

# Touring Newsmen Inspect Auto Works, University in Moscow

(Editor's Note: Marshall Formby and Robert Dix were among a group of American newsmen who have just visited the Soviet Union while on a tour of Europe. They have written their views on some aspects of the Soviet scene in the following dispatch written while in Moscow. Formby owns several radio stations in Texas and Dix is a Ravenna, O., newspaper publisher.)

By ROBERT DIX  
And  
MARSHALL FORMBY  
Written for the United Press

Moscow — (U.P.) — The people of Moscow have two institutions they like to show the few visitors who ever get behind the Iron Curtain — the Stalin auto works and the University of Moscow.

Both are modern, and the university's buildings are new. Soviet officials went to great pains to show both of these to the American editors visiting here. About 35,000 persons are employed at the Stalin auto works, which is of course, owned by the state. Here the workers manufacture Zis automobiles, a special large car for government officials, Zis trucks, bicycles and refrigerators. The Zis is the largest car made in Russia, and looks like a pre-war Packard. The car can not be bought, but if it could it would sell for about 40,000 rubles, or about \$10,000, according to the exchange rate. The trucks are well built and sturdy. The bicycles are lighter weight than American-made ones, and sell for 620 rubles, or \$155 in U.S. money. We never got to see any of the refrigerators.

At least 40 per cent of the workers at this factory were women and in some parts of the huge plant, we saw only women working. And they were doing heavy work. Most all of the bicycle factory work was done by women, most of them girls in their late teens and women under 30.

Wages are based on piece work, units completed during the month, rather than on an hourly wage. Laborers make from 600 to 2,000 rubles per month, which would be from \$150 to \$500 per month on our exchange. But it must be remembered that extremely high prices prevail for just about everything except rent. The ruble equivalent of our dollar won't buy half as much as it will buy in America.

We talked to one girl in the auto plant who was doing a man's work. She averaged about 1,100 rubles per month. Workers all appeared to be in excellent health and well fed, but most all were dressed in shoddy and poor clothing, according to our standard. Working conditions are satisfactory, but proper safety precautions are not taken as at home.

On the southwest outskirts of Moscow stands the 32-story tower of the main building of the University of Moscow, built in 1953. There are 37 buildings in all on this 700-acre campus. Living quarters for the students and some faculty members are on the top floors of the large building. There are rooms for 6,000 students and apartments for 200 instructors.

Founded in 1755  
The University of Moscow was founded in 1755 with its first buildings on Red Square. Two years ago, the university was moved to its present location to make room for expanded growth. The science buildings, favorite of the Soviet government, are near the main building.

This university, one of 36 throughout the entire Soviet nation, has an enrollment of 21,500 students. Men students only slightly outnumber the women. More than 9,000 students are enrolled in natural science courses. At least 97 per cent of the students are on a scholarship, which means the state is entirely footing the bill for their education. It takes five years to get a regular degree, as we classify college work, because the freshman year at the university is somewhat similar to the senior year in high school in America. Freshmen are admitted only after passing a rigid competitive examination.

## Medford Music Groups Win Four 'Superior' Ratings In Festival, Top Entries

Medford student musicians won four "superior" ratings during the Southern Oregon Music festival and contest here Thursday, Friday and Saturday, it was reported today. This was the largest number of the top ratings won by any music department. Klamath Falls was next, with two top ratings.

Judging was not competitive, but based on standards set up in each group. Judges included Charles Lawrence, University of Washington, Oscar Bjorlie, Southern Oregon college, and Karl Ernst, San Jose State college, for the vocal groups; and Clarence Sawhill, UCLA, Maurice Brennan, Willamette university, and John O'Connor, Oregon State college, for instrumental groups.

**Ratings Given**  
Ratings were I, superior; II, excellent; III, good, and IV, poor. Superior ratings were won by the following groups:  
Medford Junior High school

When he graduates, the student has his choice of several jobs, but once he chooses one, he must take the assignment for three years.

### Professors' Pay High

Pay of the instructors and professors is high in proportion to the salary of other workers in the Soviet Union. Assistant instructors start at 1,100 rubles per month, a senior assistant gets 2,800 per month and many of the professors get 6,000 rubles (about \$1,500) per month. Those who are voted into the 110-member-ship of the Academy of Science get an additional 6,000 rubles each month. Also some professors are furnished automobiles, which is considered a great privilege in Moscow.

We talked to students from various parts of the Soviet Union. They were serious-minded, but pretty much like college students everywhere. They talked and visited in the halls, ate ice cream bars and candy and are interested in many kinds of sports. The percentage of young persons attending a university in the Soviet is so small, that university students are considered among the very select of the country.

Near the university, as well as near the Stalin auto works, many new apartment buildings to house all kinds of workers are under construction.

## Chicken Vaccine Claimed Developed

Washington—(U.P.)—The Agriculture Department's research service today announced development of a vaccine for chickens that may save poultry growers up to \$50,000,000 a year.

The vaccine is not yet available to poultrymen, nor recommended for use by them. The research scientists headed by Dr. B. R. Burmester at the U. S. Regional Poultry Research Laboratory, East Lansing, Mich., first must verify their findings under a variety of conditions, simplify the vaccination technique, and get vaccine production on a practical basis.

So far, the vaccine has developed high resistance or immunity in chicks to a cancer-like disease of poultry, visceral lymphomatosis. It is also known as "big liver disease."

## New Operation Aids Sufferers of Cancer

San Francisco — (U.P.) — Three San Francisco doctors disclosed today they have developed a revolutionary operation for the treatment of cancer, involving a transplant of the adrenal glands. The doctors said the operation has helped 10 of 17 women patients who submitted to the treatment although it is still in the experimental stage.

The operation has relieved patients of pain, restored appetites, resulted in substantial gains in weight, and in some cases, caused shrinkage or disappearance of the cancer.

Announcement of the operation was made at the opening of the 39th annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology here.

## New Earthquakes Hit Philippine Islands

Manila — (U.P.) — New earthquakes today hit the Lake Lanao area toppling many of the buildings left standing in an earthquake disaster 10 days ago that killed more than 400 persons. Weather Bureau officials said the new tremors were equal or nearly equal to the last ones that struck the area on Mindanao Island in the Southern Philippines.

The first fragmentary reports did not disclose any deaths. A Philippine news service survey said district leaders reported "several" persons were injured and taken to hospitals overcrowded with victims of the April 1 quake.

The earth throughout the island of Mindanao shook under the new impacts during the night.

## Pope Pius Calls for Disarmament Program

Vatican City — (U.P.) — Pope Pius XII, in an Easter Sunday appeal for peace, called on world leaders to "start a progressive disarmament" that would spare the world the horrors of an atomic war.

The 79-year-old Pontiff addressed 850,000 Easter pilgrims who jammed St. Peter's Square and its approaches — one of the biggest crowds ever seen in the Square.

He exhorted atomic scientists to "persevere bravely and confidently" with the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and asked God to prevent their efforts "being turned into an infernal violence which would destroy everything."

Abundance of rabbits reaches its peak about every 8½ years, according to recent Australian science studies.

for television entertainment. The winners were announced by Dean John E. Drewry of the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism of the University of Georgia.

The university, with the Peabody board, administers the annual awards designed to recognize disinterested and meritorious public service by radio and television and to perpetuate the memory of the late George Foster Peabody, a native of Columbus, Ga., and New York banker and philanthropist.

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## Raft Lehi II Held To Satisfy \$820 Fine

Alameda, Calif. — (U.P.) — De Vere Baker conferred with his lawyer today about a possible court appeal to free the Lehi II from government seizure.

The Coast Guard seized the banana colored raft Friday and towed it from Jack London square to Government Island in Alameda, where it has since been in the custody of a U.S. deputy marshal.

The Coast Guard seized the raft to satisfy \$820 in fines levied against Baker and the Lehi Scientific Expedition because of deficiencies in the first Lehi.

However, Baker's attorney George E. McDonald, Oakland, said he will appeal the fines on grounds the Lehi II belongs, not to Baker or the expedition, but to Alfred Martin, Oakland building supplies dealer.

## Commentator, Gobel Head Awards List

Athens, Ga. — (U.P.) — John Daly, ABC news commentator, and George Gobel, NBC comedian head the list of the 1954 George Foster Peabody radio and television awards, it was announced today.

Daly received his award for radio-television news and Gobel



REV. CLINE HALSEY from Los Angeles, Calif. A man with a message from the hour. A welcome awaits you.

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