



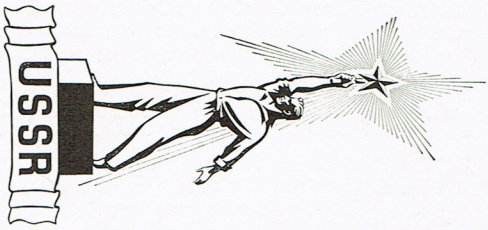
NEW YORK
WORLD'S FAIR 1939

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS



Legend

- A—Main Pavilion of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
- B—Soviet Exhibit in the Hall of Nations
- C—Pavilion of the Arctic



PAVILION OF THE U.S.S.R. AT
THE NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR
1939

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HALL OF NATIONS

The exhibition of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics at the New York World's Fair is in three separate buildings—the main Pavilion of the U.S.S.R., the Arctic Pavilion, and the Soviet exhibit in the Hall of Nations.

The Soviet Hall of Nations exhibit is located opposite the left wing of the main pavilion. The theme of this exhibit is the political and social structure of the Soviet Union.

Figures notable in Soviet history and public life appear in sculptures by leading Soviet artists. These include bas reliefs of Lenin and Stalin, and bronze statues of Mikhail Kalinin, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and Vyacheslav Molotov, Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R.

The seal of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics forms an illuminated inset on the ceiling of this hall. On the surrounding walls are the seals of the eleven republics which constitute the Union. These eleven seals are made of jewels and semi-precious stones, and are the work of master jewelers of the Soviet Union.

A diagram traces the structure of government in the Soviet Union from local Soviets to the Supreme Soviet, the highest legislative body of the U.S.S.R. Along the walls are excerpts from the Constitution. A motion picture, automatically projected and controlled, shows scenes of the 1937 elections to the Supreme Soviet. The historic first session of the Supreme Soviet, in the Kremlin, is the subject of a large painting.

On a large table in the center of the hall are copies of the Constitution of the U.S.S.R. printed in several languages.

The exhibits outline the administrative changes which have taken place since the revolution of November, 1917, in the Soviet Union—a country which has ended exploitation of men by men, eliminated racial and national animosities and in which 170,000,000 people of different nationalities are united in a voluntary, equal federation of eleven Socialist Republics.

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THE MAIN SOVIET PAVILION—EXTERIOR

The main Soviet Pavilion embodies one of the principles of Soviet public architecture—that a public building should be a synthesis of the plastic arts. There is a notable use of sculpture in the exterior of the building.

A seventy-nine foot stainless steel figure by Vyacheslav Andreyev surmounts the central pylon. This colossal statue represents the new Soviet citizen, strong and intellectually alert, in whom all differences between manual and mental labor are eliminated. The twelve-foot illuminated star held aloft by the statue is an exact replica of the stars on the towers of the Kremlin.

The front face of the pylon on which the statue stands is of a deep red quartzite, one of the hardest varieties of stone. Marble quarried in the Soviet Union is extensively used throughout the pavilion.

Sweeping around the pylon, the pavilion building forms a broad semi-circle, terminating in two wings. The face of one wing bears a bas relief portrait of Lenin; the other a bas relief portrait of Stalin. Below the portrait of Lenin is a statuary group of heroic size representing the men and women and youth active in the Socialist Revolution of 1917. Below the portrait of Stalin is a statuary group representing the men and women and youth of the equally heroic epoch of the building of Socialism. The sculptors are Muravin and Lysenko.

Tall pilasters divide the outer facade of the pavilion into eleven sections ornamented by large bas relief panels, carved by young Soviet sculptors. The figures around the government seals in these panels represent the eleven republics of the U.S.S.R.

In the center of the pylon, carved out of a single large block of granite, is the seal of the Soviet Union.

ENTRANCE LOBBY

Entering through a glass doorway on the right inner wing, the visitor faces a large mural measuring 53 by 30 feet. Its subject is the Socialist way of life traveled by the Soviet people under the guidance of Lenin and Stalin, whose statues flank the mural.

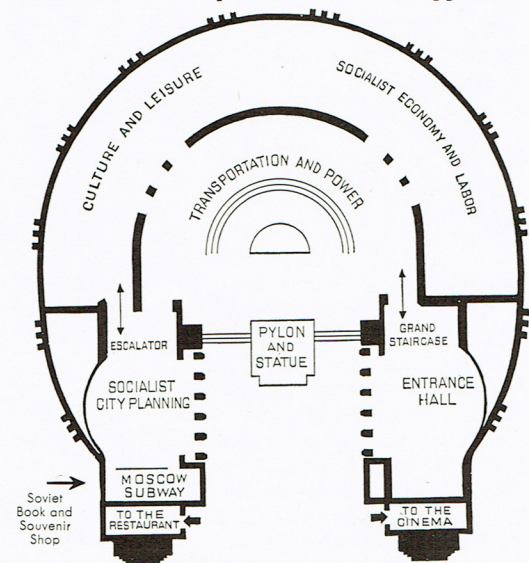
Against a sunlit sky, a gay crowd advances toward the spectator. In the van are more than fifty leading Soviet personalities, famous Stakhanovites, men and women of the railroads and mines, factories and fields. They are workers, farmers, scien-

tists, actors, aviators, musicians, writers, and Red Army men, painted in vigorous portraiture. All of them are well known to the Soviet people for their outstanding achievements or their heroic acts. Most of them are members of the Supreme Soviet, highest legislative body of the U.S.S.R.

This canvas has additional interest as an example of collective painting. It is the work of eleven artists, headed by the noted Soviet painter Yefanov.

On the wall to the right is a large jewel map lettered with diamonds, rubies and other stones. The map shows the industrial expansion of the Soviet Union during the past decade covered by the First and Second Five Year Plans of socialist construction.

Other paintings in the Entrance Lobby commemorate heroic episodes in the struggle of the



Lower Level of Soviet Pavilion

Russian people against the autocracy and the bourgeoisie, and events of the Civil War period.

Descending the broad marble staircase from the entrance lobby the visitor enters the Hall of Socialist Economy and Labor.

HALL OF SOCIALIST ECONOMY AND LABOR

On the walls to the right, cinematic exhibits, photo-montages, models and dioramas show the state and

social organization, and the changes in class structure during the period of the building of socialism in the U.S.S.R.

The exhibits trace the constant growth of planned socialist industry, which has never had, and by its nature precludes, economic crises and unemployment; and which has won first place in Europe, second in the world in volume of output.

The abolition of unemployment and new methods of labor (Stakhanovite methods) have assured the growth of the national economy, and have made labor in the Soviet Union, as Stalin has put it, "a matter of honor, glory, valor and heroism."

One of the most interesting exhibits in this hall is the diorama of Magnitogorsk, the great new industrial city in the Ural Mountains. A scale model and photos show exterior and interior views of the Magnitogorsk workers' club. A typical wall newspaper, written by the Magnitogorsk workers, presents the daily life and intellectual interests of the men and women in the plant.

The changes in the countryside are shown by a diorama of similar proportions and ingenuity. A rural district appears as it was in pre-revolutionary times. The land is fenced into tiny farms, tilled with wooden plows. There is the old village with its draggled streets, its single brightly lit building, the saloon. The landlord's mansion stands splendid and aloof.

Then all this disappears. A large collective farm emerges, worked with tractors and combines. A modern kindergarten has replaced the saloon. The landlord's mansion has been converted into a sanatorium for the kolkhozniki (collective farmers).

A special exhibit is devoted to the Machine and Tractor Stations which serve the vast stretches of collectivized land, raising the farmer's income from year to year. They have played an important role in advancing Soviet agriculture, which now leads the world in large scale farming.

Among the exhibits the visitor may see displays showing the democratic management by which Soviet farmers, their land and its fruits ensured to them forever, have ended hunger and poverty, and are steadily raising living standards for themselves and for the entire people.

From this hall you enter the Hall of Transportation and Electric Power.

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TRANSPORTATION AND ELECTRIC POWER

Railways, ships and airplanes conquering the vast distances of the Soviet Union; rivers harnessed to yield great quantities of electric power for industry, and irrigation reserves for vital crops—these interrelated themes unify the exhibits in this hall.

One of the most interesting models on display presents the gigantic power plant on the Dnieper River in the Ukraine, and the new socialist city of Zaporozhye nearby.

Another model shows the Kuibyshev electric power station on the Volga River, now under construction. It will be the largest hydroelectric station in the world.

The Kuibyshev station is part of the Greater Volga Plan, by which one of the Soviet Union's longest rivers is being transformed. Its course altered and its level raised, the Volga will be made part of a waterways system connecting it with the Baltic-White Sea Canal and the Moscow-Volga Canal.

The Kuibyshev station will also be used as a base for extensive irrigation works which will ensure the rich harvests of the Volga region.

Other displays present Soviet aviation and its outstanding flyers, who have set world records. The Soviet Union holds most of the recent world records in aviation.

In these exhibits are shown not only the development of machines but also of the people who man the machines. Here you may see the advance of Soviet women in agriculture, transportation, industry and public life. Here, too, is the man who not so long ago pushed a wooden plow and now flies an airplane over the Pamirs.

From this hall the visitor enters the Hall of Culture and Leisure.

HALL OF CULTURE AND LEISURE

Constantly increasing national income in the U.S.S.R. has meant increased leisure for the people; better, widespread social services; greater facilities for acquiring knowledge.

From sports to socialized medicine, from a unique system of child care to the diffusion of learning throughout the country, the exhibits in this hall reflect steadily rising living standards.

Sports have become an important aspect of

leisure. Once a year, Moscow's huge Red Square is the scene of performances by thousands of gymnasts and dancers, lithe young men and women from all corners and nationalities of the U.S.S.R., Uzbeks and Kazakhs from Central Asia, Georgians and Azerbaijanians from the Caucasus, many in their native costumes. Huge photo-murals and newsreels present scenes from this annual Physical Culture Parade, along with photos, models, and dioramas showing the transformation of the Soviet millions into a sport loving people.

Visitors may also see the working of social services in the Soviet Union—socialized medicine, the vast development of sanatoria and vacation resorts, new provisions for maternity, new developments in child care.

Other exhibits display Pioneer palaces and summer camps where children play and work in their own theatres, railways, laboratories. One display consists of drawings and paintings by children; another contains models of airplanes and ships made by them. Soviet children hold four out of the six world records for airplane model builders.

One section of this hall tells the dramatic story of the abolition of illiteracy and the enormous growth of schools, universities and institutes, in all of which education is free of charge. Soviet college students receive government stipends, and immediately upon graduation are certain of employment in their specialty.

From this hall a flight of steps takes you up into the Hall of Socialist City Planning.

SOCIALIST CITY PLANNING

Imagine a Russian falling asleep twenty years ago and waking up today. He would not recognize his country, his city or even his own home. An extensive, unified construction program has altered old cities and created new ones.

This hall presents an example of new Soviet architecture. Standing thirty feet high and weighing twenty tons, the model of the Palace of Soviets is a true image of the actual building now under construction in Moscow. The scale of the model shown here is 1/75th of actual size. The Palace of Soviets will be the tallest and most spacious building in the world. For the facing of the model 117,000 pieces were required.

Nearby is a full-sized replica of a section of the

Mayakovsky station in the Moscow subway. It represents the type and style of all the Moscow subway stations.

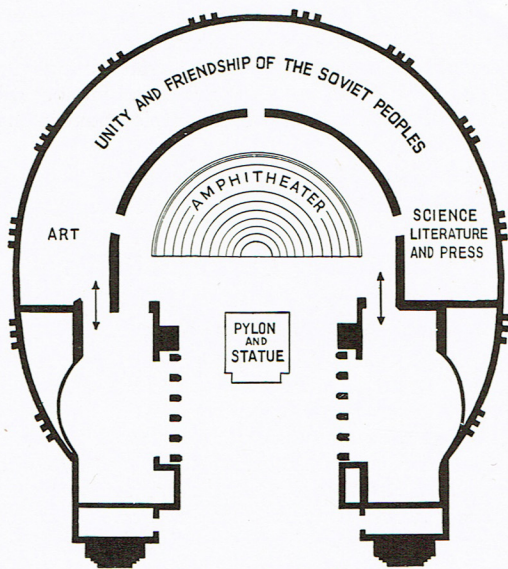
Other displays here show the reconstruction and modernization of the Soviet Union's old cities, and the building of two hundred and thirty busy and beautiful new cities in various parts of the country.

The exhibits show how this vast rebuilding and creation of urban centers is integrated with the planned, economic development of the U.S.S.R. They tell how slums have been abolished; how proportions are maintained between industrial and residential sections; and how the daily life of the people has been altered by large building projects, including new homes, nurseries, kindergartens, schools, universities, institutes, theatres, cinemas, sports stadiums.

From this hall an escalator takes you up into the Hall of Art.

HALL OF ART

Here, and throughout the pavilion, visitors can see Soviet art works embodying the principle of social-



Upper Level of Soviet Pavilion

ist realism—intimate reflection of Soviet life by the artist based upon direct participation of the artist in that life.

In the Hall of Art the Soviet theatre is well represented. Scale models present scenes from plays as performed by the Moscow Art Theatre, the Bolshoi Theatre of Opera and Ballet, the Vakhtangov Theatre, the Central Children's Theatre and other leading playhouses of the U.S.S.R. In some instances revolving models present complete plays, scene by scene. Other exhibits show the rich development of the theatre in the national republics.

The Fine Arts section of this hall contains paintings, lithographs, etchings, water colors and engravings from different parts of the Soviet Union.

Wood carvings, porcelain ware, Palekh and other kinds of lacquer woodwork are on display along with embroidery, laces and handwoven linen by the peoples of the republics of the Union, and ivory and bone-carving of craftsmen in the Arctic regions, Siberia and other parts of the country.

Of equal interest are the examples of folk art of the many nationalities of the U.S.S.R.

From this hall the visitor enters the Hall of the Unity and Friendship of the Soviet Peoples.

HALL OF THE UNITY AND FRIENDSHIP OF THE SOVIET PEOPLES

A panorama extending 265 feet, the length of a city block, and 28 feet, or more than two stories, high, is on display in this hall. It is the collective work of twenty artists under the direction of F. F. Fedorovsky and V. N. Yakovlev. It has for its theme the land of the Soviets and the unity and friendship of its many peoples.

The background is a vast landscape of the whole Soviet Union showing its natural features and the constructions of man, new and old cities, industrial centers, collective farms, state farms, hydroelectric power stations, canals. Across the sky fly squadrons of planes. In the center is the towering Palace of Soviets, and down the avenue leading to it march columns of joyful Soviet people.

The painting is in several planes. In the foreground are some eight hundred figures, painted from life, representatives of the many nationalities living in unity and friendship in the U.S.S.R., factory workers, kolkhozniks (collective farmers), teachers, Red Army and Red Navy men. At the sides are groups, in high relief, of Red Army men, Red sailors, aviators, tank-drivers—defenders of the peaceful toil of the land of Socialism.

In this striking exhibit is a summation of all the exhibits in the pavilion. The vast land, and its multi-national people, their work and their achievements, and the unity and accord of the different nationalities are brought together in a mighty artistic symbol.

From this hall you enter the Hall of Science, Literature and The Press.

HALL OF SCIENCE, LITERATURE AND THE PRESS

Science in the Soviet Union is based on the teachings of Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, V. I. Lenin and Joseph Stalin. On the wall opposite the entrance to the science exhibit are bas reliefs of these men, and in the center a statue of Lenin at work.

The displays in this hall present the cultural development of the Soviet millions in the past two decades. Books which have had the greatest circulation are shown. Exhibits indicate the popularity of outstanding writers in every field.

Thus, for instance, in the three years 1935-38, over twenty-one million copies of Pushkin were issued, over nine million copies of Gorky, over 300,000 of O. Henry, nearly 100,000 of Ernest Hemingway.

On display are new forms of journalism typical of socialist democracy in the Soviet Union. In the work of the Soviet press the people directly participate through the worker-correspondent movement.

Copies are shown of wall newspapers, a type of publication issued by the people in every factory, office, collective farm, school, university, army and navy unit, and even on Arctic expeditions and long-distance airplane flights.

An exhibit describing the activities of the Academy of Sciences, the highest scientific body in the U.S.S.R., shows the close interdependence between research and the economic development of the country, whose natural resources are explored, whose soil is made more fertile, and whose people are made healthier with the aid of the Soviet scientists.

The displays in this hall make clear the organic connection between science, literature, the press and the peoples of the Soviet Union, whose aim is to make knowledge and art available to all.

Every hall on the second level of the Soviet pavilion has an exit to the portico outside which leads the visitor into the amphitheatre. Here you may rest, watching a Soviet newsreel. From the amphitheatre you may return to the main court. There

an elevator will take you to the roof, where you will find, on the right, a restaurant, and on the left a motion picture theatre. These, in common with the exhibit halls, are air-conditioned.

Leaving the main pavilion, a short walk south on Congress Street brings the visitor to

THE SOVIET PAVILION OF THE ARCTIC

Nearly two hundred years ago the Russian scientist and poet, Lomonosov, wrote: "Russian Columbus . . . will open a gate through ice and link our mighty nation with America." This has been realized in the Soviet era. Soviet explorers, scientists, seamen, aviators and workers have converted the Arctic into a navigable seaway, and are making immense areas within the Arctic Circle habitable.

The story of this modern epic of exploration and pioneering is told in the displays in the Pavilion of the Arctic. Before the pavilion stands the plane in which Valery Chkalov made the first transpolar flight from Moscow to the United States; inside is the actual hut and equipment used by the Papanin Expedition which made scientific observations for nine months on a North Pole ice floe. On the ceiling, on an illuminated map, the routes of the historic transpolar flights of Chkalov and Gromov, the recent flight of Kokkinaki from Moscow to America, and the route of the Papanin drift are shown. Additional exhibits record other heroic episodes and the vast scientific, industrial, and cultural progress in the Soviet Arctic.

RESTAURANT (in the Main Pavilion)
Here the visitor may obtain Russian, Ukrainian and Caucasian dishes prepared by Soviet chefs in the terrace restaurant on the roof of the pavilion.

Adjoining the restaurant is a comfortable lounge and bar.

CINEMA (in the Main Pavilion)
On the other side of the pavilion's roof is an air-conditioned movie theatre seating three hundred. The theatre is open for continuous afternoon and evening performances.

SOVIET BOOK AND SOUVENIR SHOP
In the rear of the left wing of the main pavilion visitors may obtain Soviet books, periodicals, music and souvenirs. Booths are also located in the Hall of Culture and Leisure at the Pavilion and in the Soviet exhibit in the Hall of Nations.