

# Opening The All-Russian Agricultural Exhibition

By I. AMTER

THE inauguration of the All-Russian Agricultural Exhibition, on August 19, is an event of the greatest significance to Soviet Russia, for it means the beginning of closer ties be-

the Exposition; the flag of the United Soviet Republic was hoisted; the International was played; guns boomed; the great day had come!

Speeches by Rykov, Chicherin, Krasin; speeches by Shefler, the chairman of the Exposition, and Pavlova, representative of the All-Russian Council of Trade Unions. Above the Exposition hovered an airplane, encircling the grounds and environs and scattering tens of thousands of leaflets, telling of this achievement of Soviet Russia.

## Real Achievement

This exposition is a real achievement. Begun in March of this year, the Exposition management has labored under the greatest diffi-

culties. There has been a lack of material; material has not arrived in time; the weather has been a terrific hindrance. Yet in the space of five months, there has sprung up a little town covering a space of one hundred fifty acres in the All-Russian Section and sixteen acres in the Foreign Section. It has been an achievement, and

we of the western world are best able to appreciate it, when we see the primitive methods by which it has been created. Soviet Russia lacks machinery; her workers are ready, willing and easily susceptible to change of method. The axe, the hammer and the saw have been the tools with which the exposition has been brought into life. The Russian skill with the axe is marvellous. Not having shaping machines, the Russian carpenter uses his axe, with its razor-blade, to cut and carve most wonderful forms. The axe serves for the finest and the heaviest work. In five months, a bare territory has been made into a beaming exhibition resplendent with color.

## Exhibition in Panorama

Modernism dominates the exposition; modernism, in color and design. The various Soviet Republics all have their buildings. There is a Ukrainian village. There are the old types and the new types of houses. White Russia, the Caucasus, Turkestan, Archangel in the far north; all have their halls. There are the buildings of the Co-operative, the Timber Syndicate; buildings for the latest types of agricultural machinery. There are other centers demonstrating the production, art and culture of different sections of the country. Four tents of the Red Army show the cultural work being done in the military forces. There is a live-stock section with specimens, not of prize, but of average stock. This is not an exposition of bluff; Soviet Russia wishes to show what the average peasant can do, and wishes the hundreds of thousands of peasants who are attending this exposition, to see what each one of them, or better, groups of them, co-operatively, can accomplish. There is an open-air theatre and an auditorium for lectures and film productions. There are primitive Siberian homes, with the stalls below and the living rooms above. And there are modern Siberian homes — with more hygienic accommodations. There is a Chinese pagoda with a bridge leading to and through it: Soviet Russia is the connecting link between the East and the West.

There is a hall showing the multi-form, variegated handicraft of the Soviet Republics. The International Workers' Relief, with which the



Mr. Choates (x) of British "Hands Off Russia" Committee and Mr. G. L. Rennick (xx) of the Associated Press on the grounds of the Exposition.

tween Soviet Russia and the outside world.

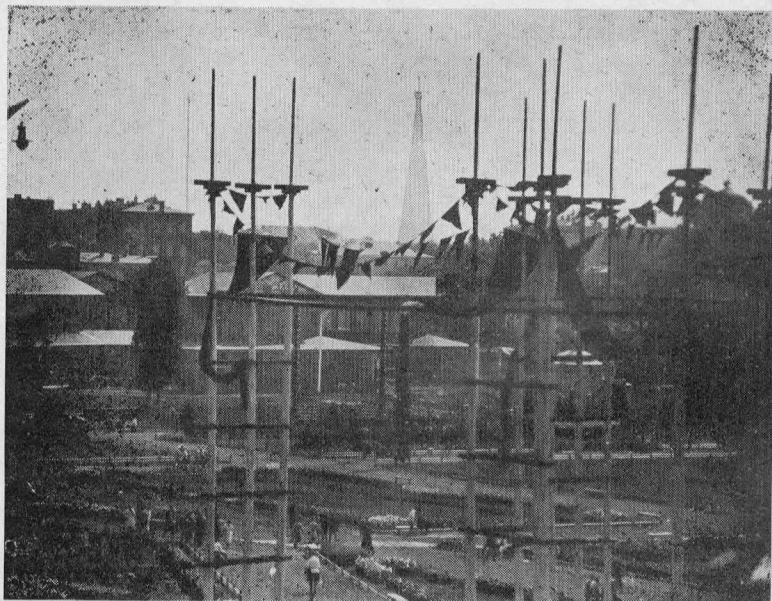
The opening of the Exposition inspired the whole country. For months, since the Exposition has been building, the Government has conducted an energetic campaign of publicity throughout the country. This was to be an occasion for a vast object-lesson for the Russian peasant—who must be "shown" the advantages of modern methods.

All the foreign diplomats, political and trade representatives and special foreign delegations attended the opening.

It was a strange sight: the diplomats from Western Europe and from Asia (China), the trade representatives from several European countries and from Canada sitting in three rows facing ten thousand Russian workers and peasants: the old world facing the new! Dressed in the unconventional European garb, some with silk hats and monocles, stiff and conservative, condescending and arrogant. On the other side, the ten thousand Russian workers and peasants, delegation from the Tartar Republic, from the Chirgese and other Soviet Republics; from Siberia; all in native costumes, resplendent in color and design. The different races, the different types—it was a splendid picture. And these European representatives who are accustomed to look upon the East as the old, were themselves the old world facing the new!

## Kamenev Opens Exposition

In the name of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, Kamenev opened



Soviet Russia's great Radio Tower at the Exposition. The latest news of the exhibition are broadcasted to every country in the world from this tower.

Friends of Soviet Russia is affiliated, has two exhibits: One in the All-Russian; the other in the Foreign Section.

On the other side of the road is the Foreign Section, connected with the All-Russian Section by a beautiful



bridge. This also symbolizes the relation between Soviet Russia and the capitalist world. There is a large hall for the German exhibitors, a beautiful Italian pavillion, an Austrian house. There are a few English and American firms represented. For the first time in the history of Soviet Russia, the American flag is flying on Russian soil.

Hundreds of thousands of peasants will attend the exposition at no expense whatever to themselves. Soviet Russia recognizes the inestimable educational value of this exposition. There is a tractor field, and a modern irrigation plant and there will be shown modern methods of combatting ro-

onstrates the close ties between the workers in bearing the expense dem-



Wm. F. Kruse—our own man on the job at the Exposition.

workers and the peasants. The Moscow Trade Unions, every working class organization taxed itself for the maintenance of the peasant visitors. Each member of the Communist Party in Moscow was taxed: there are voluntary contributions from every kind of organization; military schools, garrisons, all kinds of institutions have set

comrades. All the daily papers and literature of every kind of interest to the peasants are on hand. This is real working-class solidarity. These are some of the bonds holding the workers and peasants together in Soviet Russia.

The exposition will last until about the middle of October. It is a permanent institution. Next year there will take place the All-Russian Permanent Exposition of Agriculture and Industry. The present exhibition is merely the beginning; it represents the first steps in co-operation with the western world. As Western Europe



Stars and Stripes over Ford Agency at Exposition alongside of the Red Flag.

to Moscow in large groups and furnished with quarters and board for a dents and insects. After being brought period of four days, the peasants are led by a guide through the Exhibition; they will attend illustrated lectures.

#### *Soviet and Workers Pay for All*

The Government has made full provision for every convenience and for utilizing every minute of the day. This means an outlay of millions of rubles, borne by the State and by the workers of Moscow. The participation of the



A Russian who swung his axe too fast for the camera.

aside a certain number of beds and a part of their "pyok" for the peasant



Ansilowitch, Chief of the Exposition, speaking.

and America grasp more fully the necessity of co-operation with Soviet Russia, as they demonstrate a greater will to enter into commercial and political relations with the Soviet Government, the exposition will grow. The western world will come, because the western world must come. Without Soviet Russia there can be no world peace or stability.

The All-Russian Agricultural Exposition symbolizes Soviet Russia's will to win.

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(Continued page 25)