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Ivan and Us

Ever since the Cold War began, we've never been allowed to forget what a tough time the average Russian has, and how much better off we are by comparison.

Those "Grin And Bear It" cartoons that show Ivan dressed in rags, apparently subsisting on nothing but black bread and hero medals, approximate the popular North American conception of the average Russian's economic condition.

And so it comes as a stunning revelation to learn that within a decade, Ivan will be living as high off the hog as we are.

If this state of affairs comes to pass—and the best authorities think it will—we will have to do some hard thinking about the real advantages of our way of life. For in prosperous North America, we have slipped into the complacent attitude that our way is best simply because we have easy access to television sets and refrigerators and new Chevrolets.

As long as we are sure Russia is Lower Slobbovia, it is easy to believe that America is Paradise with power steering, and that Free Enterprise made it thus.

But when we face the fact that Russia will soon be as prosperous as we are (TV in every home, plenty to eat and drink, a fine vacation every years) we will have to jettison a number of comfortable economic truisms of ours, and return to some of those fundamentals that prosperity seems to have obscured.

We must relearn, apparently, that man does not live by bread along; and so we must again learn to prize our freedom, not our prosperity, above all things. For freedom is what we have, and what Russia, under Communism can never have; and all the overfulfilled quotas in the world cannot alter this fact.

Also we must see to it that our society is spiritually rich, not just gadget-rich. With the 30-hour week on its way, the question "What are we going to do with all our leisure?" looms larger and larger. We've got to learn to use this leisure to create a meaningful society which maintains a reference beyond itself.

For without this larger frame of reference, no society can endure. Unless we care to preserve and enlarge this vital quality in our society, we'd better fill the libraries with engineering textbooks, replace the cathedrals with gas stations, and settle down to a wonderfully prosperous, utterly circular existence.

-Reprinted from the Ubyssey.

Bulletin Board

18, Friday-Commerce Sweater Dance, Gym, 9-1.

19, Saturday—Interfac basketball, 1-6.

King's Play rehearsal, afternoon
Basketball, YMCA vs. Dal (7); Tech at Dal (8:30)

21, Monday—Dawson Club Meeting, Geological Building, 8 p.m. "Methods in Mineralogy"
King's Production, "The Skin of our Teeth," Dal Gym

22, Tuesday-Sophomore Class Meeting, room 212, noon King's Production, "The Skin of our Teeth," Dal Gym

23, Wednesday-King's Production, "The Skin of our Teeth," Dal

24, Thursday—Interfac basketball, 7:15 - 9:30. Lecture by Professor Waite, "The Release of the Acquisitive Spirit," room 217, 8:15 p.m.

25, Friday-King's Formal, King's Pharmacy Ball, Nova Scotian Hotel. WUSC Dance, Gym, 9 - 1.

Thanks Roy

The Student Council has decided to forward a letter of thanks to Roy Atwood for his donation of \$100.00 to be administered by the Council. Council agreed to wait until its next meeting to determine how the money will be spent.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Editor-in-Chief Dalhousie Gazette Dear Mr. Peel:

It was encouraging to observe that in publishing the percentage failures in some of the larger classes in Arts and Science and in your editorial comment you did not follow some of your predecessors in assuming that low mark was to be attributed either to the incompetence of the teacher or to mere chance—"the blind Fury with the abhorred shears.' Actuarial tables may predict the number of death per thousand in a given area and age-group; they do not discriminate between the "expectancies" of a healthy person leading a normal life, a stunt pilot, and a persistently drunken driver with a defective heart. Similarly, figures for student failures have little significance unless they are examined for possible reasons. The following detailed percentages from a fairly large and representative class

will not explain all failures, but they will, I believe, help to show why there are more than are necessary.

Of those who passed a small question in plain book-work, 100% passed the examination.

Of those passing on applied book-work 97% passed the examination. The percentage passing of these:

On time with essay, 9 On time with essay, 10... Present at first class, 1957 Warned pre-requisities incomplete

Warned for irregular class-work and attendance

At a conservative estimate, it appeared that students who were ready and willing to learn had more than an 85% "chance" (not 58%) of passing at mid-year and a better chance in the final; and that others had not a 42% but an 80% chance of failing. Yours sincerely

(signed) C. L. Bennet

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Interfac Debating

Tuesday, Jan 29: Fraser and Clarke, Arts v. Anderson and Pittet, Law Place: Moot Court Room, Law Building. Time 1:30 p.m. Chairman: Hugh Coady

Wednesday, Jan 30: Wiggs and Sullivan, Law, v. Wilson and Carstairs, Law Place: Lower Classroom, Law Building. Time 1:30 p.m. Chairman: Fran Stanfield

Thursday, Jan. 31: Read and Akesode, Law v. Walker and Steele, Law Place: Moot Court Room,

Law Building, Time 1:30 p.m. Chairman: Ted Reagh Friday, Feb. 1:

Cochrane and Robinson, Arts v. Curran and Mayo, Law Place: Lower Classroom,

Law Building. Time 1:30 p.m. Chairman: Hugh Coady Monday, Feb. 4:

Watson and Matheson, Law v. Weir and Davis, Law Place: Lower Classroom,

Law Building. Time 1:30 p.m. Chairman: Fran Stanfield Tuesday, Feb. 5: Pabi and Peel, Law v.

McDonah and McLennan, Law Place: Moot Court Room, Law Building. Time 1:30 p.m. Chairman: Ted Reagh



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