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SEPTEMBER, 1955

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New World

REVIEW



—Sovfoto

W. V. Lambert, head of U.S. farmers' delegation to the USSR, accepts bread and salt, symbol of hospitality, from a collective farm's oldest member.

**Ending the Cold War: In Moscow, Britain and
in Mid-West USA • Wanted: A Far East Geneva
Jews in the Soviet Union • Rumania Revisited**

NEW WORLD *Review*

SEPTEMBER

1955

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To Meet The Challenge Of Geneva

THE MEETING of the heads of government at Geneva has brought hope to all mankind. The new wind blowing today eases the spirits of people everywhere.

For the feeling in so many parts of the world is that it is time for people to begin to get together, to know each other, to understand each other's aims, desires and points of view.

We shall try to meet this challenge that Geneva has opened. We shall try to bring you more first-hand reports, better coverage and up-to-day analysis of the Soviet Union, China and the countries of Eastern Europe.

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NEW WORLD REVIEW

In the Spirit of Geneva

by JESSICA SMITH

THE spirit of the Geneva "summit" conference infused the historic "Atoms for Peace" conference, which ended, as Waldemar Kaempffert wrote in the *New York Times*, August 21:

... in what scientific delegates from 73 nations and 800 unofficial observers agreed was a blaze of glory. For it was the greatest scientific conference ever held—greatest not only because so much that was new was presented, but also because of the spirit that imbued all participants. . . .

What amazed all was the wealth of new information imparted by the scientific delegates of the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, France and the Scandinavian countries. So far as the United States is concerned, little is left of the secrecy in which even the design of the power reactors was wrapped. Britain has been equally candid, and the Russians told more than ever before about their work in atomics.

Great interest was aroused by the exhibits and reports of U.S. and Soviet delegates. The USSR presented an impressive exhibit and gave exhaustive information on its 5,000 kilowatt atomic power station, first in history to be put into operation, details on its plans for larger ones, and on other peaceful uses of atomic energy not yet applied elsewhere.

The participating scientists learned how much all can gain by the sharing of knowledge and experience,

at the same time discovering that there really are no atomic secrets since scientists of different countries had all in one way or another reached similar conclusions. Most of the barriers are down regarding future interchange, and the conclusion of the conference found both the United States and the USSR agreeing that such conferences should be repeated regularly in the future. Scientists of both countries are cooperating in continuing conferences on the technical aspects of reducing radiation hazards.

The conference opened up breathtaking vistas of uses of atomic energy for industrial development, for health, for increasing the material welfare and happiness of mankind. No less important is the mutual confidence established, which should have concrete results in the forthcoming efforts of the sub-committee of the UN Disarmament Commission to reach agreement at the session opening August 29, on steps toward the prohibition of atomic weapons.

President Eisenhower deserves great credit for his initiative in bringing about this conference, focusing world attention on the potentialities of atoms for peace instead of for annihilating war.

LAST month we commented on President Eisenhower's positive assessment of the results of the Geneva Conference in his July 25 broadcast, and his stress on the role of Ameri-

can and world public opinion in its success.

On August 4, Nikolai A. Bulganin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, reported to the Supreme Soviet that Geneva "must be considered a definite success for the forces of peace." He declared that the USSR, in favoring such a conference, had been guided by the basic Soviet policy of peaceful co-existence, knowing that this policy meets the interest of the Soviet peoples and all peoples, and that "the people's movement for peace must be reckoned with."

Bulganin expressed satisfaction at the agreement of all the participants to discuss the German question, disarmament, European security and the development of East-West contacts, at the same time recording the disappointment of the Soviet delegation that Asian and Far Eastern questions were not also included. He stressed his government's attitude on the importance of a settlement of the question of Formosa and of the admission of the People's Republic of China to the UN. He also declared:

It goes without saying that the Soviet delegation could not agree to a discussion of the situation in the East European countries and also the question of "international communism." We pointed out that to raise the question at the conference about the situation in the East European countries meant to impel us to intervene in the internal affairs of these states.

Bulganin set forth the Soviet position that the most reliable way of avoiding a new war in Europe would be through the establishment of an all-European collective security system, with the participation of the United States, rather than a system

of military alignment of one group of European states against another. But taking into consideration the ratification of the Paris Pacts, the USSR had proposed at Geneva that the establishment of a security system be divided into two stages. During the first, the North Atlantic Treaty, the Paris agreements and the Warsaw Treaty should remain in force, under mutual non-aggression pledges. During the second stage, all these separate military alignments should be terminated and replaced by a general European security system. The USSR proposed that eventually all foreign troops should be withdrawn from European territory.

Bulganin reiterated the willingness of the Soviet Union to examine other proposals regarding European security submitted at Geneva. He declared that the suggestions of British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden regarding a narrower security pact, including in the initial stages the USSR, the United States, Britain, France and others, merited attention.

Bulganin restated the Soviet position that the remilitarization of Western Germany and its integration into the Western military alignment is incompatible with the task of German unification, as increasingly recognized by the people and press of West Germany itself. He pointed out the difficulties of any "mechanical fusion" of the two German republics with their different social and economic systems. The problem, he said, can only be approached gradually, with the participation of both German governments, but made clear that the USSR favors unification when the necessary conditions have been established.

The Soviet Premier expressed the sympathy of his government with

those countries which desire to remain neutral and not to join any military blocs.

On the question of disarmament, Bulganin described his government's position as one of trying to bring closer together the position of the powers on both reduction of conventional armaments and prohibition of nuclear weapons, as it had sought to do in accepting the Western proposals on the level of armed forces. He expressed agreement with President Eisenhower's contention that "every disarmament plan comes down to the question of control and inspection." With regard to President Eisenhower's proposal on mutual aerial photography, Bulganin declared:

While commending the desire underlying this proposal to find a solution to so complex a problem as international control, one cannot help saying at the same time that the real effect of such measures would be small.

In unofficial conversations with the United States Government leaders we declared outright that aerial photographs could not produce the desired result because both our countries possess vast expanses where anything one wants to hide can be hidden. Another fact to be taken into consideration is that the proposed plan covers only the territories of these two countries proper, leaving aside the armed forces and military installations located on the territory of other states.

We consider the thoroughly worked out proposals for establishing international control put forward by the Soviet Government May 10, to be more realistic and effective.

Bulganin described the Soviet proposals as providing that the international control agency should "set up without delay control posts

on the territory of all the states concerned on the basis of reciprocity with a view to preventing a surprise attack by one state on another." Such posts would be set up at large ports, railway junctions, highways and airports.

The Soviet Premier also noted his government's suggestion that the Four Powers should set an example by reducing their armed forces to the extent of the troops withdrawn from Austria.

Hailing the decision on the development of East-West contacts, Bulganin declared:

The Soviet Union has been and is in favor of large-scale international cooperation and all-round development of economic, scientific and cultural contacts between states. We consider quite useful the exchange of delegations between countries and mutual visits by people engaged in industry, agriculture, trade, science, and culture and the arts, and by civic leaders. We also favor the development of tourist travel.

We regard the exchange of agricultural delegations between the USSR and the United States as a positive fact and express our satisfaction at the favorable atmosphere which surrounds the work of the Soviet agricultural delegation in the United States and of the American delegation in the Soviet Union.

In his address, Mr. Bulganin stressed the fact that while only people who believe in miracles could have expected all intricate international problems to be solved within a few days, the meeting produced considerable positive results. He continued:

The spirit of cooperation and the desire for mutual understanding which reigned at the conference was gratifying. This spirit was particularly felt at unofficial meetings which made possible a frank ex-

change of views on all problems. It should be specifically noted that we did not meet any other attitude at the Geneva Conference. On the contrary, all sought possibilities for reconciling viewpoints on practical matters discussed at the conference, notwithstanding the differences of opinions on the merits of the problems examined. . . . We do not doubt that through further negotiations it will be possible to surmount the existing difficulties and find a solution to outstanding questions in the interests of the cause of peace.

Premier Bulganin took special note of the fact that the "positions of strength" policy was discarded at Geneva, and replaced by that of "talks, and not force," and that the peoples everywhere welcomed these results as a serious step toward peace and ending the "cold war." He welcomed the constructive statements of all the participants on the Geneva results, specifically President Eisenhower's statement that it is necessary "to advance constructively, not merely to re-enact the dreary performances — negative performances of the past." Hailing other constructive statements in U.S. official circles, Bulganin gave special mention to the proposal of Senator George, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for a foreign ministers conference with the participation of the People's Republic of China.

Mr. Bulganin reported that he and Nikolai Khrushchev had accepted the invitation extended by Prime Minister Eden to visit Great Britain in the Spring of next year, and expressed the hope that the invitation to M. Faure and M. Pinay, respectively Premier and Foreign Minister of France, to visit the Soviet Union, would be accepted.

Summing up the results of the Geneva Conference in easing ten-

sions, improving relations and in progress toward ending the cold war, Bulganin pledged the full efforts of the Soviet Government toward supporting these results, and particularly in securing a successful outcome of the forthcoming four-power foreign ministers conference.

Much of the American press, not yet fully attuned to the Geneva climate, branded Bulganin's comments on the Eisenhower proposal as outright rejection of the idea of a mutual exchange of military blueprints and aerial inspection. Asked how he felt about Bulganin's "rejection" at his news conference on August 4, the President replied: "I don't understand that the Premier closed the door," and reiterated his own position, expressed informally at Geneva, that both the Soviet and U.S. position could be adopted.

Premier Bulganin, too, in his final remarks to the Supreme Soviet on August 5 was quick to correct these press statements. He declared:

We are, naturally, the ardent supporters of our own proposals on arms reduction and the prohibition of atomic war, but we do not refuse to examine seriously any other proposal pervaded by a desire to find a way to the solution of this problem.

The Soviet Government is studying and will study attentively and seriously Mr. Eisenhower's proposal, proceeding from the necessity of achieving closer understanding and reaching agreement on this vital issue.

Hopeful omens for the forthcoming disarmament talks, in addition to the Eisenhower and Bulganin statements, are on the one hand the concrete Soviet move in reducing its armed forces by 640,000, and the plans, reported from Washington, that U.S. draft proposals for the August 29 disarmament meeting will

take into consideration the Soviet inspection proposals as well as the President's, and that the latter are now being developed to cover troops and military installations the entire world, and not in the United States and USSR alone.

WHAT MUST concern the American people now, in addition to the necessary continued pressure for realization of the promises of Geneva, is that the cold war tensions should be eased at home as well as abroad. At the basis of domestic repressions has been the myth of threatened Soviet aggression, supposedly carried on indirectly through a Moscow-directed "international conspiracy" designed to overthrow our own and other governments.

It was significant that in his column in the *New York Herald Tribune* for August 16, Walter Lippmann, assessing Geneva as meaning that the great powers are now agreed that they will not use force to change existing situations, declared that this "will compel us to rethink a number of our ideas. One of the first will be the assumption that the revolutionary movements all over the world originate in Moscow."

Such rethinking is required on such recent events as the deportation of Cedric Belfrage, editor of the *National Guardian*, the Landy and similar cases, the fantastic witchhunt of the Un-American Committee against the people of the theater, and the continued trials, imprisonment and persecution of citizens under the Smith and McCarran Acts.

The whole American people need to do some deep re-thinking about the fact that in many of these cases the chief charges against the victims have had to do with advocacy not of force and violence, but of the very

policies of negotiations and peaceful co-existence with the socialist countries which are today the official foreign policy of our government.

That this rethinking process is beginning is evident in the Open Letter to President Eisenhower and Attorney General Brownell, reported in the *New York Times* August 8, in which 73 leading clergymen, university scholars and others urge reconsideration of prosecution of alleged Communists under the Smith Act. They declared their concern derived from their conclusion that the trials "are not for 'conspiracy to teach and advocate the overthrow of the Government by force and violence,' but for opinions; not for overt acts, but for political thoughts."

And in making public the first report of the Fund for the Republic, (*New York Times*, August 22) its President, Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, warned that "the 'cold' war has thrown our civil liberties into alarming disorder." Noting that a political party had been identified with the "enemy," Dr. Hutchins declared "The range of suspected persons has been enormously extended by resort to guilt by association." He asked the American people to pay attention to these facts.

It is important to do just this. The struggle for the civil liberties of the American people which have been sacrificed in pursuance of the cold war, must be part of the continuing struggle for peace. Peaceful co-existence with other nations can best be pursued on the basis of a return to our American democratic traditions.

Lectures from the President about "injustices" and "repressions" in other lands, as in his Philadelphia speech of August 24, can hardly be effective unless we set our own house in order.

Ending the Cold War

by RALPH PARKER

MOSCOW, August

THERE IS a famous passage in Tolstoy's *War and Peace* which describes Prince Andrei's reflections on an old oak tree standing beside the road in the Ryazan *gubernia* along which he is driving. On his way to his son's estate in the spring he sees the oak stubbornly resisting the oncoming of the season of warmth and green and happiness, an old, angry, scornful monster among the smiling birch trees and the flowering bird-cherry.

But when in June, a month and a half later, Prince Andrei returns along the same road he has difficulty in recognizing that oak, so densely is it clothed in foliage. The crusted bark, the ugly scabs are no longer visible through the mass of tender green leaves.

"To think that it is the same oak!" reflected Prince Andrei with an unaccountable, springlike feeling of joy and fresh vigor."

The most cynical of us—and one

must be a cynic to think that a state of enmity and distrust between nations is natural—have been unable to resist the manifestations of the thaw. I know that nothing on earth is done "suddenly," but, as Ilya Ehrenburg wrote in this connection, often what precedes the turning-point goes unnoticed by some, and then they say "the ice has suddenly started to move" or "the trees have suddenly turned green." Prince Andrei was not looking for signs of incipient spring when he first saw his oak. He was only too ready to accept the gnarled old tree as a symbol of his sullen certainty that happiness would not return to his life.

When I returned to the Soviet Union in early July after an absence of a few months everything seemed to be very much the same. The newspapers were warning the Western Powers of the fallacies in their argument of "positions of strength." Acceptance of the policies of peaceful coexistence by both East and West seemed to be something one dared scarcely hope for.

Of course, those who cared to look could find much evidence of the desire of the Soviet people and the efforts of their government to end the

RALPH PARKER, who formerly represented the "New York Times" in the USSR, is a veteran Moscow correspondent whose on-the-spot reports are well known to our readers.

cold war. The extraordinary reception given to Mr. Nehru during his "pilgrimage of peace" through six Soviet republics was essentially a tribute to the Indian statesman's successful efforts to relax international tension. And the 10,000 foreign visitors who came from 90 countries to the Soviet Union last year could vouch for the Soviet people's ardent desire for peaceful cooperation with the rest of the world.

But it is one thing to honor Mark Twain and Walt Whitman in clubs and libraries, and quite another to talk about *Leaves of Grass* with Farmer Jacobs of Iowa over a well-spread table in a Kuban collective farm. It is one thing to broadcast to the world over Moscow radio that so many thousands of performances of Shakespeare are given every year in Soviet theaters, and quite another when Alexander Popov, famous Shakespearean producer, can go to London and tell an international conference about his work. It is one thing for American senators to admit that they may have been wrong in some of the sweeping statements they have made about the Soviet Union, and another thing when they take the trouble to come to the Soviet Union and look for themselves.

We need not waste time in looking for the spot where the thaw began. No one is going to erect a monument to the victims of the cold war. Long before the ice begins to break up and move, unseen forces have been at work weakening its resistance. There are false alarms, misplaced hopes, but one night the frozen surface of the great river begins to move and soon nothing can stop its course. And if people start arguing about where and when the break came they risk losing sight

of the wonderful torrent flowing by.

Jean-Paul Sartre reminded us at the Helsinki Peace Assembly that an end of the cold war means not only looking for what is properly termed a "relaxation" in international relations: it means replacing one regime by another. "For," he said, "the peace which we want is like war, a regime, an entity, which cannot be split up."

"I know the desire for peace of the USSR and the People's Democracies," Sartre said. "If they have been reproached for austerity, severity, even, in their political regimes, it is above all because of the cold war. These countries threatened with encirclement cannot secure their defense without a tightening up both internally and externally. In the same way if I do not forget that certain capitalist tendencies are at the bottom of the present tension and that certain American groups are interested in maintaining it, neither do I forget that the American people and even its rulers have demonstrated for more than a century and a half a real love of peace and a profound horror of war. It is neither the American people, nor its institutions which must be held responsible for McCarthyism, it is the cold war and the terror it engenders. For the cold war is a complete entity, a political and social regime."

The ending of the cold war as a "regime" has much in it that benefits the Soviet Union at its present stage of development. But perhaps no aspect of the new relationships between nations that can succeed the cold war is likely to be so important for the USSR, or for the world, as cooperation in production techniques. The next Five-Year Plan—the sixth—will see Soviet in-

dustry engaged on a vast program designed to raise productivity by the introduction of new techniques, mainly electronic and automatic. In some fields Soviet industrial research leads the world, in others it has much to learn. There is ample evidence to prove that the Soviet government is willing both to give and to receive.

The other day I met a Swedish diplomat. He told me about a visit to the Soviet Union of a group of Swedish electrical engineers. They had, he told me, been very deeply impressed by the quality of Soviet research in the field they were interested in. But they considered Soviet industry was being unnecessarily extravagant in the use of metal in electric machinery equipment. Had they told the Russians this, I asked? Yes, the diplomat replied, adding with a tired smile: But I doubt if they will act on the advice.

A week or two later, in his report to the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Nikolai Bulganin referred to this Swedish criticism and linked it with other evidence of unnecessary lavishness in production methods. And in an article published not long afterward in the *Literaturnaya Gazeta* a leading official of the electrical industry described how Swedish experience in running the 700 mile long high tension transmission line they have built in Sweden would be applied in the Soviet Union when the new Kuibyshev-Moscow transmission line went into operation shortly. "And no doubt Sweden will benefit from our experience," he added modestly.

I turn over the pages of the newspapers of the last few days. "Yesterday saw the commissioning of the lower shipping locks at the Kuibyshev Power Project. . . . A turn

of the switch on the control desk automatically opens the 700-ton lock working gates." "The personnel of Western Siberia's biggest Sibselmash Agricultural Machinery Works have stepped up the introduction of new technique. Today there are 42 mechanized assembly lines, with the aggregate conveyor length reaching 12 kilometers. . . ." "The Institute of Metal, Ceramics and Special Alloys, newly founded in Kiev, is investigating the elaboration of new high-grade materials for the electro-technical, machine tool and other industries." "At Magnitogorsk the introduction of a number of novelties in blast furnace technique and technology has enabled the operators to raise furnace efficiency over the last two years by 24 per cent. . . ."

These reports on technical progress are not printed in a boastful spirit. Indeed, they are more often than not used to underline the shortcomings of others. But, besides this purpose, they are accustoming the Soviet worker to regard production tasks in terms of technology. The time has passed when most of the complicated machinery of our days is being handled by men and women with seven, maybe only four years of schooling. Of the 880,000 boys and girls who left secondary (high) schools last year, one half went into production jobs. The rest, 450,000 went to colleges and other institutes of higher education. Modern production methods, it is frequently pointed out here, require fully educated workers. They require, too, that the education in the schools take a polytechnical form. These are problems to which much attention is being paid here.

The young educated Soviet man of today has an intense interest, an

unending pleasure in techniques. Any writer, any painter will tell you how severe is the criticism expressed in hundreds of letters from workers should he make a mistake over a technical matter. Stand before a painting of an industrial scene at any exhibition in the Tretyakov gallery and you will hear remarks like:

"To hell with the fellow, as if anybody ever handled a chuck that way" or "if our manager allowed as many girls as that to work the looms he'd soon be in trouble with the ministry."

Leonid Sobolev told me that he had received several carefully-reasoned letters concerning the exact distance a beam of light from a ship's signal-lamp can carry, after the publication of his latest novel *The Green Light*.

I think this interest in techniques is a characteristic of the Soviet worker today that makes him a "natural" friend of the contemporary American worker.

I glance at my daily review of the Soviet press. Under a heading Foreign Guests in the Soviet Union I read that the U.S. agricultural delegation is continuing its tour of the Kuban, that Yugoslav journalists have left for the Hungry Steppes to learn of the life of Uzbek collective farmers reclaiming new land, that the Kolo Folk Dance Ensemble of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia is to give its first performance in Kiev, that 10,000 Muscovites attended an open-air concert in the Central Park of Rest and Culture given by Swedish artists, that a trade union delegation from Greenwich, Britain, has arrived in Gorky.

I learn that a mammoth edition

of an album "Jawaharlal Nehru in the Soviet Union" with over 70 pictures showing the highlights of the Indian Prime Minister's visit has been put out by the State Fine Arts Publishing House; that the "Wolves," Britain's last year's soccer champions, are on their way to Moscow.

The spirit of which these items form a part springs from deep in the hearts of Soviet people. I have before me the text of a letter written to a Soviet newspaper by a war-widow called M. Sofronova of the village of Ponetayevka in the region of Arzamasskaya. It reads in part:

"As a mother of three children I went through hunger, cold and privation during the Great Patriotic War. My husband was killed in one of the decisive battles in the Kursk-Orel bulge.

"I can find no words to express my hatred for people who want to start another war.

"I have read the statement made at Geneva by our dear Nikolai Alexandrovich Bulganin, who struggles for the happiness of the people. How clearly, how easy to understand what he said. The declaration of the Soviet delegation expressed the concern our Government and our Party takes for the future of the Soviet people. Is there any country in the West where life is valued so highly as in the Soviet Union? All our science, our machinery, our industry works to improve the lives of Soviet people.

"Dear Mr. Eisenhower. You are at the head of the U. S. Government. I want to address you frankly and honestly, as a soldier's widow: It was bitter for us, Soviet people, who were your allies in the war against fascism . . . to read the statements of some of your fellow countrymen when they threatened us with their

bombs. Did not the Soviet people, throughout our joint struggle against fascism, consider America a friendly country, and the American people as friends? We nursed hopes that we would become better friends with the United States.

"The Soviet people waited for America to speak of friendship, of peaceful life in the world. Now it is pleasant for us to read the peaceful

words of the President of the United States spoken at Geneva. We would like to see those words followed by good deeds which would strengthen peace.

"The Soviet people, like other people throughout the world, are waiting for the Great Powers to work in harmony, to care for the life of every living man and to unite their efforts in the name of peace."

TRENDS IN SOVIET SCIENCE

MUCH interest has been aroused in Soviet scientific circles by the publication of an article advocating a freer exchange of ideas and a greater toleration of conflicting schools in science. The article, printed prominently in the *Literaturnaya Gazeta* was written by Academician Ivan Knuniants, 49-year-old chemist, and L. Zubkov.

The authors of the article argue that science has benefited when different opinions have been held on major questions; only through the clash of opposing schools has the truth become apparent. At present, for instance, there are Soviet schools of conflicting opinions in the realms of cosmogony, the study of cosmic rays, mineralogy and crystallography, etc.

Turning to biology the authors state:

The present situation in such branches of science as genetics and agronomy cannot be considered normal. With all respect to Academician Lysenko for his services, it would be quite wrong to consider his school as the only possible trend in research.

In fact, in the theory of heredity,

for example, very much remains unclear. . . . In these circumstances it would be wrong to consider the Lysenko school (or any other school for that matter) as having some sort of monopoly of the final decision on all main questions of scientific study "in the last instance."

Scorning certain philosophers and scientists who, they contend, are ready to accuse of "idealism" any tendency with which they disagree, the authors make an earnest appeal to some of their scientific colleagues to tackle more seriously contemporary problems in natural science.

The authors raise an important point when they go on to argue that the insufficiently high standard of some scientific discussion often hampers normal exchanges between Soviet scientists and leading foreign scientists. As an example, they cite the discussion on the theory of chemical resonance during which a wholly unwarranted attack was launched on the quantum theory and doubts were cast on the scientific reputation of Professor Linus Pauling.

Condensed from an article in the British weekly World News, March 19, 1955.

Successful Adventure In Human Understanding

by ANDREW VOYNOW

THE EXCHANGE visit of Soviet farmers to our country and American farmers to the Soviet Union can certainly be classified as an event of outstanding importance which, on its own level, is as significant as the Geneva conference.

The value of the visits lay not just in what each delegation was able to learn about the agricultural methods of the country they visited—although the measure is undoubtedly great and has yet to be reckoned. The outstanding aspect of the exchange lay in the realm of human understanding.

Whether or not they understood it, or intended it, or even realized it, each farmer in each delegation represented a good will ambassador from his country to the country that was his host. And remarkable ambassadors they were!

Throughout the tours of both delegations, good will was the keynote. It was revealed both in the behavior of the delegates themselves, and in the outpouring of warmth and hospitality of the American and Soviet peoples who were their hosts.

Not since those days of close amity during the war, when the two countries were together fighting a common enemy, has such uninhibited display of friendship been shown. This hearty, very natural and spon-

taneous expression of warmth was marked from the very start.

In mid-July, while 5,000 Americans in Des Moines, Iowa, greeted the arrival of the Soviet farmers with "a cheer and a round of applause," some 6,000 miles away, in Kharkov, the Ukraine, several thousand Soviet people gave the American farmers "a heroes' welcome," and gathering in friendly throngs, repeatedly applauded them.

Although the number of people may have varied, the same sincerity, the same eager enthusiasm, the same open cordiality was to mark the reception of both delegations in both countries wherever they went.

And the places they went, the things they saw and the people they met—and made friends with—are nearly impossible to list.

The main objective, of course, was to study farming methods.

Major credit for the now-famous venture must go to the Des Moines *Register*. Some time back, when N. Krushchev, Communist Party Secretary, pointed out that the USSR must emphasize corn cultivation in that country's agricultural economy in order, in turn, to be able to raise the level of its livestock herds, the *Register* came forth with this proposal: Why not send a delegation of Soviet farmers to Iowa, biggest

corn-hog raising state in our country, to study our methods? At the same time, the editorial proposed, how about an American farmer delegation going to the Soviet Union to study their farming?

And that is what eventually transpired.

For a month, during long hours each day, both groups studied the farming ways of the other country. Here, in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Texas, Illinois, California and several other states, the Soviet group, sometimes dividing into two and more parties, saw almost every aspect of the farming that interested them. They visited farms, exploring every nook and cranny, examining the bookkeeping, operating the machinery, asking questions, taking notes, learning, learning how our farmers make things tick. They were guests at agricultural colleges, at livestock yards, at cattle round-ups and farm machinery factories. And wherever they went, they were overwhelmed with true American hospitality.

That was the note so unique in our daily papers. For the press, it is supposed, was more than surprised by the red carpet that the people of the mid-West rolled out for them.

Farmers' wives prepared elaborate luncheons for the visitors, Chambers of Commerce vied with each other to have the guests come to their towns and cities. And the gusto with which they were received was responsible for their seeing much more than American agriculture. They saw that the American people were friendly, were eager to show their friendship, went out of the way to show them everything in our country so that they would know it and understand it.

So you read of the Soviet farmers eating hot dogs, and being feted at country fairs, and being dined at barbecues, and going to square dances, and spending a week-end living in the homes of farm folks, and attending Sunday services in a local church, and meeting the boys and girls of the 4-H clubs, and sipping ice cream sodas and pop, and eating elaborate, and fearsome, ice cream sundaes. They were escorted by mayors and governors, by businessmen and college deans; they talked with farmers and housewives, with cowboys and factory engineers, with students and government officials, with children and newspapermen. All accounts indicate that they were unflagging in their energies, spending long days in insufferable heat, filling every minute of their crowded schedule.

And so they learned much about our farming and much about us; and we, through them learned a great deal about the Soviet people. "Why, they are just like us," said the people they met as reported in so many accounts from so many of the places they visited.

They're just like us! To Americans, to most people anywhere, that is the highest compliment. To the Americans who met this group of Soviet people, and to millions more who read about it in their daily newspapers, this concept is very important. The Soviet people are people like ourselves. They love and joke and work and ask questions and smile and perspire when it is hot and enjoy a cooling drink and are grateful for normal hospitality. So, if they are like ordinary human beings, maybe we can get together.

In Iowa and Nebraska and the other states—they got together and

they liked it. What about over in the Soviet Union?

Almost the same kind of manifestation was going on. The American farmers visited collective and state farms, colleges, research institutes, and farm machinery plants. They also had their share of touring: the great hydroelectric projects museums, and banquets (perhaps, too many, for finally they had to cry out, please, our time and our stomachs won't permit it).

And they, too, met officials, and farmers, and scientists, and entertainers, and students, and learned the ways of those people. It worked there, too.

It has to work. The farmer exchange visit is a vindication of those, whose voices were so long unheeded, who have been saying now for years: Get together. To know people best you must meet them. And once you know them, barriers of prejudice fall apart and make way for friendly relations.

IT IS HARD to say just when this new spirit of amity began to be felt. Elsewhere in this issue D. N. Pritt, who calls it "a new wind blowing," points out that it is felt in Britain too. Ralph Parker, in his article from Moscow, speaks of it and also says you can't say just when it started, and he compares it with the spring break-up of the ice on a frozen river. You simply can't say just now it has begun to break, but before you know it it is here. How true.

But this truth carries something else with it. It implies that the process is continuing. There are indications that this is actually happening.

An increasing number of Senators

and Congressmen have indicated that they would go visit the Soviet Union this summer. It is hard to give the exact number, for each day, it seems, some are added. It is commendable that our legislators want to take a "look-see." But a short time ago, these men would have shunned the very idea of such a visit.

And in the cultural field we hear reports of very important exchanges—Emil Gilels, outstanding Soviet pianist, and David Oistrakh, world-renowned Soviet violinist, will probably perform in this country in the near future. There is talk of the possibility of that exquisite exponent of the Soviet ballet, Galina Ulanova coming here, and also the eminent Soviet puppeteer, Sergei Obraztsov.

In the other direction there are moves afoot to send the American company of Porgy and Bess to Moscow. And the Boston Symphony has indicated its desire to go. The press reports activity to organize an American trade show in the USSR, and a prominent New York designer of women's clothes suggests opening a show there of American styles.

Taking official cognizance of this groundswell, the State Department, according to the *New York Times*, is projecting a special unit on cultural ties with the Soviet Union.

The idea of cultural exchange with the Soviet Union is snowballing. What a happy thing that is. How new it is for our times. How good. And it can be and should be, for the more we get to know the Soviet people—and they, us—the better the opportunity of creating good relations on that higher, more formal level that will mean peace, prosperity, good will and happiness not only for the two countries, but for all the world.

WANTED: A Far East Geneva

by SUSAN WARREN

MOST significant in President Eisenhower's report to the nation on Geneva was the statement, "But I do know the people of the world want peace. Moreover, every other individual who was at Geneva likewise felt this longing of mankind. So *there is great pressure to advance constructively . . .*" With all regard for the ebullient personalities who took part, Geneva's secret of success was that unseen guest who spoke with the most persuasive voice of all—"the pressure of the people of the world for peace." Pressure, which some have tended to think a little vulgar, like many other things becomes eminently respectable when there is enough of it. Today "pressure for peace" has become highly respectable, because there is so much it has become irresistible.

Yet there are still those who do not want peace. Senator Knowland, for example, has already begun to gnaw away at the new-found atmosphere of conciliation. After a grudging nod to the Geneva talks, the real Knowland soon broke through: "Neither we nor the free world must lull ourselves into a 'Little Red Riding Hood' belief that because the wolf has put on grandmother's cap and nightgown, his teeth are any the

less sharp . . ." And for Chiang Kai-shek, Syngman Rhee and Ngo Dinh Diem, Premier of South Vietnam, increased tension and war are conditions of survival. Rejecting the implications of Geneva, they seek desperately to return to "positions of strength."

Testimony to the urgency of a Far East "Geneva" comes from the most varied sources. The *Wall Street Journal* (August 1) notes long-mounting evidence "that the real explosion point of the world lies not in Western Europe but in the Far East." Senator Walter F. George, Democratic Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has called for "face to face" negotiations between Secretary Dulles and Chinese Foreign Minister Chou En-lai. In the British House of Commons, twenty Labor members urged another conference on Geneva lines, including People's China and India, to discuss "urgent Asian" issues. Prime Minister Nehru of India declared (July 19) that the "Far Eastern situation is one of the two major problems of the world . . . it is more explosive than the German problem . . . it cannot be ignored." And Prime Minister Nu of Burma, whose gentle wisdom so impressed Americans on his recent visit, told the press in Tokyo that "A world conference of all countries interested in Asia would be a very good thing," suggesting "tension in the Taiwan area and Indo-China" as the top items. Prime Minister Bulganin, re-

SUSAN WARREN has long been a student and writer on Far Eastern affairs. She was formerly the editor of the publication "Far East Spotlight."

porting to the Supreme Soviet, described Geneva as a "major historical event" signifying a turn in the relations between the USSR and the West. He stressed that the Far East is one of the areas of tension which should be examined in the new spirit of Geneva. Finally, Premier Chou En-lai, at the National People's Congress in Peking, hailed the Geneva Conference as one of "positive achievements." He warned, however, that failure to discuss at Geneva the lessening of tension in Asia and the Far East did not mean it had become less urgent: "On the contrary, the situation in the Far East is explosive. . . . Many Asian countries have proposed the holding of a Far Eastern Conference . . . to settle the question of easing tension in the Far East. We support this proposal." The recurring word is "explosive."

The Administration's announcement of a U. S.-Chinese meeting of ambassadors opened the door to the warm winds of Geneva on the Far East. By the dramatic release on July 31 of 11 U. S. airmen with the hope that "this measure will have favorable effects on our present talks," the Chinese were, in fact, making a bid to clear the decks for a discussion of crucial issues. Of these, Formosa remains inflammable. At Bandung, and subsequently, the People's Republic of China has indicated willingness to discuss with the U. S. the question of easing tension in that area.

The liberation of Formosa itself, they regard as an internal affair. However, they have made clear that "conditions permitting," they are ready "to seek the liberation of Taiwan [Formosa] by peaceful means" and to enter into negotiations with the "responsible local authorities of Taiwan" to this end.

Thus it would appear that the Chinese answer to Secretary Dulles' hope that the Chinese will "renounce the use of force" is to remind him that without U. S. intervention nothing stands in the way of a peaceful solution of the Formosa problem.

The very act of an American ambassador meeting with a Chinese ambassador cannot but help create more favorable conditions for negotiating a Far Eastern settlement. At the present writing the meeting at Geneva has not moved beyond the first point—"the return of civilians of both sides to their respective countries." The atmosphere, however, remains cordial and there is every reason to hope that Chinese Ambassador Wang's expressed conviction that "the forthcoming talks may pave the way for further negotiations between China and the U. S." can be realized.

Indo-China is another principal tinder box in the Far East. The Geneva Agreement of 1954 temporarily divided Vietnam at the 17th parallel, but set general nationwide elections for July, 1956, so the country could be unified. The elections, like the truce, were to be supervised by an International Commission composed of India, Canada and Poland. Preparatory consultations between competent authorities of North and South Vietnam were set for July 20, 1955.

An "intelligent reader's guide" to understanding the dangerous situation in Vietnam today should include a series of *New York Times* and other U. S. press editorials and comment which opened a well-timed barrage weeks in advance of the date for preliminary election consultations. "It is no secret," said a *Times* editorial of June 29, "that the United States did not like the Geneva agree-

ments . . . the United States was not a signatory nor was the free Government of South Vietnam." On July 7, it urged support of South Vietnam's demand for "more adequate supervision by the UN or an enlarged international commission."

Through the early and mid summer of 1955, this theme with infinite variations filled the U. S. press. Senator Mike Mansfield, the U. S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee's Vietnam expert, offered his opinion: "I don't think there should be elections in Indo-China," also on the basis that neither South Vietnam nor the United States were signatories to the agreement. Admitting the "possibility" that breaking the Geneva Agreement might reopen civil war in Vietnam, the Senator added that the United States should give "every possible support" by ground troops in that event.

Thus nobody was surprised when South Vietnam's Premier on August 10, rejected outright North Vietnam's offer to discuss general elections to reunite the country, on the basis that South Vietnam had not signed the Geneva Agreement, that he must first have assurance that the elections in North Vietnam would be "truly free." In "truly free" South Vietnam, where *Reuters* (July 3) reported the arrest of "more than 100 men and women for demonstrating in favor of elections to unite Vietnam," the reason for this official lack of enthusiasm is not hard to find. The *New York Times* (July 8) remarked that in South Vietnam "Peasants make up 80 to 90 per cent of the population and it often appears that the Diem Government has few real roots among them."

The plan here is to revive the U. S. proposal, rejected at the 1954 conference, that the elections should

be handled by the United Nations.

Can anyone believe that the "demonstrations" in Saigon in which the demonstrators were brought into the city (*Alliance France Presse*) "by hundreds of trucks most of them belonging to the South Vietnam army" to storm and pillage the hotels housing the personnel of the International Commission and the almost simultaneous "spontaneous demonstrations" against the Polish and Czech members of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in South Korea, are anything but a desperate effort to reverse the Korean Truce and the 1954 Geneva Agreements? It was these two monumental achievements that made Geneva '55 possible. To wreck them would be to undo Geneva itself. That this is the object was made plain enough by Syngman Rhee. Addressing a "rally" in Seoul, he attacked U. S. policy as one which now advocated "a new peace of mutual forbearance," and urged the free world "to abandon the drift toward this and other . . . policies." *N. Y. Times*, Aug. 15.

This article opened on a note which might be called "in praise of pressure." Viewing the "new look" abroad in the world, the growing acceptance of the possibility of "living together in peace," renunciation of force, negotiating differences, it can truly be said, "See what the people have wrought." But the victory is not automatically secured forever. It must be defended against those who want to return to the pre-Geneva way. Can there be any doubt that the American people will move on to demand concrete actions along the path which their own efforts and that of the peoples of the world has opened? Today the Far East urgently requires such actions. A Far East "Geneva" is on the order of the day!

NEW EAST-WEST WIND BLOWING

by D. N. PRITT

ON A RECENT trip to the Soviet Union and on various experiences and studies in Britain itself in the last few months I have gained a number of impressions of the present situation, both in the Soviet Union and in respect to her relations with the West, which may be worth relating.

Firstly, my impressions from inside the Soviet Union. The devotion to peace and the general quiet confidence in the soundness of their economic and political position is as clearly present as ever, and indeed seems to have grown even stronger since last year. There is also a much greater freedom in conversation; there always was, of course, much more freedom than any Western newspaper or visitor liked to admit, both in conversation with trusted friends from abroad and with comparatively strange foreigners. But the greater freedom now, especially when talking to strangers, is most

noticeable. There are few if any topics on which the ordinary Soviet citizen will not express his own view and ask urgently for yours, and it is very difficult to believe that this is the same country where intrigues and interference from outside made it necessary from time to time in the last thirty years to be very guarded in conversation with foreigners.

Economically of course the country has improved steadily. The necessary greater expenditure on production goods and to some extent on armaments has had some effect. It does not reduce standards, but it makes them improve more slowly. Nevertheless, general standards are rising, educational and cultural activities, high as they already were, are growing slowly, and even in housing, that bugbear of every country, the backlog is being overtaken and the actual quality of the housing is steadily improving.

Looking into the relations with the West, and in particular to Anglo-Soviet interchange in various fields, I find that these interchanges are increasing so fast that it is almost impossible to keep pace with them. More and more delegations and deputations of more and more various people, both specialists and

D. N. PRITT, Queen's Counsellor, was a former British Labor M.P. In June he was presented the International Stalin Peace Prize. Mr. Pritt is Chairman of the Society for Cultural Relations Between Britain and the USSR and also President of the British Peace Committee.

others, are taking place between the two countries, and it is particularly noticeable that English delegations to the Soviet Union are now more than ever composed of people who do not start as friends to the Soviet Union. They are invited because the Soviet Union wants to show its way of life to people whose standpoint is far removed from theirs, and people are accepting the invitations to go because, more and more, they want to see. Ordinary tours to the Soviet Union by people who simply pay their fare and go are beginning this year, and will no doubt increase next year; and it is expected also that similar trips from the Soviet Union to Britain will begin next year.

It is interesting that the semi-official British Council is now undertaking to deal with certain cultural and other delegations from Britain to the Soviet Union and from the Soviet Union to Britain. I feel confident that this tremendous development will lead to a very great increase in friendship and understanding between peoples of the two countries, for it is indeed very rare for any British visitor to the Soviet Union to be unfavorably impressed by what he sees.

These very encouraging developments are, I think, linked with the general and rapidly increasing desire which the British people share with others to put a real end to the cold war, and in that connection one's mind naturally turns to the

new wind blowing in international affairs. I am asked how far that new wind is taking effect in Britain. I think I am inclined to answer that a new wind is blowing in Britain too. But the British are, perhaps consciously, so insular that they like even their wind to be British and it is, I think, true to say that Britain is not so much being affected by a new international wind but is rather affecting herself by new developments of public opinion.

It is certainly true that people in Britain are taking a greater interest than ever before (except during the war) in the Soviet Union, and that they are also taking a much greater and conscious interest in peace. They are at last grasping the terrible potentialities of the atom bomb and accordingly growing much more determined in putting a stop to its development and use. Public opinion has shown that it is as fully in favor of peace as other countries, and we in all countries throughout the Western world, feel that our political leaders, in obedience to our deepest wishes, are determined on peace. I myself feel that in the great battle for British-Soviet friendship and for peace we are on the eve of tremendous developments, such as perhaps we have never before experienced in peace time. The great success that the public opinion of all countries has achieved in making the governments of the Great Powers take the first step at Geneva to end the cold war, confirms me in this view.

SOVIET TOURISTS GO ABROAD

SOME 2,000 Soviet tourists—not officials or members of delegations—will go abroad this year on their vacations. A group of 150 have gone to Poland, and tours are being organized for Finland and Sweden. The head of the trade union's foreign section, B. S. Rzhanelov, said he hoped that Soviet "tourists will be invited to the United States."

Rumania Revisited

by MARIE PRITT

WHEN I FIRST visited Rumania, three years after the country had been liberated, I travelled thousands of miles through the country by road, visiting towns and villages, seeing the tremendous enthusiasm of the Rumanian people as they worked industriously not only to reconstruct the damaged areas, but to construct great new undertakings.

The vast Ploesti oil fields had been bombed and ruthlessly destroyed only a week or two before the end of World War II. When I visited them four years later, all the damage had been repaired, and new derricks standing across the countryside far and wide showed how greatly the industry had expanded.

A huge new clothing factory a little way from Bucharest was almost completed, and had been built entirely by volunteer workers, mostly very young. I was shown with pride the splendid facilities provided for the workers who would be employed in the factory. A medical center, a

sunny canteen, and what interested me greatly, a nursery and kindergarten for the children of the workers. The modern equipment astonished me; it was as fine as any to be found in the most up-to-date nursery in my own country. The men and women working on the construction were quite justly proud of it.

On through the country I found little maternity homes being opened—they had been equipped by volunteers, village carpenters had made the furniture, village women had made the hangings. A great effort was being made to get these maternity homes established everywhere, for a two-fold purpose. To enable the women to have their babies under hygienic conditions with skilled medical attention, and to educate the women in hygiene and the care of their children. The infant mortality rate in Rumania was one of the highest in Europe before the war, and all the people working with such energy to establish these maternity homes were very conscious of the fact that their work was in the interest of the whole nation. The women's movement of Rumania was in the forefront of these activities, carrying out the plans of the Government.

MARIE PRITT, as she writes, has visited Rumania several times. She is the wife of D. N. Pritt, who also has an article in this issue (see page 19).

Over and over again as I went on my journey I saw the vitality of the Rumanian women bringing order where there had been chaos and realized what a vast amount of talent had been untapped before the liberation gave Rumanian women a higher status. Some women were of the middle class, and they, with their great advantage of education were working side by side with peasant women with one great aim in view, to carry out the plans of the government and help make life fuller and richer for every citizen. But those were hard days for them all, because their country was still so poor, despite its great natural wealth. Most everyday things were in short supply. Looking at the people, watching their enthusiasm and their confidence, I felt they would win through.

Recently I went to Rumania again, this time for a holiday, and I was able to see for myself how the people were enjoying the fruits of their great endeavors.

First, in Bucharest, I saw the shops full of goods, and always full of people buying. The crowds in the streets were really well dressed, and the look of strain had left their faces. One evening I dined at a fine restaurant at the edge of a lake in a park near the capital. It was crowded with people enjoying good food, and dancing to a first class band. An enchanting evening, dining on the great terrace, watching the enjoyment of some hundreds of people.

I went to Mamaia, on the Black Sea coast. Here, before the war, only the very rich would take their holidays. There are stretches of fine silver sand, now crowded with the ordinary people enjoying their annual holiday. I stayed in the one large

hotel, right on the sea shore, and shared the long happy days with the other inhabitants.

At a table next to us there were four young men, obviously enjoying every moment of the day, and most of the night! What was their story, I wondered? And apparently they were wondering the same about me! So we got together and talked. They told me they worked at lathes in a factory, and had discovered a way of increasing production. They were reaping their reward during this holiday.

There was a woman textile worker who had a story to tell. She had known the hard days in Rumania. She was left a widow after the first World War, with four young children to provide for, and had a terrible struggle to bring them up, almost always short of food, however hard she worked. Now she was earning good money, her eldest daughter was working in the same textile mill, but on the administration side, her sons were receiving education such as she, their mother, had never dreamed of.

The famous young Rumanian pianist, Valentin Georgdieu, was another guest, as was Angello Roseanu, the table tennis champion. There was a film producer, an opera singer, a scientist, two writers, with all of whom I talked. At meal times the industrial workers and the artists and scientists were mixed together at tables, to enable them to share their experiences. This seemed a marvelous idea to me!

Every evening there was some form of entertainment for those who wanted it, arranged by a cultural manager. Sometimes a film show, sometimes a performance by a group of dancers and singers, who would

dance national dances and sing the lovely folk songs of Rumania. Sometimes there were lectures on different subjects. These affairs were always well attended. During the day time the beach was crowded with people scantily clad in gay colored garments, sunbathing and trying to get bronzed. But one guest walked along the beach, collecting shells quite happily on her own. She was dressed in the traditional everyday heavy black peasant dress and heavy boots, making a strange contrast with the rest of the throng. Through my interpreter I talked to her, and this was the story she told me.

She had worked on the land all her life and was illiterate until a year or two ago, when she managed to learn to read and write a little at one of the thousands of classes arranged for people like herself. She had known a hard life, as her face told with its wrinkled skin which made her look about 80 years old, although she was only 60.

A year ago she started to feed the piglets on the farm where she now works, by hand, so the sow was ready for breeding again more quickly

than she would have been if she had suckled her pigs. This meant an increase in the number of pigs the farm could raise in a year, which, of course, would add to the meat available for the population, so, as a reward she was told she could choose where she would like to go for a good holiday!

She had never left her village before. All sorts of suggestions were made to her . . . somewhere in the mountains? . . . Bucharest? . . . or by the sea? She chose the sea, and so I met her, and will always remember the look in her eyes as she told me "my neck aches from turning my head to and fro looking at the wonders I had never known."

I feel that remark could be reiterated by millions of people in Rumania, who are undoubtedly enjoying wonders they had never dreamed of. And it is this fact which is enabling People's Rumania to go forward to ever increasing prosperity and security. Every citizen benefits from any effort made to help carry out the great plans of their government. And every citizen knows this.

SOVIET MAGAZINE ON FOREIGN LITERATURE

THE SOVIET press hails the first issue of a new magazine *Foreign Literature* which will gratify "the keen interest of the Soviet public in the culture of all nations of the world."

The first issue carries Russian translations of Anna Segher's novel *The Man and His Name*; a novel by the French dramatist, Roger Bailland, *Pierrette Aimable*; and Jean-Paul Sartre's play, *Lizzie* (*La Putain Respectueuse*).

In addition there are a story by the Indian writer, Prem Chand; extracts from Romain Rolland's diaries and reviews and articles concerning literature abroad written by Soviet writers, critics and scholars.



American farmers talk with workers (above) at the Kharkov tractor plant. Below, they see the barns of the Gorky II State Farm, Moscow region.



Charles Hearst, Iowa farmer, has large audience as he drives tractor during the clover harvest at the Ukrainian Livestock Research Institute.



Ferris Owen and H. Plumbe examine corn raised by the Odessa Breeding Station.

U.S. FARMERS U.

Ralph Olsen and Ferris Owen examine corn grown on Budenny Collective farm, near Moscow.





1. Plumamine Soviet corn
Odessa Breeding Institute.

U.S.S.R.

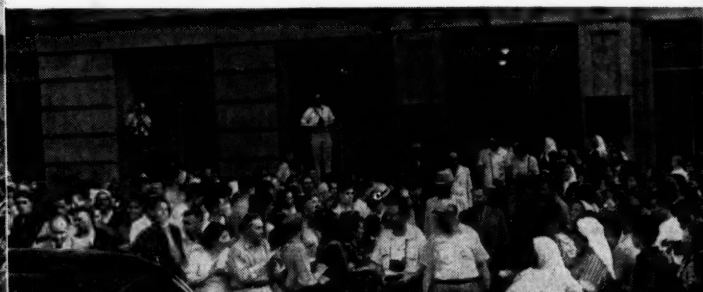
Ferris look at the millet
y College farm, near Odessa.



Des Moines "Register's" Lauren Soth (left) pre-
sents Ukrainian Academician V. M. Yuriev seeds
of 2 high-yielding varieties of American corn.



Children and personnel of Odessa Plant Breeding
and Genetics Institute (above) greet the guests.
Below: Kharkov people throng around Americans.



The Spirit and Meaning of Helsinki

The World Peace Assembly

by MARTHA MILLET

THE EXHIBITION HALL is vast, bright, freshly painted. A broad band of light-blue cloth, the color of a tranquil sky, runs about the room, suspended from the galleries where 150 correspondents sit. Against the blue, letters of gold spell out in various languages: *World Assembly for Peace*.

Through the high windows that flank the auditorium pours the concentrated sun, while outside a late, chill spring lingers.

But it is not this sun that warms us so.

What has entered into our hearts are these two thousand people from the world's far reaches. They have come together to cry: *Peace!* They demand it.

Here are the living signatures of the millions.

•

THROUGH the appeals of Stockholm and Vienna, through the mounting crises of cold war years and

MARTHA MILLET, distinguished American poet, attended the Helsinki Peace Assembly (June 22-29) as an observer. She is the author of "Dangerous Jack" and "Thine Alabaster Cities" and her poems have appeared in anthologies and magazines here and abroad.

shooting war "police actions," the movement of peace has gathered adherents and a more insistent voice.

It was this, certainly, which kept the atom bomb from being hurled on Korea, that brought an end to hostilities in that tortured land; that led to truce in Indo-China; that slowed up conclusion of military bloc agreements.

Equatorial Africa and Malaya, Australia and Lebanon, France, Israel and Latin America, and more . . . ever more. Their fighters for peace are here.

From this platform today speak those who have long permitted themselves to be divided by political viewpoints, ideologies religious and philosophical; adherents of pacifism, of Catholicism, of Buddhism; the industrialist and the workingman; the scientist, teacher and writer, the housewife.

Those from colonies and those from the countries whose governments maintain their grasp on these colonies; those from newly-freed nations of Asia, and from nations struggling for independence; those from the New World and its old social systems, and those from the Old World who have embarked on new paths.

The hour has become too critical

for them to remain in separate camps.

They have achieved a higher pride in discovering their grounds for agreement, in pressing for union of all peace efforts. They have become too well aware that the other alternative before humanity is total annihilation.

•
IT IS SHORTLY before the Four-Power Conference.

East and West are coming face to face to talk, to compromise, to negotiate issues that have threatened for ten years to burst into war whose like no man has seen.

What has brought this about??

It is the throbbing soul of the peoples that lights this room in Helsinki, that extends its rays to Geneva and beyond.

•
IS IT really true that representatives of very dissimilar views are here, under one roof—that they have responded to the call of the World Peace Council—that this is the forum where they make their disagreements known, and yet determine to agree on the one great fundamental task of our times?

The names, the associations, the words of those present are incontrovertible. Delegates or not, they have equal voice and vote, and exercise them.

Signor Zapulli, leader of the Italian Christian Democratic Youth. Lord Bertrand Russell, whose greeting and plan for disarmament are heard at the opening session. D. N. Pritt, Queen's Counsellor who calls for establishing international law against nuclear weapons. Josué de Castro, deputy of Brazil, and president of the UN Food and Agricultural Commission. Vaino Meltti, governor of

the province of Uusimaa in Finland. Mme. Natsu Kawasaki, president of the Women Peasants Movement of Japan. Pietro Nenni, and Edouard Herriot (honorary chairman of the French delegation), who cannot come but whose warm messages are read. Scores of others.

One sees in the ever-enlarging scope of this movement, in which the hopes of all mankind meet and blaze, the boundless chances for peace.

•
HELSINKI takes this world to its bosom. Festive, friendly, decked with the flags of the nations. The flowers on every street-corner stand seem to offer their colors to this event, which coincides with the Finnish Festival of St. John—the Festival of the Sun—where summer is ushered in over fires that burn all night. Everywhere in the city posters proclaim: *Assemblée Mondiale de la Paix*. The dove, no longer meek, springs from the hand of man.

On the streets, in the hall, the two thousand with their blue portfolios meet, give greetings, converse. After all, there is but one language. In Finnish we say: RAUHA. *Peace*.

•
TWO HUNDRED women feast, sing together, and experience sisterhood at the reception held by the preparatory committee for the Mothers Congress for Peace. Some of them will join others coming from their countries at Lausanne, Switzerland, on July 7 for three intense days of deliberations.

(There, 1,000 women adopt a Manifesto: "We do not want our sons to kill each other . . . It is not enough simply to express our desires. We will not be able to rest until we have achieved our objects.")

(They resolve to form a permanent body, with all countries represented. To head this committee, Mrs. Andrea Andreen, president of the Organization of Swedish Women, is elected. Strengthening the bonds among all women, education and action for peace, is their crusade.

("Every child's birthright is a life free from insecurity and fear," says Mrs. Edna Hutchinson of Australia, who is a member of the Society of Friends, and one of the representatives at this Congress from the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

(The appeals of the Mothers Congress go to the UN and to the Four-Power Conference at Geneva.)

•
HELSINKI pointed to Lausanne; and so to Warsaw, where 20,000 youth gather on July 31 for their two-week World Festival.

•
THE HARSH YEARS, the struggle against the most formidable menace ever known to man, is bearing fruit. Those who have suffered most know it best.

Japan, bristling with U. S. bases and troops, brings 24 million signatures against A- and H-bombs, against all war preparations.

August 6th marks ten years since the A-bomb fell on Hiroshima.

No people, no nation must suffer again like those who are still perishing of Hiroshima; whose malformed babies are testaments of the depths of war brutality; whose marred young women are a searing reproach.

•
IT IS TEN YEARS now since the United Nations Charter came into being. Thousands in the United States solemnize this date at meet-

ings. They restate their fervent desire that the UN be the pillar of world peace.

Helsinki echoes this hope. It demands that the UN charter be lived up to, that the UN play the role envisaged for it after World War II; that the great Chinese nation be seated.

A few days earlier a nationwide H-bomb "drill" sent the entire population of the United States into burrows. Revulsion was widespread. Pacifists resisted and were arrested.

Yet soon, against the headlines of this rehearsal in terror, rose the prayers of millions of Americans for success at Geneva, for peace.

What was the enemy but the wanton threat of a world in radioactive flame and dissolution?

What could be evil about a world living in friendship, trading, traveling freely, giving gifts of culture that have no boundaries?

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THE APPEAL to the Nations, adopted by the Helsinki Assembly, contains just those points which were acknowledged at Geneva as centers of storm and clash; toward whose eventual elimination steps were mapped.

Severe trials are ahead. But already the lightnings of the long-overcast skies seem to dwindle.

The problem of Germany, to be tackled in October by the foreign ministers of the U.S., Great Britain, the USSR and France . . . Approaches made by the U.S. to talk with the People's Republic of China on immediate matters . . . The House of Commons thunderously cheering Prime Minister Eden's announcement that Soviet leaders are to visit next spring . . . The unre-served enthusiasm of Midwest

American farmers toward the Soviet agricultural delegation; the dazzling reception of American farmers by Soviet citizens . . . Europe's enormous relief and hopeful view stemming from Geneva . . .

The serious pursuit of disarmament to be undertaken by the UN starting August 29 . . .

Proposals that UN agencies help bring about free communication and peaceful trade, all exchanges of mutual benefit, among nations.

Senator George, who has come out for basic talks with China within six months.

Nehru continuing his world mission of stimulating rapprochement . . . (The Asian countries at Bandung have given a powerful example and impetus to the possibility of peaceful coexistence.)

The new president of the International Chamber of Commerce,

Warren Lee Pierson (chairman of Trans World Airlines and of International Business Machines Corporation) who rejoices at prospects of eased world tensions, anticipating, in such a world an era of unparalleled prosperity for capitalist industry . . .

The edge of the passport barrier, which appears to be lifting . . .

WHAT TOOK PLACE at Helsinki proved a new stage had been reached in the fight for peace. Many hardships had been survived, certain victories gained. Helsinki was an opening out both to greater efforts and more keenly-realized possibilities.

No stopping point, but a sweeping on from the Valley Forge of ten arduous years to the conclusive assertion of man's will. *Peace. Pax. Rauha.*

THEY WERE NOT BRAINWASHED

THE GREAT TO-DO in the press about the American PW's who were supposedly "brainwashed" into collaborating with their North Korean captors has been exposed by no less an authority than the U.S. Army.

A. E. Hotchner, in an article in the magazine *This Week* (Sunday, July 17) based on his interviews with Intelligence Officers in the Pentagon, flatly declares that "no American military prisoner was 'brainwashed' during the entire Korean war."

This is surprising, after the tons of press reports concerning torture, drugs, Pavlovian devices, etc. Hotcher declares that intelligence investigations reveal that neither torture nor brutality "was applied as a normal method of prisoner-handling to obtain converts. . . . There is not one iota of evidence that drugs, hypnosis, or any other device, *except dramatic persuasion* were used on our PW's in Korea." (The italics are Hotcher's.)

The article declares that "the men who did not collaborate with the enemy generally fared as well as or better in enemy hands than th men who did."

The article, entitled "They Were Not Brainwashed," cites a number of cases of PW's who collaborated and analyzes them, showing that, in fact, none of the so-called tortures or "brainwashing" had been employed.

JEW S IN THE USSR

A Canadian Describes His Visit

by MORRIS BIDERMAN

THE FARMERS of Iowa found out that the best way to get to know the people of the Soviet Union is to meet them. I, too, had the good fortune to meet them, as one of a delegation of eight Canadians who spent three weeks in the USSR last February.

Like the farmers of Iowa, our delegation soon found out that when people get together, including people of different social systems, existing barriers begin to crumble, existing prejudices begin to disappear.

You do not have to be in the Soviet Union very long to realize that the greatest desire of its people is to live in peace and friendship with all other peoples. An experience in Moscow will, perhaps, demonstrate this sentiment of the Soviet people.

One day we were admiring the new building that houses the Ministry of Trade. A middle-aged Russian woman stopped and asked whether we liked it. When we told her we did, she said: "There are many such new buildings going up all over Moscow which you no doubt

will see. We have made great progress since the war ended," she said with a note of pride. "I see you are from a foreign country," she continued. "When you go back home, tell your people what we are doing. Tell them how hard we work. Tell them how much we suffered during the war. Tell them also that life is now getting better for us. But please tell your people that we do not want war."

In one way or another this deep desire for peace and friendship was expressed by the people we met.

Life is getting better in the Soviet Union. We found the people well fed and well clothed. We saw hundreds of new apartment buildings going up in Moscow, Leningrad and in the cities of Georgia which we visited. We saw construction going on uninterrupted even in 20 below zero weather.

The stores were packed with people buying everything there was for sale. One day we visited the largest department store in Moscow, the GUM. During a chat with the director, he told us that because of the many price cuts and wage boosts since the war, supplies of consumer goods cannot catch up with the demands of the people. I suggested

MORRIS BIDERMAN is president of the United Jewish Peoples Order of Toronto, Canada.

that he petition the government to stop cutting prices and raising wages until supply and demand would be on even terms. This brought a smile to his face. "We don't mind such problems," he said. "Rubles in the pockets of the working people act as a stimulant to our consumer goods industry."

A Canadian residing in Moscow confirmed our impression of the better living conditions for the people. This Canadian is Mr. John B. C. Watkins, the Canadian Ambassador to the Soviet Union, with whom our delegation had a two-hour chat.

"Until two years ago," Mr. Watkins told us, "things were still pretty tough here. We who are here all the time can best appreciate the great progress which has been made. Look at the people on the streets and you will see that they are well clothed and well fed. Nothing wrong with the appetites of the Russians."

"You will notice," he said, "that one commodity that the Russians are not short of is rubles."

And the people themselves kept telling us all the time that life is getting better day by day. They were confident, also, that it will get still better, and much faster, providing there will be peace.

SINCE my return to Canada I am often asked whether I met any Jews in the Soviet Union and whether I talked with them. I met Jews in the Soviet Union wherever I went. As a matter of fact, the first Soviet citizen we met was a Jew. He was the manager of the large airport in Vilno, our first landing place on Soviet soil. Some of the Jews I met spoke Yiddish and so I was able to talk with them without an interpreter.

There was another Jew in our

delegation, Louis Benzvy, of Montreal. He has a brother and sister in the Soviet Union whom he hadn't seen for thirty-five years. When we came to Moscow he asked our hosts, VOKS (the Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries), whether he could arrange to see them. He was advised to send a telegram to them to Kamenetz Podolsk, where they lived, and invite them to Moscow.

In two days an answer arrived that they were on their way. None of us will ever forget the reunion, which our delegation witnessed in our hotel, the National. Benzvy's brother and sister spent a whole week in Moscow. Our delegation "adopted" them. They ate with us and wherever we went we took them along. I had many discussions with our new-found friends. I would visit them in the hotel rooms and they would come into mine as though we had known each other all our lives.

She was a teacher in a Jewish school before the war. He graduated from a Jewish school in 1935 and volunteered to go to Birobidzhan. When the war broke out he left Birobidzhan and joined the army. He was captured and managed to survive only because the Nazis did not know that he was a Jew.

He told us of the terrible war years and how much the people, especially the Jewish people, suffered. Tears streamed down their faces. "The curse of anti-Semitism, which had already been forgotten in the Soviet Union before the war, was brought into our country by the German Nazis," he said. "The Jews who did not escape, and they were many, all perished."

They told of the terrible and difficult post-war years, and of the

heroic efforts of the people to rebuild a normal life in their district. It was hard, very hard in those years, they said.

"But now," they continued, "life is getting better." Both of them own their own homes, and both invited us to come and visit them. They said that they lived well and had everything they needed. When our talk turned to the possibility of war, their entire bodies trembled. "That must never again allowed to happen," they declared emphatically.

I asked whether there was any organized Jewish community in their district. They looked at me in wonderment.

"How can you ask such a question," they said, "when there are only five Jewish families left in our entire region. Jewish life was completely uprooted and can never be the same as before the war."

They said that many Jews had recently come back to the large cities of Kiev and Odessa. Whether a revival of Jewish life as it existed before the war will take place is hard to say.

In Leningrad I met Michael Braverman, foreman of the assembly department of the large Lenin Machine Works which produces turbines for the hydroelectric stations. I met him while our delegation was visiting this plant. He, too, spoke Yiddish well. He had been working in the plant for twenty-two years, starting as an ordinary worker. Now he headed the biggest department in the works.

"Are there many Jews in Leningrad?" I asked.

"Over 10,000," he replied. "There are about 200 employed here in the Stalin Machine Works."

I asked him, too, whether there

was an organized Jewish community in the city. He explained that aside from two synagogues, where the religious Jews performed their services, there was no organized Jewish community in Leningrad. He said that this resulted from a long process during which the Jewish youth became less and less interested in such institutions. The opportunities for a full cultural life had grown by leaps and bounds.

"You must certainly have seen for yourself," he emphasized, "that the way is open for the entire people to enjoy all branches of art and culture." The Jewish people, he said, were drawn into socialist construction, grasped the available opportunities and began to live a happy, creative, satisfied life.

"Look at our factory and its 5,000 workers," he said. "It is impossible to distinguish the Jews from the non-Jews. They are all Soviet citizens. Moreover, it seems to me that the best thing Jews can do is to build socialism. Under socialism things are good for the Jewish people; without it, things would be bad."

As we found, he represented the general approach of the Soviet Jews.

I met Mania Shur, a 70-year-old woman whom I knew personally before she and her husband, Max, a leader in the Cloak-Makers Union in Toronto, and their young son, Freddie, left Canada in 1931 to live in the Soviet Union. Max died some years ago in Moscow. Fred is now a professor of chemistry. Mania came to see me at my hotel. We talked for hours.

She said that she is living on a pension of 300 rubles a month and declared that it is more than sufficient. She pays 12 rubles a month

for her one-room apartment. And once a year she goes south for an entire month's vacation—all paid for by the government, including transportation.

I visited my wife's cousin in her apartment in Moscow. We drank tea and tasted her home-made preserves. She is a doctor in a hospital and her husband is an architect.

Louis Benzvy, Bob Patriquin (see his article in the August NWR) and I visited the main synagogue in Moscow and talked with many of the Jews there.

And in Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia, Benzvy and I visited another synagogue. We were immediately surrounded by friendly people who looked no different than other Georgians. But I couldn't understand the language they spoke; neither could they understand me, although I was speaking Yiddish. The elder of the synagogue spoke Hebrew, and so did Benzvy. We discovered that this was a Sfardic synagogue, and these were Sfardic Jews.

We learned that there are 200,000 Jews in the Republic of Soviet

Georgia, the great majority Sfardic Jews whose ancestors came here over 2,000 years ago. Many found a haven in Georgia when they fled the Spanish Inquisition.

"Jews were always treated well in Georgia," the elder said. "There isn't now, and never has been, any semblance of anti-Semitism in the land of the Georgian people. We get along well with our Georgian brothers."

In a corner of the synagogue we noticed a pile of bags. Inquiry revealed that this was flour provided by the government to be baked into matzos for Passover.

Jews in the Soviet Union are to be found in every sphere of life. Lazar Kaganovich, a vice-premier, is a Jew. We met Jews who had received prizes and medals for outstanding achievements in science, industry, education, literature and other fields.

No objective person can be in the Soviet Union and fail to recognize the truth that Soviet Jews enjoy compete equality with their fellow citizens, and all the privileges that the Soviet system of society has to offer.

TRADE UNION LIBRARIES IN CHINA

CHINA's trade unions now operate some 17,000 libraries throughout the country with a total book collection of 24,000,000 volumes. This was revealed at a recent week-long conference on trade union library work that was held in Peking.

The number of such libraries has grown nearly 50-fold since 1950 when there were only 360 union libraries. These institutions are attached to workers cultural centers or are operated directly by the trade unions in the factories and mines, in government departments and other enterprises. Some of the libraries are quite large, containing as many as 100,000 books.

Many of them operate special services, send books to the workshops, the building sites and the workers' dormitories. On several of the major railways, special cars serve as libraries. The libraries also organize lectures, discussions and exhibits.

Training Center for Scientists

In the German Democratic Republic

by Commander EDGAR P. YOUNG, R.N. (Retired)

TODAY, when the minds of educators and industrialists in America, Britain, France and other countries are occupied with the problem of training technicians and scientists to meet the rapidly growing needs of our day, it may be of interest to learn what has been done and what is projected in this field in the (East) German Democratic Republic.

This is to be seen in the town of Dresden, the center of which was virtually annihilated by air bombardment during the war. The visitor today will be impressed by the painstaking restoration of the city, especially of the Dresden College of Technology.

This college, founded in 1828, corresponds in character and status to our Imperial College of Science and Technology, in South Kensington, London. Its importance had waned considerably during the period of the Nazi regime, the number of students under training falling from

the 1930 peak of 2,846 to the miserably low level of 1,196, on the eve of the last war.

On the night of February 13, 1945, the old college buildings on the Bayrische Platz were completely destroyed, as were all but some 20 per cent of the new buildings in the suburb of Racknitz-Sudvorstadt. It was these ruins, denuded of their students and of most of the faculty (confirmed Nazis who found jobs in the universities of West Germany), which East Germany inherited, as the only polytechnic institute with university status in which to train a new generation of scientists and technologists.

It has now some 8,000 students under training in its ten departments, and in 1960, when the new laboratories and lecture rooms have been completed, this number is expected to reach 14,000. The partially destroyed premises in Racknitz-Sudvorstadt have been completely restored and are being greatly expanded—the floor space is already one-third greater than before the war. The scale of future expansion is seen by the fact that the land allocated to the college is now ten times as great as before.

The new construction includes two

EDGAR P. YOUNG, Commander Royal Navy (Retired), is known to our readers for his articles on the countries of Eastern Europe. This article is a result of a recent visit to the German Democratic Republic.

excellent hostels, or dormitories, each with accommodation for 1,000 students. These are an innovation made necessary by the fact that, whereas formerly most students came from middle-class families often residing in or near Dresden, some 50 per cent of the present students are from working class and peasant families and come from all over Germany (including many from West Germany) and a fair number from the Balkan People's Republics and from Asia, more especially from China, Korea and Viet Nam. Pending the construction of additional similar hostels, provisional accommodation is made temporarily available in 36 smaller boarding houses attached to the college.

The charge made for such accommodation is a mere 10 marks a month. Meals, at 60 pfennigs each, are provided in the college restaurants. These charges are very nominal, for the students have all their books given to them, and about 90 per cent of them, besides receiving free tuition, are given a stipend of 180 marks a month, which may be supplemented by a further 40 to 80 a month at the discretion of their tutors, in recognition of good work.

Since the end of 1953, the Government has been able to make it possible for students to waste none of their time or their energy on part-time or vacation work. Students are now not permitted to take up any kind of part-time employment during the school term, and are discouraged from doing so even during the vacations, which they can now spend quite cheaply at one or other of the three large and comfortable holiday homes belonging to the College.

A novel feature, of post-war conception, of the Dresden College of Technology is what is called the

Workers' and Peasants' Faculty (or Department). This is an essential feature in the "democratization" of higher education by the deliberate reservation of a certain proportion of the places in the colleges and universities for the children of workers and farmers. As these children have often been unable to acquire the educational groundwork necessary for the pursuit of higher education, there has been introduced (as a temporary measure during the present period of transition) this system whereby these young men and women, already enjoying the full status of "student," undergo a 2-year course specially designed to put them educationally on a par with their more fortunate fellow-students with whom they must eventually compete. The number of these students at Dresden is now about 2,500, as compared with a bare 600 when I last visited it in 1949.

Besides the full-time resident students, the college has a large enrollment of correspondence students. These are the young men and women who for one reason or another cannot leave their jobs, but who would like to qualify for higher posts. They number at the present time about 4,200 and are expected to reach 11,000 in 1960.

There is close cooperation, officially encouraged, between the college and industry. Some of the larger "People's-owned" (Volksbetriebe — VEB) industrial establishments have formal agreements, known as "Agreements on Friendship and Sponsorship," with the college, assuring free mutual interchange of knowledge and techniques. This immediate and uninhibited exchange of the results of academic research in the college and of technological development in the mine, steel works and factory has

been found advantageous to both parties concerned and fruitful in the more speedy achievement of progress by both of them.

The spectacular development of the Dresden College of Technology, though designed primarily to provide university-trained scientists and technologists to meet the needs of the rapidly growing industries of the German Democratic Republic, has a further object in connection with those industries. Their products are mainly destined for export,

especially to China, Indonesia, and other underdeveloped countries. They consist in increasing proportion of complex machinery—often complete industrial plants—for the processing of indigenous raw materials. Where they go, there is a need for German technologists to go with them, to supervise installation and to train the local people to run them. It is to meet this need also that the Government is devoting so much in attention and funds to the expansion of the College.

HERE AND THERE IN PEOPLE'S CHINA

IRON AND STEEL enterprises under the Ministry of Heavy Industry of People's China had by July exceeded their targets for the first six months of this year by 14.75 per cent in value. The output of five major products, including steel, rolled steel, pig iron, iron ore and coke was all above plan. Compared with the same period last year, steel output was up by more than 40 per cent. Trial production of 39 new products was begun in the first half of the year.



THE PEKING Agricultural Machinery Plant in early July reported completion of China's first combine harvester. Capable of harvesting and threshing five and a half acres an hour, it will be sent to a state farm in Heilung Province to help bring in this year's harvest. The combine was constructed with the help of Soviet experts and modeled after the Stalinets-6 combine.



ELEVEN new middle schools have been opened on the outskirts of Peking. Enrollment is already underway. All the schools are co-educational.



SOVIET specialists have helped Chinese workers to rid Sinkiang province of locusts. Spraying by plane, they have made 138,000 acres of the province free of the pest. During the past two years, the USSR has helped China to rid 285,000 acres in Sinkiang of locusts.



TOTAL output of electric power by state plants in People's China increased 18.3 per cent in the first six months of this year as compared with the same period last year. This is one per cent more than the target set by the plan. A total of 39 million kilowatts of electric power was saved during the period through greater efficiency and lower line losses.

Women in Soviet Central Asia

by NOWELL JOHNSON

The present position of women in the Soviet Asian republics is described by the wife of Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the Dean of Canterbury. Together they made an extensive visit to the Soviet Union and traveled through the areas she describes in her article.

"PLEASE will you play us something?" A question put to a diminutive pianist sitting with dangling legs far off the floor, tiny black plaits tied with ribbons sticking out from her head. With the utmost assurance this tiny virtuoso pointed with a quick jerk to the piece she elected to play and struck the notes with precision. She was six and had been at the Tashkent music school two months.

Then there was the slim, shy schoolgirl, bashful at being asked to play in front of strangers, but transformed when sitting at the piano. Playing with power and a depth of feeling so intense that one was astonished to see the child in front of one, and to hear such music from so strong a touch.

These two pictures come to my mind when I think of women in Soviet Central Asia. In Tadzhikistan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakstan, the latter the size of England, France, Germany and Italy put together, which I

visited last October and November, there has indeed been a revolution in the lives of women. Thirty years ago, slaves to be bought and sold, 99 per cent illiterate. Today proud citizens, with equality of rights with men, economic, political, educational.

All girls have the same education as boys. Starting in nurseries, if the mother works and so desires. On to kindergartens at the parents' wish, where usually groups of about twenty-five children are staffed with a nurse, a teacher and an attendant. At seven compulsory education; and for all children who started school in autumn 1953 and after, to full grammar and high school standard, seven to seventeen.

In Stalinabad, the capital of Tadzhikistan, we visited a kindergarten. The directress was a young woman, charming and full of enthusiasm. Her charges, dressed in gay little costumes, danced for us; group dancing of a very high level of achievement for four-, five- and six-year-olds.

The classes were small enough to allow for individual tuition; these small children recited alone and sang solos with confidence and tremendous vitality.

As we left the kindergarten we were presented to the mother of the directress, an old woman now, a poetess. Most of her life had been lived under pre-revolutionary conditions in bitter poverty and oppression, her children dying around her. Now her daughter was head of a kindergarten, her son a university professor: to her it is a new world.

Life has become different. The old struggle for bare existence, for sufficient food to keep one alive, for clothes to cover the body, the fight against disease and never ending poverty is over. Food falls in price and becomes more abundant year by year; clothes become cheaper. One cotton mill in Tashkent turns out enough material per day, thirty-nine inches wide, to stretch from the coast of Norfolk to the Irish Sea. Five such cotton mills are soon to operate here in Soviet Central Asia. The women wear gay flower patterned garments, the little children dress in clothes of many colors. New houses are built; the people rejoice in possessions.

We visited a co-educational grammar school. Boys and girls wear the same uniform in Stalinabad as in Moscow or Irkutsk. No schools with expensive uniforms adjacent to schools with poor uniforms, all children alike. Children taught that all work is noble, the tiller of the earth, the factory hand producing goods for the community, as important as the intellectual. Each having a duty to the society which cares for all.

The head of this grammar school for 881 pupils was a woman, quiet,

reserved, reminding me of an English headmistress. The children gave us a splendid reception. We met the full-time school librarian, in charge of a library of 30,000 books.

A special hostel for girls was attached to this school. The headmistress explained that women had had a shockingly bad time under the old regime; now special efforts were being made to help them in every way. Girls coming from a distance lived at the hostel, all schooling is free, board is also free and clothes are supplied.

In this same beautiful town—a group of mud huts twenty-five years ago, now with its broad tree-lined streets, its flower-filled squares, its great park and lake which mirrors the snow covered golden colored mountains—we went to the handsome new library, built at the demand of the population avid for reading matter. It already contains over a million books and has a department of foreign literature where we saw books in English, French, German, Italian and Chinese, classics and modern novels.

A woman was the chief librarian, tall, handsome, very capable, an ardent worker. She showed us a splendid hall set aside for school children to study, another for adults and another for specialists.

It was in Tashkent that we went over the special music school, and saw the girl musicians at their studies. Here highly gifted boys and girls were being taught, and astonished us with their brilliance of performance. After seventeen most of these children go on to the conservatory. For these gifted youthful musicians, as with all artists, life opens out into a world craving for their art. Musicians and singers are in demand everywhere, they are among

the most privileged workers—wanted night after night in cities, villages and on collective farms; needed at celebrations, traveling to other countries on special occasions, given a salary by the state, honored and loved by the people.

Such an artist is Sara Ishantoorava, whom we met and afterwards saw acting the part of Ophelia. Shakespeare is beloved and constantly played in Soviet Central Asia. Sara Ishantoorava is an important citizen of Tashkent, she is a People's Artist of the USSR, a Stalin Prize winner and a member of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. She will be the director of a new Drama Theater now being built.

In Alma Ata, Kazakhstan's capital, we met a woman head of a collective farm. Every path is open to women today. Women agronomists, women who were heroines of their country as tractor drivers, cattle breeders, pig breeders, poultry breeders, cotton experts, engineers, architects, factory workers.

In the newly built Academies of Science of Central Asia are women Doctors of Science, in the medical institutes highly qualified women Doctors of Medicine. In the Medical Schools well over 50 per cent are girls.

I recall one of our last days in Alma Ata, a country as beautiful

as Switzerland. We had visited a sanatorium for tired nerve-worn patients. A glorious spot, a view northwest across illimitable steppe, a view southeast up slope after slope of mountains to the far peaks rising amid never melting snows. A woman doctor was in charge of this sanatorium for men and women.

That evening we visited the Opera House, a magnificent building with beautifully decorated foyer and spacious halls for promenading. In the interval a large group of students who spoke English asked to meet us, the girls wanted to know about girls and women in England. Did we want peace as earnestly as they did? What were conditions like for us; were prices high? Had women equal pay?

In the next interval as we strolled through the large audience, composed mainly of youth, we were stopped by a girl of eighteen, charmingly dressed in a black tailored evening frock, with jade earrings and beautiful dark hair. She addressed us in English, welcoming us to her lovely land and on behalf of the girls of her Institute, sending messages of friendship to the girls and the youth of England.

What countries! Soviet Central Asia, a new people in a new world.

*From the British publication
Russia Today.*

U.S. PROFESSOR LECTURES IN MOSCOW

SOVIET writers, scholars, reviewers and members of the Academy turned out in mid-July to hear a lecture by Professor William Edgerton, of Pennsylvania State University, on Russian language and literary studies in the United States. Dr. Edgerton spoke in Russian and delivered his lecture at the Gorky Institute of World Literature of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. He was greeted with applause when he declared: "We hope that our cultural ties will continue to go from strength to strength." Dr. Edgerton was a member of the American Quaker Mission that visited the USSR in July.

How the USSR Fights Cancer

by PROFESSOR VLADIMIR TIMAKOV

TODAY, Soviet scientists use a number of methods in the treatment of cancerous tumors. In many cases a lasting recovery is insured.

The problem of cancer is one of the most complex in the whole field of biology and medicine. Only in recent years has research on cancer been enriched by observations and facts which have made it possible to draw a number of useful conclusions.

Academician Timofeyevsky, of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, has been making original studies of the growth of tumors in the human body, in cultures of tissues outside the body. His researches have led to an important discovery. Under special artificially created conditions, consisting of a change in nutrition, the cancer cells, it seems, may lose their malignant properties and approach the normal in their structure.

Scientists are now persistently searching for the conditions under which the course of the tumor process can be changed in a benign direction. So medicine sees an attrac-

tive prospect opening up—the ability to control the growth of the tumor and, hence, the ability to heal the cancer.

This theoretical assumption that the developments taking place in a cancer cell could be reversed has been confirmed in the hospital. Thus, an extremely effective remedy in treating cancer of the prostate gland proved to be sinestrol—a preparation of the synthetic female sexual hormone. When this is used, the malignant growth on the prostate gland disappears without being removed or destroyed, and even secondary growths of the tumor, which have appeared in other organs or tissues of the body, disappear.

Soviet doctors have worked out a method of creating artificially what they call “model-tumors.” They make it possible to study the ways in which tumors originate, their course of development, and how they respond to treatment.

The prominent Soviet oncologist, N. N. Petrov, succeeded in artificially causing a malignant tumor to grow in the organism of an ape. The researches now being conducted with apes, under conditions closely resembling the course which the disease takes in man, will make it pos-

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sible to find new remedies for use in the fight against cancer.

The role of viruses in the development of malignant tumors is being studied in the laboratory by L. A. Zilber, who is working on the securing of immunity to tumors—i.e. resistance of the organism to the disease. The modern conception of tumors as a general pathological process makes it necessary to use different methods in treating the patient. In this complex of treatments, nothing must be disregarded.

Very promising is the study of the substances known as cancerogenous—substances which can cause the development of malignant tumors under certain conditions. The aim of this work is to establish if harm is done by various combinations of substances used in industry, to determine the influence of different harmful factors and to indicate the ways of eliminating them—that is, to provide improved health protection against occupational diseases. The carrying out of general hygiene measures makes it possible to prevent cases of so-called “occupational” cancer—that is, tumors, the growth of which is connected with the prolonged influence of particular industrial conditions.

Combined methods of surgical treatment, radium and X-ray irradiation are being continually improved.

The scope of cancer surgery has grown. Operations are now performed in cases of cancer of the lungs, the esophagus, the stomach and intestines. This has been aided especially by the work of leading Soviet surgeons and cancer specialists—Bakulev, Vishnevsky, Kupriyanov, Petrov, Savinykh, Savitsky, Petrovsky, Uglov and others.

Electrosurgery is being used. This makes the operations practically bloodless, as the blood vessels cut by the electric knife become welded and stopped up. In such operations it is possible to prevent the cancer cells getting into the healthy tissues of the wound, so excluding the possibility of a recurrence of the disease. Furthermore, the electric knife prevents infection of the wound and reduces pain, since the cut ends of the nerves are welded.

Electrosurgical operations are being widely used independently or in combination with other methods of treatment. In recent years, they have been used for removal of tumors of the gastro-intestinal tract. Observations have shown that when this method is applied, the post-operative period is much better and there are fewer complications. As a result, a considerable reduction has been achieved in the mortality of patients suffering from cancer of the stomach and the large intestine.

Electrosurgery is giving good results in cases of so-called “precancerous” diseases. Soviet medicine attaches the greatest importance to health protection methods, to the diagnosis of the illness in its early forms. Of course, “precancerous” diseases by no means always turn into cancer. Nevertheless, as a preventive measure, doctors keep such cases under strict observation and, if necessary, prescribe treatment.

By means of the simple and bloodless method of electro-coagulation, it is possible to relieve patients painlessly of different affections of the mucous membrane of various organs which refuse to heal for a long time—erosions of ulcers, fissures, callouses, ulcerated spots on the skin, polypi of the rectum, etc.

Electrosurgical methods have proved suitable also for biopsy, that is, the excision of a fragment of tissue for purposes of analysis in cases where the presence of a malignant tumor is suspected.

Surgical treatment is usually supported by other remedies, in particular radiotherapy. Treatment with X-rays and radium now holds a firmly established and prominent place in the system of anti-cancer measures.

Up-to-date apparatus and the latest methods of radiotherapy, which have been introduced into the practice of medical institutions have helped considerably to increase the efficacy of treatment.

If the disease has not been neglected, cures of cancer over a prolonged period of time are now carried out by the use of a combination of many different methods of treatment.

Of late, radioactive isotopes are being more and more widely used. Preparations which can be injected directly into the tumor (such as radioactive colloid gold) or even directly into the blood have been obtained and have fully justified themselves in clinical practice. For instance, radioactive iodine is prescribed for tumors of the thyroid gland, and radioactive phosphorus for growths on bones or in cases of pernicious anemia.

In some forms of the disease, chemiotherapeutical preparations are being successfully used to hold back the malignant growth. Synthetic sexual hormones are also used.

Many research institutions in different cities of the Soviet Union are seeking the most effective means of preventing and curing cancer, finding better ways of early and accurate diagnosis. Leading among these

institutions are the Institute of Oncology of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences in Leningrad; the Herzen Oncological Institute; the Central X-Ray Institute; the Institute of Experimental Cancer Pathology and Therapy of the Academy of Medical Sciences in Moscow, and institutes in Kiev, Kharkov, Baku, Yerevan, Rostov-on-Don and other cities.

In the USSR, a far-flung anti-cancer organization has been formed, based on special anti-cancer clinics. An anti-cancer clinic includes a health center, hospital for in-patients, laboratory, X-ray department, and supplies of specially parcelled radium. The specialists working at these clinics are actively assisted by the doctors of the general network of health institutions.

All health centers of a general type have oncological rooms and special accommodation for oncological patients is set aside in all the general hospitals. Under the guidance of the staffs of the anti-cancer clinics, the general doctors carry out regular examinations of the population, to discover in persons over 30-35 any slightest deviation from normal health. Such patients are sent, as soon as possible for special examination and, if necessary, treatment.

These examinations are voluntary. They are made twice a year, and are preceded by mass health propaganda measures, with the participation of the Red Cross.

Are these examinations worth while? Facts and figures give the answer.

In a number of districts of Stalingrad region, for instance, these examinations have made it possible to eliminate neglected forms of cancer of the lower lip entirely, while cancer

of the skin has almost disappeared.

In the Mikhailovsky district of that region, not a single case of neglected cancer of the lower lip, skin, breast or womb has been found in two years.

In organizing these examinations on a mass scale, Soviet doctors consider it their prime aim to instill in the people a feeling of sensible vigilance. To achieve this, the daily passing of medical knowledge among the people is necessary, and explanations as to what deviations from normal health give grounds for suspecting the presence of cancer.

It is obviously very important that patients should apply for aid to the clinics as early in the development of the disease as possible.

The present-day methods of early diagnosis of cancer make it possible to state accurately the nature and stage of the disease. Methods of diagnosis include X-ray examinations, blood tests, examinations of the internal organs by means of special instruments, and so forth.

The fight against cancer is going ahead well in the USSR, chiefly because free medical aid is at the disposal of the whole population, because health protection measures embrace very large numbers, and because these measures are based on the most up-to-date achievements of advanced medical science.

—From Soviet Weekly, published in London, June 21, 1955.

SOVIET INDUSTRY GROWS

INTERESTING figures on the progress of Soviet industry are contained in a report of a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, convened early in July. For example, in total volume of industrial output, the Fifth Five-Year Plan was fulfilled by May 1 of this year, that is eight months head of schedule. By the end of the current year, production of the means of production will have increased at least 84 per cent over that of 1950, and will constitute 70 per cent of the entire industrial output of the Soviet Union.

In machine manufacture, total volume of output this year is expected to double the production of 1950, and will be 360 per cent more than that of 1940. As a result, mechanization of many of the processes in important industries will be further increased. Likewise, this has resulted in twice as many machines now working in agriculture now than in 1940.

In consumer goods, the level of production this year should exceed the 1950 level by 72 per cent, as against only 65 per cent envisaged in the Five-Year Plan.

The report on the plenary meeting declares that results have confirmed the correctness of the policy on the predominant role of the development of heavy industry, and this industry will continue to develop more rapidly than the other branches of the national economy. "This is necessary," the report says, "in order to ensure a further rise in all branches of the country's economy and to satisfy more fully the constantly growing requirements of the Soviet people."

Making A Dream Come True

by V. BALAKIREV

Assistant Chief of Construction and Installation Department
of the Kara-Kum Water Development Works

TO VIVIFY the Kara-Kum desert with water was the dream of the Turkmenian people for centuries. The Soviet government is now making that dream come true. An immense irrigation project, the Kara-Kum canal in Turkmenistan, is being built. When completed the canal will irrigate one million acres and render it possible to grow the best varieties of long staple cotton on that area.

The bigger part of the canal will cut through an arid desert with only sand dunes sparsely interspersed with saksaul (*Haloxylon*) and burs.

The canal will take its beginning about four kilometers (two and a half miles) from Mukri Station. First it will pass through lake country, but beyond Karamet-Niyaz it will extend into the desert, gradually bending towards Mari Station.

The first section will be a 400 kilometer (248 mile) waterway. From the deep Amu-Darya river, which rushes swiftly during the spring tide, it will stretch to the town of Mari. There, in the center of that ancient Murghab oasis, the waters of the Amu-Darya will flow into the Murghab river. The second section of the canal will pass through the Tedzhen and Ashkhabad districts on to Archman.

The total length of the canal, including a third section, will be about 1,000 kilometers (620 miles). The nature of the place through which

this great waterway will flow is so suitable that the builders will not have to erect any special dams. Along the whole route the canal will flow of its own gravity.

The Kara-Kum canal is a project of great importance. Once irrigated, vast tracts of fertile land will become suitable for the cultivation of cotton and cereals. Stockbreeding will be rapidly developed, especially the raising of astrakhan sheep. The canal will supply water not only for irrigation, but to industries as well.

Large scale work has been started along the route of the canal. It is being built from both ends simultaneously: the southern end on the left bank of the Amu-Darya near Mukri Station, and the western end near the town of Bairam-Ali. The works are being carried on a 100-kilometer (62 mile) stretch of the southern section and on a 50-kilometer (31 mile) stretch of the western section. Newest models of Soviet machines are used: bulldozers, suction dredges, scrapers, excavators and a great variety of other electric powered machines and mechanisms. The electricity is fed from power plants mounted on railway cars.

Settlements for the builders, with clubs, medical stations, stores, restaurants, bakeries and bath houses have rapidly mushroomed along the route of the canal.

(Reprinted from *Farming in Russia*)

A Canadian on Soviet Logging

A review by GEORGE HEGLUND

LOGGING MECHANIZATION IN THE USSR, by Alexander Koroleff, Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada, Montreal, 158 pages of text and 46 illustrations. \$5.00.

AUTHOR Alexander Koroleff is Woodlands Research Director of the Canadian Institute which published the book. The Institute points out that the Soviet annual timber cut "now exceeds 20 billion cubic feet," and where they earlier "borrowed heavily" from American and Canadian logging techniques, they have now added some startling new developments, and this book, then, "provides an opportunity to reduce their indebtedness."

At best, logging in any country is a difficult occupation, usually seasonal, conducted often in rugged terrain and removed from urban conveniences.

The USSR set about to bring to the remote forests of the North, as nearly as possible, those conditions and techniques which we expect in a modern factory or concentrated industry.

Where formerly, says Koroleff, they logged only in winter, as do the Canadians, now they have built dry-weather roads, and log all year round. The workers, once seasonal and inexperienced, are now permanent and trained. The casual worker could previously be expected to take no more than a casual interest, now as a permanent worker he has been an important factor in initiating improvements, especially in introducing a production bonus system and a "constant flow" of production from the stump to the waiting truck.

Where formerly the tree was trimmed and cut into log lengths at the stump (as in Canada and the U.S.), now the tree is hauled from the woods whole, intact with branches and crown, and trimmed with an electric trip-hammer

knife and other specialized equipment at a central landing.

Where formerly the tree trimmings, left scattered throughout the woods, were gathered and burned by special clean-up crews, now, concentrated at the landing and utilized in a "gasogenerator," they serve to make the operation self-sufficient; the fuel gas produced powers the trucks and a portable electric generating plant.

Where formerly, with the heavier gasoline-powered saws, the trees were felled well above the ground, now, with light-weight electric saws, they are felled just above the surface.

Where formerly, Koroleff writes, the USSR depended on horses and sleds under favorable winter conditions (as is still the case in Alaska and Eastern Canada), now logging equipment is powered by electricity.

Where formerly the workers lived in log dwellings and in "bush camps," now with the concentration of processing at the central landings, "the majority of workers can live comfortably in the permanent forest villages."

Imagine a night shift in a forest! "In many cases," says Koroleff, "the work is done in two eight-hour shifts, day and night," made possible by electrification.

Koroleff attributes much of the Soviet progress to well-financed research. His book is based on about 100 articles translated from the Russian periodical *Forest Industry*.

He laments his lack of first-hand contact with current Soviet logging. It is easy, he says, to get too "rosy" a picture from trade periodicals. Nevertheless, he concludes that "even if the data are discounted considerably . . . the rate of increase in efficiency of logging in the USSR is high—much greater than it is in Canada."

A Burning Novel of Protest

THE ACCIDENT, by Dexter Masters.

*Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1955,
406 pp., \$4.00.*

THIS BOOK should be on the must reading list of every home in the United States.

It is the story of a skilled and gifted scientist whose hands slipped in a delicate experiment connected with the making of atomic weapons, who, in shielding those who were working with him, took a lethal dose of radiation into his own body; of the eight days it took him to die; of the whole life experience that had led him to this moment; of the love he sacrificed for it; of the doubts and questions that arose in his mind and the minds of others who made the bomb.

The story is told in fiction form, but it is based on a real life incident that occurred at Los Alamos in 1946. The author has mastered a great deal of factual material, delved deeply into the minds and hearts of some of the participants, whom he knew, and fused them with the bright flame of his imagination into a burning novel of protest, a powerful appeal to arouse the conscience of America for its responsibility in inaugurating the age of atomic warfare.

For the accident, the book makes clear, was not really an accident at all. It was the expression of the resistance of a scientist who loved humanity to turning his gifts to the destruction instead of the service of mankind, and his ultimate sacrifice to bring the lesson home.

The course of his dying makes almost unbearable reading, because we must multiply it by the hundreds of thousands of victims of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs, by the millions of victims here and everywhere if we do not find the way to banish the specter of atomic war.

We know that all progress has meant that some must be sacrificed for the welfare of mankind. But how can we reconcile ourselves to "accidents" and sacrifices made in the process of planning the destruction of millions?

This book is a powerful weapon in bringing home to the American people their continuing responsibility in making sure that the bright promise of Geneva in both the Four Power and the Atoms for Peace conferences—is fulfilled, and that the pressure for peace shall grow and strengthen until agreement is reached that atomic and hydrogen bombs will nevermore be made or tested or used, and the glorious potentialities of the atom are harnessed only for the enrichment of mankind in a world without war.

JESSICA SMITH

The Role of Capitalism In China Today

STATE CAPITALISM IN CHINA, by Chien Chia-Chu. *Published by the Far East Reporter, New York, 1955, 16 pp., 15c.*

FEW AMERICANS know that capitalists not only function and operate their enterprises in People's China but that they are represented in the Government.

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