

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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Our Visitors Speak...

1920 Incident Brings Soviet Separation

(Ed. Note: The author of this article is a special student in physics in the University. He came here in August from his home in Copenhagen, Denmark.)

By Erik Norgaard

The present conflict between East and West has been the topic for some discussion in the browsing room, so it might be of interest to investigate some events which gave rise to the separation of Russia from the world.

I came to think of one of these events when I read the notice of the death of the former Soviet ambassador to the U.S., Maxim Litvinov, in January of this year.

Litvinov was one of the outstanding figures from the November revolution in 1917 and was sent to Copenhagen in the fall of 1919 as official representative for Lenin and Trotsky. At this time England and other countries were fighting Bolshevism in Russia and had landed voluntary troops and rich supplies in Arkhangelsk and Vladivostok.

The official mission for Litvinov was to negotiate with an English deputy, O'Grady, for an exchange of certain prominent prisoners of war, but secretly he was working intensely on a plan, which had worldwide importance.

The negotiations with England concerning this point were very difficult, but he knew how to play his cards, so in February 1920 he and O'Grady had arrived at an agreement. The plan was of large dimensions:

The Soviet Republic wanted to get into practical connection with the world. Very strong financial spheres wanted to meet Russia and planned to make Copenhagen the center for the coming enormous trade because this town had a favorable position at the entrance to the Baltic Sea.

Morgan in the U.S., Barclay's Bank in London and some Danish financiers were building the financial foundation in this spring of 1920. These were feverish days in Copenhagen with delegations coming, rumors all over. Everybody felt something great and prospective was being formed.

But all the hopes for a future with friendly relations to Russia were spoiled by powers who were against this plan. The wealthy financiers in Hamburg, Germany, were afraid the center of trade for the Baltic Sea was to be moved, so they had two agents in Copenhagen with the sole purpose of compromising Litvinov by any mean trick.

In spite of many warnings he never guarded his offices and one night the agents broke in. They found a letter telling about a transport of 20,000 goldfrancs from the Soviet to the Russian Red Cross in Geneva, and only on the basis of this unoffending action they sent sensational telegrams to the press all over the world telling about transportations of millions from Soviet "in order to start a worldwide revolution."

The cool and upright answer from Litvinov came too late; he was compromised and doubted not only in Denmark but all over the world. O'Grady was immediately called back and the whole magnificent plan spoiled in the course of one night.

Soon after Litvinov left Denmark, but at the leave-taking he made the following comment, which showed his foresight:

"All the possibilities we had for getting into contact with the capitalistic countries are exhausted. All our hopes are broken. I can only see that we close our country off and take care of our own matter, not allowing any interference from others."

How often decisions of world-wide importance have had to be based on narrow-mindedness and lies!

The Atomic Age

Chinese Massacre Disbelievers; Snag in German Arms Production

By Phil Johnson

Massacres conducted by the Chinese Communist government, according to reports from that area, have accounted for millions of innocent people, since the Nationalists were expelled.

A small number of the killings have been admitted by Mao Tse-tung's regime. Last May Day, the big Communist holiday, Hangchow Communists reported mass trials and public execution of 162 "top counter-revolutionary criminals."

On another date, the Communist newspapers bragged that 80,000 Chinese attended the execution of "several" counter-revolutionaries, and an additional 10,000 supposedly listened to radio broadcasts of the event.

American Chinese have received dozens of letters threatening the execution of their relatives if they fail to send money to the Chinese government.

The Free China Anti-Atrocity League has compiled some figures on the extent of the massacres, although the estimates may be exaggerated, since the

league understandably has a partisan viewpoint on the situation. The league claims that the Chinese Communists have executed over 2,200,000 citizens, and that an additional 15 million have perished from famines caused by government action. It is reported that millions more have been exported to Siberia as slave laborers.

The crime for which these punishments are awarded may include anything from actually opposing the government to being persona non grata to some local Communist leader.

German rearmament has hit another snag. West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer recently stated that Ruhr industrialists do not want to produce arms for Western defense.

According to the chancellor, "Our position is too exposed, an attack by the Russians, and nothing attracts enemy bombers like having an arms industry."

Unfortunately, he is correct. The Ruhr lies under the shadow of Soviet air power. Its factories are so close to the Russian airfields that the Soviets would be able to provide fighter cover for their bombers. On longer flights, fighters are limited by their short range, and the bombers are more vulnerable to enemy fighters.



Phil Johnson

Toward World Understanding

"All men whilst they are awake are in one common world; but each of them, when he is asleep, is in a world of his own." (Plutarch: "Of Superstition.")

By Plutarch's definition, the campus will see some wide-awake citizens this weekend . . . some students who are very much conscious of the importance of seeing things in global terms.

The specific occasion: the University is host this weekend to two groups of students, an estimated 250 high school delegates to the fifth annual Oregon High School International Relations League convention and a group of foreign students from 10 Oregon colleges and universities, attending the annual YM-YW International Festival.

It's particularly encouraging to see members of our generation attempting to broaden their world outlook; even the foreign students, already leagues ahead of the rest of us in this regard, can benefit from meeting their fellows from other lands.

We once heard the atmosphere on the Oregon campus, with its predominantly insulated concern with its own affairs—pay phones, deferred living, name bands—compared to a cocoon.

Maybe we're just getting older, but we think we've been seeing hopeful signs this year of a coming metamorphosis—a waking up from this concern over the "world of our own" into awareness of the existence of a larger world, "one common world." An example is the great student interest in the Parliament of World Religions; and we've seen more foreign student-American student contact, with resulting exchange of ideas. It's a slow process, but we have hopes.

Meanwhile, a hearty welcome to our visitors this weekend. We can learn much from you.—G. G.

Action Needed NOW

Everyone thinks . . . and says . . . we should go ahead and request an interpretation of PT&T tariffs from the PUC. William C. Jones, acting president, says so. Bill Carey, student body president, says so. The dime-paying students say so.

They've been saying it for some time. So have we.

The phone company has requested time to investigate. OSC thinks this is a stall. Our officials think it's a stall. We agree.

The answer seems simple. ASK FOR AN INTERPRETATION OF THE TARIFFS NOW.

Stop beating around the bush and waiting and waiting and waiting. This is exactly what the phone company wants. Stop playing right into their hands.

Let the Fish Live

The Navy has a pretty good record in its public relations field, but it would seem it's about ready to botch it up as far as northern Idaho is concerned.

In the name of national security, the Navy wants to carry out bombing and underwater explosion tests in Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho. This beautiful lake boasts some of the finest trout fishing to be found in the United States.

Residents of the area are highly indignant about the proposal but for some reason the Idaho Fish and Game department has consented to the tests. The Navy has moved slowly, hoping the uproar would die down, but the Oregonian is helping keep the issue alive.

The Oregonian has been the strongest voice in the Northwest in opposing any further destruction of game fish or their habitat through stream pollution and fish-destroying dams. It is natural there should be strong editorial opposition to such an experiment as that proposed by the Navy.

Recently, we read where a Navy spokesman said the tests would be conducted in such a manner as to "minimize" the destruction of fish, whatever that means. It sounds pretty weak to us. We've "caught" fish with a dynamite cap . . . it'd be a neat job to minimize destruction with bombs or heavy demolitions in the Kamloops-stocked Pend Oreille.

There must be other places to carry out such tests. Because of the secrecy of the whole affair, no one but the Navy knows just why this splendid fishing lake is such a desirable target. Certainly, if such tests are essential to national security, the people in that part of the country should be better informed on the issue. And if they are not essential, the Navy should stay away and leave the fish and the fisherman alone.—B. C.

Campus Headlines - - Elsewhere

Kansas 'Cracks Down' on Faculty

By Rae Thomas

Campus police at the University of Kansas, are cracking down on faculty traffic violators. Cars of faculty members are being towed away in cases where violators have received an "excessive number" of tickets and have ignored repeated warnings.

An extensive survey at Purdue University resulted in the agreement that the high school record of a student, is the best indication of his future college record.

At Sacramento Junior college in California the president and vice president of the sophomore class were elected by a landslide. Total vote: 11.

Smoking and soft drinks will be banned from all University of Texas classrooms, teaching labs,

and libraries, from now on. To make up for this, next year's Christmas vacation will begin on Dec. 22 instead of the 24th, "to allow students who live some distance from Austin, time to get home."

During fall semester at the University of Houston, the new paper office was burglarized of two coats, an overnight bag and a new typewriter. The latest theft has been that of a 1952 ESQUIRE calendar.

"It's not the pecuniary loss but the principle of such a deed," said the editor.

At Michigan State University the girls organized a football team to prove that the "weaker sex" is an inaccurate title. Then they challenged last year's intramural champions. The score: Men—13, Women—13.

A Tip to Professors



"Oh, yes, another little tip, Louise—don't come late to Prof. Snarf's class."