

JANUARY, 1961

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New World

REVIEW

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US - USSR CULTURAL EXCHANGE**

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For Peace in 1961!

by JESSICA SMITH

TO ALL of our readers—a happy New Year! May it bring us closer to the great goal of peace and friendship among the nations. May it bring us new strength *to fight for and win a new world without war.*

This is our supreme task. We cannot stand on the sidelines and wait and see what the new Administration will do. We must, by our actions, determine what its policies will be. The extent to which the people speak out for peace in these days that remain before the inauguration and in the "first hundred days" of President-elect Kennedy's tenure, can have a decisive effect on the future of the world, the survival of mankind.

Many groups throughout the country are demonstrating for peace. Peace marches are under way. Young men and women are protesting the launching of the new nuclear-armed submarines. The Quakers are organizing "Acts for Peace" centers to help mobilize people in every neighborhood "to work steadily, day after day, for as long as necessary to change the direction of the community away from war toward peace." The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom calls upon the President-elect "for creative and dynamic leadership in international affairs which will lead to eventual world disarmament." SANE groups are calling on Mr. Kennedy for steps toward disarmament, ending of nuclear weapons tests and progressive disengagement.

Our great hope and great necessity lies in finding a way to bring together in some organized manner the millions of people throughout our country whose sentiments are for peace and East-West accommodation so that there may be a more unified and effective expression of their demands.

There is so much to be done!

Powerful forces in our government are resisting disarmament and urging resumption of nuclear weapons tests, upholding the old order and fighting the new in the Congo, Cuba, Laos, Algeria and elsewhere, seeing to it that our arms spending is constantly increasing, expanding our military bases around the globe, building up the armed might of West Germany and Japan.

Now plans are afoot for making NATO a fourth nuclear power, thus arming U.S. allies in Europe with nuclear weapons. This, in effect, means the nuclear arming of West Germany, mainstay of NATO's armed forces. West Germany has contributed seven divisions, more than any other power, to the 21 Allied divisions in Europe. Gen. Hans Speidel, formerly head of the Nazi General Staff, is head of NATO ground forces. On December 13 Gen. Adolf Heusinger, Hitler's Chief of Operations in World War II, was named head of the permanent military and policy planning group of NATO.

The nuclear rearming of NATO would include putting at its dispos-

al the Polaris submarines whose stationing at bases in Scotland has already raised such a furore among the British people.

The presence of Vice President-elect Lyndon Johnson at the recent NATO Parliamentarians' meeting where the U.S. proposal was discussed and his comments that the organization would "continue to increase its strength" gave no indication that the new Administration will oppose the plan.

With Adlai Stevenson as our Ambassador to the United Nations, and Governor Mennen Williams and Chester Bowles in the State Department, some see indications of a new trend in foreign affairs, even though these men are not in top policy-making positions. But the appointments made by Kennedy in themselves offer no guarantee of a change in our country's militarist policies. *Only the people can bring that change about.* It is on them and on the peace forces of the world that our confidence is placed for a new trend toward peace in the New Year.

The Moscow Statement on Peaceful Coexistence

The war camp has placed its hopes on a split between the Soviet Union and China. These hopes have been dashed by the statement which resulted from the meeting of 81 Communist Parties for several weeks in Moscow, where whatever differences exist between the Soviet Union and China and other parties were given the most thorough examination, and a united stand for peaceful coexistence agreed upon.

The conference agreed unreservedly that "The Communist Par-

ties regard the fight for peace as their main task," and that "The foreign policy of the socialist countries rests on the firm foundation of the Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence and economic competition between socialist and capitalist countries."

This does not mean that there are and will be no differences in the socialist camp, especially between such great countries as the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic, with their different histories and problems. The main thing is that their common concern for the development of socialism under the most favorable possible conditions and for the peace of the world transcends these differences.

It is natural that the Chinese, with U.S. armed forces on their own territory supporting Chiang Kai-shek, long since thrown out by the Chinese people, deprived of their rightful seat in the United Nations, refused recognition by the United States Government, should have a less hopeful attitude toward negotiations with the West and toward the possibility of avoiding war than the Soviet Union. This attitude can best be changed by a new policy on the part of the United States.

The all-important point, however, is China's full agreement, as set forth in this statement, with the policy of peaceful coexistence and the possibility of ending war for all time.

It is this that holds out the possibility for East-West accommodation in the struggle between two social systems that divides mankind today, if the peace forces of the world, and especially of our own country, will

but do their part to bring it about.

We cannot here attempt to analyze the whole statement. It was printed in full, from a text provided by Tass, the Soviet News Agency, in the *New York Times* for December 7, and no doubt will be available for all who wish to study it in various publications. We shall simply quote a few statements that point the way to the opportunities for the Kennedy Administration to blaze a new trail in U.S. foreign policy.

Declaring that "the problem of war and peace is the most burning problem of our time," the statement calls for greater joint action for all concerned with peace "to prevent war and assure a peaceful life for people."

It spells out the horrors of war, the death and suffering it would bring to hundreds of millions of people. Flaying the warlike policies of imperialism, and especially of the United States, it says that "as long as imperialism exists there will be soil for wars of aggression." Nevertheless, Premier Khrushchev's statement that "war is not fatally inevitable" is repeated, and the conviction expressed that the peace forces of the world can stop it. Noting the great sections of the world favoring peaceful coexistence—the socialist and neutral countries, the national liberation movements, the world peace movement—it holds out hope of fruitful East-West negotiations in adding:

The policy of peaceful coexistence is also favored by a definite section of the bourgeoisie of the developed capitalist countries, which takes a sober view of the relationship of forces and of the dire consequences of modern war.

The tasks which the Communists consider of first necessity for the safeguarding of peace, are outlined as follows:

. . . To stop the arms race, ban nuclear weapons, their tests and production, dismantle foreign war bases and withdraw troops from other countries, disband military blocs, conclude a peace treaty with Germany, turn West Berlin into a demilitarized free city, thwart the aggressive designs of the West German revanchists and prevent the revival of Japanese militarism. . . .

. . . By upholding the principle of peaceful coexistence, Communists fight for the complete cessation of the cold war, dismantling of military bases, for general and complete disarmament under international control, the settlement of international disputes through negotiation, respect for the equality of states and their territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, extensive development of trade, cultural and scientific ties between nations.

Special stress is laid on the importance to mankind of the implementation of the program for general and complete disarmament, put forward by the Soviet Union. Despite the "resistance of aggressive circles," confidence is expressed that through a determined struggle *it is possible to force an agreement on general disarmament*. In this struggle it must be shown that the arms race is not a war deterrent, does not make for a high degree of employment and well-being of the population, but leads to war. Thus it is necessary in each country—

. . . to promote a broad mass movement for the use of the funds and resources released through disarmament for the needs of civilian production housing, health, public education, social security, scientific research, etc.

Declaring that with the necessary

struggle, the peace zone of the world will further expand, the statement makes the following declaration on the aims of the Communist Parties:

In these conditions a real possibility will have arisen to exclude war from the life of society even before socialism achieves complete victory on earth, with capitalism still existing in part of the world. The victory of socialism all over the world will completely remove the social and national causes of war. . . .

The Communists regard it as their historical mission not only to abolish exploitation and poverty on a world scale and rule out for all time the possibility of any kind of war in the life of human society, but also to deliver mankind from the nightmare of a new world war already in our time.

It is important for peace-loving people to note the affirmation that "ideological and political disputes between states must not be settled through war," and that the policy of peaceful coexistence strengthens the positions of socialism. The statement strongly refutes the allegation that Communists need wars between states to overthrow capitalism and establish the socialist system:

The fact that both world wars, which were started by the imperialists, ended in socialist revolutions by no means implies that the way to social revolution goes necessarily through world war, especially now that there exists a powerful world system of socialism.

On the question of peaceful transition to socialism, the Communist Parties declare that "The choice of their social system is the inalienable right of the people of each country." Socialist revolution cannot be imposed from without, nor should counter-revolution be so imposed; "Communists seek to achieve the socialist revolution by peaceful means."

They note that in a number of countries today the possibilities for such a democratic, peaceful transition exist, but that "in the event of the exploiting classes resorting to violence against the people, the possibility of non-peaceful transition should be borne in mind."

Again and again throughout the statement, the need is stressed for the unity of all peace forces, however they may differ in political, social or religious views, as the only way of insuring peace.

Following the statement of the Communist Parties, a manifesto was issued to the peoples of the world, calling for the widest possible unity in "a world-wide struggle in defense of peace, against the threat of a new world war."

We should also like to note the fact that the Presidential Committee of the World Council of Peace, which represents not only socialist and neutralist countries but individuals of varying political views all over the world, called on November 24 for a concerted effort for disarmament. It declared:

Our movement has always stood for disarmament, including the abolition of all nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. Others have directed their efforts to this end with no less energy and devotion. Surely the time has come when, despite all the different opinions we may hold on other matters, we all should meet and discuss in a frank and honest effort to reduce misunderstandings and discover how to concert our efforts to secure agreement of the governments.

In view of continued statements by the press and U.S. officials that the Soviet Union wants disarmament without control, it must be stressed again and again that the

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Soviet disarmament plan includes provisions for inspection from the first stages. It is significant that Premier Khrushchev took special pains to reiterate the readiness of the USSR to accept controls in an interview published in the Moscow *Pravda*, November 23. He declared:

At the Fifteenth Session of the United Nations General Assembly and since my return to Moscow, the Soviet Government has repeatedly pointed out that the Soviet Union is ready to accept the Western proposals on international control over the implementation of disarmament if the Western Powers, for their part, agree to carry out general and complete disarmament. It can be recalled that I declared at the General Assembly: If a decision is taken on general and complete disarmament, on the destruction of weapons, we shall then be ready to accept any control.

This strongly expressed position should dispose of the most frequently expressed objection of those who resist disarmament agreement.

THE working together for common aims of all who care for peace is indeed the most vital problem of our times. To carry over into the peace movement the anti-Communism that is at the basis of the cold war is to vitiate the work for peace and negate its very purposes.

We submit that the main peace points in the Moscow statement are issues with which all con-

cerned with peace can agree, however they may differ on specific details: Ending the cold war and the arms race, banning nuclear weapons and their tests, complete disarmament which necessarily involves disbanding of military blocs and dismantling of military bases and withdrawing of all troops from foreign territory.

There are many among the peace forces who oppose the aims of the Communist Parties, who will not agree with them that the socialist form of society will inevitably be victorious and that only through such a society can wars forever be ended.

The heart of the matter is that the Communists, as stressed in their statement, believe in peace, work for peace and consider peace essential to their aims. This is the basis for peaceful coexistence and peaceful competition. War cannot decide the superiority of any social system. Nuclear war could be a disaster to all mankind, to all human aims. Only in peace can what a system will do for its people be truly tested. Let this challenge therefore be accepted, let all nations, all states work out their problems so that the people of the world will not die by millions—but live to build a new world of their own choosing—a world without war.

People on One Planet

THREE YEARS OF US-USSR CULTURAL EXCHANGE

by MURRAY YOUNG

HARD upon the orbiting of Sputnik the first official cultural exchange program between the governments of the United States and the Soviet Union was signed. This agreement covered the years 1958 and 1959. Subsequently a second program was agreed upon for 1960 and 1961.

These three years of official exchanges have been of the greatest profit to both our countries; scientists in many fields have met and discussed research, farmers have exchanged experiences, teachers questioned each other, doctors compared methods, athletes matched skills, writers talked over mutual problems, students shared classrooms, musicians, singers, dancers won the warmest applause from wide audiences in the two countries. And best of all, with the revival of tourism, ordinary Americans and Russians—dwellers on the same planet—have sat down together to discuss their common problems.

Thus, with official sanction, the contrived barriers of the Cold War have been in part removed—communication on a variety of levels has been re-established. Not of course that today communication can ever be wholly cut, but it can be gravely hampered, tragically slowing down the whole process of growth and expansion in this era of swift scientific advances in every field.

Dr. I. I. Rabi, professor of physics

at Columbia University and a Nobel Prize winner, writing on this point in the August, 1960, issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, condemns the costly secrecy that has too long shrouded scientific research and welcomes the renewal of scientific interchange:

These contacts between scientists have led to an important amount of declassification of scientific and technical information. This declassification has not only enlarged the area of fruitful exchange of information with the East and with our allies, but has also accelerated our own program because it has made possible a freer flow of information.

An example of the needless confusion that can arise in specific fields if communication is restricted was indicated clearly by the general surprise expressed at the Pavlovian Conference on Higher Nervous Activity held in New York early this past fall, when it became obvious that American and Soviet researchers had for a long time been working along the same lines. According to the *New York Times*, September 10:

Sharp differences that many persons had assumed to exist between Western and Soviet ideas about brain function and behavior all but vanished during the three-day meeting. Reviews of recent research and reports of new findings by the six Soviet delegates to the conference and by several leading American scientists in this field frequently ran remarkably parallel to one another.

This conference was the first in this country ever devoted exclusively to the school of psychology founded

by the great Russian scientist Ivan Pavlov. Some 1,200 American psychologists, physiologists, neurologists and other researchers interested in the brain and human behavior attended. It was held under the joint sponsorship of the New York Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR; the executive director of the American organization was quoted as saying that "ten years ago, we couldn't have gotten 200 out to a meeting on Pavlov."

Similarly the visit here last spring by the distinguished Soviet Pavlovian psychologist A. R. Lurie,* under the sponsorship of two American medical foundations, aroused great interest in the cities in which he lectured.

One of the little-known areas where there has been continual co-operation between the scientists of the two countries is in the Antarctic where both have large-scale research projects. In a story from McMurdo Sound, Antarctica, that appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, November 22, the reporter points out:

U.S. scientists are not alone here; other nations, principally the Soviet Union, are pushing projects similar to our own with equal vigor. Surprisingly the U.S. and Russian programs are more cooperative than competitive. Neither the U.S. nor the Soviet, in fact, ever has made territorial claims in Antarctica and both refuse to recognize the claims of other lands. Scientists of all nations here insist they have only one objective: to add to man's knowledge of the world he inhabits.

It is of course the 12-nation agreement negotiated in 1959 that forbids all territorial claims in the

Antarctic and sets aside the entire continent for non-military scientific research that makes possible the co-operation between the two countries' project. Both the U.S. and the USSR are signatories to the agreement which was ironically hailed at the time of its announcement as guaranteeing "peace to the penguins."

MEDICAL research, so immediately related to all of us, has particularly profited from wider international exchange. Apart from important visits exchanged between researchers in various medical fields, one of the most significant achievements of co-operation in medicine was the mass vaccination in the Soviet Union with the anti-polio vaccine developed by Dr. Sabin of Cleveland that has established this new, less expensive, and reputedly more reliable method of immunization. The lives of millions of the world's children have thus been saved.

In cancer research the visit here last September of five Soviet specialists headed by Dr. Blokhin, director of the Institute of Medical Science, is to be followed this May by a group of American scientists visiting Soviet cancer research institutes. These visits are to be followed—and this is the important move forward—by exchanges of six months or more by four Soviet and four American researchers who are to work in each other's laboratories.

Two meetings held late this fall are of special interest since they were addressed to wider problems than those ordinarily considered in meetings of specialists.

At Dartmouth College a week's

* An article by Prof. Luria on the teaching of retarded and handicapped children in the Soviet Union appeared in the June 1958 issue of NWR.

discussion was organized by Norman Cousins, editor of *The Saturday Review*, on the whole problem of cold war tensions. The Americans attending included George F. Kennan, former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Arthur Larson, former special assistant to President Eisenhower and former Senator William Benton. A group of distinguished Soviet citizens came to this country to take part in the discussion—Aleksandr Korneichuk, playwright and member of the Supreme Soviet, Prof. Zoya Pushkareva, chemist and also member of the Supreme Soviet, Boris Polevoy, writer, Prof. V. M. Chkhivadze, legal scholar, Aleksandr Karev, general secretary of the Baptist movement in the USSR, Prof. I. G. Lagunova, radiation expert, V. I. Muradeli, composer, Prof. M. I. Rubinshtein, economist, and Sergei Yukevich, movie producer.

A joint statement issued at the conclusion of the week's meeting said that the conferees had "concluded that unofficial gatherings can contribute substantially to mutual understanding and decided to organize a similar meeting on United States-Soviet relations in the near future." Persons participating in the discussion on both sides spoke enthusiastically of the friendly atmosphere throughout the conference.

The other meeting was held in Moscow early in December. Twenty-five American scientists and scholars, under the auspices of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, attended the conference which met to consider "the implications of science for the future of mankind" and the "technical problems involving world security and world peace." This conference was the sixth of the

"Pugwash" conferences, thus named because the first was held on the estate of Cyrus S. Eaton in Pugwash, Nova Scotia in July 1957.

Dr. Paul M. Doty of Harvard University, head of the American delegation, said at the conclusion of the conference that the "channel of communications had been perceptibly broadened." The final statement issued by the conference said that there had been agreement on the broad question of the urgent need for ending world tensions, controlling nuclear weapons and eventually reaching world-wide agreement on disarmament.

"BOTH parties will encourage exchange as may be agreed between them of delegations representing organizations devoted to friendship and cultural ties; labor, youth, and other non-government organizations." This significant expansion of the original agreement, added in the 1960-61 program, accounts for the holding of the two conferences just listed, as it does for the various trade union groups who visited the USSR last year. It has also encouraged other groups to initiate visits and conferences.

In October a preparatory meeting was called in Moscow for the World Youth Forum to be held in that city in July of this year on the theme, "The Younger Generation of the Mid-20th Century and Its Problems." There were delegations from some forty countries including the United States participating in drawing up plans for the July meeting, to discuss the following topics:

1. The Young Generation, mutual understanding, cooperation and peaceful coexistence.

2. The Young Generation, the struggle against colonialism and imperialism and for national independence and the problems of peace.
3. The Young Generation and disarmament.
4. The Young Generation, its rights and obligations in society.
5. The Young Generation and progress.

Setting up an International Forum Fund to which organizations and individuals can contribute, the preliminary meeting called upon the young people of the world to help in every way to make the Forum "the deepest expression of the aspirations of the younger generation."

Brooks Atkinson, former dramatic critic of *The New York Times*, writing in that paper, November 22, on cultural exchange, expressed an opinion with which very few people surely would disagree:

Since Russians and Americans are anxious to get on together, the reciprocal civilities in the field of music may have a fervor beyond the precise quality of the music. In both countries the enthusiasm for Richter and Cliburn respectively also expresses a longing for peace. The program of cultural exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union reaffirms something already known: that the Russians and Americans are decent people.

Premier Khrushchev, drinking toasts to the dancers of the American Ballet Company at the party he gave for them after the last performance of their successful tour of several Soviet cities last fall, spoke for the whole Soviet people who have welcomed all our dancers and musicians and singers with boundless warmth and friendship. Similarly the unprecedented enthusiasm for the great Soviet pianist Sviatoslav Richter in this country is only

the most recent of the many richly rewarding musical experiences in recent years for which we have to thank the brilliant Soviet musicians.

And best of news for us is the recent announcement that the high-leaping, inexhaustible, rhythmically intoxicating Moissejev dancers are to return this spring for another tour around our country.

A 40-kopek stamp went on sale last month in the Soviet Union bearing the images of three Americans—Mark Twain, Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn. This stamp was issued in honor of the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mark Twain, whose books in the course of 43 years have been sold in the Soviet Union, in 26 languages, to the number of 12,309,000 copies.

These three Americans (for can one think of Tom and Huck as anything other than *real* persons?) are known and loved throughout the Soviet Union. They are a part of the "decency" Mr. Atkinson says we Russians and Americans share.

And share it we do—with all the other people of our planet who long for peace, for a future in which our dreams for ourselves and our children can be fully realized. A future whose radiant colors science each day more clearly holds before us, if together we determine that peace prevail, that coexistence, co-operation and friendship become the rule among men and nations.

The cultural exchange program has as its noble aim the restoration of that full dialogue among men through which they come to understand the world in which they live. The program's accomplishments over the past three years have brought hope to us all.

The Tolstoy Anniversary

by RALPH PARKER

ONE OF the major pleasures provided to the foreigner resident in Russia is the result of the Soviet people's reverence for the great figures with which 19th century Russia embellished the history of world literature. I know no other land where so much is done to preserve the relics of the great masters of verse and prose, and in a way that makes it quite easy to transplant oneself in the imagination to the surroundings in which these men lived and worked.

In the case of Leo Tolstoy, that Mount Everest of novelists, a pilgrimage into the past is specially rewarding. Visiting Yasnaya Polyana, the country estate so intimately associated with the writer, one is captivated not only by the natural beauty of birch grove and avenues of elm and ash but by the words of Tolstoy describing that beauty and which seem to spring out from nature and float in the air.

We drove the 100 miles from Moscow through a snow blizzard, but after the ancient city of Tula the weather improved and the grey sky was patterned with those blue patches which the French call "police-men's trousers." The fields and woods were clothed in that most immaculate of all new garments—

fresh-fallen snow. We had noticed the name of Tolstoy several times in Tula that Sunday morning: notices of a public meeting, advertisements of a film of one of his short stories, theater bills announcing a performance of his play *The Living Corpse*. But at Yasnaya Polyana there was no need to announce Leo Tolstoy. The only notices are those bearing the word "Silence" and it was in silence that we approached the simple grave.

Fifty years ago on a day of public mourning a mile-long procession had followed the coffin. And only yesterday, seated between delegates from India and Pakistan, I had watched a moving picture record of that procession, had re-read the banner the local villagers carried bearing the words: "Leo Nikolayevich, the memory of your goodness will never be forgotten amongst us orphaned peasants," had shed a tear or two as the screen depicted burly Russian peasants in sheepskins and long boots dashing away their own tears with clumsy mittens.

In a secluded glade we found the last resting place of Leo Tolstoy. The mound was buried in wreaths—from local school children and, somewhat ironically, from workers in the local arms and ammunition factories, from Soviet writers' organizations and from foreign disciples, including men who had known the man whose name springs to mind whenever that of Tolstoy is mentioned—Gandhi.

RALPH PARKER, our Moscow correspondent, has lived in the USSR for almost two decades. He is also Moscow correspondent for the British weekly *New Statesman*, *The Times* of India and other publications.

Millions of pilgrims had preceded us during the fifty years that had passed since Tolstoy's remains were laid to rest under the birch trees. Many too made the journey to Yasnaya Polyana while the great man was alive. Tolstoy's rugged, furrowed face, with its deep-set, penetrating eyes, its white locks and untidy beard was famous throughout the world. From all parts of Russia, in the writer's later years when, in his own words, the state of his soul was "serious and strict" and when serenity had become "the most precious thing," visitors had flocked to Yasnaya Polyana to wait their turn below the spreading oak tree which is today preserved as carefully as any relic inside the house itself.

There were those who wished to consult him about how to disencumber themselves of their property; those who wished to play to him, to dance for him, to paint his portrait, to sculpt his noble head; to beg alms or to offer him hundreds of thousands of rubles for the publishing rights of works he had already decided to make public property; to abuse him as well as to praise him; to beg him to return to the Orthodox Church or to offer to join his own personal faith.

But now on this Sunday morning the hundreds who accompanied us on our pilgrimage had but a single aim—to pay homage to the memory of Tolstoy.

He would probably not have approved, had he known the 50th anniversary of his death was being commemorated at meetings as informal as ours at his graveside or as formal as that which had been held in the Bolshoy Theater in Moscow on the previous evening, attended by

the Communist leaders. He had begged his friends not to organize the celebrations for his jubilee planned for his 80th birthday. Moreover, the Tsarist Government took precautions to suppress all public manifestations on that occasion. But, however much a man can be master of his fate while he lives, no man can shape the destiny of the treasure he leaves behind him.

How deeply moving it was to enter the low-vaulted room in which Tolstoy had penned his *War and Peace*; to stand beside the desk and look up at the reproductions from Raphael's paintings at which the Grand Old Man of Europe must have gazed so often as he sought for a phrase; to thumb through the pages of books he must have read. Even the shooting-stick he carried when he went into the woods, the characteristic floppy straw hat he wore in the summer, even the handtowels he used, his tooth-brush, are left in place. And in the passage the tall English grandfather clock still ticks. It has only stopped once since Tolstoy died—when the German invaders broke into the house in 1941.

But for those who knew the last lines in the tragedy of Tolstoy's later years the most moving experience of all is to retrace the old man's steps on that terrible night when he left Yasnaya Polyana for the last time. For long Tolstoy had been struggling with the idea of leaving his hysterical wife, the Countess Tolstoy, who had been fighting her husband over the question of his copyrights which he was determined to waive in the public interest. One night, at 3 a.m., the 82-year-old man was awakened by the Countess searching among his papers. When

she had left the room, Leo Tolstoy finally decided that life at Yasnaya Polyana had become unbearable. Quietly getting up, he dressed, roused his daughter Alexandra and his personal doctor and while they packed a few necessities for him, wrote a farewell letter to his wife. By six he was ready to leave.

We followed the path along which the old man had stumbled in the dark as he made his way to the stables to have the horses harnessed. There were the thickets into which he strayed, fell, and lost his cap. And there was the path along which he drove away from Yasnaya Polyana to the station from where in an over-crowded train he traveled to the convent where his sister was living.

Eight days later he died in the tiny village of Astapova, lying in a simple iron bedstead in the cottage of the station master. His last words were: "I do not understand what I have to do." He was buried at Yasnaya Polyana two days later, the

coffin having been carried by his four sons.

Death, however, seems very far away when one visits Yasnaya Polyana today. Perhaps that is due to nature. The trees Tolstoy planted are now old and noble but anyone who remembers Tolstoy's descriptions of nature keeps finding scenes and landscapes that have a familiar, living look.

Moreover, the people one meets filing through the house in reverent silence are the grandchildren of those who mourned his passing, and how often one recalls a "Tolstoyan" character when one looks at them hard. Chekhov wrote that the people who would compile reminiscences of Tolstoy would lie. But it is not on reminiscences of Leo Tolstoy, of a life full of contradictions, that people found their respect for his memory; it is on his published works, and they are read in millions of copies in all the languages of the Soviet Union, indeed, in probably all languages of the world.

Rockwell Kent Speaks at Tolstoy Commemoration

"Sally and I didn't really see the exhibition of my pictures; the invited crowd was so dense at the opening and there was so much going on in the way of speeches by me and others, and news reel and television takings that no one could see the pictures; and throughout our following days in Moscow lines of people waiting to get in stretched around the block. We were advised to not even attempt to enter. The opening day, from the morning we arrived back in Moscow from Leningrad to long after midnight was literally frantic with activity for us.

"Its high point (for me) was speaking in the Bolshoy Theater at the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Tolstoy's death. Though my speech was short, I was the only speaker besides the Russian Tolstoy authority, the distinguished novelist Leonid Leonov. I followed him and was generously applauded."

Extract from a letter to NWR

Rockwell Kent's Gift

For Friendship and Peace

ROCKWELL KENT, distinguished artist, writer and peace leader, Chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, and, we are proud to say, a frequent contributor to our pages, has donated his collection of his own work to the Soviet Union, where it was received with joy and much public acclaim. The collection includes 80 paintings, more than 800 drawings, lithographs and wood carvings.

In offering his collection as a gift to the Soviet people, Mr. Kent addressed a letter to Mme. Nina Popova, Chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, which said in part:

"Three years ago, at your invitation, my work as an artist was given the signal honor of being invited for exhibition in the Soviet Union. Shown in several of your cities, it roused such widespread public interest as certainly has never been accorded the work of an American artist in his own land. Committed to a people's art—an art concerned, as such an art must be, with the realities of life as people in general understand them—that recognition was, for me, a profoundly heartening event and, as this letter will reveal, an experience never to be forgotten. . . . My art sought for understanding, it appealed for friends. That understanding and those friends your peo-

ple brought me. They are to that extent—as all mankind in essence is—my people and my friends. All art belongs of right to those who love it most.

" . . . I presume, therefore, to offer all that remains to me of my life's work to the Soviet people as a prize for, perhaps, the greatest peace act of all history: their call before the United Nations for complete and lasting world disarmament."

In her reply Mme. Popova wrote:

"It is with joy that we have learned of your decision to make a gift to the Soviet people of paintings, drawings, prints and books created by you. . . .

"Soviet people know and love your art. More than 500,000 people attended the exhibition of your works in Moscow, Leningrad and in other cities of our country. The film on your art **which has been made in the U.S.S.R.** has been a success throughout our country. Your work will be honored in Soviet museums.

"We appreciate your gift not only as evidence of your great personal friendship towards our people, but also of your desire to strengthen further friendship and understanding between our peoples; as evidence of the fact that more and more progressive people in the United States raise their voices for peaceful co-existence, for cooperation and friendship between our countries."

The presentation ceremony of

Rockwell Kent's paintings to the Soviet people was held in the Ministry of Culture of the U.S.S.R. on November 16. At a press conference, Mr. Kent made the following statement:

"When, some months ago, I informed certain of my friends of my intended gift to the Soviet people, I was asked a number of questions some of which may come to the minds of my countrymen upon the gift's announcement.

"Since I have chosen to give my work away, why didn't I give it to the American people, or ask an American museum to be its custodian?

"My answer is that, seven years ago, I did. Feeling warm attachment to the peoples of the Maine coast, with whom I had spent some of the best years of my youth, I offered the entire collection to the richly endowed Farnsworth Museum in Rockland, Maine. It was accepted, eagerly, the Director assuring me that a special wing would be added to the Museum to house the collection. It happened, however, that I was then summoned before the notorious McCarthy Committee in Washington in the course of its investigation of the politics of authors whose works were in the American libraries officially established abroad. Holding the Committee's questions as to my political beliefs to be impertinent, I refused to answer them. The Farnsworth Museum promptly rejected my gift. This incident is told about in my autobiography; and had other American museums been interested in receiving the gift it may, I believe, be assumed that they would have informed me. Incidentally, in consequence of the investigation, all my

books, together with the books of other American authors in the overseas libraries, were ordered to be destroyed. I can only hope that the American people, who have often shown their liking for my work as a painter, realizing that their access to it is hindered by institutional and governmental control, will understand the compelling motives of my gift.

"Undoubtedly the most unusual feature of the transfer of my work to the people of a foreign country is the fact that no financial remuneration is involved. Had I sold my work my 'good fortune' might well have won me the congratulations of artists and of people in general. To this the reasons for my gift, as stated in my letter tendering it, are sufficient answer. The respect and even affection in which my pictures will be held by millions of people happen to be more to me than money.

"Actually, most of my life's work is in America—unhappily, in private hands and subject to the risks of deterioration or destruction that private ownership makes inevitable.

"Aware as an American—and, as I believe, the people of all the world should be, of our debt to the Soviet people for, to state it in one word, Stalingrad, this gift is but a token of my gratitude—my one regret being, as I have stated in my letter, that though it is all of consequence that I have to give, it is yet pitifully small."

The press conference was attended by Soviet and foreign correspondents. In conclusion Andrei Kuznetsov, Deputy Minister of Culture, thanked Rockwell Kent for his wonderful gift on behalf of the Soviet

people and wished him a long and happy life full of creative successes.

On November 19 an exhibition of the Kent collection was opened at the Academy of Fine Arts in Moscow, attended by many cultural and public figures, who greeted Mr. Kent and his wife Sally with a prolonged ovation.

In connection with presentation and the exhibition, Premier Khrushchev sent the following message:

"Dear Mr. Kent,

"With feelings of warm sympathy I have learned of your noble decision to present to the Soviet people a collection of your works, a result of many years of creative effort. The

motives which guided you arouse sincere and profound respect, they are understandable and near to the Soviet people who highly value every step taken in the struggle for world peace.

"I am firmly convinced that these motives will be correctly understood by the American people as well, for your gift is a step along the road of strengthening friendship and understanding between the peoples of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A.

"With all my heart I wish you many years of good health and new creative accomplishments in your noble activities in the name of happiness and justice on our planet."

N. KHRUSHCHEV

PAUL ROBESON IN AUSTRALIA

Melbourne

PAUL ROBESON, previously only known here through recordings and films, is tops and his voice "as good as ever" according to Aussie opinion.

Robeson, touring Down Under and New Zealand, has already given one concert in Brisbane and four in Sydney. He is giving three here, then does two in Adelaide and two in Perth. He's playing to capacity or near-capacity houses.

At his Melbourne debut last week he got the cheer treatment—even before beginning his recital. These demonstrations are usually reserved here for teenage warblers. A large percentage of the capacity audience in the huge Melbourne Town Hall was made up of older age groups.

Robeson, with great ease, goes through Beethoven, Schubert, Negro spirituals, quotes poetry and gives an excerpt from *Othello*. Interspersed are references to "peace," "injustices," "brothers under the skin" etc., which gain much applause—for it is applause for a great and superb artist.

At one point in last week's performance Robeson said he had been made "an honorary member of the Wharfies Association." This was in reference to a current strike here of wharf workers and the public's sympathy is definitely not with them. Yet this statement too, said half jocularly, half seriously, received wild applause.

Robeson says he hopes to be back Down Under next year and appear with an Aussie cast in a production of *Othello*.

Variety, November 30

POLISH VARIETY ARTISTS TOUR THE U.S.

STEFAN WIECHECKI, famous Polish writer and actor, has been appearing before Polish speaking audiences in the United States recently. Appearing with him is the well-known interpreter of popular songs, Renata Rolska.

Mr. Wiechecki's sketches are based upon the colorful slang and satirical humor of Warsaw and its environs. He frequently publishes articles in the Polish press. Miss Rolska, in addition to performing in Polish concert halls, has toured in Rumania and the USSR.

91 Panama Canals!

WATER CONTROL IN A CHINESE PROVINCE

by ANNA LOUISE STRONG

ANWHEI Province lies off the main travel routes of the North China Plain. Surely the world's most spectacular ditch-digging feat is the canal system of North Anwhei dug by its peasants. Anwhei peasants claim to have made earth-removals in eleven years amounting to 14,500,000,000 cubic meters, equal, they say, to 91 Panama Canals! Or, to put it another way, the earth removals would make a dike a meter high and a meter wide 363 times around the earth!

I went to Anwhei to look into this gigantic ditch-digging. We came by a bumpy plane from Shanghai to the provincial capital Hofei, a city whose small, tight center has burst on all sides into sprawling housing developments, factories and universities. A few wide streets driven across the ancient city are flanked by good department stores and well-built banks. They lead at one end to an imposing provincial museum in a small park on a hill.

We were established in an elegant guest house, in another park.

Here the mayor came and told us that Hofei had grown in eleven years from a run-down provincial town of 50,000 to its present 570,000

population. While it still lacks good, through rail connections with Shanghai or Peking, the city grew eleven-fold on the basis of the booming agriculture and new industrial growth of Anwhei Province.

Later the First Party Secretary of Anwhei gave us a brief history of the province. For generations it has been a poor area, its northern half especially being a "calamity region" from which year after year hordes of peasants, dispossessed by flood or drought, went into other provinces to sell their children and to beg. Water control has been its serious problem. Two great rivers cross the province, the Yangtze and the Hwai, both prone to flood. The Hwai has recorded 980 serious floods in the past 2,000 years.

Floods grew worse after 1938 because Chiang Kai-shek broke the Yellow River dike above Chengchow "to halt the Japanese" and succeeded only in flooding out millions of Chinese peasants, of whom many drowned and the rest were made homeless. The uncontrolled Yellow River waters flooded the Hwai system and flowed with the Hwai for nine years, raising its bed with silt, clogging its outlets and the mouths of its tributaries and ruining the entire drainage system. From that time, floods became annual and serious. In July 1950, the summer after Liberation, a flood inundated 4.88 million acres and was declared a national emergency.

Thus the taming of the Hwai be-

ANNA LOUISE STRONG, world famous correspondent and author of many books on the USSR, China and our own country, has been visiting in China for over a year. Last summer she visited Tibet with a group of correspondents, among whom she was the only American—and the only woman.

came a first general priority. Experts from all China were summoned to confer in Peking. Emergency relief went to the peasants, emergency flood control measures were devised and a long range plan was begun for permanent water control in the entire Hwai Basin. A few years later, the Hwai River Project, seen by foreign delegates to the Peace Congress of Asian and Pacific Regions, became famous abroad.

The Anwhei peasants are proud of their revolutionary tradition, which began in 1925 in the united front of Kuomintang and Communists. When the first revolution was broken by Chiang Kai-shek's betrayal in 1927, Anwhei Communists set up a base in the Tapiieh Mountains where they had state power and a Red Army; this later went on the Long March to the Northwest. In the anti-Japanese war the famous New Fourth Army was based on Anwhei. After Japan's surrender, Anwhei was evacuated under the truce arranged by General George C. Marshall between Chiang and the Communists. Chiang broke the truce and so persecuted Anwhei peasants that new revolutionary forces developed; by 1947 part of Anwhei was included in a "Liberated Area" and again maintained state power until it merged in the wider Liberation of all China in 1948-49.

The Anwhei people's land reform took place in 1950; their Mutual Aid Teams, spread all over the province by 1952. From 1952 to 1957 the agricultural cooperatives grew and prospered until they contained 97.1 per cent of all farming households. In eight months of 1958 the Anwhei peasants organized into communes 99.87 per cent of all the farming

population of Anwhei, whose total population was 33,500,000, still almost entirely agricultural at that date.

With the communes began the really spectacular feats of Anwhei in agriculture, industrial growth and especially in water control. By 1957 the central government of China, the provincial government of Anwhei and the local organizations of peasants were all taking a hand in the planning of water control. The experiments of the peasants finally corrected the views of the experts and introduced a new technique.

From 1950 to 1952, the reclamation work consisted largely in repairing dikes, dredging the silt-clogged riverbed and the outlets, and building reservoirs in the upper waters of some of the main tributaries, as well as a big lake detention basin adjoining the Hwai itself to absorb seasonal overflow.

As the province gained experience, the scale of construction grew. The first big mountain reservoir, Futsolin, was finished in 1954 and had 500 million cubic meters capacity. The second reservoir, finished in 1956, is four times larger. The third, finished in 1958, is even bigger. Within ten years, Anwhei Province built 39 big and medium reservoirs, 3,518 small ones.

One notes especially that the Lungkoko Dam, finished this past summer was done by a single county in about two years. The peasants of Hsuchen County launched it in 1958 as part of the Big Leap, largely with county funds, with some help from the province and with labor done by the communes of the county. Its construction is more primitive and

much cheaper than Futsolin's, being earthwork instead of reinforced concrete. But it is a strong, adequate dam with a reservoir of 750 million cubic meters capacity. Thus a dam that in 1954 seemed worth noting in the world's press as an achievement of China's central government is now surpassed by the work of a single county and this achievement is hardly noticed except by the Anhwei provincial newspapers. This characterizes China's growth.

Anhui Province today classifies her cultivated lands under four heads with respect to water control. Half of its acres lie north of the Hwai River, in the great plain known as Hwaipei. South of the Hwai and north of the Yangtze lies the rolling country of Central Anhui that rises westward into the Taping Mountains. There is the area of the mountains south of the Yangtze, and a further area lies in lowlands along the Yangtze River, lower than the river itself at high water. Each of these areas presents a different problem and handles water control in a different manner.

Hwaipei, North of Hwai, is the part of Anhui which really earned the name "calamity area." A great plain, wide, flat, low-lying, it was easily swept by every major flood. But even after the Hwai River Project contained the floods, the calamities of drought and water-logging continued in Hwaipei.

"The usual rain of Hwaipei," explained the Water Control Chief, "is only some 30 inches annually, but most of it comes in midsummer. A single heavy July storm might deliver 15 inches in five days. After such a storm, Hwaipei's large flat plain would become water-logged;

there was no place for the water to run. But, once the water was gone, two weeks of midsummer sun could burn the land with drought. In 1959 we had 100 days of drought through the entire spring of the year.

"The engineers wrangled a good deal about it. The tradition was: 'Dike and drain.' If water was in excess, get rid of it. But later the water was wanted. For all the diking and draining, the township of Wo Ling Fu, for instance, in the upper part of Hwaipei, still got no decent crop nine out of ten years.

"So our present canal network really began with the township of Wo Ling Fu. As far as I know, they invented it. I never heard of it in any other country. In winter 1957-58, together with the adjacent Chenchu township, they began to dig canals to store the excess water for future use. This method is spreading now to other parts of the North China Plain in other provinces. After much argument, our engineers now consider the canal network the latest science for water-conservation."

The aims of the Canal Network were stated as follows:

- 1) Prevent floods and water-logging even if 15 inches fall in 5 days.
- 2) Give irrigation enough for even 70 days of drought.
- 3) Change dry farming to paddy fields which give four times the yield.
- 4) Give canal transport by steamer to every county and by small boat to every commune.
- 5) Provide fish and ducks for every township.
- 6) Provide a network of hydro-electric power.

The plan calls for a network of

canals of varying sizes over the entire area of Hwaipei. When finished, the canals and rivers will provide irrigation for all the land. There will be 12 major canals 200 feet wide, 150 canals of second and third size, and over 50,000 smaller canals; they will be connected by more than 30,000 dams and water-locks. The larger canals will give steamboat transport into the Hwai River, the Grand Canal and thence to other parts of China; eventually a canal connection is planned across all China from Peking south to Canton. Anwei's canals will be as productive as the land they displace, for they are being stocked with fish and ducks. It is estimated that half the land in Hwaipei can be converted to paddy fields, which produce four times the yield of dry land.

The best way to see the canal network is to fly over it. When I saw it thus, the waterways seemed already more frequent than the landways; new houses were growing up along canals and even from the plane I could see the clusters of white ducks.

The total network is expected to involve 9.6 billion cubic meters of earth removal, or, as they reckon it, "60 Panama canals."

We can only glance for a moment at the totally different plans for regulating the water supply to other parts of Anwei. In the mountain areas the small areas of cultivated land are widely scattered; their water supply is brought from the nearest mountain reservoir by the local commune itself. In the million acres of Yangtze lowlands which lie below the level of the river at high water, the method used is to surround large squares of land with dikes so that

water can be either pumped out or pumped in.

The hardest task is the bringing of adequate water to the rolling land of Central Anwei. It involves connecting the waters from all those reservoirs in the Tapih Mountains and carrying them by semi-circular canals along the watersheds from which they can drop to various parts of the lands below.

"This is over 80 per cent finished," they told me. "It will this year irrigate a million acres and next year, when the lower canals are finished, it will irrigate the rest." The Water Control Chief said that it is expected to bring water to all the 4,500,000 acres of rolling land in this manner; he thinks this is the largest irrigation project on rolling land anywhere in the world.

While the first high reservoirs were built by the central government and the province, the present irrigation networks are paid for by the local communes except for a small quantity of high quality cement and steel which the government supplies. The labor is all paid by the communes, except for a small number of supervisory engineers; they assign part of their labor force during the winter season when farm work is light.

What is the final gain to Anwei's people from all this ditch-digging?

First of all, Anwei farmers are securing a permanent and stable control of their water supply. Even the 100 day drought of spring of 1959, though it injured some areas, did not stop the steady advance of Anwei's harvesters. Her grain crop, which was 453 million bushels in 1957 and 586.7 million in 1958, grew

further to 641.6 million in 1959.

The growth in Anwhei's harvests is well above the average for China. China's agricultural output in 1959 was 2.7 times as high as in 1949, a phenomenal record. But Anwhei's increased more than fourfold.

The grain crop grew somewhat less than fourfold, but cotton grew almost eightfold. While grain per capita doubled in China in these years, in Anwhei it more than tripled, growing from 330 lbs. in 1949 to 1,100 lbs. in 1959.

Here is no place to mention the increase in Anwhei of education, and culture and means of health. Nor is there space to discuss the growth of Anwhei's industries, whose

output in 1959 was *sixteen times* that of 1949, though it is still small as compared with a modern industrial nation. But it may be relevant to note that in these years Anwhei's pigs have grown fivefold, somewhat more than her harvests, and that there are now 101,000 acres of peach trees, 70,000 acres of pear trees and 47,600 acres of apple trees which did not exist before. Five million acres of barren hills have been planted to forests, not to mention some ten billion trees sent by the nurseries to people's yards and to village and city parks and streets.

In all these ways the people of Anwhei build for a better future which all of them will share.

RURAL MEDICAL SERVICE IN CHINA

THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS of medical and health workers are flocking to the countryside, according to *Peking Review*, November 29. In the fields, on construction sites, in community kitchens, creches, and kindergartens, they are to be found right in the frontline, applying their skills and devoting their energies to the welfare and health of rural commune members. This is their support to the current nationwide support-agriculture campaign.

In Chekiang Province, over 20,000 such medical workers are making the rounds in countryside and mountainous areas. During the busy farming season, tents are pitched right in the fields where not only is treatment given to the sick and injured but classes are held on general hygiene.

Members of medical colleges too have gone out to the farms. Faculty members and students of the Shenyang Medical College have organized special teams to spread a knowledge of public hygiene and train medical and health workers in the countryside. On the basis of first-hand surveys and research they have written a book on public health in rural communes.

In many provinces, the medical workers going to the countryside extend the scope of their work to include helping to run community kitchens and participating in production. Practicing the "four shares"—eating, living, working and consulting with the peasants, they have made themselves one with them and at the same time made public hygiene a truly public concern.

Another form of support is the hook-up between city and countryside. This is the establishment of permanent contacts between urban health departments and their county and rural counterparts. Thus city medical centers regularly send experienced doctors to county and commune hospitals to provide guidance and treatment in difficult cases, conduct general check-ups and sometimes set up local medical schools.

The health workers' support of the countryside is, according to *Peking Review*, still gathering momentum but it has already established itself as a tremendous force in the rapidly rising standards of China's recently organized nationwide rural medical service.

Esperanto in Hungary

by JAMES R. JUMP

IF ANYONE had told me ten years ago that I would one day go to Hungary and spend three weeks living with Hungarians in their own homes, I would have dismissed the idea as ridiculous. Yet that is exactly what I did last summer—thanks to the international language Esperanto.

I learned Esperanto in 1954, and I have corresponded with two Hungarian teachers for the last five years. They often invited me to visit them, and this year I decided to accept.

I traveled by car with my wife and our eleven-year-old son. As I did not speak a word of Hungarian, this was a great adventure for me, for I was putting the usefulness of Esperanto to the test.

We crossed the frontier at Hegyeshalom and spent one night in the Red Star Hotel, Gyor.

The next day I met my first host, Professor Laszlo Toth, who was waiting for us in the center of the village of Pilisvorosvar. He had been there for some time, looking out for a car bearing a green star (the emblem of Esperanto) and the words "Esperanto parolata" ("Esperanto spoken").

He guided me through the traffic of Budapest to his home in Sztalinvaros.

In Sztalinvaros, the ten-year-old "socialist city," we visited schools,

clinics, administrative offices, factories and shops.

Professor Toth was my interpreter, and everywhere we went people displayed great interest in our being able to converse freely in Esperanto.

After we had been shown round the site of the new straw cellulose factory, the chief engineer in charge of the construction declared that he intended to learn Esperanto.

As a teacher, I was most impressed by the excellence of the equipment in all the schools I saw in Sztalinvaros and, later, in Gyor.

They had more equipment than in the majority of British schools. The ones I visited were not showpieces, specially picked for my inspection, but were just the schools where my hosts, their wives and friends were employed.

All of them—even the village school at Mezofalva—had tape-recorders and both sound and silent film projectors. One school had three tape-recorders, while another had its own ciné-camera! In the science departments of a number of schools I saw complete human skeletons—which very few British schools possess.

After five days in Sztalinvaros and two days rowing and sailing on Lake Balaton, we set off with our host on the hundred-and-eighty-mile journey across the Great Hungarian Plain to Debrecen, near the Rumanian frontier.

There, in the most luxurious

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hotel, the Arany Bika, we were met by about twenty Esperantists of Debrecen, including the manager of the milk sterilization plant, a city councilor, a representative of the Railwayman's Union and a lecturer at the Kossuth University.

The following day they showed us the sights of the city, including the street named after the creator of Esperanto, the Polish eye-specialist Dr. Zamenhof.

From Debrecen a four-hour journey took us to Budapest where, in the headquarters of the Hungarian Teachers' Union, we met a world famous Hungarian Esperantist, Mr. Pal Balkany, whose writings in Esperanto papers have made his name known from Buenos Aires to Tokyo.

He acted as our guide in the Hungarian capital. With him we visited the Fishermen's Bastion, the zoo, the main shopping streets and the clubroom of the Esperanto Society for Post Office Workers.

There, we were introduced to an even more famous Hungarian Esperantist, Mr. Julius Baghy, whose books in Esperanto have earned him a place among the greatest masters of the language.

By coincidence, there were two other visitors in the clubroom—a Turkish girl from Bulgaria and another from Holland. At Mr. Baghy's insistence, we each had to address the members of the Society.

Another day, Mr. Balkany took us to a children's play center, and to the "International Children's Republic"—a camp for Pioneers set in lovely woods on a hill outside Budapest.

One of the most enjoyable days we spent with Professor Toth was at a collective farm at Mezofalva. There

we really sampled the warm-hearted hospitality of the friendly Hungarian people.

The last place we stayed at was Gyor, where we were the guests of Mr. Andor Gauder, an accomplished linguist and teacher who, besides Esperanto, speaks French, German, Russian and Spanish.

With him we visited schools controlled by the Regional Council, and also a private Roman Catholic boarding school for boys. (Yes, private schools still function without hindrance!)

This was at the Benedictine Monastery near the village of Gyorszentmarton. I was shown round by an English-speaking Jesuit priest. The school itself is not outstanding in any way but, in one tiny room, I was permitted to converse for a few minutes with a very old monk who, despite the fact that he hardly ever uses it nowadays, still speaks Esperanto fluently.

It was in Gyor that I was invited to lecture in the Muvelodes Haza (Trade Union House of Culture). I spoke on three successive evenings, twice in English to students and teachers, and once in Esperanto.

All the members of Mr. Gauder's Esperanto Group were keen to learn not only how the Esperanto movement was progressing in Britain, but how the international language was being used in the struggle for world peace and international understanding.

I found that the Esperanto movement is making great advances in Hungary, probably because socialism and Esperanto have the same aim—world peace.

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Housing in Rumania

by VICTOR PERLO

RUMANIA has a tight housing supply, as would any country with such a rapid industrial growth and urbanization. But its situation is not bad. It is much better, for example, than in the Soviet Union, for the simple reason that Rumania was spared massive wartime destruction of buildings. Still, everywhere in Rumania construction is going on.

In Ploesti, after an afternoon at the refinery, we went to our hotel. From the room window, I could see housing construction going on all around the central Plaza of the city. And, although it was 6:30 p.m., the cranes were still moving, and figures were still active in the upper stories. I called Vasile, our interpreter, and we went across the Plaza to look things over.

With the aid of a worker, Vasile located Ion Cotae, the construction engineer in charge of the entire major project around the central Plaza, involving 700 apartments.

Some were completed already. Now the workers were hastening to finish a block of over 100 apartments, together with stores and a restaurant. The entire project would

also have an administration building and a palace of culture.

Work had begun on this 100-apartment block the previous December, and the goal was to finish by August 23, the Rumanian national holiday. About 200 workers were employed on the block, normally on three shifts, but now only on two shifts, because much of what remained was finishing work which could not be done properly at night.

The workers on the job appeared to be busy and interested, and those I talked to seemed enthusiastic. Cotae himself, a slight man with a limp, was young enough, perhaps 30-35. He told me that the average age of the workers was under 27. Many of them are youths fresh from the villages, and some stay for only a few months and then return to the farm.

In evidence were a couple of the huge cranes common to all construction projects in socialist countries, but less densely available in Rumania than in the Soviet Union. Cotae told me that with the aid of a crane, one story of a large building is erected in 4 days. However, generally the mechanical devices available are less than those on large American construction projects. Still, a rough calculation indicates that the productivity of labor on this project is between 50 and 65 per cent of that in American residential construction—not bad for the inexperienced, young Rumanian work-

VICTOR PERLO is the author of *Empire of High Finance*, published by International Publishers. His most recent book, *USA and USSR: The Economic Race*, was also published by International. He has just returned from several months in the USSR and in Eastern Europe. This is the third of a series of articles on Rumania.

ers, and a credit to their enthusiasm and that of their smiling director.

WHAT about quality? That would be the real test. Would these apartments stand up? Would the interiors be full of cracks and crumbling moldings? We went upstairs to visit newly finished apartments and see for ourselves. And we were pleasantly surprised. The doors were attractive, made of a light woodwaste material, and excellently hung. The walls had a special stucco-like finish, once fashionable in America, which can be very ugly. Here, however, it was skillfully done, and was quite attractive. The floors, except for the kitchen, were wood parquet, as in the better class American private homes. And the quality of the floors, I believe, would satisfy my father-in-law, a specialist in the field. And now I was introduced to an older worker who had been walking along with us. He was Ion Yanku, a champion floorlayer, taking all the pride of a master craftsman in that floor. But he had not laid it himself. Obviously no one man can lay floors for block after block of apartments.

So he and Cotae then explained the secret of getting good quality work from raw young workers. Men like Cotae, besides their own work, act as counselors for the youth. Yanku teaches a special school, which had just graduated a class of 20 qualified floorlayers.

The skilled craftsmen of Ploesti, apparently, readily broke with the traditional guild exclusiveness which still characterizes the building industry in capitalist countries. Rewarded materially by the 1500-2000

lei earnings of qualified workers, and morally by his pride of accomplishment and the honor accorded him by the people, Yanku and those like him are making possible the rapid mass training of a highly skilled working class in Rumania.

And other things were being done, in consideration of the village origin of the young workers. To keep them on the job, they had to be given comfortable quarters. By then we had been joined by the Mayor of Ploesti, whom Cotae had spotted taking a stroll with his wife. Despite the fact that it was late, and I hadn't eaten, I couldn't resist the earnest request to go and take a look at the new dormitory for unmarried construction workers. It was about a 10-minute bus ride from the construction site, in a quiet part of town. When it is complete, with showers, dining room, etc., it will obviously be a big comfort to the young workers.

Beginning soon, prefabricated cement-and-woodwaste panels, reinforced with steel batons, will progressively replace the bricks in apartment construction, further raising productivity of labor. Following the 700 apartments currently under construction, a more ambitious program of 2,000 units will completely remold an old, and rather run down section of town.

Today the 125,000 people of Ploesti have an average of 9 square meters of living space each, excluding kitchen, baths, etc. That is already enough so that each new family coming in can be assigned an apartment of its own. But by 1965 the per capita supply will be up to a roomy 13.5 square meters.

As we went through one of the

newly finished apartments, a young couple who were being offered it came to look it over. They were in a hurry, but in answer to my question they said they had just gotten work in Ploesti, having moved from a small town in the region. They had applied for housing, and had immediately been offered an apartment in this block approaching completion. Apparently they had some choice, and would decide whether they wanted this particular one.

Next morning, while we were going through the First of May factory, a young man came over to us in one of the shops, with a smiling greeting. He was the husband I had met inspecting his new apartment. He happened to be the foreman of a shop section.

In the next article I will tell you about that First of May factory, which was fully as exciting as Hunedoara, and showed a stage of development far exceeding my expectations.

DR. SPOCK ON SOVIET CHILDREN

DR. BENJAMIN SPOCK, noted authority on child development, writing in the *Ladies Home Journal*, October 1960, has the following to say about Soviet children:

"I am inclined to agree with the Russian spokesmen that one reason—perhaps the most important reason—why most Russian children are so well behaved is that there are clarity and agreement everywhere. The parents and child-care professionals are all devoted to a common cause that inspires them. They understand the social importance of their jobs. They are proud of their contributions. They are unanimous about the qualities and ideals that are to be inculcated in children—industriousness, love of education, cooperativeness, dedication to country. The children sense the consistency that surrounds them, in both the adults and the other children. They accept this uniform guidance with relative ease. They show no signs of having been intimidated or made resentful, as they would if they had been trained too severely. . . .

"I think that a certain number of Americans parents of this century have been deprived of comfortable security in two ways. They began without having their feet firmly planted on a solid base of tradition. When the winds of new doctrines began to blow they were easily buffeted around. Eager to bring up well-adjusted children according to the new theories but anxious about all the pitfalls, they have leaned over backward to avoid severity. Their children have felt a lack of direction, and often acted up. The parents have tried to suppress the irritation. I think that this kind of conflict in parents—between irritation and guilt—is what has allowed a lot (not all) of the minor squabbling, whining, inconsiderateness, abuse of toys and furnishings which are so common in American children.

"How do Russian parents manage to avoid these exasperating faults? Part of the answer, I think, is that they don't have to worry about different theories of rearing or whether they will know how to bring up their children. They don't have to wonder what particular attitudes they will want him to develop or whether they are entitled to ask him to conform to their wishes. They take it for granted that they only need to pass on to him the straightforward ideals to which the entire nation is devoted and that these will guide him to a productive, satisfying life. This serene trust combined with a very genuine love of children seems to work."

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BATHING SUIT!

by ARCHIE JOHNSTONE

I HAD just finished a letter to a friend who is coming to the Soviet Union early in January when Radio Moscow reminded me of a point I had forgotten. So I added a postscript:

P. S. Don't forget to bring your bathing suit. I'm not joking. I'll explain when you arrive.

The radio had mentioned that the day's total of open-air swimmers in Moscow was 4,000. Earlier it had announced the day's minimum temperature—minus 25 degrees Centigrade, which, when you multiply by 9, divide by 5 and subtract 32 gives you (or, rather, us in Moscow) 13 degrees of frost.

There is nothing new about Muscovites swimming in this kind of weather. They do it every year, a few dozen of them, after breaking the thick ice on the Moskva river.

But Moscow's 4,000-a-day open-air swimmers have little in common with the stiff-upper-lipped icebreakers, or for that matter with people who walk barefoot on hot coals, or lie on beds of nails, perhaps to prove that there's one born every minute. These 4,000 bathers bathe because they like bathing.

Moscow's new swimming stadium, with its water temperature main-

tained at over 75° is claimed to be the best and greatest of its kind in the world. Certainly the fact that it occupies a whole city block almost in the shadow of the Kremlin walls is a breath-taking example of the Soviet attitude to the sanctity of real estate values when they are weighed against social values.

The pool is now one of the sights of Moscow, especially of a winter evening when the clouds of vapor that rise from the water are made luminescent by the clusters of powerful lights set on high pillars. Through rifts in the vapor clouds passersby in the adjoining streets—even passengers in buses—get a kaleidoscopic picture of the circular pool, the surrounding galleries (now covered with snow) and the beautifully arched diving boards in the center.

I thought at first that it would be a teeth-chattering business coming out of the warm water into the cold air, but this envelope of water-vapor seems to create an insulated oasis of warmth in sub-zero Moscow.

Fortunately—much more fortunately than is generally recognized—there is seldom any wind at these low temperatures. And this reminds me of a number of questions I have been asked by intending visitors and others about winter time life in Moscow.

One outstanding fact is that Moscow does not hibernate in any sense of the word. Life goes on at the

ARCHIE JOHNSTONE, former editor of the British Embassy newspaper in Moscow, has lived in the USSR since 1947, and now writes for a number of publications in Britain and the U.S. "Ivan the Not-So-Terrible," a collection of his articles, was published in 1958

same tempo as in other seasons, or at a quicker tempo in some cases.

In the city's great ring of boulevards—or, more correctly, chain of public gardens between two wide streets—family groups spend their leisure hours under the snow-laden trees just as they do when the trees are in leaf. But now the pram-pushing parents are sled-pullers, the toddlers are spherical bundles of fluffy fur and the older children defy gravity on the long slides whose built-up snow-chutes give them a flying start.

Even the ice cream sellers are there as usual—and so are the courting couples, who sit on the park benches oblivious of the snow that is covering them and giving them what an expert on these matters has described as a "symbolic unity."

There are of course plenty of facilities for the more conventional winter sports. I have noticed that in the past dozen years many young Russians have gone over to figure-skating, but they are heavily outnumbered by those who dash around on racing or hockey skates—which explains why the Russians "cut a poor figure" in at least one of the Olympic events. On the other hand, there is a ski-jump of Olympic standard a short walk from the University. Skiing is immensely popular, mainly as a pleasurable method of covering distance, for even "nursery slopes" aren't very plentiful on the flattish countryside near Moscow.

Thanks to the game preservation laws introduced in the early days of the Soviet regime, there is plenty of good winter hunting in the Moscow region, but that usually takes some preliminary arranging—except

for the diplomats and foreign correspondents who can book accommodation at a wonderfully situated hunting lodge on the Volga 75 miles north of the capital. But an enterprising visitor can with little trouble go fishing (through holes bored in the ice) on rivers and lakes quite near Moscow. No need to worry if there are scores of anglers around you—the fish queue up for bait.

Even after heavy snowfalls the city streets are soon cleared of snow, and I advise intending visitors not to load themselves down with heavy top-boots. Crepe-soled shoes give you the best grip on the occasional patches of hard trodden snow or ice. A heavy fur-lined coat can be an unnecessary burden: better to have the lining detachable.

The present temperature of—13° F. is well below the average, but the bright sunshine, the cloudless skies and the still air we have had for the past fortnight is quite normal all through the winter. (Cloudless skies in winter are accepted here as a sign of continuing cold: mist is a sign of a pending sharp change, to colder or warmer.) When they are asked to guess at the temperature, winter visitors to Moscow are often several degrees off the mark. The reason is that you *feel* warmer at, say, 20 degrees of frost on a windless day than you do at 10 degrees of frost even in an almost imperceptible wind. It is for this reason that light nylon-fur coats without a windbreak lining don't give the wearers the protection they expect. The ideal is, of course, to have the windbreak outside, or, as the parodist of Hiawatha put it, "Turn the outside fur side inside, Turn the inside skin side outside."

Another tip: anyone who, like myself, detests those long underpants, should bring with him something to bridge the gap between short underpants and sock-tops—a pair of discarded nylon stockings, cut off at the ankles will do nicely in an emergency. It is true that women, Russians and visitors alike, walk about blithely in sub-zero weather with only a 12 denier mesh intervening between the elements and their calves, but that is one of the eternal mysteries of life, even to one who

comes from the Land o' the Kilt.

I came to Moscow after spending fourteen years in subtropical Spain and tropical Mexico and I found that rigors of Moscow's winter were wildly exaggerated. If it's real cold you want, try Siberia where, it is said, your spit tinkles when it falls to ground and where in some places you can still buy milk by weight—it is sold in marble-like chunks.

But, if you're coming to Moscow for the winter season, don't forget to pack your bathing suits!

The Fifth Aspect of Trousers

From time to time we have read in our press of young women being arrested for appearing in the streets of some U.S. town or other in shorts. Reading this story may bring home to us that there are many human likenesses, in both good and bad things, among the American and the Soviet people, despite the differences in our societies. Of course it may be said that in the matter here discussed we are somewhat in advance of Soviet society, since the victory for slacks has long been won for American women!

Anyway, down with the bigots everywhere, and hurrah for those who go after them, like the writer of this feuilleton from Izvestia. And also hurrah for those who fight by appropriate means for comfortable, attractive and colorful clothing—and for everyone having enough of it.

MANKIND did not achieve the modern style of trousers all at once. A long and tortuous road had to be traversed through the centuries, changing along the way from trunk hose to voluminous Turkish trousers, from them to pantaloons, to breeches, and finally to pants.

Frequently the class to which people belonged was determined by the kind of trousers they wore. That, so to speak, is the social-historical aspect of the evolution of pants.

Pants have often been used by great writers to fill out the image of their heroes. Thus, thanks to Gogol, we know that Taras Bulba wore

trousers as wide as the Black Sea. That is the literary aspect.

Everyone thinking back to high school days probably can remember the third aspect—the mathematical one: "Pythagoras' pants are equal on all sides."

In the tailor's aspect, pants are divided into several types: civilian, military, sport, formal. They are all related by a common feature—they have two legs.

Our atomic age has brought many new concepts to mankind, among them, along with electronic computers, are women's slacks. They are lovingly described in the household

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encyclopedia, propagandized in the magazine *Rabotnitsa* (Woman Worker) and sold in the main Soviet department stores. And so they should be.

Many women have found that slacks are much more comfortable than skirts for various occasions.

But there are still, it seems, corners of our country where countless automatic vending machines for soda and fruit juices may be found, where TV screens are alight in the evenings, where helicopters and high-speed gliders fly around, but where the attitude toward slacks lags far behind this modern age.

As is well known, style is a matter of taste.

Style, of course, changes in accordance with the esthetic and day-to-day needs of the people. It would hardly occur to anyone today to go to work in trousers as wide as the Black Sea, even if only for the reason that it would be somewhat inconvenient to travel in a bus so encumbered. But it would be even more unthinkable that a person in such trousers should be held on the charge of violating public order.

Now we come directly to the fifth aspect of trousers—the administrative and punishable aspect. Yes, there is such an aspect. . . .

Preparing to go to a resort, the Muscovite Nina S. bought a pair of slacks at the State Department Store. It happens that people do commit such frivolous and thoughtless acts.

And here she was in Sochi: The sea air was fresh and exhilarating. The cypresses and palms exuded an exotic fragrance. Through the doors of the shashlik houses came the intoxicating aroma of fried lamb.

Nina walked along the street in her elegant new slacks, little suspecting the unpleasantness awaiting her. Toward her, with firm step, marched the local guardians of order. They were on a campaign for the purity of morals. And suddenly they collided with Nina—a woman in slacks!

"Citizen, come with us!"

The citizen tried to joke her way out of accompanying these rather impolite cavaliers. But they were insistent.

A few minutes later the frightened vacationer found herself before the Administrative Commission of the City Soviet.

Seeing before them a woman in slacks the commissioners experienced the same sensation as a certain Belikov, in one of Chekhov's stories, meeting Varenka on a bicycle. They blushed, then turned pale with horror.

"Really, is it decent for a woman to go about in slacks?" asked the President, in consternation.

"A woman in slacks—that is terrible!" exclaimed the members of the commission, in chorus.

But Nina S., instead of openly repenting her crime and renouncing forever the sinful slacks, became indignant. She went so far as to declare that the wearing of slacks was absolutely her personal affair.

Could the commissioners tolerate such an unceremonious flouting of the morality decreed by the City Soviet? If women started walking around in slacks, what would there remain for the men to do?

The Administrative Commission advised Nina S. to leave Sochi within twenty-four hours.

Thus the struggle for the purity

of the resort's morals was crowned with another brilliant victory. By grace of these militant bigots, a city abounding in automatic vending machines, a city with helicopters and gliders, with hospitals and sanitariums using miracle-working isotopes, booted out a woman in slacks, to the accompaniment of administrative fanfare. The fifth aspect of trousers has overshadowed all the others.

And at that very moment the fighters for purity of morals were showing on a sea-blue TV screen, the picture of a man in a multi-colored shirt—again the fifth aspect. The man smiled in embarrassment—so did the viewers.

The same photograph was published in the city newspaper, *Red Banner*.

"Here he is," the caption read. "A representative of the over-age *stilyagi* who come to our resort. The owner of this colorful shirt is a Muscovite, senior engineer Vatslav SH." (The newspaper gave the engineer's last name in full!)

What formed the pattern on this notorious shirt? Indecent words? Dubious pictures? Nothing of the kind. Umbrellas. And this was enough to brand a respectable man with the degrading term "over-age *stilyaga*" and to pillory him before the residents of the city and the vacationers. Merely because his taste did not coincide with that of the local moralists!

True, engineer SH. was graciously permitted to remain at the resort. But he was asked to give his word that he would never, never wear his "immoral" shirt with its umbrella pattern within the Sochi city limits or its environs.

It is amazing, nevertheless, how

far bigotry can go if it entrusts itself with fighting for the purity of morals. It is not just a question of women's slacks or of shirts with umbrella designs. The wrath of the Sochi guardians of morals is also aroused by shirts made of mattress ticking. They forcibly removed such a shirt from the young scientist Anatolia A. The trouble lies in the failure to understand that the breadth of a person's world-view cannot be judged by the breadth of his pants.

In the '30s the same kind of bigots considered those who began wearing wide trousers incurable fops. In the '50s it was the other way around. A fine young man could earn the title "*stilyaga*" simply because his trousers were slightly narrower than the standard of the moment. And in 1960, even those who work at the Sochi City Soviet wear narrow pants. It is not inconceivable that the time will soon come when they too will adorn themselves with shirts of joyous colors, and make their wives presents of elegant slacks on March 8th.

Then perhaps it is not necessary to fight against stupid tastes, against manners and morals alien to us, against everything decadent and affected?

No, there can be no retreat in this struggle! But it is taking the line of least resistance to replace this important job with the rattling of administrative protocols and to compromise it with bigotry.

No, we are resolutely against waging the struggle for purity of morals and for high standards in clothing in this inadmissible fifth aspect.

Translated from *Izvestia*, October 12

The UN and the Congo

OUR Government, such a stickler for "free elections," in Germany, Korea, and other parts of the world, has shown an extraordinary disregard for the results of such elections in the Congo. From the beginning, inside and outside of the UN, they have participated in moves to get rid of Premier Patrice Lumumba and have backed the lawless forces who seized power and set up a military dictatorship.

Lumumba was the acknowledged leader of the Congolese liberation forces. In the national elections held to set up the government of the newly independent Congo, his Congolese National Liberation Movement won 36 out of 137 seats in the House of Deputies, which gave him 84 votes in a coalition supporting his policies. The Abako Party of his rival, Joseph Kasavubu, won only 12 seats. With this clear majority, Lumumba won the premiership, and by a compromise arrangement, Kasavubu was given the largely figure-head role of chief of state.

It was at the request of the Central Government headed by Lumumba that the Security Council voted UN military and technical aid to the Congo when Belgium created chaos by military intervention through which it hoped to maintain its control of the Congo, and especially of Katanga, which seceded under its Belgian puppet, Moise Tshombe. The terms of the Security Council resolution provided that the aid should be given to a unified Congo, in consultation with the Central

Government, and did not recognize Katanga's separatist claims.

Secretary Hammarskjold, however, as was pointed out by President Nkrumah of Ghana in the UN Assembly debate, failed to distinguish between the legal and illegal authorities of the Congo and negotiated separately with Tshombe when he resisted UN efforts to oust the Belgian troops.

When, on September 5, President Kasavubu illegally "ousted" Premier Lumumba, appointing Ileo in his stead, the UN barred the Congo radio to Lumumba as well as to Kasavubu, although the latter was meantime using radio facilities in nearby Brazzaville (capital of the Congo Republic which was formerly part of French Equatorial Africa) as well as clandestine radio facilities. The UN also barred the use of its own airports to the Central Government as well as to the illegal authorities.

On September 8, the Lower House of Parliament voted 60 to 19 to invalidate both the dismissal of Lumumba by the President and Lumumba himself concurring, his subsequent dismissal of Kasavubu.

Premier Lumumba then won a vote of confidence in the Senate, 41 to 2.

However, under the Congo's temporary constitution, only a joint session of Parliament can endorse or reject the dismissal of the Premier.

Such a joint session was held on September 13. It voted full powers

to Premier Lumumba in his struggle with Kasavubu, 88 to 25, with 3 abstentions. Chamber President Lasongo announced that five more members than the required quorum were present.

President Kasavubu then ordered Parliament sessions suspended for a month.

On September 14, Col. Joseph Mobutu, Army Chief of Staff, (known as a Kasavubu man, according to the press) seized power, with the proclaimed aim of "neutralizing" the government. He chose the moment for his coup d'etat when the best ANC (Congolese National Army) troops had been sent to the Kasai and Katanga borders to prevent the breaking up of the country. Thus he was able to install his military dictatorship.

A Belgian officer was at his side when he expounded his program at a press conference.

Mobutu took over the Parliament building and prevented the Deputies and Senators from meeting, as he has continued to do. He expelled the Soviet and Czechoslovakian—and later the Ghanian—diplomats. He put Lumumba under house arrest. He flew to Elizabethville and made a friendship agreement with Tshombe.

On September 20, he installed a "caretaker" government of students and young university graduates, all selected by Kasavubu, and evicted all other political appointees. Kasavubu had high praise for Mobutu and his actions and on September 30, although "neutralized," formally assigned executive and administrative powers to the caretaker government.

Mobutu, asserting "My will is the

supreme power in the Congo," declared he would not tolerate any challenge to his authority either from the United Nations or the suspended Congolese Parliament.

It seems quite clear that these shameful developments must be attributed to the action of the United Nations in failing to uphold the lawful authority of the Congolese Central Government, and to the Western intrigues that determined this position.

We have already quoted at length from *Wall Street Journal* articles (see November NWR, also September, for further background) outlining in detail State Department maneuvers to get rid of Lumumba, and their constant consultations with Mr. Hammarskjold to bring this about. U. S. Ambassador to the Congo Republic, Timberlake, played an active role. Col. Mobutu made frequent visits to the U.S. embassy in Leopoldville before his coup.

Because Lumumba wished to be friendly with both West and East, and welcomed Soviet technical aid, he was branded as a Communist, Soviet stooge, etc.

But while anti-Soviet considerations were a strong motive, the main fear of the West was that Lumumba would turn the Congo over to the Congolese people themselves. They were afraid he would tax their investments more heavily and cut into their juicy profits, especially in the Katanga, where the Rockefellers hold large interests. And the Belgians, of course, do not want to see the riches of Katanga, in which the Central Government is a large shareholder, go back to the Congo itself. It is to their in-

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interests to keep alive old tribal animosities which they have always fostered, rather than to see a strong unified state organized for the benefit of the Congolese people.

Despite UN responsibility for what has happened in the Congo, it is through the UN itself that we have received the most startling account of where these policies have led.

UN Report on the Congo

On November 3 a report was submitted to the UN from Rajeshwar Dayal, the Indian diplomat who is now the special representative of Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld in the Congo. The report charges that the army regime of Chief of Staff Col. Mobutu has actually constituted "a new menace to peace and security," and shows its subservience to the Belgians. The following material is taken from the excerpts from the Dayal report published in the *New York Times*, November 4.

The report opens with a description of the increasing chaos and violence following the arbitrary assumption of power by Mobutu.

Mr. Dayal declares that the appeal of the General Assembly resolution of September 20 "to all Congolese . . . to seek a speedy solution by peaceful means of all their internal conflicts, for the unity and integrity of the Congo," remains "largely unheeded." He puts the blame not on the people of the Congo, whom he praises as vigorous and fully conscious of their newly won independence, but on the conditioning received during the years of colonial administration.

He stresses the steady return of

the Belgians during recent weeks:

. . . And within this framework, of increasing Belgian participation in political and administrative activities, whether as advisers, counselors or executive officials. Belgian military and para-military personnel as well as civilian personnel continue to be available to authorities in the Congo, notably in Katanga and South Kasai.

A recruiting agency for the Congo was set up in Brussels and supported in Leopoldville. Members of Mobutu's College of Commissioners have stated that "the Belgians, better than anyone else, could bring prosperity back to the country." The agency is assisting in re-establishing a Belgian civil service, particularly for posts in the judiciary. These Belgians have withheld UN reports from Congolese officials, interfered with air transport and radio facilities, sabotaged radio-electrical equipment, prevented news broadcasts being made in the four main indigenous languages of the Congo.

Belgian influence is strong in the military field. A Belgian colonel acts as adviser to the Leopoldville Ministry of National Defense, a former Belgian warrant officer is aide-de-camp to Col. Mobutu, with rank of Captain. Belgian officers are training Army personnel, Congolese officers are being trained in Brussels.

As to the situation in Katanga:

. . . Belgian influence is omnipresent. Virtually all key civilian and security posts are either held directly by officials of Belgian nationality or controlled by advisers to recently appointed and often in experienced Congolese officials. Significantly, within the security forces there are . . . 114 Belgian officers and 117 Belgians of other ranks in the gendarmerie and 58 Belgian officers in the police.

... Belgians now direct the reorganization policy in some Katangese ministries.

A similar situation obtains in South Kasai and Equator. Arms are brought into Kasai with the help of a Belgian businessman.

A whole section of the report deals with the undisciplined, lawless and violent activities of the ANC in various parts of the country under Mobutu's rule, and their use for political purposes:

The seriousness of the situation lies in the fact that although their Chief of Staff [Mobutu] claims to have neutralized political activity, he has in a sense assumed governmental responsibility, which he attempts to exercise through a college of commissioners nominated by him. Although his army has not itself formally assumed the prerogatives of the judiciary or the functions of the police, members of the ANC have frequently usurped these functions. . . . For the law of the land, the arbitrary will of the soldiery has been substituted.

In conclusion, Mr. Dayal declares that the eruption of the army into the political scene as a result of the Mobutu coup, far from having a "neutralizing" effect as was its proclaimed purpose, has become "the principal fomenter of lawlessness:"

The carrying out of arbitrary arrests and imprisonments without any shadow of legal justification became the order of the day. In Leopoldville, the hub of the life of the country and the principal center of political activity, it introduced a state of terror threatening a paralysis of the community.

Mr. Dayal charged that the young commissioners appointed by Mobutu were more inclined to listen to the numerous Belgian advisers by whom they were invariably accompanied than to act in cooperation with UN consultants. He made clear that in his dealings with the college on a technical level, there had been

no question whatever of recognizing it as a legitimate government since it derived no sanction from the fundamental law of the country. He expressed the hope that "a single government of conciliation, representing all the principal interests" might still emerge, and make a fresh start "for achieving the unity and integrity of the country so that all six provinces may take their due share, on democratic lines, in the tasks that lie ahead."

UN Assembly Backs Illegal Regime

Belgium, of course, was highly indignant over the Dayal report. The State Department, in the face of the report's charges, insisted it had "every confidence in the good faith of Belgium." On November 21, to underline where U.S. concerns lie, Ambassador Timberlake paid a visit to Moise Tshombe, self-proclaimed President of Katanga, the first foreign ambassador to pay respects to the secessionist regime.

Kasavubu was permitted to come to the UN to plead his case, while Thomas Kanza, Lumumba delegate, was refused a visa because his request "was not in proper form."

Earlier, recognition had been withheld by the UN for both the Lumumba and the Kasavubu delegations to the United Nations. Vigorous efforts were made on behalf of the legal Lumumba regime by a number of the newly independent African states and of the neutralist countries, and by the Soviet Union and the entire socialist bloc.

After a long and bitter fight, the General Assembly, on November 22, voted to seat the Kasavubu, instead of the Lumumba delegation, as rep-

representative of the Congo. This victory for the United States and the other Western powers was made possible by the support of most of the African members of the French Community. The vote was as follows:

IN FAVOR—53

Argentina	Italy
Australia	Ivory Coast
Austria	Japan
Belgium	Jordan
Bolivia	Laos
Brazil	Luxembourg
Britain	Malagasy
Cameroon	Mexico
Chad	Nepal
Chile	Netherlands
China	New Zealand
Colombia	Nicaragua
Congo Rep.	Niger
Costa Rica	Norway
Cyprus	Panama
Dahomey	Paraguay
Denmark	Peru
Dominican Republic	Philippines
Ecuador	Portugal
France	Salvador
Gabon	Senegal
Greece	South Africa
Guatemala	Spain
Haiti	Thailand
Honduras	Turkey
Ireland	United States
	Uruguay

AGAINST—24

Afghanistan	Iraq
Albania	Mali
Bulgaria	Morocco
Byelorussia	Poland
Ceylon	Rumania
Cuba	Saudi Arabia
Czechoslovakia	Soviet Union
Ghana	Togo
Guinea	Ukraine
Hungary	United Arab Republic
India	Yemen
Indonesia	Yugoslavia

ABSTENTIONS—10

Burma	Lebanon
Cambodia	Liberia
Canada	Libya
Central African Rep.	Malaya
Ethiopia	Pakistan
Finland	Somalia
Iran	Sudan
Ireland	Sweden
Israel	Tunisia
	Venezuela

Nigeria did not participate in the voting.
Upper Volta was absent.

cording to a UN report, held in prison under inhumane conditions.

The UN Secretary General cabled Mobutu requesting that in Lumumba's forthcoming trial for "treason" ("treason" in trying to regain the office he holds through lawful elections!) "due process of law" should be observed. How can there be "due process of law" in a trial, when the arrest itself was illegal?

Morocco, Guinea, the United Arab Republic, Indonesia and Ceylon have announced the intention to withdraw their contingents from the UN force in protest against the UN role in the Congo.

The UN Security Council is meeting at this writing on the insistence of the Soviet Government which called the meeting in order to compel the release of Lumumba, disarm the Congolese forces of Col. Mobutu, expel the Belgians and deputize a group of African states to investigate who armed and sponsored Mobutu for his coup. This position had previously been endorsed by the UN delegates of India, the United Arab Republic, Guinea, Ghana, Morocco, Indonesia, Cameroon and Liberia, who urged UN intervention to rescue and protect Lumumba.

As we go to press, the Soviet resolution has been defeated, as well as a Western resolution upholding the role of the Secretary General in the Congo. The issue now goes back to the General Assembly. —J. S.

CORRECTION

Through an unfortunate error in "The Congo Story" in September NWR, the figure for Belgian investments in the Congo was given as 8 billion dollars. The figure given in most reports we have examined is 3 billion dollars.

While this was happening in the United Nations, Patrice Lumumba, lawful Premier of the Congo, after evading his illegal house arrest, was captured by Mobutu's soldiers, man-handled, beaten, injured, and, ac-

The Revaluation of the Ruble

AS OF JANUARY 1, 1961 the gold content of the Soviet ruble and its foreign exchange rate will be increased. It will have the following rate of foreign exchange: 90 kopeks to 1 American dollar; 2 rubles 52 kopeks for 1 pound sterling; 18 kopeks to 1 French franc; 0.25 kopeks to 1 Japanese yen.

The money in circulation in the USSR will be exchanged on the basis of new units according to the ratio of 10:1. New banknotes will be issued in the denomination of 1, 3, 5, 10, 25, 50 and 100 rubles; new coins will be issued in the denomination of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20 kopeks, as well as coins of 50 kopeks and one ruble denomination. Prices will be adjusted so that the revaluation will mean no loss to the Soviet people.

We are reprinting an article that appeared in the Soviet newspaper *Trud* for the further enlightenment of our readers on the significance of the revaluation of the ruble.

Money is a special commodity that developed through the long historical process of producing goods for barter. Money expresses the value of any commodity and can be exchanged for any kind of goods. In ancient times the present role of money was performed by different goods—cattle, furs, then silver—but little by little gold, because of its natural properties, emerged as the most suitable medium of exchange.

In the Soviet economy also gold is employed as money. This, means that the value of any commodity is expressed in gold—is equalled to a certain amount of gold.

The Soviet state plans, on the basis of costs, the price of goods and establishes the purchasing power of the money unit. The quality of gold rep-

resented by the ruble, i.e., the gold content of the ruble, is thereby determined as well.

At present the gold content of the ruble amounts to 0.222168 grams of pure gold. This standard was established more than 10 years ago, on March 1, 1950.

From 1950 to 1959 industrial output in the USSR increased 2.8 times; and the national income, 2.5 times. At the same time both retail and wholesale prices were reduced by 25 per cent. As a result, the purchasing power of the ruble increased.

The new gold content of the ruble, effective as of January 1, 1961, will be the highest in the history of money circulation in the Soviet Union, equal to 0.987412 grams of pure gold.

The gold content of the American dollar is at present equal to 0.888671 grams of pure gold. Thus the new ruble will contain 11 per cent more gold than the dollar. Accordingly, the rate of exchange of the ruble with respect to the American dollar will be different. At present one dollar corresponds to four rubles. As of January 1, 1961, the dollar will equal 90 kopeks. The exchange rate of the ruble with respect to the currencies of the other countries will rise as well.

The Soviet ruble will be the world's only currency whose gold content will have increased as compared with the period when gold coins were in circulation and paper money was freely exchange for gold. As compared with the pre-Revolutionary year of 1913, the Soviet ruble will contain 27.5 per cent more gold. Within the same period the gold content of other countries has declined and amounts to the following figures as against the 1913 level: the American dollar, 59.1 per cent; the

gold
deter-

pound sterling, 34 per cent; the West German mark, 59 per cent. As for such currencies as the Italian lira and Japanese yen, they have lost so much weight as compared with 1913 that their gold content at present amounts to merely 0.49 and 0.33 per cent respectively of what they were previously.

The raising of the gold content and the establishment of the new exchange rate of the ruble corresponds to the actual correlation of the purchasing capacities of currencies. This is very important for the further development of the Soviet Union's economic relations with other countries.

Soviet Aid to the Afro-Asian Countries

S. A. Skachkov, Chairman of the State Committee of the Council of Ministers of the USSR on Foreign Relations recently gave an interview on Soviet aid to Asian and African countries to a reporter on Pravda. The interview follows.

Question: What is the nature of the aid the Soviet Union is rendering to the countries of Asia and Africa?

Answer: The Soviet Government builds up its relations with peace-loving states of Asia and Africa on the sincere desire of helping those countries to eliminate the grave heritage of colonialism, to create prerequisites for a swift economic and cultural advance of their peoples. The Soviet Union grants these countries long-term credits on favorable terms and lends technical assistance in construction, and primarily of enterprises in key branches of industry, which helps to fortify their economic independence. Soviet economic and technical aid does not stipulate political or any other conditions infringing upon the sovereignty of the economically underdeveloped countries. The Soviet Union does not seek any advantages or privileges, does not become an owner of, and does not participate in the profits of the industrial establishments built.

As distinguished from the capitalist countries which, under the guise of "aid," endeavor to sell off their surplus agricultural products and other consumer goods in the countries of Asia and Africa, the Soviet Union renders technical assistance chiefly by carrying out designing and surveying jobs, delivering

complete sets of modern equipment and machinery and promoting geological prospecting operations and also by training national cadres both in those countries and in the USSR. These countries, wishing to consolidate their economic independence as soon as possible, use Soviet loans to finance the construction of industrial and other units to be run by the state.

The Soviet Union is lending its assistance to the economically underdeveloped countries on highly favorable terms. Our loans are usually granted at 2.5 per cent interest and are repayable over a period of 12 years, starting a year after the final delivery of complete equipment for each project.

As a general rule, all these countries repay the loans with deliveries of their traditional export commodities.

Economic and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afro-Asian countries is constantly expanding and growing stronger. During the Asian tour of Premier Khrushchev, the head of the Soviet Government, in February and March of 1960, two important agreements were signed. One was the Soviet-Indian Agreement signed on February 12, and envisaging the granting of a new loan of 1,500 million rubles to India, and the second, the General Agreement on economic and technical cooperation with the Republic of Indonesia, signed on February 28, and according to which the Soviet Union granted Indonesia a new loan amounting to 1,000 million rubles.

Question: Would you kindly name the projects which have been and are being built with Soviet assistance in the Asian countries?

Answer: Of the industrial and other enterprises which have been set up with the aid of the Soviet Union and are now in operation we can name the Bhilai metallurgical works in India with an annual capacity of 1 million tons of steel. The enterprise has already launched full-cycle production. At the request of the Indian Government, the capacity of this works will be increased to 2.5 million tons of steel a year.

Oil deposits have been found in the area of Cambay and Ankleshwar and gas deposits, in the area of Javalamukhi. The state mechanized farm at Suratgarh is making successful progress. It has received equipment from the Soviet Union which was presented as a gift to the Government of India. The payments of the Soviet Union to the UN technical aid fund have been used to furnish a technological institute in Bombay with modern Soviet equipment. This institute, catering to 1,200 students and 600 post-graduates, is also functioning today.

More than 15 different projects were built and set in operation in Afghanistan during the 1957-1960 period. These include a large motor repair works, a mechanized bakery, an asphalt and concrete-mixing plant, an elevator, a port on the Kzyl-Kala River, nine oil dumps and other projects. A technological institute for 1,000 students and 100 post-graduates, a hotel in Rangoon with 250 rooms, a hospital with 200 beds and a polyclinic will in the near future be opened in Burma.

A hospital with 500 beds and a polyclinic fully furnished with Soviet equipment has been built and turned over as a present to Cambodia. The first pier of the sea port in Hodeida was commissioned earlier this year in the Yemen.

A large number of major industrial establishments to be built in Asian countries with Soviet assistance are under

construction. Designing, prospecting and preparatory work is being conducted on other projects. In India a heavy machine-building works and a mine equipment plant, an oil refinery, large thermal electric power stations, coal mines and enterprises of the medical industry are under construction or are being designed.

In Indonesia a metallurgical plant and a superphosphate mill will be built. Two mechanized rice growing farms are being organized there. A stadium seating 100,000 is being built in Jakarta, preparations are being conducted for the construction of a highway on Kalimantan Island and of the technological institute in Ambon. In Afghanistan the Jalalabad irrigation canal, the Pul-i-Khumri and Naglu hydro stations, the Kushka-Herat-Kandagar highway and a road over the Hindu Kush are being built. Of the large number of projects which are being built in Iraq with Soviet technical assistance mention should be made of a metallurgical works, a nitrogen fertilizer mill, an agricultural machinery plant and an electro-technical factory, a railway, to mention a few.

The Soviet Union is rendering great assistance to Nepal and Ceylon in building industrial enterprises and other projects.

Question: What assistance is the Soviet Union at present rendering to African countries?

Answer: In the first place the economic and technical assistance which the Soviet Union renders the United Arab Republic should be noted. The High Aswan Dam on the Nile which is being erected with the assistance of the USSR is of enormous importance for the economic development of the UAR. Economists estimated that with the erection of this dam the national income of the Egyptian area of the UAR will increase by 35 per cent. Besides, designing and preparatory work is being conducted in the Egyptian area of the UAR for the erection and expansion of metallurgical and machine-building plants, enterprises of the oil and chemical industries and

others. Assistance is also being rendered to the UAR in utilizing atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

A large oil refinery will be built in Ethiopia. Complex geological prospecting will also be conducted there. A cement mill, a tannery and a shoe factory, a cannery, a refrigerating plant, a polytechnical institute and a number of other projects will be built in Guinea. Provisions have been made for building diverse industrial enterprises, organizing state farms, and conducting geological prospecting in Ghana.

Question: How many countries in Asia and Africa are receiving Soviet aid?

Answer: At present the Soviet Union is rendering assistance to 14 states in Asia and Africa. More than 300 industrial enterprises and other projects are being built in these countries with

Soviet assistance. The Soviet Union has provided these countries with credits of more than 9,000 million rubles.

Question: What can you say about the prospects for rendering assistance to underdeveloped Afro-Asian countries?

Answer: Premier Khrushchev declared at the 15th Session of the UN General Assembly that "The Soviet Union, for its part, has helped the underdeveloped countries and will continue to render them increasing assistance."

The adoption of the Soviet proposals for general and complete disarmament would make it possible to divert enormous funds which are at present spent on armaments by the governments of many countries throughout the world for rendering assistance to the peoples of the underdeveloped countries.

Translated from Pravda

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

DURING the second Czechoslovak five-year plan (1956-1960) many new installations of a far greater capacity were put into operation in steam and hydro plants.

These new installations have secured adequate electricity for the development of industry, agriculture, transport and the growing needs of the population. The electrification of the Czechoslovak villages was completed this autumn. This places Czechoslovakia in fifth place in the world and she thus surpassed the industrially advanced countries like the U.S.A., Great Britain, France, Italy.

Thus 13,581,000 people enjoy the advantages of electricity in Czechoslovakia at the present time, which is almost 99 per cent of the total population. The remaining one per cent are people who live in scattered hamlets and remote places.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA will equip a new footwear plant being built in Colombo, Ceylon, that will have annual production of 300 thousand pairs of shoes. The Czechoslovak foreign trade corporation KOVO will deliver the first consignment of machines for the plant at the beginning of this year. Seven Czechoslovak technicians will also leave for Colombo where they will install the machine and help in the initial stage of production.

A GROUP of Sudanese workers who will study the organization of the Czechoslovak shoe factories will arrive shortly in Czechoslovakia. The training of the group is part of the contract under which Czechoslovakia exports engineering equipment for a plant for rubber footwear to the Sudan. The plant is being built in Khartoum and its construction is planned in three stages. The first deliveries from Czechoslovakia will be sent to Sudan early this year.

INDIA and Czechoslovakia signed a trade agreement on November 3rd. Czechoslovakia will deliver whole plants, machines and equipment to India for the development of her industry and consumer goods. India will deliver to Czechoslovakia iron, manganese, ores, mica, hides, spices, textiles, jute, etc.

A REPORT ON SOVIET SCHOOLS

A review by ELIZABETH MOOS

The Changing Soviet School, edited by George Z. F. Bereday, William W. Brickman, Gerald H. Read—Houghton, Mifflin, 1960. 514 Pages. \$3.50.

DURING August and September 1958, seventy American educators visited the Soviet Union as guests of the Soviet Trade Union of Educational, Cultural and Scientific Research Workers under the U.S.A.—USSR Cultural Exchange agreement.

The Americans, from twenty-six states and Puerto Rico, represented a variety of pedagogical interests. According to a plan previously worked out with their hosts, the group divided into small committees, each to examine a specific aspect of Soviet schools. This made possible a more intensive study than, as far as I know, has yet been undertaken. Half of the month of visits was spent in interviews with Soviet educational authorities, half in observation in schools.

Judging from the reports, it seems evident that the Americans were given every possibility to see whatever they wished, to ask questions, to meet with Soviet educators. Their Soviet hosts seem to have given most generously of their time to interviews and special seminars for discussion.

The visit was made at the period when the school reforms were being widely introduced and the dynamics of Soviet education were the focus of interest for the visitors, as indicated by the title of the book which resulted—*The Changing Soviet School*.

The difficult task of getting the mass of notes and other material accumulated into readable form was carried out in an unusual way: one or two of the participants were given responsibility for assembling and editing the notes on each

special subject. The names of those responsible for each chapter, as well as the names of the observers whose notes were used, are listed.

This method was used for the main section of the book. The first chapters, however, were not written in this collective fashion and the contrast between the two parts is marked. As the introduction rightly states, "The core of the book and its claim to strength is the record of observations made." These firsthand reports, combined with quotations from Soviet educators, bring much fresh material, informative and thought-provoking. The earlier section, which might as well have been written without a trip to the Soviet Union, is in the main a tendentious and generalized account, of a familiar kind.

These chapters are heavily annotated. However, when checked, the scholarly weight is somewhat diminished. Many of the references are to such well-known American writers as Dr. Counts and Mr. Bauer, whose book is based entirely on statements by "refugees," persons hostile to the Soviet system, and to previous works by the writer of the chapter. Soviet sources are rarely used except for statistics.

The first chapter, an outline of Russian educational history, is dull and fails to give an inspiring picture of the long struggle for learning which is so well told by Dr. William Johnson in his book *The Russian Educational Heritage*.

Perhaps some background material is desirable as an introduction. But it is unfortunate that the material should be biased. For example, on p. 5 we read that "The school law of 1958 was hasty legislation . . . poorly thought out." In the body of the book, however

(p. 253) we learn that the proposed law "was discussed by the public and by professionals for months throughout the country," and that a two-year experiment was carried out in some 500 schools (p. 257) before the legislation was formulated.

Considering the cordiality and courtesy shown to our educators, one cringes when reading such minor—but slighting—remarks as that "the Soviets attribute the decrease in school population to war losses." Why not write generously and honestly that the decrease is due to the fact that the USSR lost some twenty million people in our common struggle?

When Soviet authorities and documents persistently state that tuition is not asked for schooling, why insist (p. 87) on calling the fee paid for living costs in boarding schools, by parents who can afford it, "tuition?" Why, when the story of the abandonment of "pedology" is told (p. 63), must it be treated as though it were an irrational "purge" of Mr. Blonsky! Why are none of the reasons for the attack on intelligence tests given? This matter of tests is under discussion now among our own educators. Surely an honest presentation of Soviet reasoning would have been of interest?

When listing trades and professions (p. 104) for which young people may be trained after graduation from the 8th grade, why list "military and secret police schools?" Is this ignorance? The Suworov military schools accept a small number of boys after the fourth grade for officer training. I have been unable to find any evidence that "secret police schools" exist and no such evidence is given by the writer.

The paragraphs on juvenile delinquency during the '30s are particularly tendentious. Educators here and abroad have long recognized and appreciated the remarkable work of rehabilitation and re-education carried on in the Makarenko colonies described in *The Road to Life*, yet there is no mention of them. The picture of youthful crime at this

time, of hooliganism and vagrancy, is vividly described. Then the reader, if uninformed, is left with the impression that young criminals received no special help, that the problem was unsolved.* In the other aspects treated in this chapter we are given information about "new developments." The important matter of Soviet methods and success in reducing juvenile delinquency is ignored.

In spite of criticisms of those sections of the book not based on the recent visit, the book as a whole is to be recommended, and those responsible commended for their work. It is probably the most comprehensive account of Soviet schools available.

Chapters on pre-school, primary, secondary, higher and teacher education, schools for the handicapped, for the gifted, extra-curricular activities, are full of lively, first-hand observations as well as useful information from Soviet sources. The chapters on the Academy of Pedagogic Sciences and Soviet educational publications and that on the Trade Union of Education Workers are of particular interest since much of the information they contain has not, as far as I know, appeared in previous American accounts of Soviet education.

Polytechnical education, its history, the philosophy behind it and its practice today, is very well presented in one of the three excellent chapters on secondary education. (This chapter is a welcome corrective for the less objective account given in the early chapter on Soviet polytechnical education.)

The observers, it seems, endeavored to view the scene objectively. However, objectivity was necessarily limited by the fundamental distaste for Soviet philosophy as understood by the educators. This is frankly stated in the final chapter, "Character and Moral Education in a Collectivist Society," a subject discussed in seminars with Soviet educators. The Americans started from the premise that "there could be no morality in a Com-

* Mrs. Moos wrote on this subject in the October NEW WORLD REVIEW.

munist state." Soviet educators denied this and counterattacked, "The Judeo-Christian ideals were judged noble by the Communists but, in their judgment, contradicted the whole capitalist system. They kept daring the Americans to demonstrate a higher morality than theirs." This chapter is most stimulating and valuable. There seems to have been a serious effort to find common ground, common ideals. This in spite of the fact that, as the writer points out, a true meeting of minds is impossible when one party to the discussion is committed to the idea that "religion and morality are inseparable" and the other to the thesis that "a genuine morality can only be expressed in and through society."

The Americans, though opposed to a morality "which submerges the individual in society," seem to have been impressed with Soviet optimism, belief in the future, with their ethical goals, and the behavior of the young people. They see a "challenge to our own pattern of social living and consequently the necessity for Americans to maintain alive, dynamic and bright an alternative pattern of social living."

The purpose of the book is stated as threefold: to provide a picture of Soviet schools at the period of change;

to gain insight in "the dynamics of the Soviet system," its potential, the attitudes of its people; and to demonstrate the similarity between our two systems.

The Soviet educational system is presented in this welcome report not as a threat but as a way, worth studying for solving the kind of questions faced by our two societies which are both trying to educate *all* the people. Problems on which Soviet educators are working, the book notes, such as education for the gifted child, training the young adolescent in skills useful for a working life while developing "social fraternity and harmony" between groups that must follow different educational roads, are of concern to us as well. *The Changing Soviet School* may be the first of a series of intensive studies if the participants in the work carry out their plans. This is greatly to be desired and most American educators will agree with the editors who say that "Soviet education must be watched closely for any answers it may be able to supply us in what is essentially our common dilemma."

The more such face-to-face discussions can be carried on, the more professional efforts to find common ground, the nearer we may come to the kind of understanding which must be the basis for friendly coexistence.

CONFIDENT DREAMS

Russian Science in the 21st Century, edited by Sergei Gonschev and Mikhail Vassiliev. McGraw-Hill, New York. 1960. 222 pages. \$4.95.

TWO ENTERPRISING young Soviet journalists in preparation for the 40th Anniversary of the October Revolution decided to have a look into the 21st century, to 2007—50 years ahead. Not scientists themselves, they asked leading Soviet scientists and engineers and members of the Academy of Sciences what, in their opinion, would be the significant advances in man's living

conditions by the opening years of the new century.

The result of their inquiries is this report that fifty years earlier would have been called a Utopian dream.

But these predictions, based upon the astonishing achievements of the past four decades, are not imaginative flights into a vague future: they were made by eminent scientists and engineers, confident of what the next five decades will hold—if peace prevails and there is the fullest interchange among the scientists of the world.

Breathtaking are the possibilities

undersea farms; supersonic, bloodless surgery; fully automated factories; trafficless, garden cities with uncontaminated air; automobiles vocally controlled; air-borne taxis; entirely new types of food, clothing, building materials; the colonization of planets.

All these—and many more amazing developments—are described in non-technical language easy for the general reader to understand. Here is a prognosis of the future that is every day verified by the announcement of startling discoveries throughout the whole range of scientific research.

For the remarkable advances in technology and applied science forecast in this book are conceived as part of the world-wide development of science under conditions of peaceful coexistence—not as purely Soviet phenomena. A number of the distinguished scientists interviewed emphasize this point strongly as they look eagerly into the future.

Here is a glimpse of Moscow in 2007:

The air will be fresh and redolent of the fields and woods. This will not only be due to the great extension of gardens and parks. A car will pass without a sound, like a bird without wings. It will not leave behind any blue exhaust gas because transport will be electrified. The cars will run on high-frequency current from underground cables. The same current will be used in winter for cleaning away the snow. It will be the best method of heating the streets and pavements. As soon as the snow falls it will melt.

The reviewer must resist the temptation to add further quotes about television-directed schools, the harnessing of volcanoes, cities lighted by artificial suns, memory machines, the additional years that can be added to human life as a result of advances in biology. These exhilarating forecasts, if still dreams, are bold and confident and the president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Alexander N. Nessmayanov, told the editors of the book:

Science cannot develop without dreams and meditations upon the future. Dreams, inevitably, are the forerunners of the hypotheses which experiment can transform into a scientific theory. . . . We live in a country where the boldest dreams come true. But the dreams can be realized only at the price of great efforts. . . . For the dream to bear fruit it must have firm, sound roots. But the greatest danger of all is something totally different: it is *not* to look ahead, *not* to see, and *not* to set for oneself a bold goal.

Here is how Soviet scientists see the world in fifty years. Here are their bold dreams of the future in a world without war. This is a book you will want to share with your friends.

M. Y.

THE POWERS TRIAL

The Trial of the U-2, with an introductory comment by Harold J. Berman, Translation World Publishers, 22 West Madison Street, Chicago 2, Illinois. 158 pages. \$1.95.

THIS is the exclusive, authorized full account of the court proceedings in the case of Francis Gary Powers, heard before the Military Division of the Supreme Court of the USSR in Moscow, August 17-19, 1960.

It contains the full texts of the indictment and the complete stenogram of the court examination of the defendants and witnesses by both prosecution and defense and their final speeches, Powers' last plea and the verdict, which astonished the world by its leniency.

Of great value is the introduction by Professor Harold Berman, Professor of Law, Harvard University, expert on Soviet law, on which he has written several books and numerous articles. Among the many important points he makes in discussing both the U-2 incident and the trial, are that aerial incursion is a particularly serious threat to international security because it can be mis-

taken for an air raid. He underlines that an apology for the flight by the U.S. was necessary to Khrushchev not only by international standards, but because of what Khrushchev stands for in increased rationality in Soviet internal politics and economics and legality in social and political order.

Professor Berman declares that it is to the best interests of both the U.S. and the USSR that the principle which excludes military aircraft from the skies of a country be observed, and that a single standard of international law be adhered to. He expresses the opinion that if some agreement is reached on this and if the U.S. recants on the flight, Powers will be released before the expiration of his sentence.

Writing on the case in the *National Guardian* for September 12, Vincent Hallinan, an invited observer at the trial, stressed the humaneness with which the case was handled, the strict adherence to Soviet legal procedures, and the dramatic demonstration by the Soviet people present over the leniency of the sentence.

We recommend that all who are concerned with peace and our country's foreign policies get and read this account, which contains much more information than appeared in the press.

Additional useful information may be found in the "U-2 and Open Skies," covering "Overflights; UN Action and Chronology" in the *International Review Service* edited by A. G. Mezerik.

THE TRUTH ABOUT CUBA

Cuba—Anatomy of a Revolution, by Leo Huberman and Paul M. Sweezy. Monthly Review Press. New York. 176 Pages. \$3.50.

We print below excerpts from the review of Cuba—Anatomy of a Revolution that appeared in the Soviet weekly New Times, No. 39. The review was written by Roman Kashkayev.

THE authors write that they went to Cuba with the impression—an impression widespread in the United States—that things there were pretty bad, that the revolutionary regime had brought the country's economy to the verge of catastrophe. What they saw completely repudiated that.

"The truth," they say, "is that Cuba experienced an economic boom in 1959. What's more, for the first time in modern Cuban history, it was a boom which was not based on a strong international demand for sugar, and it occurred in spite of a sharp drop in private home building which has traditionally been one of the island's main economic activities."

While the value of the gross national

product dropped from 2,800 million pesos in 1957 to 2,600 million in 1958, in 1959 it again rose to 2,800 million.

Among the factors leading to this rise the authors cite the agrarian reform, reduction of rents and other payments, bigger state investments in public housing and construction of roads and irrigation facilities, as well as establishment of numerous new industries. All that has raised the population's purchasing power and enhanced economic activity.

The measures taken by the government increased the wages of factory and office workers by 46 per cent, from 723 million pesos in 1958 to 1,056 million in 1959. In the same period the number of unemployed dropped from 371,000 to 237,000 or 36 per cent.

The prices of foodstuffs and other necessities fell noticeably in the very first year of the revolution, they continue. . . .

As the result of the cut in power rates and other governmental measures, power consumption in 1959 increased by 10.6 per cent, to 1,619 million kilowatt-hours. . . .

The co-operatives have sharply improved the peasants' welfare, increased productivity and are successfully growing a greater number of crops on the same land on which in the past they raised only sugar cane or grazed cattle. The state is giving co-operatives all possible assistance: it supplies them with modern machinery and the necessary funds, advises them on how best to run the farms, etc. "To say that the co-operatives are a success," write Huberman and Sweezy, "is a mild understatement. *The truth is that there has probably never been a major social reform in any country at any time that has been accepted more enthusiastically or paid off more handsomely than the agrarian reform in Cuba.*" . . .

The revolutionary government has also carried out a radical reform in the sphere of education. . . .

The government has paid particular attention to education in the countryside, where it had been practically nonexistent.

The Castro government is also taking measures to solve the housing problem. Citing past history, and notably the experience in Guatemala, Huberman and Sweezy write that the forces of imperialism "are always prepared to go beyond political and economic to military methods if and when they judge the chances of success to be favorable." They are convinced, however, that the United States cannot reckon on the success of military intervention in Cuba. The firm support given to the Cuban government by its people and the army deprive the North American imperialists of all hope that the mercenaries will succeed in Cuba, as was the case in Guatemala. In our opinion, however, the authors seem to bank too much on the "common sense" of the Washington government. What actually shields the Cuban revolution is not the "common sense" of the imperialist politicians, but progressive mankind's solidarity with Cuba.

Huberman and Sweezy have written an honest and truthful book about Cuba.

OF HUMAN GREED

Seven Shares In A Gold Mine, by Margaret Larkin. Prometheus Books, 100 West 23rd Street, New York City. \$1.75.

PROMETHEUS Books has done a service in reissuing this book, originally published by Simon Schuster, in a cheaper edition.

The book is an extraordinary commentary on human greed. It gives a detailed account of an attempt made to blow up a Mexican airliner in order to collect the insurance on a group of Mexican workers who thought they were on their way to a job.

Miss Larkin and her daughter were on the plane, fortunately suffering only minor injuries. Intrigued by the fantastic plot behind the episode, Miss Larkin carefully followed up all its threads, talking to many of the individuals concerned. The author does a fine job of reporting the trial itself, which throws interesting light on the working of the Mexican judicial system. The book makes fascinating reading.

PEACE PAMPHLETS

Below are pamphlets we think our readers would be interested in published by the National Peace Literature Service of the American Friends' Service Committee. We published a longer list of their pamphlets in our September, 1960, issue. The pamphlets may be obtained through AFSC, 160 North 15th Street, Philadelphia, Pa., or one of the regional offices.

The Big Hand in Your Pocket, by Raymond Wilson and others. Facts and figures about the influence of the military on our economic life. 25 cents.

The Campus Protest Against ROTC by Allan Brick of Dartmouth College. On the growing movement against ROTC on many campuses. 10 cents.

Which Way the Wind? A DocuDrama by Philip Lewis. Second edition for second nation-wide tour of this dramatic presentation. \$1.00.

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