



ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN, above, await pre-game activities at Munro Day. Note utter fascination with pre pre-game activities.

# Moscow Youth The Same

by PAUL UNTERBERG

(Editor's Note: This article is one in a series of stories on the Soviet Union by CUP Writer Unterberg, who visited the country last summer.)

Students in the Soviet Union were very interested in the West, just as we were interested in their country. We talked to them for hours in the cafes, on the streets and in the parks. When we spoke to someone, it was almost certain that friends passing by would stop and join the group when they saw we were foreigners.

## NASHVILLE STUDENT TRIAL LABELLED A "FARCE"

Philadelphia—Mar. 3 (CUP)—Two negro and one white student were convicted Monday in Nashville, as a result of non-violent sit-ins Saturday which also brought a call for a nationwide student protest by the national student association.

The protest was called by the United States National Student Association Saturday after the arrest and treatment of 100 students, some 75 negroes included. Negro students have been sitting-in at lunch counters, and refusing to move when waitresses will not serve them.

USNSA represents the student governments of almost 400 American colleges and universities with an enrollment exceeding 1,200,000 students. Founded in 1947, it is the largest national union of students in the world. NFCUS represent 70,000 Canadian students.

According to the USNSA southern staff member Connie Curry, the Nashville trial was a "farce". During the trial, she said, Nashville police testifying for the prosecution were forced to admit that the negro and white students on trial were not actually involved in any disorderly conduct. This evidence, however, was not considered in any of the verdicts.

The movement began Feb. 1 when four freshmen from the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College in Greensboro entered an F. W. Woolworth store in the heart of the town. They bought a few articles, and then sat down for a snack at a nearby lunch counter.

According to the New York Times dispatches, the students were approached by a negro woman who said, "You know you're not supposed to be in here."

The students then asked a white waitress for coffee.

"I'm sorry but we don't serve colored here," they quoted her.

After pointing out that the same woman had served them at the counter two feet away, the students sat, coffeeless, until the store closed at 5:30 p.m., three-quarters of an hour later.

The Greensboro demonstration triggered off a number of similar demonstrations throughout the South. The movement's chief targets were two national variety store chains, S. H. Kress and Co., and the Woolworth stores.

Following the spread of the sit-down protests the American Civil Liberties Union issued a statement on the legality of the strikes.

In a telegram to North Carolina State Attorney General Malcolm Seawell, the ADLU cautioned him against taking legal action against the students, stating that the students were within their constitutional rights.

The telegram was in reply to a statement Seawell has issued earlier protesting that the strikes "poses a serious threat to the peace and good order in the communities in which they occur, and that the right of the owner of a private business to sell or refuse to sell to customers has been recognized by the State Supreme Court."

Telegrams deploring the arrests and expressing sympathy with the sit-in movement poured into the arrested Nashville students, the

I should like to point out the freedom with which I was allowed to explore Moscow. My wife and I spent the whole month of June, and part of the month of October there, and not once were we prevented from looking at something or staying as long as we wished. We were not led about, but wandered without a guide. To the best of my knowledge we were never followed.

We spoke to many Russians. Some of them were altogether afraid to speak to us. But these were a small minority. Most seemed very eager to converse with foreigners. I had crammed a night course in Russian before leaving and learnt a good deal more every day, by simply being forced to make myself understood. I made many mistakes, some of them probably amusing. Many of the Russians, particularly the students, spoke some English or French and that made things easier.

We were astounded at how much they resembled Canadian or American youth. They were interested in exams, international politics, clothes, their jobs after graduation, jazz, women summer vacations, and how to get a ticket to a championship soccer match. Many of them complained about the restrictions on travel which allowed only the rare exception to leave his native land. Others complained about the liberty of the press, but in an overwhelming majority they were behind their present form of government. Even those who complained about some of these restrictions, were unquestionably convinced that their present Communist government was the system which would bring them even better conditions of life.

These students, and their elders, are justly proud of the Soviet Union's achievements in science and education. I was travelling on the Trans Siberian railway from Tash-

kent to Moscow when the Lunik I hit the moon. The train nearly went mad. Vodka, which flows freely enough in any case, was drunk tumbler-wise in celebration. People sang, yelled and congratulated one another as though it were a personal victory for each one of them. For this too they thank their government.

It is true that there are in Moscow certain groups who try to emulate some of our not very desirable Western "teddy boys." To these students, everything American is fine and desirable. They want to wear only American clothes, without looking at the quality; American is what matters. They want to hear only American jazz or "rock'n'roll". How terribly disappointed they were when they discovered that I unfortunately had never acquired a taste for this kind of music, and therefore didn't even know how to "rock'n'roll". But these students, called stilliagi, are a minority, just as zoot-suitors were a minority here. As our educators devote considerable attention to the problem, so Soviet educators devote attention to this "lost youth."

They commented on the American refusal to take part in the Vienna Youth Festival: "What harm can it do for young people from all over the world to get together and come to know one another?", they asked. And I think they hit the nail on the head. For they were very much like us. They want a world of peace where they can grow up, work, have fun, raise a family. There may be differences between our systems; we may not see eye to eye on some things, but if we get together, talk about it, discuss it, we may not come to a solution, but we will probably not fight about it. That is what most of them seemed to be saying and it sounded very much akin to what we ourselves were saying.

## LETTERS—

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many exciting activities of school life and have sacrificed their time to enable the rest of the school to enjoy itself, and reap the benefits of their labour; their E's are a token of our esteem for them, and it is in order that their efforts should not go unrewarded in this rush of present day life where the struggle for self oppresses us, it is for this reason that we honour them today." Mr. Alexander addressed a brief word to the rest of the company, urging them to greater deeds, particularly in the classrooms, where more than ever before there appeared opportunities for the gifted pupil to obtain larger and larger scholarships. "Even in this field," he affirmed, "effort does not go unrewarded." Mr. Alexander brought his delightful speech to a close with one or two fiscal jokes, which amused the audience who were enthralled by the verbal dexterity of this financial wizard. The school captain, who is also President of the Debating Society, delivered a weighty speech in which he thanked Mr. Alexander for gracing the school with his presence. With characteristic flowing oratory he spoke of the great tradition of the Province which he admired so much, even though he was, in his own words, "not a native Nova Scotian by birth." It was with not a little admiration

that the audience hung upon the words of a youth so gifted in his use of language . . .

After this ceremony, there was a short entertainment which was notable for the originality of the production and for that subtlety of wit which has become in recent years the hallmark of the school's theatrical productions. Coming hard on the heels of their most recent success, it was encouraging to see that talent in the school is not limited to just the few, but may be discovered in every grade . . .

Here the fragment ends. Although the condition of the original has deteriorated with age, I would be delighted to offer it to the perusal of any interested member of the university.

Sincerely,  
Isaac Bickerstaff

## Diana SWEETS

368 Spring Garden Road  
We cater to students  
at all times  
"Meals a Specialty"  
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Introductory Meeting for  
Next Year's  
GLEE CHORUS  
Monday, March 21, 7:30 p.m. in  
the Music Room, Arts Building.

## QUEBEC:

### Barrette, "Friend of the Students," Soothes Delegation for More Aid

QUEBEC (CUP)—The Quebec government can "go no further" in aiding education this year than already planned in the current legislation, provincial premier Antoine Barrette told some 30 students representing Quebec universities today.

He described 1960 in glowing terms as "the year of education" in the province. The immediate results of the meeting were:

1. An announcement that McGill University—which has the highest fees in Canada (\$600 Science, \$750 Engineering) would lower its tuition as a result of new statutory grants,
2. An announcement that Arts Students — hitherto ineligible for provincial scholarships — may soon be rewarded by the province. The question of eligibility is under study.
3. Rejection of a request for a Royal Commission.

The premier said that the commission was "an excellent way to consider a particular point," but were not desirable in the present situation.

The student delegation met the premier to present a four-point brief on behalf of the Quebec region of NFCUS. The brief

- thanked the government for its new interest in education, and specifically referred to a bill to introduce statutory grants
- asked the province to provide measures so that university education will be accessible to all on the basis of talent and willingness alone, without financial consideration,
- requested the setting up of a

Royal Commission to look into education problems,

asked that as an immediate step the clause in the law governing provincial scholarships which made a portion of these reimbursable, be wiped out.

Premier Barrette noted that statutory grants to the universities were part of a deal arranged with Ottawa to replace federal grants. He pointed out that these would be based on a \$1.75 per capita arrangement, 25 cents more than federal grants.

Describing himself as a "friend of the students, maybe your best friend", he said that reduced university fees were more important at Montreal than making provincial scholarships non-reimbursable in entirety. He noted also that a bill last year has reduced the reimbursable portion from 50 to 40 percent.

He invited the students to come back, "next year" when the results of current legislation would be known. He said they would then be in a better position to suggest changes and ask for other aid.

Student leaders were generally satisfied with the meeting. The atmosphere, compared with last year's meeting with Premier Duplessis, had changed entirely, many claimed. Certain students referred to the meeting as, "pleasanter atmosphere than last year, but the same policy."

## ONTARIO:

### MacMaster University to Offer Credit Courses on T. V.

HAMILTON—(CUP)—McMaster University may be the first Canadian university to offer credit courses on television.

The university announced this week that the role of television in television must be inquired into, and McMaster "is very interested in this. We see a possible place for television in adult education, and perhaps in extension work."

No Canadian universities give formal instruction for academic credit so far, although the method is used in some U. S. centres. The shows could be taped or kinescoped and shipped across Canada for use.

Series of experimental educational programs was started in Hamilton this week, by the local TV station. Two will deal with two departments at McMaster, and the final one will be a discussion on education in Ontario universities, with President

Claude Bissell of Toronto, Dr. Murray Ross of the newly formed York University, Dr. MacLachlan of OAC-OVC-Mac, and Dr. G. P. Gilmour of McMaster.

## "Poor Taste"

(continued from page 1)

operate with the council and was not providing a service to the students. One member stated that the paper "should fulfill its responsibility as a newspaper rather than a cultural commentary".

However, a motion to disband the paper for the rest of the year and publish a mimeographed bulletin was unanimously defeated.