

one struggling, suffering, human family had to be careful to whom they talked. The men who instinctively wanted to share everything with you, now wondered if they could share anything. Generous givers had to learn to be tough, hard bargainers. The most friendly and expansive people on earth, longing to have a roaring good party and talk all night, had to pretend to the world to be supremely watchful, cautious, reserved, silent. The whole rich, warm stream of fraternal feeling had to be dammed up, covered over, thickly camouflaged and kept a secret.

### Fortress Russia

The Russian, who is both a born host and a born guest, who is equally delighted to act or to be in the audience, who loves to show you what he's



LEO TOLSTOY  
Twenty-four million copies

done and to see what you've done, had to cut himself off from the world which now denounced him in the very name of the fraternity he was trying desperately in his own new society to preserve. And it's this dilemma that haunts the representative Russian abroad and may make him seem reserved and ill-at-ease. Bring him clear of that shadow because you're a friend and the warmth of his welcome will be astounding. He need no longer keep his name a secret.

Now, it seems to me that we outside Russia must accept some responsibility here, for we refused the helping hand in the critical early years of the Revolution and we believed—and often acted upon—most of the Bolshevism poured into our minds before the war. And we can do most to end the situation.

But we can't end it by snarling "It's about time we were tough with those people" — because those people think we've been tough with them all along, except when we were in danger ourselves. It is toughness and suspicion that have done the mischief. Open friendliness and an affectionate interest are what are needed now. To these Russia will respond—must respond—because then the appeal is to that spirit of fraternity to which Russia is still dedicated,

as Britain is dedicated to the idea of liberty and America to equality. And the best response that Russia could make, and I believe it's the one she *would* make, would be to appeal in return to our particular dream of liberty, widening the narrow Soviet entrances, pulling down the high walls and declaring the fortress of Russia an open city; for her people long to see the world, and to let the world see them.

### We Need Each Other

Much then could be taught; much be learned. So far we've had only half of it taught. We've merely destroyed the negation of all our respective dreams of liberty, equality and fraternity, have crashed through the dead end of fascism. There's daylight ahead but as yet no clear road. Each people, cherishing its own dream, has precious seed ready to be planted in the soil of the other two. Each people, facing its own peculiar dilemma, needs some assistance, if only by way of example, from the other two. Each people, in fact, stands sharply in need now of borrowing ideas and aspirations—spiritual munitions—from its two Allies. For we need a broad highway for a world civilisation and not three separate and partly-blocked paths. The liberty of Britain's dream is at present too empty, and its air seems rather de-vitalised. There's a great deal of old junk that we British ought to burn, warming ourselves by the bonfire. Here, the Americans, who owe so much to their old dream of equality, with its liberating force, its quick opportunities for the right man to get on with the job at once, can help us. But Russia, with its colossal sense of common purpose, its large, bold planning, its high seriousness, and freedom from the immense entangling trivialities of capitalist society, can help us still more.

### The Broad Highway

Again there's much about collective living that America can learn from Russia and much about individual living, based upon a genuine and not an assumed liberty, that America can learn from Britain. And, when Russia drops her fortress tactics, propaganda gun answering propaganda gun, when she feels secure in a friendly world, Russia will admit that she has much to learn from Britain and America and will in my opinion proceed to learn it at an astonishing speed. In the light of mutual understanding and help, we can create together that broad highway for a world civilisation which should know the blue air of liberty, and the twinkling and glowing white and red stars of equality and fraternity; and what was once a dream, often a dream that had to be a secret, can then become a clear shining purpose to which all good men and women can dedicate themselves.

WE have never conducted a Gallup poll to see how many people listen to morning serials as an aid to the smooth running of the vacuum-cleaner, or to speed the breakfast dishes a little more smartly to their racks. But apparently morning entertainment of this type is in demand, for 12B recently started *Three Generations*, which plays at 10.15 a.m. from Monday to Friday, inclusive. Another serial *The Auction Block* has started at 3ZB as a morning interlude and is to be heard at 10.15 on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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