

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

A few days back, Boris Pasternak, a Soviet writer living in Russia, was awarded the Nobel literature prize, the most distinguished award that can come to a writing person. Was his government proud of him?

It was not. The Moscow Literary Gazette (communist dominated) denounced the award as a "provocative attempt of international reaction to heat up the cold war." It said his best-selling novel, Dr. Zhivago, is an "artistically squalid, malicious work, hypocritical and imbued with mendacity."

The Union of Soviet Writers (communist dominated) expelled him for "conduct unbecoming of the calling of a Soviet Writer" and asserted that he had betrayed the Soviet people.

Hmmmmmmmm. One can't help wondering how the government of the Soviet Union (which is composed of communists) feels about the unprecedented award of a SECOND Nobel prize to three Russian physicists who discovered and developed what is known as the "Cherenkov effect," which is believed to have been put to practical use in Russia's Sputniks.

I think we know. Moscow will be prouder than Punch of it. Moscow ballyhoos whatever is GOOD for communism. It belabors and bedevils whatever seems to be BAD for communism.

THAT gets us back to Pasternak.

His prize-winning Dr. Zhivago is a novel describing approximately four decades of Russian life—with particular emphasis on the years that have elapsed since the Russian revolution, as a result of which the communists took over. In his book he wrote of communist Russia realistically and reflectively, describing the bad along with the good.

His offense lies in writing a book that discloses communism for what it is—not what the communists CLAIM IT IS.

A WORD in conclusion. What are the Nobel prizes? There are five of them:

1. For the most important discovery or invention in the field of physics.
2. In the field of chemistry.
3. In physiology or medicine.
4. For the most distinguished literary work of an idealistic nature.
5. For the most effective work in the interest of international peace.

The average value of the prizes is about \$40,000. Those for physics and chemistry are awarded by the Royal Academy of Science in Stockholm, the prize for medicine by the Caroline Institute, which is the faculty of medicine in Stockholm and the peace prize by a committee of five elected by the Norwegian parliament.

THE money, which comes from the interest on an endowment of about \$9,000,000, was provided by a Swede, Alfred Bernhard Nobel, who invented dynamite, among other things. He lived and worked in the last century, and his inventions and the factories he set up to produce them made him one of the richest men in the world in day.

Truck Hits Pole Causing Outage

Portland — (UP) — A truck loaded with 10 tons of dirt struck a power pole in southwest Portland Wednesday causing an eight minute outage in a downtown Portland area, an hour outage along McAdams, and two flickers in other business areas.

Driver of the truck, James C. Bradford, 32, managed to vault from the vehicle when hot wires fell on the cab. He was not injured.

The pole, owned jointly by Pacific Power and Light and Portland General Electric, carried a 69,000 volt PP&L line and a PGE 11,000 volt line, along with PP&L lines of lesser voltage.

Power company officials said some of the lines struck the truck and caused short-circuits, and others fell to the ground.

Bradford said he was distracted by another vehicle.

DEBBIE IN HOSPITAL

Hollywood — (UP) — Debbie Reynolds, who broke up her "ideal" marriage with singer Eddie Fischer after he squired actress Elizabeth Taylor around New York last month, was hospitalized Wednesday. The petite, 26-year-old Miss Reynolds probably will be kept in the hospital until Friday, Dr. Charles Levy said. She was reported suffering from exhaustion and acute indigestion.



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