DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY, N. KLEITMAN UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

"THIS IS THE ENEMY"

I HAVE just returned from a four-month tour of duty in Germany where I had opportunity to talk with a fair cross section of Germans and to visit some biological laboratories. In Munich I visited the Zoologisches Institut built by Rockefeller for Professor K. von Frisch. It was here von Frisch and his students investigated the problems of sensory physiology: hearing, color vision, smell, taste, "Schreckstoff" in fish; here also was produced a classic work in animal behavior, "Die 'Sprache' der Bienen," an experimental analysis of the methods of communication among bees. This Institut is badly bombed; only the first floor and basement remain intact. Professor v. Frisch's splendid library on sensory physiology and animal behavior was destroyed when his home in Munich was blastedhe had moved all his books and effects from the Institut to his residence because he believed that the residential area would not be bombed. These consequences forced him to remove his research projects and some of his assistants to his summer cottage near Salzburg, which he converted into a laboratory. Here he suffered additional losses of personal property from looting. All this was heaped upon a man who had been oppressed all these years by the Nazis because his grandmother was not "Aryan."

It was my good fortune to spend several weekends with this scientist, who, in my opinion, is one of the "greats" in biology in our day. A quiet manner, gentle humor and clarity of explanation and thought characterize him. He is continuing his research with what vigor one can muster under limited food intake. His spirit has not been crushed by the Nazis.

This case is cited to illustrate an example repeated, with minor variations, among scores of educators and research workers. Here are men and women who can still contribute richly to science. Many have carried on in spite of political oppressions—they are hungry, without shelter and without heat for their broken laboratories and homes. Their libraries have been burned and blasted.

Over the portals of Cornell University is the slogan, "Above all Nations," a fitting epitome of the international code of science. It is my opinion that those readers of SCIENCE who have acquaintances in Germany would do science, and, may I venture, world peace a great service by sending them a word of encouragement or perhaps some reprints or warm clothing.

A colleague's comment on the above note was, "Last week has brought a letter from Dr. ——— of Oslo

showing what the Germans did in Norway. That is also true, but no more true than the picture you present." ARTHUR D. HASLER

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

SCIENCE IN RUSSIA

N. A. MOROZOV, an honorary member of the Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R., whose ninetieth birthday was celebrated a few months ago, is the author of over 150 works dealing with astronomy, mathematics, chemistry, geophysics, biology, history, meteorology and aviation. He also writes poetry, and published between 1924 and 1932 seven volumes of a projected ten-volume work on the life of Christ.

The latest issue of Vestnik Akademii Nauk U.S.S.R. (Record of the Academy of Sciences U.S.S.R.) received in this country is No. 10 for 1944. It is devoted entirely to the achievements of the president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, V. L. Komarov, professor of botany at the University of Leningrad, on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday and the fiftieth anniversary of his scientific work. A number of articles describe his activities as the leader and organizer of the Soviet scientific activities and the outstanding botanist of U.S.S.R. The flora of the Far East are the main object of his studies. In 1934, after a number of travels through Siberia, Yakutia, the Far East, Trans-Caucasia, Finland, etc., he undertook a systematic survey of all plants growing on the territory of the U.S.S.R. This is entitled "Flora of the U.S.S.R." It is published in twenty volumes, of which eleven volumes have already appeared.

The Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R., honored on April 25 the memory of A. S. Popov (1859-1905), the Russian inventor of radio. On November 20, 1894, Popov demonstrated his apparatus to the Russian Physico-Chemical Society. However, April 25, 1895 (May 7 according to the new style calendar), is regarded as the date of his invention, because on that day he presented a paper entitled "The Reaction of Metallic Powders to Electromagnetic Vibrations," to the Physico-Chemical Society. In January, 1896, he demonstrated his radio receiver to the Kronstadt Division of the Technical Society. The distance across which the transmission of the signals could be made was increased by Popov in the spring of 1897 to 640 meters from a ship afloat to a station on shore. Subsequently, in 1899, Rybkin achieved radiotelephone transmission across a distance of about 45 km.

Marconi applied for a patent in Italy on June 2, 1896, and in Russia in December, 1897. His application was denied in Russia. J. G. TOLPIN

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