

CATCH PHRASES HAVE REPLACED SOVIET THOUGHT

Years of Propaganda Make
All Russian Communists
Think Alike.

This is the tenth of a series of articles
by Eugene Lyons, United Press Staff
Correspondent in Moscow, after a res-
idence there of thirty-six months.

BY EUGENE LYONS
United Press Staff Correspondent
MOSCOW, March 5.—If the qual-
ity of life under the Soviets will
ever be conveyed to readers outside
it will be done not by economists, or
journalists, but by artists.

The things which give that life
its special flavor, its deep tang, are
not alone in the concrete facts.
They are in overtones, in new atti-
tudes and new prejudices not easily
caught in words.

Not even the United States, with
its reputation for standardized
thinking and well-advertised catch-
words, is as thoroughgoing in these
respects as the Soviet Union.

Thirteen years of undisguised
propaganda for a set of ideas have
produced a mental uniformity rarely
matched in history. Germany or
France in the midst of their death
grapple scarcely developed such uni-
form opinion as has the land of
Soviets.

"Slogans" Replace Thought

For that active fraction of the
population which takes the trouble
to have a well-defined viewpoint at
all, stock phrases too often take
the place of thought. "Slogans" they
are called here.

Because of the exceptional strain
and sacrifices imposed on the nation
by the present policies, there is no
room left for independent views.
The prime political virtue is
orthodoxy.

Personal journalism, for instance,
practically has been eliminated.
Whether in "stories" or editorials
the Soviet writer sticks to texts,
stereotyped phrases, the path of
safety.

Like the orthodoxies of older re-
ligions, Communist orthodoxy finds
expression in unthinking and irra-
tional taboos.

Foreigners Are Isolated

Anything which smacks of "bour-
geois comfort"—even too many
cushions on the divan in the living
room—is per se shameful.

The principal taboo, of course, is
against the non-Communist for-
eigner.

The foreign correspondents, the
invited engineers and specialists are
as nearly isolated as they can be
short of actual imprisonment in
their rooms.

The Russians who see them out-
side of official duty do so with a
deep sense of tasting forbidden fruit
and flirting with danger.

The foreigners are given special
privileges in the matter of food,
priority in a hundred things.

Foreigners Under Watch

But they are denied—not by law
but by the force of custom—any real
contact with Russians, especially
with pro-Soviet Russians.

Already a fact when I arrived
three years ago, the isolation of the
foreigner has become increasingly
stringent in the last eighteen
months.

The 100 per cent Communist
shrinks from the bourgeois repre-
sentative through a real distaste for
contact with anything "unclean."
The rest, especially in the large cen-
ters, steer shy out of ordinary fear.
It may be legal, they figure, but
it is not safe. It is an open secret
that all foreigners are under con-
stant surveillance and few Russians,
however clear their consciences,
care to step into the circle of obser-
vation.

Next Possession of private prop-
erty abolished.

FRED LIGHTNER HAS TWO PAIRS OF EARS

Comedian Gets a Bunch of Laughs by Dolling Himself
Up in a Strange Manner at the Indiana.

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN

EVER hear of a fellow having two pairs of ears? Never did until I

ran across Fred Lightner, comedian.
I have had the reputation of possessing about the biggest pair of
ears in captivity, but Fred goes to the head of the class.

Must explain that one pair of Fred's ears is just a fake. They are
his comedy ears and he wears them over his real ones when he makes
his entrance.

When I was talking to Lightner the other night, I intended to ask
him how he got hold of this unique comedy idea, but I forgot to ask the
question.

Lightner is tremendously inter-
esting and he knows a lot about
show business. I think the last
time he was here, he was with a
successful musical comedy at En-
glish's.

Fred is the brother of Winnie
Lightner who went skyrocketing to
fame and money on the talking
screen.

This may seem funny but the
most serious business in the world
is the business of being funny.
There is a definite comedy touch
about everything that Lightner is
doing this week at the Indiana.

There is more to this fake ear
stunt of Fred's than it appears on
the surface. The fake ears are
really the index to the mood of the
audience.

"The second that the audience
lamps my fake ears, I can tell in a
second whether they are going to be
with me or against me," Fred said.
And that is sound logic because
all men and women of the stage
who know their business have an
"index" by which they can judge
the audience.

Once when Donald MacDonald
was playing at English's in "Strange
Interlude," he told me that the
opening speech of poor Charles
Marsden about his sex complex was
the index to the way the play was
going to go.

"If the audience laughed out loud

at the serious remarks of poor
Charles, we of the cast knew that
we were going to have a tough time
because the laughs were coming at
the wrong time."

And Fred Lightner, who has seri-
ously studied the art of causing
people to laugh, knows the verdict
of his audience by the way they
receive his fake ears.

Lightner is really serious about
this business of being funny. And
I believe that he is one of the
hardest workers in the business.

I found out that this man who
causes hundreds of people to laugh
daily, loves great music.

When I was with him, he sat by
the hour listening to a pianist play
both great and modern music.

It has been pleasant to meet Fred
Lightner, a comedian who knows
what it is all about.

He closes his engagement tonight
at the Indiana.

Indianapolis theaters today offer:

"Scandal Sheet" at the Circle, "Mil-
lie" at the Indiana, "Body and
Soul" at the Lyric, "Reaching for
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the Apollo, movies at the Colonial,
and burlesque at the Mutual.

—Advertisement—

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When Treated This Way

No longer is it necessary for
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risk of pneumonia. For doctors are
now advising a method that has
given quick, sure relief—not only in
extreme hospital cases, but in home
use among vast numbers in Indian-
apolis and vicinity.

L. H. Phillips, for example, neg-
lected his cold because it was mild
at first. A day later congestion
started to spread rapidly; he felt
"achy" and feared pneumonia. On
the advice of his doctor then he
started using double strength doses
of Ayer's Pectoral—a hospital-cer-
tified medication of wild cherry,
terpin-hydrate and other ingredi-
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Relief began instantly. With the
first pleasant swallow he felt its
comforting, healing warmth—from
his nose passages deep down into
his chest. In a few hours the "fev-
erish," "achy" feeling was relieved;
congestion began to clear up, and
in another day or so, the doctor



reports, all trace of the cold was
gone.

Note: Other cases reported daily—
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Just a few pleasant spoonfuls of
Ayer's Pectoral now and you, too, will
feel like a different person tomorrow.
At all druggists 60c; or twice as much
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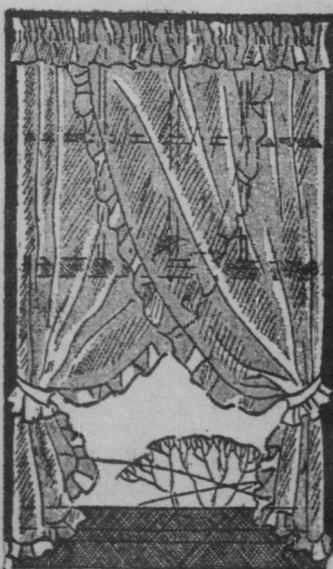
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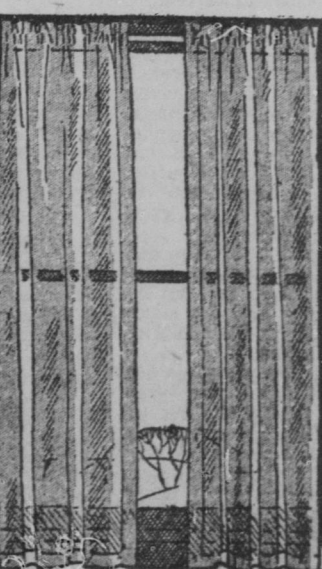
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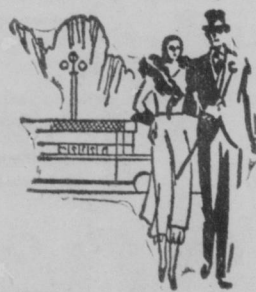
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