combines much that is generally accepted as good farming practice, with certain features which are quite new and not generally practiced in this country.

In a rough way, there is a similarity between our crop rotation practices in the humid Corn Belt and general farm areas and the "travopolye" system now being practiced on the more arid Russian steppe land. Most of the arable Soviet land is this rolling, treeless, steppe land, subject to intermittent drought, comparable to the Dakota, Montana and Saskatch-

ewan wheat lands of our continent. The Soviet agronomists are transforming that type of area into an Iowa type of area, capable of producing great quantities of hogs, cattle and grain crops. The world has a great interest in this Soviet demonstration of working out a humid type of farming in a steppe region subject to droughts.

Soviet scientists are emphasizing soil structure as more important than the related factor, soil fertility. In fact, there are experiments by Soviet scientists which show that a plot of relatively worn out soil which has been brought back to a good structure can outproduce a plot of fertile soil which has lost its structure. Though structure and fertility are related, it is possible to emphasize one or the other.

Good structure is indicated by a crumbly formation, in which particles of soil adhere to each other in little pellets. Under proper conditions the humus material which acts as an adhesive, holding the pellets of soil together, is non-soluble, permitting the soil crumbs to withstand a good soaking.

Academician V. R. Williams found that the formation of this crumbly structure is the result of the action of soil bacteria which require oxygen in order to live. These are called aerobic bacteria. It therefore is important that the soil be aerated in order that aerobic bacteria may form. Once they start forming, the crumbly structure begins to appear; this structure permits the circulation of air in the soil, and the aerobic bacterial action increases. It is the further virtue of aerobic bacteria that they transform soil nutrients into forms available to plants.

In a structureless soil, dusty or hard baked, very little air can pene-

trate. Anaerobic bacteria form, that is bacteria which do not require oxygen. These bacteria do not transform existing nutrients into a form available for plant nourishment.

A structural soil has another great virtue, vital to plant growth: it conserves available moisture. In most arable areas, the spring growing season starts with a plenitude of soil moisture, resulting from the melting of accumulated winter snows, and the spring rains. It is important that the soil absorb and retain the maximum amount of this precious moisture, especially in the more arid areas, so that there may be a supply for the dryer seasons up to and through the harvest.

A structureless soil is most wasteful of its spring water reserve. Melting snows and spring rains seep into the soil by capillary action, from particle to particle. There are few air spaces to stop this action, but no amount of surface water pressure will force this capillary action farther than a fairly shallow depth. Witness how dry soil is found under the bottom of lakes at no great depth of earth.

As a result of this, most of the surface water runs off, and is wasted, causing surface erosion. Williams estimates that structureless soils waste about 70 per cent of the growing season rains.

But even the little moisture that is absorbed is lost rather quickly, because as soon as the weather clears, evaporation causes capillary action to work upwards instead of downwards and soon the soil becomes dry and dusty.

A structural soil is quite different. It is capable of absorbing and storing roughly 75 per cent of the spring moisture. Not only do each of the soil pellets absorb water, but the air

spaces between the crumbles allow the water to trickle down to the subsoil where it is stored for the future use of the plant rootlets. There is little capillary action, since the air spaces act as insulators. Surface run-off is at a minimum.

How is this priceless condition of a structural soil brought about? We find it in natural conditions wherever there is virgin soil. All our western plains were covered with a deep rooted sod when the pioneers first settled. They found a soil too rich for grain the first few seasons, then followed bumper crops for years on end. But slowly the natural structure was lost.

Soviet experiments indicate that this virgin condition can come about in roughly twenty years if a field is allowed to stand. Such a plot is first overgrown with annual weeds, but these are gradually displaced by perennial grasses whose thick root structure chokes the weeds. It is found that the profuse roots of these grasses start the process of a structural soil and the beneficial work of the aerobic bacteria.

The Soviet agronomists have succeeded in greatly shortening this process. They find that a rotation which includes a two or three year program of some leguminous grass like alfalfa or clover, followed by grain and commercial crops, can approximate the soil conditions of virgin soil.

Thus the aim of the "travopolye" system is to develop a structural soil on the whole steppe land area. Their expectation is that these methods will about triple production of grain during the grain part of the rotation cycle. During the grass part of the cycle, rich hay crops are taken which make possible a vast increase in the livestock supply of the nation.

Biology-soil students of
Leningrad University
doing field work in the
Caspian area



In the last year of the grain cycle, they sow grain together with a grass. The grain grows faster, shades and protects the young grass. After the grain harvest, the grass quickly follows and a hay cutting can be taken that same growing season.

THE STARTLING conclusion which the Soviet agronomists have reached is that there is no soil that can not be built back to a sustained condition of fertility.

Man is not condemned to starvation under the pressure of increasing population while the precious top ten inches of soil slowly loses its life-sustaining nutrients. Agronomists who indulge in such tragic predictions are ignorant of the laws of change and motion.

Soils go through cycles, both natural and man made. Under certain natural conditions, soils will sustain a thick carpet of grass, this will give way to sparser, more tufted grass, and this can give way to desert conditions. This development can be controlled and redirected by man. It is also possible for man to slowly mine the soil, and damage it with erosion and be confronted with falling productivity of the damaged acres. Much of our arable land is now in this condition.

But we have seen that the damage is unnecessary and reparable. The new agriculture of the Soviet Union opens the door to world food production so abundant that no country need fear food shortages for centuries to come.

NEW THEORY ON ORIGIN OF WORLD

A NEW THEORY of how the earth and the planets of the solar system came into being has been elaborated by famed Polar explorer Otto Schmidt and a group of associates in Leningrad.

Schmidt's theory has been widely discussed by Soviet astronomers, physicists, geophysicists, geochemists, and geologists, who find it more satisfactory than other current hypothesis.

The strong points of Academician Schmidt's theory are that it explains the almost circular motion of the planets, the disposition of their orbits in the same plane, and their rotation in two groups.

The Cry for Freedom Rings Through Africa

by

ESLANDA ROBESON

IN CASE you've been too busy looking at what's going on in Europe and Asia, to also look at Africa, you'd better take time out now to have a look, because a lot of very important, interesting and revolutionary changes are going on there.

The African people have posted large, clear, unmistakable signs (which even those who run may read) announcing that colonialism and semi-colonialism are finished, and they are setting out to achieve freedom and self-government *now*. Harold Isaacs, in a recent pamphlet "Africa: New Crises in the Making," published by the conservative Foreign Policy Association, writes:

African dissent from European rule is steadily becoming more pervasive. The struggle against European empire in Africa is historically as inevitable and inescapable as it was in Asia.

On that memorable day in Accra

MRS. ESLANDA ROBESON, distinguished anthropologist and author, is now associated with New World Review as Editorial Consultant on Negro and Colonial Questions. This article is the second of a series that will continue in NWR.

last September when Kwame Nkrumah, the newly elected young African Prime Minister of Gold Coast, together with African members of his Cabinet, passed through the streets on their way to the opening of the Legislative Assembly, the crowds of Africans pushing to get a glimpse of their leaders shouted: "Freedom! Freedom! Freedom!"

This shout is echoing throughout the length and breadth of Africa, and will echo round the world. Africans, like all other non-self-governing peoples, want *freedom*, and they are determined to win it *now*. In the pamphlet mentioned above, an African is quoted as making the typical comment:

We know now that we shall advance, not on the basis of the Europeans' readiness to concede to us, but on the basis of our own capacity to grow strong enough to know what we want and to take it.

In South Africa, where nine million non-white people—the vast majority of the population—have no rights whatsoever, there is a rapidly growing movement against the oppressive discrimination and segregation practices of the Malan government. The African, Indian and Col-

African demonstrators in Johannesburg on April 6 when they announced the campaign of civil disobedience against the vicious practices of the Malan Government



—Courtesy Council on African Affairs

ored peoples, through their official and unofficial organizations, have joined together in a campaign to resist "unjust laws."

Since last April when this campaign was launched, hundreds of non-white people have been arrested and put in prison for appearing in public places which are forbidden to them.

But the resistance continues, and soon the jails will not be large enough to hold the prisoners. The arrogant white South African officials will be afraid, in this instance, to farm out the prisoners to forced labor, as is their custom. These prisoners might cause "trouble."

The whole of South Africa, and its neighbors, are nervous and tense and worried. Anything can happen now. The Africans are challenging the sacred white supremacy myth, and this challenge has enormous implications. If millions of non-white people decide upon a work stoppage, the wheels of industry and economy would cease turning, and South Africa would become paralyzed overnight.

The whole of North Africa, and its neighbors, are also nervous and tense and worried.

The Moroccans, Algerians and Tunisians are bitterly protesting prolonged oppressive French colonial rule, and have launched a determined drive for Home Rule. In this drive they are supported by the Arab League. Asian and African nations sponsored and vigorously supported an effort to bring the Tunisian dispute with France before the United Nations.

In Egypt, the Egyptians are pressing for the withdrawal of British troops and installations from Suez, and for the British to turn over the Sudan to them. But the Sudanese are pressing for self-government, and insist that they do not want to be ruled by Britain or Egypt.

In East and Central Africa, African trade unions and other organizations are pressing for political and economic rights by means of widespread strikes, demonstrations, boycotts, and petitions to the United Nations.

In Belgian Congo, Africans point to their neighbors across the river in French Equatorial Africa who have gained citizenship, and demand some political voice for themselves. And

in French Equatorial Africa, Africans point to their neighbors across the river in Belgian Congo who have some small economic advantages, and demand similar advantages for themselves.

In South West Africa, responsible African Chiefs, with the help of a dedicated, courageous white missionary and friend, the Rev. Michael Scott, regularly petition the United Nations to get them out from under the oppressive and illegal rule of the Union of South Africa.

In West Africa, after a series of widespread strikes and boycotts, a militant nationalist movement branched off from the moderate United Gold Coast Convention, to become the powerful Convention People's Party, which won the first democratic election under the new Constitution with the slogan: "Self Government Now!"

In French Africa (French West and French Equatorial Africa) there is a powerful anti-colonial movement known as the African Democratic Rally (R.D.A.). It has a membership of nearly 2 million, and a following estimated to be many times that number. R.D.A. has deputies in the French Assembly. Two of its leaders, Gabriel D'Arboussier and Abdulae Diallo, are both young Africans, widely respected and extremely popular; they have developed techniques for operating in African conditions. Boycotts, strikes and demonstrations continuously harass the French authorities.

This is the pattern throughout Africa.

The colonial powers have tried to meet this rising demand for an end to colonialism in Africa by free-shooting, free swinging police attack, wholesale arrests, imprisonment, exile and even killing of the leaders of

trade union, liberation and nationalist organizations.

The colonial powers have combined to prevent many leaders and chiefs of the African people from traveling to the United Nations to present their complaints in person, and to intercept their petitions or pigeonhole them when they do get through.

The net result of all this police force-and-violence and repression has been to step up the vigor and tempo of African liberation movements. When leaders and members are arrested and jailed, exiled and killed, the movements grow in strength and numbers, the protests become more numerous and widespread. Kwame Nkrumah, the African leader of the new Gold Coast Government, won his election from a jail cell. One of his first formal acts as Prime Minister was an official protest to the United Nations against the treatment of Africans by the South African Government.

The net result of the efforts of the combined colonial powers in the UN to ignore, sidetrack and play down the petitions and grievances of the non-self-government areas, and especially their refusal to even discuss the Tunisian dispute with the French in the UN, has been to focus world-wide attention and interest on colonial problems, and to seriously undermine faith in the integrity and sincerity of the UN itself.

It has driven Nehru of India to state that Asian and African countries may be forced to the tragic decision that they will be better off outside the structure of the United Nations, which has now become an instrument to support colonialism and to make war, instead of the instrument to support freedom, independence, self-government and peace it was set up to be.



—Council on African Affairs

A vicious racist signboard posted on a farm on a National Highway in S. Africa

It is interesting to note that the organized church, both Catholic and Protestant, seems much more alert and sensitive to this drive of the African people for self-government, than are the colonial powers; or perhaps having less to lose and much more to gain, they are more practical, realistic and flexible in facing up to it.

Last year, in Rome, a Conference of Catholic Foreign Missions was called to consider ways and means of preventing the Church being driven out of Africa.

The Conference concluded that the only way to keep the Church in Africa was to transfer authority and responsibility as rapidly as possible from foreign white missionaries to local African personnel.

Similarly, the Protestant Churches of North America called a Conference last June at Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio to consider the question of "The Christian Missions and the African Church." Very realistically, question Number One in the preparatory material circulated before the Conference was: "What is your attitude toward the aspirations of Africans for further advance toward political freedom and fuller

racial, social and economic participation? And one of the conclusions reached by this Conference was: "The Assembly, mindful of recent events in China, urged that church authority be turned over to African nationals as rapidly as possible. . . . In many cases Africans are better prepared for authority than Missions presently think. . . ."

And now to go to the African people themselves for opinion on these matters:

"We prefer self-government in danger, to servitude in tranquility."

"Self-government is better than good government."

"It is not in the nature of man to put up with subjection too long."

And this gem: "We had a fresh look at Aggrey's 'piano keyboard' and played endless variations on it. (Aggrey, a famous and brilliant West African scholar, said that black and white men must work and play together in harmony as white and black keys of a piano; without both there is no piano.) One schoolmaster wanted to know whether the white man could manage without the black, and the other capped the discussion by saying: 'Well, we want the harmony of the white and black notes to go on, but the white man must get off the piano stool.'"

The ever increasing, solidifying drive for freedom and self-government has penetrated into every corner of Africa. In the bush, in the hills, in the remote villages, as well as in the towns and cities, the cry of "Freedom! Freedom! Freedom! Self-Government Now!" is echoing in every African heart.

**WATCH FOR OUR
SPECIAL
NOVEMBER
ISSUE**

THOUGH the recent commemoration for Gogol in Moscow was set on the hundredth anniversary of his death, the Russians turned the occasion into a most remarkably cheerful celebration of his life, his works, his struggle, and (to their way of thinking) his ultimate success as a hopeful man.

I was one of an international delegation of writers invited to attend these celebrations, and though our delegation took part in many of the special occasions (two weeks of them), we really only saw a fraction of the enormous number of activities commemorating Gogol and his works.

Every school in the Soviet Union, for instance, had exhibitions of his work, readings, commentaries on his life; the radio was busy with Gogol almost every day; new editions of his books were printed; new productions of his plays were put on.

For us the official celebration began with the unveiling of a new statue in the heart of Moscow, and the renaming of a boulevard after Gogol. This, in itself, was something of a key to the rest of the celebrations, because their new portraits of Gogol show him as a man of laughter: or at least as a man of the wry, human smile.

Almost every reference to Gogol that we heard after this insisted on his ultimate optimism, denying that he was a man of despair. The fact that his last days were dark and tragic is of less importance to Soviet interpretation than the fact that his work is true satire, true fun at the expense of the worst and most hypocritical aspects of the rising bourgeoisie in Russia.

In the dedication of a new bust over his grave in the famous Novo-Deviche Cemetery outside Moscow, this same emphasis was made, and

GOGOL ANNIVERSARY in the USSR

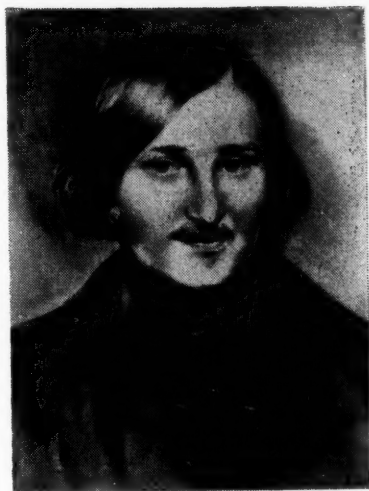
by

JAMES ALDRIDGE

this bust too was one of a keen-eyed man.

Of course the most important occasion during the celebrations was the ceremony in the Bolshoy Theater, when each of the foreign delegates spoke for a few minutes in tribute to Gogol. Soviet speakers gave fuller tributes, again re-emphasizing his wit and satire as against the gloomy side of him. After the speeches there was a concert in which fragments from *Dead Souls* were performed, as well as one act of *The Inspector General* (which we all saw a few days later at the Maly Theater in its magnificent new production). Songs and ballet from such works as *Taras Bulba* and *Christmas Eve*, based on Gogol's works, were also performed at the Bolshoy concert, which lasted until midnight.

After a few days in Moscow, the whole international delegation went to Leningrad for four days. Here we saw the Gogol Museum, which is a



Nikolai Gogol, from a Soviet poster marking the centenary of his death

remarkable exhibition of his works, illustrations to his works, and a collection of contemporary portraits of Gogol and the men who knew him. Here I was given a copy of a new book listing every known portrait of Gogol in existence, including those abroad. The interesting thing about the contemporary portraiture of Gogol is the support it gives to their new vision of him as a bright-eyed and happy-looking man.

Naturally we did not spend all our time as a delegation looking at Gogol exhibits; in fact most of our time was devoted to seeing other aspects of Soviet life. In Leningrad, for instance, we spent almost a whole day in the Hermitage Museum, the largest and richest (and most crowded) museum I have ever seen in my life. Its wealth of art, from primitive to Greek to Renaissance to modern, is beyond expression.

Yet though we touched many of these other aspects of Soviet life, we

always seemed to meet Gogol in them. In the House of Children's Books in Moscow, for instance, which we went to see for its own sake, there was an exhibition of illustrations from Gogol's works done by the children themselves. We saw something similar in the Palace of Pioneers in Leningrad, and also in the House of Culture, its adult equivalent as a place for social recreation.

The make-up of our delegation was indicative of Gogol's world position as a writer (of which the Russians are very proud), and all the members reported on his longstanding popularity in their own languages. Among us were many writers of renown, such as Eluard of France and Din-Lin of China (who had the pleasure of waking up one morning in Moscow to read that she had won a Stalin prize for literature). Many other delegates could not reach Moscow because of travel or political difficulties, including delegates from Italy and other Western European countries.

I have not the space, nor is it the intention of this article, to give any larger picture of the Soviet Union; but in the emphasis on the humanity and culture of Gogol, and on his heritage, there is something symptomatic of everything else we found in the Soviet Union. There, humanity is prized above all else; culture is preached as the highest aim and the necessity of all men; and peace is certainly their first instruction in human affairs, not only in literature and the arts, but in the very essence of their hopes for the rich future they foresee for their Soviet society.

—*Courtesy Anglo-Soviet Journal*

JAMES ALDRIDGE, eminent Australian writer is best known in this country for his novel "The Diplomat."

Three Mothers Start a Movement

Initiative campaign for peace offers basis for great nationwide movement

by DR. WILLARD UPHAUS

FOR almost two decades I have been a circuit rider in the cause of religion and the labor movement, and in that time I have learned the great importance of bringing people of what appear to be different worlds face to face. To the busy labor organizer (including the forward-looking ones) the church was the other-worldly, anti-social force led by boss-dominated preachers. To ministers "labor" was a selfish, fighting, trouble-making outfit in the hands of racketeers. Only a fraction of the truth—but potent enough to create divisions among people seeking for a common purpose to advance human welfare.

Never has this disunity been more glaring and more tragic than in the present-day fight to achieve peace—for war destroys everything we hold dear.

The struggle for peace is one in which all—regardless of political views, race, color or creed—can effectively participate. My own recent experiences in Washington State have confirmed my view that thousands of men and women can be stirred to action once the issue is placed before them in dramatic terms.

Last April three brave war mothers in Bellingham, Washington, filed

an initiative petition to give the people of their state the opportunity at the fall election to express themselves on the questions of peaceful co-existence with other nations and negotiations as a means of resolving conflicts that lead to war.

The measure, entitled Initiative No. 183, was described as "An Act to petition Congress to declare a policy of the United States to live in peaceful co-existence with other nations and to call a conference of the heads of leading nations to negotiate a settlement of existing differences."

Of the three mothers, Patricia Cary, Ruby Davis and Mona Thomas—two have sons in Korea, and one in Alaska. "We are three women who are tired of war and who want our sons at home where they belong," they said. "Our boys write us that they still do not understand why differences between nations cannot be solved by discussion and negotiations rather than through war, with all the terrible sacrifices and desolation."

In the American Tradition

The Initiative was conceived in the spirit of the United Nations, since it was sponsored in accordance with Article 2, Section 3, of the Charter which states, "All members shall set-



The three mothers of Bellingham, Washington, who started a campaign for peace. Left to right, they are: Ruby Davis, Mona Thomas and Patricia Cary

tle their international disputes by peaceful means in such manner that international peace, and security and justice, are not endangered."

The three mothers started a movement that is destined to take fire in all states that provide for an Initiative. The Initiative and the right of petition are written deep in our democratic tradition. The sponsors of the Washington Initiative are typical women, active in community life. Mrs. Cary is a Presbyterian, a member of the Druzea Study Club and of the Ladies Auxiliary of the International Woodworkers of America. Her husband is the business agent of a local union. Mrs. Davis attended a Missionary Training School, did social science work in Chicago for six years. She is active in the Grange, PTA and Home Demonstration Clubs. She also belongs to a trade union

auxiliary, as her husband is a timber worker; Mrs. Thomas is the wife of a logger, who is now unable to work. She also serves in PTA and in the ladies auxiliary of a union.

The action of these mothers quickly fired the imagination of peaceworkers and inspired the formation of the Committee for Initiative No. 183, which included ministers, laymen, union members, civic leaders, and youth. Soon scores of canvassers were on the streets of Washington cities, in public parks and on the beaches, inviting their fellow-citizens to sign petitions. Members of the Washington Pension Union, a body of elderly folk who have been battling for greater security for the aged, spent many days in the campaign. Young and old threw themselves ardently into the work.

It was my privilege to be on the scene during the last two weeks of the drive to observe the reactions of the people and help with the campaign. I was especially eager to find out how ministers and church people were responding. The Initiative did not raise

DR. WILLARD UPHAUS, former Executive Director of the National Religion and Labor Foundation, is Co-Director of the American Peace Crusade.

controversial questions as to what the results of negotiation should be. It was a powerful moral affirmation intended to serve notice on the President, present incumbents and candidates for seats in Congress that the people expect our government not only to give careful consideration to all overtures for settlement coming from other countries, but to initiate steps toward agreement so that our country will ever be in the forefront of all valid plans for universal peace through justice to all peoples.

During two weeks I was able to contact at least fifty ministers. Their reactions varied widely. Some were preoccupied with the cares of their parishes. Some said, with good reason, that they had been approached too late. A few were opposed to what they considered mixing politics and religion. There were those who shared the doubts and cynicism sometimes encountered on the streets.

Many Pastors Cooperate

But many pastors showed different attitudes. "It has come to a pretty pass," said one, "if we've got to the place where the church can't work for peace." A prominent minister, a warm-hearted actionist, who is chairman of the social progress committee of his denomination, promised to send a letter to his people all over the state.

Seven ministers were glad to sign a strong appeal to be sent to 1500 of their fellow-pastors throughout Washington urging them to support the Initiative.

"Peace is the universal longing of mankind," they wrote. "Fathers, mothers, and young people in our land pray for an end of the death and devastation of war. As followers of the Prince of Peace, who taught,

'Blessed are the peacemakers' we must help answer this prayer. We can express our faith in negotiation and reconciliation as a way to resolve the differences between nations and achieve universal peace. We can give



all voters in our state a chance to express their convictions." The letter urged pastors to mention the Initiative in their sermons or in special announcements, and to have copies available at the close of the service for signatures.

It takes 50,000 valid signatures in Washington to put a measure on the ballot. The Committee secured 27,500. It missed the goal. Naturally there was a momentary let-down.

But if you had been at the final round-up in Olympia, the state capital, on the closing afternoon, you would have seen how these faithful campaigners refused to accept the results as defeat. They realized where the mistakes had been made. They were determined to carry on and make the experience the basis for still greater efforts for peace. After all 27,500 is a sizable block of citizen-voters for the State of Washington. On the basis that one out of four approached signed, at least 100,000 people had been stimulated to think of co-existence and peaceful settlement as a substitute for war. One-fourth approached confessed that they were not registered, and therefore could not sign. If the Committee had done

nothing more than lay this common sin of neglect on their consciences, the campaign was worth the effort.

Striking a Trial Balance

The Initiative campaign taught peaceworkers a great deal that will help in later efforts in Washington and in other states. Working for peace is more than a succession of stunts. It is a series of related, cumulative experiences that will lead to final victory.

Certain conclusions can be drawn from the experiences of the Washington State campaign:

- The Initiative drive was treated by the press and radio with characteristic silence. This means that other forms for mass communication, including improved leaflet distribution, sound trucks and home meetings must be perfected.

- Despite the traditionally militant character of organized labor in the Pacific Northwest, the unions were not drawn into the movement. The campaign offered an excellent opportunity to relate the war economy to the high cost of living, soaring taxes and all the evils of inflation.

- Despite the large Negro industrial community, particularly in Seattle, the Negro people had very little part in the campaign. A peace movement predominantly white cannot succeed, and miracles are not wrought overnight in communities where steady, persistent, day-in and day-out processes of integration and mutual effort are weak or non-existent.

On the affirmative side it can be confidently asserted that the gains of the Washington State effort far outweigh the failures and discouragements:

- The campaign gave the young people an opportunity to work for the

kind of peaceful world in which they long to live. Some worked eight hours a day. Some used food money to pay for bus tokens.

- Just as thrilling was the devoted labor of the senior citizens, members of the Pension Union, who forgot their age and proved that declining years can be dedicated to peace.

- Peace today is an all-encompassing ideal and goal. One of the deepest effects of the drive was the welding together in spirit, of just good Americans of different ages, races, faiths, and vocations. Political differences were laid aside. Progressives, conservatives, people inside and outside the church, found themselves in new coalitions with growing confidence.

- It would be a sin against mankind if the experiences of the people in Washington State are not utilized in other states which provide for the Initiative. Where no Initiative exists efforts should be made to get the State Legislatures to memorialize Congress on peace negotiations. Meantime it would help immeasurably if peace centers were set up to which



individuals and groups could come for peace literature and peace films, and to which all peace organizations may make contributions of their materials.

All this will change the character of the peace movement which, in some communities, reminds one of a Roman candle: a burst of light and enthusiasm and then darkness. The spirit

is there, the people are there—what is urgent is organization and sustained work!

The Job Today

What happened in Washington had world significance. With good conscience the hard workers in the Committee for 183 can claim a part in the world-wide movement for the settlement of differences between nations through negotiation. In truth the 27,500 signatures can be added to the hundreds of millions gathered in many lands in support of a five-power pact. We were getting in tune with the heartbeat of humanity. There is no problem that cannot be solved at the council table, if there is a will. International trade, intercultural relations, the utilization of the earth's resources for the commonweal, the right to travel now denied to many by our State Department, a generous outpouring by those who have to those who have not to help them become free, self-sustaining peoples — these

are steps to peace that must replace weapons of destruction, racism, exploitation, hate.

Despite what has been said about the importance of all avenues to peace, entered with a broad understanding of the total problem, I do plead, in closing, for a final, all-out effort to bring about a truce in Korea. This will be one way to redeem us from the moral shame to which we have sunk. Why must our boys who want to come home keep on dying and killing?

Send one more letter or telegram to President Truman! Make one more trip to see the candidate for Congress in your district. Preach one more sermon to give your congregation the unvarnished truth. Let more homes become the center of a ferment! More resolutions! More heart to heart talks with people! Let's sacrifice just a little more out of our personal budgets and give for peace.

We stand condemned before God and mankind until a truce comes in Korea.

BRITISH AUTHORS HAIL USSR CULTURAL ADVANCE

HIGH PRAISE for Soviet cultural life has come from a group of six prominent British authors which includes A. E. Coppard and Naomi Mitchison. The writers, who have just concluded a visit to the UUSR, said in a recent statement:

"We have met and discussed matters of literary and public interest with many of Russia's famous writers, and been most generously entertained. It was delightful to find the classic English authors, in particular Shakespeare, Dickens, Byron, Fielding and Swift, represented in the Lenin Library, not only in our native tongue, but in Russian translations.

"We were all very much impressed by what is being done everywhere for the children. Their happiness and well-being is expressed in their delightful natural manners and smiling faces. In several places we looked at the books which children were reading and were delighted and astonished at the high standard, both in verse and prose. We also noted with interest and pleasure the number of children's periodicals and the rarity in them of scenes of violence and war."

My Son's Teacher

**NWR writer's profile of Eva Vesela gives
view of Czech educational perspectives**

by ELEANOR WHEELER

JUST about a year ago our older boy, Frank, decided to go to work as an apprentice in a steel mill in Kladno, 20 miles from Prague. As my husband and I think over the advantages he has enjoyed during that time our thoughts fasten on the teacher who helped him make that decision.

Her name is Eva Veselá—the name means “gay,” and gaiety is one of the conspicuous qualities of her teaching. I’d like to give you a picture of this teacher, tell you of her evolution, because she typifies what the Czechoslovak school system is aiming at.

During vacation time, while she was holidaying with the students of her school for a month in Slovakia, she wrote Frank a letter which, you will see, is very casual, yet friendly, and certainly not affectedly “chummy.” After reporting that our younger boy was behaving well, she described life at the summer camp:

“Just now the cultural circle is seething and roaring around me. Three or four groups are writing

‘a book about a book’ as a written guide for the work of the art circle. Jirka and his gang are producing all sorts of hymn books, code letters, wax discs, lead seals—all the means of writing that have been used, almost back to the times of Adam and Eve.

“We went to look at the wonderful castle Bojnice, not far from the county seat of Prievidze and now a ‘book’ about the castle is being written. Drawings of every kind from iron grille work to the shoes of wives of old dandies. . . .

“The boys scale the rocks, explore bunkers and are hammering together a meteorological station which will probably be finished when we get back to school, because for the time being it is permanently in the state of birth.

“The girls feed beetles, newts, angleworms and they are bringing them up in the coal bins, which have been miraculously transformed into ‘terrariums’ and aquariums. The small ones collect medical herbs, graft trees, plant rock gardens . . . in other words life is bubbling all around us.”

“At first we had some organizational problems with the kitchen, but everything is in order now. We are living nicely, we sleep in bunks,

ELEANOR WHEELER, with her husband and children, resides and works in Czechoslovakia. She was formerly with Religious News Service.

but the rooms are clean and newly painted. Good washrooms are lacking and we need a bit more room, but otherwise we are satisfied."

This should give a glimpse of why Veselá has success with the children. She lives with them, is interested in all their activities. When she says "we sleep in bunks" she really means that there is no teacher caste at the camp.

I once commented that she seemed a "born" teacher who would not think of doing anything else. She laughed and said she had wept when she had to go to the Teacher's Institute, because she wanted to keep on with her studies in philosophy. For an impoverished student the Teachers' Institute was often the only way of getting a higher education in the First Republic. The course was shorter for one thing, a four-year course following on what would be our junior high school. And also there was some financial aid given students who would pledge to teach for a certain length of time.

The teachers were supposed to see to their own further education and two years after graduation from the Teachers' Institute took qualifying exams and in another year another examination which was the necessary prerequisite for becoming a permanent teacher. Veselá comments that only now have the teachers realized their dreams of having the opportunity for higher study at no personal financial sacrifice.

Just this year Veselá attended a three-month training course of which she wrote, "The first month we had politics, the second pedagogy and now we are working in Czech language and literature. Going to school is a fine thing, you know. For one thing we live in a collective, for another we have no cares and can really de-

vote ourselves to study. This particular school has an additional 'plus' in that we come from the most varied backgrounds—from schools, from party organizing, from trade unions, from youth organizations—and we can help each other in the exchange of experiences." This is, of course, in addition to, not a substitute for, the regular university courses in the teachers' fields.

Teachers' salaries were miserably low in the First Republic, and in addition a system of "practicing teachers" was set up in the years of crisis just after 1930. The teacher, although she might have passed the examination which qualified her as a permanent teacher, would be assigned a post as a "practicing teacher," for the first year or two receiving no salary, but plenty of practice. Then a salary of \$10-\$15 a month was given. What was hailed as a "social improvement" was the raising of these salaries to fifteen to twenty dollars a month.

In those days Veselá soon found that if you had pull with the all-powerful and much-feared school inspector, you could ease your financial situation by teaching near your parents' home and living with them, but most young teachers were sent to distant village schools, one-room or two-room affairs. And all teachers like Veselá and her husband who were interested in the trade union movement, were punished in this way.

It was not until the liberation in 1945, that she was appointed as a permanent teacher, in spite of the fact that she had qualified for it more than ten years before.

In the meantime she and her husband had gone through the school of bitter experience under Nazi rule. He was in a concentration camp and she was sent to Germany

Frank Wheeler (right) takes final oral examination as his teacher, Eva Vesela (dark dress), and other teachers look on. Exams are as informal as possible to put students at ease



for forced labor. They came back with impaired health to throw themselves into building a new, democratic and progressive school system in a new democracy.

Teaching in the Vinohrady neighborhood after 1945 meant dealing with the problem of re-educating middle class children, teaching them to have respect for manual labor and to cooperate instead of striving for individual gain. She would go on farm brigades with them and in her classes described the work of miners and steel workers as an honorable profession.

Anton Makarenko, the great Soviet educator who wrote *Road to Life*, is Veselá's model and teacher. Now, since she has been promoted to serve as supervisor, she tries to institute Makarenko principles into the schools she visits. But the teacher who wept when she had to go to the Teachers' Institute misses the classroom and direct contact with pupils, although she recognizes that it is important for her to put progressive methods and principles into more classes than just her own.

We all loved and admired Veselá so much that we were happy when she came to see us wearing a little red barpin, called a "Best Teacher" award, which showed that the Czech-

oslovak Government had recognized her merits and had given her an award as an outstanding teacher.

Of course we admit that she is not the only one of her kind, but we think she is a fine example of what the educational system here is aiming toward, a leader among a whole group of devoted educators. We think, for instance, of our younger boy's teacher, Baxova, who also spent some of the war years in prison. She has many tales to tell the children in the school, because it was in her family that the national hero, Julius Fucik hid for a year—her sister is the Lida referred to in *Notes from the Gallows*.

These active, progressive, teachers are a living link with the militant traditions of the Czech people and have invaluable material to offer their pupils. It may just be that Veselá is right in saying that we would quit calling her the best teacher in the country if only we met more of them.

While Veselá and her colleagues fully experienced in the life of teachers in the First Republic and under the Occupation, are enthusiastic about the new educational system, they are also aware that they have work to do for its constant improvement.

Trade Unionism in Action

British editor describes day-to-day workings of the unions in New Poland

by GORDON SCHAFFER

DURING my last visit to Poland I asked Mr. Alexander Burski, Vice-Chairman of the Polish Central Council of Trade Unions, whether he had had any strikes during the previous year.

"Yes," he said, "we did have a strike and we won it."

This was the story. Agricultural workers on the State farms secured through their union a collective agreement laying down rates of pay, hours, holidays and so on. The union then turned its attention to the workers on the large Church estates which had been left intact when the estates of the landowners were taken over.

The Church authorities refused to make a similar agreement, so the union called a strike and won the battle in a week.

Amusingly enough this dispute took place at a time when strike action was legal in Poland—as indeed it has been since the People's Democracy was established — but illegal in

Britain because the compulsory arbitration order was still in force.

There are very few strikes in Poland because in the words which Mr. Arthur Deakin used recently about Britain "the period of strikes has passed."

Wherever else this may or may not be true, it is true in Poland because there the underlying clash between employers and workers no longer exists.

The Polish trade unions can wholeheartedly cooperate with the government in increasing productivity. The worker has no fear of putting his mates out of work by so doing, because unemployment has been abolished and every increase in production means an improvement in living standards expressed either in better social services or lower prices.

In the planned economy of Poland, there is still room for hard bargaining between the unions and the socially controlled industries. Wage rates are agreed upon in relation to many factors and it is the duty of the unions to protect their members' interests. Certain industries, for example, must be made more attractive in order to recruit more workers. Incentives must be worked out as a means of stimulating higher production.

GORDON SCHAFFER, assistant editor of the London "Reynolds News," organ of the British cooperative movement with a circulation of 700,000, has frequently written for NWR on his visits to Eastern Europe. This article first appeared in the "New Central European Observer."



Polish workers at a vacation resort "Poko" (peace) in the hilly Szczecin district. The trade unions ensure vacations and run their own resorts

But there is no clash of interest. The State and the trade unions alike accept the Six-Year Plan—which they worked out together. Both sides are determined to make the Plan a success.

Does this mean that at workshop level there are no differences and no clashes? Certainly not. Human nature is much the same, whether in a socialist or a capitalist society.

One of the big achievements of Poland and the other People's Democracies is that they have harnessed the ordinary man's desire for better things for himself and his family to the interests of the community as a whole. Workers who increase output receive steep increases in pay. A craftsman who devises methods of breaking down processes is not condemned by his trade union colleagues—as he would be here during periods of unemployment. He is rewarded

because he is making a special contribution to increased output and a better life for all.

In working out the methods of payment and the other conditions in the enterprise, the elected trade union representatives have the duty to safeguard their members' interests. But they are not fighting class enemies. Both sides are agreed on the ultimate objectives so that neither the management nor the union seeks to gain advantages which might harm the community as a whole. Incidentally, the manager of a factory consistently at loggerheads with the union would soon find himself out of his job.

All local factory officials, the officers and shop stewards, are elected by secret ballot. Candidates must have been members of the union for at least six months. The factory council, comprised of these elected



Assembly shop of the automobile plant in Zeran that produced the M-20 Warszawa

trade unionists, is consulted on every matter affecting the enterprise. It has access to all documents and all statistical material. There is no barrier labeled "managerial rights." No one can be sacked without consultation and agreement on the part of the factory council.

The director of the factory must report once a month to the factory council and every three months both the factory council and the director present themselves to a meeting of all the workers in the factory, where everyone has the right to criticize. The director has final executive authority, but the union representatives can take up any complaint both with their own head office and with the appropriate government department.

Holders of union offices come up for re-election every year, but any official can be removed at any time by a vote of no confidence of the union members.

No one who has attended, as I have, the meetings in the Polish factories can have any doubt that the rank and file trade unionists are fully convinced that they are the masters.

Incidentally, at elections it is by no means unusual for incumbent officials to be replaced. The tradition—too

common here in my view—of re-electing chairmen and secretaries and other officials almost automatically—certainly does not obtain in Poland. The attitude appears to be "has he or she done the job? Have we anyone who can do it better?"

It is hardly necessary to add that women have equal rights with men and what is perhaps more important both they and the men accept this equality as the most natural thing in the world.

Trade unions in Poland are organized on the basis of a single union for each industry. Unions meet annually or biennially, delegates being appointed by the rank and file of enterprises. The Union Congress elects all its officials.

Delegates to the Central Council of Trade Unions are elected from the various unions with full rank and file participation. The Polish Central Council does not meet to pass pious propaganda resolutions; it knows that the government will almost certainly agree to its proposals. As Mr. Burski put it to me: "I cannot think of any proposals urged by the trade union movement, which the government would not adopt."

In such circumstances, the Cen-

tral Council must work out its ideas in the light of the whole national circumstances. It would not, for example, demand a reduction in the working week until it was sure that the national economy would not be endangered. But it does bring before the government and Parliament proposals which have emerged from trade union experience.

For example, in 1949, the Central Council adopted a resolution asking for special social funds to be set up at factories and mines to be paid for by the enterprise and administered by the factory council. After considering the cost of the scheme, the government put a bill before Parliament and within six months it was law. Another Central Council proposal adopted by the government was for the increase of paid holidays for manual workers from eight to twelve days with additional days for length of service.

When the Miners' charter was under discussion, the Central Council secured acceptance of amendments increasing holidays and reducing the working day.

This is trade unionism in action. The machinery does not always work perfectly. Officials and members do not always put the interests of the union before their own. But there is a healthy democratic procedure to deal with the weaknesses in human nature which may remain a problem for many generations.

As Poland's new society grows, the trade unions take on new tasks. They administer social insurance and control a chain of holiday cen-



Apprentices now get a break, thanks to the trade unions. This one, left, is being trained by an old-timer

ters. Perhaps more important still, they have their own schools for the training of workers for all the duties of management.

In Poland today more than 15,000 workers have been promoted to administrative jobs through the whole range of industry. Poland knows that to rely on the dispossessed owners for administrative skill is to court disaster. She has learned the lesson that the socialism she desires cannot be built without complete faith in the working people.

DA VINCI, HUGO ON PEACE STAMPS

THE HUNGARIAN postal service has issued two peace stamps, one showing the portrait of Leonardo da Vinci, the other Victor Hugo.

ACCENT ON PEACE AT OLYMPICS

TO LOVERS of sport—those many, many millions throughout the world — the 15th World Olympic Games in Helsinki was unquestionably an epochal event. To millions striving for world understanding and peace (and these categories are by no means mutually exclusive) the 22-day carnival in Finland demonstrated that “iron curtains” are fashioned by diplomats in striped pants and warmongering editors barricaded behind their typewriters.

The records chalked up showed the athletes from our own country, those of the Soviet Union and Hungary as preeminent. Our track and field representatives made an especially brilliant showing, with a prominent role being played by U.S. Negro stars: Harrison Dillard, Andy Stanfield and Mae Faggs.

The U.S. came first on gold medals, winning 40, the Soviet Union coping 22 gold medals and Hungary 16. Most of the silver medals went to the USSR which got 30, the U.S. 18, Sweden 12 and Hungary 10. No one will dispute that the most dazzlingly conspicuous performance was turned in by Emil Zatopek, that incredible runner from Czechoslovakia, the only man ever to win all three Olympic distance races. Hungary, with a population of 9 millions, came out third, outshining nations like England and France. This, indeed is something to ponder!

The outstanding achievements of women athletes from the Soviet Union evoked especial notice from the correspondents covering the Olympics as well as the cheering spectators. And the fine performance of the

USSR gymnasts (who took top honors) was compared by numerous writers to the subtle art of the dance.

The pro-war press in our country gave the chill eye to the sportsmen from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies on the eve of the Olympics in which nearly 7,000 athletes from 69 nations participated. The *New York Times* sports editor, had hopefully predicted that the Soviet athletes would isolate themselves from the sportsmen of other countries and shuttle by plane every day from Leningrad to Helsinki. But the contrary happened. The Soviet contingent no sooner arrived than they opened their training camp to visiting athletes and journalists from all over the world.

The day-to-day reports from Helsinki tell an inspiring story of fraternization and friendship that must confound the warmakers who are striving so hard to make the people despairing and cynical about ending the artificially-created “cold war” and inaugurating an era of peace and understanding among nations:

On the day of his arrival in Helsinki, Jim Fuchs, record-holding shot-putter and other Americans embraced the Russians with whom they were to compete in the arena of sports, took pictures and exchanged friendly banter. “They are swell people,” reported Fuchs.

United Press writer Oscar Fraley, describing a social session between U.S., Soviet and other athletes, reported: “Language was no barrier as the Hungarians, many of whom spoke English, acted as interpreters and there was a lot of friendly banter



—Wide World

When defeated by the U.S. eight-oar crewmen, the Soviet team invited the victors to dinner. Bill Fields (left) and Ed Stevens (right) are shown with Soviet Olympic swimmer Marice Gavritz



and genuine laughter. . . . Just about everybody seemed sorry when the visit broke up. . . . You had the feeling that if these muscular kids were in charge of the grand scheme, things wouldn't have to be settled . . . with bullets."

And when the amazing Zatopek was racing toward the tape, the crowd, according to a Reuter's dispatch from Helsinki, "roared itself hoarse as (he) went into the last lap of the 10,000 meters." And when he mounted the podium for the game's first victory ceremony, "the cheers of the crowd could have been heard in the center of Helsinki."

And it was the wife of the Czech

runner, Dana Zatopek, who took the women's javelin championship.

The N. Y. *Daily News* which follows the lead of that rabid "statesman," Sen. Joseph McCarthy in its handling of events in the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, actually gave its sports writer, Gene Ward, temporary free reign to write:

" . . . One of the brighter notes of the whole show was the camaraderie of the Russians and the Americans on and off the playing fields—'the language of friendship spoken between the Soviet and American athletes.' The quote, believe it or not, is from the Moscow Literary Gazette and by one of Russia's more prominent writ-

ers, Anatoly Sofronov. Now, if it can just be arranged for athletes to sit in the chairs of state."

It was Bob Richards, who smashed the Olympic record with his pole vault, who termed the Russian vaulter Peter Denisenko "a great jumper." Richards told how he and Denisenko were swapping compliments during the competition. "Each time he jumped I said, 'Good,' and after I went up he would say 'Beautiful' in English. We understood each other

okay, but you really don't have to talk. You can tell more by faces. I think he's a wonderful sportsman."

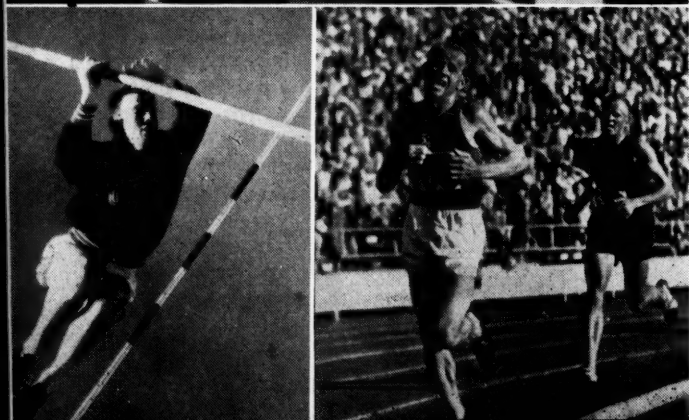
The first man to offer congratulations after Richards won the Olympic pole vault was the USSR's Denisenko, who embraced him warmly. (Denisenko was one of four vaulters to break the world mark.) Reported Richards:

"The Olympics has helped the cause of friendship. This is the greatest thing in the world. We're all together



Anna Kukkonen (right) congratulates Soviet women discus throwers who made a clean sweep at the Games. Left to right: Nina Romashkova, who won first place, Elizaveta Bagrantsev, who took second, and Nina Dumbadze, third place

—Wide World



—Wide World

Far left: Bob Mathias, of the U.S., who won world admiration by his victory in the decathlon. Left: Emil Zatopek, of Czechoslovakia, who made athletic history by being the first ever to win three distance races at the Olympics

Right: Dana Zatopek, winner of the gold medal in the women's javelin throw. She is the wife of the great Czech runner. Far right: Josef Czermak, of Hungary, who set a world record hammer throw

—Eastfoto
Wide World



—Wide World

Soviet trackman congratulates U.S. winners of 100 m. high hurdles. L. to r.: Jack Davis (came in second), E. Bulan-chik (USSR), Harrison Dillard, the winner, and R. Weinberg (of Australia)



as athletes and differences are forgotten. I honestly can't see why people all over the world can't get along like the competitors here do."

Believe it or not, these words hit the eyes of millions of readers of the Hearst press when they read in sports writer Lewis Burton's report that Soviet athletes "seem inclined to be as friendly as those of other nations."

At the flag raising ceremonies, when a Soviet speaker ended his greeting with the words, "Long live

friendship between nations and peace in all the world," Gordien, the Minnesota discus ace remarked, "Well, that's a nice sentiment and I'm not mad at anybody."

Accepting an invitation of Russian crewmen, Clifford (Tippy) Goes, chairman of the U.S. rowing commission, reported later:

"We visited their camp. It's right next to ours. What I'd heard, I expected to get my ears chewed off. Instead they couldn't have been nicer.



—Wide World

Winning teams of the 400 m. relay. Left to right, the teams are: the Soviet (second place), the American (first place) and the Hungarian (third)

They're a swell bunch of fellows."

There were other friendly get-togethers. One day the members of the victorious U.S. Annapolis eight-oar crew were guests of the Soviet crew for lunch, dining on steak and vodka with the crew they beat for the Olympic title. This followed a week of friendly meetings between the two crews during which they swapped visits at their boating houses as well as insignia.

Not without a suggestion of condescension, Allison Danzig wrote in the *New York Times* that:

"Considering that this is their first appearance in the Olympics under

the Soviet banner and their lack of experience, their athletes have done all that could be expected and in some cases surprisingly well.

"The Soviet athletes took it all in good sportsmanship and their relations with the Americans have been friendly and at times very cordial. They have shown their admiration for the prowess of their fellow athletes regardless of ideologies."

This general sentiment in most of the press did not prevent the N. Y. *Daily News* from describing Soviet women discus champs as "heavy-muscled Amazons," although photographs showed them quite indistin-



Winners of the 3,000 m. steeplechase in a friendly pose. Horace Ashenfelter (center), of the U.S., won the race. Vladimir Kazantsev (left), of the USSR, came in second, and John Disley, of Britain, came third

Wide World

guishable from the attractive American women. Nor did the N. Y. *Herald Tribune* feel any compunction about describing the Czech sensational runner, Zatopek, for no reason that any decent-minded person can fathom—as the “Beast of Prague.”

A slightly different approach came from Judge Jeremiah T. Mahoney, one of the first Olympic judges to get back to the U.S. from Helsinki: “Relations with the Russians were just marvelous. Their athletes fraternized freely with ours from the first day, and were warm and friendly, and everyone got on very well.”

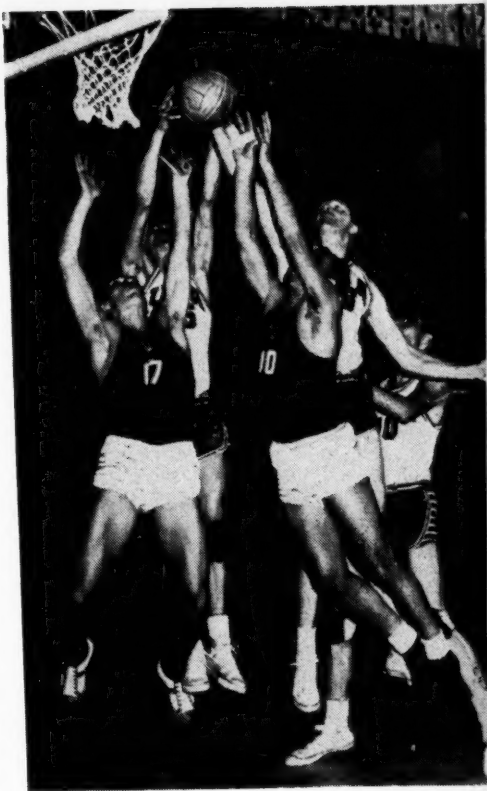
The Annapolis crew’s coxswain, Davy Manring, who had responded to a toast of their Russian hosts to “international understanding,” said:

“This has been a wonderful experience for us all. We are glad to come here and meet your people and find they are just like us.”

Yes, just like us.

The “iron curtain” was shown to be a malicious fiction in Helsinki. Although they competed in the field of sports for distinction and honors, there was—not rancor—but friendliness between the representatives of the nations of the world in Helsinki. Not exactly a new phenomenon. It was the peoples of the two major powers—the U.S. and the USSR—who brought the fascists to their knees in the great coalition war.

The Olympics were a source of pride to lovers of sport and an object



—Wide World

U.S. players (white shirts) and Soviet (dark shirts) in final basketball game. The U.S. won 36 to 25.

lesson in fraternalism and the friendship of nations for lovers of peace and understanding among the peoples of the world.

U.S. and Soviet swimmers happily together by the side of the pool watching swimmers of other nations practice for the meet

Wide World



Something to Write Home About

***Life in German Democratic Republic
improves as fascist shadows recede***

by

GEORGE WHEELER

THERE are big goings on in Germany these days. I am not referring to the fact that Hjalmar Schacht, whose dubious financial transactions assisted Hitler to power, is back at the old stand. I am not even referring to the attempts of Adenauer to get the Bonn Parliament to swallow the general treaty which would divide Germany and deprive the German people of their national sovereignty. Those are events of worldwide significance, events of the kind that drive many decent people to despair.

Fortunately the big changes that I can report from the German Democratic Republic and from the democratic sector of Berlin are of quite a different character.

They, too, are of world significance, but of the kind that make the Berlin worker drop off to sleep with a pleased smile on his face.

What are these changes? Some of them are intangible, such as changes in character, the change from a fascist mentality to a democratic one in the best sense of the word. This is something difficult to measure, but no one who has seen the Nazis and who sees the people here today, especially the youth, can doubt that the difference is like that between vinegar and good wine. This is undoubtedly

the greatest achievement so far in the German Democratic Republic.

There are other changes of a totally different kind, changes that cannot be seen as you walk along the street but which affect the whole development of the German nation. The Soviet Government has returned to the German people more of the plants which were awarded to it as reparations under the Potsdam agreement. In contrast to West Germany, these plants did not revert to the control of the monopolists who sponsored the last war, but to the public administration of the people for peaceful production. These are the same plants about which so many tons of newsprint in the West were used in making the false charge of "Soviet imperialism" when Soviet administrations were established just after the war.

There have been several wage increases and price cuts since I was here last. The latest wage rise, on July 1, was a big one for the skilled

GEORGE WHEELER first was in government service in Washington, then worked in the U.S. military government in Berlin. In 1947, together with his family, he went to Czechoslovakia. They liked the will-to-peace atmosphere there and remained.



—Photos for this article from GDR in Construction
 Artist's drawing of Stalin Allee. Begun this year, some apartments are already occupied; the rest is to be completed before the end of the year

workers, and intellectuals. For the miners, who head the list of increases for the workers, the increases range up to double the previous rates. For some intellectual workers the increases go as high as five times the previous salaries.

There is good reason for this increase in differentials between the skilled and the unskilled. With the rapid development of the economy of the Democratic Republic, there is a sudden great need for much more highly trained personnel. Previously the differentials in earnings had not been high enough to encourage every person to study to the utmost of his ability. Now they will. At the same time it was announced that new courses were being opened for training of the unskilled, and that training on the job will be increased. Those high wages are open to all.

These high incomes are attractive not only for the people in the German Democratic Republic, but throughout Germany. It can be expected that there will be an increase

in the number of people from the West who want to come and live here. To cover up their embarrassment at this steady increase in numbers, the Western press has been raising an uproar over alleged kidnappings. I saw one of these persons. He was a highly trained, and useful engineer who had skipped — and brought along from Hamburg a whole truckload of co-workers. They would rather work here and help build up their country than produce munitions in the West.

There are still some shortages here. Coffee is hard to get—but it has been for fifteen years and it must seem more important to a visitor than it is. There is still a bigger demand for shoes than can be met, although the improvement in quality of shoes is one of the most obvious changes since 1947.

But the quality of clothes and fabrics has so improved that the people will no longer buy at any price the shoddy stuff that they were queuing up for or buying in the black market

four years ago. The clothing stores are full of people and they are not just looking, but buying in huge amounts.

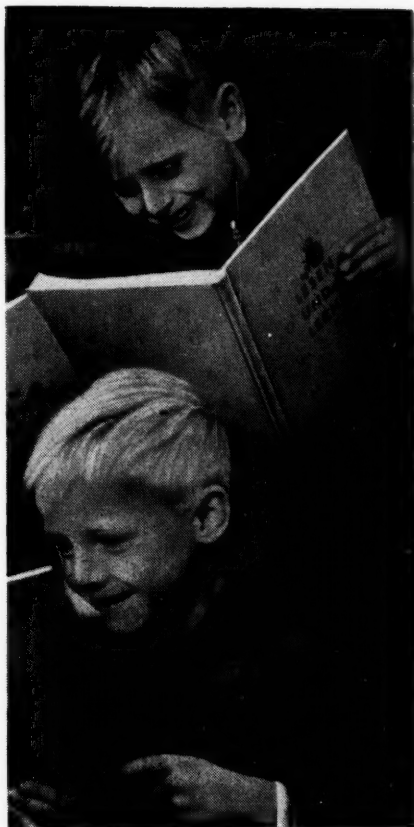
One of the nicest changes to see and taste is in the foods available. The beer is much better than it was; even if still not up to the Czech brews. I wondered why so many people were buying ice cream, and found that it was not only lower in price than it had been, but had again been improved in quality. This started me on a scientific investigation. I stopped in a pastry shop to see if there was enough fat and sugar in these products. I was pleasantly surprised and continued my research until I realized that my sample was more than adequate and that I was rationalizing my sweet tooth.

At the wurst and salami counter in the big food store, where the old Woolworth's "Five and Dime" used to be, was a list of 27 different kinds. It was easy to see that they were not the cereal-filled casings of 1945-47.

Those who have seen and tasted the miserable, sodden, moldy, cement-mixture bread that the people here (and elsewhere in Europe) were eating after the war, would have shared my pleasure at the display of breads. There were no less than eight kinds, not counting innumerable types of rolls. I wonder how long it will be before we in America catch on and demand such bread and rolls.

All over the democratic sector of Berlin construction is going on, construction of office buildings, museums, amusement places, factories and powerhouses. Where before there was a jungle of twisted rubble there are now cleared places and even green spots of grass. Everywhere brigades of people are working clearing up the rubble.

Recently I read in the *New York*



Youngsters of the German Democratic Republic experience the thrill of receiving their first school reader

Times that the new plan to clear away the rubble was only a flash in the pan and that only a few people turned out. Before I came here I felt a little sad at this report—now I realize that once more I had been taken in by a false story. Instead of less enthusiasm, it is growing. And this is only natural as the results begin to show up and it is clear that Berlin can be turned into a "Worthy Capital for a United Socialist Germany" as one sign put it.

But the most interesting and prob-

ably the most significant of all the construction projects are those along Stalin Allee. Here, for nearly a mile along both sides of what will be the main East-West highway, are rising modern apartment houses. This whole project is "above the plan."

These are seven- to twelve-story buildings and were started after the beginning of 1952. Some of them are already completed and people are living in them. The rest will be ready before the end of the year. Since I first saw the project a week ago a whole story has been added to many of the buildings. The speed of construction is in part due to the adoption of the new Polish and Soviet methods of laying brick, and to an increasing extent to new Soviet methods of prefabrication and other labor-saving devices.

The other reason that the work is going ahead with such speed is that every one concerned knows that the sooner the houses are built, the sooner they can move in. The houses are awarded on a rational basis, with priority going to those who are the best workers on the project and at the same time are most in need.

The city planners point out that this is only one street in the entire city—and they are planning for a reunited city. They are planning for

a united city just as most Germans, East and West, are planning for a united Germany.

Despite the fact that there is disappointment here that Adenauer succeeded in getting initial approval of the Bonn parliament for the Wall Street treaty, the people here are confident that they will win back the national unity and independence of Germany, and in a peaceful way.

More and more people are confident that the policies of their government in the German Democratic Republic are correct, and this is reflected in the growing prestige of the Socialist Unity Party. This increasing strength and internal unity of the SED was pointed out by several observers even before the second SED Party Congress begun. The main reason for this increase in strength and prestige of the SED has been in the obvious success of its policies, the land reform and resettlement of refugees in the country, the industrial expansion and rising real wages in the cities.

The Second Congress marked a new high in spirit in the SED and a turning point in national history. Walter Ulbricht announced that, after long years of hard, self-sacrificing preparation of the working people, the German Democratic

Shops in the German Democratic Republic are now jammed with goods and crowded with customers



Republic was now ready to begin to build socialism. This was like removing the cold, wet blanket of having to hold back for developments in Western Germany.

With the signing of the Wall Street-Adenauer war treaty confirming the partition of Germany and the intention to join the Atlantic bloc, a new strategy for unity and national freedom became necessary. Instead of waiting with changes in the economy until all of Germany had been united on the simplest possible basis, the decision now is to follow a policy which will make unity most attractive to the German people. By showing the German workers and small farmers the great advantages of life in the German Democratic Republic it is hoped that the working people of Western Germany will demand similar advantages for themselves.

The demand for national unity will become irresistible when an understanding of the economic advantages of such unity is combined with the increasing national feeling and the demand for the restoration of German national freedom.

The other new stage of development was the announcement that the German Democratic Republic was prepared to raise a democratic army to defend itself. This is not a new policy. No nation today can maintain its national sovereignty without an army to defend its border. This was recognized by the Big Four, for example, when they granted ex-enemy Italy the right to a national army.

This is quite a different thing from agreeing to an army under Nazi leadership such as the Wall Street-Bonn crowd is creating. Guderian and his staff openly plan for aggressive war.

The army here will represent a government whose every interest is in maintaining peace. Peace is necessary so that peaceful construction of socialism will not be interrupted, so that the daily progress toward abundance will not be replaced by burning death and destruction. All of the political leaders and working people here know and emphasize this. Peace and national unity and freedom remain the goals of the German Democratic Republic.

GAS CHAMBER FIRM BACK AT THE OLD STAND

THE I.G. FARBEN INDUSTRY, German's great chemical trust which made the Zyklon gas used in the Nazi extermination camps, is back in full scale production and making bigger profits than ever in West Germany today, according to a recent issue of "Democratic German Report."

The newsletter says that shares of the I.G. Farben, which according to the Potsdam Agreement was to be destroyed forever, will go back on sale.

Balance sheets of the firm show that production today is well above production in 1938, when Hitler was pushing armament ahead at full speed.

The announcement that dealings will be resumed in I.G. Farben, says the newsletter, has revealed that the entire work of "decartelization" carried through under American control in West German was "an utter sham."

THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY LOOKS AT TODAY'S CHINA

*World famous churchman hails
achievements won by the people*

by

DR. HEWLETT JOHNSON

A valiant fighter for peace and international understanding, the Rt. Rev. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury, has raised his voice uncompromisingly on behalf of progress. Today, under attack in his own country by the bigoted, the ignorant or the slavish followers of the cold war, he has nevertheless refused to deviate one bit from the side of truth. We believe our readers will find, as we did, of tremendous interest this farewell address that he delivered at a peace meeting in Peking on July 1, after an extended visit to New China.

FRIENDS and comrades in the cause of peace, our hearts would be sad indeed at this parting did we not know that we are going forth doubly armed by all that we have seen and heard in your great country to carry on with our English comrades the battle in the West for the cause of peace.

It was only through the extraordinary kindness and thoughtfulness with which you have made our journey easy and for the never ending care of the dear team of comrades to whom you entrusted us that we could have carried through the wide program of visits ranging from Canton to Mukden or Hangchow and Shanghai to Hankow and Shasi.

It has been a journey full of instruction and delight. At first hand we have learned the meaning of China's liberation—liberation from Japanese invasion and imperialist colonial domination.

At first hand we have learned of

the tiller of the land freed from feudal servitude and of the freedom of his wife and daughters which has enriched family life and multiplied the productive capacity of the land.

We have grasped the truth, so significant for England, that, for the first time in history there are 300 million farmers with money to spend and eager and willing to buy farm implements small and large, which our engineers can supply and the fertilizers which our chemists can provide in exchange for the tung oil we so sadly need.

With what care and energy your Government aids the farmer and converts one of your age-long enemies into profitable servants of mankind—you tame your mighty rivers when in flood and make them irrigate your land during drought.

I am well acquainted with the great engineering construction of Russia and Eastern Europe but I have never seen greater construc-



The Rt. Rev. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury (left), visiting a village south of Peking. Model farmer Ho Fong-chi (hand outstretched) tells the visitors he was awarded the donkey for outstanding work in the village

tions, considering the difficulties you have overcome, in speed and magnitude than that which by water gates a 1,000 meters long you lead the turbulent Yangtse waters in flood safely to a huge storage area till the danger peak is past.

By your excessive kindness in providing a special plane we were able to visit this enterprise on the very eve of its completion.

When mingling with the workers we could see the industry and skill with which that vast multitude could work, the fiery enthusiasm which inspired them and the deep gratitude they feel to Chairman Mao, the great father of their land, and his comrades in office, for their timely rescue from this imminent peril by which he has saved them.

My engineering eyes never felt more thrilled than when I looked at that thousand meter long massive high standing shield of gates completed within three months of its

start, and one of them marked by torrents of rain.

I can say the same too of that other mighty project which will render secure from the horror of the flood and famine under which I found the Huai Valley groaning in 1932, and make it permanently the bowl of China and the valley of happy and prosperous homes.

It is the people who have done it. Working for the masses, the masses have worked for you to create these gigantic achievements.

Again, as one brought up in Lancashire, in the midst of factories and mills, I viewed with intense interest the jute mill at Hangchow. Its efficiency was most impressive, the Chinese improvements a great advance on the English model, built so low that the workers do not feel hidden in an alley of machines, like a horse in blinkers, so psychologically right and all in line with the other amenities, gardens, dormitories and

nurseries which make it the most beautiful factory I have ever seen.

I learned with pleasure that China can be completely independent in other industries, if need be, as in jute, where she has her own raw material without any diminution of food production, through more scientific agriculture and food culture.

I think sadly of the loss of trade which is caused by this forcing of China into fields of independent manufacture. But I learn with deep satisfaction that China desires no such independence, but would rather join with us in mutually beneficial interchange of trade.

I observe with deep satisfaction the new cleanliness of China:

- The warfare against flies, mosquitoes, bugs and rats, signs of which we saw, small and large everywhere.
- Canton brings water and lavatory accommodation to a quarter of a million people almost entirely without these amenities before.
- Tientsin is laying down 200 kilometres of sewerage pipes.
- Changsha removes, by voluntary labor, a centuries-old rubbish heap of 12,000 tons and drives a large new road with ample modern drainage right through the squalid area of her town from station to riverside.

Liberated China had started these vast sanitary enterprises before the blows of devilish germ warfare had begun.

That warfare however, met with scientific skill and indomitable courage, has given even greater impetus to this wave of sanitary reform and made China the most health-conscious nation in the world, a very pathfinder on the road to positive health.

I mention germ warfare last. With deepest shame I learned of this appallingly inhuman deed: with still deeper shame that it is practiced by a nation which has the audacity to call itself "Christian."

No one in China can have any doubt of the reality of this deed. None who have been, as I have been on the very spots attacked and talked with eye witnesses, has any doubt of the fact.

But in England there is disbelief. It is impossible, I am told, that America could sink so low: "These are Communist propaganda tales."

Now it is just here that I take home with me from China my most powerful weapon in the cause of peace.

For, quite deliberately, in every city I have visited, I have made contact with the leaders of the Christian Churches; with Bishops deriving their consecration from Canterbury, from Methodists, Baptists, priests and members of the Roman Catholic Church, and many more.

I conversed with them, interrogated them and with one voice I learned from them four things:

1. Religion is free in China.
2. They cordially welcome the new life in China.
3. They repudiate foreign control of Chinese Christianity.
4. They are convinced of the reality of germ warfare and united with all China in the struggle against it. Their own Christian doctors, nurses and laymen are involved in the struggle on Chinese as well as on Korean soil.

I bear home with me for laying before the Christian Churches—my own and others—a series of the most widely signed documents by leaders



Wang Shu-min, an outstanding textile worker, was elected by her factory colleagues to the post of shop leader

of the Chinese Christian Churches protesting against germ warfare and calling on English Christians to join in its repudiation.

No longer can Christians, and they still form the bulk of population in my land, reject the germ stories as propaganda. Here indeed is a challenge they must meet, or they will drive a shocking wedge between Christian East and Christian West.

I go back to England full of confidence and hope and thank you for placing this invaluable peace-weapon in my hands.

I am at the end of what time permits me to say. Hours would be insufficient for what I wish to say.

But I must add one word more in conclusion.

I value your mighty constructions.

I value your irrigation works and forest belts.

I value your cleansed towns, your new industry and your new agriculture.

But on and beyond all these things, I value the mighty moral conversion which has gripped your whole people;

A moral change which puts service to self last and service to brother man first;

A moral change demanding of many an agonizing struggle, not unrelated to that a true Christian feels as he yields to the call to devote his life to something higher than himself, and what can be higher than devotion to the human beings who surround us.

Here is the real clue to the mighty things that are happening all around me in China.

Incarnated in your magnificent leader Chairman Mao and his devoted band of fellow leaders;

Incarnated everywhere and in every walk of life is this great spirit of each for all, with its corollary of all for each.

It is for that spirit that the ages have longed.

It is that spirit that leads to peace.

It is that spirit which is the full assurance of speedy and complete achievement.

NEW DREISER EDITION IN SOVIET UNION

A NEW 75,000-copy edition of the works of American novelist Theodore Dreiser is being published in the Soviet Union. More than a million copies of the works of Howard Fast have been published in the USSR.

Is East-West Trade a "Peril"?

**An economist examines the arguments
of those who aid plans of warmakers**

by

VICTOR PERLO

DAVID LAWRENCE, editor of the widely circulated journal *U.S. News and World Report*, recently returned from Western Europe with a most gloomy report on the economic situation there. However, as one reads his interview and his journal's analysis published in the July 4 issue, it becomes clear that the gloom is not because of the bad situation, but because Europeans want to do something to cure it.

He reports that all through Europe "businessmen are agog" at the prospect of doing business with Russia, which they see as "a great new market that is to make the non-Communist world independent of the U.S."

The United States Government today employs a whole bureaucracy of economic sleuths who inspect every foreign trade deal of dependent governments. Using economic blacklists, the strongest diplomatic pressure, and the implicit pressure of U.S. troops occupying bases on its "allies'" soil, Washington seeks to restrict as far as possible the items permitted in East-West trade.

Trying to justify this pressure, the business press in the United States, as well as pro-Washington European organs, have tried to cook up arguments against East-West trade. The

Economist, *Business Week*, and *U.S. News and World Report* have centered on the following themes:

Argument 1. The present limited volume of East-West trade is of vital importance to the USSR. By depriving the socialist world of imported raw materials and machinery, western businessmen can strike a serious blow at socialist planned economies.

Of course, trade is a two-way street, and an increase of East-West trade would speed development of the USSR and the People's Democracies, while easing the economic situation in the capitalist countries as well.

But present annual imports of \$1.5 billion from the capitalist world comprise not more than 1 per cent of the national income of the USSR, China, etc. Loss of these marginal supplies could not have a disastrous effect on planned economies.

The "crucial" raw materials most frequently mentioned are cotton, wool, rubber, and oil. The USSR has made recent spectacular gains in production of cotton, as has China,

VICTOR PERLO, a leading American economist, is well known to our readers. He is the author of the recently published book, "American Imperialism."

where Tibet adds an important supply of wool. The Soviet Union and Poland produce excellent synthetic rubber, and the USSR and China are developing natural rubber production. China produces 70 per cent more oil than formerly, to take but one example, and these countries as a group are doing very well right now with little or no oil coming in from the capitalist combines. The scope and volume of Soviet machinery production has increased more strikingly than any other major branch of industry. Czechoslovakia already has an important machine building industry, and China, Poland, and other People's Democracies are developing such industries.

One has but to read the frequent admissions of the high quality of Soviet industrial technique now appearing in U.S. trade journals to appreciate the absurdity of the claim that the socialist world depends on the trickle of capitalist machinery now being purchased. The conclusive fact is that in 1951 and this year to date, despite the tightened U.S. embargo, the USSR, the People's Democracies and China continue to increase production at a rate never approached in the capitalist world.

Argument 2. Supplies obtained by the West in East-West trade are unimportant. The USSR and East European countries, it is claimed, have much less timber and grain than formerly to export.

The supply of these commodities has been shrinking because the prospective purchasers, under U.S. pressure, have refused to give goods in return. The Soviet Union, with bumper crops and improved lumber industry technique, can plan its output to increase many times the export of grain and timber, if trade

conditions warrant. Unquestionably, the countries of Western Europe can get real help in their critical housing situation, and in restoring rations, by expanding trade with the East for timber and grain.

But the main distortion in this argument is the deliberate confusion of today's socialist world with backward tsarist Russia. The Soviet Union and the People's Democracies are major exporters of coal, machinery, automobiles, and a wide variety of industrial products as well as raw materials.

Western Europe can obtain the same commodities elsewhere, principally in the United States. But the countries of Western Europe have learned, to their sorrow, that the United States doesn't buy in return. One-sided trade with the United States leads to financial catastrophe and lower living standards. The people of the United States pay the cost of these "gift" exports, while special interests pocket the proceeds.

As for the underdeveloped countries, their diplomats at the recent session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council brought out again the refusal of the United States and other great capitalist powers to supply equipment on reasonable terms for the development of national industry. The Soviet Union and the People's Democracies are today the only sources where such equipment can be obtained without delivering the economies of the buyers into the hands of foreign capital.

Argument 3. The capitalist world does not need socialist markets. Capitalist trade is booming, it is claimed, while Soviet trade is shrinking under the impact of U.S. restrictions.



Baling cotton in China for shipment to various textile centers of the country. Cotton cultivation has made spectacular gains in People's China.

This argument flies in the face of the facts. According to the *U.N. World Economic Report*, 1951-52, Soviet foreign trade is three times the pre-war level. UN statistics place the physical volume of international trade throughout the world at 134 per cent of the 1937 level. This includes the figures for the USSR and People's Democracies. So the percentage increase for the capitalist countries alone is somewhat less. In the case of the United States, almost 20 per cent of exports consists of munitions. Thus the physical volume of capitalist international trade, excluding munitions, is not much above the depressed pre-war level.

Moreover, this argument ignores the principal problem of Western European trade—the "dollar problem." As Mr. Truman admitted in a recent statement, U.S. trade barriers make it impossible for European countries to sell here:

Neither, I feel, have we really thought through the full implications

of our efforts to prevent the rest of the free world trading with the Iron Curtain bloc. Having insisted that these countries severely restrict their trade in one direction, what can we suggest to replace it?

Mr. Truman has nothing tangible to suggest. He appointed a committee to study the problem. The committee will in due course make various suggestions, to be filed and ignored like those of other committees appointed by the President to try to find solutions to problems insoluble in the context of the cold war.

With Japan and Western Germany back in full force competing with England, France, the United States, etc. for a market limited to two-thirds of the world, it is no wonder that British and French currencies are again in crisis, and that in Japan and Western Germany consumers' goods and export industries are slumping.

Trade with the socialist world—a two-way proposition with a steadily increasing market and source of sup-

ply—is the only way in which these problems can be eased.

West European capitalists ignore arguments against East-West trade. Recently the British House of Commons broke into loud cheers at the announcement of a trade agreement to exchange Russian salmon and crab meat for British herring. The deal amounted to but a few million dollars. But to the members of Parliament it was a symbol of the possibilities. It was a small realization of the slogan so popular in British conservative circles today: "trade, not aid."

Capitalist governments are striving to maintain or expand East-West trade despite Washington pressure. Examples:

- In July, Denmark defied a State Department warning and delivered a tanker to the USSR, in accord with a contract concluded some years ago.
- Trade between British-controlled Hong Kong and China recently increased 30 per cent from the relatively low level to which it was reduced as a result of U.S. pressure at the height of the Korean War.
- The United States called a conference with Britain, Canada, France and Japan for the end of July to tighten up the embargo on China. But Japanese officials announced that they would use the conference to seek "adjustment if not relaxation" of the trade barriers. (*Reuters* dispatch to the *New York Times*, July 23, 1952).

Actually, those who argue against East-West trade know that Europeans are unimpressed. The main target of the arguments is not in

Europe. The attempt is to convince Americans that U.S. pressure on Europe against East-West trade is a good thing, and above all, that our country has nothing to gain from trade with the USSR and the People's Democracies.

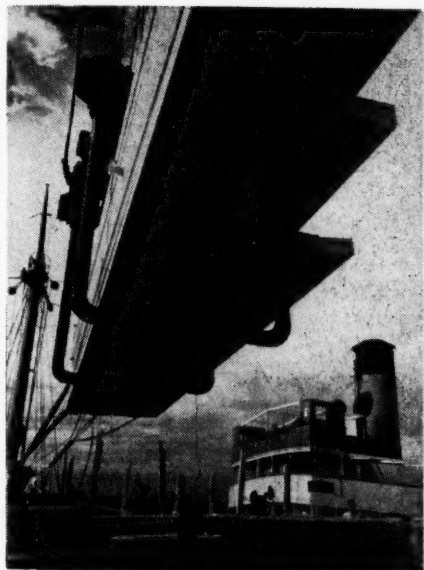
The slump which affected many U.S. consumer goods industries during the first half of this year, and which threatens to spread to machinery and other heavy industries in the foreseeable future, is a source of serious concern to American capitalists. This explains Commerce Secretary Sawyer's ordering of an immediate study to provide American business with information as to where markets can be obtained when the present enormous war orders are reduced.

In a recent article, H. Luedicke of the *Journal of Commerce* gloats that the nomination of Eisenhower assures continued high war expenditures. He writes:

Actually, nothing short of the present gigantic defense program could have successfully filled the air-pocket in the civilian sector of the economy. The record shows that for the past 15 months it has taken greater and greater defense expenditures just to hold business on an even keel. In plain words, we had to run faster and faster . . . just to stand still . . . it is quite possible that soon even the defense program now scheduled for the next few years won't be sufficient any longer to prevent a cyclical business decline. (July 14, 1952.)

This journal sees numerous business failures even with the war program, absolute catastrophe without it.

The fact is that it is the war program that is responsible for the huge size of the "air-pocket" in U.S. civilian economy. And the war program



Loading timber in the port of Leningrad. The USSR has plenty of timber which Western Europe can well use

is the barrier to the only genuine new market for American industry—the socialist world.

The war program gives huge profits to a few giant war contractors. It gives them a chance to gobble up weaker competitors—as the *Journal of Commerce* puts it, to “clean house” by the “elimination of marginal producers.”

So far these “marginal producers” are intimidated by the current hysteria from taking action in their own interests. But the time must come—and it may not be too far distant—when workers facing unemployment and capitalists facing bankruptcy will cut through the lies of the war party, and force a break in the Washington-imposed blockade.

The financial journals do not discuss it, and Mr. Sawyer's report

will likely ignore it, but they cannot hide from the people forever the fact that the Soviet spokesman at the International Economic Conference in Moscow offered a larger volume of trade to the United States than to any other single country.

Of course it is possible to replace Soviet manganese—at the cost of huge subsidies paid by American taxpayers to big corporations cooperating with the notorious Malan regime of South Africa. And it may be possible to replace Chinese tungsten, at the cost of tens of thousands of American lives, and countless Korean lives lost in the attempted conquest of Korea. And it may be possible to replace the embargoed markets for American manufactures in the socialist world—for a time, and at a cost which led Henry Ford II to say: “There are two obvious places we can go. One is to war. The other is broke.”

We don't have to go broke or to war.

To avoid these evils it is necessary for the American people to overcome the fantastic myth of a Soviet menace to the United States. Every American visitor to Europe finds that nobody there fears an attack from the USSR, but at most everybody fears the United States as a source of war and disaster. As Mr. Lawrence of *U.S. News and World Report* (July 4, 1952) put it: “You mention the word ‘war’ to anyone over there—they don't want any of it or any step leading to war.”

Here anti-Soviet hysteria is still strong, but the desire of the American people for peace finds increasing expression. The ending of the trade embargo, the restoration of normal economic relations, will knock the weapons of ignorance and hysteria out of the hands of the warmongers.

A Vital Educational Job

by

RICHARD MORFORD

THE enterprise of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship does not lend itself to cries of "emergency" and "crisis." Ours is a day-by-day educational task, but an absolutely essential one. American-Soviet relations lie at the center of the struggle over peace and war in our time. It is a fatal error to skirt this issue.

In an election year when all parties of necessity must go to the public with a peace platform, whether of a spurious brand or an honest kind, American-Soviet relations must be discussed. To win *new* friends and influence *more* people this year, progressive leadership will have to meet the crucial questions about the Soviet Union squarely—offer as much information as possible concerning that country's activities at home and a well-reasoned interpretation of its intentions in international relations.

However, this writer can report after considerable traveling in the Middle West that both peace leaders and ordinary people are more willing than ever to look the full truth in the face, they favor negotiation of differences rather than more threat of war, they see the possibility of peaceful coexistence. So this is where we come in!

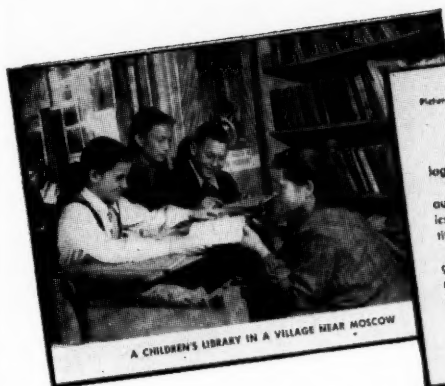
RICHARD MORFORD, a Presbyterian Minister, is the Executive Director of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

What are our plans? Our major plan is to *go to the people*.

Thirty cities of the Middle West were visited by our leadership during the early spring—speaking at meetings, organizing, showing films, distributing literature. Now we are moving in the cities of the Eastern Seaboard. In the fall we would like to spend a period of weeks among the people in the states of the West Coast.

About literature: more good pieces are available today than ever before. Have you seen the trenchant data on the German problem which we recently published—both the addresses and the discussion which followed in a symposium on "The Future of Germany and World Peace"? Or do you have a copy of our June, 1952, pamphlet "Soviet Workers and Their Unions"? By question and answer the full truth is told concerning the powerful Soviet trade unions—an admirable pamphlet for distribution among American trade unionists. Or, again, we are promoting in every way possible Dr. Corliss Lamont's most recent brief, pocket-size, inexpensive pamphlet "Effects of American Foreign Policy." (Published under his own imprint). This puts the facts on the counter—just the right piece for street and door-to-door distribution as part of election campaigning.

Last month the Council brought out its newest publication: "Pictures for Peace." A set of twelve small card pic-



Pictures for Peace, No. 5

CHILDREN ARE BROUGHT UP IN THE SPIRIT OF PEACE AND BROTHERHOOD

Libraries for children are found in every city, town and village, and on the collective farms.

Books for children are considered important and the best authors and artists of the U.S.S.R. work on them. Children's classics from all countries are translated. Since 1933, 5,700 different titles have been published and 500 million copies circulated.

"Comics," horror or crime stories are not published. Propaganda for war is legally a crime; writing that promotes race hatred or crime and violence is forbidden. In 1951, there were 350,000 libraries with 7 billion volumes in the U.S.S.R.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP
114 EAST 33 STREET, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

Face and reverse side of one of the "Pictures for Peace" that the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship now has available for the public

tures show peaceful activities in the Soviet Union. On the reverse side of each picture are recorded pertinent facts in that area of activity substantiating the desire of the Soviet Union for peace. These cards at 25 cents a set can be used in a variety of ways to enhance American-Soviet understanding.

Education is never complete without action. Consistently through the years the National Council has spoken for direct negotiations with the Soviet Union on all points of crucial decision in world affairs. On June 17, Dr. Mary van Kleeck went before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on behalf of the Council to speak in opposition to the pending German contractual agreements and to plead for Four-Power conversations of the Foreign Ministers to reach an agreement on Germany in the best interests of all the people of Germany as well as the Four Powers: the U.S., the USSR, Great Britain and France. We followed this testimony in Washington with full recommendations to our leadership throughout the national field.

We have just welcomed back our National Chairman, Dr. John A. Kingsbury, who has been abroad with Mrs. Kingsbury for one entire year. Nearly two months in the Soviet Union, visits in the other countries of Eastern and

Western Europe, a sojourn in Paris throughout the winter meeting of the United Nations' General Assembly. And finally, in climax Dr. Kingsbury has visited China, first appearing as the spokesman of the U.S. peace movement at a great preparatory conference in Peking early in June, building toward an All-Asian and Pacific Region Conference to be held later this year. Dr. and Mrs. Kingsbury have already spoken in New York and Chicago. Receptions will also be arranged in Detroit, Cleveland and other cities.

The thirty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Soviet State is to be celebrated in November, 1952. The National Council will recognize this unique anniversary by the arrangement of special observances throughout the country. The arrival of a new Ambassador from the Soviet Union and the forthcoming meeting of the United Nations' General Assembly in New York token the attention that will be fixed in our country during the next months upon the Soviet Union. It is the task of the National Council to point this interest toward the increase among the American people of American-Soviet understanding and for the restoration of cooperation between the two great powers to insure world peace.

For Peace and Friendship

by

IRENE J. MILLER and HOLLAND ROBERTS

"PEACE WILL WIN"—that is the spirit of the Friendship Letters coming to the American Russian Institute in San Francisco.

Students, housewives, trade unionists, business and professional people from sixteen states have already sent messages to be published in the Friendship Book. The invitation to all peace-loving men, women and children to be the authors of the Friendship Book comes from the American Russian Institute in San Francisco, in the belief that the publication of many messages on the importance of friendship between the American and Soviet people will encourage many thousands of others in our own and in other countries to express their desires for a peaceful and creative life. A responsibility to ourselves and to our children demands that we use all democratic means to work for Peace. The Friendship Book is one way to make a voice for Peace heard.

The common denominator of the many messages received is expressed in the brief statement of a San Francisco mother and teacher: "Since Peace is the most important thing in the world today, it stands to reason that Friendship between the two most im-

portant countries in the world must be maintained."

The language may differ with the age and economic status of the writer, but the message is clear in its affirmation: "The key to World Peace," writes a teacher-evangelist from Michigan, "is just as old as the Bible which proclaims that, 'Wisdom is better than weapons of war.' . . . We have no greater task than that of making our rulers understand that 'The work of righteousness shall be Peace.'"

A member of organized labor in Detroit, a machinist, writes that he wants 'to go on record for friendship with Russia. I would rather work on a peace job which does not bring misery and death to others. We can keep many employed on building new roads, homes, schools etc. . . . For the good of everyone except the war profiteers, I am for Peace and Friendship with the people of Russia.'

One of the several thousand seamen who shipped to Murmansk in the war years remembers "the interpreters, Tania Gorimova, Simon and Nicolai at the Seamen's Club in Murmansk and their efforts to make the men in our convoy comfortable after their trip. They helped to organize ski lessons, film programs, dancing, and a variety show from Moscow. . . . I rejoice at the opportunity to thank them and to continue working for our joint need, that of peace."

A former army officer who served four years in the war writes: "I shall never

HOLLAND ROBERTS is the President of the American Russian Institute in San Francisco, and Director of the California Labor School. **IRENE MILLER** is a member of the ARI staff.



Writing their messages in the Friendship Book are Dr. Holland Roberts and two teen-agers of San Francisco

forget the tremendous debt our soil and people owe to the heroic Soviet army and citizens. . . . The Soviet Union and the U. S. cooperated effectively during the war; they can cooperate even better during Peace!"

If there is one note that rings most eloquently in the Friendship Book, it is the joyous perspective of a peaceful world that can be built upon the secure foundation of American-Soviet friendship. "Then," writes a Pennsylvania farmer, "trade and travel between our countries will flourish; American art-

ists will perform in the theaters of the Soviet Union and we shall go to see concerts and operas by Soviet artists here; citizens will go back and forth by jet airways and spend their vacations, attend trade conferences, union meetings, scientific and educational forums, and sports competitions."

Director Leo E. Christiansen and members of the California Labor School Chorus of San Francisco write of their recent performance of Shostakovich's *Song of the Forest*:

"Our presentation of the first performance in English of this great cantata continues our interest in learning and presenting the people's music of all nations. The vast afforestation project of which the cantata sings is an example of the peaceful occupation of the Soviet people. We look to the coming day when there shall be exchange visits of American and Soviet choral groups, each singing of their respective and harmonious plans for controlling nature."

For 20 years, the American Russian Institute in San Francisco, sponsor of the Friendship Book, has promoted understanding between the people of the United States and the Soviet Union through the exchange of cultural and educational information. The Friendship Book continues this tradition of working toward the amity which is in the best interest of our people and the people of the world.

Messages should be mailed to the Friendship Book, Room 310, 101 Post Street, San Francisco 8, California.

NEW PRIESTS' HOTEL IN PRAGUE

A CENTER where Czechoslovakian priests can stay while visiting the capital has just been established in the heart of Prague by the Czechoslovak state.

Known as the Priests' Hotel, it stands next to St. Ignatius Church near Charles Square; a side entrance of the hotel leads directly into the church. The building is four stories high and surrounded by a park.

The hotel has a refectory, clubrooms, its own motion picture projector. A well-stocked library contains 6,000 volumes of theological works and books of general interest.

Life After "Death"

**Spectacular Soviet scientific findings
show revival possible after heart stops**

by DR. VLADIMIR NEGOVSKY

THE AGE-OLD BELIEF that we can never understand death, the idea that it is impossible and futile to combat it—to say nothing of the mystery and mysticism with which this phenomenon has been treated by idealist philosophers—is fast becoming a thing of the past.

"There are no things in the world which are unknowable, but only things which are still not known, but which will be disclosed and made known by the efforts of science and practice," Stalin has said. Today we see that the deep and thorough study of the process of dying in an organism discloses ever new systems in this complicated and many-sided biological phenomenon. Death has become an object of research.

Until quite recently it was considered that if the heart ceases to beat and breathing stops the organism is irrevocably dead, and that all further attempts to offer the patient medical help are useless. Modern medicine has shown the fallaciousness of such a formal approach to the appraisal of the ability of an organism to survive.

It is now established that when the heart ceases to beat and breathing stops the organism falls into a state of minimal activity, into so-called

clinical, or relative, death, which lasts five to six minutes. During this time, the organism should not be considered dead and in certain cases can be revived.

The question arises as to how the tissues of the organism, particularly the brain, can continue to live even for a short time after the heart has completely ceased functioning and circulation has stopped.

The Stalin Prize Winners M. Gajevskaya and Y. Smirenskaya, workers at the Laboratory of Experimental Physiology for the Revival of Organisms, of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR, have demonstrated that during this five to six minute period the tissues draw their energy not through breathing in oxygen but by means of what is called *glycolysis*.^{*} This is evidently the main reason why even the brain tissues can continue to live for some time after circulation and respiration has completely ceased.

The conception of "clinical death," as worked out in detail by Soviet science, indicates that it is possible

^{*} The tissues of an organism need energy to live and function. Energy is usually released as the result of the combustion of nutritive substances (primarily carbohydrates) with oxygen. However, tissues can obtain energy by means of *glycolysis*, a process in which carbohydrates are broken down without oxygen, through fermentation.



Dr. Vladimir Negovsky

and necessary to continue treatment not only during the period of dying preceding clinical death, but even when clinical death has occurred. Clinical death, the final stage in the process of dying, is followed by the irreversible state of biological death.

Science has not yet discovered any way of restoring an organism to real life if clinical death has lasted more than five to six minutes. And life can be restored only if death has not been caused by some fatal disturbance of the vital organs, and only if the human organism is still sufficiently vigorous.

If death comes after a long and serious illness and such organs as the heart, lungs, liver, or brain are deeply affected, the result will not be successful. Such patients will inevi-

tably die again after they have been revived.

F. A. Andreyev, twice Stalin Prize Winner, is justly considered the pioneer of the contemporary scientific study of the problem of restoring life to organisms. As far back as 1913 he published an article in the magazine *Problems of Scientific Medicine* in which he described an original method of reviving organisms.

This method was further developed and supplemented in the later researches conducted in the Laboratory of Experimental Physiology for the Revival of Organisms. Here life is restored to the organism by pumping blood into an artery and driving it to the heart. The heart receives the nutrition it lacked, while an injection of adrenalin into the blood stream forces the cardiac muscle to contract. The heart begins to beat.

At the same time artificial respiration is carried on with the help of a special apparatus. The patient begins to breathe, and then recovers consciousness.

In 1939, on the initiative of Andreyev, the Soviet physician I. Biriillo tested the effect of transfusing blood into the artery for the first time—on patients in the state of death agony. The tests were performed in the surgical clinic of the Minsk Medical Institute.

From that time on, the pumping of blood into the artery by improved methods, often in combination with artificial respiration, has been prac-

DR. VLADIMIR NEGOVSKY is head of the Laboratory of Experimental Physiology for the Revival of Organisms, of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR. He, together with M. Gayevskaya and Y. Smirenskaya, has been awarded a Stalin Prize for work on the problem of reviving organisms.

ticed in other Soviet clinics. The complex method of restoring life was successfully applied by many surgeons during the war and it is being practiced today by such surgeons as Smirenskaya, Negovsky, Asatiani, Nikitin, Khavkin, Chinenkov, and others.

Several hundred cases of patients being restored to life at the time of death agony or clinical death have already been reported in Soviet medical literature. Here is one of the many examples.

In March, 1948, a 24-year-old patient with a severe hemorrhage was brought to a surgical clinic in the city of Stalino, in the Ukraine. When carried into the surgery she had already stopped breathing; her pulse could not be felt nor could heartbeats be detected.

Breathing had already ceased when she was taken out of the ambulance and placed on the stretcher, that is, four or five minutes earlier.

The physician on duty immediately began to transfuse blood and adrenalin into the artery. Artificial respiration was performed simultaneously.

One minute later irregular contraction of the heart muscle was observed, and three minutes later breathing had been restored. Five

minutes after the blood transfusion, the heart began to beat rhythmically. At the same time the necessary operation was performed.

Ten minutes after the restoration of breathing the patient recovered consciousness. Twenty-two days later she was discharged from the hospital.

The problem of restoring life to an organism is being worked out on the basis of the brilliant conclusions of the Russian physiologist Pavlov. Only on the basis of his teachings can one competently intervene in the process of death and conquer it—provided, of course, that the patient's organism is still viable.

The problem of reviving an organism is, of course, one of great biological significance, so our researches are based on the progressive biology created by Michurin and Lyсенko.

We clearly understand that this is only the beginning, that we are standing at the source of a tremendous scientific research which promises to give an immeasurably fuller and deeper idea of the basic laws governing death—researches which will help us to work out still better ways of treating patients in death agony, or in the state of clinical death.

—*Courtesy Soviet Weekly (London)*

PAINLESS CHILDBIRTHS IN CHINA

THE SOVIET psycho-prophylactic method of painless childbirth, which has been successfully employed in a number of China's lying-in wards, is now gaining popularity in medical circles and among expectant mothers.

In some hospitals in Shanghai, Tientsin and other cities over 90 percent of maternity cases in which this advanced obstetrical method was used were painless deliveries.

The Ministry of Public Health of the Central People's Government has recently issued a directive urging health departments and medical institutions throughout the country to study and extend this method step by step to all expectant mothers in cities and villages.

How You Can Vote for Peace

by JESSICA SMITH

PEACE is the most vital issue in America today—an end to the war in Korea now, an end to all policies threatening new world war.

Both the Republican and Democratic parties pay lip service to the deep-seated desire of the American people for peace. The Democratic Party says its election "will mean world peace with honor." The Republican Party claims as its supreme goal "an honorable and just peace."

Each calls the other the war party, and in this alone both speak the truth. Neither offers any alternative to the cold war program based on the substitution of armed force for negotiation in world relations; neither offers any program for peace in Korea.

The Republicans accuse the Democrats not, it is true, of starting the war in Korea, since they have no quarrel with that, but of failing to end it by military victory — by methods which could only lead to world war. The Democrats try to pin the responsibility for the war on the Republicans who helped put over the bi-partisan war program, and blame the Republicans for policies they have made their own.

While Big Business prefers Eisenhower, Stevenson is also their man. They know they will not lose if popular illusions about the role of the Democratic Party through its greater degree of demagoguery and its support by the labor officials, ignoring the true interests of their members, should continue it in power.

Whatever hopes have been placed in the Democratic Party as more representative of the rights of labor and the Negro people, have been blasted

by its retreat on F.E.P.C., by Stevenson's support of the Taft-Hartley Act and his choice of the anti-labor, anti-Negro Sparkman as running mate.

Little argument is necessary to prove that the Eisenhower-Nixon ticket, blessed by Dulles, McCarthy, et al., stands squarely for war and reaction. The danger lies in illusions that there is greater hope for peace in the election of the Democratic ticket. Already some wishful-thinking liberals have been taken in by the vague and mellifluous words of Stevenson. Hopes placed in a Democratic victory must be measured against the Democratic record in office. Stevenson has supported the Administration war program every step of the way, as he made clear in his article in the April issue of *Foreign Affairs*, a fulsome apologia for the launching and conduct of the Korean war.

Consider only a few of the most recent war moves of the Democratic Administration and their results, and ask yourself how the party sponsoring them can commend itself to lovers of peace:

- The prolonged and unprincipled stalling of the armistice negotiations at Panmunjom by U.S. refusal to adhere to the Geneva convention on prisoners-of-war; the reckless provocations for spreading the war by repeated bombings up to the very borders of China; the inhuman plan for merciless saturation bombing of 78 already blasted cities of North Korea, adding tens of thousands more civilians to the millions already slaughtered or horribly maimed by flaming gasoline; the mounting casualty lists bringing sorrow

to many thousands of American homes.

- The efforts to follow up the Dulles-authored war treaty with Japan by a Pacific version of NATO—a Far Eastern war bloc with a rearmed Japan as its core. Secretary Acheson's meeting for this purpose with Australia and New Zealand aroused indignation among the Asian peoples, who feel no need of U.S. aid in resisting "Communist imperialism" of which they see no signs, fearing an imperialist threat from another quarter entirely, and wanting no part in America's war.

- The forcing through against general European opposition of the Bonn agreements and the European army plan reviving Nazi military power, and the strengthening of the Ruhr war industries base through the Schuman Plan. Ratification of the Bonn contractual agreement was pushed through the British House of Commons by Churchill, following the lead of the U.S. Senate. But the Laborites mustered 253 votes against it to the Conservatives 293, marking an end to Britain's bi-partisan foreign policy. Ratification still faces sharp opposition in France and West Germany. Meanwhile, the growing hatred of U.S. policies is manifested by difficulties in raising both the armaments and manpower demanded by the American government, since European countries cannot stand the burden and see no threat of aggression to justify it, despite the constant harping on this theme by U.S. representatives. The two-year military service program which General Ridgway seeks to impose on the NATO powers is being openly flouted.

- The declaration of the U.S. representative in the Disarmament Commission that our country reserves the right to use atom bombs, bacterial and other weapons of mass destruction. The extent to which world opinion has been aroused by the position of the United States on this question was demonstrated at the International Red Cross Conference in Toronto. There a resolution similar to the Soviet resolution blocked by the United States in the

Security Council, calling on all states to ratify the Geneva Protocol prohibiting bacterial warfare, was passed overwhelmingly. There, too, the delegate from India—Saksena—said that the charges that the United States has employed bacterial warfare and perpetrated other atrocities in North Korea were too serious to be lightly dismissed and urged that both sides be heard by the conference.

Since both the Democratic and Republican parties have worked together for the war policies that either will continue if elected, there can be no choice between them for those who want peace. But there is a choice for the American people.

Of the parties in the field, only the Progressive Party stands squarely for peace in Korea now, without any ifs, ands or buts. Only the Progressive Party offers a concrete plan for ending the Korean war by "an immediate armistice at the agreed upon demarcation line; all disputed questions, including the exchange of war prisoners, to be settled by civilian representatives of all nations involved in the war after the fighting stops."

Only the Progressive Party calls for the solution of all international issues by negotiation instead of force, and above all for a program of peaceful co-existence with the Soviet Union as the key to world peace.

Let no one think that a vote for the standard bearers of the Progressive Party, Vincent Hallinan and Charlotta Bass, or for its local candidates, will be "wasted." The greater the mobilization of the people around the Progressive Party program for peace, civil rights and security, the greater the number of votes for its candidates, the more quickly will a broad people's coalition for peace and democracy become a reality.

In connection with the opportunities opened up by the election campaign, there is an immediate action for peace in Korea in which millions of Americans can unite, whatever their party affiliation or differences on other issues. This

Join National Referendum for Peace!

MORE THAN TWO YEARS have passed since the outbreak of the Korean War. Millions of casualties, civilian and military, including more than 120,000 of our soldiers and countless innocent Korean men and women have been recorded. The fields and towns of that unhappy land have been devastated. Yet the war goes on, despite the expressed desires of the vast majority of the American people, who through the Gallup Poll, the resolutions of many important national bodies, letters to the press, etc., have voiced their desire to see the Korean War ended. They want all unresolved questions settled, without further bloodshed, at the council table.

We have a responsibility to humanity and to our country to make it unmistakably clear to our political and military leaders that our people want the Korean War ended. This responsibility is increased in view of the announced plan of the Air Force to bomb 78 towns in North Korea, an extension of death and destruction that has no bearing on the one remaining issue at Panmunjom, the repatriation of prisoners, unless it is intended as pure coercion.

Call issued by group of leading Americans.

This is election year, 1952, a year of grave significance in the history of our country. Every man and woman is keenly aware of the importance of this election and his role as a voter. It is our firm belief that this desire to end the Korean war has such widespread support among the American people that if projected into the election campaign along non-partisan lines, candidates for public office, especially the Presidency, will feel compelled to accede to this popular demand to work to end the Korean war.

We therefore call on all men and women of good will in this country to join in a National Referendum for Peace on the simple issue of ending the Korean war through an immediate cease-fire and settling all unresolved questions at the conference table, the results to be presented to all candidates for public office, especially the Congress, the Senate and the Presidency. We call on all organizations — churches, trade unions, fraternal bodies, women's groups, civic clubs—to take part and initiate activity in support of a National Referendum For Peace, so that the tragedy of the Korean war will stop.

is the National Referendum for Peace, described above.

Dozens of leading Americans active in various peace movements have joined together in calling for the widest possible participation in this Peace Referendum. They include Rev. Joseph P. Fletcher, Prof. Philip Morrison, Rev. Joseph M. Evans, Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, Rev. Frederick K. Stamm, Rev. Kenneth Ripley Forbes, Rabbi Michael Alper, Dr. Mark Dawber, Dr. Theodore Rosebury, Prof. G. Murray Branch, Professor Robert Morss Lovett, Hugh Bryson and many others.

You can take part in this action initiated by the American Peace Cru-

sade, 125 W. 72nd St., New York City, either through that organization or through any of the numerous other organizations that unite various sections of the American people—trade union, church, civic groups.

The simple, compelling issue of ending the Korean war through an immediate cease fire and settling all unresolved questions at the conference table, is surely one in which all people of good will can join together.

Millions of votes cast in favor of this referendum for peace in Korea will be a mandate from the American people that no candidate or administration can safely ignore.

Fedin's 'No Ordinary Summer'

A review by DOROTHY BREWSTER

NO ORDINARY SUMMER. A novel in two parts, by Konstantin Fedin. Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow, 1950. Stalin Prize, 1948. Part I, 527 pp.; Part II, 730 pp.

KONSTANTIN FEDIN, born in 1892, is one of the older group of distinguished Soviet novelists. *Early Joys**, the novel of which the present work is a continuation had as its setting the city of Saratov on the Volga, in the year 1910. It was a story of provincial life in an uneasy pre-revolutionary period, comprehensive and complex, with many characters from all walks of life, whose lives were interwoven. Many of them reappear, developing with the changing times, in *No Ordinary Summer*; and the reader will lose something of character interest, if he is unfamiliar with the earlier novel, although the sequel can be enjoyed in its own right. *Early Joys* concluded with the reflections of a leading character, the playwright Pastukhov, on the death of Tolstoy, whose message he understood to be this: "He has left us a rule as plain as a word. Here is the earth. Here is man on earth. And here is a task: A life good for man must be built on the earth."

This same playwright, who is of the intellectually elite, is a leading figure in the sequel, laid in the same city—with some extension into the Volga-Don region to follow the military movements of the summer of 1919—"no ordinary summer," but the critical summer of the civil war and the intervention. Fedin is careful to insert from time to time straightforward explanations of what Denikin, Kolchak, Mamontov and the rest of them were doing,

with the aid from the Entente. Even in the Soviet Union, memory of the complications of those days must be growing dim. The perplexities of the playwright throw light on the complications.

This is a leisurely as well as a complex novel, in its pattern of events and interrelationships, for Fedin enjoys his scenes and his conversations, lingers over details, and likes his characters—the rascals and the eccentrics, as well as the little boys who are his favorites and who lend much charm to many episodes. One of the eccentrics, a lover of old books and children and fishing, is a kind of Pied Piper on the Volga. To outline the plot would be laborious and unrewarding. But the controlling theme will suggest the narrative development. With the Tolstoy belief in mind—"a life good for man must be built on earth"—Fedin moves into his story of this historical summer with the following reflection upon history:

Great historical events are accompanied not only by general excitement, finding expression in an elation or dejection of the human spirit, but also by suffering and deprivations far from the ordinary and beyond the power of man to prevent. For one who recognizes that the events taking place are part of the general movement of history, as well as for one who is consciously guiding the course of history, this suffering does not cease to exist any more than physical suffering ceases to exist when the disease causing it is known. But such a person reacts differently to the suffering than one who does not appreciate the historical significance of events, knowing only that life today is harder or easier, better or worse, than it was yesterday or will be tomorrow. For the

* *Early Joys*, issued by the same publishers in 1948, was reviewed in *Soviet Russia Today* in June, 1950.

former, the logic of history lends meaning to his suffering; for the latter, the suffering seems to have been imposed only to be suffered, as life itself seems to have been granted only to be lived.

We can apply these reflections to our own time of crisis, and we American readers may then gain much besides entertainment from reading this novel, remote as its action and people may seem from us and even from the Soviet Union of today.

The playwright Pastukhov is one who recognizes that the events he is involved in, along with his pretty wife and his delightful little boy, are part of the movement of history, but he is perplexed as to how to interpret that movement, and distracted by the discomfort and upheavals and finally real suffering which this movement brings to him. The portrayal of Pastukhov—the intellectual in time of crisis—will be revealing to many another intellectual.

As an example of the person with not the slightest notion of the movement of history, who is bewildered by the changes and sufferings and keeps on acting according to an outworn pattern, we have the old merchant Meshkov, who is a pretty objectionable old man, and yet portrayed with a certain com-

passionate and humorous understanding.

The young revolutionist, Kirill Izvekov, is a type of those who feel themselves a part of the people who are guiding history, but he too has hard riddles of conduct to resolve.

All through the book are incidental bits of dialogue relevant to the task of building that "life good for man." To conclude with one, which occurs when the playwright is asked to write something for the struggling new theater—a revolutionary play: But, he says, he has not yet been inspired by a suitable theme. What, he is asked, if we suggest one?

"Suggest a—subject?"

"Yes."

"Probably not suggest, but—order?"

"If you wish to put it that way."

"But an author's freedom lies in his choice of subject."

"We have no designs on your freedom. But couldn't you find something within the bounds of this freedom which would be suitable for the new theater? After all, some people liked your former plays, didn't they?"

"The public liked them."

"I think it would not be a mistake to say that even then you depended on the people who liked your plays. The only difference is that now the public has changed."

Justice for Ethiopia

EX-ITALIAN SOMALILAND, by E. Sylvia Pankhurst, *Philosophical Library*, New York, 1951, 460 pp., \$7.50.

MISS PANKHURST, one of the leaders of the struggle of women in England for equal rights, has long been known as a champion of the Ethiopian people in their unequal struggle for independence from foreign domination. This book, which states Ethiopia's claim and right to sovereignty over the area known as Italian Somaliland, has much valuable information on the history, conditions and aspirations of

these people. It does not, however, set forth the right and desire of these people to an independent state existence—independent of Ethiopia as well.

In so far as Miss Pankhurst attempts to prove the injustice of the United Nations decision (opposed by the Soviet Union, Byelorussia, the Ukraine, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia and Yugoslavia) to return this country of the Somali people to the jurisdiction of the De Gasperi government of Italy, even if for a 10-year period under UN trusteeship, she is on firm ground. She is also sound in documenting the vio-

lations of the UN Charter and trusteeship provisions by the De Gasperi administrators. Her evidence of Italian brutalities against the Somali today is substantiated by scores of petitions from Somali spokesmen to the Trusteeship Council. Her faithful recording of the skulduggery in the United Nations throws considerable light on the attitudes of imperialist spokesmen not only toward Ethiopia and the Somali people, but toward all the African peoples and other colonial peoples as well.

There is, however, an unfortunate impression from Miss Pankhurst's book that her zeal in behalf of Ethiopia takes second place to her zeal in behalf of the British Empire. She admits that "British support, and British support

alone, made possible the existence of the Italian colonies." She regrets it, as she regrets London's deal with Paris to help Mussolini conquer Ethiopia (a most significant chapter in the history of this area which she has omitted entirely). But after regret, there is no real criticism of British policy.

Hence, the author has directed her heavy artillery not at the main instigators and perpetrators of the brutalities against the Somali and the encroachments on the sovereignty of Ethiopia, but at a puppet and satellite of these arch-oppressors. Only with such limitations in mind can a reader obtain the really valuable information in this book.

JOHN PITTMAN

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(Continued from page 2)

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New reader Myers is now on our subscription list and has been informed that current Soviet films are not exhibited in Boston except in 16 mm. when organizations arrange showings.—Editor.

Suggests Reprints

Alpine, Cal.—Pertinent to your most excellent article on germ warfare in the June issue:

Why not have a reprint of this made that can be sold to your subscribers and others which they can enclose in their letters to this, that and other persons? I note that **The National Guardian** reprints seem to be having quite a success.

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