

traying the cause for which our young men are shedding their blood. Every decent American should shun such people, the disturbers of harmonious relations between our two countries.

And it would be well for the Russian government and people to ignore the voice of the slanderers and misinformers. Suspicion must be banished on both sides. Mutual trust and confidence must become the rule in the relations between the two countries. Next to Canada and Mexico, Russia is our closest neighbor—a bare fifty-five miles across a narrow strip of water. We can, we must and should—and I am sure we will—live in friendship with the great people of Russia.

The recently inaugurated compulsory study of English in the Russian primary schools is a great step in the direction of cementing closer ties with our democracy. America should follow this splendid example. More and more commercial and cultural and scientific intercourse between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Americans now and after the war should be encouraged by both governments.

The spirit of friendship and cooperation now being practiced in the common struggle against a ruthless enemy should be continued and cultivated for all time to come. Today we are comrades in the common cause of bringing victory to the democracies. Tomorrow we should continue to be comrades in the struggle with the elements of nature in order to bring prosperity and happiness and true culture to the peoples of the United States and those of the Soviet Union.

It can be done, it must be done, and no power on earth should be permitted to swerve us from our righteous course.

### Henry N. Wieman

*President, Divinity School, Univ. of Chicago*

ONE of the most important things that can be done to promote cooperation between these two peoples is to prepare Americans for the time of most acute danger that will arise after the war. That time will come when Americans see that they are losing and Russia is winning in the struggle to influence Germany and, with Germany, the rest of Europe. Naturally Americans will want Germany to have our kind of social order and the Russians will want it to have theirs. Russia will win because Germany and Russia are bound together by the demands of industrial production. What is required for the full release of industrial production is the most coercive demand in the modern world. Therefore Germany and with Germany all of Europe will go in the direction which industrial production requires, namely, into close affiliation with Russia. Distribution of natural resources, technology, labor, technicians, and human need cannot here be analyzed, but they all point to the conclusion just noted.

If we can pass this time of suspicion, bitterness and disappointment which may arise among the American people when they see Germany and Europe generally coming under the hegemony of Russia, the greatest danger to American-Russian cooperation will have been passed. Therefore we must make known as widely as possible that the outcome above noted will ensue, not because of the devilish machinations of Moscow, not because Stalin wants to rule Europe, not because conspirators are trying to promote a world-revolution, but simply because the requirements of industrial production drive the peoples in this direction.

### Zlatko Balokovic

*President, National Council Americans of Croatian Descent*

SOVIET RUSSIA's contribution to the inevitable victory of the United Nations and the elimination of the Nazi-fascist drive for world conquest open doors into a future that stirs the hearts of all men of good will in America and the USSR. These two great and powerful states realize that much as their very existence depends upon victory, it depends no less upon laying the foundations for a future in which man's creative efforts will be devoted to developing a civilization that will bring to humanity a richer and fuller life.

America and Soviet Russia are singularly fitted to work together in achieving this great end in human destiny because it is envisioned and enshrined in the hearts of their people who have faith in the fineness of the common man. To realize this goal each of us must bend his whole effort to end the reign of ignorance, suspicion, and fear which has for so long prevented both countries from achieving a better understanding of those fundamental principles which are the driving forces of these two great nations.

In America, as in Russia, education is the prerogative and obligation of every citizen. Therefore, if we will make the effort to acquaint ourselves with the struggle of both peoples to rise from oppression to enjoyment of equal opportunity, the realization of our common spiritual kinship will be the best guaranty of a world based upon mutual respect, understanding and cooperation—envisioning the welfare of all mankind as its ultimate goal.

### Sophonisba Breckinridge

*Professor, Public Welfare Administration, Univ. of Chicago*

IT OUGHT to be possible for two nations to live in peace and harmony however different their general aims and methods of public organization and their general bases of conduct, so long as both practice good faith and are frank as to their purposes and programs. The Jesuitical doctrine that the end may justify the use of indirect means will, however, inevitably lead to misunderstanding, resentment, and defensive measures. There has been a widespread belief that the communist ethic justified this fear and therefore, some, who rejoiced in the overthrown cruelty of czarist tyranny, have been disappointed that the new regime did not allay the fear expressed in the old question, "Who can be happy and free in Russia?" To those to whom the revolution in Russia seemed to bring new hope, the rapprochement now among Britain, the United States, and Russia arouses again the sincerest hope of a permanent relation of good will and universal concern for the common man.

### Ben Probe

*Secretary-Treasurer, Michigan CIO Council*

IN DISCUSSING such an extremely important question as the relationship that should exist between the United States and the Soviet Union, many things must be considered, and honestly and plainly discussed. In my opinion, one of the greatest reasons for misunderstanding is a lack of knowledge of the true state of affairs as they exist in the Soviet Union regarding a democratic form of government, the position of the trade

unions, and the USSR's attitude toward other nations.

Since the revolution in Russia, many interpretations have been placed upon her great experiment and Russia's attempt to set up a new society. That she must have succeeded to a great extent has been proved by her magnificent defense of her country when recently attacked by Germany.

Closer cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union depends on a greater understanding by America of Russia's problems, as well as a desire on the part of those forces in America who do not wish a change of any society which will benefit the great masses of any nation.

### W. Horsley Gantt

*Director, Pavlovian Laboratory, Johns Hopkins Medical School*

OF THE three or four world powers to emerge after the present war it is now evident that the USA and the USSR will be among these. Even the most skeptical are now willing to believe that the Soviet Union is a force which cannot be neglected in any plan for war or for peace. Prejudice and exaggerated statements about the Soviet Union by opposite groups have resulted in frustrating confusion. Actually we see in the Russia of today a youthful vigorous nation trying for the first time in its recent history self-government, a stupendous internal experiment in which 200 million people are participating. Neither to be ignored nor feared, this experiment is well worth our study. Had there been less ignorance of Russia there might have been closer cooperation that would have prevented the second World War. There are now rumors preparing the ground for an unwarranted fear of Russia as an aggressive world power, but the fact that she must be concerned for the next generation with her own problems of internal development and her self-sufficiency make it unlikely that she will become an external aggressor.

An important way to further understanding—necessary in the foundation for world peace and progress—is through an exchange of students, scientific, political, and sociological. Knowledge engendered by first hand information resulting from sojourn in a country promotes tolerance and lays the foundation for mutual respect and the recognition of international problems. A means of providing serious students from both Russia and the USA, whether in or out of academic circles, the possibility of visiting, working, and studying in the other country would be one of the greatest opportunities for the cultivation of a gradually developing rapprochement which would go a long way toward cementing Soviet-American friendship as well as laying the basis for international harmony. Obviously any method, to be successful, must apply to both countries, but owing to the economic position of this country we could perhaps better take the initiative.

### Pauline Koner

*Dancer*

THE Soviet Union is a nation with a great past, a great present, and a great future in the field of the dance. We in America are certainly proving that we, too, are a nation of dancers, making dance history in which I know Russia is avidly interested. During the year and a half which I spent concertizing in the Soviet Union, I was constantly besieged by dancers and

