

## Russians Came, They Saw— But They Didn't Understand

by sue hovik  
Russia. A word that usually brings to mind a feeling of hatred, dislike, and desperate competition. What is it like to be in a room with eight top members of the agricultural field in Russia and active members of the Communist party.

Attending the press conference held for the Russian Minister of Agriculture, K. G. Pysin, and seven other members of the Russian delegation, I was interested in more than just the news aspects of it.

What would their attitude be when asked about the Cuban situation and the reported fields of rotting grain in the virgin wheat fields in Russia? What would their dress be and what would their general attitude be?

The eight Russians walked in the door and I discovered that they were mostly dressed like a very average American would dress. Their shoes were the only things that weren't typically American.

They seated themselves at the press table and as I looked at them I wondered how they could be so firmly fixed in their way of life and how we could dislike other people so much. I felt a little of my dislike for them leave and started to pity them.

M. A. Olshansky, president of the All-Union Academy of Agriculture Science, was probably the most impressive looking. He had a tremendous amount of white wavy hair . . . he looked like he should be one of the characters in a Tolstoy novel. He spoke slowly and appeared lost in thought most of the time.

Mrs. Marina Lvovna, a Russian interpreter, had a charming smile and listened intently to all that was said. She wasn't dressed very stylishly—but her shoes looked American.

A. S. Shevchenko immediately caught one's at-

ention by his extremely blue eyes that seemed to be laughing. He has been called "Will Rogers" by newsmen and one can readily see why. His general happy attitude and physical appearance created a very good impression.

Pysin was one of the few that were true to form. He looked and acted like one would expect a Russian dignitary to act and look. He seemed to be like Khrushchev would appear.

The questions started and I slowly began to see what these men were really like. The interpreter from the State Department had a solemn face which fit the occasion.

The State Department interpreter seemed to be doing a very good job, but the two Russian interpreters who accompanied the delegation listened very intently. Several times when she would leave out one word that had already been said or meant the same thing, the Russian interpreters quickly interjected it.

Pysin was asked the inevitable question about crop failures in Russia. He said that Pravda didn't precisely say that and that the American report was incorrect. He admitted that harvest was lower than usual but said that this was due to a lack of rain.

The whole interview followed on these lines—Pysin, who did the majority of the talking, never let himself be talked into a position of criticizing the Soviet Union. No remark was ever made that indicated they were ever in the wrong.

When asked about the grain trade agreement between Red China and Canada and the food shortage in the former country, Pysin said that he had not studied the economy of Red China and couldn't say about a food shortage there. Does the Minister of Agriculture in

Russia actually expect us to believe that he doesn't know about the economy of another Communist nation that is a neighbor to the Soviet Union?

Pysin's favorite phrase was "that is their problem." This covered everything from the Red China-Canada trade agreement to whether Pysin thought the American farmer could actually benefit from joint collective farming and eventually state control.

I could feel the dislike of Russia return to me. When Pysin was asked why the American farmer was a leader in the world of agriculture, he didn't attribute it first of all to techniques, knowledge or anything that would resemble praise of the United States. The first reason was that the climate and geographical conditions were the best. He never admitted to our superiority for the sake of technology and freedom being first.

Members of the Russian delegation were asked continuously what ideas they had found that they could adapt, what was new to them, what Khrushchev had found when he visited here that they could use, but they never answered those questions with a straight answer. They beat around the bush and came up with absolutely nothing as an answer.

The delegation seemed to enjoy themselves more when Dr. E. F. Frölik, dean of College of Agriculture gave the welcoming speech. He asked the Russians to attend the football game Saturday. Before consenting to go, they appeared more concerned about visiting with agriculture experts than having a little recreation.

At the end of the conference I had the feeling I had absolutely nothing worth while from the straight news angle, but I had gained a big insight into the life and world of the Russian top command.

## Educated Need Education

### Quote of Note From Dr. Calkins

No branch of higher education is more neglected today than the re-education of the educated. And no neglected branch of education is more important at this time to the welfare of our country. I am less disturbed by the conditions and problems facing this country . . . than I am by the intellectual unpreparedness of our people and especially our thinking people, to face these problems in an informed and responsible way . . . No one in these times can go far on the intellectual capital he acquires in youth. Unless he keeps his knowledge or skill up to date, revises it, adds to it, enriches it with experience and supplements it with new ideas . . . he is soon handicapped for the duties of the day.

Dr. Robert D. Calkins,  
President of Brookings  
Institution

There is probably no college fraternity which does not publically enoble the concept of scholastic excellence. Indeed, most of them suggest that the primary ideal encompassed in their initiation ceremony is the attainment of some kind of scholastic distinction. Yet when we consider the other aspects of fraternity life we get the impression that this is not the primary objective at all, but rather a necessary evil.

It is true that the all-fraternity average is above the all-men's average, as it consistently has been. But this is the result of two salient features of the "Greek" way of life: 1) pledges are required by the University to make a 5,000 average before they may be eligible for initiation, and 2) the Greeks traditionally select certain members exclusively for their scholastic ability. The latter do not, in fact, have to meet the usual social and personal criteria which most rushees do. Almost without excep-

tion, a fraternity pledge class leads an entire house in scholarship. Freshman fraternity averages especially tend to be proportionally higher. Yet when the pledge period ends, initiates find that the scholastic emphasis disappears—the publicized fraternity ideals notwithstanding.

Moreover, there is an atavistic (perhaps "chicken" would be a better word) tendency within the system. Greek-letter organizations occasionally raise their academic standards for a period of time, only to lower them again when higher standards begin to eliminate certain favored individuals. This has, in fact, occurred already this year in more than one house. Idealism, at least in this instance, is hard-going and thoroughly repugnant!

In a few weeks the fra-

ternity system will be engaged in the building of homecoming displays. And each house must decide (if indeed they even think of it) whether to participate or not. Each display usually requires many hours of work, traditionally provided by pledges (whose averages must be temporarily neglected for the sake of a trophy). Yet it would be unthinkable for most houses to legislate that only active members should work on the display. And the suggestion that a house not participate at all seems to be the ultimate profanation of the idea of school spirit (coming from the Greeks, this seems the greatest of all paradoxes, the grossest expression of the traditional fraternity proclivity—even worse than their mere existence!).

—J. J. G.

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SO HE SAYS "COME ON UP AND HAVE A LITTLE DRINK" AND I SAID "NO, THANK YOU, I HAVE A LITTLE DRINK." SO HE SAID, "WELL COME ON UP AND LISTEN TO MY TAPES" AND I SAID "THANK YOU VERY MUCH BUT I HAVE A RECORD PLAYER AT HOME AND BESIDES YOU'RE VERY FRESH." SO HE SAID, "SAY COME ON UP AND SEE MY FEIFFER COLLECTION." SO I SAID "THANKS JUST LOADS BUT I CAN SEE FEIFFER IN THE



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## Daily Nebraskan

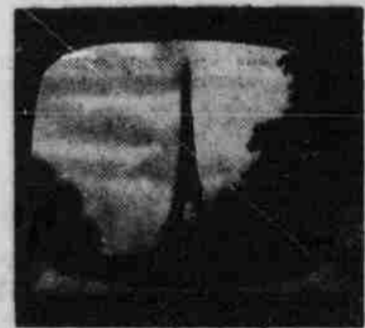
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## Reflections of Telstar

Remember the picture above? It flashed across your television screen on a hot night last July. Perhaps you remember that it originated from France. And that it reached the U. S. via Telstar, the world's first private enterprise communications satellite.

Since that summer night, the Bell System's Telstar has relayed electronic signals of many types—television broadcasts, telephone calls, news photographs, and others.

But there's one Telstar reflection you might have missed. Look into the faces of the Bell System people below and you'll see it. It is the reflection of Telstar's

success that glowed brightly on the faces of all who shared in the project.

Their engineering, administrative and operations skills created Telstar and are bringing its benefits down out of the clouds to your living room.

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The reflections of Telstar are many.



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