

Moscow, USSR.,  
May 27, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rogers;

Coming back to Moscow again has been quite the exciting event I expected. In spite of the new buildings, the wider boulevards, and the new bridges, it is still the same old place. They have changed some of the trolley routes and added hosts of new auto busses, but I find myself quite at home and able to find my way around.

Most pleasant of all experiences has been my welcome from the law people. When I dropped up to the Law Institute the other day to see the crowd, I was met with much surprise. They said that VOKS had told them that a famous American Professor was coming to visit them, and they had spent the morning brushing up their English. Their comment was typical of their attitude "We expected a famous Professor, and it is only you!" They heaved a sigh of relief and settled down to a good session discussing innovations in the teaching methods and curriculum. Several of the teachers did me the honor to say that they had read some of my papers, while others said they had been limited to an examination of my name on the cover since they knew no English.

On every hand I have found the most cordial reception. VOKS has outdone themselves to make me feel at home. In Leningrad they even arranged a good talk with a group of the faculty members at the Leningrad Law Institute. As I had never been in that building before, I was glad to compare the work with that done in Moscow. I found the two Institutes almost identical.

Law is truly becoming the favored profession promised some years ago. I find that considerable funds are being set aside for study, and numerous books and encyclopedias of law are in preparation. Young people are expressing an interest in law as a career and are filing applications in large numbers to be permitted to take the entrance exams of the Institutes. There is reason for their interest, since several of my own classmates are now in positions of importance. A good many are judges on the appellate courts, while some are even on the Supreme Courts of their Republics. Several have become delegates to the Supreme Soviet which is considered a position of the highest importance. Truly the law has become a profession which is serving as an opening to positions of considerable importance.

While most of my talks and visits have concerned the law, I have enjoyed renewing my connections with the theater and with every-day life. Leningrad is as cheerless a city as it has always been to me. I have never liked its appearance of forgotten splendor. The whole picture of buildings and people alike makes an American's heart burn, for it is so far from the neat, picked up city which we like to set as our goal. Moscow was a refreshing change after the former capital. Down here, people show enthusiasm and vigor which seems hardly present in Leningrad. New buildings are going ahead, though old ones are often forgotten. Pravda warned only the other day that progress is measured not alone in terms of new construction but in repair of what already stands. That lesson has yet to be learned even here in the capital, and it seems to be one of the most important lessons for the new generation. Maintenance has never been a strong fort of the Russian, and his negligence has been responsible for many of the bad impressions which have been carried home from here by Americans.

On all sides there is a calmness similar to that found in England. The press is quiet and prints only short dispatches without exciting headlines. The average citizen is busy with the chores of daily life--shopping, standing around for one's turn to come to buy, and getting done the ordinary errands of every day. On the other hand, people are very obviously anxious to know what is going on and how that will effect them and their country. Their minds are on preparedness, and they explain everything by pointing to the need for defence. One who likes the people of this country cannot help but regret that they find it still beyond their means to prepare for all eventualities and at the same time provide themselves with many of the comforts of life. This is still far from an economy of abundance, but as I realize that, I can look back so easily to the country as I first saw it in 1930, and again in 1934. Without question there has been an advance over those less brilliant days. One cannot help but wonder how much difference there would have been in the extent of that advance if there had not been the necessity of preparedness for the worst from abroad.

There remain the bright spots they have always been. It is a joy to sink back and listen to a play of Gorki or Ostrovsky. Familiar long Russian operas bring to mind the people with whom I went off previous occasions. This return has been very largely a reliving of old experiences. Because of that fact it is hard to assume perspective, for within a few hours it seems as if I had never been away at all, and I wonder what happened to the last two years. All that has changed is the fact that several of my friends have babies

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who call me "uncle" while their parents tell me that I look more 'solidny' than before.

Next week I leave for a swing through the south after riding down the Volga on a river boat. News from the south tells me that summer has come, although up here it is still only early spring. I may get a chance to write again before leaving the country. If I do not, you may be sure that I have been too much on the run to sit down to write.

Greetings to you all,

JNH

Gorky, U.S.S.R.  
June 3, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rogers:

It has been nine years since I last visited this old town of Nizhni-Novgorod, which has since been renamed Gorky. Today as I came through the station I could not help but recall the morning in 1930 when my three friends and I walked along aisles winding through the masses of peasants asleep on the tile floor waiting their turn to get away from this region. The effect of the change was heightened this afternoon when we drove out to the automobile factory. It was the construction of this factory which had attracted us in 1930. One of our friends was among the many Americans on the job, which at that time consisted of putting up a series of buildings to house workers who were later to construct and run the plant. Today we drove by those same buildings which now look insignificant in the midst of the truly enormous development around them. Nine years ago our American engineer almost despaired of ever getting the first house completed, but the incredible has happened--to such an extent that Russians now apologize for the simplicity of those same buildings which nine years ago seemed too novel and complicated even to construct.

It has seemed to me that the history of this city has an important bearing upon the future of this country, for nothing is more closely linked to the history of the struggle for the mastery of technique than in the development of the industrial activity of this city. I have long been convinced that technical training was essential for rapid progress among a people who have never known anything of machines. Nine years ago our friends despaired of ever teaching the mastery of technique. Many an American still doubts that it can be done, but I myself am much more open to conviction after seeing this development. It is still very far from a motor city like Detroit, but machinery is already becoming a commonplace--so much so that I found youngsters of the age of fifteen building experimental automobiles in the shops of the children's recreation centers. In spite of considerable testimony to the contrary, I suspect that the new generation is going to differ radically from their inexperienced parents.

This town is in itself an interesting place because of its location at the junction of the Oho and Volga Rivers. They come together here below the bluff on which the town stands and from which one gets a superb view of the Volga stretching away to the East. Tomorrow I shall be off on the daily river steamer to sail down to Stalingrad, just north of the Delta emptying into the Caspian Sea. The trip will provide a pleasant rest after strenuous days in Moscow.

After writing my last letter I had the interesting experience of attending an examination for the degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence. During the days when I was in the Moscow Institute there were only nine persons with the Doctor's degree. The group headed by Pashukanis kept its numbers limited and others were denied a chance to write a thesis and defend it. Since the removal of this clique in 1937, there has been renewed activity. The numbers of graduate law students has jumped from 46 to some 425 throughout the Union at the present time. Men who have been teaching for years have been preparing theses, and some 18 have already qualified for the degree.

Procedure in obtaining the degree is quite different from our American procedure. The man I heard, who used to teach me Criminal Law, was required to outline to the auditorium the substance of his thesis. Before he began, the chairman read his biography in great detail, and with this introduction the young professor took the floor. Without interruption he spoke for an hour and a half, and then stepped down for the first of the three official "opponents". After praise of the thesis which is considered worthy of publication as a textbook, the "opponent" then began with sharp criticism of various minutiae. His comments, which lasted some forty minutes were followed by similarly lengthy criticisms of the other two "opponents", and then discussion was begun from the floor. Criticism was sharp, but all questions were reserved for the rebuttal of the candidate. When he at last took his place in rebuttal, over  $4\frac{1}{4}$  hours had elapsed since the beginning of the session, but his replies seemed unaffected by fatigue. He accepted several criticisms as just, but opposed others as unmerited. For forty-five minutes he held the floor and then withdrew while the faculty cast a secret ballot, which turned out to be unanimous approval. Five hours had elapsed and we all retired nearly exhausted with the length and theoretical complexity of the discussion.

These examinations are one more indication of the growing interest in law. I find that many details of the new approach to law and order are not as yet worked out, but it seems clear that the foundation has been laid. Unless there is a change in leading personalities, I should imagine that the position has been established will serve as a starting point for extensive development along theoretical and practical lines. It seems quite clear that Soviet law is entering upon a new period of development.

It was not easy to leave Moscow after two such pleasant weeks. I felt myself fully reestablished in the old groove and thoroughly at home. I was reminded once again of the importance of growing up in a country if one would understand it, for one learns to react like a Russian to all that is going on.

Greetings to you all,

John N. Hazard.

Stalingrad, U.S.S.R.  
June 9, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rogers:

A voyage down the Volga has long been a dream of mine, and now it has been realized. For some nine hundred miles we cruised night and day for four days -- stopping at numerous hamlets and for long intervals at the three large towns upon the stretch of the river between Gorky and Stalingrad. What with a comfortable boat, good food, and a pleasant company, the trip was a success as far as a good time was concerned. It was more than a good time, however, for it opened up to me both provincial towns and collectively farmed land.

Kazan, Saratov and Samara (Now named Kuibeshv) are striking examples of the transformation which has occurred in the old provincial centers. All of them were once rather small with populations like Utica, N. Y. Now all of them approach Buffalo's population. With this expansion of the past ten years the new cities have hardly kept up in appearances. Hill-sides covered with little wooden shacks remind one of the old days, while down in the center of town the main streets have been paved and the small buildings replaced by good-sized public buildings and apartments. During the stop of three or four hours in each of these centers there was time to look the town over. To me it seemed clear that life in them now comes close to that in the metropolitan centers. Universities, technical schools, theaters, and parks have expanded and replaced the second rate places of former years. Here in Stalingrad where I have been able to stay longer, the change is even more marked due to the increase from 150,000 in 1926 to 450,000 today. This is a town with smokestacks north and south and a modern central position, while the territory in between factory and shopping district is filled with the tiny wooden huts of the past.

Life in Stalingrad is like that in any city in the hot belt. People hurry to work in the cool of the morning and disappear from sight until seven o'clock at night when parks fill up and the summer entertainment centers are crowded. It was my luck to drop in at the summer vaudeville which happens to be at the moment graced by artists on a visit from Leningrad. The biggest hit of the program turned out to be the conversationalist who told jokes on everything. One which received the warmest approval was based on the New York World's Fair. Said the artist, "One American workman asked another why Germany was not represented at the Fair--the answer came back--"This is the world of tomorrow and fascist Germany is having a terrible present and will have no tomorrow." Also much favored was the statement that Americanaviators are using the red star on the top of the Soviet pavilion as a beacon. The artist added that this was symbolical of how the workers of the world and the best elements even in Germany were looking to the Soviet Union as a beacon to lead the world out of the chaos in which it is.

It is obvious that the people even in these less central parts of the country are extensively interested in news of the international situation, but they are extremely calm in this interest. The simple accounts in the press are written as they have been of recent years -- merely chronicling the brutal successes of Germany while at the same time giving much space to growing interest in terrorized Western Europe and growing difficulties for Japan in China. This is indeed a calm country going about its business and its plans for the future with every outward appearance of serenity.

One might think the calmness was one of ignorance, but that explanation has ousted by the interest on the boat among the peasants who rode between stations. Although still wearing the scarfs and sometimes the straw sandals of another age, they carried newspapers and read them as they squatted on the deck. It was hard to believe as one sailed by the simple dwellings standing opposite each other in two long rows on each collective farm that these people have taken the strides educationally which are most clearly apparent. To see them with the tradition of centuries still clinging to them and their children has once again reminded me that this problem of building socialism is for this country first and foremost the problem of education towards a disciplined life.

A second obvious task in this part of the country is irrigation. As we descended the Volga the land gets drier until it looked like Wyoming and seemed inhabited only by cattle, with goats predominating. As we cruised along we could see the preparations for the huge dams which are to cross the Volga in the near future, providing water, electricity, and a safer steamship channel. As in few other areas this promise for the future is one of the most hopeful. Only last year the drought made living less easy. All the peasants remember the terrible recurring famines of the past, and it seems safe to predict that any government which solves this drought problem is going to win the respect and even the devotion of the people who can remember the old days when the cattle ate the thatched roofs and the people ate the cattle and, as legend has it, even each other. Already the dams have been completed on the upper reaches of the river -- so that the Moscow region is well watered and connected with the rivers by the Canal of which I have written earlier. Near the close of the program is to be completed the canal at this end of the river, linking it with the River Don which flows into the Azov and from thence to the Black Sea. No one knows how much traffic that will add to the Volga which already carries more tonnage than all the rivers of pre-expansion Germany combined. Whatever the figure reached, it means that nearly all of the European part of the Union is going to enjoy the benefits of cheap water transport, which is an important factor in the development of the program.

While examining reports in the press on these plans and progress upon them, I have found myself looking frequently at the individual. Plans such as these have captivated the organizers of this economy, and one can easily see how the man who persists in sticking to the traditional old Russian pace is being squeezed gently, and sometimes not so gently. Nine years ago I remember writing home about the loafing among the stevedores in Odessa. On the Volga trip there was many an occasion when the stevedores actually ran back for their next load. Part of their new-found enthusiasm comes from a desire to complete the plan ahead of time and get a reward. Part of it is due to the merciless criticism leveled upon the laggard. Whatever the measures used, they do bring results, and for a person with his eyes on a bountiful future, results are what count.

Now I move on to the farms of the Ukraine. Best of good wishes until my next.

John N. Hazard.

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Now I move on to the sphere of the literate.  
Best of good wishes until my next.

J. Z. H.



Lwów, dnia

June 9

1937

ADR. TELEGR. HOTGEORGE'A.

Dear Ben -

I came in this morning to find your letters awaiting me. Many thanks for sending them on, & for answering those which needed immediate replies. I enclose the contract with the Manhattan Storage Warehouse. Thanks for arranging with them to use.

I am having a wonderful trip. I have found one of my old school friends here & am finding myself quite at home as so many speak Rumanian. I shall stay a few days & then go on to Rumania.

Thanks for sending out the reprints. I hope my 3 letters from Russia reached you & that they proved heavy enough to send out. I shall write again soon with news of my travels since.

Greetings to you all,

Joe

Lwow, Poland  
June 21, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Friends from school days in Geneva are making this city more than another sight to see. Little did I expect ever to come here, but it happens to be on my route home and I have stopped a couple of days to visit the boy with whom I studied international law in Switzerland in 1932. He is now both a judge and a teacher of law in this University. In consequence he has been able to introduce me to the city in an incomparable way.

Sitting in his office at the University I met two other young men who have studied in America -- one under Hudson at Harvard and one under Spykman at Yale. You can imagine how quickly students of the same teachers can feel at home, and as a result I have been feasted and entertained with good food and conversation. My knowledge of Russian and Slavic customs has made me feel very much at home in this corner of Poland which is filled with a Ukrainian peasantry tempered by a Polish city population.

As one of my friends said -- it seems easier for a Pole to think of going to San Francisco than to the Soviet Union. Due to this psychology the people I meet look with amazement upon one who has just left the Ukraine. The lawyers are interested in a system of law of which they appear to know almost nothing despite proximity. They welcome the opportunity of being introduced to it via the round-about route of America.

Polish lawyers are keen to hear of new approaches to the administration of justice as they have no tradition of law to which they cling. Their system of periodic revision of codes in keeping new conditions and legal innovations has caused most of the codes to have been entirely redrafted within the last ten years. Laws of the world are still being searched to discover better ways of administering justice so that the process may be continued. Even Angle-Saxon law is being examined. This in itself is a long step for a civil law country when it has been the tradition to ignore common law in view of the fact that it has no heritage of Roman law and is presumably non-mixable with the code system. My friend is now exploring the common law rules of evidence to determine what our judges have developed to aid them in discovering the truth. It is argued that any system of law can be studied on this basis, for all systems of law have one aim -- to administer justice and retain order within the state. No narrow prejudice for civil law conceptions is now permitted as a brake upon the examination of other systems whether they be associated or wholly dissociated with Roman law traditions. Needless to say we Americans might profit if we grasped the importance of such a liberal point of view!

Aside from the law there is plenty to hold one's interest in modern Poland. These are trying times with unpleasant reports in the press. In the face of it all, people seem to be as calm as one can imagine. They point out that they have always been between two stools, and that the present situation is not new. Certainly there is no love of the neighbors to the west, and there is reserved respect for neighbors to the east. There is no question but that aid would be accepted from the east, but preferably in forms which would not include infantry. One cannot help but admire the coolness of a people who know how terrible it will be if the blow falls. They feel assured that they

will eventually come out on top along with the civilized world since "right is on their side." I find a general tendency among people to argue for the basic principle that there is a superior "right", and that when an individual or a nation violates that "right" he or it is eventually bound to lose out. Students and teachers lean heavily towards natural law conceptions -- and it is easy to see why. It is a buttress to one's determination to save what has been won after so much sorrow. But together with this confidence that right must triumph there is the realization that "might tells", and so no stone is being left unturned. America is looked to as the most important factor of all. She is called a European power which cannot ignore European conditions. Roosevelt is looked upon as a very great man -- far outshining Wilson in every way.

As a parting impression Kiev and the Ukraine were perfect. The law faculty of the University of Kiev received me at tea. The previous day I had enjoyed the same honor at the Law Institute in Kharkov. In both places we talked law, international relations, and American internal conditions. There is no question but that Russians look to America as the stabilizing factor together with their own country. They follow our activities in considerable detail and ask questions about our law which shows their familiarity with its trends. Needless to say the opportunities I had to talk with law teachers (most of whom are also practicing attorneys or advisers in state offices or enterprises) gave me all the information I hoped for on current trends. Nothing was held back in the chatty conversations made possible by virtue of the fact that no formal intercession of an interpreter was necessary.

Among activities in Kiev was a whole day spent on a collective farm. Ukrainian differs considerably from Russian but all seemed able to understand me, and I could guess at most of their explanations. Several knew Russian to interpret the hard parts. Walking about on the farm -- talking with farmers, the village school teacher, the postmaster, the village storekeeper, the secretary of the farm, and best of all -- the 62 year old head greenhouse keeper provided a laboratory in which to try out the application of all the laws on collective farms. As was to be expected, some laws were almost unknown, but it was clear that the administration has been able to instill the major principles into the minds of all. The judge comes twice a month on circuit to untangle matters which have become too complicated for local settlement.

Now I go off for a couple of days exercise in the Carpathians and then on to Rumania. I shall regret leaving the Slavs behind for a while as they seem a very familiar people to me now.

Greetings to you all,

John N. Hazard.

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HOUSING  
LAW<sup>By</sup>  
JOHN N. HAZARD

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# SOVIET HOUSING LAW

## JOHN N. HAZARD

Public Housing schemes have been appearing in all parts of the world, but in no country have they reached such proportions as in the Soviet Union. Because of the general interest in the United States, and because of the lack of material on the Soviet experience, this unique volume has been prepared. Statutes are analyzed and court practice discussed on the basis of official reports and personal observation. Soviet life is described so as to add color and meaning to the actual workings of the law. This book is not a handbook on Soviet legal practice, but a review of the social and political consequences of Soviet housing policy as well as a description of the laws which outline that policy. It is a book intended for political scientists, housing authorities, lawyers, and persons generally interested in Soviet developments.

John N. Hazard, a graduate of the Harvard Law School, attended the Moscow Juridical Institute for three years as an Associate of the Institute for Current World Affairs in New York. He has lived in several of the types of houses he describes. Since his return to the United States he has lectured on Soviet Law at Columbia University and the University of Chicago. He is a member of the New York City Bar, and of the American Bar Association's sub-committee on Foreign Housing Laws.

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to Bowman  
WSR*

120 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.,  
October 11, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rogers:

You have asked for some information about my friend Robert R. Bowie. He is a native of Baltimore, having spent all of his life down there with the exception of his years at Princeton and the Harvard Law School. Both at Princeton and Harvard he had an unusually high standing in scholarship while at the same time finding time for extra curricular activities.

Since graduation he has been practicing law in his father's firm of Bowie and Burke in Baltimore. In addition he has been serving on the drafting commission of the Maryland State Legislature, and was chosen last winter by the State Bar Assn. to prepare a summary of the legislation passed during the session. His interest is broad and liberal. His travels all over Europe at various times, and his general interest in progressive movements, in particular in the field of administrative law, have given him a slant on his work which few lawyers have.

He is a democrat, in both senses of the word, being a believer in broad mass government, and always voting the Democratic ticket. His interest in the Soviet Union has grown with my own, and he has had the good fortune of a visit there in 1934.

I feel sure that Mr. Bowman will find him an interesting, and often provocative person, for he is never cowed into agreement with ideas expressed by his elders. It would be safe to say that the most stimulating criticism of my own work has come from him during the past eight years. One of his chief demands is that work be done thoroughly, and I am sure that Mr. Bowman has a similar standard.

I shall discuss soon with Thatcher Brown, Jr. the various matters we considered the other evening.

Greetings,

John

Bowie's address is 106 Charlcote Rd.

*file*  
JNH...WSR..

120 Broadway,  
New York, N.Y.,  
October 21, 1939.

Dear Mr. Rogers;

My trip to Canada this past week provided a pleasant recess in the busy life I now lead in the practice of law. Ever since my return on July 14th, I have been plunging into the mysteries of practice which are so foreign to the work of the academic lawyer. I had almost forgotten how to stand up and face an audience.

Toronto was the first stop. The large Canadian Club had invited me to talk on Soviet Foreign Policy. It is hardly a subject on which I feel authoritative, but they insisted that I come in spite of my hesitation and in spite of the war. I smile now as I look back upon my preparation for going. I even took out of my brief case at the last moment a copy of the New York Times as I expected to have my things searched at the frontier as was the case in Europe even at peace time. But Canada, although at war, is quiet and apparently unruffled. Frontier officials do not even ask one's business, so I sailed through without excitement.

Canadians seem very distrustful of the Soviet Union. Some of them felt that their papers were trying to present the war as against Russia instead of Germany. All that I saw appeared to heave a sigh of relief when they heard my conclusions, for I felt it safe to say that the Soviet Union was certainly not desirous of a war at this time. She is still too terribly occupied in keeping herself on a prosperous program to look outside for trouble. I interpret the movements so far in the war as efforts on the part of Soviet leaders to plug the gaps through which attack came during and after the world war when the period of intervention filled Russia with the armies of the world.

Although the Canadian Club with its large membership and the imposing setting of the ball room filled with luncheon tables was the high light of the trip, the evening informal discussion with the limited membership of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs proved the more pleasant of the two Toronto talks. This group, chosen with care from the most internationally minded men of

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Canada always provides real stimulation. I have been with their Toronto branch before , with the Montreal branch twice before, and with the Ottawa branch once, so that I feel quite at home with their informal procedure and their severe question periods.

On my way back to New York I stopped off to be with the Hamilton branch of the Institute. Again it was the same lively group, although this time the members seemed much less informed about the mechanics of Soviet life than their brothers in the other cities. Perhaps it was because they had not joined in my earlier discussions before the war when daily Soviet life was the chief concern of the evening. Even though many of the men came with an openly hostile approach, I thought that much of that approach disappeared as they saw that I had nothing to sell but wanted only to discuss possibilities in the light of conditions as I knew them and as I thought Soviet theory would cause them to develop.

The firm of Baldwin, Todd & Young with which I am associated has been good enough to let me take time to keep up my writing and talking about the Soviet Union. Two papers are now in preparation, and I have been invited to read a study at the American Sociological Association's Christmas meeting. Though no sociologist, I find that the Soviet Union is a subject in such great demand that people can use what little I know about it.

You will find attached a copy of a newspaper interview in Canada. It gives my views as of that date on the Soviet scene. As you know, the picture changes daily, and one can never tell what new event will cause the whole scheme of things to change.

My greetings to all the Institute people and friends. I keep remembering the good times I had under the guidance of the Institute and cherish my continued association.

J.N.H.

## Sees Scant Chance For Aid To Hitler By Russians

### Lawyer Predicts Soviet Waging Aggressive War Only If Stalin Gets Drunk With Power

John N. Hazard, who spent four years in Russia studying Russian law, in Russian, at Russian schools, and travelled across all European Russia and her borders, came to Toronto yesterday to address the Canadian Club.

The young New York lawyer, and teacher of international politics, knows exactly what the average smart young Russian is thinking today. He lived with them. He went to school with them. They called him Ivan Ivanovitch because they couldn't quite manage John Hazard.

"Can you forget, for this interview, that you are John Hazard, and just be Ivan Ivanovitch?" The Telegram asked.

"I think I can answer questions the way the ordinary Russian law student would, though the opinions may not be mine," he said.

"What do you think about the war?" The Telegram asked Ivan Ivanovitch.

"If Stalin arranged it, it must be okay," Ivan answered. "He's employed to see that affairs are directed for the good of Russia, and that's all that interests us."

"Was it a surprise when your troops moved into Poland?"

"Of course not," Ivan answered. "We have long been told that Russia would be defended on somebody else's soil. Long before Russian troops moved we said to ourselves, 'When the Germans reach Bialystock we will move.' They reached Bialystock one night. Russian troops moved in next morning. I think all Russians feel that we are merely installing ourselves in Russian ethnological territories and in the Baltic islands to provide a cushion territory for the protection of Russian borders."

#### NAZIS MUST PAY

"Will Stalin supply implements of war to Germany?" The Telegram asked.

"Yes, if Germany can pay," said Ivan. "Russia made even China pay, though she was poor, and after the Spanish war Moscow was flooded with oranges."

"And how did you feel about the purge of army officers?"

"We felt that it was regrettable that these brains must be executed, but if they had been traitorous it was better to have an inexperienced honest man."

"And if reports are sent from Communists in Canada to Moscow, will they be turned over to the German Army Intelligence?"

"Why should they be turned over?" Ivan asked. "They are of use to Russia. If Russia goes on the war-path, then they may co-operate with the German Intelligence. Some reports may now be purloined from Moscow by German espionage agents. But I don't think they'll be sent to Berlin by Russia."

"And how do you feel about the other countries of the world?"

"We laugh at their stupidity in starting war," Ivan said. "We see our men in Poland and say to ourselves that the march to Communism is starting. We know that Britain and America are not likely to incur revolution while they are wealthy, but feel that the war may perhaps stir the spread of Socialism after it has exhausted the resources of these countries."

#### DOUBTS AGGRESSION.

Ivan was asked, then, a few questions in his own right.

As John Hazard he said: He does not feel Russia will actively attack any state in her present frame of mind. He feels that if there is great German infiltration, she may move; if a nation is in danger of breaking down, Russia may take it over; but she has no present intention of aggressive war.

"But the mind of Stalin may change," he said. "If Russia bombs the Dardanelles. If she attempts an attack through Afghanistan, such as was attempted by the Crazy Czar; such signs will mean that Russia is on the war path."

"In the meantime I think that with Outer Mongolia to cushion Siberia; with Baltic islands to protect her harbor; with a Maginot line behind Lithuania; with an alliance with Turkey to prevent the British reaching her through that passage; that Russia feels she is fairly well protected, which is her present wish. Remember that 'cushion areas' are merely places where Russia has been invaded before."

Mr. Hazard says he feels that Russia is sincere in extending guarantees of neutrality to smaller states provided that they do not come under German influence or break down internally.

He points out that if, for instance, Germany enters Rumania, or the Rumanian government shows too great pro-Nazi leanings, Russia may move into Bessarabia.