

(continued from previous page)

cerity, generosity in imparting their ideas, enthusiasm, and a deep delight in their work. I found science the foremost activity of the State, permeating every other activity, planned on a great scale and limited not by shortage of money but by shortage of well-trained men. It's not all lovely there, not by any means, and I have tried to give you the background of Soviet science as I think the intelligent Soviet citizen sees it. The average foreigner, unfortunately, does not see science in Russia through Russian eyes, but is compelled to look through a blurred and indistinct window, called the Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, known for short as VOKS. VOKS (and I say this seriously) does incalculable damage to our relations with Russia, by putting obstacles in the way of contact with Soviet institutions and by what we should regard in this country as bureaucratic incompetence. The only people who are more scathing in their criticism of VOKS than I am are some of the Russian scientists themselves.

The Soviet Union is a great nation with great institutions. It is a deplorable fact that this great nation is seen by foreigners through the heavily frosted and rose-tinted window of VOKS. I believe that the Russian people (whatever their Government says) want peace and fellowship with the British people, and want it with the deepest sincerity. I believe that our suspicion of Soviet motives and their suspicion of ours are due to the formidable barriers between the Russian people and ourselves. The hope for the world is to find a common ground of understanding. In science we and the Russians have this common ground. That is why I believe that in our dealings with Russia science should be a basis of our diplomacy.

## TALL STORY

TED KAVANAGH, who is responsible for the scripts of "ITMA," frequently says a few words to the audience in the studio before the "ITMA" broadcasts, and these talks are often the occasion for some of his more outrageous flights of fancy. Recently, for example, Basil Cameron, the distinguished conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra, was in the front row. With a perfectly straight face Kavanagh told the audience that Basil Cameron and Rae Jenkins, conductor of the BBC Variety Orchestra, had both taken music lessons from the same correspondence school. As, however, Jenkins lived in a remote Welsh village where the mails were infrequent, he was always five or six lessons behind Cameron. And that is why Basil Cameron now conducts the London Symphony while Rae Jenkins has progressed no further than the BBC Variety Orchestra!

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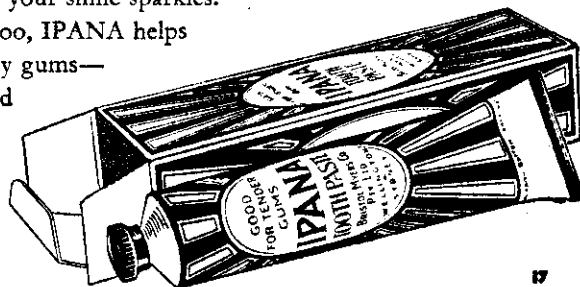
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