

Dr. Kirkconnell's Address On Totalitarian Education

Following is a continuation of the address on Tuesday evening by Dr. Watson Kirkconnell, President of Acadia University, in the annual series of Samuel N. Robertson Memorial Lectures at Prince of Wales College:

A recent edition of a family magazine called Ogoniok ("Light") gives an enthusiastic place of honour to the Soviet military schools. Its cover portrays a number of youngsters around a cannon, while numerous pictures in the text represent uniformed small boys, eight years of age and up, undergoing training in one of the numerous Suvorov Military Schools. It would be hard to cite any other contemporary nation that enrolls boys of eight for a full-time military career. For a militaristic parallel, one has to think back to the worst days of Prussia or to the training of adolescent janissaries by the Turkish sultans.

Valuable for understanding the basic principle of all this is an article in Pravda of November 28, 1943, by A. A. Voznesenski, the U. S. S. R. Minister for Education. "The task of the Soviet school," he writes, "is to foster in the pupils a love for our social and political system which is infinitely more perfect than all previous systems."

An application of Marxism-Leninism must be made to every subject on the school curriculum: "The first commandment of a Soviet teacher demands that his leading maxim in education be the doctrine of Lenin and Stalin concerning the party spirit of science and ideology. This task cannot be carried out otherwise than in connection with the teaching of all subjects. Ideological and political education in the schools cannot be separated from the teaching of the elements of science. It is just in the process of studying these elements that the pupils learn to think in conformity with the views of materialism and dialectics, that they acquire the outlook of Marx and Lenin and are educated in the spirit of Communism."

Or one may add the comment of Soviet Estonia's Minister of Education, A. Rand, in an address to a congress of teachers on August 19, 1943: "The sacred duty of the Soviet teacher is to be the engineer of the growing mind, to combat the effects of the drugs of capitalism, political neutrality, ideological slackness, bourgeois objectivism, bourgeois Estonian nationalism, and religious relics to poison the minds of our youth. In every aspect of his work, the teacher must be not only a champion of Communism but also a fighter against Western culture. He cannot fight for Communism without fighting against the West."

Familiar Claim

One should comment, in passing, on the familiar claim that the Bolsheviks, instead of being guilty of the nationalistic spirit of western nations have sought rather the tolerant cultivation of all the languages and cultures of Stalin's polyglot realm. That picture may have had some validity thirty years ago, but it is obsolete today. The more recent phase of policy can only be classed as "Russian Imperialism" with relentless pressure exerted to assimilate all minority peoples and cultures into a monolithic Russian (Communist) culture.

The Ukrainian language, for example, is being systematically swamped with Russian vocabulary. The official journal of the Latvian Communist Party, announced on August 9, 1950, that in nine out of fifteen evening colleges, seven-year schools and middle schools in Riga tuition will be wholly in Russian and that only four out of the fifteen will be purely Latvian.

Similarly Comrade A. Raud, Soviet Estonia's minister of education, writing in Rahva Haal (No. 201, 1949), insists that in Estonia students must be given more homework in Russian and made to read Russian books in their spare time so that Russian may supplant the native Estonian as the language of instruction. It is at the university level that education in free countries has achieved its most notable victories in science and the arts. Totalitarianism, however, has established a vast network of ideological policemen throughout all Soviet colleges.

An illuminating article in this regard is one by S. Kaftanov, "To perfect the teaching of the doctrines of Marxism-Leninism at the universities," printed in Bolshvik (June 30, 1949), the journal of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party. In it we are informed that there are over 800 chairs for Marxism-Leninism in the Soviet colleges and universities, with a large number of instructors associated with each chair. Marxism-Leninism, it appears, is a compulsory subject in all faculties. Stalin himself has decreed this in the following terms:

"There is one branch of science, familiarity with which must be obligatory for the Bolsheviks practicing all other branches of science, namely, the Marx-Lenin science of society, of the laws of the development of society, of the laws of the development of proletarian revolution, of the laws of the development of Socialist construction. For a person cannot be considered a true Leninist, even if he calls himself a Leninist, if he has buried himself in his specialties, botany or chemistry and sees nothing except his specialty." (p. 22)

Characteristic Excerpts

Comrade Kaftanov goes on to outline the subject-matter on which the ubiquitous professors of Marxism-Leninism will instruct their colleagues and their students: "The struggle between Capitalism and Communism is gaining in acuteness in the whole world. This struggle is taking place in all sections of the ideological front without any exception. The reactionary character of the bourgeoisie in the fields of politics, culture and science is especially apparent in our days when two camps have come into being: the imperialist, antidemocratic camp, the leading power in which is the U. S. A., and the camp of democracy and Socialism, headed by our great country.... The American imperialists, who have adopted the fascist gibberish on world domination, are the sworn enemies of the democratic aspirations of the peoples of the world and carry on a policy of military expansion, of enslavement of weak countries." (p. 23)

In a world thus polarized between the virtuous Soviets and the wicked Americans, the science of the Western world sinks of the same bourgeois corruption: "A deep ideological disintegration is experienced by bourgeois science. Philosophers, economists and historians in the pay of the bourgeoisie make efforts to prove the perpetuity and stability of the capitalist regime. There is no room for the withering influence of capitalism reaction. "Idealism, mysticism and clericalism are widely diffused in contemporary bourgeois science.... The bourgeois scientists who work in the field of theoretical physics and philosophy—these squares of imperialism—strive to interpret the newest discoveries in the spirit of idealism and clericalism. The pages of the 'works' of bourgeois ideologists are mottled with mendacious statements on the 'disappearance of matter' on the 'unfathomableness of its laws'" (p. 23)

The university champions of Marxism-Leninism are therefore summoned to the following glorious task: "Daily to unmask the loathsome role of American imperialism, the strangler of the culture and freedom of nations, the monger of a new war, the bastion of world reaction, and at the same time deeply, vividly, convincingly to show the superiority of the Soviet state and socialist organization to the capitalist regime, to reveal the triumphant force of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, the universally-historic successes of the Soviet people." (p. 24)

Ruthless Dynamic

The Bolshevik article then emphasizes the ruthless dynamic that must animate the apostles of academic orthodoxy: "The activity of the chairs of Marxism-Leninism transcends, of course, the framework of tuition as prescribed by the syllabus and the curricula. These chairs are chosen to be fighting Party collectives influencing the organization of all tutorial and educational work at the institutes of higher education, and being impregnated with Bolshevik intolerance of all manifestations of an alien, bourgeois ideology.... The Bolshevik party spirit of our science means a direct, overt, consistent defense of the interests of Socialism in the struggle against pseudo-science and those reactionary forces which are backing it." (p. 24)

It is fairly clear that this last definition that the purpose of Soviet science is not to arrive at ultimate truths regarding man and his place in the universe but rather "the defense of the interest of Socialism." As Lenin once put it, "a school outside of life and politics is a lie and a hypocrisy."

Marxism-Leninism, with its "Bolshevik intolerance," is given a clear mandate, moreover, to interfere with and control all other departments of university instruction and to expurgate and alter the impending publications of all

Peakes and Vicinity

Mrs. Thomas Dunphy of Peakes returned to her home after a short visit in Montreal.

Messrs. Ralph and Ernie Grant are now employed in cutting lumber at Peakes.

Mr. John Anstie of Peakes was a visitor to Montague during the week-end of February 27.

Mr. Ralph Grant of St. Patrick's Road was a visitor to Charlottetown on Monday, February 28.

Mrs. Douglas MacDonald recently returned from Ottawa after spending the past month there.

Mrs. Charles Rogerson was a recent visitor to Charlottetown to visit her mother, Mrs. J. P. MacIntyre, who is ill.

Mr. Henry Trainor of St. Patrick's Road was a guest on February 25 of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Trainor.

Mrs. Ward Crane, who was visiting in Charlottetown, arrived on the Georgetown train at Peakes on Wednesday, February 27.

Mr. Russell Clarkin of Peake's Road, arrived at his home on Wednesday evening, February 27. Mr. Clarkin has spent the past three months in Nova Scotia.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Birt and son, James Daniel, were visitors to Peakes Road on February 26. Mr. and Mrs. Birt were the guests of Mrs. Birt's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McInnis of Peake's Road.

Mr. and Mrs. John MacDonald of Charlottetown are visiting with Mrs. MacDonald's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Evans of Peakes.

Miss Mary MacDonald, who was in the Charlottetown Hospital, has returned to her home at Peakes. Miss MacDonald is still quite ill and her friends sincerely wish her a speedy recovery.

Mr. Freeman Affleck was a very welcome person in this community on Monday, February 28, when he re-opened the roads for traffic. There were great depths of snow but Mr. Affleck kept the plough moving.

Miss Carlene MacEachern of Mount Stewart spent the week-end with university scholars and scientists:

Biology Subverted

"The discussion on biological problems has accelerated the advancement of theoretical scientific work in our country. It has compelled the chairs of Marxism-Leninism and philosophy to establish closer contact with the chairs of special disciplines, to take an active part in the reorganization of the teaching of the biological sciences.... Many chairs of Marxism-Leninism have carried on an active struggle with certain manifestations of bourgeois cosmopolitanism which obtained in scientific work and the teaching of some disciplines. By their criticisms and advice the chairs of Marxism-Leninism help to correct mistakes that have been admitted in the works prepared for print by the chairs of special disciplines" (p. 25).... The chairs of Marxism-Leninism... must feel reality of the world, on the ideological proclivity of tuition in its entirety" (p. 26).

And what of the educational qualifications of these men who sit in judgement on all works of research in all disciplines and on all instruction in all departments at all levels? Comrade Kaftanov admits quite candidly that a considerable number of the directors of chairs (of Marxism-Leninism) and the teachers have no scientific or academic degrees" (p. 30).

As a matter of fact, the personnel of the Marxist-Leninist investigators seems to be drawn from the Party henchmen of the locality, for Pravda of February 2, 1950, rebukes the Communist Party Committee of the city of Saratov for having "failed to study deeply the activities of the institutions of higher education, the state of training of the students in Marxism-Leninism, and the composition of the teaching staff." Even one's academic appointment, it appears, is held at the whim of uneducated Party zealots.

A vivid demonstration of this iron compulsion at the highest levels may be found in the subjugation of the biologists in 1948.

(To be concluded)

OLD FOLKS!
TRY CUTICURA FOR SKIN ITCH!
Cuticura Soap and Ointment promptly relieve dry, itchy skin. Used by thousands. Buy Cuticura at drugist.

Sturgeon and Cambridge Notes

Mr. Bernard Farrell was a visitor to Montague recently.

Mr. William Lanigan, Cambridge, was a visitor to Montague on Monday, accompanied by Mr. Douglas Collings of Sturgeon.

His young friends will regret to learn that Master Francis Lanigan is ill at his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Farrell and son, Terry, were recent visitors to Gasperau, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jamieson and family.

Mr. Dave Jamieson, Gasperau, was a visitor to Montague on Saturday.

Miss Pauline Farrell was a visitor to her home in St. Mary's Road on Saturday. She is attending school at Panmure Island.

His friends are sorry to hear that Master Jackie McGuigan, Gasperau, is ill at his home.

proved very satisfactory. It showed a vast increase in funds due to the card parties. Three thank you letters were received from members who received treats at Christmas.

It was decided to pay the same for prizes in Catechism and School as last year and it was moved and seconded to send \$35 for the Catholic girl scholarship fund, also that the diocesan tax be paid.

It was decided by the members to have a card party and dance in the hall, each member to bring a can of beans and a box of food. Admission 75c for those who played cards and had supper, 25c for children's supper alone.

It was then decided to send a treat to a sick member.

end of February 27 at St. Patrick's Road. Miss MacEachern was the guest of Mrs. Ralph Grant and returned to her home on Monday morning, February 28.

Messrs. Alfred Handrahan, Freddie Handrahan and Merlin Devine of Peakes, were visitors at the Charlottetown Forum on Tuesday night, February 26, when the Charlottetown Islanders defeated the Sydney Millionaires.

Mr. Barney Gillan, formerly of Peakes, was the winner of the boxing bout in which he recently participated in Montreal. Mr. Gillan, who has been residing in Montreal for the past two years, is the eighteen year old son of Mr. and Mrs. James Gillan of Peakes.

Mr. Ralph Gillan of Peake's Road is now taking care of the deer which was captured in the Northumberland Strait by the employees of the Abegweit. The deer was given to Mr. Gillan on Monday, February 25.

Mrs. Carl MacKenna and her son Robert spent the weekend of February 24 at the home of Mrs. MacKenna's mother, Mrs. Loretta Devine of Peakes. Mrs. MacKenna left on Monday morning to meet her husband in Ontario. Her husband is serving in the Canadian Army and is expected to be moved to Western Canada.

ST. ANN'S LOT 65 C.W.L.

The monthly meeting of the St. Ann's Lot 65 sub-division of the C.W.L. was held on Feb. 17 with an attendance of 13 members.

The meeting opened with the league prayer by the president who occupied the chair. In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Patrick Clarkin acted.

Following the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, the treasurer gave her report which

EXPORT
CANADA'S FINEST CIGARETTE

QUEBEC FARMERS GET \$86,624.620 LOANS

Quebec, Mar. 5 — (CP) — The Quebec Government has loaned \$86,624,620 under the Farm Loan Act adopted in 1936. Premier Duplessis said today.

Among other things, the loans have helped establish 13,572 farmers' sons, the premier said. He said the act has kept farmers on the land.

Reimbursements up to Feb. 28 amounted to \$15,375,389. 28 before payments become due.

Farmers had repaid \$11,058,573 and another \$15,375,389 was paid back before the money was due.

Waterproofer
Shines with **TRUST-IT'S OSENA**
SHOE POLISH
AND LEATHER PRESERVATIVE
10 POPULAR SHADES

FOR OIL BURNER SALES AND SERVICE
CALL 2480
VICKERSON ENGINEERING CO.
We sell "Toridheet" Rotary Wall Flame Burners.

Refrigeration
SALES and SERVICE
Repairs To All Makes
MOTORS
Rewinding and Repairs
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE
Repairs
Palmer Electric
PHONE 1444

Lenten SPECIALS

SUGAR 10 lbs.—White	\$1.10
SAUSAGES D. & F.	45c
TOILET TISSUE Universal—3 Rolls	29c
ROLLED OATS Quaker and Purity—5 lb. pkg.	49c
GRAPEFRUIT Pink, large and juicy—3 for	25c
MARMALADE 24 oz.—York Brand	39c
SNAP HAND CLEANER Regular Size—2 tins	35c

McCABE'S GROCERIA
(CASH & CARRY)
201 Great George St.

KING GOLD COFFEE
First in London

Crisper! Fresher!
Hamilton's NEW DAINTY CREAM SODAS
Made with pure vegetable shortening

Try Hamilton's **NEW** Dainty Cream Sodas...

with soup with cheese with peanut butter

...they go well together

MADE IN THE MARITIMES

WHY DON'T YOU FINISH YOUR CEREAL, JACKIE?

HERE'S A TREAT THAT WILL MAKE ANY CEREAL TASTE BETTER—TRY IT NOW, JACKIE—AND TASTE THE DIFFERENCE!

OF COURSE, JACKIE—IT'S CROWN BRAND CORN SYRUP AND IT'S THE BEST-TASTING TOPPER ANY CEREAL EVER HAD!

WOW! THAT'S TERRIFIC, MOM! WHAT IS IT CALLED? CAN I HAVE MORE? IT'S DELICIOUS!

CROWN BRAND CORN SYRUP

ECONOMIZE with Kemi-Tone
The paint for beautiful WALLS & CEILINGS

Domestication of reindeer dates from a remote period in the northern areas of Europe.

Relieve Pain Due To Cold this Way!

While you sleep

Under clothing

EASY TO USE

More for Your Money Buy the **LARGE Family Size** and Save

THERMOGENE MEDICATED WOOL
AT ALL DRUGGISTS