

REPORT ON THE RUSSIANS.....

W. L. White

INSTALLMENT NINE

To understand why the Baltic States and later Poland's eastern provinces voted by such staggering majorities for union with the Soviet government, it is necessary to know the meaning of the term "social engineering," practiced by the Communist Party.

Communists recognize that in newly occupied areas many individuals cannot adapt themselves to the Soviet system.

The Soviets conclude that these leaders under the old order will make them, at the least, undependable citizens of the new. Consequently, the leaders are arrested for deportation immediately, the smaller fry being rounded up at a more leisurely rate.

Meanwhile plans for elections proceed. With all such "enemies of the people" disposed of, the Soviet propaganda apparatus moves in, the Red Army taking a prominent part. The Communist Party organizes local workers' and peasants' committees, which nominate candidates for delegates to the regional Popular Assembly.

Shortly after the Soviet occupation of Eastern Poland, such elec-

if she would be ready to leave in an hour. After dressing herself, her small son and packing her bag, she arrived on her front step—where she found all the other women on her street also waiting with packed bags and realized that the journey ahead was not a special dispensation to her.

It is also an axiom of social engineering to separate families, not as an act of needless cruelty, but because men are suited for stronger, more rugged work than are their wives and daughters. But if they are told this at the outset, the emotional scenes which follow cause needless delay. Consequently, the only instruction given by the NKVD in the home is that the head of the family is to pack his toilet articles separately since men will go to another place for sanitary inspection. Not until the family is on the station platform do they discover that the head of the family is locked with other men in a car separate from those into which they are locked with women and children. It may be several days before they learn that the men are en route to an unknown labor camp. It was the practice to send men to lumber and mining camps in northern Siberia, while women and children did better in the brick yards and co-operative farms in southern Kazakhstan.

There was much unavoidable confusion. Although the cars were supposed to be opened daily, sometimes through neglect, they stood for days on sidings, and when finally opened it was nearly always necessary to remove a number of bodies of those who had died from general weakness induced by thirst or cold. But none of this was deliberate, and in such large mass population movements, oversights are inevitable.

It is unlikely that Russian armies, occupying other neighboring states, will practice social engineering to anything like the degree that it was applied to Poland and the Baltic States. These things were done in the honeymoon period of the Stalin-Hitler pact, when Molotov was proudly proclaiming that Poland had forever vanished from the map, and a Russian alliance with the "war-mongering capitalist democracies" was unthinkable. It is true to say that today the Kremlin's thinking has greatly changed.

The science of social engineering cannot be deflected by personal tragedies, since its objectives are the building of a strong, loyal state. And it should be said in defense of the Soviet government that under similar circumstances it has treated its own people exactly as it did the Poles.

Soviet social engineering as applied to Poland and the Baltic States has a purpose which we can understand even though we do not approve; and it should not be mentioned in the same breath with the savage and senseless butcheries which the Germans were perpetrating at Lublin on their side of the partition line.

It is easy to see why Soviet censorship is severe in matters that involve social engineering. A less harmful manifestation is its sensitivity to any hint that Russia might be radical. A reporter, describing an abrupt alteration in certain Soviet methods, referred to "revolutionary changes," but the timid censor struck out "revolutionary." They also don't like reference to the Communist Party, feeling it is unpopular in the outside world.

If, in the course of a news story, a prominent Russian is identified as a "member of the Communist Party" this fact is almost always stricken out by the censor. Ordinarily, however, the Soviet blue pencil is not a "consultative censorship"—you cannot argue with the censors or give them your reason, nor will they give you theirs, when they hand back a mutilated cable.

Their reply is always, "We can't discuss this with you. It's been decided."

The censorship, of course, excludes everything which might give the outside world an unfavorable impression of conditions within Russia.

One explanation is that Russians are a proud people, ashamed to have such facts proclaimed to the world. But the result is that the world has only a meager idea of the sacrifices the Russian people are making. Likewise, they conceal exactly how many hundreds of thousands of Leningraders starved during the siege.

Correspondents who resent the censorship most say that fully half their troubles come not from the rules but from the censors' stupidity or their limited knowledge of languages. One censor, handling a story which described Ilya Ehrenburg, Russia's famous war writer, as a "Francophile," struck out this word and reproved the correspondent. When he finally understood that "Francophile" means one who loves not the Spanish dictator but the French Republic, he let it pass.

Censorship in the Soviet Union is in charge of Apollon Petrov, a former professor of Chinese history at

the University of Leningrad and also a former Soviet Consul at Chungking. Moscow correspondents say that the avowed function of the Petrov Bureau is not to help them but to prevent them from getting news.

Petrov, in particular, and his assistant censors in general are despised by the Anglo-American Press with an intensity which goes far beyond the bounds of reason.

The correspondents can truthfully say that nowhere else in the world does such provocation for it exist. They would not mind the vitamin-starved diet or the bleak living conditions of wartime Russia if they were not treated as tolerated spies—cut off from any real human contact with a people they admire.

Russians, owing to their enforced isolation, are almost as bad linguists as Americans. Only a few have more than a smattering of any European language other than their own.

One day we inspected the Moscow exhibit of captured enemy war equipment. It was a beautifully arranged display open to the public, and included everything from Italian uniforms to the newest and biggest in German Tiger tanks. New, only to the Soviet Union for they had been introduced in Africa to match comparable British and American equipment, and after the fall of Tunis they were brought to Russia.

I asked Jennie, an unusually intelligent and well-educated Soviet girl, if she had any captured German radar. She had never heard of the word. Thinking the Russians used another, I described it as an electric device which detected airplanes at night or through fog without the use of sound. She went off to consult the general in charge.

Returning, she said she knew what I was talking about; such devices were used by the Germans and had even been captured but they were kept in another place for study and were not on view. In the Western world, every bright fifteen-year-old knows the general principles of radar. But two hundred million people in the Soviet Union will probably never hear of it until it can be manufactured there.

America's most vital contribution to Russia was not planes but trucks. This huge agricultural nation is incapable of producing enough to fit the size of its army or its sprawling geography. It was for want of modern transport that, when fast-moving German columns punched their 1941 lines in a dozen places, the Russians had to fall back in disorder, leaving thousands of precious heavy artillery pieces and hundreds of thousands of prisoners in German hands.

By 1942 American trucks began flowing into Russia in volume. Without these it would have been impossible for the Russians to have followed up their major victory at Stalingrad. Without these trucks, the Red Army would still be stuck in its own bottomless Ukrainian mud. With them it was able to pursue, and when the Germans made a stand at a river or a provincial city, to deal the next sledge hammer artillery-infantry smash which knocked loose the Wehrmacht and kept it continually off balance and retreating.

How long is this business to go on? The Jews said, "Three times, then let judgment fall." Peter, being a follower of Christ, went much farther. He would forgive seven times. Well, that's a lot of forgiveness; let us recognize that. Most of us haven't even gone as far as the Jews, and Peter is way ahead of us.

But it is not enough! Forgiveness which has any limit set on it is not forgiveness at all. The very genius of forgiveness demands that we do not stand there with a measuring line or an account book. It must be from the heart, without limit and without restraint.

III. A Means for Attaining Greatness (Mark 10:35-45). To want to be truly great for God is certainly not a sin. In a world which was rejecting Christ and getting ready to crucify him, this mother wanted her two boys to have a place of honor in the service of Christ. So far, so good; but then came the thing which spoiled it all—selfishness.

To seek honor for oneself, or for those one loves in order that the ego might be inflated and self given a chance to show off, that is definitely unchristian.

If then it is right to seek proper greatness, how may it be done? Verses 43-45 tell us. It is by way of sacrificial service, the denial of self. This world and its kingdoms say that the one who serves is inferior to the one who is served. In the kingdom of Jesus it is the one who serves who is greatest.

Where will such a path lead? For Christ it led to the cross, and beyond it the victory of resurrection day. It may mean death for us, for a real willingness to serve connotes a willingness to give all, even life itself, for his glory.

"Neither one," said the lieutenant, "it's a Russian jeep. Your American jeeps are too flimsy to use on these roads at the front. Five thousand kilometers and they fall to pieces. Here we use only Russian jeeps."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By HAROLD L. LUNDQUIST, D. D. Of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Lesson for May 12

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LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER

LESSON TEXT—Matthew 18:15-17; 21: 22; Mark 10:35-45.
GOLDEN TEXT—By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.—John 13:35.

One world! Men have discovered in recent years that we do live in one world and that we must learn how to get along with one another, or we may find that we have destroyed civilization and one another.

God has always taught in his Word that all men are of one origin, and that despite their differences, they are to live in unity and peace. That would have been blessedly true if men had obeyed God and his law. Sin brought division and confusion.

Now in our day, when we should be far on the way to the attainment of God's purpose, we find men more inclined than ever to be suspicious of one another, grasping in their desires and purposes, and evil in many of their ways.

We have not yet learned to live together as nations. Let us set ourselves to the task of living together.

I. A Method for Dealing with Differences (Matt. 18:15-17). This is the God-prescribed method for dealing with personal problems in the Christian church. That body in which love should reign is often rent by jealousies and personal resentments. If permitted to run on unchecked, they create division and even strife before the world, with all the disgrace it brings on the cause of Christ.

Such matters are to be dealt with promptly. The aggrieved one is not to wait for the sinner to make the approach, but is to go to him and place before him the evidence of his guilt. Done in kindness and with tact, this is frequently all that needs to be done. A man may thus win his brother, with no further ado or fuss in the church.

If he proves stubborn, the next step is to bring some brethren along and talk it over again. This evidence of their concern may break the stubbornness, or their prayers may win him. And if it does not work, the things said and done will have been witnessed by brethren who can faithfully report them to the church.

The final step is to bring the erring brother before the church. Now he may see the seriousness of his offense and repent. If not, there is one plain duty; he is to be put outside of the fellowship of the church. Does that mean that he is abandoned and forgotten? Certainly not. He is to be "as a heathen man and a publican." Does the church have any interest in such individuals? Indeed it does, for the primary business of the church is to win both heathen and publican to fellowship with Christ.

II. A Measure for Determining Forgiveness (Matt. 18:21, 22).

Peter's question was a practical one. He supposed the case of one who sinned repeatedly against one who had shown a forgiving spirit. Most of us need not suppose such cases; we have them before us. We forgive and are ready to let it all be forgotten, when lo, the offender turns up with an even greater wrong, indignity or sin! Then there is weeping and apparent repentance, followed almost at once by another offense.

How long is this business to go on? The Jews said, "Three times, then let judgment fall." Peter, being a follower of Christ, went much farther. He would forgive seven times. Well, that's a lot of forgiveness; let us recognize that. Most of us haven't even gone as far as the Jews, and Peter is way ahead of us.

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The Home Town Reporter in WASHINGTON By Walter Shead WNU Correspondent WNU Washington Bureau, 1616 Eye St., N. W.

Granting Loan to Britain Would Benefit U. S. Business

FROM observations this reporter has made in the hearings on the proposed British loan it appears that opposition is coming largely from the same sources which were definitely pre-Pearl Harbor isolationists.

To the uninitiated the arguments pro and con on this proposed \$3,750,000,000 loan are confusing. They are involved with high finance and foreign trade, with the sterling bloc, the export cycles, with international credit and many other factors which only experts at that sort of thing can readily perceive.

Stripped down to everyday language, however, here are the potent factors: (1) We are actually merely extending Britain a line of credit to the amount of \$3,750,000,000; (2) She can draw on this credit until December 31, 1951, and pays us back in 50 equal installments with interest at 2 per cent; she must pay the principal installment every year and (3) Britain agrees to open up to unrestrained American trade the entire British Commonwealth of South Africa, India, Australia, the British Isles and every place else where sterling is the rate of exchange to American business and American dollars and she cannot obtain a loan from any third country until after 1951. Now that's what we give and Britain promises.

What do we get back? We get our money back, plus interest, plus \$650,000,000 of lend-lease balance, plus increased exports to Britain and the British Commonwealth, plus payment in dollars, plus no discriminatory import restrictions against the U. S., plus paying a portion of her debts to other nations in American dollars giving other countries more money with which to buy American goods, plus support of the American proposals for getting world trade going through an International Trade Organization.

We would gain much. Now why is this loan important to the average business man and farmer in the small towns of the country? There are four reasons: (1) We must have an expanding foreign trade to keep our high productive capacity on farm and factory going full tilt; (2) Britain and the British Commonwealth of Nations were our best customers before the war... they took 42 per cent of our trade; (3) an expanding foreign trade among nations can't happen unless Britain can pay her war debts and can be put on an economically sound basis, for though we have a huge war debt, we owe no one but the American people, whereas Britain owes other nations, and (4) without economic security of other nations, fostered by expanding world trade, there can be no insurance of world peace. And a fifth reason is that Britain, our ally, took an unmerciful pounding costing thousands of British lives, to save American lives while we were getting prepared for war.

The argument is made that Britain did not pay her debt to us after World War I. She did pay back 434 million dollars in principal and 1 1/2 billion dollars in interest before the world depression caught her. The argument also is made that to make this loan will cause some inflation here and the answer is that Britain only wants goods which come from our war-expanded industries and commodities of which we have surpluses and moreover, if she spends it all here, it would only amount to five-tenths of 1 per cent of the total demand for goods and services in this country over an anticipated five-year period.

Little Left to Sell. Let Britain sell her holdings in this country, is another argument of the isolationists. But she has only 586 million dollars in unpledged assets in this country, and in addition she is borrowing 1 1/2 billion dollars from Canada at 2 per cent, the only other country which has dollars.

Another argument is, why should we loan our dollars to a socialist nation? Well, there is a question of whether or not England really is socialist. Even if it is, nevertheless it is the Bank of England that finances the British government with internal loans. Most certainly an expanding world trade and attending prosperity will tend to strengthen rather than weaken the free enterprise system, even in England. So the British loan will not subsidize socialism in England.

And the argument that to make a loan to Britain will open the door to applications for other nations. This is answered in this fashion: UNRRA will take care of relief loans. The International Bank will take care of long-term reconstruction and development loans and the U. S. Import-Export bank will help finance American foreign trade.

British financiers have told house majority leader Barkley that they cannot enter the international bank or the monetary fund unless the loan is granted without "strings."

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If You Please, Sir, Name the Weapon!

The local band at Dumfriesline, its ranks sadly depleted due to spring colds, was making a brave but futile effort to provide acceptable music for a holiday crowd gathered in the public park on Memorial Day.

After one particularly bad rendition, an elderly gentleman made his way up to the stand and inquired of the director: "What was that piece you just played, mister?"

"That," was the solemn reply, "was the 'Death of Nelson.'"

"I can well believe that, Mr. Bandmaster," was the matter-of-fact rejoinder. "But tell me the name of it anyhow."

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