EUROPEAN REPORT

U.S. Exhibit at Fair Has Good, Bad Points

By KING WILLIAMS
Herald Publisher

BRUSSELS—The cold war between the United States and Russia has been warmed up at the Brussels World Fair where the exhibition pavilions of the two rivals stand side by side in a wonderland of tomorrow.

Our group of traveling newspaper publishers is striving to evaluate the two exhibits objectively in view of the wave of criticism by Americans that has been so prevalent in the press since the fair opened last spring.

We had the benefit of two hours of briefing in the executive offices of the American quarters before we began our tour of the exhibit which closes next month after an attendance of some 35 million people from every section of the world. We were, therefore, apprised of the rules and purposes of the exhibit and the goal of those given the task of presenting America as effectively as possible.

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FROM OUR OWN observations and opinions of scores of other Americans, fair attendants and Belgians, it would appear that the U.S. effort has been highly successful when viewed in proper perspective and through the eyes of the people for whom it was intended—the people of Europe.

Our magnificent building has been a triumph in architecture and more than overcomes some shortcomings in the exhibits within. The entire structure suggests the spaciousness and freedom of our United States with an inspiring, almost unbelievable warmth.

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ON THE OTHER hand, as might be expected, Russia has made a blatant effort to impress the world with its might. Overpowering displays of heavy machinery, corny murals intended to depict Communists as the happiest people on earth and a gigantic statue of Lenin crowd a "three million cubic-foot" glass and steel structure that looks like a factory building in holiday dress.

The Russians didn't make any friends among the people of Brussels when they chopped down fine old trees to set up their propaganda shop. Conversely, Architect Stone erected his masterpiece (about the size of the coloseum in Rome) without harming a tree in the grand old park of the permanent exhibition grounds. This, say the Belgians, reaffirmed their faith in Americans as engineers and as considerate human beings.

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SOME AMERICANS have wondered why there were no modern American cars displayed. There was a gentleman's agreement not to and that is why only a 1909 Ford is seen in the U.S. exhibit and why no other country violated the agreement except Russia. But, as one Britisher told us, "the Russians aren't gentlemen."

Eight fancy Russian cars are displayed, including a limousine. The rumor persists that they don't even have engines. They're locked up and the hoods are never lifted. They are loaded with chrome in body styling characteristic of American models of a few years ago.

Returning to the American exhibits: By and large, we thought, they are good with Circarama, created by Walt Disney, being the most popular show on the grounds. In this spectacular 360-degree color motion picture one is taken on a tour of America from New York harbor and the Statue of Liberty to the Golden Gate.

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THE CRITICIZED section of the exhibit, unfortunately, hits the visitor at the main entrance. There is the highly controversial etched glass panel with its naked Indian maid and the background showing Indians barbecuing one of their own on a spit. This seems to amuse most Europeans and, as you have read, has irritated many Americans.

Selection of the art exhibits, we think, was unfortunate. It is dominated by the New York impressionist school. It decidedly is not typically American and, while some sophisticates might like it, the average person would call most of it screwball art.

The fair for the most part is a grand display of the world today and tomorrow. Theme is the remarkable Atomium, the Eiffel tower of this 1958 exposition. It suggests atoms for peace and progress toward a better world for all.

Linkletter to Emcee Y-Day In Hollywood on Oct. 25

Art Linkletter, that master of ceremonies long known for his interest in youth service organizations, will be host and emcee when members of the Torrance YMCA attend Y-Day, in Hollywood, Oct. 25.

Joe Wilcox, executive secretary, said that Linkletter will be serving for the 11th straight year as emcee of Y-Day. The latter announced his acceptance of the post several weeks ago.

"Art will be heading a huge star cast for the show in the nationally famous Hollywood Bowl which promises to be the best yet," said Wilcox.

Fifty local youngsters and adults are expected to attend Y-Day this year, which includes a variety show in the morning at the Bowl starring such personalities as Maverick, Rin Tin Tin, Al Jarvis, the Lone Ranger and Silver, and Zorro. In the afternoon the children and adults will see the UCLA homecoming game with Stanford at the Coliseum. They will be among more than 10,000 youngsters and adults from 100 YMCAs in California, Arizona, and Nevada.

ART LINKLETTER
... To Greet Y Boys

Reservations and further information may be obtained by contacting the Torrance YMCA, 2089 Washington Ave.

FISHING VOLUME

The fisheries of the world in normal times annually yield more than $762,000,000 worth of food and allied industrial products combined.

Youth Honor Day To Be Observed

Plans for observing "Youth Honor Day" in the Torrance area have been completed, according to James McLane, governor of the Torrance Moose Lodge. The observance will include a Halloweeen custom dance for teenagers at the lodge hall, 1744 W. Carson St., Friday, Oct. 31st.

"Youth Honor Day," formally proclaimed by Mayor Isen and the Torrance city council last year, has been established throughout the nation by Loyal Order of Moose lodges. The Torrance Moose lodge, under the direction of its civic affairs committee, has designated the day as the time when "recognition for their outstanding achievements" is given to the youth of the Torrance area.

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"ALL TOO frequently," said Joseph Platt, chairman of the lodge's civic affairs committee, "we hear of the substantial amount of delinquency among juveniles. As a result of such adverse publicity, the general public seems quick to condemn all youths. It is unfortunate," continued Platt, "that equal publicity is not given to the predominate good acts of our juveniles.

Through the observance of "Youth Honor Day," concluded the Moose chairman, "the youngsters of the Torrance area will know that they are respected and honored for their decency and dignity any that they command far more approval and admiration for these character traits than the minority of their age group receives for delinquency and misbehavior."

Further details will be released at a later date on the teenage dance to be held Halloween night.

Lomita Civic League Meets

The Lomita Civic League will hold a business meeting at American Legion hall, 24702 Narbonne, at 8 p.m. today. Marshall Pine, president, will name a nominating committee to choose candidates for organization offices for 1959.

The problem of meeting places when school buildings are unavailable will be discussed.

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