

RUSSIA SPLIT INTO ENDLESS CLASS GROUPS

Division Needed to Solve
Problems of Feeding,
Work, Living.

This is the fourth of the series of articles by Eugene Lyons summarizing impressions after three years in the Soviet Union.

BY EUGENE LYONS
United Press Staff Correspondent

MOSCOW, Feb. 26.—The Communist ideal envisions a society without classes, all humankind working together on terms of equality.

For the present, however, the Soviet population is divided and subdivided into more classes than the capitalist world outside.

For the Marxist under a bourgeois system the rough division of people into capitalists and workers, exploiters and victims, generally suffices.

Here where Marxism is not merely a philosophy, but a basis for practical action people are split into "endless classes and categories according to which they are fed, taxed, given work, trusted or terrorized."

Free Farm Classes

Such divisions are thoroughly in line with the logic of Communist thought. Since the individual counts for nothing, is only a grain of his social group or collective, the multiplication of such groups is inevitable.

Where once there were landlords and peasants, now we find kulaks (the better-to-do farmers), middle peasants, poor peasants and batraks, or landless farm hands.

The last two classes are, of course, the favorites. Upon them the Soviet regime bases its plans and its hopes, upon them it lavishes its resources.

The middle peasants are a harassed and driven lot, poised dangerously between the blessed poor and damned kulaks.

Kulaks Are Doomed

As to these, they are scarcely better than outlaws and formally doomed to extinction as a class by the end of this year, a process of ruthless expropriation already well started.

In the cities we are confronted by even more subtle divisions. The "lithentzi," or disfranchised class, has various categories, but the differences between them are only degrees of outlawry and not worth nagging over.

This class includes the dregs of the former ruling classes—ex-aristocrats, ex-merchants, princes, priests, etc.—and the leavings of the Nepmen or private traders.

Then come the intellectuals—professors, engineers, technicians, artists, actors, lawyers, etc.—who are constantly under suspicion with the benefit of doubt usually against them.

Workers Divided

Deep gulfs yawn between the real proletarians, the manual laborers, on one side and the office workers on the other. The former are "rab-otchi," the latter "sluzheshchi," the former alone rule even in theory, since the dictatorship of the proletariat does not include the office workers.

Furthermore, the manual workers are divided into those who do the heavy work in basic industries and their brethren engaged in lighter, more skilled tasks.

These distinctions within the working class itself are not academic.

They affect food rations, housing, the chance to obtain clothing, schooling. In all these matters the manual worker receives priority.

The political reasons for such artificial and seemingly iniquitous splintering of the working class are not far to seek.

The revolution needed one powerful group upon whom it could rely 100 per cent and whose loyalty it could maintain at the behest of party always.

The brain workers offered no such safe reliance. They included large masses closely tied by their tastes and mental habits to the bankrupt past.

Next—Ascendancy of the manual laborer.



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New Flower Developed Here



Miss Laura Patten (right), holding the Hoosier "flower wonder," and Miss Mildred Pogue in a greenhouse of Giant White Freesias.

YOUNG WOMAN SLAIN

Police Hunt Strangler of Unidentified Body.

By United Press

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—An unknown "strangler" became the subject of a city-wide search today after discovery of the body of an attractive, stylishly-gowned young woman lying in an isolated section of Van Cortlandt park with a sash-weight rope about her neck.

RECOVERY PREDICTED

Best Business Expected in 1935, Lions Told.

Complete business recovery from depression by the end of 1931, with "feverish business activity" by 1935 is the prediction of Professor Robert Phillips of Purdue university, international director of Lions clubs.

"By 1935 there will be such feverish activity and enterprise that we will forget about the years of 1930 and 1931," Phillips told members of the Indiana Lions clubs at its annual state banquet in the Claypool luncheon night.

"Basic causes for every depression felt in America since 1837 have been overinvestment, unwise investment, overproduction and the psychological attitude of the people," he said.

By 1940 history will repeat itself and we can expect a war in business and hard times again, Phillips asserted.

The state meeting closed this afternoon, following speeches and reports of district governors.

TRAIN HITS TRUCK

Pastry Is Spread Over Neighborhood.

By United Press

RICHMOND, Ind., Feb. 26.—D. C. Britton of Lynn was deposited in the midst of mess of uncooked scrambled eggs, doughnuts, buns, bread and cakes this morning when his truck was struck by a C. & O. passenger train near here.

Britton picked himself up unhurt, having been thrown from the truck into a pile of weeds with bits of food and splinters from the demolished truck.

Housewives from the surrounding countryside came to the wreck scene with baskets, coal buckets and sacks, and gathered up the bread, buns and bits of cake that were strewn along the tracks.

It was a lucky break for both Britton and the neighboring housewives.

The truck belonged to the Hatt bakers of Winchester.

During the last twenty years Professor Frederick H. Sears of the University of California has counted and classified more than 70,000 stars.

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ONLY HOUDINI COULD ESCAPE ROHMER'S KNOT

Creator of Dr. Fu Manchu
Tells of His Own Most
Embarrassing Moment.

BY H. ALLEN SMITH
United Press Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Sax Rohmer, the man who gave the world the shivers with his insidious Dr. Fu Manchu, is a rather short Englishman with graying hair, a marked appearance of dignity and an extreme affability. He looks no more sinister a person than Rudy Vallee.

Rohmer, who lives in Europe, will spend a week or two prowling around the skyscrapers and gangland haunts of Manhattan, because he enjoys it and because it's his business to keep abreast of the trend of international crime.

Rohmer is one of the most rambling talkers ever to set foot on American soil. When interviewed he buzzed along about crime, spiritualism, Gordon gin, Egyptology, Chinese pirates, writing habits and whatnot. And, finally, he got around to the best story of them all—the story of his most embarrassing moment.

No Way Out

He used to start out writing a thriller with little or no idea how it was going to turn out. "I simply set about to get everything tied up in a horrible knot," he explained, "and then I would bring in my detective and untie it."

Well, about five years ago Rohmer locked himself into his apartment (you should hear him call it a flat) overlooking Hyde park for purposes of concocting a hair raiser.

He wrote about nine chapters and then found himself involved in an inextricable puzzle. He couldn't figure a way out.

He pondered and pondered his problem while the nine chapters lay idle.

Then, of a sudden, he decided to give it up and in sort of a rage, tore the nine chapters up.

In the meantime, and without much thought, he had sent a copy of the nine chapters to his American agents.

Houdini to Rescue

He, therefore, was greatly amazed when he got word that the story had been sold to a popular American magazine and that the first installment was to appear at once.

He hopped a boat and hurried over. There was no saving the thing. The first chapter or two already had appeared in the magazine. There was nothing left for the master mind to do but sit down and finish the story.

"I paced the floor in my hotel, sleeplessly, trying to get the knot untangled," he said. "I was the most desperate man in the world. I kept writing chapters—working right behind the magazine's printers—but the more I wrote the deeper in I got myself."

"I was on the verge of ending it all by jumping out the window when my friend, Harry Houdini, who knew of my predicament, hit upon an idea for an ending to the story. Harry got himself out of many tight places, but never as tight a place as he pulled me out of."

TRIO ARE SENTENCED

Chicken Theft Leads to Liquor Charges.

Two men were bound over to the county grand jury and two others were sentenced today by Municipal Judge Paul C. Wetter in connection with the recent theft of chickens from Grover Dawson, 2432 South California street.

The four were arrested after Dawson followed a trail of feathers to the home of Clarence Beckett and his son, Virgil, 2400 South Dakota street. Police testified they found several live chickens, identified by Dawson as his, large quantities of feathers and about fifty quarts of home brew in the house.

Virgil Beckett and Harry Chadwick, 2246 Daley street, who admitted stealing the chickens, were held to the grand jury under \$1,500 bond each on burglary and grand larceny charges.

Clarence Beckett was fined \$100 and costs and sentenced thirty days on the state farm on blind tiger charges, while Oscar Hicks, 2456 South Dakota street, alleged to have been given sixteen of the chickens, was fined \$1 and costs and sentenced to fifteen days in jail on a charge of receiving stolen goods.

HOUSE KILLS TAX BILL

Lindley Senate Measure Is Dropped Without Debate.

The Indiana house of representatives today killed without debate the Lindley senate bill proposing a moratorium of one year from Feb. 9, 1931, on sale of property for delinquent taxes.

Revolution Is Feared

By United Press

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, Feb. 26.—Disgruntled political leaders alleged to be planning revolt to coincide with the inauguration on Friday of President-elect Gabriel Terra have been placed under strict surveillance by the government.

CONVICTED AS 'LEGGER

Stiles Fined \$100, Sentenced to Forty Days on Penal Farm.

Richard Stiles, 810 1/2 North Illinois street, Apartment 2, arrested recently following a police booze raid, was fined \$100 and costs and sentenced forty days on the state penal farm today by Municipal Judge Paul C. Wetter. His wife, Frances, also arrested, was freed.

Error Causes Search

By Times Special

MUNCIE, Ind., Feb. 26.—Believing he had been a victim of pickpockets while attending a trial in Delaware circuit court here, William Hole, near Daleville, caused Sheriff Fred Puckett to search several persons in quest of a pocketbook containing \$80. Later Hole advised the sheriff he had found the pocketbook in other clothes at his home.

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BISMARCK HOTEL CHICAGO

RANDOLPH AT LA SALLE

Gets Divorce



Mrs. Mabelle Horlick Sidley, heirless to a mailed milk fortune, has been given a divorce at Kenosha, Wis., from Dr. John Streeter Sidley. At the same time it was reported that Dr. Sidley would settle the \$250,000 damage suit which he had filed against W. Perkins Bull, K. C., Canadian "man of mystery," who was injured during a sudden recent motor trip to Toronto.

Gone, but Not Forgotten

Automobiles reported to police as stolen belong to:

Lowell Sanders, 2461 Riley avenue, Essex coach, 731-284, from Maryland street and Capitol avenue.

Cornelius Edwards, 1923 Park avenue, Ford sedan, 51-995, from Ohio and Illinois streets.

Robert Cobb, 1225 Edgemont avenue, Ford touring, from Delaware and Wabash streets.

BACK HOME AGAIN

Stolen automobile recovered by police belong to:

Edward Davis, 1738 South Meridian street, Peerless sedan, found at 942 South West street.

Budion coach, 731-514, found at Woodlawn avenue and East street.

Robert M. Rint, 4152 Central avenue, Buick coupe, found in front National Farmer Company.

NATION'S RUM LAWS INDORSED BY EDUCATORS

Dr. Daniel S. Kealey Leads
Opposition in Fight on
NEA Report.

By United Press

DETROIT, Feb. 26.—The eighteenth amendment received the indorsement of delegates to the National Education Association, department of superintendents, representative of educators of the nation, today when the resolutions committee report was adopted.

The vote on the report, which

included the prohibition resolution along with fifteen others, was almost unanimous.

Protest against inclusion of the committee's prohibition resolution in the blanket report was made by Dr. Daniel S. Kealey, Hoboken, N. J., who earlier in the week had submitted a resolution demanding the convention go on record as opposed to the eighteenth amendment.

Dr. Kealey was overruled and the vote followed immediately. Less than fifty of the more than 500 delegates present voted against the report.

The liquor resolution recognizes the "baneful effects of the use of alcohol as a beverage upon the human organism and upon the morals of our citizenry" and calls on teachers to impress the fact upon the youth of the land.

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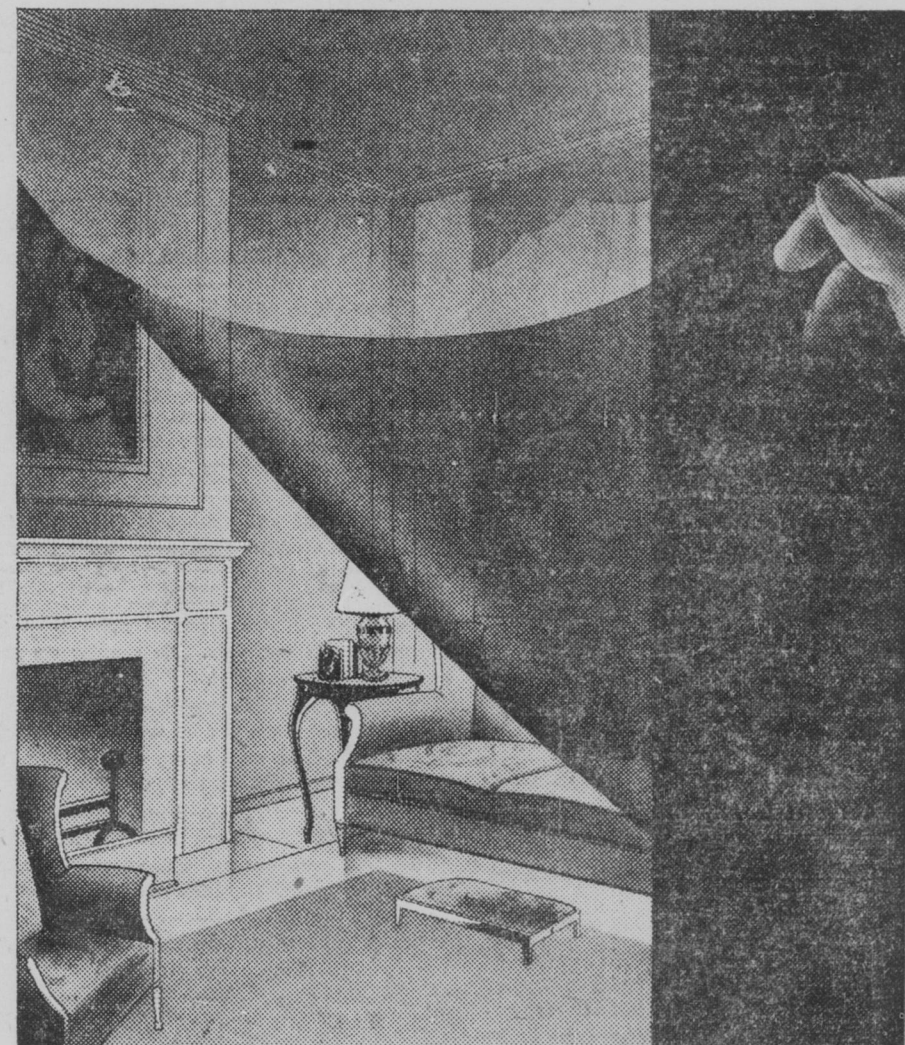
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